

Holy Bible

Aionian Edition®

**Ibhayibhili Elifinyelelekayo
Ndebele Accessible Bible**

AionianBible.org

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Celebrate Jesus Christ's victory of grace!

Isendlalelo

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The *Holy Bible Aionian Edition* ® is the world's first Bible *un-translation*! What is an *un-translation*? Bibles are translated into each of our languages from the original Hebrew, Aramaic, and Koine Greek. Occasionally, the best word translation cannot be found and these words are transliterated letter by letter. Four well known transliterations are *Christ*, *baptism*, *angel*, and *apostle*. The meaning is then preserved more accurately through context and a dictionary. The Aionian Bible un-translates and instead transliterates eleven additional Aionian Glossary words to help us better understand God's love for individuals and all mankind, and the nature of afterlife destinies.

The first three words are *aiōn*, *aiōnios*, and *aiōdios*, typically translated as *eternal* and also *world* or *eon*. The Aionian Bible is named after an alternative spelling of *aiōnios*. Consider that researchers question if *aiōn* and *aiōnios* actually mean *eternal*. Translating *aiōn* as *eternal* in Matthew 28:20 makes no sense, as all agree. The Greek word for *eternal* is *aiōdios*, used in Romans 1:20 about God and in Jude 6 about demon imprisonment. Yet what about *aiōnios* in John 3:16? Certainly we do not question whether salvation is eternal! However, *aiōnios* means something much more wonderful than infinite time! Ancient Greeks used *aiōn* to mean *eon* or *age*. They also used the adjective *aiōnios* to mean *entirety*, such as *complete* or even *consummate*, but never infinite time. Read Dr. Heleen Keizer and Ramelli and Konstan for proofs. So *aiōnios* is the perfect description of God's Word which has *everything* we need for life and godliness! And the *aiōnios* life promised in John 3:16 is not simply a ticket to eternal life in the future, but the invitation through faith to the *consummate* life beginning now!

The next seven words are *Sheol*, *Hadēs*, *Geenna*, *Tartaroō*, *Abyssos*, and *Limnē Pyr*. These words are often translated as *Hell*, the place of eternal punishment. However, *Hell* is ill-defined when compared with the Hebrew and Greek. For example, *Sheol* is the abode of deceased believers and unbelievers and should never be translated as *Hell*. *Hadēs* is a temporary place of punishment, Revelation 20:13-14. *Geenna* is the Valley of Hinnom, Jerusalem's refuse dump, a temporal judgment for sin. *Tartaroō* is a prison for demons, mentioned once in 2 Peter 2:4. *Abyssos* is a temporary prison for the Beast and Satan. Translators are also inconsistent because *Hell* is used by the King James Version 54 times, the New International Version 14 times, and the World English Bible zero times. Finally, *Limnē Pyr* is the Lake of Fire, yet Matthew 25:41 explains that these fires are prepared for the Devil and his angels. So there is reason to review our conclusions about the destinies of redeemed mankind and fallen angels.

The eleventh word, *eleēsē*, reveals the grand conclusion of grace in Romans 11:32. Take the time to understand these eleven words. The original translation is unaltered and a note is added to 64 Old Testament and 200 New Testament verses. To help parallel study and Strong's Concordance use, apocryphal text is removed and most variant verse numbering is mapped to the English standard. We thank our sources at eBible.org, Crosswire.org, unbound.Biola.edu, Bible4u.net, and NHEB.net. The Aionian Bible is copyrighted with creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nd/4.0, allowing 100% freedom to copy and print, if respecting source copyrights. Check the Reader's Guide and read online at AionianBible.org, with Android, and TOR network. Why purple? King Jesus' Word is royal... and purple is the color of royalty!

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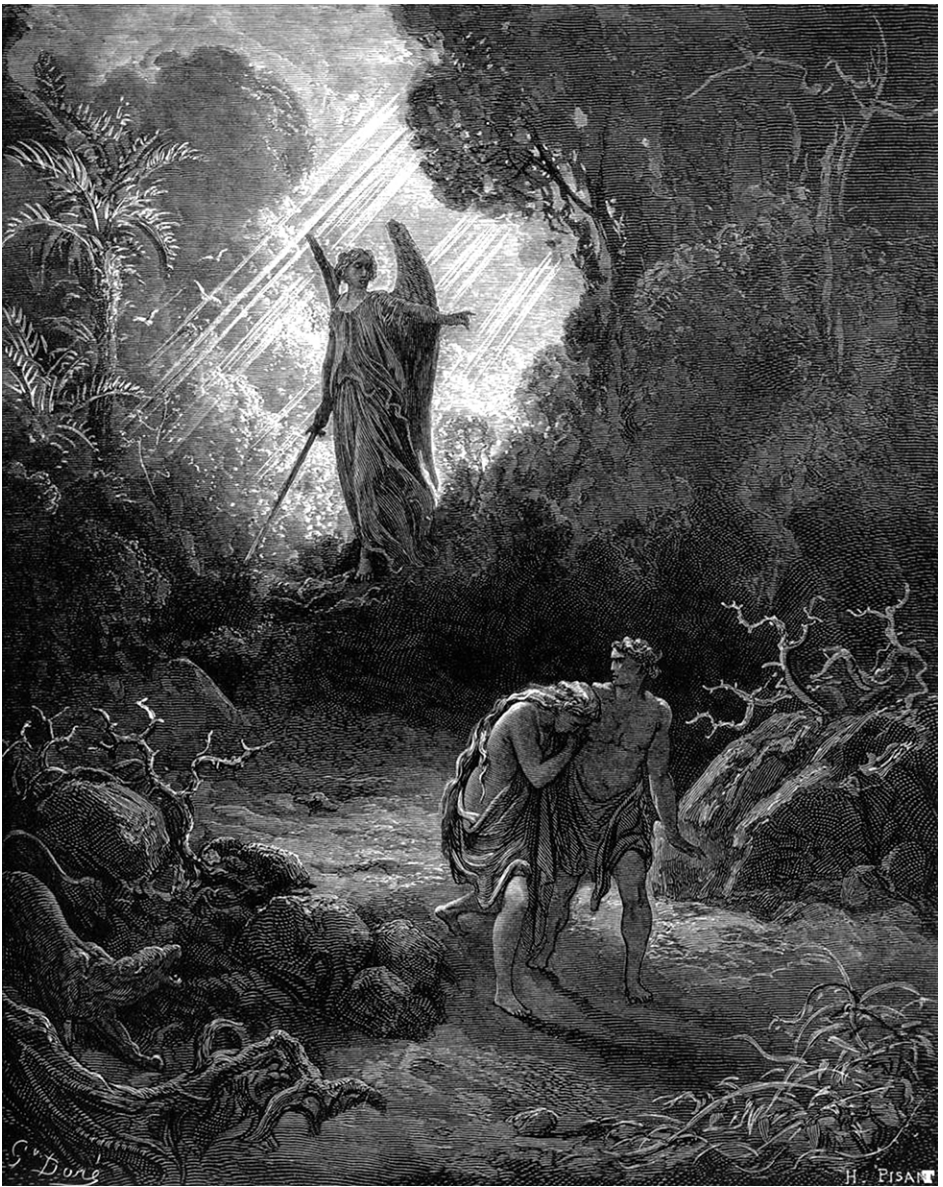
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Ithestamende elidala



Esemxotshile umuntu wamisa ngempumalanga kweSivande se-Edeni amakherubhi lenkamba ebhebhayo, iphazima isiyale lale ukulinda indlela eya esihlahleni sokuphila.

UGenesisi 3:24

UGenesis

1 Ekuqaleni uNkulunkulu wadala amazulu lomhlaba. **2** Umhlaba wawungelasimo njalo ungelalutho, ubumnyama babengame phezulu kolwandle njalo uMoya kaNkulunkulu wayehambahamba phezu kwamanzi. **3** Ngakho uNkulunkulu wasesithi, “Akubekhona ukukhanya,” lakanye kwabakhona ukukhanya. **4** UNkulunkulu wabona ukuthi ukukhanya kwakukuhle, wasesehlukanisa ukukhanya lobumnyama. **5** UNkulunkulu wabiza ukukhanya ngokuthi “yimini,” ubumnyama wabubiza ngokuthi “yibusuku.” Ngakho kwabakhona ukuhlwa lokusa, kwaba lusuku lwakuqala. **6** Njalo uNkulunkulu wathi, “Kakube lomkhandlu phakathi kwamanzi ukwehlukanisa amanzi kwamanye amanzi.” **7** Ngakho uNkulunkulu wehlukana amanzi angaphansi komkhandlu kulawo amanzi angaphezulu kwawo. Kwabanjalo. **8** UNkulunkulu wabiza umkhandlu lo ngokuthi “ngumkhathi.” Njalo kwabakhona ukuhlwa, kwabakhona njalo ukusa, usuku lwesibili. **9** Njalo uNkulunkulu wathi, “Kakuthi amanzi angaphansi komkhathi abuthane ndawonye njalo kakuvele umhlabathi omowileyo.” Ngakho kwabanjalo. **10** UNkulunkulu wabiza umhlaba omowileyo ngokuthi “ngumhlabathi,” lamanzi abutheneyo wathi “lulwandle.” Njalo uNkulunkulu wabona ukuthi kwakukuhle. **11** UNkulunkulu wasesithi, “Umhlabathi kawuthele izimila: imlimela ethela intanga lezihlahla emhlabathini ezithela izithelo ezilentanga phakathi, kusiya ngemihlobo yazo ehlukeneyo.” Kwabanjalo. **12** Umhlaba wathela izimila: izihlahla ezilentanga kusiya ngemihlobo yazo, lezihlahla ezithela izithelo ezilentanga phakathi kwazo kusiya ngemihlobo yazo. Njalo uNkulunkulu wabona ukuthi kwakukuhle. **13** Kwabakhona njalo ukuhlwa lokusa, usuku lwesithathu. **14** UNkulunkulu wasesithi, “Akube lezibane emkhandlwini womkhathi ukwehlukana imini lobusuku, njalo zibe luphawu lokubonisa izigaba zomnyaka, lezinsuku leminyaka, **15** njalo zibe yizibane emkhandlwini womkhathi ukuletha ukukhanya emhlabeni.” Kwabanjalo. **16** UNkulunkulu wenza izibane ezimbili ezinkulu, isibane esikhulu ukubusa emini lezibane esincinyane ukubusa ebusuku. Wenza futhi lezinkanyezi. **17** UNkulunkulu wazibeka emkhandlwini womkhathi ukuletha ukukhanya emhlabeni, **18** ukubusa imini lobusuku, kanye lokwehlukana ukukhanya lobumnyama. Njalo uNkulunkulu wabona ukuthi kwakukuhle. **19** Njalo kwabakhona ukuhlwa lokusa, usuku lwesine. **20** Njalo uNkulunkulu wathi, “Akube lezidalwa eziphilayo emanzini, njalo akuthi izinyoni ziphapha ngaphezulu komhlaba zidabule emkhandlwini womkhathi.” **21** Yikho uNkulunkulu wadala izidalwa ezinkulu zolwandle layo yonke into ephilayo lehambayo lenyakazelayo emanzini, kusiya ngemihlobo yazo, lezinyoni zonke ezilamaphiko, ngemihlobo yazo. Njalo uNkulunkulu wabona ukuthi kwakukuhle. **22** UNkulunkulu wazibusisa wathi, “Zalanani lande ngobunengi ligcwalise amanzi olwandle, njalo akuthi lezinyoni lazo zande emhlabeni.” **23** Kwabakhona ukuhlwa, kwabakhona njalo lokusa, usuku lwesihlanu. **24** UNkulunkulu wabuya wathi, “Akuthi umhlaba uveze izidalwa eziphilayo kusiya ngemihlobo yazo: izinanakazana ezihuquzela emhlabathini, kanye lezinyamazana zeganga, yilezo kusiya ngemihlobo yazo.” Lakanye kwabanjalo. **25** UNkulunkulu wenza izinyamazana zeganga kusiya ngemihlobo yazo, izifuyo kusiya

ngemihlobo yazo, njalo zonke izinanakazana ezihuquzela emhlabathini kusiya ngemihlobo yazo. Njalo uNkulunkulu wabona ukuthi kwakukuhle. **26** UNkulunkulu wasesithi, “Asenze umuntu ngesimo sethu langomfanekiso wethu ukuze abuse phezu kwenhlanzi zolwandle lezinyoni zemkhathini, phezu kwezifuyo, phezu kwawo wonke umhlaba laphezu kwazo zonke izinanakazana ezihuquzela emhlabathini.” **27** Ngakho uNkulunkulu wadala umuntu ngomfanekiso wakhe, ngomfanekiso kaNkulunkulu wabadala, owesilisa lowesifazane. **28** UNkulunkulu wababusisa wathi kubo, “Zalanani lande ngobunengi; liwugcwalise umhlaba, liwubuse. Busani phezu kwenhlanzi zolwandle lezinyoni zemkhathini laphezu kwezidalwa zonke ezihambayo emhlabathini.” **29** UNkulunkulu wasesithi, “Ngilnika zonke izihlahla ezithela intanga ezisemhlabeni wonke lazozonke izihlahla ezilezithelo ezilentanga phakathi. Zingezenu ukuba lizidle. **30** Njalo nginika zonke izihlahla eziluhlaza kuzozonke izinyamazana zomhlaba lakuzo zonke izinyoni zemkhathini lakuzo zonke izidalwa ezihambayo emhlabathini, yonke into ephefumula impilo phakathi kwayo ukuba zibe yikudla kwazo.” Kwabanjalo. **31** UNkulunkulu wakubona konke lokho ayeseqwenzile, njalo kwakukuhle kakhulu. Kwabakhona ukuhlwa lokusa, usuku lwesithupha.

2 Kanjalo amazulu lomhlaba kwapheliswa ngakho konke ukuhlotsiswa okukhulu. **2** Ngosuku lwesikhombisa uNkulunkulu wayesewuqedile umsebenzi ayewenza; ngakho wasephumula kuwo wonke umsebenzi wakhe. **3** Njalo uNkulunkulu walubusisa usuku lwesikhombisa walwenza lwaba ngcwele ngoba waphumula kuwo wonke umsebenzi wokudala lokho ayeseqwenzile. **4** Lo ngumlando wamazulu lomhlaba ekudalweni kwakho, lapho uThixo uNkulunkulu enza khona umhlaba lamazulu. **5** Kwakungakabi lesihlahlakazana seganga emhlabathini njalo kungakamili loba yini emila emhlabathini, ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wayengakanisi izulu emhlabeni, njalo kwakungelamuntu wokusebenza umhlabathi, **6** kodwa inkungu yayisenyuka emhlabathini, ithelele umhlabathi wonke. **7** Ngakho uThixo uNkulunkulu wasebumba umuntu ngothuli lomhlabathi, waphefumulela emakhaleni akhe umphefumulo wokuphila, umuntu wasesiba yisidalwa esiphilayo. **8** Ngalesosikhathi uThixo uNkulunkulu wayelungise isivande empumalanga, e-Edeni; wambeka khona umuntu ayembumbile. **9** Njalo uThixo uNkulunkulu wenza yonke imihlobo yezihlahla ukuthi zikhule emhlabathini, izihlahla ezazibukeya emehlweni njalo zizinhle ekudleni. Phakathi laphakathi kwesivande kwakulesihlahla sokuphila lesihlahla sokwazi okuhle lokubi. **10** Umfula owawuthelela isivande wawuguleza usuka e-Edeni; usuka lapho wehlukana waba yimifudlana emine. **11** Ibizo lowokuqala yiPhishoni; ozungeze lonke ilizwe laseHavila, lapho okulegolide khona. **12** (Igolide lalololizwe lihle; amakha erezini le-onikisi lawo akhona.) **13** Ibizo lomfudlana wesibili yiGihoni; usekele kulonke ilizwe laseKhushi. **14** Ibizo lomfudlana wesithathu yiThigrisi; ubhoda ngempumalanga kwe-Asiriya. Njalo umfudlana wesine yiYufurathe. **15** Uthixo uNkulunkulu wamthatha umuntu wambeka eSivandeni se-Edeni ukuthi asisebenze njalo asinakekele. **16** Njalo uThixo uNkulunkulu wamlaya umuntu wathi, “Ukhululekile ukudla loba yisiphi isihlahla esivandeni; **17** kodwa ungadli isihlahla sokwazi okuhle lokubi, ngoba ungaze usidle zakufa ngempela.” **18** UThixo uNkulunkulu wathi, “Kakukuhle ukuba indoda ibe yodwa.

Ngizayenzela umsizi oyifaneleyo.” **19** UThixo uNkulunkulu wayesezibumbile ngomhlabathi zonke izinyamazana zeganga lazozonke izinyoni zemoyeni. Waziletha emuntwini ukuthi aziphe amabizo; kwathi loba yiliphi ibizo asibiza ngalo isidalwa esiphilayo, kwaba yilo ibizo laso. **20** Ngakho umuntu wapha amabizo zonke izifuyo, lezinyoni zemkhathini lazozonke izinyamazana zeganga. Kodwa u-Adamu wayengelaye umsizi omfaneleyo. **21** Ngakho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenza indoda yalala ubuthongo bokufa; kwathi khonapho isalele wathatha olunye ubhambo lwendoda waseyivala leyondawo ngenyama. **22** Emva kwalokho uThixo uNkulunkulu wasesenza umfazi ngobhambo aveluthethe endodeni, wasemlethla endodeni. **23** Indoda yathi, “Lo manje uselithambo lamathambo ami lenyama yenyama yami; usezabizwa ngokuthi ‘mfazi,’ ngoba wakhitshwa endodeni.” **24** Ngalesisizatho indoda izatshiya uyise lonina imanyane lomkayo, babe nyamanye. **25** Indoda lomkayo babehambaze, bengelazo inhloni.

3 Inyoka yayiliqili ukwedlula zonke izinyamazana zeganga uThixo uNkulunkulu ayezenzile. Yathi kowesifazane, “Kambe uNkulunkulu watsho ngeqiniso ukuthi, ‘Lingadli noma yisiphi isihlahla esivandeni?’” **2** Owesifazane wathi enyokeni, “Singadla izithelo zezihlahla esivandeni, **3** kodwa uNkulunkulu wathi, ‘Lingazidli izithelo zesihlahla esiphakathi laphakathi kwesivande, njalo lingasithinti, hlezi life.’” **4** Inyoka yathi kowesifazane, “Kalisoze life ngempela. **5** Ngoba uNkulunkulu uyazi ukuthi lingasidla amehlo enu azavuleka, beselisiba njengoNkulunkulu, lazi okuhle lokubi.” **6** Kwathi owesifazane ngokubona ukuthi izithelo zesihlahla lesa zaziyakudla okuhle njalo zibukeka emehlweni, njalo kudingeka ukuzaza ukuhlakanipha, wakha ezinye wadla. Wapha njalo ezinye indoda yakhe ayelayo khonapho, layo yadla. **7** Amehlo abo bobabili asevuleka, basebenanzelela ukuthi babenqunu; yikho basebethungela ndawonye amahlamu omkhiwa bazenzela izembatho ngawo. **8** Indoda lomkayo basebesizwa umsindo kaThixo uNkulunkulu ehamba esivandeni ilanga selithambeme, basebemcatshela uThixo uNkulunkulu phakathi kwezihlahla zesivande. **9** Kodwa uThixo uNkulunkulu wayimemeza indoda wathi, “Ungaphi?” **10** Yaphendula yathi, “Ngikuzwile esivandeni, ngesaba ngoba benginqunu; yikho ngasengicatsha.” **11** Wasesithi, “Ngubani okutshelileyo ukuthi unqunu? Usudlile yini isihlahla engalilaya ukuthi lingasidli?” **12** Indoda yathi, “Umfazi owangipha yena, ungiphile ezinye izithelo zesihlahla ngazidla.” **13** Ngakho uThixo uNkulunkulu wathi kowesifazane, “Kuyini lokhu osukwenzile na?” Owesifazane wathi, “Inyoka ingikhoahlisile, ngadla.” **14** Ngakho uThixo uNkulunkulu wasesithi enyokeni, “Ngoba usukwenzile lokhu, Uqalekisiwe ngaphezu kwezifuyo zonke kanye lezinyamazana zonke zeganga! Uzahuba phansi ngesisu sakho njalo uzakudla uthuli zonke insuku zokuphila kwakho. **15** Njalo ngizafaka ubutha phakathi kwakho lowesifazane, laphakathi kwenzalo yakho leyowesifazane; uzacobodisa ikhanda lakho, njalo wena uzagamula isithende sakhe.” **16** Kowesifazane wathi, “Ngizakwandisa ngokuphindiweyo inhloni zakho nxa ubeletha; ngobuhloni uzazala abantwana. Inkanuko yakho izakuba sendodeni yakho, njalo yona izabusa phezu kwakho.” **17** Ku-Adamu wathi, “Ngoba ulalele umkakho wadla isihlahla engakulaya ngathi, ‘Ungasidli,’ Uqalekisiwe umhlabathi ngexa yakho; ngokusebenza nzima uzakudla okuphuma kuwo zonke insuku zokuphila kwakho. **18** Uzamila ame

lezihlahlakazana zameva azahlaba wena, njalo uzakudla izihlahla zeganga. **19** Ngezithukuthuku zebunzi lakho uzakudla ukudla kwakho uze ubuyele emhlabathini, njengoba wathathwa kuwo; ngoba uluthuli njalo uzabuyela othulini.” **20** U-Adamu wamutha umkakhe wathi ngu-Eva, ngoba wayezakuba ngunina wabo bonke abaphilayo. **21** UThixo uNkulunkulu wenza imvuntulo yesikhumba, wenzela u-Adamu lomkakhe, wabagqokisa. **22** Njalo uThixo uNkulunkulu wathi, “Umuntu manje usenjengomunye wethu, usekwazi okuhle lokubi. Kangavunyelwa ukuthi elule isandla sakhe akhe njalo isihlahla sokuphila adle, aphile laphakade.” **23** Ngakho uThixo uNkulunkulu wamxotsha eSivandeni uThixo ukuthi asebenze umhlabathi ayethethwe kuwo. **24** Esemxotshile umuntu wamisa ngempumalanga kweSivande se-Edeni amakherubhi lenkamba ebhebhayo, iphazima isiyale lale ukulinda indlela eya esihlahleni sokuphila.

4 U-Adamu wembatha lomkakhe u-Eva, wasezithwala, wabeletha uKhayini. Wathi, “Ngosizo lukaThixo sengibelethe indoda.” **2** Muva wabeletha umfowabo u-Abheli. U-Abheli waba ngumfuyi wemihlambi vezimvu, uKhayini yena wasebenza umhlabathi. **3** Ngokuya kwesikhathi uKhayini waletha ezinye izithelo zomhlabathi ukuba ngumnikelo kuThixo. **4** Kodwa u-Abheli waletha izitho ezinonileyo zisuka kwamanye amazibulo omhlambi wakhe. UThixo wathokoza ngo-Abheli kanye lomnikelo wakhe. **5** Kodwa kathokozanga ngoKhayini lomnikelo wakhe. Ngakho uKhayini wazonda kakhulu, lobuso bakhe bahloba. **6** UThixo wasesithi kuKhayini, “Uzondeleni na? Kungani ubuso bakho buhlobile? **7** Nxa usenza okulungileyo, kawuyikwamukelwa yini? Kodwa nxa ungenzi okulungileyo, isono sikucathamele emnyango wakho; sinxwanele ukukuthumba, kodwa kumele usehlule.” **8** UKhayini wasesithi kumfowabo u-Abheli, “Ake sihambe siye egangeni.” Kwathi bekhonale egangeni uKhayini wamhlasela umfowabo u-Abheli wambulala. **9** UThixo wasesithi kuKhayini, “Ungaphi umfoweno u-Abheli na?” Waphendula wathi, “Angazi. Ngingumgcinu womfowethu na?” **10** UThixo wathi, “Usuyenzeni? Lalela! Igazi lomfoweno liyakhala kimi lisuka emhlabathini. **11** Manje usaqalekisiwe njalo usuxotshiwe kuwo umhlabathi ovule umlomo wawo ukwamukela igazi lomfoweno lisuka esandleni sakho. **12** Lapho uwusebenza umhlabathi kawasayi kuthela amabele kuwe. Uzakuba luzulane emhlabeni.” **13** UKhayini wathi kuThixo, “Isijeziro sami singaphezu kwamandla ami. **14** Lamuhla usungixotsha elizweni, ngakho sengizasithela ngingabi khona kuwe; ngizakuba luzulane olungela kuphumula emhlabeni, kuthi loba ngubani ongifumanayo angbulale.” **15** Kodwa uThixo wathi kuye, “Akunjalo; lowo ozabalala uKhayini uzaphindiselwa ngokuphindwe kasikhombisa.” Ngakho uThixo wasebeka uphawu kuKhayini ukuze kuthi lowo omfumanayo angambulali. **16** Ngakho uKhayini wasesuka emehlweni kaThixo wayahlala elizweni laseNodi, empumalanga kwase-Edeni. **17** UKhayini wembatha lomkakhe, wathatha isisu wazala u-Enoki. Ngalesosikhathi uKhayini wayesakha idolobho alibiza ngendodana yakhe u-Enoki. **18** Ku-Enoki kwazalwa u-Irardi, yena u-Irardi waba nguyise kaMehujayeli, uMehujayeli waba nguyise kaMethushayeli, uMethushayeli waba nguyise kaLameki. **19** ULameki wathatha abafazi ababili, omunye ethiwa ngu-Ada, omunye ethiwa nguZila. **20** U-Ada wazala uJabhali; owayenguyise walabo abahlala emathenteni befuye izifuyo. **21** Ibizo lomfowabo lalinguJubhali; wayenguyise wabo

bonke abats'haya umhube lechacho. **22** UZila laye waba lendodana, uThubhali-Khayini, owayekhanda zonke inhlobo zezinto ngethusi langensimbi. Udadewabo kaThubhali-Khayini wayenguNahama. **23** ULameki wathi kubomkakhe, "Ada loZila, ngilalelani; bafazi bakaLameki, zwanini amazwi ami. Sengibulele umuntu ngenxa yokungilimaza, ijaha ngoba lingihlasele." **24** Nxa uKhayini ephindiselwa kasikhombisa ngakho uLameki amatshumi ayisikhombisa lesikhombisa." **25** U-Adamu waphinda wembatha lomkakhe njalo, wazala indodana wayithi nguSethi, esithi, "UNKulunkulu usengiphile omunye umntwana endaweni ka-Abheli, njengoba uKhayini wambulala." **26** USethi laye waba lendodana, wayibiza ngokuthi ngu-Enoshi. Ngalesosikhathi abantu baqala ukukhuleka bebiza ibizo likaThixo.

5 Lo ngumlando olotshiweyo ngosendo luka-Adamu. Lapho uNkulunkulu edala umuntu, wamenza ngomfanekiso kaNkulunkulu. **2** Wabadala, owesilisa lowesifazane wasebabusisa. Wababiza ngokuthi "Ngabantu" emva kokubadala. **3** Kwathi u-Adamu esephile iminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi amathathu wathola indodana eyafana laye xathu; wayibiza ngokuthi nguSethi. **4** USethi esezelwe, u-Adamu waphila iminyaka engamakhulu ayisificaminwembili njalo wayelamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. **5** Isiyonke iminyaka ka-Adamu yayingamakhulu ayisificaminwemunye lamatshumi amathathu, wasesifa. **6** Kwathi uSethi esephile iminyaka elikhulu lanhlano waba nguyise ka-Enoshi. **7** Ngemva kokuzala u-Enoshi uSethi waphila iminyaka engamakhulu ayisificaminwembili lesikhombisa, njalo wayelamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. **8** Isiyonke iminyaka eyaphilwa nguSethi yaba ngamakhulu ayisificaminwemunye letshumi lambili, wasesifa. **9** Kwathi u-Enoshi esephile iminyaka engamatshumi ayisificaminwemunye wazala uKhenani. **10** Ngemva kokuzala uKhenani, u-Enoshi waphila iminyaka engamakhulu ayisificaminwembili letshumi lanhlano njalo waba lamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. **11** Isiyonke iminyaka, u-Enoshi waphila iminyaka engamakhulu ayisificaminwemunye lanhlano, wasesifa. **12** Kwathi uKhenani esephile iminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa wazala uMahalaleli. **13** Ngemva kokuba esezele uMahalaleli, uKhenani waphila iminyaka engamakhulu ayisificaminwembili lamatshumi amane njalo waba lamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. **14** Isiyonke iminyaka eyaphilwa nguKhenani yaba ngamakhulu ayisificaminwemunye letshumi, wasesifa. **15** Kwathi uMahalaleli esephile iminyaka engamatshumi ayisithupha lanhlano, wazala uJaredi. **16** Ngemva kokuzala kwakhe uJaredi, uMahalaleli waphila iminyaka engamakhulu ayisificaminwembili lamatshumi amathathu njalo waba lamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. **17** Isiyonke iminyaka eyaphilwa nguMahalaleli yaba ngamakhulu ayisificaminwembili lamatshumi ayisificaminwemunye lanhlano, wasesifa. **18** UJaredi esephile iminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi ayisithupha lambili, wazala u-Enoki. **19** Ngemva kokuzala kwakhe u-Enoki, uJaredi waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu ayisificaminwembili njalo waba lamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. **20** Isiyonke iminyaka eyaphilwa nguJaredi yaba ngamakhulu ayisificaminwemunye lamatshumi ayisithupha lambili, wasesifa. **21** Kwathi u-Enoki esephile iminyaka engamatshumi ayisithupha lanhlano, wazala uMethuzela. **22** Ngemva kokuzala uMethuzela, u-

Enoki wahamba loNkulunkulu okweminyaka engamakhulu amathathu njalo waba lamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. **23** Isiyonke iminyaka eyaphilwa ngu-Enoki yaba ngamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi ayisithupha lanhlano. **24** U-Enoki wahamba ngokuthembeka loNkulunkulu; wanyamalala, ngoba uNkulunkulu wamthatha. **25** Kwathi uMethuzela esephile okweminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi ayisificaminwembili lesikhombisa wazala uLameki. **26** Ngemva kokuzala uLameki, uMethuzela waphila iminyaka engamakhulu ayisikhombisa lamatshumi ayisificaminwembili lambili njalo waba lamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. **27** Isiyonke iminyaka eyaphilwa nguMethuzela yaba ngamakhulu ayisificaminwemunye lamatshumi ayisithupha layisificaminwemunye, wasesifa. **28** ULameki esephile iminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi ayisificaminwembili lambili wazala indodana. **29** Wayitha ibizo wathi nguNowa, wathi, "Izasiduduzo emsebenzini lasekutshikatshikeni kwethu okubuhlungu ngezandla zethu okubangwa ngumhlabathi uThixo awuthukileyo." **30** Ngemva kokuzalwa kukaNowa, uLameki waphila iminyaka engamakhulu amahlano lamatshumi ayisificaminwemunye lanhlano njalo waba lamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. **31** Isiyonke iminyaka eyaphilwa nguLameki yaba ngamakhulu ayisikhombisa lamatshumi ayisikhombisa lesikhombisa, wasesifa. **32** Ngemva kokuphila iminyaka engamakhulu amahlano, uNowa wazala uShemu, loHamu loJafethi.

6 Kwathi abantu sebesanda ngobunengi emhlabeni, bezala amadodakazi, **2** amadodana kaNkulunkulu abona ukuthi amadodakazi abantu ayemahle, bazikhethela abawafunayo bawathatha. **3** UThixo wasesithi, "UMoya wami kawuyikuphikisana lomuntu ngokungapheliyo, ngoba yena ngowenyama nje; insuku zakhe zizakuba likhulu elilamatshumi amabili kuphela." **4** AmaNefilimi ayesehlabeni ngalezonsuku. Njalo langemva kwazo amadodana kaNkulunkulu angenela amadodakazi abantu azala lawo abantwana. Ayengamaqhawe ekadeni, amadoda odumo. **5** UThixo wabona ukuthi ukuxhwalwa kwabantu kwasekukhululo kakhulu emhlabeni, njalo lokuthi zonke izinkanuko zeminakano yezinhliziyi zabo zaziyibubi kuphela sonke isikhathi. **6** UThixo wadabuka ngokuthi wayemenzile umuntu emhlabeni, ngakho inhliziyi yakhe yagcwala ubuhlungu. **7** Ngakho uThixo wasesithi, "Umuntu engamdalayo ngizamkhucula emhlabeni, abantu lezinyamazana, lezinanakazana ezihuquzela emhlabathini, lezinyoni zemkhathini ngoba kuyangidabukisa ukuthi ngakwenza." **8** Kodwa uNowa wathola umusa emehlweni kaThixo. **9** Lo ngumlando kaNowa. UNowa wayeyindoda elungileyo, engelasici phakathi kwabantu ngesikhathi aphila ngaso, njalo wabambelela kuNkulunkulu. **10** UNowa wayelamadodana amathathu: UShemu, uHamu loJafethi. **11** Umhlaba wawuxhwalile phambi kukaNkulunkulu njalo ugcwele ubudlwangu. **12** UNkulunkulu wabona ukuthi umhlaba wawusuxhwalile njani, ngoba bonke abantu emhlabeni basebehamba ngezindlela zabo ezixhwalileyo. **13** Ngakho uNkulunkulu wasesithi kuNowa, "Ngizabatshabalalisa bonke abantu, ngoba umhlaba ugcwele ubudlwangu ngenxa yabo. Ngeqiniso ngizababhubhisa bona kanye lomhlaba. **14** Ngakho zakhele umkhumbi ngezigodo zesihlahla sokubaza; wenze amakamelo kuwo, uwuhuqe ngenhlaka ngaphakathi langaphandle. **15** Uzawakha kanje: Umkhumbi kawube ngamalunga ezingalo ezingamakhulu amathathu ubude,

ububanzi bube zingalo ezingamatshumi amahlanu lezingalo ezingamatshumi amathathu ukuphakama kwawo. **16** Uwenzele uphahla, utshiye ngaphansi kophahla intuba eyingxenyeyelunga lengalo ukufika phezu. Ufake umnyango eceleni komkhumbi njalo wenze isigcawu saphansi, esaphakathi laphakathi kanye lesaphezulu. **17** Ngizathumela uzamcolo emhlabeni ukubhubhisa konke okuphilayo ngaphansi kwezulu, zonke izidalwa eziphefumulayo. Yonke into emhlabeni izabhubha. **18** Kodwa ngizakwenza isivumelwano lawe, njalo wena uzangena emkhunjini, wena lamadodana akho lomkakho kanye labomalukazana bakho. **19** Kuzamele ulethe emkhunjini okubili kwezidalwa zonke eziphilayo, okuduna lokusikazi, uzigcine ziphila zilawe. **20** Okubili kwemihlobo yonke yezinyoni, okwemihlobo yonke yezinyamazana lokwezinanakazana zonke ezihuquzela emhlabathini zizakuza kuwe zizogcinwa ziphila. **21** Kumele uthathe yonke imihlobo yokudla okuzadliwa, ukulondolozela wena kanye lazo.” **22** UNowa wakwenza konke njengokulaywa kwakhe nguNkulunkulu.

7 UThixo wathi kuNowa, “Ngena emkhunjini, wena kanye lendlu yakho yonke, ngoba ngikufumane ulungile kulesi izizukulwane. **2** Ngena lezinyamazana eziyisikhombisa ezemihlobo yonke yezinyamazana ezihlanzekileyo, enduna lensikazi, lezimbili ezemihlobo yonke yezinyamazana ezingcolileyo, enduna lensikazi yayo, **3** njalo eziyisikhombisa zezinyoni zemihlobo yonke, ezinduna lezinsikazi, ukuze kugcinakale uhlobo lwazo zonke emhlabeni. **4** Ngemva kwensuku eziyisikhombisa kusukela manje ngizathumela izulu emhlabeni okwensuku ezingamatshumi amane lobusuku obungamatshumi amane, njalo ngizatsabalalisa sonke isidalwa esiphilayo engasenzayo emhlabeni.” **5** UNowa wakwenza konke lokho akulaywa nguThixo. **6** UNowa wayeleminyaka engamakhulu ayisithupha yobudala ekufikeni kukazamcolo emhlabeni. **7** UNowa lamadodana akhe, lomkakhe kanye labomalukazana bakhe bangena emkhunjini ukuze baphephe emanzini kazamcolo. **8** Ngazimbili lezinyamazana ezihlanzekileyo lezingcolileyo, ezezinyoni lezezinanakazana zonke ezihuquzela emhlabathini, **9** ezinduna lezinsikazi zeza kuNowa zangena emkhunjini, njengokulaywa kukaNowa nguNkulunkulu. **10** Kwathi ngemva kwensuku eziyisikhombisa amanzi kazamcolo eza emhlabeni. **11** Ngomnyaka wamakhulu ayisithupha wokuphila kukaNowa, ngosuku lwetshumi lesikhombisa lwenyanga yesibili, ngalolosuku yonke imithombo yolwandle olukhulu yadabuka, lamasango amanzi amazulu avuleka. **12** Izulu lana emhlabeni okwensuku ezingamatshumi amane lobusuku obungamatshumi amane. **13** Ngalolosuku uNowa lamadodana akhe, uShemu, uHamu loJafethi, kanye lomkakhe labomalukazana bakhe bamadodana akhe womathathu bangena emkhunjini. **14** Babelazo zonke izinyamazana zeganga kusiya ngemihlobo yazo, zonke izifuyo kusiya ngemihlobo yazo, zonke izinanakazana ezihuquzela emhlabathini kusiya ngemihlobo yazo lazozonke izinyoni kusiya ngemihlobo yazo, yonke into elempiko. **15** Zeza kuNowa ngazimbili zonke izidalwa ezilomphefumulo wokuphila zangena emkhunjini. **16** Izinyamazana eazingena zazingezinduna lezinsikazi ezezinto zonke eziphilayo, njengalokho uNkulunkulu ayekulaye uNowa. Emva kwalokho uThixo wasemvlela phakathi. **17** Okwensuku ezingamatshumi amane impophoma zaphikelela zithululeka

emhlabeni, kwathi ngokwanda kwamanzi awuphakamisa umkhumbi waba ngaphezulu komhlaba. **18** Amanzi akhwela anda kakhulu emhlabeni, umkhumbi wandenda phezu kwamanzi. **19** Akhwela kakhulu emhlabeni, kwathi zonke izintaba eziphakemeyo ngaphansi kwawo wonke amazulu zasibekelwa. **20** Amanzi akhwela asibekela izintaba zatshona okudlula izingalo ezingamatshumi amabili. **21** Zonke izinto eziphilayo ezihamba phezu komhlaba zafa, izinyoni, izifuyo, izinyamazana zeganga, zonke izidalwa ezazitshatshama phezu komhlaba, loluntu lonke. **22** Yonke into ephefumula impilo ngamakhala ayo nxa isemhlabathini owomileyo yafa. **23** Yonke into ephilayo phezu komhlaba yakhukhulwa; abantu lezinyamazana lezinanakazana ezihuquzela emhlabathini kanye lezinyoni zemkhathini kwakhuculwa emhlabeni. NguNowa kuphela owasalayo, lalabo ababelaye emkhunjini. **24** Amanzi agcwala emhlabeni okwensuku ezilikhulu lamatshumi amahlanu.

8 Kodwa uNkulunkulu wamkhumbula uNowa lazozonke izinyamazana zeganga lezifuyo ezazilaye emkhunjini, wasehthumela umoya emhlabeni, amanzi asesentsha. **2** Manje imithombo yolwandle lamasango amanzi asemazulwini kwasekuvaliwe, lezulu laselisile emkhathini. **3** Amanzi entsha kancanekancane emhlabeni. Ekupheleni kwensuku ezilikhulu lamatshumi amahlanu amanzi ayesentsha, **4** kwathi ngosuku lwetshumi lesikhombisa lwenyanga yesikhombisa umkhumbi wayakuma phezu kwezintaba zase-Ararathi. **5** Amanzi aqhubeka esentsha kwaze kwaba yinyanga yetshumi, kwathi ngosuku lokuqala lwenyanga yetshumi iziqongo zezintaba zaqala ukubonakala. **6** Ngemva kwensuku ezingamatshumi amane uNowa wavula iwindi ayelenzile emkhunjini **7** wathuma iwabayi, lazulazula emoyeni amanzi aze atsha emhlabeni. **8** Wasehthuma ijuba ukuthi abone ingabe amanzi ayesepehile emhlabathini. **9** Kodwa ijuba laswela indawo yokubeka unyawo ngoba kwakulamanzi yonke indawo phezu komhlaba; ngakho labuyela kuNowa emkhunjini. Wakhupha isandla walamukela ijuba walibuyisa kuye emkhunjini. **10** Walinda okwezinye insuku eziyisikhombisa waphinda walithuma ijuba lisuka emkhunjini. **11** Kwathi ijuba selibuya kuye ntambama, laliphethe ngomlomo walo ihlamvu lesihlahla se-oliva elalisanda kukhiwa! UNowa wahle wazi ukuthi amanzi ayesehlile kakhulu emhlabeni. **12** Walinda okwezinye insuku eziyisikhombisa walithuma ijuba njalo, kodwa ngalesi isikhathi kalisabuyanga kuye. **13** Ngosuku lokuqala lwenyanga yokuqala yomnyaka wamakhulu ayisithupha lanye wokuphila kukaNowa, amanzi ayesomile emhlabeni. Ngakho uNowa wasesaba uphahla lomkhumbi esebona ukuthi iphansi lomhlabathi laselomile. **14** Ngosuku lwamatshumi amabili lesikhombisa lwenyanga yesibili umhlabathi wawusuwome qha. **15** UNkulunkulu wasesithi kuNowa, **16** “Phuma emkhunjini, wena lomkakho, lamadodana akho labomkabo. **17** Khupha yonke into ephilayo olayo, izinyoni, izinyamazana lazozonke izinanakazana ezihuquzela emhlabathini ukuze zande emhlabeni, zizale zande ngobunengi bazo.” **18** Ngakho uNowa wasephuma lamadodana akhe, lomkakhe kanye labomalukazana bakhe. **19** Zonke izinyamazana kanye lezinanakazana ezihuquzela emhlabathini lazozonke izinyoni, yonke into enyakazayo emhlabeni, kwaphuma emkhunjini, ngemihlobo kulandelana. **20** UNowa wasesakhelela uThixo i-alithari, wathatha ezinye izinyamazana lezinyoni ezihlanzekileyo wanikela iminikelo yokutshiswa phezu

kwalo. **21** UThixo wahotsha iphunga elimnandi wathi enhliziyweni yakhe: “Kangisayikuphinda ngiwuqalekise njalo umhlaba ngenxa yabantu, ngoba imicabango yenhlizyo yomuntu mibi kusukela ebuntwaneni bakhe. Njalo kangisoze lanini ngiphinde ngibhubhise zonke izidalwa eziphilayo, njengalokhu engikwenzileyo. **22** Nxa umhlaba ulokhu usekhona, isikhathi sokuhlanyela lesokuvuna, umqando lokutshisa, ihlobo lobusika, imini lobusuku kakusoze kwacina.”

9 UNkulunkulu wambusisa uNowa lamadodana akhe wathi kubo, “Zalanani lande ngobunengi ligcwalise umhlaba. **2** Zizalesaba zibe lovalo ngani zonke izinyamazana zomhlaba, lazozonke izinyoni zemoyeni, lezinanakazana ezihquzela emhlabathini, kanye lenhlanzi zonke zolwandle; ziphiwe ezandleni zakho. **3** Yonke into ephilayo lenyakazayo izakuba yikudla kuwe. Njengalokhu ngalipha izihlahla eziluhlaza, manje sengilipha yonke into. **4** Kodwa lingadli inyama ilegazi lokuphila phakathi kwayo. **5** Njalo igazi lokuphila kwenu ngizafuna impendulo ngalo, ngizafuna impendulo kuyo yonke inyamazana. Njalo emuntwini wonke ngizafuna ukwazi ngempilo yomzawlane wakhe. **6** Loba ngubani ochitha igazi lomuntu, igazi lakhe lichazithwa ngumuntu; ngoba ngomfanekiso kaNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu umenzile umuntu. **7** Mayelana lani, zalanani lande ngobunengi; yandani emhlabeni libe banengi.” **8** UNkulunkulu wasesithi kuNowa lakumadodana akhe ayelawo: **9** “Manje sengimisa isivumelwano sami lani lezizukulwane zenu ezilandelayo **10** lasonke isidalwa esiphilayo esasilawe, izinyoni, izifuyo lezinyamazana zeganga, zonke lezo ezaphuma lani emkhunjini, sonke isidalwa esiphilayo emhlabeni. **11** Ngiyasimisa isivumelwano sami lani: Kakusoze njalo impilo yonke iqunywe ngamanzi kazamcolo; kakusoze njalo kube lozamcolo ozabhuhisa umhlaba.” **12** UNkulunkulu wathi, “Lesi yisiboniso sesivumelwano engisenzayo phakathi kwami lani lasonke isidalwa esiphilayo elilaso, isivumelwano sezizukulwane zonke ezizayo: **13** Sengibeke umchilowamakhosikazi wami emayezini, wona uzakuba yisiboniso sesivumelwano phakathi kwami lomhlaba. **14** Kuzakuthi nxa ngiletha amayezi phezu komhlaba besekuvela umchilowamakhosikazi emayezini, **15** ngizakhumbula isivumelwano sami phakathi kwami lani lazozonke izidalwa eziphilayo ezemihlobo yonke. Kakusoze njalo lanini amanzi abe yisikhukhula esizabhuhisa impilo. **16** Kuzakuthi nxa kungavela umchilowamakhosikazi emayezini ngizawubona besengikhumbula isivumelwano saphakade phakathi kukaNkulunkulu lezidalwa zonke eziphilayo ezemihlobo yonke emhlabeni.” **17** UNkulunkulu wasesithi kuNowa, “Lesi yisiboniso sesivumelwano esengisimisile phakathi kwami lakho konke okuphilayo emhlabeni.” **18** Amadodana kaNowa aphuma emkhunjini ayengoShemu, uHamu loJafethi. (UHamu wayenguyise kaKhenani.) **19** La ayeyiwo amadodana amathathu kaNowa, kuwo kwadabuka abantu abasabalala emhlabeni wonke. **20** UNowa, indoda yomhlabathi, wasuka wahlangela isivini. **21** Wathi esenathe iwayini lakhona, wadakwa walala enqunu phakathi kwethente lakhe. **22** UHamu, uyise kaKhenani, wabona ubunqunu bukayise wasetshela abafowabo phandle. **23** Kodwa uShemu loJafethi bathatha isivunulo basiphosela emahlombe abo; bangena behamba nyovane bamboza ubunqunu bukayise. Ubuso babo babukhangele emuva ukuze bangaboni ubunqunu bukayise. **24** Kwathi uNowa esevukile selehlile iwayini wezwa

ngokwakwenziwe kuye yindodana yakhe encane kulamanye, **25** wathi, “Uqalekisiwe uKhenani! Isigqili esizakuba phansi kuba fowabo.” **26** Wabuya wathi njalo, “Udumo kalube kuThixo, uNkulunkulu kaShemu! Sengathi uKhenani angaba yisigqili sikaShemu. **27** Sengathi uNkulunkulu angaqhelisa indawo kaJafethi; sengathi uJafethi angahlala emathenteni kaShemu, njalo sengathi uKhenani angaba yisichaka sakhe.” **28** Ngemva kukazamcolo uNowa waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi amahlanu. **29** UNowa waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu ayisificamunwemunye lamatshumi amahlanu isiyonke, wasesifa.

10 Lo ngumlando kaShemu, loHamu loJafethi, amadodana kaNowa, okwathi bona ngokwabo baba lamadodana ngemva kwesikhukhula. **2** Amadodana kaJafethi ayeyila: uGomeri, uMagogi, uMadayi uJavani, uThubhali, uMesheki loThirasi. **3** Amadodana kaGomeri ayeyila: u-Ashikhenazi, uRifathi kanye loThogarima. **4** Amadodana kaJavani ayeyila: u-Elisha, uThashishi, uKhithimi loRodanimu. **5** (Kusukela kulaba abahlala ngasolwandle behluka ngezigodi zabo, yilabo ngosendo lwabo bephakathi kwenzizwe zabo, kuyilabo lalabo bekhuluma ulimi lwabo.) **6** Amadodana kaHamu ayeyila: uKhushi, uMizirayimi, uPhuthi loKhenani. **7** Amadodana kaKhushi ayeyila: uSebha, uHavila, uSabhitha, uRahama loSabhitheka. Amadodana kaRahama ayeyila: uShebha loDedani. **8** UKhushi wayenguyise kaNimrodi, owakhula waba liqhawe elilamanda emhlabeni. **9** Wayengumzingeli omkhulu phambi kukaThixo; kungakho lokho kwathiwa, “NjengoNimrodi, umzingeli omkhulu phambi kukaThixo.” **10** Izindawo ezinkulu zembusweni wakhe kwakuyiBhabhiloni, i-Ereki, i-Akhadi leKhaline eShinari. **11** Esuka kulolulizwe waya e-Asiriya lapho akha khona iNiniva, iRehobhothi, i-Iri, iKhala. **12** leReseni ephakathi kweNiniva leKhala; yilo idolobho elikhulukazi. **13** UMizirayimi wayenguyise wamaLudi, ama-Anami, amaLehabhi, amaNafithuhi, **14** amaPhathrosi lamaKhasiluni (okwadabuka khona amaFilistiya) lamaKhafithori. **15** UKhenani wayenguyise kaSidoni izibulo lakhe, amaHithi, **16** amaJebusi, ama-Amori, amaGigashi, **17** amaHivi, ama-Arikhi, amaSini, **18** ama-Avadi, amaZemari kanye lamaHamathi. (Muva izizwana zamaKhenani zasabalala **19** kwathi imingcele yeKhenani yasukela eSidoni isiya eGerari kufika eGaza, besekuqonda eSodoma, leGomora, le-Adima leZebhoyimi kuye kuyefika eLasha.) **20** La yiwo amadodana kaHamu ngokosendo lwawo langezindimi zawo, ezigodini zawo kanye langezizwe zawo. **21** Amadodana azalwa njalo kuShemu, umnawabo owayengujafethi; uShemu wayengukhokho wawo wonke amadodana ka-Ebha. **22** Amadodana kaShemu ayeyila: u-Elamu, u-Ashuri, u-Afazadi, uLudi lo-Aramu. **23** Amadodana ka-Aramu ayeyila: u-Uzi, uHuli, uGetha loMesheki. **24** U-Afazadi wayenguyise kaShela, uShela wazala u-Ebha. **25** Amadodana amabili ayezalwa ngu-Ebha ayeyila: Omunye wayenguPhelegi, ngoba ngezinsuku zakhe umhlaba wawudabuke phakathi; umfowabo kwakuthiwa nguJokithani. **26** UJokithani wayenguyise ka-Alimodadi, uShelefi, uHazarimavethi, uJera, **27** uHadoramu, u-Uzali, uDikila, **28** u-Obhali, u-Abhimayeli, uShebha, **29** u-Ofiri, uHavila kanye loJobhabhi. Bonke laba babengamadodana kaJokithani. **30** Isigodi ababehlala kuso sasikulanga eMasha kusiya eSefari elizweni elilamaqaga elisempulanga. **31** La ngamadodana kaShemu ngokosendo lwawo langezindimi zawo, emazweni awo lezizweni zawo. **32** Lezi zinsendo zamadodana kaNowa

kusiya ngemindeni yazo, phakathi kwezizwe zawo. Kusukela kuzo, izizwe zahlakazeka zagcwala umhlaba wonke emva kukazamcolo.

11 Umhlaba wonke wawulolimi lunye lokukhuluma okufananayo. **2** Kwathi abantu belokhu beqhelela empumalanga, bafumana indawo evulekileyo eShinari basebesakha khona. **3** Basebetshelana bathi, “Kasitshayeni izitina sizitshise kakhulu.” Babesebenzisa izitina endaweni yamatshe, lethara endaweni yodaka. **4** Basebesithi, “Zwanini, kasizakheleni idolobho libe lomphongolo ofika emazulwini, ukuze sizenzele ibizo singaze sasabalala umhlaba wonke.” **5** Kodwa uThixo wehla wazalibona idolobho kanye lomphongolo abantu ababewakha. **6** UThixo wathi, “Nxa bengabantu banye bekhuluma limi lunye sebeqalile ukwenza lokhu, pho kakukho okungabehlela. **7** Zwanini, kasehleni siye phansi sisanganise ulimi lwabo bangabe besazwana.” **8** Kanjalo uThixo wabahlakaza emhlabeni wonke, bayekela ukwakha idolobho. **9** Kungakho labizwa ngokuthi yiBhabeli, ngoba khonapho uThixo wasanganisa ulimi lomhlaba wonke. Kusukela lapho uThixo wabahlakazela emhlabeni wonke. **10** Lo ngumlando wosendo lukaShemu. Eminyakeni emibili emva kukazamcolo, uShemu eseleminyaka elikhulu wazala u-Afazadi. **11** Esezele u-Afazadi, uShemu waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu amahlanu, njalo waba lamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. **12** Kwathi u-Afazadi esephile iminyaka engamatshumi amathathu lanhlanu, wazala uShela. **13** Esezele uShela, u-Afazadi waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu amane lantathu, njalo waba lamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. **14** UShela esephile iminyaka engamatshumi amathathu wazala u-Ebha. **15** Esezele u-Ebha, uShela waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu amane lantathu, njalo waba lamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. **16** U-Ebha esephile iminyaka engamatshumi amathathu lane wazala uPhelegi. **17** Esezele uPhelegi, u-Ebha waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu amane lamatshumi amathathu, njalo waba lamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. **18** UPhelegi esephile iminyaka engamatshumi amathathu, wazala uRewu. **19** Esezele uRewu, uPhelegi waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu amabili lesificamunwemunye, njalo waba lamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. **20** Kwathi uRewu esephile iminyaka engamatshumi amathathu lambili, wazala uSerugi. **21** Esezele uSerugi, uRewu waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu amabili lesikhombisa, njalo waba lamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. **22** Kwathi uSerugi esephile iminyaka engamatshumi amathathu, wazala uNahori. **23** Esezele uNahori, uSerugi waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu amabili, njalo waba lamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. **24** UNahori esephile iminyaka engamatshumi amabili lesificamunwemunye wazala uThera. **25** Esezele uThera, uNahori waphila okweminyaka elikhulu letshumi lesificamunwemunye, njalo waba lamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. **26** UThera esephile iminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa wazala u-Abhrama, uNahori loHarani. **27** Lo ngumlando wosendo lukaThera. UThera wazala u-Abhrama, uNahori loHarani. Kwathi uHarani wazala uLothi. **28** Kwathi uyise uThera esaphila uHarani wafa bese-Uri idolobho lamaKhaladiya, elizweni lokuzalwa kwakhe. **29** U-Abhrama loNahori bathatha bobabili. Ibizo lomka-Abhrama lalinguSarayi, kwathi ibizo likamkaNahori linguMilikha; wayeyindodakazi kaHarani uyise kaMilikha kanye lo-Isikha.

30 Kodwa uSarayi wayeyinyumba; wayengelabantwana. **31** UThera wathatha indodana yakhe u-Abhrama, lomzukululo wakhe uLothi indodana kaHarani, lomalokazana wakhe uSarayi umfazi wendodana yakhe u-Abhrama, basuka bonke e-Uri lamaKhaladiya baqonda eKhenani. Kodwa bafika eHarani basebesakha khona. **32** UThera waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu amabili lanhlanu, wafela eHarani.

12 UThixo wathi ku-Abhrama, “Suka elizweni lakini, lebantwini bakini lasendlini kayihlo uye elizweni engizakutshengisa lona. **2** Ngizakwenza ube yizizwe esikhulu njalo ngizakubusisa; ngizakwenza ibizo lakho libe likhulu, njalo uzakuba yisibusiso. **3** Ngizababusisa labo abakubusisayo, lalowo okuqalekisayo ngizamqalekisa; njalo bonke abantu emhlabeni bazakubusiswa ngawe.” **4** Ngakho u-Abhrama wasuka, njengokutshelwa kwakhe nguThixo; njalo uLothi wahamba laye. U-Abhrama wayeleminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa lanhlanu ekusukeni kwakhe eHarani. **5** Wathatha umkakhe uSarayi, lomntanomfowabo uLothi, lempahla yabo yonke ababeyizuzile kanye labantu ababebatholile eHarani, baqonda elizweni laseKhenani, bayafika khona. **6** U-Abhrama wahamba walidabula ilizwe waze wafika endaweni yesihlahla esikhulu saseMore eShekhemu. Ngalesosikhathi amaKhenani ayephakathi kwelizwe. **7** UThixo wabonakala ku-Abhrama wathi, “Lelilizwe ngizalnika inzalo yakho.” Ngakho wasesakha i-alithari khonapho elakhela uThixo owayebonakele kuye. **8** Esuka lapho waqonda ezintabeni empumalanga kweBhetheli wamisa ithente lakhe, iBhetheli isentshonalanga le-Ayi isempumalanga. Khonapho wakhela uThixo i-alithari walidumisa ibizo likaThixo. **9** U-Abhrama wasuka waqhubeka eqonda eNegebi. **10** Kwasekusiba lendlala elizweni, okwenza u-Abhrama waya eGibhithe ukuyahlala khona okwesikhathi esithile ngoba indlala yayinkulu kakhulu. **11** Kwathi esebanga ukungena eGibhithe wathi kumkakhe uSarayi, “Ngiyazi ukuthi ungumfazi omuhle kakhulu. **12** AmaGibhithe azakuthi ekubona athi, ‘Lo ngumkakhe.’ Lapho-ke bazangibulala wena bakuyekele uphile. **13** Ubokuthi ungudadewethu, ukuze ngiphathwe kuhle ngenxa yakho njalo lempilo yami isinde ngenxa yakho.” **14** Kwathi u-Abhrama efika eGibhithe, amaGibhithe abona umkakhe ukuthi wayengumfazi omuhle kakhulu. **15** Izikhulu zikaFaro sezimbonile zamncoma kakhulu kuFaro, uSarayi wasengeniswa esigodlweni sakhe. **16** Wamphatha kuhle u-Abhrama ngenxa kaSarayi, ngakho u-Abhrama wazuka izimvu lenkomo, obabhemi abaduna labasikazi, izinceku zesilisa lezesifazane lamakamela. **17** Kodwa uThixo wehlisela uFaro lendlu yakhe izifo ezimbi ngenxa kaSarayi umka-Abhrama. **18** Ngakho uFaro wabiza u-Abhrama wathi, “Wenzeni kimi? Kungani ungangitshelanga ukuthi ungumkakho na? **19** Watsholoni ukuthi ungudadewethu, ngacina sengizithathele mina waba ngowami? Manje, nangu umkakho. Mthathe uhambel!” **20** UFaro waselaya ukuthi u-Abhrama lamadoda ayelawo basuswe elizweni, kanye lomkakhe lakho konke ayelakho.

13 Ngakho u-Abhrama wasuka eGibhithe waya eNegebi, kanye lomkakhe lakho konke ayelakho, loLothi ehamba laye. **2** U-Abhrama wayesenothile kakhulu ngefizyfo langesiliva legolide. **3** Esuka eNegebi wazala lapha lapha waze wafika eBhetheli, endaweni eyayiphakathi kweBhetheli

le-Ayi lapho ayemise khona ithente lakhe kuqala 4 njalo lapho ayeqale khona ukwakha i-alithari. Khonapho u-Abhrama wadumisa ibizo likaThixo. 5 ULothi wayehamba lo-Abhrama laye wayelemihlambi yezimvu lenkomo lamathente. 6 Kodwa indawo yayingasoze ibenele bonke nxa babengahlala ndawonye, ngoba impahla yabo yayinengi kakhulu, isala ukuthi bahlale ndawonye. 7 Kwaba lokuxabana phakathi kwabelusi baka-Abhrama labelusi bakaLothi. AmaKhenani lamaPherizi lawo ayehlala kulelolizwe ngalesosikhathi. 8 U-Abhrama wasesithi kuLothi, “Kasingalwi mina lawe, kumbe abelusi bakho labami ngoba siyizini zegazi. 9 Umhlaba wonke kawukho phambi kwakho na? Kasehlukane. Ungaya kwesokhohlo mina ngizakuya kwesokunene; ungaya kwesokunene mina ngizakuya kwesokhohlo.” 10 ULothi wakhangele wabona ukuthi lonke igceke laseJodani lalilamanzi amanengi, njengesivande sikaThixo, njengelizwe laseGibhithe kusiya eZowari. (Ngalesosikhathi uThixo wayengakabhuhishi iSodoma leGomora.) 11 Ngakho uLothi wazikhethela lonke igceke laseJodani, wasesuka waya empumalanga. Amadoda la womabili ehluhana: 12 U-Abhrama wahlala elizweni laseKhenani, kwathi uLothi wahlala phakathi kwamadolobho asemagcekeni wamisa amathente akhe eduze leSodoma. 13 Abantu baseSodoma babexhwalile kakhulu, besenza izono ezinkulu kuThixo. 14 UThixo wathi ku-Abhrama ngemva kokuba uLothi esesukile kuye, “Phakamisa amehlo akho asuke lapho okhona, ukhangele enhla leningizimu, empumalanga lentshonalanga. 15 Lonke izizwe olibonayo ngizalini wena kanye lesizukulwane sakho okulaphakade. 16 Ngizakwenza isizukulwane sakho sibe njengothuli lomhlaba, okokuthi nxa ekhona ongabala uthuli, lesizukulwane sakho sibe lokubalwa. 17 Hamba udabule ubude lobubanzi belizwe, ngoba ngiyakupha lona.” 18 Ngakho u-Abhrama wathutha amathente akhe wahamba wayakwakha eduze kwezihlahla ezinkulu zikaMamure eHebhroni, lapho akhela khona uThixo i-alithari.

14 Ngesikhathi u-Amrafeli inkosi yaseShinari, lo-Ariyoki inkosi yase-Elasari, loKhedolawoma inkosi yase-Elamu kanye loThidali inkosi yaseGoyimi 2 baya empini behlasela uBhera inkosi yaseSodoma, loBhirisha inkosi yaseGomora, loShinabhi inkosi yase-Adima, loShemebheri inkosi yaseZebhoyimi lenkosi yaseBhela (kutsho iZowari). 3 Wonke amakhosi la abikwe muva ahlanganyela eSigidini saseSidimu (uLwandle lweTswayi). 4 Okweminyaka elitshumi lambili ayebuswa nguKhedolawoma, kodwa ngomnyaka wetshumi lantathu amvukela. 5 Ngomnyaka wetshumi lane, uKhedolawoma lamakhosi ayemanyene laye baphuma bayanqoba amaRefayi e-Ashitherothi Khanayimi, lamaZuzi eHamu, lama-Emi eShave Khiriyathayimi 6 lamaHori elizweni lamaqaqa laseSeyiri, kwaze kwayafika e-Elu Pphanani eduze lenkangala. 7 Yikho basebephenduka baya e-Eni Mishiphathi (kutsho eKhadashi), banqoba isigodi sonke sama-Amaleki kanye lama-Amori ayehlala eHazzaroni Thamari. 8 Ngakho inkosi yaseSodoma, lenkosi yaseGomora, lenkosi yase-Adima, lenkosi yaseZebhoyimi kanye lenkosi yaseBhela (kutsho iZowari) baphuma bayahlela izimpi zabo eSigidini saseSidimi 9 baqondana loKhedolawoma inkosi yase-Elamu, loThidali inkosi yaseGoyimi, lo-Amrafeli inkosi yaseShinari kanye lo-Ariyoki inkosi yase-Elasari, amakhosi amane eqondene lamahlanu. 10 Ngalesosikhathi iSigodi

saseSidimi sasigcwele imigodi yengcino, ngakho kwathi amakhosi aseSodoma leGomora, esebaleka, abanye abantu bawo bawela kuyo, abanengi babalekela ezintabeni. 11 Amakhosi la amane athumba zonke impahla zaseSodoma leGomora lokudla kwabo konke; asehamba. 12 Bathumba njalo loLothi umntanomfowabo ka-Abhrama lempahla zakhe, njengoba wayehlala eSodoma. 13 Omunye owayephunyukile wafika wazabikela u-Abhrama umHebheru. U-Abhrama wayehlala phansi kwezihlahla ezinkulu zikaMamure um’Amori, umfowabo ka-Eshikholi lo-Aneri, bonke labo babebambene lo-Abhrama. 14 Kwathi u-Abhrama esizwa ukuthi isihlobo sakhe sasithunjiwe, wabutha amadoda ayengamakhulu amathathu letshumi layisificaminwembili ababefundiswe ukulwa, bezalwa endlini yakhe, wangena emzileni baze bayafika eDani. 15 Ebusuku u-Abhrama wehlukanisa abantu bakhe ukuthi babahlasele, wabalandela, waxotshana labo waze wafika eHobha, enhla kweDamaseko. 16 Wabemuka zonke impahla wathola lomhlobo wakhe uLothi kanye lemfuyo yakhe, ndawonye labesifazane labanye abantu. 17 U-Abhrama esebuyile ekunqobeni kwakhe uKhedolawoma lamakhosi ayebambene laye, inkosi yaseSodoma yaphuma yazahlangana laye eSigidini saseShave (okutsho iSigodi seNkosi). 18 UMelikhizedekhi inkosi yaseSalema, waseletha isinkwa lewayini. Wayengumphristi kaNkulunkulu oPhezukonke, 19 wabusisa u-Abhrama esithi, “Ubusiwe u-Abhrama nguNkulunkulu oPhezukonke, uMdali wezulu lomhlaba. 20 Njalo kadunyiswe uNkulunkulu oPhezukonke, owanikela izitha zakho esandleni sakho.” U-Abhrama wasemupha okwetshumi kwakho konke ayelakho. 21 Inkosi yaseSodoma yathi ku-Abhrama, “Ngipha abantu wena uzigcinele impahla.” 22 Kodwa u-Abhrama wathi enkosini yaseSodoma, “Sengiphakamisele isandla sami kuThixo, uNkulunkulu oPhezukonke, uMdali wezulu lomhlaba, ngenza isifungo 23 ukuthi kangisoze ngamukele lutho olungolwakho, loba kungaze kube ngumuca wohali loba umchilo wamanyathela, ukuze lanini ungaze wathi, ‘U-Abhrama wanthiswa yimi.’ 24 Angisoze ngamukele lutho ngaphandle kwalokho abantu bami asebekudlile lesabelo esingesalababantu ababehamba lami, u-Aneri, lo-Eshikholi loMamure. Kabazuze isabelo sabo.”

15 Ngemva kwalokho ilizwi likaThixo leza ku-Abhrama ngombono: “Ungesabi, Abhrama. Ngiyisihlangu sakho, umvuzo wakho omkhulu kakhulu.” 2 Kodwa u-Abhrama wathi, “Oh Thixo Wobukhosi, ungangiphani njengoba ngilokhu ngingelamntwana, ilifa lami lizadliwa ngu-Eliyezari waseDamaseko na?” 3 U-Abhrama wathi njalo, “Awungiphanga bantwana; ngakho inceku endlini yami izakuba yindlalifa yami.” 4 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kuye lathi: “Umuntu lo kayikuba yindlalifa yakho, kodwa indodana ephuma kokakho umzimba izakuba yindlalifa yakho.” 5 Wamkhuphela phandle wathi, “Khangela emkhathini ubale izinkanyezi, nxa usenelisa ukuzibala.” Wasesithi kuye, “Sizakuba njalo isizukulwane sakho.” 6 U-Abhrama wamkholwa uThixo, lokho kwabalwa kuye njengokulunga. 7 Waphinda wathi kuye, “NginguThixo owakususa e-Uri lamaKhaladiya ukuzakupha leilizwe ukuthi libe ngelakho.” 8 Kodwa u-Abhrama wathi, “Oh Thixo Wobukhosi, ngingazi kanjani ukuthi lizakuba ngelami na?” 9 UThixo wathi kuye, “Ngilethela ithokazi, imbuzi, lenqama, konke kuleminyaka emithathu yokuzalwa, kanye lejuba lenkwilimba esesencinyane.” 10 U-Abhrama wakuletha konke lokhu kuye, yilokho wakudabula phakathi ngakunye wakuhlela

izingxenywe zakho zakhangelana; kodwa izinyoni kazidabulanga phakathi. **11** Izinyoni ezidla inyama zehlela ezidunjini, kodwa u-Abhrama wazixotsha. **12** Kwathi ilanga selitshona, u-Abhrama wathathwa yibuthongo obukhulu, wehlelwa yibumnyama obesabekayo. **13** UThixo wasesithi kuye, “Yazi ngempela ukuthi Izizukulwane zakho zizakuba ngabezizweni elizweni elingayisizo labo okweminyaka engamakhulu amane, njalo bazagqilazwa, bahlukuluzwe khonale. **14** Kodwa ngizasisijezisa lesosizwe esibagqilazayo, kuthi emva kwesikhathi baphume belemfuyo enengi kakhulu. **15** Kodwa wena, uzakuya kubokhokho bakho ngokuthula, ungcwatshwe usukhulile kakhulu. **16** Isizukulwane sakho sesine sizabuya lapha, ngoba isono sama-Amori kasifikali ekucineni.” **17** Kwathi ilanga selitshonile, ubumnyama sebufikile, kwavela imbawula yomlilo, ithunqa intuthu, ilelangabi elibebhayo, yadabula phakathi kweziqha zenyama. **18** Ngalelolanga uThixo wenza isivumelwano lo-Abhrama wathi, “Ilizwe leli ngilipha izizukulwane zakho, kusukela emfuleni waseGibhithe kusiyafika emfuleni omkhulu, iYufra, **19** ilizwe lamaKheni, lamaKhenizi, lamaKhadimoni, **20** lamaHithi, lamaPherizi, lamaRefayi, **21** lama-Amori, lamaKhenani, lamaGigashi kanye lamaJebusi.”

16 USarayi umka-Abhrama wayengamazalanga bantwana. Kodwa wayelencekuzi yomGibhithe eyayithwa nguHagari; **2** ngakho uSarayi wathi ku-Abhrama, “UThixo ungincitshile abantwana. Hamba, wembathe lencekuzi yami; mhlawumbe lami ngingaba lendlu ngaye.” U-Abhrama wavuma kulokho okwakutshiwo nguSarayi. **3** Ngakho kwathi u-Abhrama esehlale eKhenani okweminyaka elitshumi, uSarayi umkake wathatha incekekazi yakhe yomGibhithe uHagari wampha indoda yakhe ukuba ngumkayo. **4** U-Abhrama wambatha loHagari, wazithwala. Wathi esezibona esezithwele, waseqalisa ukweyisa inkosikazi yakhe. **5** USarayi wasesithi ku-Abhrama, “Ngumlandu wakho ukuze ngihlupheke kangaka. Incekuzi yami ngayethula ezandleni zakho, kodwa ithi ngoba isisazi ukuthi isizithwele isingeyisa. Sengathi uThixo anghalulela phakathi kwami lawe.” **6** U-Abhrama wathi, “Incekuzi yakho isezandleni zakho. Yenza lokho obona kufanele ngayo.” USarayi wasemphatha kubi uHagari; wacina embalekela. **7** Ingilosi kaThixo yamfumana uHagari eduze komthombo enkangala; kwakungumthombo oseceleni kwendlela eya eShuri. **8** Yathi, “Hagari, ncekuzi kaSarayi, uvela ngaphi njalo uya ngaphi?” Waphendula wathi, “Ngibalekela inkosikazi yami, uSarayi.” **9** Ngakho ingilosi kaThixo yamtshela yathi, “Buyela enkosikazini yakho ufike uyilalele.” **10** Ingilosi kaThixo yengeza yathi, “Ngizakwandisa izizukulwane zakho zibe zinengi okungelakubalwa.” **11** Ingilosi kaThixo yaphinda yathi kuye: “Khathezi usizithwele njalo uzabusiwa ngendodana. Kumele uyethe uthi ngu-Ishumayeli, ngoba uThixo usekuzwile ukukhala kwakho. **12** Uzakuba yindoda engubabhemi weganga; isandla sakhe sizaxabana labantu bonke lesandla somuntu wonke sizabane laye, njalo uzaphila ngenzondano labafowabo bonke.” **13** UThixo owakhuluma laye wamutha lelibizo elithi: “UnguNkulunkulu ongibonayo,” ngoba wathi, “Manje sengimbonile lowo ongibonayo.” **14** Yikho-nje umthombo lowo wabizwa ngokuthi yiBheri-Lahayi-Royi; ulokhu usekhona, phakathi kweKhadeshi leBheredi. **15** Ngakho uHagari wazalela u-Abhrama indodana, u-Abhrama wamutha ibizo lokuthi ngu-Ishumayeli. **16** U-Abhrama wayeleminyaka yokuzalwa

engamatshumi ayisificaminwembili lesithupha lapho uHagari emzalela u-Ishumayeli.

17 U-Abhrama eseleminyaka engamatshumi ayisificaminwemunye lasificaminwemunye yobudala, uThixo wabonakala kuye wathi, “NginguNkulunkulu uSomandla; hamba ngokwethembeka phambi kwami, ungasoleki. **2** Ngizasiqinisa isivumelwano phakathi kwami lawe, ngandise njalo ubunengi benu.” **3** U-Abhrama wawa wathi mbo phansi ngobuso, uNkulunkulu wathi kuye, **4** “Mina ngokwami ngithi lesi isivumelwano sami lawe: uzakuba nguyise wezizwe ezinengi. **5** Kawusayi kubizwa ngokuthi Abhrama; ibizo lakho selizakuba ngu-Abrahama, ngoba sengikwenze uyise wezizwe ezinengi. **6** Ngizakwenza uzuzo inzalo enengi; ngizakwenza izizwe ngawe, njalo amakhosi azaphuma kuwe. **7** Ngizaqinisa isivumelwano sami sibe isivumelwano sanini lanini phakathi kwami lawe kanye lezizukulwane ezizayo ukuba nguNkulunkulu wakho, loNkulunkulu wezizukulwane zakho ngemva kwakho. **8** Ilizwe lonke laseKhenani, okwamanje ohlala njengwezizwe kulo, ngizakupha libe yilifa laphakade kuwe lezizukulwane zakho ngemva kwakho; njalo ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wabo.” **9** UNkulunkulu wasesithi ku-Abrahama, “Wena kumele ugcinise isivumelwano sami, wena lezizukulwane zakho ezizayo. **10** Lesi isivumelwano sami lawe lezizukulwane ezizayo, isivumelwano okumele usigcine: Wonke umuntu wesilisa phakathi kwenu kuzamele asokwe. **11** Wena kumele usokwe, lokho kuzakuba yisiboniso sesivumelwano phakathi kwami lawe. **12** Kuzizukulwane ezizayo umuntu wonke wesilisa ophakathi kwenu oselezinsuku eziyisificaminwembili kumele asokwe, kusitsho lalabo abazalwa emzini wakho loba abathengwa ngemali emuntwini wezizwe, labo abangazalwa nguwe. **13** Loba abazalwa emzini wakho kumbe abathengwa ngemali, kumele basokwe. Isivumelwano sami enyameni yakho sizakuba yisivumelwano esingapheliyo. **14** Lowo owesilisa ongasokwanga, ongazange ake asokwe enyameni uzakhalalwa ngabantu bakibo; usephule isivumelwano sami.” **15** UNkulunkulu waphinda njalo wathi ku-Abrahama, “Umkakho uSarayi, ungabe usambiza ngokuthi nguSarayi; ibizo lakhe selinguSara. **16** Ngizambusisa, njalo ngizakunika indodana ngaye. Ngizambusisa ukuze abe ngunina wezizwe; amakhosi ezizwe azavela kuye.” **17** U-Abrahama wawa wathi mbo ngobuso phansi; wahleka wazitshela wathi, “Kambe indodana ingazalwa ngumuntu oseleminyaka elikhulu na? USara angamazala umntwana yena eseleminyaka engamatshumi ayisificaminwemunye na?” **18** Ngakho u-Abrahama wasesithi kuNkulunkulu, “Nxa u-Ishumayeli ngaphila ngaphansi kwesibusiso sakho kuphela!” **19** UNkulunkulu wasesithi, “Yebo, uSara uzakuzalela indodana, wena uyibize ngokuthi ngu-Isaka. Ngizaqinisa isivumelwano sami laye sibe yisivumelwano esingapheliyo lezizukulwane eziza ngemva kwakhe. **20** Mayelana lo-Ishumayeli, ngizwile okutshiloyo: ngeqiniso ngizambusisa; ngizamnika inzalo enkulu, ngandise ubunengi bayo. Uzakuba nguyise wababusi abalithumi lambili, ngimenze abe yizizwe esikhulu. **21** Kodwa isivumelwano sami ngizasiqinisa lo-Isaka, ozamazalwa nguSara ngalesisikhathi ngomnyaka ozayo.” **22** Eseqedile ukukhuluma lo-Abrahama, uNkulunkulu wenyuka wamtshiya. **23** Ngalelolanga u-Abrahama wathatha indodana yakhe u-Ishumayeli labo bonke abazalelwa emzini wakhe loba

abathengwayo ngemali yakhe wabasoka, njengoba uNkulunkulu wayemtshelele. **24** U-Abrahama wayeleminyaka yokuzalwa engamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye lasificamunwemunye mhla esokwa, **25** indodana yakhe u-Ishumayeli yayileminyaka yokuzalwa elitshumi lantathu; **26** u-Abrahama lendodana yakhe u-Ishumayeli bobabili basokwa mhlalokho ngalanga linye. **27** Njalo bonke abesilisa ababesemzini ka-Abrahama, kugoqela labo abazalelwa khonapho ekhaya labathengwa kwabezizwe, basokwa kanye laye.

18 UThixo wabonakala ku-Abrahama eduzane lezihlahla ezinkulu zikaMamure, ehlezi emnyango wethente lakhe, ilanga litshisa kakhulu. **2** U-Abrahama waphosa amehlo wabona amadoda amathathu emi eduze. Wonela ukuwabona wasuka ngokuphangisa emnyango wethente lakhe wawahlangebaza wafika wakhothama phansi. **3** Wathi, “Nxa ngifumene umusa kuwe, nkosi yami, ungedluli eceleni kwenceku yakho. **4** Akulethwe amanzi amalutshwana nje, ukuze lonke ligeze inyawo zenu, keliphumule ngaphansi kwesihlahla lesi. **5** Wothini ngilidingele ukudla ukuze lizeze amandla andubana liqhubeke ngohambo lweni njengoba nje selizile encekwini yenu.” Baphendula bathi, “Kulungile, yenza lokho okutshoyo.” **6** Ngakho u-Abrahama waphanga waya ethenteni kuSara. Wathi, “Phangisa, thatha izilinganiso ezintathu zefulawa ecolokileyo, uvube inhlama wenze isinkwa.” **7** Waphanga waya emhlambini wakhethe iguqana elihle, elibuthakathaka walipha isisebenzi ukuba silihlinze. **8** Waseletha izankefu zamasi, lochago kanye leguqa elaselilungisiwe, konke wakubeka phambi kwabo. Bathi besidla yena wema eduzane labo ngaphansi kwesihlahla. **9** Bambuza bathi, “Ungaphi umkakhos uSara na?” Wathi, “Ulahayana, ethenteni.” **10** UThixo wasesithi, “Ngizabuya ngempela kuwe ngalesisikhathi ngomnyaka ozayo, njalo umkakhos uSara uzakuba lendodana.” USara wayelokhu elalele esemnyango wethente elalingemuva kwakhe. **11** U-Abrahama loSara basebevele sebebada kakhulu, uSara esedlule isikhathi sokuba labantwana. **12** Ngakho uSara wahleka yedwa, wakhumbula wathi, “Kambe sengigugile kanje lenkosi yami isindala, ngingakhona ngizuzwa intokozo le?” **13** UThixo wasesithi ku-Abrahama, “Kungani uSara ehlekile njalo wathi, ‘Kambe sibili ngizakuba lomntwana mina sengiluphele?’ **14** Kambe kulolokho olwehlula uThixo na? Ngizabuya kuwe ngesikhathi esimisiweyo ngomnyaka ozayo, njalo uSara uzakuba lendodana.” **15** USara wesaba, yikho waqamba amanga wathi, “Kangizange ngihleke mina.” Kodwa wathi, “Ye, uhlekile.” **16** Amadoda asuka ahamba aqonda eSodoma, u-Abrahama waphatelekeleza ukuwakhupha. **17** UThixo wasesithi, “Ngimfihlele yini u-Abrahama lokho esengizakwenza na? **18** Ngempela u-Abrahama uzakuba yisizwe esikhulu esilamandla, njalo zonke izizwe zomhlaba zizabusiwa ngaye. **19** Ngoba sengimkhethile, ukuze aqondise abantwabakhe lomuzi wakhe, yena esedlule, ukugcina indlela kaThixo ngokwenza okulungileyo loluqondileyo, ukuze uThixo amenzele u-Abrahama lokho amthembise khona.” **20** UThixo wasesithi kuye, “Insolo ngeSodoma leGomora inkulu kakhulu njalo isono sakhona siyababeka **21** okokuthi sengizakuya khona ngiyebona ingabe lokho abakwenzileyo kubi okulingana lensole le esifikile kimi. Nxa kungenjalo, ngizakwazi.” **22** Amadoda akhangela phambili aqonda eSodoma, kodwa u-Abrahama wasala emi phambi kukaThixo. **23** Ngakho u-

Abrahama waya kuye wathi: “Uzabhubhisa abalungileyo kanye lababi na? **24** Pho nxa kukhona abangamatshumi amahlanu kulelodobho ke? Ngempela uzalikhucula na ungalixoleli ngenxa yabangamatshumi amahlanu abalungileyo abakulo na? **25** Akube khatshana lawe ukwenza into enjalo, ukubulala abalungileyo lababi. Kakube khatshana lawe lokho! Kambe uMahluleli womhlaba wonke kayikwenza okufaneleyo na?” **26** UThixo wathi, “Nxa ngifumana abangamatshumi amahlanu abalungileyo edolobheni laseSodoma, ngizalixolela lonke idolobho ngenxa yabo.” **27** U-Abrahama waphinda wakhuluma njalo wathi: “Njengoba sengibe lesibindi esingaka sokukhuluma loThixo, loba ngingasulutho mina, ngiluthuli nje lomlotha, **28** pho nxa inani labalungileyo lingaphansi ngabahlanu ematshumini amahlanu? Uzalibhubhisa idolobho lonke ngenxa yabantu abahlanu na?” Wathi, “Ngingafumana abangamatshumi amane lanhlana kangiyikulibhubhisa.” **29** Waphinda njalo wakhuluma laye wathi, “Nxa kufunyanwa amatshumi amane kuphela-ke?” Yena wathi, “Ngenxa yabangamatshumi amane kangizukukwenza.” **30** Ngakho wasesithi, “UThixo makangathukutheli, kodwa ake ngikhulume. Kungafunyanwa khona amatshumi amathathu ke?” Waphendula wathi, “Kangizukukwenza ngingafumana khona amatshumi amathathu.” **31** U-Abrahama wathi, “Kambe njengoba ngibe lesibindi esingaka ngaze ngakhuluma loThixo, pho nxa kufunyanwa abangamatshumi amabili khona kuphela-ke?” Wathi, “Ngenxa yabangamatshumi amabili kangiyikulibhubhisa.” **32** Waphinda wathi, “UThixo angathukutheli, kodwa ake ngikhulume kanye kuphela njalo. Kambe nxa kungafunyanwa itshumi lodwa-ke?” Waphendula wathi, “Ngenxa yabalitshumi kangiyikulibhubhisa.” **33** Kwathi uThixo eseqedile ukukhuluma lo-Abrahama wasuka, lo-Abrahama wabuyela ngekhyaya.

19 Izingilosi zombili zafika eSodoma kusihlwa, uLothi ehlezi esangweni ledolobho. Wathi ezibona wasukuma wazihlangabeza wathi mbo phansi ngobuso. **2** Wathi, “Makhosi ami, ake liphambukele endlini yencku yenu. Lingazezwa inyawo zenu, lilale khona andubana liqhubeke ngendlela yenu ekuseni.” Zaphendula zathi, “Hatshi, sizalala egcekeni phandle.” **3** Kodwa waphikelela kakhulukazi zaze zahamba laye zangena endlini yakhe. Wazilungisela ukudla, wazenzela isinkwa esingelamvubelo, zadla. **4** Zingakayilala, amadoda aqhamuka kuzozonke izindawo zedolobho laseSodoma, amajaha lamaxhegu, ayihanqa indlu. **5** Amemeza uLothi athi, “Angaphi amadoda afike emzini wakho lamuhla kusihlwa? Akhuphe eze lapha ngoba sifuna ukulala lawo siwenze abafazi.” **6** ULothi waphuma wayakhuluma lawo wawala umnyango ngemva kwakhe, **7** wathi, “Hatshi, bazalwane. Lingenzi linto embi kangaka. **8** Khangelani, ngilamadodakazi amabili angakaze alale lendoda. Wothini ngiwalethe lapha kini lenze elikuthandayo ngawo. Kodwa lingenzi lutho emadodeni ngoba angaphansi komthunzi wophahla lwami.” **9** Aphendula athi, “Suka endleleni yethu.” Babuye bathi, “Umuntu lo weza lapha njengowezizwe, kodwa khathesi usefuna ukuba ngumahluleli! Wena-ke sizakuthwalisa nzima kulawo.” Babelokhu beminyezela uLothi, bafuqela phambili bezama ukwephula isivalo. **10** Kodwa amadoda lawo ayephakathi avula adonsela uLothi endlini avala isivalo. **11** Asewathshaya ngobophu amadoda ayesemnyango wendlu leyo, amajaha lamaxhegu, asesehluleka ukubona umnyango. **12** Amadoda lawo amabili athi kuLothi, “Bakhona yini

abanye olabo lapha abakhwenyana, amadodana kumbe amadodakazi, loba nje omunye edolobheni leli ongowakho? Bakhuphe lapha, **13** ngoba sizayibhubhisa indawo le. Insole efika kuThixo ngalabantu inkulu kabi okokuthi useze wasithuma ukuthi silibhubhise.” **14** Ngakho uLothi waphuma wayakhuluma labakhwenyana bakhe, labo abasebethembise ukulobola amadodakazi akhe. Wathi, “Phangisani, phumani kulindawo, ngoba uThixo usezalibhubhisa idolobho leli!” Kodwa abakhwenyana bakhe bacabanga ukuthi wenza amahlaya. **15** Kwathi emathathakusa izingilosi zakhuthaza uLothi zathi, “Phangisa! Thatha umkakho lamadodakazi akho womabili akhona lapha, ngoba lizaqabuka likhukhulwa nxa idolobho selijeziswa.” **16** Wathi esatomatoma, amadoda ambamba ngesandla kanye lesandla somkakhe lezamadodakazi akhe womabili abaholela ngaphandle kwedolobho bephephile, ngoba uThixo wayelomusa kubo. **17** Bonela ukuthi bakhutshwe, omunye wazo wathi, “Balekani liqinise! Lingakhangele emuva, njalo lingemi ndawo emagekeni! Balekani ezintabeni funa likhukhulwe!” **18** Kodwa uLothi wathi kuzo, “Hatshi, makhosi ami, bakithi! **19** Inceku yenu isizuze umusa emehlweni enu, njalo selitshengise umusa omkhulu kimi ngokuphephisa impilo yami. Kodwa ngingeke ngibalekele ezintabeni; ububi lobu buzangifica ngihle ngife. **20** Khangelani, nanku umuzi oseduze engingabalekela kuwo, njalo mncinyane, wothini ngibalekele kuwo, mncinyane, kawunjalo? Lapho ngizasinda.” **21** Yathi kuye, “Kulungile, ngiyasamukela njalo lalesicelo; kangizukuwubhidliza umuzi okhuluma ngawo. **22** Kodwa balekela khona masinyane, ngoba kangiyikwenza lutho uze ufike khona.” (Yikho umuzi lowo wabizwa ngokuthi yiZowari.) **23** Ngesikhathi uLothi efika eZowari ilanga laseliphumile elizweni. **24** UThixo wasenisa umlilo wesolufa etshisayo phezu kweSodoma leGomora, uvela kuThixo usehla emazulwini. **25** Kanjalo wawabhidliza amadolobho lamageke wonke, labo bonke ababehlala kuwo amadolobho kanye lokumila emhlabathini. **26** Kodwa umkaLothi wakhangele emuva, waphenduka isiduli setswayi. **27** Ekuseni kakhulu ngosuku olulandelayo u-Abrahama wasuka wabuyela endaweni lapho ayeme phambi kukaThixo khona. **28** Wakhangele malungana leSodoma leGomora, malungana lalo lonke ilizwe lamageke, wabona izikhatha zentuthu ziqonga zisuka phansi, njengomlilo usuka esithandweni somlilo. **29** Ngakho kwathi uNkulunkulu ebhubhisa amadolobho asemagekeni wakhumbula u-Abrahama, wamkhupha uLothi enkenemkemeni eyatshabalalisa amadolobho lapho uLothi ayekade ehlala khona. **30** ULothi lamadodakazi akhe womabili basuka eZowari bayahlala ezintabeni, ngoba wayesesaba ukuhlala eZowari. Yena lamadodakazi akhe womabili babehlala ebhalwini. **31** Ngolunye usuku indodakazi endala yathi kwencinyane, “Ubaba useluphele, njalo kakulandoda lapha engalala lathi, njengoba kungumkhuba emhlabeni wonke. **32** Kasidakise ubaba ngewayini besesilala laye ukuze silombe usendo lwakwethu ngobaba.” **33** Ngalobobusuku uyise bamnathisa iwayini, indodakazi endala yangena yembatha laye. Yena kayibonanga izolala loba isivuka. **34** Ngosuku olulandelayo indodakazi endala yathi kwencinyane, “Izolo ebusuku ngembathe lobaba. Kasimdakise futhi ngewayini ngobusuku balamuhla lawe uhambe uyokwembatha laye ukuze silondolozwe usendo lwakithi ngobaba.” **35** Bamdakisa-ke uyise ngewayini ngalobobusuku njalo, indodakazi encinyane yahamba yayakwembatha laye. Njalo kazange ananzelele

ukuthi walala nini lokuthi wavuka nini. **36** Ngakho womabili amadodakazi kaLothi athatha izisu kuyise. **37** Indodakazi endala yazala indodana yamutha ibizo yathi nguMowabi; nguye uyise wamaMowabi alamuhla nje. **38** Indodakazi encinyane layo yazala indodana, yayitha yathi nguBheni-Ami; nguye uyise wama-Amoni alamuhla nje.

20 U-Abrahama wathutha kuleyondawo waya emangweni waseNegebi wayahlala phakathi kweKhadeshi leShuri. Okwesikhatskana wake wahlala eGerari, **2** lapho u-Abrahama athi khona ngomkakhe uSara, “Ngudadewethu.” Ngakho u-Abhimelekhini inkosi yaseGerari yathi uSara kalethwe, yazithathela. **3** Kodwa uNkulunkulu wafika ku-Abhimelekhini ephutsheni ebusuku wathi kuye, “Usufile wena ngenxa yomfazi omthethayo; ngumfazi womnikazi.” **4** Kodwa u-Abhimelekhini wayelokhu engakamthinti, ngakho wathi, “Thixo, uzasibhubhisa isizwe esimsulwa na? **5** Katshongo kimi yini wathi, ‘Ngudadewethu,’ laye katshongo na wathi, ‘Ungumnwethu?’ Lokhu ngikwenze ngenhliziyo emsulwa langezandla ezimhlophe.” **6** Ngalokho uNkulunkulu wasesithi kuye ephutsheni, “Yebo, ngiyakwazi ukuthi lokhu ukwenze ngenhliziyo emsulwa, yikho ngikuthintile ukuthi ungenzi isono kimi. Yikho ngingakuyekelanga wamthinta. **7** Manje mbuyisele umfazi womuntu, ngoba umuntu lowo ungumphrofethi, uzakuhlekela ukuthi uphile. Kodwa nxa ungambuyisele, yazi ukuthi wena lakho konke okungokwakho kuzakufa.” **8** Kusisa ngelanga elilandelayo ekuseni kakhulu, u-Abhimelekhini wabiza zonke izikhulu zakhe, kwathi esezitshelile konke okwenzakeleyo, zesaba kakhulu. **9** U-Abhimelekhini wasebiza u-Abrahama wathi, “Ukwenzeleni lokhu kithi na? Ngikone ngani uze ulethe ukona okunje phezu kwami lombuso wami na? Wenze kimi izinto okungafanelanga kuzaziwe.” **10** U-Abhimelekhini wabuza u-Abrahama wathi, “Besiyini isizatho sakho sokwenza lokhu na?” **11** U-Abrahama waphendula wathi, “Ngazitshela ngathi, ‘Ngempela kakukho ukumesaba uNkulunkulu kule indawo njalo bazangibulala ngenxa yomkani.’ **12** Ngaphandle kwalokho, uvele ungudadewethu, indodakazi kababa kodwa engasuye kamama; waba ngumkani. **13** Kwathi uNkulunkulu esengisusile emzini kababa ngathi kuSara, ‘Nansi indlela ongatshengisa ngayo uthando lwakho kimi: Noma ngaphi lapho esiya khona, ubokuthi ngami, ‘Ungumnwethu.’” **14** U-Abhimelekhini waseletha izimvu lenkomo, lezisebenzi zesilisa lezesifazane wazipha u-Abrahama, wabuyisele uSara umkakhe kuye. **15** Njalo u-Abhimelekhini wathi, “Nanti ilizwe lami uyalibona; unghahlala lapho othanda khona.” **16** Wathi kuSara, “Umnwenu ngimupha amashekele esiliva ayinkulungwane. Le iyinhlawulo yehlazo elenziwe kuwe phambi kwabantu bonke bakini; usugeziwe.” **17** U-Abrahama wasekhuleka kuNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu wamsilisa u-Abhimelekhini, lomkakhe lezigqili zakhe zesifazane ukuthi babelabantwana njalo, **18** ngoba uThixo wayevale bonke abesifazane bendlu ka-Abhimelekhini inzalo ngenxa yomka-Abrahama, uSara.

21 Ngakho uThixo waba lomusa kuSara njengoba wayetshilo, uThixo wamenzela uSara lokho ayekuthembisile. **2** USara wazithwala wazalela u-Abrahama ebudaleni bakhe indodana ngesikhathi sonaleso uNkulunkulu ayemthembise sona. **3** U-Abrahama wayitha ibizo elithi Isaka leyondodana ayizalelwa nguSara. **4** Kwathi indodana yakhe u-Isaka isilensuku eziyisificaminwembili izelwe, u-

Abrahama wayisoka, njengoba walaywa nguNkulunkulu. 5 U-Abrahama wayeseleminyaka elikhulu ekuzalweni kwendodana yakhe u-Isaka. 6 USara wathi, “UNKulunkulu usengilethele intokozo, njalo bonke abazakuzwa lokhu bazathokoza lami.” 7 Wabuye wengeza wathi, “Kambe ngubani obengatsho ku-Abrahama ukuthi uSara angondla abantwana? Kodwa sengimzalele indodana ebudaleni bakhe.” 8 Wakhula umntwana, walunyulwa, kwathi mhla u-Isaka elunyulwa u-Abrahama wenza idili elikhulu. 9 Kodwa uSara wabona ukuthi indodana kaHagari umGibhithi, ayeyizalele u-Abrahama yayikloloda, 10 wasesithi ku-Abrahama, “Mxotshe umfazi lo oyisigqili kanye lendodana yakhe, ngoba indodana yesigqilikazi lesi kayisoze yabelana ilifa lendodana yami u-Isaka.” 11 Indaba le yamhlupha kakhulu u-Abrahama ngoba yayithintana lendodana yakhe. 12 Kodwa uNkulunkulu wathi kuye, “Ungakhathazeki kakhulu ngomfana kanye lesigqilikazi sakho. Lalela konke uSara akutshela khona ngoba isizukulwane sakho sizabalwa ngo-Isaka. 13 Indodana le eyesigqilikazi layo ngizayenza ibe yizizwe ngoba iyinzalo yakho.” 14 Ngosuku olulandelayo ekuseni kakhulu u-Abrahama wathatha ukudla lesigxingi samanzi wakunika uHagari. Wakwetshata emahlombe kaHagari, wasebakhupha lomfana. Owesifazane wasuka wayantula enkangala yaseBherisheba. 15 Esephelele amanzi esigxingini, wabeka umntwana ngaphansi kwesixuku. 16 Yena wasuka wayahlala bucwadlana, okungaba libanga lokuphosa umtshoko, ngoba wacabanga wathi, “Ngeke ngibukele umfana esifa.” Kwathi ehlezi khonapho bucwala wakhala ebubula. 17 UNkulunkulu wamuzwa umfanyana ekhala, ingilos kaNkulunkulu yasibiza uHagari isezulwini yathi kuye, “Kwenzajani, Hagari? Ungesabi; uNkulunkulu usekuzwile ukukhala komfana elele khonaphayana. 18 Mphakamise umfana umbambe ngesandla, ngoba ngizamenza abe yizizwe esikhulu.” 19 UNkulunkulu wasemvula amehlo, wabona umthombo wamanzi. Ngakho wasesiyagcwalisa umgodla ngamanzi wapha umfana wanatha. 20 UNkulunkulu wayelaye umfana ekhula. Wahhlala enkangala waba ngumcibi womtshoko. 21 Wathi ehlela eNkangala yasePharani, unina wamdingela umfazi eGibhithi. 22 Ngalesosikhathi u-Abhimeleki loFikhlo, umlawuli wamabutho akhe bathi ku-Abrahama, “UNKulunkulu ulawe kukho konke okwenzayo. 23 Khathesi-ke funga kimi khonapha phambi kukaNkulunkulu ukuthi kawusoze wenze izinto zobuqili kishi, loba ebantwaneni bami loba kuzizukulwane zami. Tshengisa kimi lakulo ilizwe ohlezi kulo njengesizwe wona lowomusa engikwenzele wona.” 24 U-Abrahama wathi, “Ngiyafunga.” 25 U-Abrahama wasesola ku-Abhimeleki ngomthombo izinceku zika-Abhimeleki ezaziwuthumbile. 26 Kodwa u-Abhimeleki wathi, “Angikwazi ukuthi ngubani okwenzileyo lokho. Kawuzange ungitshela, sekuyikhona ngikuzwa nje lamhla.” 27 Ngakho u-Abrahama waletha izimvu lenkomo wazipha u-Abhimeleki, amadoda womabili enza isivumelwano. 28 U-Abrahama wehlukanisa amazinyane amasikazi ayisikhombisa emhlambini, 29 u-Abhimeleki wambuza u-Abrahama wathi, “Atshoni amazinyane la amasikazi ayisikhombisa owehlukanise emhlambini wawabeka wodwa na?” 30 Waphendula wathi, “Yamukela ezandleni zami amazinyane la ayisikhombisa njengobufakazi bokuthi yimi engemba umthombo lo.” 31 Ngakho indawo leyo yathiwa yiBherisheba ngoba amadoda la womabili enza isifungo khonapho. 32 Ngemva kokuba

isivumelwano sesibotshiwe eBherisheba, u-Abhimeleki loFikhlo umlawuli wamabutho akhe babuyela elizweni lamaFilistiya. 33 U-Abrahama wahlanyela isihlahla sethamarisiki eBherisheba, khonapho walibiza ibizo likaThixo, uNkulunkulu Waphakade. 34 U-Abrahama wahlala elizweni lamaFilistiya okwesikhathi eside.

22 Emva kwesikhathi esithile uNkulunkulu walinga u-Abrahama. Wathi kuye, “Abrahama!” Waphendula wathi, “Ngilapha.” 2 UNkulunkulu wasesithi, “Thatha indodana yakho, indodana yakho eyiyo yodwa, u-Isaka, omthandayo, uye emangweni waseMoriya. Khonapho menze umhlatshelele abe ngumnikelo wokutshiswa phezu kwenye yezintaba engizakutshengisa yona.” 3 Kusisa ekuseni kakhulu u-Abrahama wavuka wabopha ubabhemi wakhe. Wahamba lezinceku zakhe ezimbili kanye lendodana yakhe u-Isaka. Kwathi esegamule inkuni ezaneleyo zomnikelo wokutshiswa, waqhubeka waya kuleyondawo uNkulunkulu ayemtshelele yona. 4 Ngelanga lesithathu u-Abrahama wakhangelwa, wayibona leyondawo kude le. 5 Wathi ezincekweni zakhe, “Halani lapha lobabhemi, mina lomfana sisake siye laphayana. Sizakuthi singakhonza sibuye kini.” 6 U-Abrahama wathatha inkuni zomnikelo wokutshiswa wazithwalisa umntanakhe u-Isaka, yena ngokwakhe waphatha umlilo lengqamu. Kwathi belokhu beqhubeka bobabili, 7 u-Isaka wakhuluma wambuza uyise u-Abrahama wathi, “Baba?” U-Abrahama wasabela wathi, “Yebo, ndodana yami!” U-Isaka wathi, “Umlilo lenkuni nanku kukhona, kodwa iwundlu lomnikelo wokutshiswa lingaphi?” 8 U-Abrahama waphendula wathi, “Ndodana yami, uNkulunkulu ngokwakhe uzasipha iwundlu lomnikelo wokutshiswa.” Baqhubeka bobabili bahamba. 9 Sebefikile endaweni uNkulunkulu amtshelela yona, u-Abrahama wakha i-Alithari khonapho walungisa inkuni phezu kwalo. Wabopha indodana yakhe u-Isaka wayilalisa e-alithareni phezu kwenkuni. 10 Waseselula isandla sakhe ethatha ingqamu ukuba abulale indodana yakhe. 11 Kodwa ingilos kaThixo yamemeza isezulwini yathi, “Abrahama! Abrahama!” Waphendula wathi, “Ngilapha.” 12 Yathi, “Ungamthinti ngesandla sakho umfana. Ungenzi lutho kuye. Khathesi sengisazi ukuthi uyamesaba uNkulunkulu, ngoba kawuyigodlanga indodana yakho eyiyo yodwa.” 13 U-Abrahama wathi uyakhangelwa wabona inqama esixukweni ibanjwe ngempondo zayo. Waya khona wayithatha inqama wenza umhlatshelele womnikelo wokutshiswa esikhundleni sendodana yakhe. 14 Yikho u-Abrahama wabiza indawo leyo ngokuthi uThixo Uzakupha. Kuze kube lamuhla kuthiwa, “Entabeni kaThixo kuzaphiwa.” 15 Ingilos kaThixo yabiza u-Abrahama isezulwini ngokwesibili 16 yathi, “Ngifunga ngami uqobo, kutho uThixo, ukuthi ngenxa yokuthi ukwenzile lokhu, kawaze wayigodla indodana yakho eyiyo yodwa, 17 ngempela ngizakubusisa ngenze izizukulwane zakho zibe zinengi njengezinkanyezi emkhathini lanjengetshebetshebe okhunjini lolwandle. Izizukulwane zakho zizawathatha amadolobho ezitha zazo, 18 kuthi ngenzalo yakho zonke izizwe zomhlaba zizabusiswa, ngoba ungilalele.” 19 Emva kwalokho u-Abrahama wabuyela ezincekweni zakhe, basebehamba bonke eBherisheba. U-Abrahama wahhlala eBherisheba. 20 Emva kwesikhathi esithile u-Abrahama watshelwa ukuthi, “Umilikha laye uselabantwana; sewazalela umfowenu uNahori amadodana: 21 u-Uzi izibulo, uBhuzi umfowabo, uKhemuweli (uyise ka-Aramu), 22 uKhesedi, uHazo, uPhilidashi, uJidilafu loBhethuweli.” 23 UBhethuweli wazala

uRabheka. UMilikha wazala amadodana la ayisificaminwembili loNahori umfowabo ka-Abhrahama. **24** Umfazi wakhe omncane owayethiwa nguRewuma laye wayelamadodana la: uThebha, uGahamu, uThahashi kanye loMahakha.

23 USara waphila waze waba leminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi amabili lesikhombisa obudala. **2** Wafela eKhiriyathi Aribha (kutsho eHebhroni) elizweni laseKhenani, u-Abhrahama wahamba ukuyamzilela lokumlilela khona. **3** U-Abhrahama wasukuma eseceleni komkakhe ofileyo wakhuluma lamaHithi. Wathi, **4** “Ngingoweziweni lesihambi phakathi kwenu. Ngithengiselani isiqinti sokuba yindawo yokungcwabela khona abakithi abafileyo.” **5** AmaHithi amphendula u-Abhrahama athi, **6** “Silalele, nkosi yami. Uyinkosana elamandla phakathi kwethu. Ngcwaba abafileyo bakini loba kukuwaphi amangcwaba ethu athandeka kakhulu. Kakho owakithi ozakwalela ingcwaba lakhe ukuthi ungcwabe kulo ofileyo wakini.” **7** Ngakho u-Abhrahama wasukuma wakhothamela phansi phambi kwamaHithi, abanikazi balelolizwe. **8** Wathi kubo, “Nxa lithanda ukuthi ngimbele abafileyo bami, lalalani kimi, lingincengele ku-Efroni indodana kaZohari **9** ukuthi angithengisele ubhalu Lwakhe lwaseMakhaphela olusekucineni kwesiqinti. Mceleni ukuthi angithengisele sona ngentengo egcweleyo sibe yindawo yamangcwaba phakathi kwenu.” **10** U-Efroni umHithi owayehlezi khonapho phakathi kwabantu bakibo wamphendula u-Abhrahama wonke amaHithi ayefikile esangweni ledolobho lakhe ezizwela. **11** Wathi, “Hatshi, nkosi yami. Lalela kimi; ngiyakupha isiqinti, njalo ngiyakupha lobhalu oluphakathi kwaso. Ngikupha sona phambi kwabantu bakithi. Mbela abafileyo bakho.” **12** U-Abhrahama waphinda wakhothamela phansi phambi kwabantu balelolizwe **13** wathi ku-Efroni bona besizwa, “Ake ulalelise engikutshoyo. Mina ngizayikhupha intengo yesiqinti. Ngicela uyamukele kimi ukuze ngimbele khona abafileyo bami.” **14** U-Efroni waphendula u-Abhrahama wathi, **15** “Lalela kimi, nkosi yami; isiqinti lesi sibiza amashekeli esiliva angamakhulu amane, kodwa kungena njani lokho phakathi kwami lawe? Wena mbela abafileyo bakho.” **16** U-Abhrahama wayivuma intengo ka-Efroni wasemlinganisela ubunzima bentengo ayeyibizile amaHithi esizwa: amashekeli esiliva angamakhulu amane, mayelana lesisindo esasisetshenziswa ngabathengisi. **17** Ngakho isiqinti sika-Efroni eMakhaphela, eduze leMamure, isiqinti kanye lobhalu olwaluphakathi kwaso, lazozonke izihlahla ezaziphakathi kwaso, kwabhaliswa **18** ngo-Abhrahama ukuthi sekuyimpahla yakhe, kusenziwa phambi kwamaHithi wonke ayefikile esangweni ledolobho. **19** Ngemva kwalokho u-Abhrahama wangcwaba umkakhe uSara ebbhalwini olwalusesiqintini saseMakhaphela eduze leMamure (eseHebhroni) elizweni laseKhenani. **20** Kanjalo isiqinti lobhalu olwaluphakathi kwaso kwabhaliswa ngo-Abhrahama ngama-Hithi ukuba yindawo yamangcwaba.

24 U-Abhrahama wayeseluphele kakhulu, njalo uThixo wayeyibizile kukho konke. **2** Wasesithi encekwini yakhe enkulu, leyo eyayilawula konke ayelakho, “Beka isandla sakho ngaphansi kwethangazi lami. **3** Ngifuna ukuthi ufunge ngoThixo, uNkulunkulu wasezulwini loNkulunkulu wasemhlabeni, ukuthi kawuyikuzwela indodana yami umfazi emadodakazini amaKhenani engihlala phakathi kwawo, **4** kodwa uzakuya elizweni lakithi lasezihlotsheni zami uzuzele

indodana yami u-Isaka umfazi.” **5** Inceku yambuza yathi, “Pho nxa lowo wesifazane engavumi ukuza lami kulelizwe-ke? Ngizathatha indodana yakho ngiyise kulelolizwe lapho owavela khona na?” **6** U-Abhrahama wathi, “Ungaqali ukuhambisa indodana yami khonale. **7** UThixo, uNkulunkulu wasezulwini, owangikhupha emzini kababa laselizweni lakithi njalo owakhuluma kimi, wangithembisa ngesifungo wathi, ‘Ilizwe leli ngizalnika inzalo yakho,’ uzathuma ingilosi yakhe ihambe phambi kwakho ukuze ukwazi ukutholela indodana yami umfazi khonale. **8** Nxa owesifazane lowo esala ukuza lapha lawe, uzabe usukhululwe kulesi isifungo sami. Kodwa ungalqali ukusa indodana yami khonale.” **9** Ngakho inceku yasifaka isandla sayo ngaphansi kwethangazi lenkosi yayo u-Abhrahama yafunga isifungo kuye ngodaba lolu. **10** Inceku yasithatha amakamela enkosi yayo alitshumi yasuka, yathatha yonke imihlobo yezinto ezinhle zenkosi yayo. Yaqonda e-Aramu Naharayimu, yahamba yaze yafafika emzini waseNahori. **11** Amakamela yawaguqisa phansi eduzane lomthombo ngaphandle komuzi; kwasekuntambama, sekuyisikhathi sabesifazane ukuyakukha amanzi. **12** Yasikhuleka yathi, “Oh Thixo, Nkulunkulu wenkosi yami u-Abhrahama, yenza ngiphumelele lamuhla, utshengise umusa enkosini yami u-Abhrahama. **13** Khangela-ke, nanku ngimi lapha eceleni komthombo lo, njalo amadodakazi abantu balelilobho asesiza ukuzakukha amanzi. **14** Kungasake kuthi ngingathi entombini, ‘Ake ungikhele amanzi ngenkezo yakho ngingathe,’ yona ithi, ‘Natha, njalo ngizanathisa lamakamela akho,’ kube yiyo kanye oyikhethele inceku yakho u-Isaka. Ngalokho ngizakwazi ukuthi usutshengise umusa enkosini yami.” **15** Ingakaqedi ukukhuleka, uRabheka waphuma ethwele imbiza yakhe yamanzi ehlobo lakhe. Wayeyindodakazi kaBhethuweli indodana kaMilikha, owayengumfazi womfowabo ka-Abhrahama uNahori. **16** Intombi le yayinhle kakhulu, igcwele; ingakaze ilale lendoda. Yehlela emthonjeni, yagcwalisa imbiza yayo yasiqansa. **17** Inceku yaphanga yamhlangabeza yathi, “Ngicela amanzi embizeni yakho.” **18** Wathi, “Natha nkosi yami,” watsho esehlisa imbiza eyibamba ngezandla emnathisa. **19** Esemnathisile wathi, “Ngizakhelela lamakamela akho lawo ngiwanathise.” **20** Wasethululela imbiza yakhe emkolweni, wagijimela emthonjeni njalo ukukha amanye, wawakhelela wonke amakamela akhe. **21** Indoda yabukela ithule ilokhu inanzelela idinga ukubona ukuthi ngeqiniso uThixo wayeluphumelelile yini uhambo lwayo. **22** Amakamela eseqedile ukunatha, indoda leyo yakhupha isongo lamakhala elenziwe ngegolide elilobunzima obungaba yingxenyane yeshekeli, lezigqizo zegolide ezimbili ezilobunzima bamashekeli alitshumi. **23** Yasibuza yathi, “Uyindodakazi kabani na? Ake ungitshele, kambe singazuza indawo yini emzini kayihlo kesicatshise amakhanda ubusuku balamuhla nje?” **24** URabheka wamphendula wathi, “Ngiyindodakazi kaBhethuweli, indodana kaMilikha ayizalela uNahori.” **25** Waphinda wengeza wathi, “Silotshani obunengi lamahlanga, kanye lendawo yokulala ikhona okwalamuhla ebusuku.” **26** Indoda yakhothamela phansi yakhonza uThixo, **27** isithi, “Udumo kalube kuThixo, uNkulunkulu wenkosi yami u-Abhrahama, ongadelanga umusa wakhe lokuthembeka kwakhe enkosini yami. Mina ngokwami uThixo ungikhokhele ohanjweni lwami ngazafika endlini yezinini zenkosi yami.” **28** Intombi yagijima yayabikela abendlu kanina ngalezizinto. **29** URabheka wayelomnewabo owayethiwa nguLabhani,

yena waphanga waya kuleyondoda eyayisemthonjeni. **30** Wonela ukubona isongo lamakhala kanye lezigqizo engalweni kadadewabo, njalo esezwile uRabheka elandisa ngokwakhulunywa yindoda leyo kuye, wasuka waya kuyo wayifika imi eceleni kwamakamela eduze komthombo. **31** Wathi, “Woza, wena obusisiweyo nguThixo. Umeleni phandle lapha? Sengilungise indlu lendawo yamakamela.” **32** Ngakho indoda yaya ngekhaya, lamakamela ethulwa imithwalo. Utshani lamahlanga kwaletswa emakameleni, yena lamadoda ayelawo baletshelwa amanzi okugeza inyawo zabo. **33** Kwasekulethwa ukudla kwabekwa phambi kwakhe, kodwa wathi, “Kangizukudla ngize ngiqale ngilitshele lokho okumele ngikutsho.” Ulabhani wathi, “Sitshele phela.” **34** Ngakho wasesithi, “Ngiyinceku ka-Abrahama. **35** UThixo uyibusisile inkosi yami kakhulu, isinothile kakhulu. Uyiphile izimvu lenkomo, isiliva legolide, lezinceku zesiliva lezesifazane kanye lamakamela labobabhemi. **36** Inkosikazi yenkosi yami, uSara, imzalele indodana ebudaleni bayo, inkosi yami yasiyinika leyondodana konke elakho. **37** Njalo inkosi yami yangifungisa isifungo yathi, ‘Ungazuzeli indodana yami umfazi emadodakazini amaKhenani, engihlala elizweni lawo, **38** kodwa yana ezininini zikababa, kwabosendo lwakithi, uzuzele indodana yami umfazi.’ **39** Ngasengiyibuza inkosi yami ngathi, ‘Pho nxa owesifazane lowo esala ukuza lapha-ke?’ **40** Yaphendula yathi, ‘UThixo, engihamba phambi kwakhe, uzathumela ingilosi yakhe ihambe lawe, iphumelelise uhambo lwakho ukuze uzuzele indodana yami umfazi kwabosendo lwakithi, lasezininini zikababa. **41** Ngakho uzakuthi ungaya kwabosendo lwakithi, uzakuhlulwa esifungweni sami loba bangaze bale laye.’ **42** Ngithe ukufika kwami emthonjeni lamuhla ngathi, ‘Oh Thixo, Nkulunkulu wenkosi yami u-Abrahama, nxa uthanda, ngicela uphumelelise uhambo lolu engingalo lapha. **43** Akubone, ngimi eceleni kwalo umthombo; nxa kufika intombi izokukha amanzi, ngithi kuyo, “Akunginathise amanzi amalutshwana enkonxeni yakho,” **44** ingaze ithi kimi, “Natha, njalo ngizanathisa lamakamela akho lawo,” kabe nguye uThixo asemkhethele indodana yenkosi yami.’ **45** Ngingakaqedi ukukhuleka enhliziyweni yami, uRabheka waphuma, ethwele imbiza yakhe ehlonbe. Wehlela emthonjeni wakha amanzi, ngathi kuye, “Akunginathise.” **46** Waphanga wethula imbiza yakhe ehlonbe lakhe wathi, ‘Natha, ngizanathisa lamakamela akho njalo.’ Ngakho nganatha, waphinda wanathisa lamakamela njalo. **47** Ngambuza ngathi, ‘Uyindodakazi kabani wena?’ Wathi, ‘Indodakazi kaBhethuweli indodana kaNahori, amzala kuMilikha.’ Ngasengimqizisa isongo emakhaleni lezigqizo ezingalweni zakhe, **48** ngasengikhothamela phansi, ngamkhonza uThixo. Ngadumisa uThixo, uNkulunkulu wenkosi yami u-Abrahama, ongikhokhele endleleni eqondileyo ngazathola intombi engumzukululo womfowabo wenkosi yami ngayizuzela indodana yayo inkosi yami. **49** Manje-ke nxa lizatshengisa umusa lokwethembeka enkosini yami, ngitshelani; loba kungenjalo, ngitshelani ukuze ngazi ukuthi ngithini.” **50** Ulabhani loBhethuweli baphendula bathi, “Lokhu kuvela kuThixo; kakukho esingakutsho kuwe, loba yini. **51** Nangu uRabheka; mthathe uhambe laye ayekuba ngumfazi wendodana yenkosi yakho, njengalokhu okuqondiswe nguThixo.” **52** Kwathi inceku ka-Abrahama ikuzwa lokhu abakutshoyo yakhothama phansi emhlabathini phambi kukaThixo. **53** Ngakho inceku yasikhupha igolide lesiliva kanye lempahla zokugqoka

yakupha uRabheka; yapha njalo umnawabo lonina izipho ezidulayo. **54** Yena lamadoda ayeqhamba lawo basebesidla njalo banatha, balala khona. Bathi bevuka ekuseni wathi, “Sivumeleni sibuyele enkosini yami.” **55** Kodwa umnawabo lonina baphendula bathi, “Ake ume kesihlale lentombazana okwensukwana ezingaba litshumi; lapho selingahamba-ke.” **56** Kodwa wathi kubo, “Lingangibambeleli, njengoba uThixo eseluphumelelisile uhambo lwami. Wothini ngihambe ukuze ngiyefika enkosini yami.” **57** Basebesithi, “Wothi sibize intombazana kesiyibuze ngakho.” **58** Ngakho bambiza uRabheka bambuza bathi, “Uyafuna ukuhamba layo indoda le na?” Wathi, “Ngizahamba layo.” **59** Ngakho basebekhulula udadewabo uRabheka ukuba ahambe kanye lomlzana wakhe, bahamba lenceku ka-Abrahama lamadoda ayelayo. **60** Njalo bambusisa uRabheka bathi kuye, “Dadewethu, sengathi ungandisa izinkulungwane zezinkulungwane; sengathi inzalo yakho ingathumba amadolobho ezitha zayo.” **61** URabheka lamantombazana akhe bazilungiselela, basebekhwela amakamela abo bahamba lendoda leyo. Ngakho inceku yamthatha uRabheka yahamba. **62** Ngalesosikhathi u-Isaka wayeseffikile evela eBheri-Lahayi-Royi, ngoba wayehlala eNegebi. **63** Ngenye intambama waya ensimini ehambahamba ukuthi ake ahluze ingqondo, wasesithi uyakhangela wabona amakamela esiza. **64** URabheka laye wakhangela wabona u-Isaka. Wehla ekameleni lakhe **65** wabuza inceku wathi, “Indoda leyana esensimini ngubani, leyana esihlangabezayo?” Inceku yaphendula yathi, “Uyinkosi yami.” Yikho uRabheka wasethatha ilembu elilula wazemboza ngalo. **66** Inceku yasimthshela u-Isaka konke lokho eyayikwenzile. **67** U-Isaka wamngenisisa ethenteni likanina uSara, wahle wamthatha uRabheka. Ngakho wasesiba ngumkakhe, wamthanda; u-Isaka waduduzeka ngemva kokufa kukanina.

25 U-Abrahama wathatha omunye umfazi okwakuthiwa nguKhetura. **2** Wamazalela uZimirani, uJokishani, uMedani, uMidiyani, u-Ishibhaki loShuwa. **3** UJokishani wazala uShebha loDedani; isizukulwane sikaDedani saba ngama-Ashuri, amaLethushi lamaLehumi. **4** Amadodana kaMidiyani kwakungu-Efa, u-Eferi, uHankokhi, u-Abhida lo-Elida. Bonke laba babeyizizukulwane zikaKhetura. **5** Konke u-Abrahama ayelakho wakutshiyela u-Isaka. **6** Kodwa esaphila wanika amadodana akhe awazala labafazi bakhe beceleni izipho, wabasusa eduze kwendodana yakhe u-Isaka baya elizweni lasempumalanga. **7** U-Abrahama waphila okweminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi ayisikhombisa lanhlano. **8** Lapho u-Abrahama waphfumula okokucina njalo wafa eseluphele, eselixhegu elileminyaka eminengi; wembelwa labakibo. **9** Amadodana akhe u-Isaka lo-Ishumayeli bamngcwaba ebalwini lwaseMakhaphela eduze leMamure, esiqintini sika-Efroni indodana kaZohari umHithi, **10** isiqinti leso u-Abrahama asithenga kumaHithi. Khonapho u-Abrahama wangcwatshwa lomkakhe uSara. **11** Ngemva kokuba esefile u-Abrahama uNkulunkulu wayibusisa indodana yakhe u-Isaka, owayehlala eBheri-Lahayi-Royi. **12** Lo ngumlando wendodana ka-Abrahama u-Ishumayeli, inceku kazi kaSara uHagari eyamazalela u-Abrahama. **13** La ngamabizo abantwana baka-Ishumayeli behlelwe ngokwelamama kwabo: uNebhayothi izibulo lika-Ishumayeli, uKhedari, u-Adibheli, loMibhisamu, **14** uMishima, uDuma, **15** uHadadi, uThema, uJethuri, uNafishi kanye loKhedema. **16** La ayengamadodana ka-Ishumayeli, njalo la ngamabizo ababusi bezizwana ezilishumi

lambili kulandela ukuhlaliswa kwazo lemizi yawo. **17** U-Ishumayeli waphila okweminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi amathathu lesikhombisa. Waphefumula okokucina wafa, wembelwa labakibo. **18** Izizukulwane zakhe zakhela emangweni osuka eHavila kusiya eShuri, eduzane lomngcele waseGibhithe, nxa uqonda e-Asiriya. Njalo baphila belenzondo labafawobo bonke. **19** Lo ngumlando wendodana ka-Abrahama u-Isaka. U-Abrahama wazala u-Isaka, **20** u-Isaka wathi eseleminyaka engamatshumi amane obudala wathatha uRabheka indodakazi kaBethuweli um'Aramu wasePhadani Aramu njalo engudadewabo kaLabhani um'Aramu. **21** U-Isaka wakhuleka kuThixo ekhuleka umkakhe ngoba wayeyinyumba. UThixo wawuphendula umkhuleko wakhe, umkakhe uRabheka wazithwala. **22** Abantwana bafuqana phakathi kwakhe, wathi, "Kungani lokhu kusenzakala kimi?" Ngakho wasehamba wayabuza kuThixo. **23** UThixo wathi kuye, "Izizwe ezimbili zisesiswini sakho, njalo abantu ababili phakathi kwakho bazakwehlukaniswa; omunye uzakuba lamandla kulomunye, kuthi omdala uzakhonza omncinyane." **24** Kwathi isikhathi sakhe sokubeletha sesifikile, kwakulamaphahla angabafana esiswini sakhe. **25** Owabona ilanga kuqala wayebomvu, umzimba wakhe wonke ulihwanqa njengengubo yoboya; yikho bamutha bathi ngu-Esawu. **26** Ngemva kwalokhu, umfowabo walandela, isandla sakhe sibambe isithende sika-Esawu; ngakho wathiwa nguJakhobe. U-Isaka wayeleminyaka engamatshumi ayisithupha ngesikhathi uRabheka ebazala. **27** Bakhula abafana, u-Esawu waba ngumzingeli omkhulu, indoda yegangani, kodwa uJakhobe wayeyindoda ethuleyo, engasuki ngekhlanya emathenteni. **28** U-Isaka owayethanda inyama yenyamazana wayethanda u-Esawu, kodwa uRabheka wayethanda uJakhobe. **29** Ngesinye isikhathi uJakhobe wayepheka inyama, u-Esawu wafika evela egangani elambile. **30** Wathi kuJakhobe, "Phangisa, akungiphe ukudla kwakho lokho osukukhazange kwa bomvanal Sengifile ngendlala!" (Yikho wabizwa ngokuthi ngu-Edomi.) **31** UJakhobe waphendula wathi, "Qala ungithengisele ubuzibulo bakho." **32** U-Esawu wathi, "Khangela, sengisifa. Bungisiza ngani ubuzibulo lobo?" **33** Kodwa uJakhobe wathi, "Qala ufunge kimi." Yikho wasefuna isifungo kuye, ethengisa ubuzibulo bakhe kuJakhobe. **34** Ngakho uJakhobe wasesipha u-Esawu isinkwa lokudla kwendumba eziphekwa ziluhlaza. Wadla, wanatha, wasukuma wahamba. Ngaleyondlela u-Esawu wabeyisa ubuzibulo bakhe.

26 Kwasekusiba lendlala elizweni, ngaphandle kwendlala yakuqala eyayikhona ngesikhathi sika-Abrahama, u-Isaka waya ku-Abhimelekhini inkosi yamaFilistiya eGerari. **2** UThixo wabonakala ku-Isaka wathi, "Ungehleli eGibhithe; hlala elizweni engithi hlala khona. **3** Ake uhlahle kulilizwe okwesikhathshana, mina ngizakuba lawe ngikubusise. Ngoba wena lezizukulwane zakho ngizalinika wonke amazwe la njalo ngiqinise isifungo engasifunga kuyihlo u-Abrahama. **4** Ngizakwenza izizukulwane zakho zibe zinengezinkanyezi emkhathini, ngizininke wonke lamazwe, njalo kuthi ngenzalo yakho zonke izizwe emhlabeni zizabusiswa, **5** ngoba u-Abrahama wangilalela, wagcina izimiso zami, lemilayo yami, kanye lemithetho yami." **6** Ngakho u-Isaka wahlala eGerari. **7** Kwathi lapho abantu baleyondawo bembuza ngomkakhe wathi, "Ngudadewethu," ngoba wayesesaba ukuthi, "Ngumkami." Wacabanga wathi, "Amadoda alapha

angangibulala ngenxa kaRabheka, ngoba muhle kakhulu." **8** Kwathi u-Isaka esehlale khona okwesikhathi eside, u-Abhimelekhini inkosi yamaFilistiya wakhangela ngefasisela wabona u-Isaka egone umkakhe uRabheka. **9** Ngakho wasebiza u-Isaka wathi, "Kanti ngumkakho ngeqiniso! Kungani uthe ungudadewenu?" U-Isaka wamphendula wathi, "Ngoba ngakhumbula ukuthi ngingalahlekelwa yimpilo yami ngenxa yakhe." **10** U-Abhimelekhini wasesithi, "Kuyini lokhu okwenzileyo kithi? Omunye wamadoda ubezaqabuka elala laye umkakho, ubususibangela icala." **11** Ngakho u-Abhimelekhini wasekhupha umlayo ebantwini bonke wathi, "Lowo ozake ayithinte indoda le loba umkayo ngempela uzabalawa." **12** U-Isaka walima amabele kulelilizwe, ngalowomnyaka wavuna okuphindwe ngekhu, ngoba uThixo wambusisa. **13** Umuntu lo wanatha kakhulu, lemfuyo yakhe yanda kakhulukazi. **14** Waba lemihlambi yezimvu lenkomo emikhulu kakhulu, kanye lezisebenzi ezinengi, amaFilistiya aze aba lomona ngaye. **15** Kwasekusithi yonke imithombo eyayigejwe yizisebenzi ngesikhathi sikayise u-Abrahama, amaFilistiya ayivala ngokuyiqibela ngenhlabathi. **16** U-Abhimelekhini wasesithi ku-Isaka, "Suka kithi; ususuke waba lamandla kakhulu kulathi." **17** Ngakho u-Isaka wasuka lapho wayakuma eSigidini saseGerari, wahle wakha khona. **18** U-Isaka wayiphanda imithombo eyayigejwe ngesikhathi sikayise u-Abrahama, eyayigqitshelwe ngamaFilistiya ngemva kokuba u-Abrahama esefile, wayibiza ngalawo mabizo uyise ayeyibiza ngawo. **19** Izisebenzi zika-Isaka zagebha esigidini zafumana umthombo olamanzi amahle khonapho. **20** Kodwa abelusi baseGerari baxabana abelusi baka-Isaka bathi, "Amanzi la ngawethu!" Ngakho umthombo lowo wawuthi yi-Eseki, ngoba bawubanga laye. **21** Ngakho basebesimba omunye umthombo, kodwa lawo bawubanga njalo; wasewubiza ngokuthi yiSithina. **22** Wasuka lapho wayagebha omunye umthombo, akwabe kusaba khona owubangayo. Wawuthi yiRehobhothi, esithi, "Manje uThixo usesiphile indawo, sesizaphumelela kuleli ilizwe." **23** Esuka lapho waya eBherisheba. **24** Ngalobobusuku uThixo wabonakala kuye wathi, "NginguNkulunkulu kayihlo u-Abrahama. Ungesabi, ngoba ngilawe; ngizakubusisa ngandise ubunengi bezizukulwane zakho ngenxa yenceku yami u-Abrahama." **25** U-Isaka wakha i-Alithari khonapho wamezeza ibizo likaThixo. Wamisa ithente lakhe khonapho, izisebenzi zakhe zemba umthombo khonapho. **26** Ngalesosikhathi u-Abhimelekhini weza kuye evela eGerari, elo-Ahuzathi umeluleki wakhe loFikholi umlawuli wamabutho akhe. **27** U-Isaka wababuzwa wathi, "Lilandeni kimi, njengoba lalingizonda laze langixotsha?" **28** Bamphendula bathi, "Sabona kamhlophe ukuthi uThixo wayelawe; yikho sasesicabanga ukuthi kumele kube lesivumelwano esibotshiweyo phakathi kwethu lawe. Kasenze isibopho lawe **29** esokuthi kawusoze usihluluke, njengoba lathi singazange sikulimaze ngalutho kodwa sakuvalelisa ngokuthula. Khatheisi usubusiswe nguThixo." **30** U-Isaka wasebenzela idili, badla banatha. **31** Ekuseni kakhulu ngelanga lilandelayo amadoda wonke enza isifungo omunye komunye. U-Isaka wasebavulela indlela bahamba ngokuthula. **32** Ngalolosuku izisebenzi zika-Isaka zabuya zamtshela ngomthombo ezaziwugebhile. Zathi, "Sesiwatholie amanzi!" **33** Wawuthi yiShibha, osekuze kube namuhla idolobho kuthiwa yiBherisheba. **34** Kwathi u-Esawu eseleminyaka yobudala engamatshumi amane, wathatha ujudithi indodakazi kaBheri

umHithi njalo loBhasemathi indodakazi ka-Eloni umHithi. 35 Baletha ukukhathazeka kakhulu ku-Isaka loRabheka.

27 Kwathi u-Isaka eseluphele, amehlo akhe esethundubele okokuthi wayengasaboni, wabiza u-Esawu indodana yakhe endala wathi kuye, “Ndodana yami.” Waphendula wathi, “Ngilapha.” **2** U-Isaka wathi, “Manje sengilixhegu, njalo kangilazi ilanga lami lokufa. **3** Thatha izikhali zakho, isikhwama semitshoko yakho ledandili lakho ungene iganga uyengizingelela inyamazana. **4** Ungilungisele ukudla okumnandi engikuthandayo ukulethe kimi lapha ngidle, ukuze ngikuphe isibusiso sami ngingakafi.” **5** URabheka wayelalele u-Isaka ekhuluma lendodana yakhe u-Esawu. Kwathi u-Esawu esephumile waya egangeni ukuyazingela inyamazana ukuze ayilethe, **6** URabheka wathi endodaneni yakhe uJakhobe, “Khangela, ngizwe uyihlo esithi kumnawu u-Esawu **7** Ngilethela inyamazana ungilungisele ukudla okumnandi ngidle, ukuze ngikuphe isibusiso sami phambi kukaThixo ngingakafi.” **8** Manje-ke lalala kuhle, ndodana yami, wenze lokho engikutshela khona: **9** Yana emhlambini ulethe lapha kimi amazinyane embuzi amabili anonileyo, ukuze ngilungisele uyihlo ukudla okumnandi ngendlela akuthanda ngayo. **10** Wena ubusukusa kuyihlo adle, abesekunika isibusiso sakhe engakafi.” **11** UJakhobe wathi kuRabheka unina, “Kodwa umnewethu u-Esawu lihwanqa, mina ngilejwabu elitshelelayo. **12** Pho ubaba angangibamba ke? Kuzabonakala ukuthi ngiyamqila ngibe sengizehlisele isiqalekiso phezu kwami esikhundleni sesibusiso.” **13** Unina wathi kuye, “Ndodana yami, lesosiqalekiso kasehlele kimi. Wena yenza lokho engikutshela khona kuphela; hamba uyengithathela wona.” **14** Ngakho wahamba wayawathatha wawaletha kunina, yena walungisa ukudla okumnandi, ngaleyondlela eyayithandwa nguyise. **15** URabheka wasethatha izigqoko ezithandekayo zika-Esawu indodana yakhe endala, ezazikhona endlini, wazigqokisa indodana yakhe encane, uJakhobe. **16** Wabuya wamgoqela izandla zakhe lentamo lapho okwakubutshelazi khona ngesikhumba sembuzi. **17** Waseqhubela indodana yakhe uJakhobe ukudla lokho okumnandi kanye lesinkwa ayesenzile. **18** Waya kuyise wafika wathi, “Baba.” Wasabela wathi, “Yebo, ndodana yami. Ngubani?” **19** UJakhobe wathi kuyise, “Ngingu-Esawu izibulo lakho. Sengenizile njengokungilayela kwakho. Vuka uhlele udle inyama yami yenyamazana ukuze ungaphe isibusiso sakho.” **20** U-Isaka wayibuzisa indodana yakhe wathi, “Uyizuze njani masinyane kangaka, ndodana yami?” Waphendula wathi, “uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho ungiphumelelisele.” **21** U-Isaka wasesithi kuJakhobe, “Sondela eduze ngikuthinte, ndodana yami, ukuze ngazi ngempela ukuthi uyiyo indodana yami u-Esawu noma hatshi.” **22** UJakhobe wasondela kuyise u-Isaka wamthinta wathi, “Ilizwi ngelikajakhobe, kodwa izandla yizandla zika-Esawu.” **23** Kazange amazi ngoba izandla zakhe zaziloboya njengezikamnewabo u-Esawu; ngakho wambusisa. **24** Wabuza wathi, “Kambe unguye na u-Esawu indodana yami?” Waphendula wathi, “Nginguye.” **25** Wasesithi, “Ndodana yami, ngipha inyama yakho yenyamazana ngidle, ukuze ngikuphe isibusiso sami.” UJakhobe wamupha wadla; waletha lewayini wanatha. **26** Uyise u-Isaka wathi kuye, “Woza lapha, ndodana yami, ungange.” **27** Wasesiya kuye wamanga. Kwathi u-Isaka esewuzwile umnuko wezigqoko zakhe, wambusisa wathi, “Yeka, umnuko wendodana yami unjengomnuko wensimu

uThixo ayibusisileyo. **28** Sengathi uNkulunkulu angakupha amazolo asezulwini lokuvunda komhlabathi, inala yamabele lewayini elitsha. **29** Sengathi izizwe zingakukhonza labantu bakukhothamele. Ube yinkosi phezu kwabafowenu, njalo sengathi amadodana kanyoko angakukhothamela. Sengathi labo abakuqalekisa yo labo baqalekiswa labakubusisayo babusiswe.” **30** U-Isaka eseqedile ukumbusisa njalo uJakhobe esathi uyasuka kuyise, umnewabo u-Esawu wabengena evela zingela. **31** Laye njalo walungisa ukudla okumnandi wakuletha kuyise. Wasesithi kuye, “Baba, vuka udle inyama yami yenyamazana, ukuze ungaphe isibusiso sakho.” **32** Uyise u-Isaka wambuza wathi, “Ungubani wena?” Waphendula wathi, “Ngiyindodana yakho, izibulo lakho u-Esawu.” **33** U-Isaka wathuthumela kakhulu wathi, “Kanti ubengubani ozingele inyamazana wayiletha kimi? Ngiyidlile khathesi nje usuzafika, ngambusisa njalo ngempela uzakubusiswa!” **34** Kwathi u-Esawu eweza amazwi kayise, wakhala kakhulu okuzwisa ubuhlungu wathi kuyise, “Ngibusisa lami njalo, baba!” **35** Kodwa wathi, “Umfowenu uze ngobuqili wathatha isibusiso sakho.” **36** U-Esawu wathi, “Kakumfanelanga na ukuthiwa nguJakhobe? Lokhu sokungokwesibili engiqila: Wathatha ubuzibulo bami, manje usethehe isibusiso sami?” Wasebuza wathi, “Kawungicinelanga yini mina esinye isibusiso?” **37** U-Isaka waphendula u-Esawu wathi, “Sengenize waba yinkosi phezu kwakho, ngenza zonke izihlobo zakhe zaba yizisebenzi zakhe, njalo ngamsekela ngenala yamabele langewayini elitsha. Kambe ngingabe ngisakwenzelani, ndodana yami?” **38** U-Esawu wathi kuyise, “Kanti ulesibusiso esisodana kuphela na baba? Ngibusisa lami, baba!” U-Esawu wasekhala kakhulu ephumisele. **39** Uyise u-Isaka waphendula wathi, “Umuzi wakho uzakuba khatshana lokuvunda komhlaba, khatshana lamazolo asezulwini eliphezulu. **40** Uzaphila ngokusebenzisa inkemba njalo uzamkhonza umfowenu. Kodwa kuzakuthi lapho usudlubulunda, uzalilaha ijogwe lakhe lisuke ezantweni yakho.” **41** U-Esawu wabambela uJakhobe isikhwili ngenxa yesibusiso uyise ayemuphe sona. Wazitshela wathi, “Insuku zokulilela ubaba seziseduze; lapho-ke ngizambulala umfowethu uJakhobe.” **42** Kwathi uRabheka esezwile okwakutshiwo yindodana yakhe endala u-Esawu, wabiza indodana yakhe encinyane uJakhobe wathi kuye, “Umnawu u-Esawu uziduduza ngomcabango wokuthi akubulale. **43** Ngakho-ke wena ndodana yami, yenza lokho engikutshela khona: Baleka masinyane uye kumfowethu uLabhani eHarani. **44** Uhlale khonale ulaka lomfowenu lude lude. **45** Kuzakuthi nxa umnewenu engasakwondelanga esekhohlwe ukuthi kuyini owakwenza kuye, ngizathumela ilizwi ukuthi ubuye usuka khonale. Kambe kungaba yini ukuthi ngilahlekelwe yini lobabili ngasuku lunye na?” **46** URabheka wasesithi ku-Isaka, “Ukuphila sokunginenga ngenxa yabafazi bamaHithi lababa. Nxa uJakhobe engathatha umfazi ebafazini balelizwe, abafazi bamaHithi abanje, ukuphila kwami kuyabe kungasazi.”

28 Ngakho u-Isaka wabiza uJakhobe wambusisa wamlaya wathi: “Ungathathi umfazi womKhenani. **2** Hamba khathesi uye ePhadani Aramu, emzini kayihlomkhulu uBhethuweli. Thatha khona umfazi, emadodakazini kaLabhani, umnewabo kanyoko. **3** Sengathi uNkulunkulu uSomandla angakubusisa akuphe inzalo, andise ubunengi bayo lize libe yizizwe ezinengi. **4** Sengathi angakupha wena kanye lezizukulwane zakho isibusiso leso esaphiwa u-Abrahama, ukuze liithathe ilizwe leli ohlezi kulo manje njengowezizweni,

ilizwe uNkulunkulu alipha u-Abrahama.” 5 Ngakho u-Isaka wasemvulelisa uJakhobe, waya ePhadani Aramu, kuLabhani indodana kaBhethuweli um’Aramu, umnewabo kaRabheka, owayengunina kaJakhobe lo-Esawu. 6 U-Esawu wezwa ukuthi u-Isaka wayembusisile uJakhobe njalo wamthumela ePhadani Aramu ukuthi ayothatha umfazi khona, lokuthi wathi embusisa wamlaya wathi, “Ungathathi umfazi ongumKhenani,” 7 lokuthi uJakhobe wayebalalele uyise lonina wahamba waya ePhadani Aramu. 8 U-Esawu wakunanzelela ukuthi abafazi bamaKhenani babeyisinenengiso kuyise u-Isaka; 9 ngakho wasesiya ku-Ishumayeli wathatha uMahalathi, udadewabo kaNehayothi, indodakazi ka-Ishumayeli indodana ka-Abrahama, phezu kwabanye abafazi ayevele eselabo. 10 UJakhobe wasuka eBherisheba waqonda eHarani. 11 Wafika kwenye indawo, wema lapho ukuthi alale khona ngoba ilanga laselitshonile. Wathatha ilitshe khona walenza umqamelo walala. 12 Wehlelwa liphuphu wabona ilele ligxile phansi emhlabeni, isiqongo salo sifinyelela ezulwini, kwathi izingilosi zikaNkulunkulu zabe ziqansa zisehla kulo. 13 Laphaya ngaphezu kwalo kwakumi uThixo esithi: “nginguThixo, uNkulunkulu kayihlo u-Abrahama loNkulunkulu ka-Isaka. Ngizakupha wena kanye lezizukulwane zakho ilizwe leli olele kulo. 14 Izizukulwane zakho zizakuba njengothuli lomhlabathi, njalo lizaqhela liye entshonalinga lasempumalanga, enyakatho laseningizimu. Bonke abantu bomhlaba bazabusiswa ngenxa yakho lenzalo yakho. 15 Ngilawe njalo ngizakulinda loba ungaze uye ngaphi, njalo ngizakubuyisa kulelizwe. Kangizukududela ngize ngikwenze lokho engikuthembise khona.” 16 UJakhobe wathi evuka ebuthongweni bakhe wacabanga wathi, “Ngeqiniso uThixo ukhona kule indawo, kodwa bengingakanzeleli.” 17 Wesaba wathi, “Yeka ukwesabeka kwale indawo ehloniphekayo! Ngempela iyindlu kaNkulunkulu; leli lisango lasezulwini.” 18 Kusisa ekuseni kakhulu uJakhobe walithatha ilitshe ayelele eliqamele walimisa laba yinsika wathela amafutha phezu kwalo. 19 Indawo leyo wayibiza wathi yiBhetheli, ikanti idolobho lakhona lalithiwa yiLuzi. 20 Ngakho uJakhobe wenza isifungo wathi, “Nxa uNkulunkulu ezakuba lami angilondoloze kuloluhambo engikulo, angiphe ukudla lezigqoko, 21 ngibuyele emzini kababa ngiphilile, lapho uThixo uzakuba nguNkulunkulu wami 22 njalo lelitshe leli engilenze insika lizakuba yindlu kaNkulunkulu, njalo kuzakuthi konke onginika khona ngizakunika wena okwetshumi.”

29 UJakhobe waseqhubeka ngohambo lwakhe wayafika elizweni labantu bempumalanga. 2 Wabona khonale umthombo esiqintini, kulemihlambi yezimvu emithathu ilele eduzane kwawo ngoba imihlambi yayinatha khonapho emthonjeni lowo. Ilitshe elalivale umlomo womthombo lalilikhulu. 3 Kwakusithi yonke imihlambi ingabuthana khona, abelusi baligiqe ilitshe balisuse emlonyeni womthombo banathise izimvu. Besebelibuyisela ilitshe endaweni yalo emlonyeni womthombo. 4 UJakhobe wabuza abelusi wathi, “Bafowethu, livela ngaphi?” Baphendula bathi, “Sivela eHarani.” 5 Wathi, “Liyamazi yini uLabhani, umzukuluka kaNahori?” Baphendula bathi, “Yebo, siyamazi.” 6 UJakhobe wasebabuza wathi, “Uyaphila yini?” Bathi, “Yebo, uyaphila; nansi indodakazi yakhe uRasheli esiza lezimvu.” 7 Wathi, “Khangalani, ilanga lilokhu lisemini; akukabi yisikhathi sokuthi imihlambi ibuthwe. Zinathiseni izimvu lezi lizibuyisele

emadlelweni.” 8 Baphendula bathi, “Asingeki, ize iqale iqoqane yonke imihlambi, ilitshe beselisuswa emlonyeni womthombo. Besesizinathisa-ke izimvu.” 9 Wathi elokhu esakhuluma labo uRasheli wafika lezimvu zikayise, kalokho wayengumelusi. 10 UJakhobe wathi ebona uRasheli indodakazi kaLabhani, umnewabo kanina esiza lezimvu zikaLabhani, wahamba wayagqiba ilitshe elalisemlonyeni womthombo wanathisa izimvu zikamalumakhe. 11 UJakhobe wasesanga uRasheli njalo wakhala kakhulu. 12 Wayesemtshelile uRasheli ukuthi wayeyisihlobo sikayise lokuthi wayeyindodana kaRabheka. Ngakho intombi yagijima yayabikela uyise. 13 ULabhani wonela ukuzwaza umbiko ngoJakhobe, indodana kadadewabo, wahle waphuthuma wayamhlangabeza. Wamgona, wamanga, wamletha ngekhyaya, lapho uJakhobe amtshela khona izinto lezi. 14 ULabhani wasesithi kuye, “Uyinyama yami legazi lami.” UJakhobe esehlale laye okwenyanga yonke, 15 ULabhani wathi kuye, “Kambe sekungathi ngoba uyisihlobo sami ubusungisebenzela ungalohi lutho? Akungitshela ukuthi umholo wakho ungaba yini?” 16 ULabhani wayelamadodakazi amabili; ibizo lendala lalinguLeya, encinyane inguRasheli. 17 ULeya wayelamehlo abuthakathaka, kodwa uRasheli wayeisesimo esibukekayo, emuhle. 18 UJakhobe wezwa emthanda uRasheli wasesithi, “Ngizakusebenzela okweminyaka eyisikhombisa ukuze angiphe indodakazi yakho encane uRasheli.” 19 ULabhani wathi, “Kungcono ngimuphe wena kulokuba ngimuphe enye indoda. Hlala lapha lami.” 20 UJakhobe waseyisebenza iminyaka eyisikhombisa ukuze azuze uRasheli, kodwa yakhanya ingathi yizinsukwana ezimbalwa kuye ngenxa yothando kuye. 21 UJakhobe wasesithi kuLabhani, “Ngipha-ke umkami. Isikhathi sami sesigcwalisekile, sengifuna ukwembatha laye.” 22 Ngakho uLabhani wasenxusa bonke abantu bendawo wenza idili. 23 Kodwa kwathi sekusihlwa, wathatha indodakazi yakhe uLeya wamupha uJakhobe, uJakhobe wembatha laye. 24 ULabhani waphinda wapha uLeya incekekazi yakhe uZilipha ukuba ibe yincekekazi yakhe. 25 Kwathi sokusile, wabona kunguLeya! UJakhobe wathi kuLabhani, “Kuyini lokhu okwenzileyo kimi? Mina ngasebenzela uRasheli, kakunjalo na? Kungani ingikhohlisile?” 26 ULabhani waphendula wathi, “Kakusivo mkhuba wethu lapha ukwendisa indodakazi encane endala ingakendi. 27 Qeda iviki yokucola lo omdala; besesikupha lalo omncane njalo ngemva kokumsebenzela eminye iminyaka eyisikhombisa.” 28 UJakhobe wenza njalo. Waqeda iviki eloLeya, uLabhani wasemupha indodakazi yakhe uRasheli ukuba ibe ngumkakhe. 29 ULabhani wanika indodakazi yakhe uRasheli incekekazi yakhe uBhiliha ukuba abe yincekekazi yakhe. 30 UJakhobe waselala loRasheli, wamthanda ukwedlula uLeya. Wasesebenzela uLabhani okweminye iminyaka eyisikhombisa njalo. 31 UThixo wathi ngokubona ukuthi uLeya wayengathandwa, wavula inzalo yakhe, kodwa uRasheli wayeyinyumba. 32 ULeya wathatha isisu wazala indodana. Wamutha ibizo wathi nguRubheni, ngoba wathi, “Kungenxa yokuthi uThixo usebonile ukuhlupheka kwami. Ngempela umkami usezangithanda manje.” 33 Wathatha isisu njalo, wathi esephinde umfana njalo wathi, “Ngoba uThixo wezwa ukuthi kangithandwa, wanginika lo njalo.” Ngakho wamutha wathi nguSimiyoni. 34 Wasithatha njalo isisu, kwathi esezele omunye umfana wathi, “Khathesi-ke umkami usezabambelela kimi ngoba sengimzalele amadodana amathathu.” Yikho wathiwa nguLevi. 35 Waphinda wasithatha

isisu, wazuza umfana wathi, “Ngalesisikhathi ngizadumisa uThixo.” Wamutha wathi nguJuda. Wasesima ukuzuza abantwana.

30 URasheli wathi ebona ukuthi wayengazaleli uJakhobe abantwana, wasekhwelezela udadewabo. Wasesithi kuJakhobe, “Ngipha abantwana, kumbe ngife!” **2** UJakhobe wamzondela wathi, “Sengisesikhundleni sikaNkulunkulu yini mina, onguye okuvale ukuthi ungazali?” **3** Yena wasesithi, “Nangu uBhiliha incekekazi yami. Lala laye ukuze angizalele abantwana, ukuze kuthi ngaye ngibe lemuli.” **4** Ngakho wasemupha incekekazi yakhe uBhiliha njengomfazi. UJakhobe wembatha laye, **5** wazithwala wamazalela indodana. **6** Ngakho uRasheli wathi, “UNKulunkulu usengigezile; ulalele ukuncenga kwami wasenginika indodana.” Ngenxa yalokhu wayitha wathi nguDani. **7** Incekekazi kaRasheli, uBhiliha, yathatha isisu njalo yazalela uJakhobe indodana yesibili. **8** URasheli wasesithi, “Kade kuyimpi phakathi kwami lodadewethu, mina senginqobile.” Wasemuthi nguNafithali. **9** ULEYA wathi ngokubona ukuthi kasazali wathatha incekekazi yakhe uZilipha wayipha uJakhobe njengomfazi. **10** Incekekazi kaLEYA uZilipha yazalela uJakhobe indodana. **11** ULEYA wasesithi, “Inhlanhla engakanani!” Wamutha ibizo wathi nguGadi. **12** Incekekazi kaLEYA uZilipha yazalela uJakhobe indodana yesibili. **13** ULEYA wathi, “Uthi ngiyathaba yini! Abafazi bazakuthi ngiyathaba.” Yikho wambiza ngokuthi ngu-Asheri. **14** Ngesikhathi sokuvuna ingqoloyi uRubheni waya emasimini wafumana izihlahlakazana zamamandraki waziletha kunina uLEYA. URasheli wathi kuLEYA, “Ngicela ezinye zezihlahlakazana zendodana yakho.” **15** Kodwa wathi kuye, “Kakukwanelisane na ukuthi wangemuka indoda? Usufuna ukuthatha lamamandraki endodana yami njalo?” URasheli wathi, “Kulungile, angazalala ngakwako lamuhla ukuze ngizuze amamandraki endodana yakho.” **16** Ngakho kwathi uJakhobe efika evela emasimini ngaleyontambama, uLEYA wamhlangabeza wathi, “Kumele ulale ngakwami lamuhla. Ngikuqhatshile ngamamandraki endodana yami.” Ngakho wembatha laye ngalobobusuku. **17** UNkulunkulu wamlalela uLEYA, wathatha isisu wazalela uJakhobe indodana yesihlanu. **18** ULEYA wathi, “UNKulunkulu usengiphe umvuzo ngenxa yokuthi nganika indoda yami incekekazi yami.” Ngakho wamutha wathi ngu-Isakhari. **19** ULEYA waphinda wasithatha njalo isisu wazalela uJakhobe indodana yesithupha. **20** Ngakho uLEYA wathi, “UNKulunkulu usengiphe isipho esiligugu. Khathesi umkami usezangiphatha ngenhlonipho, ngoba sengimzalele amadodana ayisithupha.” Wasemutha wathi nguZebhuluni. **21** Emva kwesikhathi esithile wazala intombazana wayithi nguDina. **22** UNkulunkulu wamkhumbula uRasheli; wezwa ukukhala kwakhe wawula isibeetho sakhe. **23** Wathatha isisu wazala indodana, wathi, “UNKulunkulu uselisusile ihlazo lami.” **24** Wamutha wathi nguJosefa, wathi, “Sengathi uThixo angangipha enye indodana.” **25** URasheli esezele uJosefa uJakhobe wathi kuLabhani, “Ngivumela ukuthi ngibuyele elizweni lakithi. **26** Ngipha omkami labantwana engibasebenzeleyo kuwe, ngihle ngihambe. Uyawazi umsebenzi engiwusebenzileyo kuwe lapha.” **27** Kodwa uLabhani wathi kuye, “Nxa ungithanda, hlala. Sengibonile ngokwambulelwa ukuthi uThixo ungibusisile ngenxa yakho.” **28** Wengeza ngokuthi, “Qamba loba yiphi inhlawulo oyifunayo, ngizakupha.” **29** UJakhobe wathi kuye, “Uyakwazi ukuthi

ngikusebenzele njani lokuthi izifuyo zakho zigcinakale njani ziphethwe yimi. **30** Okuncinyane owawulakho ngingakafiki sekusele kwanda kakhulu, njalo uThixo ukubusisile langabe kungaphi lapho engike ngaba khona. Kodwa manje ngizaze ngiwenzele nini mina umuzi wami ulutho?” **31** Wabuza wathi, “Ngikupheni na?” Waphendula uJakhobe wathi, “Ungangiphi lutho. Kodwa ake ungenzele lokhu kodwa, ukuze ngiqhubeke ngisondla imihlambi yakho: **32** Wothi ngingene emihlambini yakho lamuhla ngikhuphe kuyo zonke izimvu ezilamachatha kumbe amabala, lamazinyane wonke amnyama lembuzi zonke ezilamabala kumbe amachatha. Yizo ezizakuba yinhlawulo yami. **33** Ngesikhathi esizayo ubuqotho bami buzavela nxa uhlola inhlawulo onginike yona. Ingqe yiphi imbuzi engizabe ngilayo engelamachatha kumbe amabala, loba lizinyane lemvu elingamnyama lizakubalwa njengelebiweyo.” **34** ULabhani wathi, “Kulungile, kakube njengokutsho kwakho.” **35** Mhlalokho wazikhupha zonke impongo ezingamaqamule kumbe ezilamabala, njalo lezinsikazi ezilamachatha kumbe ezilamabala (zonke ezazilokumhlophe kuzo) lamazinyane ezimvu wonke amnyama zonke wathi zikhangelwe ngamadodana akhe. **36** Wasebeka umango wensuku ezintathu phakathi kwakhe loJakhobe, kodwa uJakhobe wayelokhu esondla yoni imihlambi eseleyo kaLabhani. **37** Kwathi uJakhobe wagamula ingatsha zesihlahla sephopla, eze-alimondi lezepulane wahamba ezixoxa amaxolo wenza imidwa kwavela kuzo isigodo esimhlophe. **38** Ingatsha lezi ezixoxiweyo wazibeka kuyo yonke imikolo yokunathela imihlambi ukuthi zime ziqondane lezifuyo nxa zinatha. Kwakusithi lezozifuyo ezidabuleyo zizonatha **39** zifike zixakane phambi kwezingatsha. Zazizala amazinyane alamabala ayimidwa loba alamachatha kumbe amabala nje. **40** UJakhobe wawakhethe wawabeka wodwa amazinyane, kodwa lezo ezinye waziyekela zadunga lezo ezingamaqamule lezimnyama ezingezikaLabhani. Ngaleyondlela, wenza imihlambi ehlukeneyo eyakhe kaze ayihlanganisa lekaLabhani. **41** Kwakusithi kungadabula ezinsikazi eziqinileyo, uJakhobe wayefaka imiqwayi emikolweni phambi kwezifuyo ukuze zixakane eduze kwayo, **42** kodwa nxa ezinsikazi zingezibuthakathaka wayengayifaki imiqwayi. Ngakho izifuyo ezibuthakathaka zaba ngezikaLabhani, eziqinileyo zabuya ngoJakhobe. **43** Ngale indlela indoda le yanotha kakhulu yaba lemihlambi emikhulu, lezincekekazi, lezinceku kanye lamakamela labobabhemu.

31 UJakhobe wezwa ukuthi amadodana kaLabhani ayesithi, “UJakhobe usethethe konke ubaba ayelakho njalo usezuze yonke inotho ebingekababa.” **2** Njalo uJakhobe wananzelela ukuthi uLabhani wayengasamphathi njengakuqala. **3** UThixo wasesithi kuJakhobe, “Buyela elizweni laboyihlo lasezihlotsheni zakho, mina ngizakuba lawe.” **4** Ngakho uJakhobe wasethumela ilizwi kuRasheli loLEYA ukuthi beze egangeni lapho imihlambi yakhe eyayikhona. **5** Wathi kubo, “Sengibona ukuthi uyihlo kasangiphathi njengakuqala, kodwa uNkulunkulu kababa ube lami. **6** Liyakwazi ukuthi ngamsebenzela uyihlo ngamandla ami wonke, **7** kodwa uyihlo ungidlezelele ngokuguqula umholo wami okwezikhathi ezilithshumi. Kodwa uNkulunkulu kamvumelanga ukuthi angilimaze. **8** Kwakusithi angathi, ‘Ezilamabalabala ngezakho, ezomholo,’ imihlambi yonke izale ezimabalabala; kuthi angathi, ‘Ezingamaqamule zizakuba ngumholo wakho,’ yonke

imihlambi izale amazinyane angamaqamule. **9** Ngaleyondlela uNkulunkulu usethethe imihlambi kayihlo wayipha mina. **10** Ngesikhathi sokuxotshwa lokumitha kwemihlambi, ngaba lephupho lapho okwathi ngikhangela ngabona ukuthi impongo ezaxitotsha umhlambi zazingamaqamule, kumbe zingamafahlahla kumbe zilamabala. **11** Ingilosi kaNkulunkulu yathi kimi kulelophupho, 'Jakhobe.' Ngasabela ngathi, 'Ngilapha.' **12** Yathi, 'Khangela ukuthi zonke impongo ezixotsha umhlambi ngezingamaqamule, ngezingamafahlahla kumbe ngezilamabala, ngoba ngikubonile konke lokho uLabhani abekwenza kuwe. **13** NginguNkulunkulu waseBethethi, lapho owagcoba khona insika njalo lapho owenza khona isifungo kimi. Suka kulelizwe khona manje ubuyele elizweni lakini.'" **14** URasheli loLeya baphendula bathi, "Sivele sisesesabelo selifa likababa na? **15** Kasinjengabezizweni kuye na? Kakusikho kodwa ukuthi walobolisa ngathi, kodwa sowakusebenzisa konke esalotsholwa ngakho. **16** Ngempela yonke inotho uNkulunkulu ayemuka ubaba ngeyethu labantwabethu. Ngakho yenza loba yini uNkulunkulu akutshela yona." **17** UJakhobe wasegadisa abantwabakhe labomkakhe emakameleni, **18** waziqhuba zonke izifuyo zakhe zahamba phambili, kanye lempahla zonke ayezizuzile ePhadani Aramu, esebuyela kuyise u-Isaka elizweni laseKhenani. **19** Kwathi uLabhani ehambile eyogunda izimvu zakhe, uRasheli weba izithombe zikayise. **20** Phezu kwalokho uJakhobe wakhohlisa uLabhani um'Aramu ngokungamtsheli ukuthi yena wayesebaleka. **21** Ngakho wabaleka lakho konke okwakungokwakhe, wachapha umfula iYufurathe, waqonda elizweni lamaqaqa eleGiliyadi. **22** Ngosuku lwesithathu uLabhani wathelwa ukuthi uJakhobe wayesebalekile. **23** Wathatha izihlobo zakhe bangena emzileni kajakhobe okwensuku eziyisikhombisa baze bayambamba elizweni lamaqaqa eleGiliyadi. **24** UNkulunkulu weza kuLabhani um'Aramu ephutsheni ebusuku wathi kuye, "Unanzelele ukuthi ungaze watsho lutho kuJakhobe, loba lungoluhle kumbe ngolubi." **25** UJakhobe wayemise ithente lakhe elizweni lamaqaqa eGiliyadi eficwa khona nguLabhani, uLabhani laye lezihlobo zakhe bakha izihonqo khonapho. **26** Ngakho uLabhani wasesithi kuJakhobe, "Wenzi manje? Ungikhohlisele, njalo uthumbe amadodakazi ami njengabathunjweyo empini. **27** Kungani ubalekele ngasese wangikhohlisa na? Kungani ungangazisanga ukuze ngikuvalelise ngentokozi langokutshaya izigubhu lamachacho? **28** Kawuzange ume ukuthi ngange abazukulu bami lamadodakazi ami ngibavalelise. Wenze into eyibuthutha. **29** Ngilamandla okukulimaza; kodwa ngobusuku obudluleyo uNkulunkulu kayihlo uthe kimi, 'Unanzelele ungaze watsho lutho kuJakhobe, loba ngoluhle kumbe ngolubi.'" **30** Manje ususukile ngoba ubulangazelela ukubuyela emzini kayihlo. Kodwa kungani weba izithombe zami na?" **31** UJakhobe wamphendula uLabhani wathi, "Bengisesaba ukuthi uzangemuka amadodakazi akho ngamandla. **32** Kodwa nxa ufumana loba ngubani olezithombe zakho, kayikuphila. Ake ubone, lezihlobo zakho zikhona, ingabe kulolutho lwakho yini lapha kimi; nxa lukhona, luthathe." UJakhobe wayengazi ukuthi uRasheli wayezebile izithombe. **33** Ngakho uLabhani wangena ethenteni likaJakhobe lethenteni likaLeya lethenteni lezincekukazi zombili, kodwa kafumananga lutho. Ephuma ethenteni likaLeya, wangena ethenteni likaRasheli. **34** URasheli wayethethe izithombe lezo, wazifihla phakathi kwesihlalo sekamela lakhe, wasehlala phezu kwazo. ULabhani wabudula

lutho konke okwakusethenteni, katholanga lutho. **35** URasheli wathi kuyise, "Ungazondi nkosi yami ukuthi kungani ngingakusukumeli, kungenxa yokuba ngesikhathini." Ngakho wabudula, kodwa akaze azifumana izithombe zangekhaya. **36** UJakhobe wazonda kubi wamthwalisa nzima uLabhani. Wambuza wathi, "Icala lami ngelani? Ngenze sono bani ukuze ungizingele kanje? **37** Njengoba usuziguduzile zonke impahla zami, kuyini osukufumene okungokomuzi wakho na? Kubeke khonapha phambi kwezihlobo zakho lezami batsho okuyikho phakathi kwethu sobabili. **38** Sengibe lawe okweminyaka engamatshumi amabili. Izimvu zakho lembuzi zakho kazizange ziphunze, njalo kangizange ngizihlabele inqama emihlambini yakho. **39** Kangizange ngizokutshengisa izifuyo ezidatshulwe yizilo; yimi engathwala lokho kulahlekelwa ngazihlawula. Njalo wafuna inhlawulo yalezo ezazibiwe emini loba ebusuku. **40** Impilo yami yayinjye: ukutshisa kwakungibhaxabula emini, ebusuku umqondo ungihaqaze, ubuthongo babaleka emehlweni ami. **41** Kwakunjalo okweminyaka engamatshumi amabili ngisemzini wakho. Ngakusebenzela okweminyaka elitshumi lane ngisebenzela amadodakazi akho womabili njalo okweminyaka eyisithupha ngisebenzela imihlambi yakho, njalo wena waguqula inhlawulo yami okwezikhathi ezilitshumi. **42** Aluba uNkulunkulu kababa, uNkulunkulu ka-Abrahamanga langokwesaba kuka-Isaka, ubengelami, ubuzangixotsha nje ngingaphathanga lutho. Kodwa uNkulunkulu ububonile ubunzima bami lokusebenza nzima kwezandla zami, yikho ekukhuzile izolo ebusuku." **43** ULabhani wamphendula uJakhobe wathi, "Abesifazane ngamadodakazi ami, abantwana ngabantwabami, lemhilambi yimihlambi yami. Kodwa kuyini engingakwenza lamuhla ngala amadodakazi ami, kumbe ngabantwana ababazeleyo na? **44** Zwana-ke, kasenze isivumelwano, wena lami, sibe ngufakazi phakathi kwethu." **45** Ngakho uJakhobe wasehathatha ilitshe walimisa laba yinsika. **46** Wasesithi ezihlotsheni zakhe, "Buthelelani amatsho." Bawathatha amatsho abayinqwaba, basebedlela khonapho eceleni kwenqwaba. **47** ULabhani wayibiza ngokuthi yiJegari Sahadutha, uJakhobe yena wathi yiGaledi. **48** ULabhani wathi, "Inqwaba le ingufakazi phakathi kwami lawe lamuhla." Yikho yabizwa ngokuthi yiGaledi. **49** Yabizwa njalo ngokuthi yiMizipha, ngoba wathi, "Sengathi uThixo angalinda phakathi kwakho lami nxa sikhathshana omunye komunye. **50** Ungaze uphathe kubi amadodakazi ami, loba ungaze uthathe abanye abafazi ngaphandle kwamadodakazi ami, loba kungekho omunye umuntu olathi, khumbula ukuthi uNkulunkulu ungufakazi phakathi kwakho lami." **51** ULabhani wathi njalo kuJakhobe, "Nansi inqwaba le, njalo nansi insika engiyimise phakathi kwakho lami. **52** Inqwaba le ingufakazi, kanye lensika le ingufakazi wokuthi kangisoze ngiyidlule inqwaba le ngize kwelakho icele ngizekonela lokuthi lawe kawuyikudlula kule inqwaba lensika uze kwelami icele uzongenela. **53** Sengathi uNkulunkulu ka-Abrahamanga, loNkulunkulu kaNahori, uNkulunkulu kayise wabo angahlulela phakathi kwethu." Ngakho uJakhobe wenza isifungo ebizweni likaMesatshwa kayise u-Isaka. **54** Wenza umhlatshelelo khonapho elizweni lamaqaqa wanxusa izihlobo zakhe ekudleni. Sebedile, balala khonapho. **55** Ekuseni kakhulu ngosuku olulandelayo uLabhani wanga abazukulu bakhe lamadodakazi akhe wababusisa. Wasefulathela wabuyela ekhaya.

32 UJakhobe laye wahamba ngeyakhe indlela, wasehlangabezwa yizingilosi zikaNkulunkulu. **2** Wathi ezibona uJakhobe wathi, “Leli libandla likaNkulunkulu!” Indawo leyo waseyibiza ngokuthi yiMahanayimi. **3** UJakhobe wathuma izithunywa ukuba zihambe phambili kwakhe kumnewabo u-Esawu elizweni laseSeyiri, ilizwe lika-Edomi. **4** Wazilaya wathi, “Nanku okumele likutsho enkosini yami u-Esawu, ‘Inceku yakho uJakhobe uthi bengihlezi loLabhani njalo ngihlale khona kwaze kwaba khathesi. **5** Ngilenkomo labobabhemu, ngilezimvu, lembuzi, njalo ngilezinceku lezincekukazi. Khathesi-ke sengithumela lelilizwi enkosini yami, ukuze ngithole umusa emehlweni akho.’” **6** Kwathi izithunywa sezibuya kuJakhobe zathi, “Sihambile kumfowenu u-Esawu, okwamanje uyeza ukuzokuhlangabeza, ulamadoda angamakhulu amane eza lawo.” **7** UJakhobe wafikelwa yikwesaba lokukhathazeka okukhulu wasesehlukanisa phakathi abantu ayelabo baba ngamaqembu amabili, wenzelalo lemihlabini yezimvu leyenkomo lamakamela lawo. **8** Wakhumbula wathi, “Nxa u-Esawu angafika ahlasele elinye iqembu, leloqembu eliseleyo lingahle libaleke.” **9** UJakhobe wasekhuleka wathi, “Oh Nkulunkulu kababa u-Abrahama, Nkulunkulu kababa u-Isaka, Thixo, wena owathi kimi, ‘Buyela elizweni lakini lasezihlotsheni zakho, ngizakwenza uphumelele,’ **10** mina kangiwufanelanga wonke umusa lokuthembeka okutshengise inceku yakho. Ngangiphethe intonga yami zwi mhla ngichapha ijodani leli, kodwa khathesi sengingamaqembu amabili. **11** Ngiyakhuleka ngithi ngisindise esandleni somfowethu u-Esawu, ngoba ngiyesaba ukuthi uzakuba angihlasele, kanye labesifazane labantwababo. **12** Kodwa wena uthe, ‘Ngempela ngizakwenza uphumelele ngenze lezizukulwane zakho zibe njengetshebetshebe lolwandle elingeke labalwa.’” **13** Wahlala khonapho ngalobobusuku, kwathi kulokho ayelakho wakhetha isipho sikamnewabo u-Esawu: **14** imbuzikazi ezingamakhulu amabili lempongo ezingamatshumi amabili; izimvu ezinsikazi ezingamakhulu amabili lenqama ezingamatshumi amabili; **15** amakamela amasikazi angamatshumi amathathu lamathole awo; amankomokazi angamatshumi amane lenkunzi ezilithumi; kanye labobabhemu abasikazi abangamatshumi amabili lemiduna yawo elitshumi. **16** Wakugcinisa izisebenzi zakhe konke, umhlambi munye wema wodwa, wathi kuzo izisebenzi zakhe, “Hambani phambi kwami, njalo litshiye ibanga phakathi kwemihlabi.” **17** Lowo owayephambili wamlaya wathi, “Nxa umnewethu u-Esawu ekuhlangabeza afike abuze athi, ‘Ungokabani wena, njalo uya ngaphi, njalo ngezikabani zonke lezizifuyo eziphambi kwakho?’ **18** Ubokuthi, ‘Ngezencku yakho uJakhobe. Ziyisipho esithunyelwe inkosi yami u-Esawu, laye uyeza nje emuva kwethu.’” **19** Walaya njalo isisebenzi sesibili, lesesithathu lazolonke ezinye ezaziqhuba imihlabi wathi: “Kumele likhulume into efanayo ku-Esawu nxa lihlanguana laye. **20** Njalo lingakhohlwa ukuthi, ‘Inceku yakho uJakhobe iyeza ngemva kwethu.’” Ngoba wacabanga wathi: “Ngizamthoba ngezipho lezi engizithumela phambili; nxa sengimbona muva mhlawumbe uzangamukela.” **21** Ngakho izipho zikaJakhobe zahanjiswa, zamandulela, kodwa yena wasala ezihonqweni ubusuku bonke. **22** Ngalobobusuku uJakhobe waphakama wathatha omkakhe bobabili, lezincekukazi zakhe zombili kanye lamadodana akhe alithumi lamunye wawela izibuko likaJabhoki. **23** Esebaphisile wabuye wachaphisa yonke

imfuyo yakhe. **24** Ngakho uJakhobe wasala yedwa, indoda ethile yabindana laye kwaze kwaba semathathakusa. **25** Leyondoda yathi ngokubona ukuthi kayimehluli uJakhobe, yambamba inyonga, inyonga yakhe yakhumuka elokhu ebindana laleyondoda. **26** Indoda yasisithi, “Ngiyekela ngihambe ngoba sokusile.” Kodwa uJakhobe wamphendula wathi, “Kangisoze ngikwekele uhambe ngaphandle kokuthi ungibusise.” **27** Indoda yambuza wathi, “Ungubani ibizo lakho na?” Wathi, “NginguJakhobe.” **28** Indoda yasisithi, “Ibizo lakho kalisayikuba nguJakhobe, kodwa u-Israyeli, ngoba ulwe loNkulunkulu kanye labantu wanqoba.” **29** UJakhobe wathi, “Akungitshale ibizo lakho.” Kodwa waphendula wathi “Ulibuzelani ibizo lami na?” Wasembusisa khonapho. **30** Ngakho uJakhobe wabiza indawo leyo ngokuthi yiPheniyele esithi, “Kungoba ngimbonile uNkulunkulu ubuso ngobuso, kodwa impilo yami kayilinyazwanga.” **31** Ilanga lamphumela esedlula ePheniwele, ehamba eqhugezela ngenxa yenyonga yakhe. **32** Ngakho-ke kuze kube lamuhla abako-Israyeli kabayidli inyama elomsipha osuka enyongeni, ngoba inyonga kaJakhobe yenyela eduze lomsipha.

33 UJakhobe wathi evusa amehlo wabona u-Esawu, eqhamuka lamadoda akhe angamakhulu amane; wasesehlukanisa abantwana phakathi kukaLeya, uRasheli lezincekukazi zombili. **2** Waqhuba phambili izincekukazi labantwabazo, kwalandela uLeya labantwabakhe, kweza uRasheli loJosefa ngemuva. **3** Yena ngokwakhe wahamba phambili wakhothama phansi emhlabathini kasikhombisa esebanga kumnewabo. **4** Kodwa u-Esawu wagijima wahlangabeza uJakhobe wamanga; wamgona ngezingalo entanyeni wamanga. Bakhala. **5** U-Esawu wasekhangele wabona abesifazane labantwana. Wabuza wathi, “Ngobani laba ohamba labo na?” UJakhobe waphendula wathi, “Ngabantwana uNkulunkulu abaphe ngesihle inceku yakho.” **6** Kwathi izincekukazi labantwabazo, zasondela zakhothamela phansi. **7** Kwalandela uLeya kanye labantwabakhe beza bakhothamela phansi. Abokucina kwaba nguJosefa loRasheli, labo bakhothamela phansi. **8** U-Esawu wabuza wathi, “Utshoni ngemihlabi yonke le engihlangane layo?” Wathi, “Ngeyokucela umusa kuwe, nkosi yami.” **9** Kodwa u-Esawu wathi, “Lami sengilakho okunengi, mnawami. Zigcinele lawe lokho olakho.” **10** UJakhobe wathi, “Hatshi bo, bakithi. Nxa ngisamukeleka kuwe yamukela isipho sami lesi. Ngoba ukubona ubuso bakho kufana lokubona ubuso bukaNkulunkulu, ikakhulu njengoba usungamukele ngesihle. **11** Ngicela ukuthi wamukele isipho leso esilethe kuwe, ngoba uNkulunkulu ube lomusa kimi, ngaba lakho konke engikudingayo.” Kwathi ngoba uJakhobe encenga, u-Esawu wasamukela. **12** U-Esawu wasesithi, “Kasihambeni. Ngizahamba lani.” **13** Kodwa uJakhobe wathi kuye, “Inkosi yami iyazi ukuthi abantwana babuthakathaka lokuthi ngisamele nginakekele izimvukazi lamankomokazi konke okusanda kuzala. Zingahanjiswa ngamandla okwelanga elilodwa nje, izifuyo zizakufa. **14** Ngakho inkosi yami kayizihambele phambili kwenceku yayo, mina ngilandele kancane okwamandla emihlabi eqhutshwayo labantwana, ngize ngifike enkosini yami eSeyiri.” **15** U-Esawu wathi, “Nxa kunjalo ngizatsiya amanye amadoda ami lawe.” UJakhobe wabuza wathi, “Kambe ube ukwenzelani lokho? Inkosi yami kayingenzele umusa nje kube kuphela.” **16** Ngakho ngalolosuku u-Esawu wasuka esebuyela eSeyiri. **17**

Kodwa uJakhobe waya eSukhothi lapho azakhela khona umuzi wakha lezibaya zezifuyo zakhe. Kungakho leyondawo ithiwa yiSukhothi. **18** UJakhobe esebuyile ePhadani Aramu wafika kuhle edolobheni laseShekhemu eKhenani wamisa izihonqo eduzane kwedolobho. **19** Ngenhlamvu zesiliva ezilikhulu wathenga isiqithi somhlabathi emadodaneni kaHamori, uyise kaShekhemu, lapho amisa khona ithente lakhe. **20** Khonapho amisa i-alithari walibiza ngokuthi yi-Eli Elohe Israyeli.

34 UDina, indodakazi kaLeya ayizalela uJakhobe wasuka wayakwethekelela abafazi balelolizwe. **2** Kwathi uShekhemu, indodana kaHamori umHivi, umbusi walowomango, ebona uDina, wamthatha wamdlova. **3** Inhliziyi yakhe yathatheka ngoDina indodakazi kaJakhobe, wayithanda intombi le, wakhuluma layo kamnandi. **4** UShekhemu wathi kuyise uHamori, “Ngithathela intombi le ibe ngumkani.” **5** UJakhobe wathi ekuzwa ukuthi indodakazi yakhe uDina yayingcolisiwe, amadodana akhe ayesebangeni lezifuyo; wathula nje aze abuya ekhaya. **6** Ngakho usekaShekhemu, uHamori wayakhuluma loJakhobe. **7** Ngalesosikhathi amadodana kaJakhobe ayesebuyile evela egangeni evela esezwile okwasekwenzakele. Babelosizi njalo begcwele ulaka ngoba uShekhemu wayenze into elihlazo ko-Israyeli ngokudlova indodakazi kaJakhobe, into okwakungamelanga yenziwe. **8** Kodwa uHamori wathi kubo, “Indodana yami uShekhemu uyayithanda indodakazi yakho. Muphe yona ibe ngumkake. **9** Kasendiselane; sipheni amadodakazi enu, lani lizithathele amadodakazi ethu. **10** Lingazihlalela phakathi kwethu; ilizwe livulekile kini. Hlalani kulo, thengisani kulo njalo lifuye kulo.” **11** UShekhemu wasesithi kuyise kaDina lakubanewabo, “Ngicela ukuthi lingamukele, ngizalinika laba yini eliyifunayo. **12** Khulumani amalobolo lokangaziwe, mina ngizakuletha ngobunengi bakho njengokufuna kwenu, njalo ngizakukhupha konke elikubizayo. Lina ngiphani intombi kuphela nje ibe ngumkani.” **13** Kwathi ngoba udadewabo uDina wayesengcolisiwe, amadodana kaJakhobe aphenyula ngobuqili ekhuluma loShekhemu loyise uHamori. **14** Athi kubo, “Asingekwenziwe into enjalo; ngeke siphe udadewethu indoda engasokwanga. Lokho kungaba luhlazo kithi. **15** Sizavuma kuphela nxa lenze lokhu: ukuthi libe njengathi ngokusoka bonke abesilisa benu. **16** Lapho-ke sesingalendisela amadodakazi ethu lathi sithathe amadodakazi enu. Sizakwakhona phakathi kwenu sibe ngabantu banye lani. **17** Kodwa nxa lingavumi ukusokwa sizamthatha udadewethu sihambe.” **18** Icebo labo lakhanya lilihle kuHamori loShekhemu. **19** Ijaha leli eliyilo elalihlonitshwa kakhulu emzini kayise, kalisachithanga isikhathi ukukwenza lokho ababekutshilo ngoba lalitshiseka ngendodakazi kaJakhobe. **20** Ngakho uHamori lendodana yakhe uShekhemu baya entubeni yedolobho bayabonisa lamadoda edolobho lakibo. **21** Bathi, “Amadoda la alomusa kithi. Kabahlale elizweni lethu bathengiselane labantu; ilizwe leli lilendawo enkulu abangahlala kuyo. Singathatha amadodakazi abo labo bangathatha awethu. **22** Kodwa bangavuma ukuhlala phakathi kwethu kuphela nxa abesilisa bethu bengasokwa njengabo. **23** Kambe izifuyo zabo, lempahla yabo kanye layo yonke imfuyo yabo kakukuba ngokwethu na? Ngakho kasivumeni, khona bezakwakhona phakathi kwethu.” **24** Wonke amadoda ayekhona entubeni yedolobho avumelana loHamori lendodana yakhe uShekhemu, kwathi bonke abesilisa balelolobho

basokwa. **25** Ngemva kwensuku ezintathu, bonke belokhu besebuhlungwini, amadodana kaJakhobe amabili, uSimiyoni loLevi, abanewabo bakaDina, bathatha inkemba zabo balihlasela idolobho belibele, babulala bonke abesilisa. **26** OHamori lendodana yakhe uShekhemu babaquma ngenkamba bamkhupha uDina endlini kaShekhemu bahamba. **27** Amadodana kaJakhobe afikela phezu kwezidumbu aliphanga idolobho lapho udadewabo ayengcoliselwe khona. **28** Athumba imihlambi yabo yezimvu lenkomo, labobabhemi lakho konke okwakungokwabo phakathi edolobheni langaphandle egangeni. **29** Baiyiqukula yonke inotho yabo kanye labafazi labantwana, bathumba konke okwasezindlini kwaba yimpango. **30** UJakhobe wasesithi kuSimiyoni loLevi, “Selingehlisele uhlupho langenza ngasoleka kakhulu kumaKhenani lamaPherizi, abantu abahlala elizweni leli. Thina sibalutshwana, bangahlangana bangihlasele, mina lomuzi wami sizabhujiwa.” **31** Kodwa bona baphendula bathi, “Bekufanele yini ukuthi apathe udadewethu njengesifebe na?”

35 UNkulunkulu wasesithi kuJakhobe, “Yana eBetheli wakhe khona, njalo khonapho wakhele uNkulunkulu i-alithari, yena owabonakala kuwe lapho ubalekela umnwenu u-Esawu.” **2** Ngakho uJakhobe wasesithi kwabomuzi wakhe lakubo bonke ababelaye, “Lahlani onkulunkulu bezizweni elilabo, lizihlambulule, lintshintshe lezizqoko zenu. **3** Beselisisa sihambe siye eBetheli lapho engizakwakhona i-alithari likaNkulunkulu yena owangenzizayo ngosuku lokuhlupheka kwami njalo olokhu elami loba ngingaze ngiye ngaphi.” **4** Basebemupha uJakhobe bonke onkulunkulu bezizweni ababelabo lamacisi ayesendlebeni zabo, uJakhobe wakumbela ngaphansi kwesihlahla som’Okhi eShekhemu. **5** Emva kwalokho basebesuka, ukumesaba uNkulunkulu kwehlela imizi yonke ababakhelane layo, akwaze kwaba loyedwa owaxotshana labo. **6** UJakhobe wafika eLuzi (leyo yiBetheli) kanye labo bonke ayelabo elizweni laseKhenani. **7** Wakha khona i-alithari, indawo waseyibiza ngokuthi yi-Eli Betheli, ngoba kwalulapho uNkulunkulu azevaza khona ngesikhathi ebalekela umfowabo. **8** UDibhora, umlizane kaRabheka wafa, wembelwa ngaphansi kom’Okhi ngezansi kweBetheli. Yikho yathiwa yi-Aloni Bhakhuthi. **9** UJakhobe esebuyile ePhadani Aramu uNkulunkulu wabonakala kuye njalo, wambusisa. **10** UNkulunkulu wathi kuye, “Ibizo lakho linguJakhobe, kodwa kawusayi kuthiwa unguJakhobe; ibizo lakho selizathiwa ungu-Israyeli.” Ngakho wamutha wathi ngu-Israyeli. **11** UNkulunkulu wathi kuye, “NginguNkulunkulu uSomandla; zalanani lande ngobunengi. Kuzaphuma kuwe isizwe lezinhlango zezizwe, lamakhosi azavela emzimbeni wakho. **12** Ilizwe engalinika u-Abhrhama lo-Isaka ngilinika wena lawa, njalo ilizwe leli ngizalinika izizukulwane zakho ezize emva kwakho.” **13** UNkulunkulu wasephakama emtshiya endaweni lapho ayeke wakhuluma laye khona. **14** UJakhobe wamisa insika yelitshe endaweni leyo uNkulunkulu ayekhulume laye khona, wasehululela phezu kwayo umnikelo onathwayo; wathela njalo amafutha phezu kwayo. **15** UJakhobe wasebiza indawo leyo lapho uNkulunkulu akhuluma laye khona ngokuthi yiBetheli. **16** Basebehamba besuka eBetheli. Kwathi belokhu besesebucwala kwe-Efrathi, uRasheli wahelulela kwaba nzima ukubeletha. **17** Kwathi ekulobobunzima bokubeletha umbelethisi wathi kuye, “Ungesabi. Ngoba uzazuza enye

indodana.” **18** Kwathi esephela ngoba wayesesifa wetha indodana yakhe wathi nguBheni-Oni. Kodwa uyise wayo wayithi nguBhenjamini. **19** Wafa kanjalo uRasheli wembelwa endleleni kuyiwa e-Efrathi (kutshiwo iBhethlehem.) **20** UJakhobe wakha insika phezu kwethuna, kuze kube lamhla insika leyo itshengisa ithuna likaRasheli. **21** U-Israyeli wabuye wathutha wayamisa ithente lakhe ngale kweMigidali-Eda. **22** U-Israyeli esakhile kulowomango, uRubheni wasuka wayalala lomfazi weceleni kayise uBhiliha, njalo u-Israyeli wakuzwa. UJakhobe wayelamadodana alitshumi lambili: **23** Amadodana kaLeya ayeyila: uRubheni izibulo likaJakhobe, uSimiyoni, uLevi, uJuda, u-Isakhari loZebhuluni. **24** Amadodana kaRasheli ayeyila: uJosefa loBhenjamini. **25** Amadodana encekukazi kaRasheli, uBhiliha ayeyila: uDani loNafithali. **26** Amadodana encekukazi kaLeya uZilipha ayeyila: uGadi lo-Asheri. La ayengamadodana kaJakhobe awazalela ePhadani Aramu. **27** UJakhobe weza ekhaya kuyise u-Isaka eMamure, eduze leKhiriyaithi Aribha (kutsho iHebhroni) lapho u-Abrahamama lo-Isaka ababehlala khona. **28** U-Isaka waphila okweminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi ayisificaminwembili. **29** Wafika ekucineni wafa, wembelwa labantu bakibo eseluphele leminyaka yakhe isiminengi. Amadodana akhe u-Esawu loJakhobe bamngcwaba.

36 Lo ngumlando ka-Esawu (okungu-Edomi). **2** U-Esawu wathatha ebafazini baseKhenani: u-Ada indodakazi ka-Eloni umHithi, lo-Oholibhama indodakazi ka-Ana, njalo eyindodakazi kaZibhiyoni umHivi, **3** njalo loBhasemathi indodakazi ka-Ishumayeli njalo engudadewabo kaNebhayothi. **4** U-Ada wazala u-Elifazi ku-Esawu, uBhasemathi wazala uRuweli, **5** u-Oholibhama wazala uJewushi, loJalamu loKhora. La ayengamadodana ka-Esawu, awazala eKhenani. **6** U-Esawu wathatha omkakhe lamadodana akhe kanye lamadodakazi akhe labo bonke ababesemzini wakhe kanye lezifuyo zakhe lezinye izinyamazana zakhe lempahla zonke ayezizuzile eKhenani, wasuka waya khatshana lomfowabo uJakhobe. **7** Imfuyo yabo yayinengi kakhulu okokuthi babengeke bahlale ndawonye; lomhlaba ababehlala kuwo wawungasoze ubathwale bobabili ngexxa yezifuyo zabo. **8** Ngakho u-Esawu (kutshiwo u-Edomi) wayakwakha elizweni lamaqaqa elaseSeyiri. **9** Lo ngumlando ka-Esawu uyise wama-Edomi elizweni lamaqaqa elaseSeyiri. **10** La ngamabizo amadodana ka-Esawu: U-Elifazi, indodana yomka-Esawu u-Ada, lo Ruweli indodana yomka-Esawu uBhasemathi. **11** Amadodana ka-Elifazi ayeyila: uThemani, u-Omari, uZefo, uGathamu loKhenazi. **12** Indodana ka-Esawu u-Elifazi wayelomfazi weceleni owayethiwa nguThimina, owamzalela u-Amaleki. Laba babengabazukulu baka-Ada umka-Esawu. **13** Amadodana kaRuweli ayeyila: uNahathi, uZera, uShama loMiza. Laba bebengabazukulu bomka-Esawu uBhasemathi umka-Esawu. **14** Amadodana kamka-Esawu u-Oholibhama, indodakazi ka-Ana, njalo engumzukululu kaZibhiyoni, awazalela u-Esawu ayeyila: uJewushi, uJalamu loKhora. **15** Laba babezinduna kwabosendo luka-Esawu: Amadodana ka-Elifazi izibulo lika-Esawu: Induna uThemani, u-Omari, uZefo, uKhenazi, **16** uKhora, uGathamu, lo-Amaleki. Lezi kwakuzinduna ezidabuka ku-Elifazi, e-Edomi; zazingabazukulu baka-Ada. **17** Amadodana kaRuweli indodana ka-Esawu: Izinduna uNahathi, uZera, uShama loMiza. Lezizinduna zazidabuka kuRuweli e-Edomi; zazingabazukulu bakaBhasemathi umka-Esawu. **18** Amadodana ka-Oholibhama, umka-Esawu: Izinduna uJewushi, uJalamu loKhora. Lezi kwakuzinduna ezazidabuka kumka-Esawu, u-

Oholibhama, indodakazi ka-Ana. **19** La ayengamadodana ka-Esawu (kutshiwo u-Edomi), njalo bona babezinduna zabo. **20** La ayengamadodana kaSeyiri umHori, ababehlala kulowomango: ULothani, uShobhali, uZibhiyoni, u-Ana, **21** uDishoni, u-Ezeri loDishani. La amadodana kaSeyiri e-Edomi ayezizinduna zamaHori. **22** Amadodana kaLothani ayeyila: uHori loHemani. UThimina wayengudadewabo kaLothani. **23** Amadodana kaShobhali ayeyila: u-Alivani, uManahathi, u-Ebhali, uShefo lo-Onami. **24** Amadodana kaZibhiyoni ayeyila: u-Ayiya lo-Ana. (Lo nguyi u-Ana owafumana izintombo zamanzi atshisayo engangala eselusa obabhemi bakayise uZibhiyoni.) **25** Abantwana baka-Ana babeyilaba: uDishoni lo-Oholibhama indodakazi ka-Ana. **26** Amadodana kaDishoni ayeyila: uHemidani, u-Eshibhani, u-Ithirani loKherani. **27** Amadodana ka-Ezeri ayeyila: uBhilihani, uZavani lo-Akhani. **28** Amadodana kaDishani ayeyila: u-Uzi lo-Arani. **29** Laba babezinduna zamaHori: ULothani, uShobhali, uZibhiyoni, u-Ana, **30** uDishoni, u-Ezeri loDishani. Laba babezinduna zamaHori kusiya ngezigaba zabo elizweni laseSeyiri. **31** La ayengamakhozi abusa e-Edomi kungakabusi inkosi yako-Israyeli: **32** UBhela indodana kaBheiyori waba yinkosi e-Edomi. Idolobho lakhe lalibizwa ngokuthi yiDinihabha. **33** UBhela esefile, uJobhabhi indodana kaZera waseBhozira wathatha umbuso waba yinkosi. **34** UJobhabhi esefile, uHushamu wazelizweni lamaThemani wathatha umbuso waba yinkosi. **35** UHushamu esefile, uHadadi indodana kaBhedadi, owanqoba uMidiyani elizweni laseMowabi, wathatha umbuso waba yinkosi. Idolobho lakhe lalibizwa ngokuthi yi-Avithi. **36** UHadadi esefile, uSamila waseMasirekha wathatha umbuso waba yinkosi. **37** USamila esefile, uShawuli waseRehobhothi phezu komfula wathatha umbuso waba yinkosi. **38** UShawuli esefile, uBhali-Hanani indodana ka-Akhibhori wathatha umbuso waba yinkosi. **39** UBhali-Hanani indodana ka-Akhibhori esefile, uHadari wathatha umbuso waba yinkosi. Idolobho lakhe labizwa ngokuthi yiPawu; njalo ibizo lomkakhe lalinguMehethabheli indodakazi kaMathiredi, indodakazi kaMe-Zahabhi. **40** Lezi kwakuzinduna ezadabuka ku-Esawu, ngamabizo azo, kusiya ngosendo lwazo lezigodi zazo: UThimina, u-Aliva, uJethethi, **41** u-Oholibhama, u-Ela, uPhinoni, **42** uKhenazi, uThemani, uMibhizari, **43** uMagidiyeli lo-Iramu. Lezi kwakuzinduna ze-Edomi, kusiya ngokuhlala kwabo elizweni ababakhe kulo. Lolu yilo-ke usendo luka-Esawu, uyise wama-Edomi.

37 UJakhobe wahlala elizweni lapho uyise laseahlala kulo, ilizwe laseKhenani. **2** Lo ngumlando wosendo lukaJakhobe. UJosefa ijaha elalileminyaka elitshumi lesikhombisa, wayeselusa imihlambi yezimvu labanewabo, amadodana kaBhiliha lamadodana kaZilipha, abafazi bakayise, wasebacea kuyise. **3** U-Israyeli wasuka wamthanda uJosefa ukwedlula wonke amanye amadodana akhe, ngoba wamzala eseluphele; yikho wamenzela ijazi eliceciswe kakhulu. **4** Kwathi abafowabo bebona ukuthi uyise wayemthanda ukwedlula bonke abanye bamzonda kabazange bamkhulumise ngothando. **5** UJosefa waphupha, wathi esebatshelile ngephupho lakhe bamzonda ngokwedlulisileyo. **6** Wathi kubo, “Zwanini iphupho engibe lalo: **7** besibopha izithungo zamabele sisemasimini lapho okuthe masinyane esami isithungo saphakama sema saqonda, kwathi ezenu izithungo zasingombolozela esami, zasikhothamela phansi.” **8** Abanewabo bathi kuye. “Ufisa ukubusa phezu kwethu na? Ungasibusa ngempela na?”

Basebemzonda ngamandla ngenxa yephupho lakhe lalokho ayekutshilo. **9** Waphinda waba lelinye iphupho, walitshela abanewabo. Wathi, “Lalelani, ngibe lalo elinye iphupho, kuleli, ilanga lenyanga kanye lezinkanyezi ezilitsumi lanye bezingikhothamela phansi.” **10** Wathi eselitshele uyise njalo labanewabo uyise wamkhalimela wathi, “Liphupho bani leli oliphuphiye? Utsho ukuthi unyoko lumi labanewenu sizaguqa phansi emhlabathini sibili siguqela wena?” **11** Abanewabo babalomona ngaye, kodwa uyise wayigcina engqondweni yakhe indaba le. **12** Abanewabo basuka bahamba lemhlabathi kayise emadlelweni eduze kweShekhemu. **13** U-Israyeli wathi kuJosefa, “Njengoba usazi abanewenu basemadlelweni lemhlabathi eduze kweShekhemu. Lalela-ke, ngifuna ukukuthuma kubo.” Waphendula wathi, “Kulungile.” **14** Ngakho wasesithi kuye, “Hamba uyebona ingabe abafowenu bayaphila yini kanye lemhlabathi, ukuze ubuye uzongazisa.” Lakanye wamvalelisa esuka esigodini saseHebhroni. UJosefa esefikile eShekhemu, **15** wafunyanwa yindoda ezula egangeni yambuza yathi, “Udingani?” **16** Waphendula wathi, “Ngidinga abafowethu. Kambe ungangitshela ukuthi belusela ngaphi imihlabathi yabo na?” **17** Indoda yaphendula yathi, “Sebusukile lapha. Ngabezwa besithi, ‘Kasiyeni eDothani.’” Ngakho uJosefa wabalandela abafowabo wayabafumana eduze kweDothani. **18** Kodwa bambona esesekude, wathi engakafiki kubo, bakhanda icebo lokumbulala. **19** Batshelana bathi, “Nanguyana umphuphi lowana esiza. **20** Zwanini, kasimbulaleni simphosele kwelinye lamagodi la besesisithi udlwe yisilo esesabekayo. Besisibona-ke ukuthi azaphelela ngaphi amaphupho akhe.” **21** Kwathi uRubheni esekuzwile lokhu, wazama ukuthi amlamulele ezandleni zabo. Wathi, “Kasingacimi impilo yakhe. **22** Lingachithi gazi. Mphoseleni emgodini lo lapha enkangala, kodwa lingambeki isandla.” URubheni watsho lokhu ukuze amlamulele kubo abesembuyisela kuyise. **23** Ngakho kwathi uJosefa efika kubafowabo, bamhlubala ijazi lakhe, elalibalazwe kakuhle ayeligqokile, **24** bamthatha bayamphosela emgodini. Umgodi lo wawungela lutho, kungelamanzi phakathi kwawo. **25** Bathi sebehlezi phansi ukuthi badle, bathi baphosa amehlo babona udwendwe lwama-Ishumayeli luvelela eGilyadi. Amakamela abo ayethlawise iziyoliso, ibhambi lemure, konke lokhu bekusa eGibhithe. **26** UJuda wathi kubafowabo, “Sizazuzani nxa sibulala umfowethu sigqibele igazi lakhe na? **27** Zwanini, kasimthengiseni kuma-Ishumayeli thina singambeki sandla; kambe yena evele engumfowethu, eyinyama yethu legazi lethu.” Abafowabo bavuma. **28** Ngakho kwathi abathengisi bamaMidiyani besedlula abafowabo bamkhupha uJosefa emgodini bamthengisa ngamashekelo esiliva angamatshumi amabili kuma-Ishumayeli, amthatha aya laye eGibhithe. **29** URubheni wathi esebuyela emgodini wafumana uJosefa engasekho, wasedabula izigqoko zakhe ngokudabuka. **30** Wabuyela kubafowabo wathi, “Umfana kasekho! Sengizakwenzani manje?” **31** Basebethatha ijazi likaJosefa, babulala imbuzi basebegxamuza ijazi lelo egazini. **32** Balithatha ijazi lokuceciswa babuyela lalo kuyise bathi, “Silidobhile. Ake ulikhangele kuhle kumbe ijazi lendodana yakho.” **33** Lakanye walibona liyilo wathi, “Lijazi lendodana yami. Udlwe yisilo esesabekayo. Ngempela uJosefa usedlithizwe waba yizicucu.” **34** UJakhobe wasedabula izigqoko zakhe, waqoka ezamasaka walilela indodana yakhe okwensuku ezinengi. **35** Wonke amadodana akhe lamadodakazi beza ukuzamduduzela, kodwa kavumanga ukududuzeka. Wathi,

“Hatshi, ngizakuya ethuneni ngilila nginje, ngiye endodaneni yami.” Uyise wamkhalala kanjalo. **(Sheol h7585)** **36** Kusenjalo, amaMidiyani amthengisa uJosefa eGibhithe kuPhothifa, omunye wezikhulu zikaFaro, owayengumlawuli wabalindi.

38 Ngalesosikhathi uJuda watshiya abafowabo wahamba wayahlala lendoda yase-Adulami eyayithiwa nguHira. **2** Khonale uJuda wabonana lendodakazi yendoda engumKhenani eyayithiwa nguShuwa. Wayithatha wembatha layo; **3** yathatha isisu yazala indodana yathiwa ngu-Eri. **4** Wazithwala njalo wazala indodana wayithi ngu-Onani. **5** Wazala njalo enye indodana wayithi nguShela. Le wayizalela eKhezibhi. **6** UJuda wazuzela u-Eri izibulo lakhe umfazi, ibizo lakhe linguThamari. **7** Kodwa u-Eri izibulo likaJuda, wayengcolile emehlweni kaThixo; uThixo wasembulala. **8** UJuda wasesithi ku-Onani, “Lala lomkamfowenu ugcwalise umlandu wakho njengomfowabo uzalele umfowenu abantwana.” **9** Kodwa u-Onani wakwazi ukuthi inzalo leyo yayingezukuba ngeyakhe; ngakho kwakusithi sonke isikhathi angalala lomkamfowabo achithele inhlangano phansi emhlabathini ukuze angaze azalela umfowabo abantwana. **10** Lokho ayekwenza kwakukhali emehlweni kaThixo; ngakho uThixo wambulala. **11** UJuda wasesithi kumalukazana wakhe uThamari, “Hamba uyehlala njengomfelokazi emzini kayihlo indodana yami uShela ize ikhule.” Ngoba wanakama wathi, “Laye angafa njengabanewabo.” Ngakho uThamari wahamba wayahlala emzini kayise. **12** Ngenam kwesikhathi eside umkajuda, indodakazi kaShuwa wafa. Kwathi uJuda eseduduzekile waya eThimina, emadodeni ayegunda izimvu zakhe, ehamba lomngane wakhe uHira um’Adulami. **13** Kwathi uThamari esetsheliwe kwathiwa, “Uyihlozala uyeza eThimina ukuzagunda izimvu zakhe,” **14** wakhulula izigqoko zakhe zokuzila wazimboza ngesimbombozo ukuzifihla, wasehlala phansi eduzane lesango lase-Enayimi, elisendleleni yaseThimina. Ngoba wabona ukuthi loba uShela wayesehulile, yena wayelokhu engakamphiwa ukuthi abe ngumkakhe. **15** UJuda wathi embona wacabanga ukuthi yisifebe, ngoba wayezivale ubuso. **16** Kwathi ngoba engamboni ukuthi ngumalokazana wakhe waya kuye eceleni komgwaqo wathi, “Woza manje, ngifuna ukulala lawe.” Yena wabuza wathi, “Uzangiphani ngingalala lawe?” **17** Wathi, “Ngizakuthumezela izinyane lembuzi emhlabathini wami.” UThamari wabuza wathi, “Uzangipha na ulutho lube yisibambiso ungakalithumezi?” **18** Wathi, “Ngikuphe sibambiso bani?” Waphendula wathi, “Isilengiso sophawu lwakho lentambo yaso, kanye lodondolo lwakho oluphetheyo.” Ngakho wamupha lezozinto waselala laye, wahle wazithwala. **19** Esesuka lapho uThamari wakhupha isimbombozo sakhe waqoka izigqoko zakhe zokuzila njalo. **20** Kusenjalo uJuda wathumezela izinyane lembuzi lomngane wakhe um’Adulami ukuze abuyiselwe isibambiso sakhe esasikowesifazane lowo, kodwa wamswela. **21** Wabuza amadoda ayehlala lapho wathi, “Singaphi isifebe ebisilapha eceleni komgwaqo e-Enayimi na?” Athi, “Kakuzange kube lesifebe lapha.” **22** Ngakho wasebuyela kuJuda wayakuthi, “Kangimfumananga. Futhi amadoda lawo ahlala khona athi kakuzange kube lesifebe esasilhala lapho.” **23** UJuda wasesithi, “Myekele ahle akugcine khonokho alakho funa sicine sesiyinhlekisa. Phezu kwalokho mina bengimthumezele izinyane lembuzi, kodwa kawusamfumananga.” **24** Ngenam kwazinyanga ezintathu uJuda wathselwa ukuthi umalukazana wakhe uThamari wayesebile wasethatha isisu. UJuda

wathi, “Mkhupheni, atshiswe aze afe.” **25** Kwathi lapho ekhutshwa wathumela ilizwi kuyisezala wathi, “Ngoniwa yindoda engumnikazi walezizinto.” Wengeza ngokuthi, “Akubone ukuthi singaba ngesikabani isilengiso sophawu lesi lentambo kanye lodondolo lolu.” **26** UJuda wazazi izinto lezo wathi, “Ulungile kulami, ngoba kangisamphanga endodaneni yami uShela.” Kasaphindanga wembatha laye njalo. **27** Kwathi isikhathi sakhe sokubeletha sesifikile, wayelamaphahla angabafana esiswini. **28** Wathi khonapho ebeletha omunye wawo wakhupha isandla; umbelethisi wathatha intambo ebomvu wayibophela esihlakaleni sesandla salo wathi, “Leli yilo eliphume kuqala.” **29** Kodwa labuyisela isandla, umfowabo waphuma kuqala, wasesithi, “Le yiyo indlela ofohle ngayo!” Laseliphiwa ibizo elithi nguPherezi. **30** Ngakho umfowabo, owayelentambo esihlakaleni, waphuma wethiwa ibizo wathiwa nguZera.

39 UJosefa wathathwa wasiwa eGibhithe. Uphothifa, owayengomunye wezikhulu zikaFaro, eyindunankulu yabalindi, wamthenga kuma-Ishumayeli abayibo abamletha khona. **2** UThixo wayelaye uJosefa, waphumelela, wahlala endlini yenkosi yakhe umGibhithe. **3** Kwathi inkosi yakhe ikubona ukuthi uThixo wayelaye lokuthi uThixo wamphumelelisa kukho konke ayekwenza, **4** uJosefa wasethandeka kuye wasesiba yinceku yakhe. Uphothifa wasembeka ukuba ngumphathi womuzi wakhe, kwathi konke ayelakho wakubeka ezandleni zakhe. **5** Kusukela ngesikhathi embeka ukuba ngumphathi womuzi wakhe lakho konke okwakungokwakhe, uThixo wawubusisa umuzi womGibhithe ngenxa kaJosefa. Isibusiso sikaThixo saba phezu kwakho konke uPhothifa ayelakho, loba kusendlini loba kusensimini. **6** Ngakho watshiya konke okwakhe ezandleni zikaJosefa; kwathi ngoba uJosefa enguye ophetheyo wakhohlwa ngakho konke ngaphandle kokudla ayekudla. UJosefa lo wayemi kuhle, ebukeka, **7** kwasekusithi ngemva kwesikhathi inkosikazi yenkosi yakhe yambuka, yamfisa uJosefa yathi, “Woza engutsheni lami!” **8** Kodwa wala. Wamtshelela wathi, “Njengoba kuyimi engiphetheyo, inkosi yami kayizihluphi ngalutho emzini wayo; yonke into elayo iyibeke ezandleni zami. **9** Kakho omkhulu kulami kulumuzi. Inkosi yami kayingalisi lutho ngaphandle kwakho, ngoba wena ungumkayo. Pho ngingayenza kanjani into embi kanje, ngenze isono kuNkulunkulu na?” **10** Kwathi loba emphikelela uJosefa insuku ngensuku, wala ukulala laye wala lokuthi ahlale laye. **11** Ngolunye usuku wangena endlini ukuqhuba umsebenzi wakhe, izisebenzi zasendlini zingekho phakathi endlini. **12** UmkaPhothifa wambamba ngesigqoko wathi, “Woza engutsheni ulale lami!” Kodwa waphunyuka wabaleka waphuma endlini, isigqoko sakhe sasala esandleni sowesifazane. **13** Kwathi ebona ukuthi utshiye isigqoko sakhe esandleni sakhe njalo wabaleka endlini, **14** owesifazane wamemeza izisebenzi zendlini wathi kuzo, “Khangalani, umHebheru lo walethwa lapha ukuzadlala ngathi! Ungene lapha efuna ukulala lami, kodwa ngahlaba umkhosi. **15** Uthe esizwa ngihlaba umkhosi ngidinga uncedo, wasetshiya isigqoko sakhe eceleni kwami wabaleka waphuma endlini.” **16** Wasigcina isigqoko eceleni kwakhe inkosi kaJosefa yaze yabuya ngekhyaka. **17** Waseyitshela indaba le wathi: “Isigqili somHebheru lesiyana owasilethela sona sifikile kimi ukuzadlala ngami. **18** Kodwa ngonele ukuthi ngihlabe umkhosi ngidinga uncedo, satshiya isigqoko saso eceleni kwami sabaleka

saphuma endlini.” **19** Kwathi inkosi yakhe isizwile indaba eyayitshelwa ngumfazi esithi, “Singenze njalo isigqili sakho,” yathukuthela kakhulu. **20** Inkosi yakhe uJosefa yamthatha yamphosela entolongweni, indawo lapho okwakuvalelwa khona izibotshwa zenkosi. Kodwa kwathi uJosefa ekhonapho entolongweni, **21** uThixo waba laye; wamenzela umusa wamenza wathandeka emehlweni omphathijele. **22** Ngakho-ke umphathijele wamkhweza wamenza umphathi wabo bonke ababebotshiwe besentolongweni, njalo kwaba nguye okhangele konke okwakusenziwa khona. **23** Umphathijele kazange azihluphe loba ngani eyayiphethwe nguJosefa ngoba uThixo wayelaye uJosefa, wamupha impumelelo kukho konke ayekwenza.

40 Emva kwesikhathi esithile umphathinkezo lomphhekizinkwa wenkosi yaseGibhithe bayikhuba inkosi yabo, inkosi yaseGibhithe. **2** UFaro wayezizondele izikhulu zakhe zombili, umphathinkezo omkhulu lomphhekizinkwa omkhulu, **3** wabaphosela entolongweni eyayisendlini kandunankulu wabalindi, lapho uJosefa ayevallelwe khona. **4** Indunankulu yabalindi yabanikela kuJosefa, wabalawula. Kwathi sebhale entolongweni okwesikhathi esithile, **5** ngulowo wamadoda la amabili, umphathinkezo lomphhekizinkwa, abenkosi yaseGibhithe, ababevallelwe baphupha amaphupho ngabusuku bunye, kwathi yilelo iphupho laba lengcazelo yalo. **6** Kwathi uJosefa efika kubo kusisa ekuseni, wabona bebunile. **7** Wasezibuzisa izikhulu zikaFaro ezazisentolongweni kanye laye endlini yenkosi yakhe wathi, “Kungani ubuso benu bubunile kanje lamuhla na?” **8** Baphendula bathi, “Sobabili siphuphile, kodwa kakho ongasichasisela amaphupho ethu.” Ngakho uJosefa wasesithi kubo, “Izingcazelo kakusizikaNkulunkulu na? Ngitshelani amaphupho enu.” **9** Umphathinkezo omkhulu wamtshelela uJosefa ngephupho lakhe. Wathi kuye, “Ephutsheni lami ngibone isihlahla sevini siphambi kwami, **10** lelovini lilengatsha ezintathu. Lonela ukuhluma lahle laqhakaza, amaxha alo ahle avuthwa aba yizithelo ezivuthiweyo. **11** Inkezo kaFaro ibisesandleni sami, ngawathatha amagrebisi ngawakhabela enkezweni kaFaro ngamqhabela esandleni sakhe.” **12** UJosefa wathi kuye, “Nanku elikutshoyo. Amagatsha amathathu yizinsuku ezintathu. **13** Phakathi kwensuku ezintathu uFaro uzaphakamisa ikhanda lakho akubisele esikhundleni sakho, njalo uzayibeka inkezo kaFaro esandleni sakhe njengalokhu owawuvele ukwenza usesengumphathinkezo yakhe. **14** Kodwa nxa konke sekulungile ungikhumbule, ungenzele umusa; ungikhulumele kuFaro ukuze ngiphume kule intolongo. **15** Ngoba ngasuswa ngamandla elizweni lamaHebheru, futhi lapha kangenzanga lutho olufanele ukuthi ngifakwe entolongweni.” **16** Kwathi umphhekizinkwa omkhulu ebona ukuthi uJosefa wayenike ingcazelo emnandi, wathi kuJosefa, “Lami njalo ngiphuphile: Phezu kwekhanda lami bekulezitsha zesinkwa ezintathu. **17** Esitsheni esiphhezulu bekulemihlobo yonke yalokho okubhekelwe uFaro, kodwa izinyoni zazilokhu zisidlala esitsheni sisekhanda lami.” **18** UJosefa wathi, “Nanku elikutshoyo. Izitsha ezintathu zinsuku ezintathu. **19** Phakathi kwensuku ezintathu uFaro uzaliphakamisa ikhanda lakho akulengise esihlahleni. Izinyoni zizakudla inyama yakho.” **20** Ilanga lesithathu laliyisikhumbuzo sokuzalwa kukaFaro, ngakho wenzela izikhulu zakhe idili.

Waphakamisa amakhanda amabili, elomphathinkezo omkhulu lelomphakizinkwa omkhulu phambi kwezikhulu zakhe: **21** Wabuyisela umphathinkezo esikhundleni sakhe, waphinda njalo ukubeka inkezo esandleni sikaFaro, **22** kodwa walengisa umphekizinkwa omkhulu, kwaba njengoba uJosefa wayetshilo kubo ekubachasiseleni kwakhe. **23** Kodwa umphathinkezo omkhulu kasamkhumbulanga uJosefa; wakhohlwa ngaye.

41 Kwathi sekwedule iminyaka emibili egcweleyo uFaro waba lephupho: Wazibona emi okhunjini lukaNayili, **2** kwasekuqhamuka emfuleni lowo amankomokazi ayisikhombisa, egcwele njalo enonile, esidla phakathi kwemihlanga. **3** Ngemva kwawo kwathutsha amanye ayisikhombisa, amabi njalo acakileyo, aphuma kuNayili afika ema eceleni kwalawo ayesokhunjini lomfula. **4** Amankomokazi ayemabi, ecakile aginya lawo ayisikhombisa ayegcwele, enonile. UFaro wasephaphama. **5** Wabuye walala waphupha okwesibili: Izikhwebu zamabele eziyisikhombisa, zigcwele zizinhle, zazikhula ehlangeni linye. **6** Ngemva kwazo kwakhula ezinye izikhwebu eziyisikhombisa, zicakile njalo zihangulwe ludwangu. **7** Izikhwebu lezo ezazicakile zaginya lezo eziyisikhombisa ezaziphilile, zigcwele. UFaro wasephaphama, kwakuliphupho nje. **8** Ekuseni umoya wakhe wawukhathazekile, ngakho wasesithi kakubizwe bonke abemilingo lezazi zaseGibhithe. UFaro wabatshela amaphupho akhe, kodwa akakho loyedwa owakwaziyo ukuwachasisa. **9** Umphathinkezo omkhulu wathi kuFaro, “Lamuhla sengikhumbula amaphutha ami. **10** UFaro wake wazondela izinceku zakhe, ngivalela mina kanye lomphakizinkwa omkhulu endlini yendunankulu yabalindi. **11** Ngamunye wethu waba lephupho ngobusuku bunye, iphupho linye ngalinye lalilengcazelo yalo lodwa. **12** Kwakulejaha lomHebheru khonapho, lathi liyinceku yendunankulu yabalindi. Salitshela amaphupho ethu, lasichasisela wona, lisipha ngulowo ingcazelo yephupho lakhe. **13** Izinto zaba njengokusichazela kwakhe: ngabuyiselwa esikhundleni sami, lomkhulu wami walengiswa.” **14** Ngakho uFaro wabiza uJosefa, waletshwa masinyane esuka entolongweni. Kwathi esephucile indevu, wantshinta izigqoko weza phambi kukaFaro. **15** UFaro wathi kuJosefa, “Ngiphuphe iphupho, kodwa kakho ongangichasisela lona. Kodwa ngizwa kuthiwa wena, nxa ungalizwa iphupho uyalichasisa.” **16** UJosefa wamphendula uFaro wathi, “Ngeke ayikwenze, kodwa uNkulunkulu uzamnika uFaro impendulo ngidingayo.” **17** UFaro wasesithi kuJosefa, “Ephutsheni lami bengimi okhunjini lukaNayili, **18** ngasengibona kuqhamuka amankomokazi ayisikhombisa, anonileyo, egcwele, esidla phakathi kwemihlanga. **19** Ngemva kwawo kwaqhamuka amanye amankomokazi ayisikhombisa, etshwabhene, emabi kakhulu futhi ecakile. Ngangingakaze ngibone amankomokazi amabi kangako kulonke elaseGibhithe. **20** Lawo mankomokazi acakileyo, amabi adla lawana amankomokazi ayisikhombisa ayenonile ayiwo aqhamuka kuqala. **21** Kodwa loba esewadlile lawo kakho owayengatsho ukuthi atheni; ayelokhu emabi njengakuqala. Ngasengiphaphama. **22** Ephutsheni lami ngibone njalo izikhwebu zamabele eziyisikhombisa, zigcwele, njalo zizinhle zikhula ehlangeni linye. **23** Ngemva kwazo, kwahluma ezinye izikhwebu eziyisikhombisa, zibunile njalo zicakile, zihangulwe ludwangu. **24** Lezozikhwebu zamabele ezicakileyo zaginya leziyana eziyisikhombisa ezinhle. Ngibatshelile abamasalamusi ngalokhu, kodwa

kakho okwazileyo ukungichasisela.” **25** UJosefa wasesithi kuFaro, “Amaphupho kaFaro ayilutho linye. UNkulunkulu usevezile kuFaro lokho asezakwenza. **26** Amankomokazi ayisikhombisa amahle ayiminyaka eyisikhombisa, njalo lezikhwebu zamabele ezinhle ziyiminyaka eyisikhombisa; kuliphupho linye. **27** Amankomokazi ayisikhombisa eza muva yiminyaka eyisikhombisa, kanjalo lezikhwebu eziyisikhombisa ezazingelamsebenzi, zitshaywe ludwangu: Yiminyaka eyisikhombisa yendla. **28** Kunjengokuba ngitshilo kuFaro. UNkulunkulu usevezile kuFaro lokho azakwenza. **29** Sekusiza iminyaka eyisikhombisa eyenala enkulu kulonke elaseGibhithe, **30** kodwa izalandelwa yiminyaka eyisikhombisa yendla. Kuzakuthi yonke inala enkulu eGibhithe ikhohlakale, ngoba indla izalibhubhisa ilizwe. **31** Inala elizweni izabe ingasakhunjulwa, ngoba indlala eyilandelayo izabe inkulu kakhulu. **32** Isizatho sokuthi iphupho liphiwe uFaro ngezindlela ezimbili yikuthi, indaba isimiswe yaqiniswa nguNkulunkulu, njalo uNkulunkulu uzakukwenza masinyane. **33** Khathezi-ke uFaro kadinge indoda elombono njalo ehlakaniphileyo ayibeke phezu kwelizwe laseGibhithe. **34** UFaro abesekeletha abalisa elizweni abazathatha ingxenye eyodwa kwezinhlanu yesivuno saseGibhithe ngeminyaka yenala eyisikhombisa. **35** Kumele baqoqe konke ukudla ngale iminyaka emihle ezayo bakugcine ukudla ngaphansi kukaFaro, kugcinwe emadolobheni ukuthi kube yikudla. **36** Ukudla lokhu kakugcinelwe ilizwe kulondolozelwe ukusetshenziswa ngeminyaka eyisikhombisa yendla ezafika eGibhithe, ukwenzela ukuthi ilizwe lingabhujiswa yindla.” **37** Icebo leli lakhanya lilihle kuFaro lakuzo zonke izikhulu zakhe. **38** UFaro wasezibuza wathi, “Kambe singamfumana yini omunye onjengendoda le, umuntu olomoya kaNkulunkulu?” **39** UFaro wasesithi kuJosefa, “Njengoba uNkulunkulu esekwazisile konke lokhu, kakho olombono onje lohlakaniphileyo njengawe. **40** Wena-ke usuzaphatha isigodlo sami, kuthi bonke abantu bami bazalalela iziqondiso zakho. Mina ngizakuba mkhulu kulawe ngesikhundla sesihlalo sobukhosi sami kuphela.” **41** Ngakho uFaro wasesithi kuJosefa, “Sengikubeka ukuthi wena uliphathe lonke ilizwe laseGibhithe.” **42** UFaro waseathatha indandatho yophawu lwakhe eyayisemunweni wakhe wayifaka emunweni kaJosefa. Wangqokisa izematho zelineni elihle wangqizisa iketane yegolide entanyeni. **43** Kwathiwa usezahamba ngenqola yempi njengoba esenguye umseki wakhe oseduze, kwathi edlula abantu bamemeza bathi, “Vulani indlela!” Wambeka-ke ukuthi apathe ilizwe lonke laseGibhithe. **44** UFaro wasesithi kuJosefa, “Mina nginguFaro, kodwa ngaphandle kwelizwi lakho kakho ozasiphakamisa isandla loba unyawo kulonke elaseGibhithe.” **45** UFaro wetha uJosefa ibizo elithi Zafenathi-Phaneyana, wasemupha u-Asenathi indodakazi kaPhothifera, umphristi wase-Oni ukuba abe ngumkakhe. UJosefa walibhoda lonke ilizwe laseGibhithe. **46** UJosefa wayeleminyaka engamatshumi amathathu yokuzalwa eqalisa ukusebenzela uFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe. UJosefa wasuka phambi kukaFaro walibhoda lonke ilizwe laseGibhithe. **47** Ngeminyaka eyisikhombisa yenala umhlaba wathela ukudla okunengi kakhulu. **48** UJosefa wakuqoqa konke ukudla okwawunwa phakathi kwaleyominyaka eyisikhombisa yenala eGibhithe wakulondoloza emadolobheni. Kulelo lalolodolobho wabeka ukudla okwakulinywa emasimini akuleyondawo. **49** UJosefa waqoqa izinqwaba lezinqwaba zamabele, kwaba njengetshebetshibe lolwandle. Kwaba kunengi waze wayekela

ukukubhala phansi ngoba kwasekungaphezu kokulinganiswa. **50** Ingakafiki iminyaka yendlala, u-Asenathi, indodakazi kaPhothifera, umphristi ka-Oni wazalela uJosefa amadodana amabili. **51** UJosefa wetha izibulo lakhe wathi nguManase, esithi, “Kungenxa yokuthi uNkulunkulu wenzile ukuthi ngilukhohlwe lonke uhlu pho lwami kanye layo yonke indlu kababa.” **52** Indodana yesibili wayibiza ngokuthi ngu-Efrayimi, wathi, “Kungenxa yokuthi uNkulunkulu ungenze ngaba lezithelo elizweni lokuhlupheka kwami.” **53** Iminyaka yenala eyisikhombisa eGibhithe yaphela, **54** kwaqalisa iminyaka yendlala eyisikhombisa, njengoba uJosefa wayetshilo. Indlala yaba khona kuwo wonke amanye amazwe, kodwa kulolonke ilizwe laseGibhithe ukudla kwakukhona. **55** Kwathi lapho iGibhithe lonke selingenelwa yindlala abantu bazibika kuFaro befuna ukudla. Ngakho uFaro wasebatshela bonke abaseGibhithe wathi, “Yanini kuJosefa lenze lokho alitshela khona.” **56** Kwathi indala isimemetheke kulolonke ilizwe uJosefa wavula iziphala wawathengisela amaGibhithe ukudla ngoba indlala yayisinkulu kakhulu kulolonke ilizwe laseGibhithe. **57** Kwathi wonke amanye amazwe eza eGibhithe ezothenga amabele kuJosefa, ngoba indlala yayibhahile kuwo wonke umhlaba.

42 Kwathi uJakhobe esezwile ukuthi amabele ayekhona eGibhithe wathi emadodaneni akhe, “Kungani likhangelana nje?” **2** Waqhubeka wathi, “Sengizwile ukuthi amabele akhona eGibhithe. Yehlani liye khona liyesithengela wona ukuze siphile singafi.” **3** Ngakho abanewabo bakaJosefa behla bayathenga amabele eGibhithe. **4** Kodwa uJakhobe kamthumanga labanye uBhenjamini, umnawakhe kaJosefa ngoba wesaba ukuthi angaqabuka ewelwa yingozi. **5** Kungakho amadodana ka-Israyeli ayelulwendwe lunye lalabo ababesiyathenga amabele njengoba indlala yayikhona laselizweni leKhenani. **6** Ngalesikhathi uJosefa wayengumbusi welizwe, enguye othengisela abantu bonke amabele. Ngakho abafowabo bakaJosefa bathi befika khona bamkhothamela, bathi mbo ngobuso phansi. **7** UJosefa wonela ukubabona abafowabo, wabazi, kodwa wazitshaya owezizweni, wabakhulumisa ngokubakhahlameza. Wababuza wathi, “Livela ngaphi?” Baphendula bathi, “Sivela elizweni laseKhenani ukuzathenga ukudla.” **8** Lanxa uJosefa wabazi abafowabo, bona kabamazanga. **9** Ngakho wasekhumbula amaphupho akhe ngabo wasesithi kubo, “Lizinhlo! Lilande ukuzabona lapho ilizwe lethu elingavikelekanga khona.” **10** Baphendula bathi, “Hatshi, nkosi yethu. Izinceku zakho zize ukuzothenga ukudla. **11** Singamadodana endoda yinye sonke. Izinceku zakho zingabantu abaqotho, kasisizo zinhlo!.” **12** Wathi kubo, “Hatshi Lize ukuzabona lapho ilizwe lethu elingavikelekanga khona.” **13** Kodwa baphendula bathi, “Izinceku zakho zaziyezilamani ezilithumi lambili, engamadodana endoda yinye, ehlala elizweni laseKhenani. Icinathunjana lisele lobaba, ikanti eyodwa kayisekho.” **14** UJosefa wathi kubo, “Kunjengoba ngilithshelile: Lizinhlo! **15** Manje-ke lizahlolwa kanje: Ngifunga uFaro, kaliyikusuka lapha ngaphandle kokuthi umfowenu omncinyane afike lapha. **16** Thumani omunye wenu amlande umfowenu; lonke abanye lizagcinwa entolongweni, ukuze amazwi enu ahlohiswe ukuthi lingabe likhuluma iqiniso yini. Nxa kungenjalo, ngifunga uFaro, lizinhlo! **17** Wasebafaka entolongweni bonke okwensuku ezintathu. **18** Ngosuku lwesithathu uJosefa wathi kubo, “Yenzani lokhu ukuze lisile, ngoba mina ngesaba uNkulunkulu: **19** Nxa lingabantu

abaqotho, omunye wenu kahlale lapha entolongweni, kuthi lina abanye libuyele lihambisele izimuli zenu amabele esezibulawa yindlala. **20** Kodwa limlethe lapha kimi umnawenu omncane ukuze amazwi enu aqiniseke, njalo ukuze lingafi.” Bakwenza lokho. **21** Basebekhulumisana bathi, “Ngempela sijezielwa umfowethu. Sambona ukuthi wayekhathazeke kangakanani esincenga, ezincengela impilo yakhe, kodwa kasaze samlalela; kungakho sisehlelwa luhlupho lolu.” **22** URubheni waphendula wathi, “Kodwa kangilithshelanga yini ukuthi lingenzi isono emfaneni lina laqinisa amakhanda? Nanku-ke sesimele sifakaze ngegazi lakhe.” **23** Babengakananzeleli ukuthi uJosefa wayeluzwa ulimi lwabo njengoba wayelomtolikelayo. **24** Wabafulathela wachiphiza izinyembezi, kodwa waphenduka wakhuluma labo. Wathi kuthathwe uSimiyoni kubo owahle wabotshwa phambi kwabo. **25** UJosefa waselaya ukuthi kugcwaliswe amabele emasakeni abo, kubuyiselwe imali yalowo lawo ifakwe phakathi kwesaka lakhe njalo baphiwe umphako wendlela. Sebekwenzelwe konke lokho, **26** betshata amasaka abo kubobabhemi bahamba. **27** Endaweni lapho abema khona ngalobubusuku omunye wabo wavula isaka lakhe ukuthathela ubabhemi wakhe ukudla, wasebona imali yakhe yesiliva emlonyeni wesaka. **28** Wathi kubafowabo, “Isiliva sami sibuyiselwe. Nansi lapha phakathi kwesaka lami.” Zatshona inhlizyo zabo bakhangelana bethuthumela bathi, “Kuyini kambe lokhu uNkulunkulu asekwenzile kithi?” **29** Bathi sebefike kuyise uJakhobe elizweni laseKhenani bamtshela konke lokho okwakwenzakele kubo. Bathi, **30** “Indoda eyinkosi yelizwe isikhulumise ngokusihalada, yasiphatha kwangathi sizinhlo elizweni. **31** Kodwa sathi kuyo, ‘Singamadoda aqotho; kasisizinhloli thina. **32** Sasiyizelamani ezilithumi lambili, amadodana endoda yinye. Omunye sowedlula, kuthi icinathunjana lisele lobaba eKhenani.’ **33** Ngakho umuntu oyinkosi yalolizwe wasesithi kithi, ‘Nanku okuzangenza ngazi ukuthi lingabantu abaqotho: Tshiyani omunye umfowenu lapha kimi, lithathe ukudla kwezimuli zenu ezilambayo lihambe. **34** Kodwa umnawenu limlethe kimi khona ngizakwazi ukuthi kalisizinhloli, kodwa lingabantu abaqotho. Lapho-ke ngizambuyisela kini umfowenu, lani selingazithengisela phakathi kwelizwe.’” **35** Bathi sebethulula amasaka abo, babona umxhaka wesiliva waleyo lalayo ndoda esakeni layo! Kwathi bona ngokwabo kanye loyise bebona imixhaka yemali besaba. **36** Uyise uJakhobe wathi kubo, “Selingephuce abantwabami. UJosefa kasekho, loSimiyoni kasekho; manje selifuna ukuthatha uBhenjamini. Yonke into iyangihlamukela!” **37** URubheni wasesithi kuyise, “Ungawabulala womabili amadodana ami nxa ngingangambuyisi kuwe. Mnikele ezandleni zami, mina ngizambuyisa.” **38** Kodwa uJakhobe wathi, “Indodana yami kaliyikuhamba lani khonale; umnawabo sewafa, usenguye yedwa oseleyo. Nxa evellelwa ngokubi kululuhambo lwenu lizakwenza ukuthi ikhanda lami eliyimpunga liye engcwabeni lidabukile.” (Sheel h7585)

43 Indlala yayilokhu inkulu kakhulu elizweni. **2** Ngakho kwathi sebekuqedile konke ukudla ababekuthenge eGibhithe, uyise wathi kubo, “Buyelani liyesithengela njalo okunye ukudla okunenganyana.” **3** Kodwa uJuda wathi kubo, “Indoda leyo yasiqonqosela yathi, ‘Ngeke liphinde libubone ubuso bami ngaphandle kokuba lilomnawenu.’ **4** Nxa uzamvumela umnawethu ukuthi sihambe luye, sizahamba siyekuthengela ukudla. **5** Kodwa nxa ungezukuvuma, ngeke sibuyele, ngoba phela indoda leyo yathi kithi, ‘Ngeke liphinde

libubone ubuso bami nxa umnawenu lingelaye.” 6 U-Israyeli wabuza wathi, “Likwenzeleni lina ukungehlisela uhlupho lolu ngokuyitshela indoda leyo ukuthi lilomnawenu na?” 7 Baphendula bathi, “Leyondoda isibuzisisile ngathi langendlu yangakithi yathi, ‘Uyihlo usaphila na? Lilaye na omunye umfowenu?’ Thina besiphendula imibuzo yayo kuphela. Sasingazi kanjani ukuthi yayizakuthi, ‘Mletheni umnawenu lapha?’” 8 UJuda wasesithi ku-Israyeli uyise, “Wothi umfana ahambe lami, sizahle sisuke nje masinyane, ukwenzela ukuthi thina lawe kanye labantwabethu siphile, singafi. 9 Mina ngokwami ngizazinikela ngokuphepha kwakhe; umlandu wonke ngaye awubekwe phezu kwami. Nxa ngingambuyisi kuwe ngimbeke phambi kwakho, ngizakuba lecala kuwe impilo yami yonke. 10 Njengoba kunjengaye nje, aluba asizilingananga ngabe sesihambe saphenduka kwaze kwaba kabili.” 11 Ngakho uyise u-Israyeli wasesithi kubo, “Nxa kumele kube njalo, yenzi lokhu: Fakani emasakeni enu ezinye izinto ezinhle kakhulu eziphuma kulilelizwe lihambe lazo kulowomuntu zibe yisipho, amagcobo okuthambisa loluju, iziyoliso ezithile lemure, izilimo ezicacadwayo zephistakhiyo le-alimondi. 12 Thathani isiliva esiphindwe kabili, ngoba kufanele libuyisele lesosiliva esasibuyiselwe emasakeni enu. Mhlawumbe kwaba yisiphoso. 13 Mthatheni umnawenu laye libuyele kuleyondoda ngokuphangisa. 14 Sengathi uNkulunkulu uSomandla angalenzela umusa kuleyondoda ukuze ivumele omunye umfowenu kanye loBhenjamini baphenduke lani. Mina ngokwami ngithi, kambe okungayisikufa yikuphi!” 15 Ngakho amadoda athatha izipho lesiliva esiphindwe kabili kanye loBhenjamini. Batsitsha baya eGibhithe bayazibika kuJosefa. 16 Kwathi uJosefa ebona uBhenjamini ekanye labo, wathi encekwini yendlu yakhe, “Hamba lamadoda la endlini yami, uwahlabele isifuyo ulungise ukudla; bazakudla lami emini.” 17 Indoda yenza njengokutshelwa kwayo ngJosefa, yawathatha amadoda yahamba lawo endlini kaJosefa. 18 Amadoda ethuka ebona elethwa endlini kaJosefa. Bacabanga ukuthi, “Silethwe lapha ngenxa yesiliva esabuyiselwa emasakeni ethu ekufikeni kwethu kwakuqala. Ufuna ukusihlasela asehlule, abesesityumba sibe yizigqili athathe obabhemi bethu.” 19 Ngakho baya encekwini kaJosefa bayakhuluma laye entubeni eya endlini. 20 Bathi, “Ake usizwe, nkosi yethu: Safika lapha kuqala sizothenga ukudla. 21 Kodwa lapho esaphumula khona ebusuku savula amasaka ethu, kwaba ngulowo wethu wafumana isiliva sakhe, siphelele ubunzima baso, sisemlonyeni wesaka lakhe. Ngakho size laso. 22 Size lesinye isiliva phezu kwaleso ukuthi sithenge ukudla. Kasikwazi ukuthi ngubani owabuyisela isiliva emasakeni ethu.” 23 Wathi, “Kulungile. Lingesabi. UNkulunkulu wenu, uNkulunkulu kayihlo, uliphile inotho emasakeni enu; mina ngasiphiwa isiliva senu.” Emva kwalokho wasetha uSimiyoni kubo. 24 Incekulo yasiwangenisa amadoda endlini kaJosefa, yawapha amanzi okugeza inyawo zawo, yaletha lotshani babobabhemi bawo. 25 Balungisa izipho zabo balindela ukufika kuJosefa emini ngoba basebezile ukuthi babezakudla khonapho. 26 UJosefa esefikile bethula izipho ababengene lazo endlini, njalo bakhothama kuye phansi. 27 Wababuzisa ukuphila, wasesithi, “Linjani ixhegu elinguyihlo elangitshela ngalo? Lilokhu lisaphila na?” 28 Baphendula bathi, “Incekulo yakho, ubaba, ulokhu esaphila njalo usaqinile.” Bakhothama njalo betshengisa inhlonipho. 29 Wathi elokhu ebakhangela wabona umnawakhe uBhenjamini, umntakanina

sibili, wabuza wathi, “Nguye lo umnawenu olicinathunjana na, lowo elangitshela ngaye?” Wasesithi kuye, “UNkulunkulu kabe lomusa kuwe, ndodana yami.” 30 Wathinteka kakhulu ngokubona umnawakhe, uJosefa waphangisa waphuma wayafuna indawo yokukhala. Waya ekamelweni lakhe wayakhalela khona. 31 Wathi esezile amehlo waphuma, wazibamba, wasesithi, “Phakululani ukudla.” 32 Yena bamupha yedwa, abafowabo labo bodwa, kwathi lamaGibhithe ayesidla laye lawo aba wodwa, ngoba amaGibhithe ayengeke adla lamaHebheru, ngoba lokho kwakunengeka kumaGibhithe. 33 Amadoda la ayezile ngobudala bawo kuqala ngezibulo kusiyacina ngecinathunjana; bakhangelana bemeenge. 34 Kwakusithi nxa bephakelwa kusuka etafuleni likaJosefa, isabelo sikaBhenjamini sasedluliswa kahlanu kwesabanye. Ngakho bazitika banatha laye bekhululekile.

44 UJosefa waselaya inceku yendlu yakhe wathi: “Gcwalisa silikici amasaka amadoda la ngokudla konke abangakuthwala, ubusubuyisela isiliva salowo lalowo emlonyeni wesaka lakhe. 2 Ubusufaka inkomitsho yami, leyana eyesiliva, emlonyeni wesaka lalowo omncinyane wabo ndawonye lesiliva sakhe samabele.” Yenza njengalokho uJosefa ayekutshilo. 3 Kwathi emadabukakusa bawavalelisa amadoda asuka kanye labobabhemi bawo. 4 Ayengakahambi okuya ngaphi ukusuka edolobheni lapho uJosefa athi encekwini yakhe, “Axhume ngokuphangisa amadoda lawana, ungawafica uthi kuwo, ‘Lenzeleni ukuphindisela okuhle ngokubi na?’ 5 Le kakusinkomitsho enatha ngenkosi yami njalo ehlahlula ngayo na? Le yinto embi kakhulu eseliyenzile!” 6 Wathi esebaficile wawatsho amazwi la kubo. 7 Kodwa bathi kuye, “Kungani inkosi yethu isitsho izinto ezinjalo? Kakube kude lezincekulo zakho ukwenza ulutho olunjalo!” 8 Phela siyibuyisile kuwe isiliva sisuka laso elizweni laseKhenani, lesiyana esasifumana phakathi emlonyeni yamasaka ethu. Pho besingakwenza njani ukweba isiliva loba igolide endlini yenkosi yakho na? 9 Nxa omunye wezincekulo zakho efunyanwa elayo, uzabalawa; kuthi thina abanye sibe yizigqili zenkosi yethu.” 10 Wathi, “Kulungile, kakube njengokutsho kwenu. Lowo ozafunyanwa elayo uzakuba yisigqili sami, lina abanye lonke kalizukuba lecala.” 11 Ngulowo lalowo wabo wethula isaka lakhe walivula. 12 Incekulo yasihamba ihlola, yaqala ngomdala yayacina ngomncinyane. Inkomitsho yayafunyanwa esakeni likaBhenjamini. 13 Bekubona lokhu badabula izigqoko zabo. Emva kwalokho bonke betshatisa obabhemi babo amasaka baphindela edolobheni. 14 UJosefa wayelokhu esendlini lapho uJuda labafowabo abafika khona bazilahla phansi phambi kwakhe. 15 UJosefa wathi kubo, “Kuyini lokhu elikwenzileyo? Kalazi na ukuthi umuntu onjengami ubona izinto ngokuhlahlala?” 16 UJuda waphendula wathi, “Kambe singabe sisathini? Singakuveza kanjani ukuba msulwa kwethu? UNkulunkulu usembule icala lezincekulo zakho. Manje sesiyizichaka zenkosi yami, thina ngokwethu lalowo ofunyenwe elayo inkomitsho.” 17 Kodwa uJosefa wathi. “Kakube kude lami ukwenza into enjalo! Yileyo indoda kuphela efunyanwe ilayo inkomitsho ezakuba yisichaka sami. Abanye lonke buyelani kuyihlo ngokuthula.” 18 UJuda wasesondela kuye wathi, “Oh, nkosi yami, akuvumele inceku yakho itsho ilizwi enkosini yami. Ungayizondeli inceku yakho, loba wena ulingana loFaro ngokwakhe. 19 Inkosi yami yabuza izincekulo zayo yathi, ‘Lilaye na uyihlo kumbe umfowenu?’”

20 Thina saphendula sathi, 'Silaye ubaba oseluphele, njalo ikhona indodana ayizala eseluphele. Umnewabo wafa, njalo yiyo yodwa eseleyo emadodaneni kanina, ngakho uyise uyayithanda.' 21 Wena wasusithi ezincekwini zakho, 'Mletheni kimi ukuze ngimbone mina ngokwami.' 22 Thina sathi enkosini yami, 'Umfana ngeke asuka kuyise; nxa esuka kuye, uyise uzakufa.' 23 Kodwa zincedu zakho wazitshele wathi, 'Ngaphandle kokuba umnawenu omncane lize laye, ngeke liphinde libubone njalo ubuso bami.' 24 Sathi ukubuyela incekwini yakho ubaba, samtshela lokho okwakutshiwo yinkosi yami. 25 Ubaba wasesithi, 'Buyelani liyethenga okunye njalo ukudla.' 26 Kodwa thina sathi, 'Ngeke siye khona. Kuphela nxa umnawethu omncane elathi, singahamba. Ngeke sibubone ubuso bendoda leyo ngaphandle kokuba umnawethu omncane silaye.' 27 Incedu yakho ubaba yathi kithi, 'Liyakwazi ukuthi umkami wangizalela amadodana amabili. 28 Omunye wabo wasuka kimi, ngathi, "Ngempela udlithizwe waba yizicucu." Ngakho kangisaphindanga ngambona kusukela khonapho. 29 Manje lingangithathela lalo futshi abesesehlelwa ngokubi, lizakwehlisela ikhanda lami eliyimpunga engcwabeni ngidabukile kakhulu.' (Sheol h7585) 30 Ngakho-ke, nxa umfana singelaye lapho sengibuyela incekwini yakho ubaba, yena ompilo yakhe isondelelene kakhulu leyomfana lo, 31 uzakuthi angabona umfana engekho, ahle afe. Thina zincedu zakho sizakusa ikhanda likababa eliyimpunga engcwabeni lihlukelwe. (Sheol h7585) 32 Incedu yakho yanikela ukuphila kwayo ngokuphepha komfana kubaba. Ngathi, 'Nxa ngingambuyisi kuwe, ngizawuthwala lowomlandu kwathi, baba, impilo yami yonke!' 33 Ngakho-ke ngiyacela ukuthi uvumele incedu yakho isale lapha njengesichaka senkosi yami esikhundleni somfana, yena umfana akhululwe ahambe labanewabo. 34 Ngingabuyela ngithini kubaba umfana ngingelaye? Hatshi! Ungangenzi ngibone usizi olungamehlela ubaba."

45 UJosefa wehluleka ukuzibamba phambi kwazo zonke zincedu zakhe, wasememeza wathi, "Sukani lonke lapha kimi!" Ngakho kakho owayekhona loJosefa lapho eziveza kubafowabo. 2 Wakhala kakhulu ephumisela amaGibhithe amuzwa, labendlu kaFaro bezwa ngalokho. 3 UJosefa wathi kubafowabo, "Mina nginguJosefa! Kambe ubaba usaphila na?" Kodwa abafowabo behluleka ukumphendula ngoba besaba kakhulu bephambi kwakhe. 4 UJosefa wasesithi kubafowabo, "Sondelani kimi." Bathi sebekwenzile lokho wathi, "Ngingumfowenu uJosefa, yena lowo elamthengisela eGibhithe! 5 Kodwa manje lingakhathazeki njalo lingaze lazisola ngenxa yokungithengisa lapha, ngoba kwakuyikusiza imiphfumulo ukuba uNkulunkulu angithume phambi kwenu. 6 Sekube yiminyaka emibili manje indlala ikhona elizweni, njalo okweminyaka emihlanu ezayo kakuyikulinywa loba ukuvuna. 7 Kodwa uNkulunkulu wangithuma phambi kwenu ukuba alilondolozele insalela emhlabeni njalo aphephise impilo zenu ngokukhulula okukhulu. 8 Ngakho-ke, kwakungayisini elangithuma lapha, kodwa nguNkulunkulu. Wangenza ngaba ngubaba kuFaro, lenkosi yomuzi wakhe wonke kanye lombusi weGibhithe lonke. 9 Manje, phangisani liye kubaba lithi kuye, 'Nanku indodana yakho uJosefa akutshoyo: UNkulunkulu usengenze ngaba yinkosi yalo lonke elaseGibhithe. Yehla uze kimi; ungaphuzi. 10 Uzahlala esigidini saseGosheni ube seduze lami, wena labantwabakho, labazukulu bakho; lemihlambi yakho yezimvu leyenkomo lakho konke olakho. 11

Ngizakunakekela ukhonapho ngoba kuseza eminye iminyaka emihlanu yendlala. Kungenjalo wena lomuzi wakho, labo bonke abangabakho lizahawukelwa.' 12 Liyazibonela ngokwenu, njengoba lomnawami uBhenjamini ebona, ukuthi yimi mina ngeqiniso engikhuluma lani. 13 Limtshele ubaba ngalo lonke udumo engiluphiwayo eGibhithe langakho konke elikubonileyo. Ubaba limlethe ngokuphangisa lapha." 14 Wasegona umnawakhe uBhenjamini, wakhala, loBhenjamini wamanga ekhala. 15 Njalo wabanga bonke abafowabo ekhala kulowo lalowo. Ngemva kwalokho abafowabo baxoxa laye. 16 Kwathi ukuba izindaba zifike esigodlweni sikaFaro ukuthi abafowabo bakaJosefa babefikile, uFaro lezikhulu zakhe bathokoza. 17 UFaro wathi, kuJosefa, "Tshela abafowenu uthi, 'Yenzani lokhu: Thwalisani izinyamazana zenu libuyele elizweni laseKhenani, 18 beselibuya loyihlo kanye lemizi yenu kimi. Ngizalipha umhlaba omuhle kakhulu lapha eGibhithe, likholise amanono elizwe.' 19 Uyalaywa njalo ukuthi ubatshela uthi, 'Yenzani lokhu: Thathani izinqola ezithile lapha eGibhithe lisenzela abantwabenu, labomkenu, lithathe uyihlo lize laye. 20 Lingazihluphi ngempahla zenu ngoba okuhle konke kwaseGibhithe kuzakuba ngokwenu.'" 21 Ngakho amadodana ka-Israyeli akwenza lokhu. UJosefa wabapha izinqola, njengokulaya kukaFaro, wabuye wabapha umphako wendlela. 22 Ngulowo lalowo wamupha izigqoko ezintsha, kodwa uBhenjamini wamupha amashekeli esiliva angamakhulu amathathu kanye lezigqoko ezinhlanu. 23 Njalo nanku akuphathisela uyise: obabhemi abalishumi bethwele konke okuhle kwaseGibhithe, labobabhemi abasikazi abalishumi behhensiswa ngamabele lesinkwa lokunye okomphako wakhe wendlela. 24 Wasevalelisa abafowabo, bathi sebesuka wathi kubo, "Lingaxabani endleleni!" 25 Ngakho basuka baphuma eGibhithe bayafika kuyise uJakhobe elizweni laseKhenani. 26 Bamtshela bathi, "UJosefa ulokhu ephila! Isibili ungumbusi walo lonke elaseGibhithe." UJakhobe waphela amandla; kazange abakholwe. 27 Kodwa kwathi lapho sebemtshelele konke uJosefa ayekutshilo kubo, njalo esebone izinqola uJosefa ayethe zizomthwala zimlethe, umoya kayise, uJakhobe wavuseleleka. 28 U-Israyeli wathi, "Sengisuthisekile! Indodana yami uJosefa isaphila. Ngizahamba ngiyeyibona ngingakafi."

46 Ngakho u-Israyeli wasesuka kanye lakho konke okwakungokwakhe, wathi ngokufika eBherishebhha wenza umhlatshele kuNkulunkulu kayise u-Isaka. 2 UNkulunkulu wakhuluma ku-Israyeli ngombono ebusuku wathi, "Jakhobe! Jakhobe!" Waphendula wathi, "Ngilapha." 3 Wathi, "NginguNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu kayihlo. Ungesabi ukwehlela eGibhithe, ngoba ngizakwenza ube yisizwe esikhulu khonale. 4 Mina ngizahamba lawe khonale eGibhithe, njalo ngiqinisele, ngizaphinde ngikubuyise. Isandla sikaJosefa ngokwaso sizakugoqa." 5 UJakhobe wasesuka eBherishebhha, kwathi amadodana ka-Israyeli amthatha uyise uJakhobe, labantwababo kanye labomkabo babafaka ezinqoleni uFaro ayezithumele ukubathwala ngazo. 6 Bathatha njalo lezifuyo zabo kanye layo yonke impahla yabo ababeyiqoqile eKhenani, uJakhobe losendo lwakhe lonke baya eGibhithe. 7 Wathatha amadodana akhe, labazukulu bakhe, lamadodakazi akhe lamadodakazi awo, sonke isizukulwane sakhe, waya eGibhithe. 8 La ngamabizo amadodana ka-Israyeli (uJakhobe labazukulu bakhe) abahambayo eGibhithe: uRubheni izibulo likaJakhobe. 9 Amadodana kaRubheni ayeyila: uHanokhi, uPhalu, uHezironi, kanye loKhami. 10 Amadodana kaSimiyoni ayeyila: uJemuyeli,

ujamini, u-Ohadi, uJakhini, uZohari kanye loShawuli indodana yomfazi ongumKhenani. **11** Amadodana kaLevi ayeyila: uGeshoni, uKkhohathi kanye loMerari. **12** Amadodana kaJuda ayeyila: u-Eri, u-Onani, uShela, uPherezi kanye loZera (kodwa u-Eri lo-Onani babefele elizweni laseKhenani). Amadodana kaPherezi ayeyila: uHezironi loHamuli. **13** Amadodana ka-Isakhari ayeyila: uThola, uPhuwa, uJashubi kanye loShimroni. **14** Amadodana kaZebhuluni ayeyila: uSeredi, u-Eloni kanye loJahileli. **15** La ayengamadodana uLeya awazalela uJakhobe ePhadani Aramu, ngaphandle kwendodakazi yakhe uDina. Amadodana la lamadodakazi akhe babengamatshumi amathathu sebebonke. **16** Amadodana kaGadi ayeyila: uZifyioni, uHagi, uShuni, u-Ezibhoni, u-Eri, u-Arodi kanye lo-Areli. **17** Amadodana ka-Asheri ayeyila: u-Imna, u-Ishiva, u-Ishivi loBheriya. Udadewabo wayenguSera. Amadodana kaBheriya ayeyila: uHebheri loMalikhiyeli. **18** Laba ngabantwana abazalelwa uJakhobe nguZilipha, uLabhani ayempupe indodakazi yakhe uLeya, belitshumi lesithupha sebebonke. **19** Amadodana omkaJakhobe uRasheli ayeyila: uJosefa loBhenjamini. **20** EGibhithe uJosefa wazala uManase lo-Efrayimi ku-Asenathi indodakazi kaPhothifera, umphristi ka-Oni. **21** Amadodana kaBhenjamini ayeyila: uBhela, uBhekheri, u-Ashibheli, uGera, uNamani, u-Ehi, uRoshi, uMuphimu, uHuphimu kanye lo-Adi. **22** La ayengamadodana kaRasheli awazalela uJakhobe, elitshumi lane esewonke. **23** Indodana kaDani: yayinguHushimu. **24** Amadodana kaNaftali ayeyila: uJaziyeli, uGuni, uJezeri kanye loShilemu. **25** La ayengamadodana kaJakhobe awazala loBhiliha, uLabhani ayempupe indodakazi yakhe uRasheli, beyisikhombisa bebonke. **26** Bonke labo abaya eGibhithe loJakhobe, ababeyinzalo yegazi lakhe, kungabalwa omalukazana bakhe, kwakungabantu abangamatshumi ayisithupha lesithupha. **27** Sekubalwa lamadodana amabili azalwa nguJosefa eGibhithe, abendlu kaJakhobe abaya eGibhithe babengamatshumi ayisikhombisa sebebonke. **28** UJakhobe waseuthuma uJuda phambi kwakhe kuJosefa ukuba amlayele indlela eya eGosheni. Bathi sebefikile emangweni waseGosheni, **29** uJosefa walungiselwa inqola yakhe waqonda eGosheni ukuyahlangua loyise u-Israyeli. UJosefa wonela ukumbona nje, wamgona uyise, wakhala okwesikhathi eside. **30** U-Israyeli wathi kuJosefa, “Manje sengikulungele ukufa, ngoba sengizibonele mina ngokwami ukuthi usaphila.” **31** UJosefa wasesithi kubafowabo lakubo bonke abomuzi kayise, “Ngizahamba ngiyekhuluma loFaro ngithi kuye, ‘Abafowethu kanye labendlu kababa ababehlala elizweni laseKhenani sebebuyile kimi. **32** Amadoda la angabelusi; belusa izifuyo, ngakho beze lemihlambi yabo yezimvu leyenkomo lakho konke abalakho.’ **33** Nxa uFaro angalibiza alibuze athi, ‘Umsebenzi wenu ngowani?’ **34** libophendula lithi, ‘Izincekuzakho zingabelusi bezifuyo kusukela ebutsheni bethu kuze kube khathesi, njengabokhokho bethu.’ Lapho-ke lizavunyelwa ukwakha emangweni waseGosheni, ngoba bonke abelusi bayeyiseka kumaGibhithe.”

47 UJosefa wahamba wayatshela uFaro wathi, “Ubaba labafowethu, kanye lemihlambi yabo yezimvu lenkomo, kanye lakho konke abalakho sebefikile bevela elizweni laseKhenani, okwamanje sebeseGosheni.” **2** Wakhetha abafowabo abahlanu wabethula kuFaro. **3** UFaro wababuza abafowabo laba wathi, “Umsebenzi wenu ngowani na?”

Baphendula uFaro bathi, “Izincekuzakho zingabelusi, njengalokho ababeyikho okhokho bethu.” **4** Babuya bathi kuye, “Size ukuzohlala lapha okwesikhathi esithile, ngoba indlela inkulu kakhulu eKhenani, njalo lemihlambi yezincekuzakho kayilamadlelo. Manje-ke sicela ukuthi uvumele izincekuzakho zakhe eGosheni.” **5** UFaro wathi kuJosefa, “Uyihlo labafowenu beze kuwe, **6** lelizwe laseGibhithe uyalibona; hlalisa uyihlo labafowenu endaweni enhle kakhulu yelizwe. Wothi bahlale eGosheni. Njalo nxa bekhona abanye babo abalolwazi oluqakathekileyo, kabakhangele imihlambi yami.” **7** Ngakho uJosefa waseletha uyise uJakhobe wamethula kuFaro. UJakhobe esembusisile uFaro, **8** uFaro wambuza wathi, “Usumdala kangakanani na?” **9** UJakhobe wathi kuFaro, “Iminyaka yokuhamba kwami ilikhulu lamatshumi amathathu. Iminyaka yami ibimilutshwana njalo ibinzima, njalo kayifiki iminyaka yokuhamba kwabokhokho bami.” **10** UJakhobe wasembusisa uFaro, uFaro wasesuka kuye. **11** Ngakho uJosefa wasehlalisa uyise labafowabo eGibhithe, wabapha indawo enhle kulazo zonke elizweni, esiqintini saseRamesesi, njengokulaya kukaFaro. **12** UJosefa waphinda wapha uyise labafowabo kanye lendlu yonke kayise ukudla, kusiya ngobunengi babantwababo. **13** Kwakungelakudla elizweni lonke ngoba indlela yayibahile; iGibhithe leKhenani womabili amazwe esevuthuzekile ngenxa yendlela. **14** UJosefa wayiqoqa yonke imali eyayitholakala eGibhithe laseKhenani eyayingeyokuthenga amabele, wayiletha esigodlweni sikaFaro. **15** Kwathi imali yabantu baseGibhithe labaseKhenani isiphelile, abaseGibhithe bonke beza kuJosefa bathi, “Siphe ukudla. Singafelani kambe phambi kwamehlho akho? Imali yethu isiphelile.” **16** UJosefa wathi, “Lethani izifuyo zenu. Ngizalithengisela ukudla libhadale ngezifuyo zenu, njengoba imali yenu isiphelile.” **17** Ngakho basebeletha izifuyo zakuJosefa, wabapha ukudla bebhadala ngamabhiza abo, lezimvu kanye lembuzi zabo, lenkomo kanye labobabhemi babo. Wabaphutshisa lowomnyaka ngokudla bekubhadala ngezifuyo zabo. **18** Lowomnyaka usuphelile, beza kuye ngomnyaka olandelayo bathi, “Ngeke sayifihlele inkosi yethu ukuthi njengoba imali yethu isiphelile, ikanti lezifuyo zethu ngezakho, kakusekho okusayisalele inkosi yethu ngaphandle kwemizimba yethu leziqinti zethu kuphela. **19** Kambe sesingaze sife nje usikhangele, thina kanye lelizwe lethu lalo? Sithenge kanye lelizwe lethu usiphe ukudla, kuzakuthi thina kanye lelizwe lethu sibe sebugqilini kuFaro. Siphe inhlangano ukuze siphile, singafi, njalo ukuze ilizwe lingabi yinkangala.” **20** Ngakho-ke uJosefa waselethenga uFaro lonke ilizwe laseGibhithe. AmaGibhithe wonke athengisa amasimu awo ngoba indlela yayisiwabhahele okubi. Ilizwe laselisiba ngelikaFaro, **21** uJosefa wasebagqilaza abantu, kusukela ngapha kwelizwe laseGibhithe kusiya ngale kwalo. **22** Kodwa kayithenganga indawo yabaphristi, ngoba babephiwa isabelo nguFaro, yikho babelakho ukudla okwaneleyo kusuka kuFaro. Yikho bengawuthengisanga owabo umhlaba. **23** UJosefa wathi ebantwini, “Njengoba sengilithengile lina lomhlaba wenu lamuhla ukuba libe ngabakaFaro, nansi inhlangano ukuze lihlanyele emhlabathini. **24** Kodwa nxa amabele eseqoqwa yikho okobuhlanu bawo kuFaro. Ezinye izingxenyane ezine kwezinhlanu lizigcinele inhlangano yamasimu njalo kube yikudla kwenu, lemizi yenu kanye labantwabenu.” **25** Bathi, “Uzisindisile impilo zethu. Sengathi singathola umusa enkosini yethu; sizakuba yizigqili kuFaro.” **26** Kunjalo

uJosefa wakumisa kwaba ngumthetho eGibhithe mayelana lomhlaba, okulokhu kulandelwa lalamuhla, ukuthi ingxenye eyodwa kokuhlanu ngekaFaro. Kwakungumhlaba wabaphristi kuphela ongazange ube ngokaFaro. **27** Ngalesosikhathi abako-Israyeli bazinza eGibhithe esigodini saseGosheni. Bazuza izifuyo ezinjengikhona njalo bazalana kakhulu banda ngobunengi. **28** UJakhobe wahlala eGibhithe okweminyaka elitshumi lesikhombisa, iminyaka yokuphila kwakhe yaba likhulu lamatshumi amane lesikhombisa. **29** Kwathi isikhathi sesisondele ukuba u-Israyeli afe, wabiza indodana yakhe uJosefa wathi kuyo, “Uba ngifumene umusa kuwe, beka isandla sakho ngaphansi kwehangazi lami uthembise ukuthi uzangenzela umusa lokuthembeka. Ungangingcwabi eGibhithe, **30** kodwa nxa sengiphumule labokhokho bami, ungithwale ngisuke eGibhithe uyongimbela lapho abalele khona.” Wathi, “Ngizakwenza njengoba usitsho.” **31** Wathi, “Funga kimi.” Ngakho uJosefa wafunga kuye, u-Israyeli wasekothamela emakhanda ombheda wakhe.

48 Emva kwesikhatshana uJosefa wabikelwa ukuthi, “Uyihlo uyayula.” Ngakho wathatha amadodana akhe womabili, uManase lo-Efrayimi wahamba lawo. **2** UJakhobe esetsheliwe kwathiwa, “Indodana yakho uJosefa isifikile kuwe,” u-Israyeli wazibamba ngamandla wavuka embhedeni. **3** UJakhobe wathi kuJosefa, “UNkulunkulu uSomandla wabonakala kimi eLuzi elizweni laseKhenani, khonapho wangibusisa. **4** Wathi kimi, ‘Ngizakwenza ube lenzalo enengi kakhulu. Ngizalenza libe yiziswe sabantu, njalo ngizakupha izizukulwane zakho lelizwe libe yilifa lazo elingapheliyo ngemva kwakho.’ **5** Zwana-ke, amadodana akho amabili owawazalela eGibhithe ngingakabuyi lapha kuwe azathathwa njengawami; u-Efrayimi loManase bazakuba ngabami, kanjengoba uRubheni loSimiyoni bengabami. **6** Labobantwana abazelwe ngemva kwabo bazakuba ngabakho; kulesosigodi esizakuba yilifa labo bazabhaliswa ngaphansi kwamabizo abanewabo. **7** Ngathi ngibuya ngivela ePhadani, nghehlelwa lusizi ngafelwa nguRasheli elizweni laseKhenani silokhu sisendleleni, bucwadlana kwe-Efrathi. Ngamngcwaba khonapho eceleni kwendlele eya e-Efrathi” (kutsho eBhethlehem). **8** U-Israyeli wathi ngokubona amadodana kaJosefa wabuza wathi, “Ngobani laba?” **9** UJosefa wathi kuyise, “Ngamadodana uNkulunkulu anginike wona lapha.” U-Israyeli wasesithi, “Balethe kimi ukuze ngibabusise.” **10** Ngalesosikhathi amehlo ka-Israyeli ayeseziphala ngenxa yokuluphala, engasabonisisi. Ngakho uJosefa wasondeza amadodana akhe kuye, uyise wawanga wawagona. **11** U-Israyeli wathi kuJosefa, “Ngangingathembi ukuthi ngizaphinda ngibubone ubuso bakho njalo, ikanti manje uNkulunkulu usengivumele ukubona labantwabakho labo.” **12** UJosefa wasebasusa emadolweni ka-Israyeli wakhothamela phansi ngobuso. **13** UJosefa wasebathatha bobabili, u-Efrayimi kwesokunene sakhe eqondane lesokhohlo sika-Israyeli, kwathi uManase waba ngakwesokhohlo waqondana lesokunene sika-Israyeli, wabasondeza kuye. **14** Kodwa u-Israyeli welula isandla sakhe sokunene wasibeka ekhanda lika-Efrayimi, loba nje yena wayengomncinyane, wasenqumisa izingalo zakhe zaphambana, wabeka isandla sakhe sokhohlo ekhanda likaManase, loba nje uManase wayelizibulo. **15** Ngakho wasebusisa uJosefa wathi, “Sengathi uNkulunkulu wabokhokho bami, u-Abrahamama lo-Isaka, abahamba phambi kwakhe, uNkulunkulu obengumelusi wami ukuphila kwami konke kuze

kube namuhla, **16** iNgilosi engihlengileyo kuzozonke izingozi, sengathi angabusisa abafana laba. Sengathi bangabizwa ngebizo lami langamabizo abobabamkhulu u-Abrahamama lo-Isaka, njalo sengathi banganda kakhulu emhlabeni.” **17** Kwathi uJosefa ebona uyise ebeka isandla sakhe sokunene ekhanda lika-Efrayimi akwaze kwamthokozisa; ngakho wasibamba isandla sikayise wasisusa ekhanda lika-Efrayimi ukuthi asibeke kwelikaManase. **18** UJosefa wathi kuye, “Hatshi, baba, lo nyuye izibulo; beka isandla sakho sokunene kwelakhe ikhanda.” **19** Kodwa uyise wala, wathi, “Ngiyazi, ndodana yami, ngiyazi. Laye njalo uzakuba ngabantu abanengi, njalo laye uzakuba mkhulu. Loba kunjalo, umnawakhe uzakuba mkhulu kulaye lezizukulwane zakhe zizakuba ngamaxuku ezizwe.” **20** Wababusisa ngalolusuku wathi, “Ngebizo lakho u-Israyeli uzakutsho lesisibusiso: ‘Sengathi uNkulunkulu angakwenza ube njenge-Efrayimi loManase.’” Ngakho wabeka u-Efrayimi phambi kukaManase. **21** U-Israyeli wasesithi kuJosefa, “Senzakufa, kodwa uNkulunkulu uzakuba lani, alibuyisele elizweni labokhokho benu. **22** Wena, njengomuntu olawula abanewenu, ngikunika umqolo welizwe engawemuka ama-Amori ngenkamba yami lomtshoko wami.”

49 UJakhobe wabiza amadodana akhe wathi: “Sondelani eduze ngilitshele lokho okuzakwenzakala kini ensukwini ezizayo. **2** Buthanani lilalele, madodana kaJakhobe, lalalani kuyihlo u-Israyeli. **3** URubheni, ulizibulo lami, amandla ami, isibonakaliso sokuqala samandla ami, ukuphelela ngodumo, ukuphelela ngamandla. **4** Uhlokoma njengamanzi, kawasayikuba liciko, ngoba wakhwela embhedeni kayihlo, waya phezu kwesihlalo sami wasingcolisa. **5** USimiyoni loLevi bayizelamani inkemba zabo yizikhali zodlakela. **6** Mangingangeni enkundleni yabo, mangingangeni emhlanganweni wabo, ngoba bababulala abantu ngokuthukuthela kwabo njalo inkabi baziquma imisipha santando. **7** Luqalekisiwe ulaka lwabo, lwesabeka kubi, lentukuthelo yabo, ilesihluku esibi! Ngizakubachithiza kuJakhobe, njalo ngibahlakaze ko-Israyeli. **8** Juda, abafowenu bazakudumisa; isandla sakho sizakuba sentanyeni yezitha zakho; amadodana kayihlo azakukhothamela. **9** Ungumdwane wesilwane, Oh Juda; uvela ekuzingeleni, ndodana yami. Njengesilwane uyacathama alale phansi, njengesilwanekazi, ngubani olesibindi sokumhlokoza? **10** Intonga yobukhosi kayiyikusuka kuJuda, loba umqwayo wombusi phakathi kwezinyawo zakhe, aze ayofika kumnini wayo lokulalela kwezizwe kukuye. **11** Uzabophela ubabhemi wakhe evinini, inkonyane kababhemi wakhe ogatsheni oluhle; uzagezisa izembatho zakhe ngewayini, izigqoko zakhe egazini lamagrebisi. **12** Amehlo akhe azathuba okudlula iwayini, amazinyo akhe abe mhlophe kulochago. **13** UZebhuluni uzahlala okhunjini lolwandle abe litheku lemikhumbi; umngele wakhe uzaqhelela eSidoni. **14** U-Isakhari ulithambo likababhemi elilohlonzi olele ephahlwe ngamasaka amabili emithwalo. **15** Uthi nxa ebona ubuhle bendawo yakhe yokuphumula lokubukeka kwelizwe lakhe, uzakwehlisa ihlombe lakhe ukuthwala umthwalo azimisele emsebenzini wesigqili. **16** UDani uzakwahlulela kahle abantu bakibo njengesinye sezizwe zako-Israyeli. **17** UDani uzakuba yinyoka esemgwaqweni, inhlangwana elele endleleni, eluma izithende zebhiza ukuze umgadi walo atshele aye emuva. **18** Ngilindele ukukhulga kwakho, Oh Thixo. **19** UGadi uzahlaselwa liqula lamanxusa, kodwa uzabahlasele bamuphe izithende

zabo. **20** Ukudla kuka-Asheri kuzakuba ngokunonileyo, uzakupha okumnandi okufanele inkosi. **21** UNafithali yimpalakazi ekhululweyo ezala amazinyane amahle. **22** UJosefa ulivini elithela kakhulu, ivini elithela kakhulu eduze komthombo, elimagatsha alo akhwela emdulini. **23** Abahlasele bemithoko bamhlasele ngolaka; bambica ngenzondo embi. **24** Kodwa kawalazela ngedandili lakhe, ingalo zakhe eziqinileyo zala zilokhu ziqinile ngenxa yesandla soMninimandla kaJakhobe, ngenxa kaMalusi, iDwala lika-Israyeli, **25** ngenxa kaNkulunkulu kayihlo, okusizayo, ngenxa kaSomandla okubusisayo ngezibusiso zasezulwini ngaphezulu, izibusiso zolwandle olungaphansi, izibusiso zebele lenzalo. **26** Izibusiso zikayihlo zinkulu kulezibusiso zezintaba zekadeni, kulezithelo zamaqaqa adabuka endulo. Zonke lezi kazehelele ekhanda likaJosefa, ebunzini lenkosana phakathi kwabafowabo. **27** UBhenjamini yimpisi ephangayo; ekuseni uyakudlithiza akujimbileyo, ntambama akwabe.” **28** Zonke lezi yizizwana ezilithshumi lambili zaka-Israyeli, njalo yikho lokho uyise akutsho kubo lapho wayebabusisa, esipha ilowo lalowo isibusiso esimfaneleyo. **29** Emva kwalokho wasebanika imilayo le: “Sekusondele ukuba ngimbelwe ebantwini bakithi. Lingimbele labokhoko ebbhalwini ensimini ka-Efroni umHithi, **30** ubhalu olusensimini kaMakhaphela, eduze leMamure eKhenani, eyathengwa ngu-Abhrahama kanye lensimu leyo ku-Efroni umHithi, ukuba yindawo yokungcwaba. **31** Khonapho kwangcwatshwa u-Abhrahama lomkakhe uSara, kwembelwa u-Isaka lomkakhe uRabheka, njalo khonapho ngambela uLeYa. **32** Insimu kanye lobhalu oluphakathi kwathengwa kumaHithi.” **33** Kwathi uJakhobe eseqedile ukunika imilayo emadodaneni akhe, wakhweza inyawo zakhe embhedeni, waphfumula okokucina, wasiwa kwabakibo.

50 UJosefa waziphosela phezu kukayise wamkhalela, wasemanga. **2** UJosefa waselaya izinyanga ezazingaphansi kwakhe ukuqhola umzimba kayise u-Israyeli. Ngakho izinyanga zamqhola, **3** zathatha insuku ezingamatshumi amane ezigcweleyo, ngoba kwakuthatha isikhathi esingako ukuqhola. AmaGibhithe amlilela insuku ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa. **4** Insuku zokulila sezedlule, uJosefa wathi kuziphathamandla zikaFaro, “Nxa ngifumane umusa kini, ngikhulumelani kuFaro. Mtsheleni lithi, **5** Ubaba wangifungisa isifungo wathi, “Sengizakufa; lingimbele ethuneni engazigebhela lona mina ngokwami elizweni laseKhenani.” Manje-ke ake ungivumele ngihambe ngiyongcwaba ubaba; besengiphenduka.” **6** UFaro wathi, “Hamba uyongcwaba uyihlo, njengoba wakufungisa ukuthi uzakwenza.” **7** Ngakho uJosefa wahamba wayangcwaba uyise. Zonke izikhulu zikaFaro zamphelkezelela, izikhulu zakhe zomphakathi kanye lazozonke izikhulu zaseGibhithe, **8** ngaphandle kwabo bonke abendlu kaJosefa labafowabo lalabo ababe ngabendlu kayise. EGosheni kwasala kuphela abantwana lemihlambi yabo yezimvu leyenkomo. **9** Wahamba elezinqola zempi labakhweli bamabhiza. Kwakulixuku elikhulu. **10** Bathi ngokufika esizeni sika-Athadi eduze kweJodani basiqhinqa isililo esikhulu esibuhlungu; kwathi khonapho uJosefa wazilela uyise okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. **11** Kwathi amaKhenani ayehlala eduzane ebona ukulila lokho esizeni sika-Athadi athi, “AmaGibhithe alenkonzayo yawo yokulila.” Yikho-nje leyondawo eseduze kweJodani ithiwa yi-Abheli-Mizirayimi. **12** Ngalokho amadodana kaJakhobe enza

lokho uyise abalaya khona: **13** Bamthwalela elizweni laseKhenani bayamngcwaba ebbhalwini olwalusensimini kaMakhaphela, eduze leMamure, u-Abhrahama aluthenga kanye lensimu ku-Efroni umHithi ukuthi kube yindawo yokungcwaba. **14** Esemngcwabile uyise uJosefa wabuyela eGibhithe kanye labafowabo labo bonke ababehambe laye ukuyangcwaba uyise. **15** Abafowabo bakaJosefa sebebonile ukuthi uyise sefile, bathi, “Kambe uJosefa kasibekelanga isikhwili yini abesefuna ukuphindisela ngakho konke esamona ngakho?” **16** Ngakho bathumela ilizwi kuJosefa besithi, “Uyihlo watshiya imilayo le engakafi: **17** ‘Nanku elimele likutsho kuJosefa: Ngiyakucela ukuthi uxolele abafowenu izono leziphambeko abazenzayo ngokukuphatha kubi kangaka.’ Manje siyacela ukuthi uthethelele izono zezinceku zikaNkulunkulu kayihlo.” Kwathi ilizwi labo selfikile kuye uJosefa wakhala. **18** Abafowabo beza bafika bazilahlala phansi phambi kwakhe. Bathi, “Siyizigqili zakho.” **19** Kodwa uJosefa wathi kubo, “Lingesabi. Mina ngisesikhundleni sikaNkulunkulu na? **20** Lalihlose ukungenza okubi, kodwa uNkulunkulu wayehlose ubuhle ngakho ukuze kugcwaliseke lokhu okwenzakalayo khathesi, ukuphephisa impilo ezinengi. **21** Ngakho-ke, lingsabi. Ngizalinalakekela lina labantwabenenu.” Wababeka isibindi wabakhulumisa ngomusa. **22** UJosefa wahlala eGibhithe kanye labo bonke abendlu kayise. Waphila okweminyaka elikhulu letshumi, **23** wabona isizukulwane sesithathu sabantwana baka-Efrayimi. Njalo labantwana bakaMakhiri indodana kaManase bathi bezalwa babekwa emadolweni kaJosefa. **24** UJosefa wasesithi kubafowabo, “Sengiseduze lokufa. Kodwa ngempela uNkulunkulu uzalisiza alikhuphe kulelilizwe alise elizweni alithembisa ngesifungo ku-Abhrahama, lo-Isaka loJakhobe.” **25** UJosefa wasefungisa amadodana ka-Israyeli isifungo wathi, “UNkulunkulu uzalisiza, yikho kumele lithwale amathambo ami lisuke lawo kule indawo.” **26** UJosefa wasesifa eseleminyaka yobudala elikhulu letshumi. Bathi sebemqholile, isidumbu sakhe basibeka ebhokisini eGibhithe.

U-Eksodusi

1 La ngamabizo amadodana ka-Israyeli aya eGibhithe loJakhobe, mune ngamunye lemuli yakhe: **2** uRubheni, uSimiyoni, uLevi loJuda; **3** u-Isakhari, uZebhuluni loBhenjamini, **4** uDani loNafithali; uGadi lo-Asheri. **5** Inzalo yonke kaJakhobe yayingamatshumi ayisikhombisa. UJosefa wayevele eseseGibhithe. **6** Kwathi uJosefa labo bonke abafowabo kanye lasosonke lesosizukulwane sebefile, **7** abako-Israyeli bazalana banda kakhulu, okokuthi ilizwe lonke lagcwala ngabo. **8** Kwasekusitha lenye inkosi eyayingazi lutho ngoJosefa, yaba ngumbusi eGibhithe. **9** Yathi ebantwini bayo, “Khangelani, abantu bako-Israyeli sebebanengi kakhulu kulathi. **10** Asiboneni amacebo esingawenza ngabo funa bande kakhulu kuthi lapho kuqhakama impi, babambane lezitha zethu, balwe lathi, besebesuka elizweni.” **11** Ngakho babeka izinduna zezigqili ukuthi zibasebenzise kanzima, bakha iPhithomi leRamesesi aba ngamadolobho eziphala zikaFaro. **12** Kodwa kwathi ngokuhlutshwa kwabo ngamandla, labo banda kakhulu basabalala; okwenza amaGibhithe abesaba abako-Israyeli **13** asebasebenzisa ngochuku. **14** Enza impilo yabo yaba nzima kakhulu bethshaya izitina lokuvoxa udaka besenza leminye yonke imisebenzi yemasimini. Kuyo yonke imisebenzi enzima amaGibhithe abasebenzisa ngochuku. **15** Inkosi yaseGibhithe yathi kubabelethisi bamaHebheru okwakuthiwa nguShifira loPhuwa, **16** “Nxa libelethisa abafazi bamaHebheru, lingabona kuzelwe umfana kufanele limbulale; kodwa nxa kuyinkazana, liyikelele iphile.” **17** Kodwa ababelethisi babemesaba uNkulunkulu, ngakho abakwenzanga lokho ababekutshelwe yinkosi yaseGibhithe. **18** Sekube njalo, inkosi yaseGibhithe yababiza ababelethisi yathi kubo, “Kungani lenze lokhu? Kungani liyikelele abafana baphila?” **19** Ababelethisi bamphendula uFaro bathi, “Abafazi bamaHebheru abafani labafazi bamaGibhithe; balamandla baphanga babelethe ababelethisi bengakafiki.” **20** Ngakho uNkulunkulu waba lomusa kubo ababelethisi, abantu banda baba banengi kakhulu. **21** Njalo njengoba ababelethisi bamesaba uNkulunkulu, wabapha ezabo izimuli. **22** UFaro wasesipha abantu bakhe bonke umlayo othi: “Wonke umfana womHebheru ozalwayo kufanele aphoselwe emfuleni uNayili, kodwa wonke amankazana liwayekelele aphile.”

2 Kwasekusithi eyinye indoda esizweni sakoLevi yathatha owesifazane ongumLevi, **2** wazithwala wabeletha indodana. Wabona ukuthi umntwana wayemuhle kakhulu, wasemfihla okwezinyanga ezintathu. **3** Kodwa kwathi lapho sekusehlula ukuthi amfihle, wenza isitsha semizi, wasibhanda ngodaka lengcino. Wafaka umntwana phakathi kwaso wayasibeka okhunjini lomfula uNayili phakathi kwemihlanga. **4** Udadewabo wema bucwala ukuba abone okwenzakala kuye. **5** Indodakazi kaFaro yehlela emfuleni ukuyageza, amantombazana ayikhangelayo ayehamba okhunjini lomfula. Yasisibona isitsha phakathi kwemihlanga yathuma incekekazi yayo ukuyasithatha. **6** Yasivula yambona umntwana. Wayekhala, yasimzwela usizi yathi, “Lo ngomunye wabantwana bamaHebheru.” **7** Udadewabo wasesithi endodakazini kaFaro, “Ngingayakudingela omunye wabesifazane bamaHebheru ukuthi akondlele umntwana na?” **8** Yasisithi, “Yebo, hamba.” Intombazana yasuka yayabiza unina womntwana. **9** Indodakazi kaFaro yathi kuye, “Mthathe lumntwana ungondlele yena,

ngizakupha isondlo.” Ngakho owesifazane wamthatha umntwana wamondla. **10** Esekhulile umntwana, wamthatha wamusa endodakazini kaFaro wasesiba ngumntanayo. Yasimutha ibizo yathi nguMosi ngoba yathi, “Ngamkhubha emanzini.” **11** Ngelinye ilanga, uMosi esekhulile, waya lapho okwakusebenzela khona abantu bakibo, wabona ukuthi babethwele nzima kanjani. Wabona uMosi eGibhithe etshaya umHebheru, omunye wabantu bakibo. **12** Wathi thala ngapha langapha wabona kungelamuntu, wasebulala umGibhithe wamfihla etshebetshebeni. **13** Ngelanga elilandelayo waphuma njalo wabona amaHebheru amabili esilwa. Wasebuza lo owayephambanisile wathi, “Kungani utshaya owakini ongumHebheru na?” **14** Indoda leyo yathi, “Ngubani okwenze waba ngumbusi lomahluleli wethu? Usucabanga ukungibulala na njengoba ubulele umGibhithe?” Ngalokho uMosi wesaba wacabanga ukuthi, “Engxenywe engikwenzileyo sekusazakala.” **15** Kwathi uFaro ekuzwa lokho, wazama ukubulala uMosi, kodwa uMosi wabalekela eMidiyani, lapho afika khona wahlala phansi eduze komthombo. **16** Umphristi waseMidiyani wayelamadodakazi ayisikhombisa, afika ezokukha amanzi lokukhelela imikolo ukuze anathise izimvu zikayise. **17** Kwafika abelusi abathile bawaxotsha, kodwa uMosi wasukuma wawalumulela wanathisa izimvu zawo. **18** Kwathi izintombi sezibuyele kuyise eRuveli wazibuza esithi, “Kungani lamhla liphangisile ukuphenduka?” **19** Zaphendula zathi, “KulomGibhithe osilamulele kubelusi. Uze wasikhelela amanzi wanathisa lezimvu zethu.” **20** Wawabuza amadodakazi akhe wathi, “Ungaphi? Limtshiyeleni? Mbizeni ukuze azothola okokudla.” **21** UMosi wavuma ukuzehlala lale indoda, eyamnika indodakazi yayo uZiphora ukuthi abe ngumkakhe. **22** UZiphora wazala indodana, uMosi wayitha ibizo wathi nguGeshomu ngoba esithi, “Sengibe ngumuntu wezizweni endaweni yabezizweni.” **23** Emva kwesikhathi eside, inkosi yaseGibhithe yafa. Abako-Israyeli bakhala babubula ebugqilini babo, kwasekusithi ukukhala kwabo becela usizo ngenxa yobugqili ababekubo kwafinyelela kuNkulunkulu. **24** UNkulunkulu wakuzwa ukububula kwabo wasekhumbula isivumelwano asenza lo-Abrahama, lo-Isaka loJakhobe. **25** Ngakho uNkulunkulu wakhangelela abako-Israyeli, wakhathazeka ngabo.

3 Kwathi uMosi eselusa izimvu zikayisezala uJethro, umphristi waseMidiyani, waseqhuba izimvu zaya kude ohlangothini lwenkangala wafika eHorebhi, intaba kaNkulunkulu. **2** Lapho-ke ingilosi kaThixo yabonakala kuye iphakathi kwamalangabi omlilo esixukwini. UMosi wabona ukuthi loba isixuku sasibhebha kasizange sitshe. **3** Ngakho uMosi wacabanga esithi, “Ngizasondela ngiyebona isimanga lesi ukuba kungani isixuku singatshi silothe.” **4** Kwathi uThixo ebona ukuthi usesondele ukuba ayekhangelela, uNkulunkulu wasememeza ngelizwi elaliphuma kulesosixuku wathi, “Mosi! Mosi!” UMosi wathi, “Ngilapha.” **5** UNkulunkulu wathi, “Ungasondeli. Khupha amanyathela akho, ngoba indawo omi kuyo ingumhlalathi ongwele.” **6** Wasesithi njalo, “NginguNkulunkulu kayihlo, uNkulunkulu ka-Abrahama, uNkulunkulu ka-Isaka loNkulunkulu kaJakhobe.” Ngalokho, uMosi wafihla ubuso bakhe ngoba wayesesaba ukukhangelela uNkulunkulu. **7** UThixo wasesithi, “Impela ngilubonile usizi lwabantu bami eGibhithe. Ngibazwile bekhala ngenxa yezinduna zezigqili ezibancindecelayo, njalo ngiyakhathazeka ngokuhlupheka kwabo. **8** Ngakho ngehilelele ukuzabakuhlula

ezandleni zamaGibhithe ngibakhuphe kulelolizwe ngibase elizweni elilendawo enengi, ilizwe eligeleza uchago loluju, endaweni yamaKhenani, amaHithi, ama-Amori, amaPherizi, amaHivi lamaJebusi. **9** Ukukhala kwabako-Israyeli sekufikile kimi, njalo sengibonile lendlela amaGibhithe ababahlukuluza ngayo. **10** Ngakho suka uhambe. Ngikuthuma kuFaro ukuthi uyekhupha abantu bami abako-Israyeli elizweni laseGibhithe.” **11** Kodwa uMosi wathi kuNkulunkulu, “Kambe ngingubani ukuba ngiye kuFaro ukuyakhupha abako-Israyeli elizweni laseGibhithe na?” **12** UNkulunkulu wasesithi, “Ngizakuba lawe. Lesi sizakuba yisibonakaliso sokuthi yimi engikuthumileyo: Nxa usubakhuphile abantu eGibhithe, lizakulunga uNkulunkulu kuyonane intaba.” **13** UMosi wathi kuNkulunkulu, “Aluba ngifika kwabako-Israyeli ngithi kubo, ‘UNkulunkulu waboyihlo ungithumile kini,’ besebengibuza bathi, ‘Ungubani ibizo lakhe?’ Ngizakuthini kubo?” **14** UNkulunkulu wathi kuMosi, “Nginguye Onguye. Lokhu yikho ozakutsho kwabako-Israyeli ukuthi, ‘Unguye ungithumile kini.’” **15** UNkulunkulu wabuye wathi kuMosi, “Tshono kwabako-Israyeli uthi, ‘uThixo, uNkulunkulu waboyihlo, uNkulunkulu ka-Abrahama, uNkulunkulu ka-Isaka, loNkulunkulu kajakhobe ungithumile kini.’ Leli libizo lami laphakade, ibizo engizakhunjulwa ngalo kusukela kuzizukulwane kusiya kwesinye isizukulwane. **16** Hamba uyebuthanisa abadala bako-Israyeli uthi kubo, ‘uThixo, uNkulunkulu waboyihlo, uNkulunkulu ka-Abrahama, ka-Isaka lojakhobe, ubonakele kimi wathi: Bengilikhangele njalo ngikubonile okwenziwe kini eGibhithe. **17** Futhi ngithembisile ukulikhupha osizini lwenu eliliko eGibhithe ngilise elizweni lamaKhenani, amaHithi, ama-Amori, amaPherizi, amaHivi lamaJebusi, ilizwe eligeleza uchago loluju.’ **18** Abadala bako-Israyeli bazakulalela. Kuzakuthi wena kanye labadala liye enkosini yaseGibhithe lithi kuyo, ‘uThixo, uNkulunkulu wamaHebheru uhlangane lathi. Sivumele sithathe uhambo lwezinsuku ezintathu siye enkangala ukuyanikela imihlatshelo kuThixo uNkulunkulu wethu.’ **19** Kodwa ngiyakwazi ukuthi inkosi yaseGibhithe ayiyikulumela ukuthi lihambe ngaphandle kokuba incindezelwe yisandla esilamandla. **20** Ngakho ngizakwelula isandla sami ngiwashtshaye amaGibhithe ngazonzoke izimanga engizazenza phakathi kwawo. Ngemva kwalokho, izalivumela lihambe. **21** Njalo ngizakwenza amaGibhithe abe lomusa kulababantu, ukuze kuthi mhla lisuka lingahambi lingaphethe lutho. **22** Wonke owesifazane kacele kumakhelwane wakhe lakuye wonke owesifazane ohlala endlini yakhe izinto eziligugu ezenziwe ngesiliva legolide kanye lezigqoko ezizagqokwa impamadodana lamadodakazi enu. Ngaleyondlela lizawemuka impahla amaGibhithe.”

4 UMosi waphendula wathi, “Pho bangayekela ukungikhoholwa loba ukalalela engikutshoyo bathi, ‘uThixo kazange abonakale kuwe?’” **2** UThixo wathi kuye, “Kuyini lokho okusesandleni sakho?” Waphendula wathi, “Yintonga.” **3** UThixo wathi, “Iphosele phansi emhlabathini.” UMosi wayiphosa phansi yasiphenduka yaba yinyoka, wayibalekela. **4** UThixo wasesithi kuye, “Yelula isandla sakho uyibambe ngomsila.” UMosi welula isandla wayibamba inyoka yasiphenduka yaba yintonga esandleni sakhe. **5** UThixo wathi, “Lokhu yikwenzela ukuthi bakhoholwe ukuthi uThixo, uNkulunkulu waboyise, uNkulunkulu ka-Abrahama, uNkulunkulu ka-Isaka loNkulunkulu kajakhobe ubonakele kuwe.” **6** UThixo wabuye wathi, “Faka isandla sakho phakathi

kwejazi lakho.” UMosi wasefaka isandla sakhe ejazini lakhe, kwathi lapho esesikhupha, sasesimhlophe njengongqwaqwane sesilobulephero. **7** Wathi njalo, “Sibuyisele isandla sakho ejazini lakho.” UMosi wasifaka isandla sakhe ejazini lakhe, wathi esesikhupha sasesibuyele esimeni saso, sesifanana lejwabu lakhe. **8** UThixo wasesithi, “Nxa bengayikukholwa loba bengananzi izibonakaliso zokuqala, mhlawumbe bazakholwa ezesibili. **9** Kodwa nxa bengakhoholwa izibonakaliso lezi ezimbili loba bengakulaleli, uzathatha amanzi emfuleni uNayili uwathele emhlabathini owomileyo. Amanzi ozawathatha emfuleni azaphenduka abe ligazi emhlabathini owomileyo.” **10** UMosi wasesithi kuThixo, “Oh Thixo, ngixolele, angizange ngibe yisikhulumu kusukela emuva kuze kube lakhathesi ukhuluma lenceku yakho. Ngiyagagasa njalo ngilamalimi.” **11** UThixo wathi kuye, “Ngubani owapha umuntu umlomo? Ngubani omenza abe yisacuthe loba abe yisimungulu? Ngubani omenza abone loba abe yisiphofu? Akusimi uThixo na? **12** Ngakho hamba, ngizakusiza ukuthi ukhulume njalo ngikufundise lokuthi uthini.” **13** Kodwa uMosi wathi, “Oh Thixo, ngicela uthume omunye ukuthi ayekwenza lokhu.” **14** UThixo wathukuthela, ulaka lwakhe lwavutha kuMosi, wathi, “Umfowenu u-Aroni, ongumLevi ke? Ngiyazi ukuthi uyenelisa ukukhuluma kuhle. Uvele usendleni ukuzahlangana lawe, njalo inhliziyo yakhe izathokoza ukukubona. **15** Uzakhluma laye ufake amazwi emlonyeni wakhe. Ngizaliphathisa lobabili ukuthi likhulume njalo ngizalifundisa ukuthi lenzeni. **16** Yena uzakukhulumela ebantwini, njalo kuzakuba sengani nguye ongumloko wakho njalo kube angani wena unguNkulunkulu kuye. **17** Kodwa phatha intonga le esandleni sakho ukuze wenze izimangaliso ngayo.” **18** UMosi wasebuyela kuyisezala uJethro wathi kuye, “Bengicela ukubuyela ebantwini bakithi eGibhithe ukuthi ngiyebona kumbe balokhu besaphille.” UJethro wathi kuye, “Hamba kuhle.” **19** UThixo wayethe kuMosi eMidiyani, “Buyela eGibhithe, ngoba bonke abantu ababefuna ukukubulala sebafa.” **20** Ngakho uMosi wathatha umkakhe kanye lamadodana akhe, wabakhweza kubabhemi waqala uhambo lokubuyela eGibhithe. Wathatha intonga kaNkulunkulu wayiphatha ngesandla. **21** UThixo wathi kuMosi, “Ekubuyeleni kwakho eGibhithe, bona ukuthi uyazenza zonke izimangaliso engikuphe amandla okuba uzenze phambi kukaFaro. Kodwa ngizakwenza inhliziyo yakhe ibe lukhuni ukuba angabavumeli abantu ukuthi basuke. **22** Uzakuthi kuFaro, ‘uThixo uthi u-Israyeli yindodana yami elizibulo, **23** njalo ngakutshela ngathi, ‘Vumela indodana yami ihambe, ukuze iyengikhonza.’ Kodwa wena wala ukuyivumela ukuba ihambe; ngakho ngizabulala indodana yakho elizibulo.” **24** Kwathi besesindleleni, endlini yezihambi, uThixo wahlangana loMosi wafuna ukumbulala. **25** Kodwa uZiphora wayisoka indodana yakhe, wathatha isikhumba sakhona wasehinta inyawo zikaMosi ngaso. Wathi, “Impela wena ungumyeni wegazi.” **26** Ngakho uThixo wamyekela. (Ngalesosikhathi uZiphora wathi “umyeni wegazi,” esitsho ukusoka.) **27** UThixo wathi ku-Aroni, “Hamba uye enkangala uhlangabezane loMosi.” Ngakho wasuka wayahlangana loMosi entabeni kaThixo wamanga. **28** UMosi wamtshela u-Aroni konke uThixo ayenthume ukuthi akutsho, njalo langazo zonke izibonakaliso ezimangalisayo ayemlaye ukuba azenze. **29** UMosi lo-Aroni bahamba bafika baqoqa bonke abadala bako-Israyeli, **30** u-Aroni wasebatshele konke uThixo ayekutshela uMosi. Wenza lezibonakaliso phambi kwabantu, **31** bakhoholwa. Kwathi besizwa

ukuthi uThixo uyabakhathalela, njalo wayelubonile usizi lwabo, bakhothama phansi bamkhonza.

5 Emva kwalokho uMosi lo-Aroni baya kuFaro. Bathi kuye, “Sikulethele ilizwi elivela kuThixo, uNkulunkulu wabantu bako-Israyeli. Uthi, ‘Umela abantu bami bahambe, ukuze bangenzele umkhosi enkangala.’” **2** UFaro wathi, “Ungubani uThixo okufanele ngimlalele ngivumele abako-Israyeli ukuba bahambe na? Mina kangimazi uThixo, njalo kangiyikubavumela abako-Israyeli ukuba bahambe.” **3** Ngakho-ke bona bathi, “UNkulunkulu wamaHebheru ubonakele kithi. Kumele sithathe uhambo lwamalanga amathathu siye enkangala ukuze siyenikela iminikelo kuThixo uNkulunkulu wethu, funa asibulale ngemikhuhlane loba ngenkamba.” **4** Kodwa inkosi yaseGibhithe yathi, “Mosi lo-Aroni, kungani lisaza abantu emsebenzini wabo? Buyelani emisebenzini yenu.” **5** UFaro wasesithi, “Khangalani abantu sebebanengi elizweni, kodwa lina liyabamisa ukusebenza.” **6** Ngalelolanga uFaro wathumela lezilizwi ezinduneni zezigqili ezazisebenzisa abantu wathi: **7** “Lingabe lisabapha abantu utshani bokwenza izitina. Yekelani bayezidingela utshani babo kodwa lingehlisi inani lezitina okumele bazenze. **8** Kumele ukuthi batshaye inani abebelitshaya. Bangamavila, yikho besuka bakhale besithi, ‘Kasihambeni siyenikela kuNkulunkulu wethu.’ **9** Yenzani umsebenzi ubenzima kwabesilisa ukuze baqhubekele phambili ngomsebenzi batshiyane lokulalela amanga.” **10** Izinduna zezigqili kanye labaphathi baphuma bayatshela abantu bathi, “Nanku esikulaywe nguFaro, uthi, ‘Kangisoze ngilnike utshani futhi. **11** Hambani liyesika utshani lapho elingabuthola khona. Kodwa umsebenzi wenu kawusoze uphungulwe lakancinyane.” **12** Ngakho abantu bahlakazeka kulonke elaseGibhithe, besika imihlanga ukuze bayisebenzise esikhundleni sotshani. **13** Izinduna zezigqili zaqhubeke zibakhahlameza zisithi, “Qedani imisebenzi yansuku zonke njengalokho elalikwenza lisazuza utshani.” **14** Abaphathi bezisebenzi bako-Israyeli ababekethwe yizinduna zezigqili zikaFaro batshaywa bebuzwa ukuthi, “Kungani inani lezelo lelanamuhla lingenelanga njengakuqala?” **15** Ngakho abaphathi bezisebenzi bako-Israyeli baya kuFaro bamcenga besithi, “Kungani uphatha izisebenzi zakho ngale indlela? **16** Izisebenzi zakho kazinikwa utshani, kodwa sitshelwa ukuthi, ‘Tshayani izitina!’ Izisebenzi zakho ziyatshaywa, kodwa umlandu ngowabantu bakho.” **17** UFaro wathi, “Mavila, yikho eliyikho, mavila! Yikho lihlahla lisithi, ‘Siyekele siyenikela kuThixo.’” **18** Buyelani emsebenzini. Akulatshani elizabuphiwa. Kodwa kumele lenze izitina ezifika inani ebelivele lilenza.” **19** Abaphathi bezisebenzi bako-Israyeli bananzelela ukuthi babesebunzimeni obukhulu baze batshelwe ukuthi, “Kakumelanga lehlise inani lezitina okumele lilenze nsuku zonke.” **20** Sebesukile kuFaro, bafica uMosi lo-Aroni bebalindele. **21** Basebesithi, “uThixo kalikhangele alahlulele. Selenze ukuthi senyanyeke kuFaro lakuziphathamandla zakhe, lafaka inkamba ezandleni zabo ukuba basibulale.” **22** UMosi wabuyela kuThixo wathi kuye, “Thixo, kungani ulethe uhlu pho ebantwini laba? Yiso yini isizatho sokungithuma. **23** Selokhu ngaya kuFaro ukuyakuhluma ngebizo lakho, uselethe uhlu pho ebantwini laba, njalo kawubahlenganga abantu bakho lakancane.”

6 UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Uzabona esengizakwenza kuFaro khathesi. Ngenxa yamandla esandla sami uzabavumela bahambe, ngenxa yamandla esandla sami uzabaxotsha

elizweni lakhe.” **2** UNkulunkulu waphinda wathi kuMosi, “NginguThixo. **3** Ngazibonakalisa ku-Abrahama, ku-Isaka lakuJakhobe njengoNkulunkulu uSomandla, kodwa ngegama lami elithi Thixo kangizange ngizibonakalise kubo. **4** Ngaphinda ngenza isivumelwano labo ukuze ngibanike ilizwe leKhenani lapho ababehlala khona njengabezizweni. **5** Phezu kwalokho, sengikuzwile ukububula kwabantu bako-Israyeli besebugqilini ngaphansi kwamaGibhithe, njalo sengikhumbule isivumelwano sami. **6** Ngakho tshela abako-Israyeli ukuthi nginguThixo, njalo ngizalikhulula embusweni wamaGibhithe onzima, ngizalikhulula ukuze lingabi yizigqili zabo, njalo ngizalikhulula ngesandla eseluliweyo langezimangaliso. **7** Ngizalemukela njengabantu bami njalo ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wenu. Ngalokho lizakwazi ukuthi nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu owalikhupha embusweni olukhuni wamaGibhithe. Ngizalikhulula ukuze lingabi yizigqili zabo. **8** Njalo ngizaliletha elizweni engafunga ngesandla sami esiphakemayo ukulinika u-Abrahama, u-Isaka loJakhobe. Ngizalilina lona ukuze libe ngelenu. Mina nginguThixo.” **9** UMosi wabika lokhu kwabako-Israyeli, kodwa kabazange bamlalele ngenxa yokudangala kwabo ebugqilini obolochuku. **10** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, **11** “Hamba uyeshela uFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe ukuthi avumele abako-Israyeli baphume elizweni lakhe.” **12** Kodwa uMosi wathi kuThixo, “Nxa abako-Israyeli bengangilaleli, kuyini okungenza ukuthi uFaro angilalele, njengoba ngikhuluma ngigagasa?” **13** UThixo wakhuluma loMosi lo-Aroni mayelana labako-Israyeli loFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe wabalaya ukuthi bavumele abantu bako-Israyeli ukuthi baphume eGibhithe. **14** Laba babezinhloko zezindlu zaboyise: Amadodana kaRubheni, izibulo lika-Israyeli ayeyila: uHanokhi, uPhalu, uHezironi, loKhani. Laba babengabosendo lukaRubheni. **15** Amadodana kaSimiyoni ayeyila: uJemuyeli, uJamini, u-Ohadi, uJakhini, uZohari, loShawuli olonina owayengumKhenani. Laba babengabosendo lukaSimiyoni. **16** La ngamabizo amadodana kaLevi ngokwemibhalo yabo: uGeshoni, uKhohathi loMerari. ULevi waphila iminyaka elikhulu elilamatshumi amathathu lesikhombisa. **17** Amadodana kaGeshoni ngezizukulwana zawo ayeyila: uLibhini, uShimeyi, lemuli zabo. **18** Amadodana kaKhohathi ayeyila: u-Amramu, u-Izihari, u-Hebhroni lo-Uziyeli. UKhohathi waphila iminyaka elikhulu elilamatshumi amathathu lantathu. **19** Amadodana kaMerari ayeyila: uMahili loMushi. Laba babengabosendo lukaLevi, ngokwemibhalo yabo. **20** U-Amramu wathatha uJokhebhedi owayengudadewabo kayise. Wamazalela u-Aroni loMosi. U-Amramu waphila iminyaka elikhulu elilamatshumi amathathu lesikhombisa. **21** Amadodana ka-Izihari ayeyila: uKhora, uNefegi loZikhiri. **22** Amadodana ka-Uziyeli ayeyila: uMishayeli, u-Elizafani loSithiri. **23** U-Aroni wathatha u-Elisheba indodakazi ka-Aminadabi. U-Elisheba wayengudadewabo kaNahashoni. Wamazalela uNadabi, u-Abhihu, u-Eliyazari lo-Ithamari. **24** Amadodana kaKhora ayeyila; u-Asiri, u-Elikhana lo-Abhiyasafi. Laba babengabosendo lukaKhora. **25** U-Eliyazari indodana ka-Aroni wathatha omunye wamadodakazi kaPhuthiyeli. Wamazalela uFinehasi. Laba-ke yibo ababengabakhokheli bezimuli zakuLevi, ngendlu yinye ngayinye. **26** Yibo labo o-Aroni loMosi uThixo athi kubo, “Khokhelani abantu bami bako-Israyeli libakhphe elizweni laseGibhithe ngamakhulu abo.” **27** Yibo laba abaya kuFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe mayelana lokukhupha abantu bako-Israyeli eGibhithe. Kwakuyibo oMosi

lo-Aroni. **28** Ngesikhathi uThixo ekhuluma loMosi eGibhithe, **29** wathi kuye, “NginguThixo. Tshela uFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe yonke into engikutshela yona.” **30** Kodwa uMosi wathi kuThixo, “Njengoba ngikhuluma ngigagasa, kambe kuyini okungenza ukuthi uFaro azihluphe ngokungilalela?”

7 UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Khangela, sengikwenze wafana loNkulunkulu kuFaro, njalo umfowenu u-Aroni uzakuba ngumphrofethi wakho. **2** Uzakuhluma konke engizakulaya khona njalo umfowenu u-Aroni uzatshela uFaro ukuthi avumele abako-Israyeli ukuba basuke elizweni lakhe. **3** Kodwa ngizakwenza inhliziyi kaFaro ibe lukhuni, njalo lanxa ngizakwandisa izimangaliso zami elizweni laseGibhithe, **4** kasoze alilalele. Sekunjalo ngizakwelula isandla sami phezu kweGibhithe, njalo ngezzenzo zami zokwahlulela ezilamandla, ngizakwahlukanisa abantu. **5** Njalo abantu baseGibhithe bazakwazi ukuthi ngempela mina nginguThixo lapho sengiselula isandla sami phezu kweGibhithe, besengikhupha abako-Israyeli kulelolizwe.” **6** UMosi lo-Aroni benza njengokulaywa kwabo nguThixo. **7** UMosi wayeleminyaka engamatshumi ayisificaminwembili ubudala, u-Aroni wayeleminyaka engamatshumi ayisificaminwembili lantathu ngesikhathi bekhuluma loFaro. **8** UThixo wathi kuMosi lo-Aroni, **9** “Nxa uFaro angathi kini limenzele isimangaliso, wena uzakuthi ku-Aroni, ‘Thatha intonga yakho uyiphose phambi kukaFaro,’ izaphenduka ibe yinyoka.” **10** Ngakho uMosi lo-Aroni baya kuFaro. Bafika benza njengokulaywa kwabo nguThixo. U-Aroni waphosa intonga yakhe phansi phambi kukaFaro lezikhulu zakhe, yaphenduka yaba yinyoka. **11** UFaro wasebiza izanuse lezinyanga zaseGibhithe. Lazo zenza izimanga ngendlela efanayo. **12** Bonke baphosela intonga zabo phansi zaphenduka zaba zinyoka. Kodwa inyoka ka-Aroni yaziginya zonke izinyoka. **13** Kodwa-ke, lanxa kwabanjalo, inhliziyi kaFaro yala ilokhu ilukhuni; njengoba uThixo wayetshilo. **14** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Inhliziyi kaFaro ilukhuni; uyala ukuthi abantu bahambe. **15** Yana kuFaro ekuseni, ngesikhathi esehlela emfuleni. Ubokuma okhunjini lomfula uNayili, umhlangabeze uphethe intonga eyaphenduka yaba yinyoka. **16** Ubokuthi kuye, ‘uThixo, uNkulunkulu wamaHebheru ungithumile njalo kuwe ukuba ngizekutshela ukuthi: Vumela abantu bami ukuthi bahambe, ukuze bayengikhonza engangala. Kodwa kuze kube khathesi kawukalaleli. **17** UThixo uthi, Ngalokhu uzakwazi ukuthi nginguThixo: Ngentonga esesandleni sami ngizatshaya amanzi kaNayili njalo azaphenduka abe ligazi. **18** Inhlanzi kuNayili zizakufa, amanzi omfula azanuka athi phu, ngakho abantu baseGibhithe abangeke babe besawanatha.” **19** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Tshela u-Aroni uthi ‘thatha intonga yakho wululele isandla sakho phezu kwamanzi eGibhithe, lakuyo yonke imifula yakhona lemisele yamanzi, amaxhaphozi, lamachibi, wonke amanzi alapho azaphenduka abe ligazi.’ Igazi lizagcwala eGibhithe lasezinkonxeni zezigodo lasezitshezi zamatshe.” **20** UMosi lo-Aroni benza njengokulaywa kwabo nguThixo. Waphakamisa intonga yakhe phambi kukaFaro lezikhulu zakhe watshaya amanzi kaNayili aphenduka aba ligazi. **21** Inhlanzi zikaNayili zafa. Umfula wanuka kubi okokuthi abaseGibhithe babengeke bawanathe amanzi akhona. Igazi laseligcwele indawo yonke. **22** Kodwa izanuse zaseGibhithe lazo ngemilingo yazo zenza izimanga ezifananayo. Ngalokho inhliziyi kaFaro yala ilokhu ilukhuni. Kabalalelanga oMosi lo-Aroni njengoba uThixo wayevele etshilo. **23** UFaro

wabuyela esigodlweni sakhe engakunaki lokho. **24** Sekunjalo abaseGibhithe bamba imithombo okhunjini lomfula uNayili ukuba bathole amanzi okunatha, ngoba babengeke babe besawanatha awomfula. **25** Kwedlula insuku eziyisikhombisa ngemva kokuba uThixo enze amanzi kaNayili aba ligazi.

8 UThixo wathi kuMosi, “Buyela njalo kuFaro uthi kuye, ‘UThixo uthi, Vumela abantu bami bahambe bayengikhonza. **2** Ungala ngizathumela uhlupho lwamaxoxo elizweni lakho. **3** Umfula uNayili uzagcwala amaxoxo. Azangena esigodlweni sakho lasendlini yakho yokulala, lasembhedeni wakho; angene lezindlini zezikhulu zakho lezabantu bakho. Azagcwala ezindaweni zenu zokuphekela, lasemiganwini yenu yokuvubela izinkwa. **4** Amaxoxo la azakuba phezu kwakho laphezu kwabantu bakho kanye lezikhulu zakho.’” **5** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Tshela u-Aroni akhombela intonga emifuleni, lasezifudlaneni lasezizibeni zonke zaseGibhithe ukuze kube lamaxoxo ezindaweni zonke zelizwe.” **6** U-Aroni welulela isandla sakhe emanzini eGibhithe, amaxoxo agcwala ilizwe lonke. **7** Kodwa-ke izanuse lazo zenzanjalo ngemilingo yazo yensitha, zenza kwaba lamaxoxo elizweni lonke leGibhithe. **8** UFaro wabiza uMosi lo-Aroni wathi kubo, “Ncengani uThixo asuse amaxoxo kimi lebantwini bami, lami ngizavumela abantu bakhe ukuba bahambe bayenikela imihlatshelo kuThixo.” **9** UMosi wathi, kuFaro “Ngikutsihya kuwe ukuba ubeke isikhathi sokuthi ngikukhulekele wena lezikhulu zakho labantu bakho ukuze lina lezindlu zenu lilanyulelwe emaxoxweni, ngaphandle kwalawo azasala kuNayili.” **10** UFaro wathi, “Kwenze kusasa.” UMosi wasesithi, “Kuzakuba njengokutsho kwakho ukuze ukwazi ukuthi kakho omunye onjengoThixo uNkulunkulu wethu. **11** Amaxoxo azasuka kini lezindlini zenu lezezikhulu labantu benu abesesala emfuleni uNayili kuphela.” **12** UMosi lo-Aroni basuka kuFaro. UMosi wakhala kuThixo ukuba asuse amaxoxo ayewathumele kuFaro. **13** UThixo wenza lokho uMosi ayekulelele. Amaxoxo aba ezindlini lemagemeni lemasimini. **14** Babathulela aba zinqwabanqwaba; ilizwe lonke lanuka phu ngamaxoxo. **15** Kodwa uFaro ebona ukuthi udubo soluphungukile womisa inhliziyi yakhe wala ukulalela uMosi lo-Aroni njengokwakuvele kukhulunywe nguThixo. **16** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Tshela u-Aroni uthi, ‘Phakamisa intonga yakho utshaye uthuli lomhlabathi,’ uthuli luzaphenduka lube zintwala elizweni lonke laseGibhithe.” **17** Benza njengokulaywa kwabo, kwathi u-Aroni eselule isandla sakhe ephethe intonga watshaya uthuli, intwala zahlasela abantu lezifuyo zabo. Uthuli lonke eGibhithe lwaphenduka lwaba zintwala. **18** Izanuse lazo zayama ukwenza intwala ngemilingo yazo, kodwa zehluleka. Njengoba intwala zazisebantwini lezinyamazani, **19** izanuse zathi kuFaro, “Lokhu kungumunwe kaNkulunkulu.” Kodwa inhliziyi kaFaro yayilukhuni, kabalalelanga njengoba uThixo wayevele etshilo. **20** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Kusasa ubovuka ekuseni kakhulu uhlangabeze uFaro lapho esiya emanzini. Ubokuthi kuye, ‘Vumela abantu bami bahambe bayengikhonza. **21** Ungala, ngizathumela umtshitshi wempukane kuwe, ebantwini bakho lezindlini zenu. Izindlu zabantu baseGibhithe zizagcwala impukane lomhlabathi ugcwale zona. **22** Kodwa ngalolosuku akuyikuba njalo eGosheni lapho okuhlala khona abantu bami. Akuyikuba lemitshitshi yempukane khona. Ngakho uzakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo womhlaba wonke. **23** Ngizakwenza kube lomahluko phakathi kwabantu bami

labantu bakho. Lesisimangaliso sizakwenzakala kusasa.” 24 UThixo wenza njengoba wayetshilo. Umshitshi wempukane ezinengi okwesabeka kakhulukazi zagcwala esigodlweni sikaFaro lasezindlini zezikhulu zakhe, lakulo lonke ilizwe laseGibhithe; zalitshabalalisa. 25 UFaro wabiza uMosi lo-Aroni. Wathi kubo, “Hambani liyehlabela uNkulunkulu wenu likhonapha kulelizwe.” 26 UMosi waphendula wathi, “Lokho akulunganga. Imihlatshelo yethu esinikela ngayo kuThixo uNkulunkulu wethu iyanengeka ebantwini beGibhithe. Singanikela ngeminikelo abayizondayo kambe kabayikusitshaya ngamatshe na? 27 Kumele sithathe uhambo lwezizinsuku ezintathu siye enkangala siyemhlaba khonale uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu njengokusilaya kwakhe.” 28 UFaro wathi, “Ngizalivumela lihambe liyenikela imihlatshelo kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu enkangala, kodwa lingayi khatshana. Khathesi ngikhulekelani.” 29 UMosi waphendula wathi, “Ngizakuthi ngisanda kusuka ngikhulele kuThixo, njalo kusasa umshitshi wempukane uzasuka kuFaro, ezikhulwini zakhe lebantwini bakhe. Kodwa uFaro kangasikhohlisi futhi asuke angasavumeli abantu ukuba bahambe bayenikela imihlatshelo kuThixo.” 30 Emva kwalokho uMosi wasuka kuFaro wasekhuleka kuThixo. 31 UThixo wenza lokho okwakucelwe nguMosi, umshitshi wempukane wanyamalala kuFaro lezikhulu zakhe labantu bakhe, akwaze kwasala leyodwa. 32 Kodwa langalesosikhathi uFaro wenza inhliziyi yakhe yaba lukhuni kazabavumela abako-Israyeli ukuba bahambe.

9 UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Yana kuFaro uthi kuye, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo, uNkulunkulu wamaHebheru, ukuthi, ‘Yekela abantu bami bahambe, ukuze bayengikhonza.’” 2 Ungabalela ukuthi bahambe ube ulokhu ubabambile 3 uThixo uzakwehlisela isifo esibi ezifuyweni zakho emadlelweni, amabhiza enu, obabhemi, amakamela, inkomo, izimvu lembuzi. 4 Kodwa uThixo uzakwenza umahluko phakathi kwezifuyo zabako-Israyeli lezamaGibhithe ukuze kungafi lasinye isifuyo sabako-Israyeli.” 5 UThixo wamisa isikhathi esithile wathi, “uThixo uzakwenza lokhu kusasa elizweni leli.” 6 Lakanye ngelanga elilandelayo uThixo wakwenza, zonke izifuyo zamaGibhithe zafa, kodwa akufanga ngitsho lasinye isifuyo sabako-Israyeli. 7 UFaro wathuma amadoda ukuyahlola umonakalo afumana ukuthi kwakungafanga sifuyo lasinye sabako-Israyeli. Kodwa inhliziyi yakhe yala ilokhu ilukhuni, wabalela abantu ukuthi bahambe. 8 UThixo wasesithi kuMosi lo-Aroni, “Thathani umlotha omlutshwana eziko lifike kuFaro uMosi awuhazele emoyeni phambi kwakhe. 9 Uzakuba luthuli phezu kwelizwe lonke laseGibhithe, lapho-ke kuzaphihlika amathumba amabi ebantwini lasezinyamazane kulonke ilizwe.” 10 Ngakho bathatha umlotha eziko baya kuFaro. UMosi wawuhazele emoyeni, abantu bonke lezinyamazana zonke kwamilwa ngamathumba aphihihlikayo. 11 Izangoma zehluleka ukumisana loMosi ngenxa yamathumba ayezibulala kanye lamaGibhithe wonke. 12 Kodwa uThixo wenza yaba lukhuni inhliziyi kaFaro wala ukulalela uMosi lo-Aroni njengoba uThixo wayevele etshilo kuMosi. 13 UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Vuka ekuseni kakhulu uye kuFaro, uthi kuye, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo, uNkulunkulu wamaHebheru, uthi, yekela abantu bami bahambe ukuze bayengikhonza. 14 Kungenjalo kulesisikhathi ngizakwehlisa ubunzima bezinhlupho zami obulesihluku phezu kwakho, phezu kwezinceku zakho labantu bakho ukuze lazi ukuthi kakho omunye onjengami emhlabeni

wonke. 15 Kunje nje ngabe sengiselulile isandla sami ngakutshaya kanye labantu bakho ngesifo ebemizakucitsha emhlabeni. 16 Kodwa ngikuphephile ngayonale injongo yokuthi ngikubonise amandla ami, lokuthi ibizo lami lifakazwe kuwo wonke umhlaba. 17 Ulokhu utshingela abantu bami ubalela ukuthi bahambe. 18 Ngalokho-ke ngalesisikhathi kusasa ngizakwehlisa isiqhotho esingakaze sehlele eGibhithe lilokhu lababala laba khona ilizwe leli. 19 Wohle nje uthumezele ilizwi lokuthi izifuyo zakho lakho konke olakho emadlelweni kubuyiswe kuvalelwe esibayeni esivikelweyo ngoba isiqhotho lesa sizatshaya umuntu wonke lesifuyo sonke esingabuthwanga nxa ilokhu sisegangeni, konke kuzakufa.” 20 Lezozikhulu zikaFaro ezalesabayi ilizwi likaThixo zaphanga zangenisa izigqili zazo lezifuyo ngaphakathi. 21 Labo abangalinzanga ilizwi likaThixo izigqili zabo lezifuyo zabo bakuyekela kusegangeni. 22 UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Yelula isandla sakho siye phezulu ukuze kune isiqhotho kulonke iGibhithe, phezu kwabantu lezinyamazana lapho kwakho konke okukhulayo emasimini aseGibhithe.” 23 UMosi wonela ukukhomba ngentonga yakhe phezulu, uThixo wehlisa umdumo lesiqhotho, umbane wabaneka phansi emhlabathini. Ngakho uThixo wanisa isiqhotho elizweni laseGibhithe. 24 Isiqhotho satshaya umbane wabaneka yonke indawo. Sasingakaze sibe khona isiphopho esinjalo sekulokhu isizwe saseGibhithe saba khona. 25 Isiqhotho satshaya saqothula yonke into egangeni, abantu lezinyamazana; sabhuqa konke okukhulayo emasimini, saphundla izihlahla zonke eGibhithe. 26 Indawo eyasilayo yiGosheni lapho okwakulabako-Israyeli khona. 27 UFaro wasebiza uMosi lo-Aroni. Wathi kubo, “Okwamanje ngenze isono. UThixo ulungile, kukanti mina labantu bami siyizoni. 28 Khulekani kuThixo, ngoba ukukhwaza kwezulu lesiqhotho sekwanele. Ngizaliekela lihambe; akusadingeki ukuthi lihlale.” 29 UMosi waphendula wathi, “Nxa sengiphumile edolobheni ngizavula izandla zami ngikhulele kuThixo. Ukuduma kuzakhawula kungabe kusaba lesiqhotho, ukuze wazi ukuthi umhlaba ngokaThixo. 30 Kodwa ngiyazi ukuthi wena lezikhulu zakho lilokhu lingamesabi uThixo uNkulunkulu.” 31 (Amabele lebhali kwabuhquwa nya ngoba amabele ayeselezikhwebu lophoko selumumethe. 32 Ingqoloyi lenyawuthi khona kakuthintwanga ngoba kuvuthwa muva.) 33 UMosi wasesuka kuFaro waphuma edolobheni. Welulela izandla zakhe kuThixo; ukuduma kwezulu lesiqhotho kwakhawula, izulu alabe lisana emhlabeni. 34 Kwathi uFaro ebona ukuthi izulu lesiqhotho lokukhwaza kwezulu kwasekukhawule waphinda wenza isono: Yena lezikhulu zakhe benza inhliziyi zabo zaba lukhuni. 35 Ngakho inhliziyi kaFaro yaba lukhuni akaze avumela abako-Israyeli ukuthi bahambe njengoba uThixo wayetshilo ngoMosi.

10 Ngakho uThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Hamba kuFaro, ngoba sengiyenze yaba lukhuni inhliziyi yakhe lezinhliziyi zezikhulu zakhe ukuze ngenze izimanga zami kubo 2 ukuze lilandisele abantwabenu labazakulu benu ukuthi ngabahlukuluza njani abeGibhithe lokuthi ngabenzela izimanga, khona lizakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo.” 3 Ngakho oMosi lo-Aroni baya kuFaro bathi kuye, “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo, uNkulunkulu wamaHebheru: ‘Uzakwala ukuze kube nini ukuzithoba phambi kwami? Yekela abantu bami bahambe ukuze bayengikhonza. 4 Nxa usala ukuthi bahambe ngizaletsha intetha elizweni lakho kusasa. 5 Zizakwembesa

wonke umhlabathi usale ungasabonakali. Zizakudla ziphundle du lalokho okuncinyane okwatshiywa yisiqhotho kanye lezihlahla zonke ezikhula egangeni. **6** Zizagcwala ezindlini zakho lezezikhulu zakho zonke lezamaGibhithe, into oyihlo labokhokho bakho abangazange bayibone selokhu bahlala kulelilizwe kuze kube manje.” Khonapho uMosi wabe efulathela esuka kuFaro. **7** Izikhulu zikaFaro zathi kuye, “Koze kube nini na indoda le ilokhu iyisifu kithi? Yekela abantu bahambe bayekhona uThixo uNkulunkulu wabo. Ulokhu ungaboni yini ukuthi ilizwe leGibhithe selichithekile?” **8** UMosi lo-Aroni basebebuyiswa kuFaro. Wathi, “Hambani liyakhona uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. Kanti konje ngobani abahambayo?” **9** UMosi waphendula wathi, “Sizahamba labatsha labadala bethu; lamadodana lamadodakazi ethu, lemihlambi yethu ngoba kumele senzele uThixo umkhosi.” **10** UFaro wathi, “uThixo kabe lani, kumbe likhumbula ukuthi ngizalijekela lihambe labesifazane labantwana! Kusobala ukuthi liqonde ukwenza okubi. **11** Hatshi! Akuhambe amadoda kuphela; amkhonze uThixo ngoba phela yikho ebelivele likukhalela.” Ngakho uMosi lo-Aroni basebexotshwa phambi kukafaro. **12** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Yelula isandla sakho phezu kweGibhithe ukuze kwehle isikhongwane, izintethe, kulolonke ilizwe zidle zigugude konke okukhulayo emangweni, konke lokho okwatshiywa yisiqhotho.” **13** UMosi wayiphakamisa intonga yakhe phezu kweGibhithe, uThixo wasequbula umoya wempumalanga wavunguza elizweni lonke ngalelolangana lobusuku bakhona. Ekuseni umoya waletsha izintethe. **14** Zalihlasele lonke elaseGibhithe zagcwala siliki kuzozonke izindawo zelizwe ngobunengi bazo. Kwakungakaze kube lesikhongwane esingako njalo singeyikufa saba khona njalo lanini. **15** Intethe lezo zavalala umhlabathi waba mnyama bhuqe. Zats haya zabhuqa konke okwakusele ngesikhathi sesiqhotho, konke okwakukhula emangweni kanye lezithelo zezihlahla. Akusalanga lutho oluluhlaza ezihlahleni loba isilimo bani kulolonke ilizwe laseGibhithe. **16** UFaro waphanga wabiza uMosi lo-Aroni wathi, “Ngonile kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu lakini. **17** Manje-ke ngixolelani njalo libuye likhulele kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ukuthi asule loluhluho olubhubhisayo.” **18** UMosi wasesuka kuFaro wayakhuleka kuThixo. **19** UThixo wasewuguqula umoya waphethepha uvelela entshonalanga ulamandla. Wazidudula izintethe wazitshovela olwandle Olubomvu. Akusalanga ntethe layinye loba ngaphi eGibhithe. **20** Kodwa uThixo wayenza yaba lukhuni inhliziyi kaFaro, kaze abavumela abako-Israyeli ukuthi bahambe. **21** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Yelulela isandla sakho emkhathini ukwenzela ukuthi umnyama wembese iGibhithe lonke, umnyama obambekayo.” **22** Ngakho uMosi waseselulela isandla sakhe phezu, kwathi gubu umnyama okhasa phansi, walembeba lonke elaseGibhithe okwensuku ezintathu. **23** Kakho owayesabona omunye njalo kakho owayengasuka endaweni yakhe okwalezonsuku ezintathu. Kodwa ama-Israyeli ayelakho ukukhanya ezindaweni ayehlala kuzo. **24** UFaro wasebiza uMosi wathi, “Hambani liyekhona uThixo. Ngitsho labesifazane benu labantwana hambani labo; litshiye kuphela imihlambi yezifuyo zenu.” **25** Kodwa uMosi wathi, “Kumele usivumele ukuthi siyokwenza imihlatshelo leminikelo yokutshiswa kuThixo uNkulunkulu wethu. **26** Izifuyo zethu lazo zimele zihambe lathi kungasali lasinye. Kumele siyosebenzisa ezinye zazo ekukhonzeni uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu. Phela kasisoze sazi ukuthi sizasebenzisa siphisi isifuyo ukukhona

uThixo size sifike khonale.” **27** Kodwa uThixo wayenza yaba lukhuni inhliziyi kaFaro, kaze afuna ukubayekela bahambe. **28** UFaro wathi kuMosi, “Suka phambi kwam! Phinde ngikubone futhi. Mhla wangibona futhi ufile wena.” **29** UMosi waphendula wathi, “Akube njengokuba usitsho. Phinde ungibone njalo lapha.”

11 Ngalesosikhathi uThixo wathi kuMosi, “Sekusele ukuthi ngehlise uluhluho olulodwa kuFaro laphezu kweGibhithe. Ngemva kwalokho uzalijekela lisuke lapha, njalo liphume eselixotsha lonke. **2** Tshela abantu ukuthi amadoda labafazi ngokufananayo bacele kubomakhelwane babo izinto zesiliva legolide.” **3** (UThixo wenza amaGibhithe aba lomusa ebantwini, loMosi uqobo wahlonitshwa kakhulu yizikhulu zikaFaro langabantu.) **4** Ngakho uMosi wasesithi, “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: ‘Phakathi kobusuku ngizahambahamba kulolonke elaseGibhithe. **5** Wonke owesilisa olizibulo eGibhithe uzakufa, kusukela ezibulweni likaFaro ohlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi kuthathe kanye lezibulo lesigqili sentombazana esisebenza ukuchola, kanye lamazibulo enkomo uqobo. **6** Kuzakuba lesililo esikhulu eGibhithe lonke, isililo esingakaze sibe khona njalo esingayikuba khona lanini. **7** Kodwa kwabako-Israyeli akuyikuba lanja ezakhonkotha umuntu loba inyamazana.’ Lapho-ke lizakwazi ukuthi uThixo uyawehlukanisa amaGibhithe kwabako-Israyeli. **8** Zonke izikhulu zakho lezi zizakuzo kimi zikhothamisele ubuso phansi phambi kwami zisithi, ‘Hambani, wena labo bonke abakulandelayo!’ Ngemva kwalokho ngizasuka.” UMosi wasesuka kuFaro elokhu ezonde evutha umlilo. **9** UThixo wayesetshilo kuMosi wathi, “UFaro uzaqinisa intamo, ukuze zande izimangaliso zami eGibhithe.” **10** UMosi lo-Aroni bazenza zonke izimangaliso lezi emehlweni kaFaro, kodwa uThixo wayenza yaba lukhuni inhliziyi kaFaro kaze abavumela abako-Israyeli ukuthi baphume elizweni lakhe.

12 UThixo wathi kuMosi lo-Aroni beseGibhithe, **2** “Inyanga le kayibe yinyanga yakuqala kini, inyanga yokuqala emnyakeni wenu. **3** Tshelani bonke abomndeni ka-Israyeli ukuthi ngelanga letshumi lale inyanga indoda ngayinye kayithathele abomuzi wayo izinyane libe linye indlu ngendlu. **4** Nxa abendlu bebalutshwana kakhulu ukuthi abangeke baliqede lelozinyane kababelane labomakhelwane abaseduze kwabo kusiya ngenani labo ukuthi bangaki. Kumele uphawule ukuthi kungadingeka izinyane elinganani kusiya ngokuthi umuntu emunye angadla inyama engakanani. **5** Kumele ukhethe amazinyane amaduna alomnyaka owodwa angelasici, njalo ungakhetha ezimvini loba embuzini. **6** Agcine amazinyane lawo kuze kube lusuku lwetshumi lane lwenyanga, lapho isizwe sonke sako-Israyeli esizawahlaba khona nxa kuhwalala. **7** Lapho-ke kuzamele bathathe igazi balicogcine emaceleni laphezulu kwemigubazi yalezozindlu abazadlela khona amazinyane. **8** Ngalobobusuku kumele badle inyama eyoswe emlilweni, lesinkwa esingelamvubelo lemibhida ebabayo. **9** Lingayidli inyama iluhlaza loba iphekwe ngamanzi, kodwa yoseni emlilweni konke lenhloko yakhona lamangqina kanye lezangaphakathi. **10** Lingatshiyi lutho lwayo kuze kube kuseni; kuthi nxa kukhona okuseleyo kwayo ekuseni kumele likutshise. **11** Liboyidla inkalo zenu zibotshiwe, amanyathela egqokiwe lentonga zenu zisezandleni. Lidle ngokuphangisa; kuliPhasika likaThixo. **12** Ngalobobusuku ngizadabula phakathi kweGibhithe ngibulala wonke amazibulo

abantu lawezinyamazana njalo ngizakwahlulela bonke onkulunkulu bamaGibhithe. Mina nginguThixo. **13** Igazi lizakuba yisibonakaliso sezindlu lapho elikhona lina; kuzakuthi ngingabona igazi ngedlule kini. Akulasijeziro esibhidlizayo esizalithinta lina nxa sengichitha iGibhithe. **14** Leli akube lilanga lesikhumbuzo, kuthi zonke izizukulwane ezizayo ziligcine ngomkhosi omkhulu kuThixo, kube yisimiso sanini lanini. **15** Okwensuku eziyisikhombisa kumele lidle isinkwa esingelamvubelo. Ngelanga lakuqala khuphani imvubelo ezindlini zenu, kuthi lowo odla loba yini elemvubelo ngelanga lakuqala kusiya kwelesikhombisa kumele akhutshwe ko-Israyeli. **16** Ngosuku lwaquqala lenze umbuthano ongwele, liphinde omunye ngosuku lwesikhombisa. Lingenzi msebenzi ngamalanga lawa ngaphandle kokulungisa ukudla kwabantu, yikho kodwa elingakwenza. **17** Gcinani uMkhosi weSinkwa esingelamvubelo ngoba kwakulilanga engehlukanisa ngalo amaviyo enu eGibhithe. Gcinani lelilanga njengesimiso sanini lanini kuzizukulwane ezizayo. **18** Ngenyanga yakuqala kumele lidle isinkwa esingelamvubelo, kusukela kusihlwa ngelanga letshumi lane kuze kube kusihlwa ngelanga lamatshumi amabili lanye. **19** Okwensuku eziyisikhombisa akumelanga kutholakale imvubelo ezindlini zenu. Akuthi lowo odla loba yini elemvubelo asuswe phakathi kwabantu bako-Israyeli, loba engowezizweni kumbe owosendo lwenu. **20** Lingadli lutho olufakwe imvubelo. Loba kungaphi elihlala khona libokudla isinkwa esingelamvubelo.” **21** Ngakho uMosi wasebiza bonke abadala bako-Israyeli wathi kubo, “Hambani khona manje liyokhetha amazinyane ezindlu zenu lihlabe izinyane lePhasika. **22** Lithathe ilixha lehisophi liyixxamuze emganwini olegazi beselithatha elinye igazi liligcobe phezulu lakunxa zonke zomgubazi. Akungabikhona lamunye wenu ozaphuma emnyango wendlu yakhe kuze kuse. **23** Lapho uThixo edabula phakathi kwelizwe ebulala amaGibhithe uzalibona igazi phezulu lemaceleli omgubazi, aceze awedlule lowomnyango angamvumeli umbhubhisi ukungena endlini alibulale. **24** Lalelani imilayo le njengezimiso zaphakade kini lasezizukulwaneni zenu. **25** Nxa lingangena elizweni uThixo azalinika lona njengokuthembisa kwakhe, liwgcine umkhosi lo. **26** Nxa abantwabantu belibuzabesithi, ‘Umkhosi lo ngowani?’ **27** libatshela lithi, ‘UliPhasika lomhlathshelo kaThixo owadlula eceza izindlu zabako-Israyeli eGibhithe, waphephisa imizi yethu mhla egadla amaGibhithe.’” Khonapho abantu bakhothama bakhonza. **28** Abako-Israyeli bakwenza lokho uThixo akuyala uMosi lo-Aroni. **29** Phakathi kobusuku uThixo wawongoda wonke amazibulo eGibhithe, kusukela ezibulweni likaFaro owayesesihlalweni sobukhosi kusiya ezibulweni lesibotshwa esasisentolongweni, kanye lamazibulo ezifuyo. **30** UFaro lezikhulu zakhe zonke lawo wonke amaGibhithe bavuka ebusuku basiqhinqa isililo esikhulu eGibhithe ngoba kungekho ndlu layinye lapho okwakungafiwanga khona. **31** Ebusuku uFaro wabiza uMosi lo-Aroni wathi, “Hambani! Sukani ebantwini bami, lina labako-Israyeli. Hambani liyekhonza uThixo njengokucela kwenu. **32** Thathani imihlambi yenu, njengokutsho kwenu lihambe. Njalo lingibusise.” **33** AmaGibhithe akhuthaza ukuthi baphangise baphume elizweni. Bathi, “Engxenye sinkafa sonke!” **34** Ngakho abantu bathatha inhlama yabo yesinkwa ingakafakwa mvubelo bayithwala emahlombe ngemiganu yokuvubela iqogelwe ngamalembu. **35** Abako-Israyeli benza lokho uMosi abayala khona, bacela kumaGibhithe izinto

ezenziwe ngesiliva langegolide kanye lezigqoko. **36** UThixo wenza amaGibhithe aba lomusa abapha konke abakucelayo. Ngakho bawemuka impahla ezinengi amaGibhithe. **37** Uhambo lwabako-Israyeli lwasukela eRamesesi baqonda eSukhothi. Kwakulamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamakhulu ayisithupha ehamba ngenyawo ngaphandle kwabesifazane labantwana. **38** Abanye abantu abanengi bahamba loba kanye lemihlambi eminengi yezifuyo, izimvu lenkomo. **39** Inhlama abaphuma layo eGibhithe bapheka ngayo isinkwa esingelamvubelo. Inhlama leyo yayingelamvubelo ngoba basuka eGibhithe sebexotshwa abazabe besaba lesikhathi sokuzilingisa umphako. **40** Abako-Israyeli babehlale eGibhithe okweminyaka engamakhulu amane lamatshumi amathathu. **41** Ekupheleni kwaleyominyaka engamakhulu amane lamatshumi amathathu kungeqanga suku wonke amaviyo kaThixo asuka eGibhithe. **42** Kwathi ngoba uThixo walinda ngalobobusuku esakhupha abako-Israyeli eGibhithe, yikho-ke labo abako-Israyeli bonke kumele bawugcine umlindo lo behlonipha uThixo kuzozonke izizukulwane ezizayo. **43** UThixo wathi kuMosi lo-Aroni, “Nansi imilayo yePhasika: Akungabi lamuntu wezizweni olidlayo. **44** Isigqili esithengwe ngemali singalidla nxa sesisokile, **45** kodwa isihambi sezizweni lesisebenzi esiqhatshweywe kabavonyelwa ukulidla. **46** Kalidlelwe endlini eyodwa, kungabi lanyama ephumela phandle kwendlu. Akungabi lathambo elephulwayo. **47** Isizwe sonke sako-Israyeli kumele siwugcine lumkhosi. **48** Owezizweni ohlala phakathi kwenu nxa efuna ukulidla iPhasika likaThixo kasoke bonke abesilisa abahlala endlini yakhe. Lapho-ke usengahlanganyela adle njengomunye wenzalo yalolizwe. Owesilisa ongasokwanga kangalidli. **49** Umthetho lo ugoqela bonke abantu, abayinzalo yakini labezizweni abahlala phakathi kwenu.” **50** Bonke abako-Israyeli benza khona lokho uThixo ayekulaye uMosi lo-Aroni. **51** Njalo ngalelolanga uThixo wakhupha abako-Israyeli eGibhithe ngamaviyo abo.

13 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** “Ngahlukanisela wonke amazibulo esilisa. Konke okuzalwa kuqala phakathi kwabako-Israyeli kungokwami, kungaba ngumuntu loba isifuyo.” **3** Ngakho uMosi wasesithi ebantwini, “Lugcineni lube lusuku lwesikhumbuzo lolu, ilanga elaphuma ngalo eGibhithe, liphuma elizweni lobugqili, ngoba uThixo walikhupha khona ngamandla amakhulu. Lingadli lutho olulemuvubelo. **4** Lamuhla ngenyanga ka-Abhithi, liyasuka. **5** Kuzakuthi uThixo angalifikisa elizweni lamaKhenani, amaHithi, ama-Amori, amaHivi lamaJebusi, ilizwe afunga kubokhokho benu ukuthi uzalinika lona, ilizwe eligeleza uchago lolu, kufanele liwugcine lumkhosi ngayonke inyanga. **6** Okwensuku eziyisikhombisa lidle isinkwa esingelamvubelo kuthi ngosuku lwesikhombisa lithakazelele umkhosi kaThixo; **7** kungabonwa lutho olulemuvubelo phakathi kwenu, kuvele kungabonwa mvubelo elizweni lenu lonke. **8** Ngalelolanga ngulowo lalowo atshele indodana yakhe athi, ‘Lokhu ngikwenza ngenxa yalokho uThixo angenzela khona ekuphumeni kwami eGibhithe.’ **9** Lesisikhumbuzo kuwe sizakuba luphawu esandleni sakho lesikhumbuzo ebunzini lakho ukuthi umlayo kaThixo ube sezindebeni zakho. Ngoba uThixo wakukhupha eGibhithe ngesandla sakhe esilamandla amakhulu. **10** Kalibosigcina lesisimiso ngesikhathi esisimisiweyo minyaka yonke. **11** Nxa uThixo eselingenisile elizweni lamaKhenani walinika lona njengokuthembisa kwakhe kini lakubokhokho benu, **12** kumele lahlukanisele uThixo konke okuzalwa kuqala yizo zonke

izibeletho. Wonke amazibulo esilisa ezifuyo zenu ngakaThixo. **13** Lizahlenga izibulo likababhemini ngezinyane, kodwa nxa lingalihlenganga lephuleni intamo. Lihlengi njalo wonke amadodana enu angamazibulo. **14** Nxa indodana yakho ikubuza ngesikhathi esizayo isithi, 'Kutshoni lokhu?' ubokuthi kuyo, 'uThixo wasikhupha eGibhithe ngesandla sakhe esilamandla amakhulu, wasikhupha elizweni lobugqili. **15** Kwathi uFaro eqholoza esala ukuthi sihambe, uThixo wabulala wonke amazibulo eGibhithe, awabantu lawezinyamazana. Yikho-nje nginikela kuThixo izibulo lesilisa lenzalo yonke ngiphinde ngihlengi wonke amadodana ami angamazibulo.' **16** Lokhu kuzakuba njengophawo esandleni sakho lesibonelo ebunzini lakho ukuthi uThixo wakukhupha eGibhithe ngesandla sakhe esilamandla amakhulu." **17** UFaro esebavumele abantu ukuthi bahambe, uNkulunkulu kabakhokhelanga ngendlela edabula elizweni lamaFalistiya loba yona yayiquma. Ngoba uNkulunkulu wathi, "Nxa behlangana lempi mhlawumbe bangethuka babuyele eGibhithe." **18** Yikho uNkulunkulu wabahola ngendlela yenkangala eya oLwandle Olubomvu. Abako-Israyeli baphuma eGibhithe behlomele impi. **19** UMosi wawathwala amathambo kaJosefa ngoba uJosefa wayenze isifungo lamadodana ka-Israyeli wathi, "Ngempela uNkulunkulu uzalikhulula. Lapho-ke libowathwala amathambo ami lisuke lawo kule indawo." **20** Sebesukile eSukhothi bayamisa e-Ethamu indawo egudlene lenkangala. **21** Emini uThixo wahamba phambi kwabo ngensika yeyezi ebahola endleleni yabo, kwathi ebusuku wabahola ngensika yomlilo ukubakhanyisela ukuze bahambe emini lebusuku. **22** Insika yeyezi emini loba insika yomlilo ebusuku kakuzange kusuke endaweni yakho phambi kwabantu.

14 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** "Tshela abako-Israyeli ukuthi babuyele emuva bayomisa ePhi-Hahirothi phakathi laphakathi kweMigidoli lolwandle. Kabamise eceleni kolwandle malungana leBhali-Zefoni. **3** UFaro uzacabanga ukuthi abako-Israyeli bayantula nje elizweni besangene ngoba sebesithwe yinkangala. **4** Njalo ngizayenza ibe lukhuni inhliziyi kaFaro abeselandela exotshana labo. Kodwa ngizazizuzela udumo ngoFaro kanye lempi yakhe yonke, lamaGibhithe azakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo." Ngakho abako-Israyeli bakwenza lokhu. **5** Kwathi inkosi yaseGibhithe isitsheliwe ukuthi abantu sebebalekile, uFaro lezikhulu zakhe baguqula ingqondo zabo ngabako-Israyeli bathi, "Sesenzeni manje? Sesiyekele abako-Israyeli bahamba salahlelelwa yikusetshenzelwa yibo!" **6** UFaro waselungisa inqola yakhe yamabhiza waphuma lempi yakhe. **7** Wathatha izinqola ezikhethekileyo ezingamakhulu ayisithupha zahamba kanye lezinye izinqola zaseGibhithe, yinye ngayinye ilenduna yayo. **8** UThixo wayenza yaba lukhuni inhliziyi kaFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe, ngakho waxotshana labako-Israyeli ababehamba ngesibindi. **9** AmaGibhithe kugoqela wonke amabhiza kaFaro lezinqola, abagadi bamabhiza lamabutho, abaxhuma abako-Israyeli abedlula bemise ngasolwandle eduzane lePhi-Hahirothi malungana leBhali-Zefoni. **10** Kwathi uFaro esondela abako-Israyeli bathi bevusa amehlo babona nanko amaGibhithe asebanxwanele. Besaba bathuthumela bakhala kuThixo. **11** Bathi kuMosi, "Kambe yikuthi kwakungelamangcwaba yini eGibhithe uze usilethe lapha enkangala ukuba sizofela khona? Manje wenzeni ngokusikhupha eGibhithe? **12** Asitshongo kuwe yini siseGibhithe ukuthi siyekele? Satsho sathi siyekele

sikhonze amaGibhithe. Kwakuzaba ngcono kithi ukukhonza amaGibhithe kulokufela enkangala!" **13** UMosi wabaphendula abantu wathi, "Lingesabi. Manini isibindi, lizabona ukuthi uThixo uzalihlenga njani lamuhla. AmaGibhithe eliwabonayo lamuhla kalisoze liphinde liwabone futhi. **14** UThixo uzalilwela; lina manini lithule." **15** Ngakho uThixo wasesithi kuMosi, "Kanti ukhalelani kimi na? Tshela abako-Israyeli baphume bahambe. **16** Phakamisa intonga yakho welulele isandla sakho phezu kolwandle amanzi adabuke phakathi ukuze abako-Israyeli bahambe phakathi kolwandle emhlabathini owomileyo. **17** Ngizayenza zibe lukhuni inhliziyi zamaGibhithe ukuze angene abaxhume. Njalo ngizazuzela udumo ngoFaro lempi yakhe yonke, langezinqola zakhe labagadi bakhe bamabhiza. **18** AmaGibhithe azakwazi ukuthi mina yimi uThixo nxa sengizuzela udumo ngoFaro, langezinqola zakhe labagadi bakhe bamabhiza." **19** Kwathi khonapho ingilosi kaNkulunkulu eyayikde ihamba phambili kweempi yakoko-Israyeli yasuka yabhoda ngemva kwabo. Insika yeyezi layo yasuka phambili yayakuma ngemva kwabo, **20** yehlukanisa impi yamaGibhithe leyabako-Israyeli. Ubusuku bonke iyezi laletha ubumnyama kwelinye icele labuye laletha ukukhanya ngakwelinye icele; ngakho kabakho abasondela kwabanye ubusuku bonke. **21** Ngakho uMosi waseselulela isandla sakhe phezu kolwandle, ngalobobusuku uThixo wafuqela ulwandle emuva ngomoya wempumalanga olamandla kwasala umhlabathi owomileyo. Amanzi adabukana phakathi, **22** abako-Israyeli bazihambela phakathi kolwandle emhlabathini owomileyo amanzi ezindonga ngapha langapha kwabo. **23** AmaGibhithe abalandela, amabhiza wonke kaFaro, izinqola labagadi bamabhiza bonke babalandela phakathi kolwandle. **24** Kwathi ngomlindo wokucina wobusuku uThixo wakhangelaphansi esensikeni yomlilo leyezi, wakhangelaphansi empini yamaGibhithe wayidunga yasanganiseka. **25** Wenza ukuthi amavili ezinqola zawo akhukumke okwenza kwaba nzima ukuthi aqhubeke lula. AmaGibhithe asesithi, "Kasehlukaneni labako-Israyeli! UThixo uyabalwela ukuba behlule amaGibhithe." **26** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, "Phakamisa isandla sakho phezu kolwandle ukuze amanzi abuyele ambokotha amaGibhithe lezinqola zawo labagadi bamabhiza." **27** UMosi waseselula isandla sakhe phezu kolwandle, kwathi emadabukakusa amanzi abuyela endaweni yawo. AmaGibhithe ayebaleka eqonda emanzini, uThixo wawagubuzela ngamanzi olwandle. **28** Amanzi aqubuka abuyela emuva ambokotha izinqola labagadi bamabhiza, layo yonke impi kaFaro eyalandela abako-Israyeli olwandle. Akusilanga loyedwa kubo. **29** Kodwa abako-Israyeli badabula olwandle emhlabathini owomileyo kulezindonga zamanzi esandleni sokudla lakwesokhohlo. **30** Ngalolosuku uThixo wasindisa u-Israyeli ezandleni zamaGibhithe, njalo abako-Israyeli bawabona amaGibhithe ethe dandalazi okhunjinjini lolwandle esefile. **31** Kwathi abako-Israyeli bebona amandla amakhulu uThixo awatshengisa kumaGibhithe, abantu bamesaba uThixo babeka ithemba labo kuye lakuMosi inceku yakhe.

15 Ngakho uMosi labako-Israyeli basebehlabelela lelihubo kuThixo: "Ngizamhlabelela uThixo ngoba uphakeme kakhulu. Ibhiza lomgadi walo ukuphosele ngamandla olwandle. **2** UThixo ungamandla ami lehubo lami; useyikusindiswa kwami. UnguNkulunkulu wami, ngizamdumisa; uNkulunkulu kababa ngizamphakamisa. **3** UThixo ulibutho; nguThixo

ibizo lakhe. **4** Izingqola zikaFaro lempi yakhe ukuphosele ngamandla olwandle. Izikhulu zikaFaro ezithenjweyo, zizalule olwandle oluBomvu. **5** Inziki zamanzi zibagubuzele; batshona ekujuleni njengelitshe. **6** Isandla sakho sokunene, Oh Thixo, saba lamandla obukhosi. Isandla sakho sokunene, Oh Thixo, sasihlikiza isitha. **7** Ebukhulwini bobukhosi bakho wasasakazela phansi abakuphikisayo. Wavulela ulaka lwakho oluvuthayo, lwabatshisa njengencwathi. **8** Ngokuphefumula kwamakhala akho amanzi aqoqana aba yinqwaba. Amanzi ageleza ngenhlokomo ema enza udonga; amanzi azikileyo ajiya enzikini yolwandle. **9** Isitha sakloloda sathi, 'Ngizabaxhuma, ngibedlule. Ngizakwaba impango; ngizazitika ngokungokwabo. Ngizakhokha inkemba yami, isandla sami sibabhuhise.' **10** Kodwa wena wavuthela ngomoya wokuphefumula kwakho, ulwandle lwabasibekela. Batshona njengomnuso emanzini esabekayo. **11** Ngubani kubonkulunkulu bonke onjengawe, Thixo? Ngubani onjengawe, olubukhosi ebungcweleni bakhe, owesabekayo ngenkazimulo, owenza izimangaliso? **12** Welula isandla sakho sokunene umhlabathi uziginye izitha zakho. **13** Ngothando lwakho olungapheliyo uzabahola abantu obahlengileyo. Ngamandla akho uzabaholeta endaweni yakho engcwele. **14** Izizwe zizakuzwa zithuthumele; umhedehe ubahlukule abantu baseFilistiya. **15** Izinduna zase-Edomi zizatsheywa luvalo, abakhokheli baseMowabi bafikelwe yikwesaba, abantu baseKhenani banyamalale nya! **16** Ukwesaba lokuthuthumela kuzabehlela. Ngamandla engalo yakho, bazathula njengelitshe, abantu bakho baze bedlule, Oh Thixo, abantu owabadalayo baze bedlule. **17** Uzabangenisu ubahlaneyo entabeni yelifa lakho, indawo, Oh Thixo, owayenzela ukuthi uhlale kuyo, indawo engcwele, Oh Thixo, eyamiswa ngezandla zakho. **18** UThixo uzabusa kuze kube nini lanini." **19** Kwathi lapho amabhiza kaFaro, izingqola kanye labagadi bamabhiza sebengeni olwandle, uThixo wawuyipisa amanzi alo phezu kwabo, kodwa abako-Israyeli bona bazihambela badabula ulwandle phezu komhlabathi owomileyo. **20** Khonapho uMiryemu umphrofethikazi, udadewabo ka-Aroni, wathatha isigubhu sakhe ngesandla, bamlandela bonke abesifazane bephethe izigubhu begida. **21** UMiriyemu wabahlabelela wathi: "Mhlabeleli uThixo ngoba uphakeme kakhulu. Ibhiza lomgadi walo ukuphosele ngamandla olwandle." **22** UMosi wasebahola abako-Israyeli basuka olwandle Olubomvu baya enkangala yeShuri bengatholi manzi. **23** Kwathi befika eMara behluleka ukunatha amanzi akhona ngoba ayeaba. (Yikho indawo leyo kuthiwa yiMara.) **24** Abantu basebakhona kuMosi besithi, "Sinatheni-ke manje?" **25** UMosi wasekhala kuThixo, uThixo wasemtshengisa isigojwana. Wasiphosela emanzini, amanzi aphenduka aba mnandi. Khonapho uThixo wabenzela isimiso lomthetho, njalo khonapho wabalinga. **26** Wathi, "Nxa lilalela kakuhle ilizwi likaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, lenze okulungileyo kuye, lilandele imilayo yakhe njalo ligcine lezimiso zakhe, kangisoze ngilehlisele iziga lezo engazehlisela amaGibhithe; ngoba nginguThixo olisilisayo." **27** Basebefika e-Elimi lapho okwakulemithombo yamanzi elitshumi lambili khona, lezilahlala zelala ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa. Basebemisa khona lapho eduze kwamanzi.

16 Uzulu wonke wako-Israyeli wasuka e-Elimi, wafika enkangala yeSini ephakathi laphakathi kwe-Elimi leSinayi ngelanga letshumi lanlanu enyangeni yesibili besuke eGibhithe. **2** Enkangala uzulu wakhonona kuMosi lo-

Aroni. **3** Abako-Israyeli bathi kubo, "Ngabe sazifela ngesandla sikaThixo eGibhithe, lapho esasihlala sigombolozele imbiza zenyama lakho konke ukudla esasikufumana, kodwa lina selisilethe lapha enkangala ukuze ixuku lonke leli liyatthe ngendlala." **4** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, "Ngizalehlisela isinkwa sivela ezulwini. Abantu kumele baphume nsuku zonke bayebutha okwanela lelolanga. Ngale indlela ngizabalinga ukuze ngibone ukuthi bayayilandela yini imilayo yami. **5** Ngelanga lesithupha kumele balungise lokho abayabe bekulethile, okumele kube ngokuphindwe kabili kulokho abakubutha kwezinye insuku." **6** Yikho-ke uMosi lo-Aroni bathi kubo bonke abako-Israyeli, "Kusihlwa lizakwazi ukuthi nguThixo olikhuphe kweleGibhithe, njalo ekuseni lizabona inkazimulo kaThixo ngoba ukuzwile ukukhonona kwenu. Singobani thina ukuba lisisole?" **8** UMosi wathi, "Lizakwazi ukuthi bekunguThixo nxa eselipha inyama yokudla kusihlwa lesinkwa sonke elisifunayo ekuseni ngoma yokuthi usekuzwile ukukhonona kwenu kuye. Singobani? Kalikhononi kithi kodwa kuThixo." **9** Ngakho uMosi watshele u-Aroni wathi, "Khuluma lozulu wonke wako-Israyeli uthi, 'Wozani kuThixo ngoba usekuzwile ukukhonona kwenu.'" **10** Ngesikhathi u-Aroni ekhuluma lozulu wonke wako-Israyeli, bakhangelanga enkangala basebbona inkazimulo kaThixo ibonakala eyezini. **11** UThixo wathi kuMosi: **12** "Sengizwile ukukhonona kwabako-Israyeli. Batshela ukuthi, 'Kusihlwa lizakudla inyama njalo ekuseni lizasuthiswa ngesinkwa. Lapho-ke lizakwazi ukuthi nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu.'" **13** Ngalokhokuhlwa kweza izagwaca zagcwala indawo yonke abebhala kuyo, njalo ekuseni kwaba lamazolo ngaphandle kwezihongo. **14** Kwathi amazolo esenyamalele kwabonakala izicecedwana ezifana longqwaqwane phezu kwenkangala. **15** Kwathi abako-Israyeli bekubona lokhu bakhulumisana besithi, "Kuyini lokhu?" Ngoba babengakwazi ukuthi kwakuyini. UMosi wathi kubo, "Yisinkwa elisiphinwe nguThixo ukuthi lidle. **16** Lokhu yikho okulaywe nguThixo ukuthi: 'Umuntu emunye uzathatha okwaneleyo akuswelayo. Thathela umuntu ngamunye osethenti lakho isilinganiso se-omeri.'" **17** Abako-Israyeli benza njengokulaywa kwabo. Abanye babutha okunengi abanye okulutshwana. **18** Bathi sebekulinganisa nge-omeri babona ukuthi lowo owabutha okunengi kabanga lokunengi kakhulu, lalowo owabutha okulutshwana kabanga lokulutshwana kakhulu. Umuntu wonke wabutha okwakumenela. **19** Ngakho-ke uMosi wathi kubo, "Akumelanga kubekhona ozagcina okunye kwalokho kuze kube sekuseni." **20** Lanxa kunjalo abanye kabazange bamlalele uMosi: bagcina eyinye ingxenywe kwaze kwaba sekuseni. Kodwa kwakugcwele impethu njalo kwasekulephunga elibi. UMosi wabathukuthelela. **21** Nsuku zonke ekuseni umuntu emunye wabutha isilinganiso ayesifuna, njalo ilanga lathi selitshisa kwancibilika. **22** Ngelanga lesithupha babutha isilinganiso esiphindwe kabili ama-omeri amabili umuntu emunye, njalo abakhokheli babantu beza ukuzobika kuMosi. **23** Wathi kubo, "Lokhu yikho okwalaywa nguThixo: 'Kusasa lilanga lokuphumula iSibatha elingcwele kuThixo. Ngakho bhekani konke elifuna ukukubhekha, libilise konke elifuna ukukubilisa. Gcinani konke okuseleyo kuze kube sekuseni.'" **24** Ngakho bakugcina kwaze kwaba sekuseni njengokulaya kukaMosi njalo kakuzange kube lephunga kumbe impethu. **25** UMosi wathi, "Kudleni namuhla, ngoba namuhla liSibatha likaThixo, kalisoze lithole lutho phandle namuhla. **26** Okwensuku eziyisithupha lizakubutha, kodwa

ngelanga lesikhombisa eleSabatha akusoze kube lalutho.”
27 Lanxa kunjalo abanye abantu ngelanga lesikhombisa bahamba ukuba bayobutha kodwa bafica kungelalutho. **28** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Kuzaze kube nini lisala ukulandela imithetho lemilayo yami na? **29** Kufakeni ezingqondweni zenu ukuthi uThixo ulinikile iSabatha, yikho ngelanga lesithupha elinika isinkwa esenela insuku ezimbili. Wonke umuntu kumele ahlale lapho ayabe ekhona ngelanga lesikhombisa. Akulamuntu okumele aphume phandle.” **30** Yikho-ke abantu baphumula ngelanga lesikhombisa. **31** Abantu bako-Israyeli babiza isinkwa lesa bathi yimana. Sasimhlophe njengentanga zekhoriyandana, sihlabusa njengamakhekhe enziwe ngoluju. **32** UMosi wathi, “Lokhu yikho okutshiwo nguThixo ukuthi: ‘Thathani imana eyisilinganiso se-omeri ligcinele izizukulwane ezizayo ukuze zibone isinkwa engalinika sona ukuba lisidle enkangala ekulikhupheni kwami eGibhithe.’” **33** UMosi wasesithi ku-Aroni, “Thatha inkonxa ufake phakathi imana eyisilinganiso se-omeri. Ibeke phambi kukaThixo ukuze igcinelwe izizukulwane ezizayo.” **34** Njengoba uThixo walaya uMosi, u-Aroni wabeka imana lezibhebhedu zobufakazi ukuze igcinakale. **35** Abako-Israyeli badla imana okweminyaka engamatshumi amane baze bafika endaweni eyayihlala abantu, badla imana baze bafika emngceleni weKhenani. **36** (I-omere iyisilinganiso sokulitshumi shefa.)

17 Uzulu wonke wako-Israyeli wasuka enkangala yeSini, wahamba njengokulaya kukaThixo. Bake bahlala okwesikhathi esifitshane eRefidimu kodwa kwakungelamanzi okuthi abantu banathe. **2** Ngakho baxabana loMosi basebesithi, “Sinike amanzi okunatha.” UMosi waphendula wathi “Kungani lixabana lami? Kungani lilinga uThixo?” **3** Kodwa abantu basebomele amanzi kuleyondawo, ngakho bakhonona kuMosi. Bathi kuye, “Wasikhupha eGibhithe ukwenzela ukuthi thina labantwabethu kanye lezifuyo sibulawe yikoma na?” **4** Ngakho uMosi wakhala kuThixo, wathi, “Kambe ngithini ngalabantu? Sebezimisele ukuthi bangikhande ngamatshu.” **5** UThixo waphendula uMosi wathi “Khokhela abantu. Thatha abanye abadala bako-Israyeli ubusuthatha njalo intonga leyana owake watshaya ngayo amanzi emfuleni uNayili lihambe. **6** Ngizakuma lapho phambi kwenu eduzane ledwala eHorebhi. Utshaye idwala; kuzaphuma amanzi kulo ukuba abantu banathe.” Ngakho uMosi wenza lokho abadala bako-Israyeli bekhangele. **7** Wabiza indawo leyo ngegama elithi Masa leMeribha ngenxa yokuthi abantu bako-Israyeli baxabana njalo balinga uThixo besithi “Kambe uThixo ulathi yini kumbe hatshi?” **8** Ama-Amaleki eza ukuzohlasela abako-Israyeli eRefidimu. **9** UMosi wathi kuJoshuwa, “Khethe amanye amadoda phakathi kwethu uphume liyekulwa lama-Amaleki. Kusasa ngizakuma phezu koqaqa ngiphethe intonga kaNkulunkulu ezandleni zami.” **10** Ngakho uJoshuwa walwa lama-Amaleki njengokulaya kukaMosi, njalo uMosi, u-Aroni loHuri bakhwela phezu koqaqa. **11** Kwakusithi nxa uMosi ephakamisa izandla zakhe abako-Israyeli babenqoba, kodwa wayesithi angehlisa izandla zakhe ama-Amaleki yiwo ayenqoba. **12** Kwathi izandla zikaMosi sezidiniwe bathatha ilitshe balifaka ngaphansi kwakhe wasehlala phezu kwalo. U-Aroni loHuri baphakamisa izandla zakhe, omunye ekuleli icele omunye kwelinye ukuze izandla zakhe zale ziphakeme laze latshona ilanga. **13** Ngakho uJoshuwa wehlula ibutho lama-Amaleki ngenkamba. **14** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Bhala lokhu

ogwalweni njengento okumele ikhunjulwe njalo ubone ukuthi uJoshuwa uyakuzwa lokhu ngenxa yokuthi ngizatsabalalisa umkhumbulo wonke omayelana lama-Amaleki ngaphansi kwezulu.” **15** UMosi wakha i-alithari walibiza ngokuthi uThixo uLuphawu Lwami. **16** Wathi, “Ngoba izandla zaphakanyiselwa esihlalweni sikaThixo. UThixo uzakulwa impi lezizukulwane zama-Amaleki.”

18 UJethro, umphristi waseMidiyani owayenguyisezala kaMosi, wezwa konke uNkulunkulu ayekwenzele uMosi labantu bakhe bako-Israyeli, lokuthi uThixo wayebakhuphe njani eGibhithe abako-Israyeli. **2** Ngenxa kokuba uMosi esethumele umkakhe uZiphora kibo, uyisezala uJethro wamemukela, **3** lamadodana akhe amabili. Eyinye indodana kwakuthiwa nguGeshomu, ngoba uMosi wathi, “Sengibe ngumuntu wezizweni elizweni elingayisilo lami.” **4** Eyinye kwakuthiwa ngu-Eliyezari ngoba wathi, “UNkulunkulu kababa wayengumsizi wami: wangisindisa enkembeni kaFaro.” **5** UJethro, uyisezala kaMosi kanye lamadodana lenkosikazi kaMosi beza kuye enkangala lapho ayehlala khona eduzane lentaba kaNkulunkulu. **6** UJethro wayethumele ilizwi kuye wathi, “Mina uyihlozala uJethro ngiyeza kuwe lenkosikazi yakho lamadodana ayo amabili.” **7** Ngakho uMosi waphuma wayahlangabeza uyisezala wasemkhothamela, wamanga. Babingelelana basebengena ethenteni. **8** UMosi watshela uyisezala ngakho konke uThixo ayekwenze kuFaro labantu baseGibhithe ngenxa yabantu bako-Israyeli langezinhlupho zonke ezabehlela endleleni lokuthi uThixo wayebasindise njani. **9** UJethro wathokoza ukuzwa ngezinto zonke ezinhlle uThixo ayezenzele u-Israyeli ekubasindiseni esandleni samaGibhithe. **10** Wathi, “Kadunyiswe uThixo owalisindisa esandleni samaGibhithe loFaro, njalo owasindisa abantu esandleni samaGibhithe. **11** Khethe sengikwazi ukuthi uThixo ulamandla ukwedlula abanye onkulunkulu ngenxa yokuthi wenza lokhu kubo bonke abaphatha u-Israyeli ngobuqholo.” **12** Lapho-ke uJethro, uyisezala kaMosi, waletsa umnikelo wokutshiswa leminye imihlatshelo kuNkulunkulu, njalo u-Aroni weza labadala bako-Israyeli ukuze bazokudla isinkwa loyisezala kaMosi phambi kukaNkulunkulu. **13** Ngelanga elilandelayo uMosi wathatha isihlalo sakhe sokuba ngumthonisi wabantu, njalo bema bemgombolozele kusukela ekuseni kwaze kwaba ntambama. **14** Kwathi uyisezala esebone konke uMosi ayekwenzela abantu wathi, “Kuyini lokhu okwenzela abantu? Kungani uhlala unguwe wedwa ukuba ngumahluli, abantu bonke bemi bekuhanqile kusukela ekuseni kuze kube kusihlwa?” **15** UMosi waphendula wathi, “Ngenxa yokuthi abantu beza kimi ukuzodinga intando kaNkulunkulu. **16** Lapho kusiba lengxabano, ilethwa kimi, njalo ngiyahlulela emaceleni womabili besengibatshela ngemithetho lemilayo kaNkulunkulu.” **17** Uyisezala kaMosi waphendula wathi, “Konke okwenzayo kakulunganga. **18** Wena labantu laba abeza kuwe lizazidinisa. Umsebenzi lo unzima kuwe: ungeke wawenza wedwa. **19** Ngilalela ngikucebise, njalo uNkulunkulu makabe lawe. Kumele ube ngummeli wabantu kuNkulunkulu, ulethe ingxabano zabo kuye. **20** Bafundise izimiso lemithetho yakhe, ubatshengise indlela yokuphila lokuthi baziphathe njani. **21** Kodwa khethe amadoda alamandla phakathi kwabantu bonke, amadoda amesabayo uNkulunkulu, azonda inzuzo eza ngobuqili, ubusubabeka babe zinduna zezinkulungwane, zamakhulu, zamatshumi

amahlanu, lezamatshumi. **22** Benze babe ngabahluleli babantu ngezikhathi zonke, kodwa kabalethe wonke amacala anzima kuwe bona baqume amacala alula. Lokho kuzakwenza ukuthi umthwalo wakho ube lula ngoba bazabe besabelana lawe. **23** Nxa ungakwenza lokhu njengokulaya kukaNkulunkulu, uzakwenelisa ukuphuma ngqondo njalo abantu bonke laba bazabuyela emakhaya besuthisekile.” **24** UMosi wamlalela uyisezala wenza konke ayekutshilo. **25** Wakhetha amadoda alamandla phakathi kwabako-Israyeli wonke wawenza abakhokheli babantu, izinduna zezinkulungwane, ezamakhulu, ezamatshumi amahlanu lezamatshumi. **26** Baba ngabahluleli babantu ngazonke izikhathi. Amacala anzima bawaletha kuMosi, kodwa alula bawathonisa bona ngokwabo. **27** UMosi wavalelisana loyisezala, uJethro wasebuyela elizweni lakhe.

19 Ngosuku olufanayo, emva kwezinyanga ezintathu abantu bako-Israyeli besuke eGibhithe bafika enkangala yeSinayi. **2** Sebesukile eRefidimu bangena enkangala yeSinayi bamisa amathente abo phansi kwentaba. **3** Lapho-ke uMosi wakhuphuka kuNkulunkulu entabeni, uThixo esentabeni wabiza uMosi wathi kuye, “Tshela abantu bendlu kaJakhobe labantu bako-Israyeli, uthi **4** ‘Lina ngokwenu lizibonele engikwenze eGibhithe lokuthi ngilithwele ngamaphiko okhozi ngaliletha lapha kimi. **5** Ngakho-ke lingangilalela ligcine isivumelwano sami lani lizakuba ligugu kimi phakathi kwezizwe zonke. Lanxa umhlaba wonke ungowami, **6** lina kimi lizakuba ngumbuso wabaphristi lesizwe esingcwele.’ Yiwo amazwi okumele uwakhuluma kwabako-Israyeli.” **7** UMosi wabuyela ebantwini, wafika wabuthanisa abakhokheli babantu wabatshele okwakutshiwo nguThixo. **8** Bonke bavuma ngalizwi linye bathi, “Sizakwenza konke uThixo athe sikwenze.” UMosi wambikela uThixo okwakukhulunywe ngabantu. **9** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Ngizakuba kini nginjengeyezi elimnyama ukuze abantu bangizwe ngikhuluma lawe. Ngakho ngezikhathi zonke bazakholwa kuwe.” UMosi watshela uThixo okwakutshiwo ngabantu. **10** Ngakho uThixo wathi kuMosi, “Buyela ebantwini ubangcwelise lamhla lakusasa. Batshele bagezise izigqoko zabo **11** kuthi ngelanga lesithathu libe selilungiselele ngoba ngalelolanga uThixo uzakwehlela entabeni yeSinayi abantu bonke bekhangele. **12** Yenzela abantu imingcele malungana lentaba, ubatshele uthi, ‘Limukani! Lingakhweli entabeni, kumbe ukufika phansi kwayo. Lowo ozasondela entabeni uzabalula.’ **13** Ngempela uzatshaywa ngamatshe kumbe acitshwe ngemithshoko kodwa angathintwa ngesandla. Akukhathalekile ukuthi ngumuntu loba yinyamazana akusoze kuvunyelwe ukuphila. Bazakhwela entabeni kuphela nxa uphondo lwenqama selukhale isikhathi eside.” **14** Ngemva kokuba uMosi esehlile entabeni waya ebantwini wabangcwelisa basebegezisa lezigqoko zabo. **15** Wathi ebantwini, “Lungiselelani ilanga lesithathu. Zilani omkenu.” **16** Ekuseni ngelanga lesithathu kwaba lomdumo lombane othuthumelisayo, leyezi elikhulukazi lehlela phezu kwentaba, kwezwakala lomsindo omkhulu wecilingo. Abantu bonke ezihonqweni besaba, baqhaqhaazela. **17** UMosi wasebakhokhela ebasusa emathenteni ebasu kuNkulunkulu. Bafika bema ngaphansi kwentaba. **18** Intaba yonke iSinayi yembeswa yintuthu ngoba uThixo wehlela phezu kwayo ngesimo somlilo. Intuthu yathunqa ngamandla isiya phezulu kungathi iphuma emphongolweni. **19** Njalo umsindo wecilingo waya ulokhu ukhula. UMosi wakhuluma, kwathi ilizwi

likaNkulunkulu lamphendula. **20** UThixo wehlela phezu kwentaba iSinayi, wabizela uMosi khona. Ngakho uMosi wakhwela, **21** UThixo wasesithi kuye, “Buyela phansi uyexwayisa abantu ukuba bangaqali ukweqa imingcele ukuba babone uThixo ngoba bangafa ngobunengi. **22** Labaphristi abaya kuThixo kumele bazenze babengcwele, funa uThixo ababhuhise.” **23** UMosi wathi kuThixo, “Akulamuntu ongakhwela entabeni yeSinayi ngoba wena ngokwakho wathi bangakwenzi lokho. Uthe ngenze imingcele egombolozela intaba ngitshele abantu bangasondeli kuyo ngoba ingcwele.” **24** Kodwa uThixo wathi, “Yehla uyebuya lo-Aroni. Kodwa abaphristi labantu akumelanga ukuba beqe imingcele besiza lapho ngoba ngingabaphendukela.” **25** Ngakho uMosi wehla waya ebantwini wabatshele.

20 UNkulunkulu wakhuluma amazwi wonke la wathi: **2** ‘NginguThixo uNkulunkulu wakho owakukhupha eGibhithe, elizweni lobugqili. **3** Ungabi labanye onkulunkulu ngaphandle kwami. **4** Ungazenzeli isithombe ngesimo saloba yini esezulwini phezulu loba phansi emhlabeni kumbe ngaphansi kwamanzi. **5** Ungazikhothameli loba ukuzikhonza; ngoba mina Thixo uNkulunkulu wakho nginguNkulunkulu lobukhwele, ojezisa abantwana ngenxa yezono zabazali babo kuze kube yisizukulwane sesithathu lesesine salabo abangizondayo, **6** kodwa ngitshengisela uthando kuzizukulwane eziyinkulungwane zalabo abangithandayo njalo begcina imilayo yami. **7** Ungadlali ngebizo likaThixo uNkulunkulu wakho ngoba uThixo kayikumyeka olecala lokudlala ngebizo lakhe. **8** Khumbula usuku lweSabatha ngokulwenzela lubengcwele. **9** Okwensuku eziyisithupha uzasebenza wenze yonke imisebenzi yakho, **10** kodwa usuku lwesikhombisa luyiSabatha kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakho. Ngalo awuyikwenza loba yiwuphi umsebenzi, wena, loba indodana yakho, loba indodakazi yakho, loba inceku kumbe inceku yakho, loba izifuyo zakho loba isihambi esikwethekeleleyo emzini wakho. **11** Ngoba ngensuku eziyisithupha uThixo wenza amazulu lomhlaba, ulwandle lakho konke okukukho, kodwa waphumula ngosuku lwesikhombisa. Ngakho-ke walubusisa usuku lweSabatha walwenza lwaba ngcwele. **12** Hlonipha uyihlo lonyoko ukuze impilo yakho ibende elizweni akunika lona uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho. **13** Ungabaluli. **14** Ungafebi. **15** Ungantshontshi. **16** Ungafakazi amanga ngomakhelwane wakho. **17** Ungahawukeli indlu kamakhelwane wakho. Ungahawukeli umfazi kamakhelwane wakho, loba inceku kumbe inceku yakhe, inkabi yakhe loba ubabhemi wakhe loba yini ekamakhelwane wakho.” **18** Kwathi abantu besizwa umdumo bebona lombane, besizwa icilingo njalo bebona intaba ithunqa intuthu, bathuthumela ngokwesaba. Bema khatshana, **19** bathi kuMosi, “Khuluma kithi wena sizakulalela. Kodwa uNkulunkulu kangakhulumi kithi yena ngokwakhe ngoba singafa.” **20** UMosi wathi, “Lingesabi, uNkulunkulu uzelihlola ukuze limesabe lokuze lingoni.” **21** Abantu basala belokhu bemi bucwadlanyana, uMosi wangena phakathi komnyama waya lapho okwakuloNkulunkulu khona. **22** UThixo wathi kuMosi, “Tshela abantu bako-Israyeli uthi, ‘Lizibonele lina ngokwenu ukuthi ngikhulume lani ngisezulwini. **23** Lingenzi onkulunkulu ukuba babekhona kanye lami; lingazenzeli onkulunkulu besiliva kumbe onkulunkulu begolide. **24** Ngakhelani i-alithari ngomhlabathi lenzele kulo umhlatshelelo womnikelo

wokutshiswa, leminikelo yobudlelwano, izimvu lembuzi kanye lenkomo zenu. Loba kungaphi lapho engizakwenza ibizo lami lihlonitshwe khona, ngizakuza kini ngilibusise. **25** Nxa lingakhela i-alithari ngamatshe, lingaze lawabaza lawomatshe ngoba lizalingcolisa nxa lingasebenzisa okokubaza kulo. **26** Lingaze laya e-alithareni lami ngezikhwelo funa ubunqunu benu bembulwe khona lapho.”

21 “Nansi imithetho ozayethula phambi kwabo.” **2** “Nxa ungathenga isisebenzi esingumHebheru kumele sikusebenzele okweminyaka eyisithupha. Kodwa emnyakeni wesikhombisa kuzamele usikhulule kungelanhlawulo. **3** Nxa sifike sodwa, kumele sikhululwe sihambe sodwa kodwa nxa silomfazi ekufikeni kwasokumele sihambe laye. **4** Nxa umqhatshi waso angasipha umfazi asizalele amadodana lamadodakazi, owesifazane labantwabakhe bazakuba ngabomqhatshi, njalo indoda izazihambela yodwa ikhululekile. **5** Kodwa nxa isisebenzi singathi, ‘Ngiyayithanda inkosi yami lomkama labantwabami, njalo kangifuni kukhululwa,’ **6** ngakho inkosi yaso kumele isihambise kubahluleli. Izasisa emnyango kumbe emgubazini abesebhoboza indlebe yase ngosungulo. Ngakho-ke sizakuba yisisebenzi sayo okwempilo yaso yonke. **7** Nxa indoda ingathengisa indodakazi yayo njengesigqili, indodakazi kayingakhululeki njengalokho okwenza ezinye inceku. **8** Nxa singathokozisi umnini waso oyabe esikhethile ukuze sibe ngesakhe kumele asiyekele sihlengwe. Akalamvumo yokusithengisa kwabezizwe, ngoba esikhohlisile. **9** Angasikhethela indodana yakhe kumele asinike amalungelo alingana lawendodakazi yakhe. **10** Angathatha omunye umfazi akumelanga asincitshwe ukudla, izigqoko lamalungelo okwenda. **11** Angayekela ukusipha izinto lezi ezintathu sikhululekile ukuthi sizihambele kungahlawulwanga mali.” **12** “Wonke umuntu otshaya omunye ambulale laye kumele abulawe. **13** Kodwa nxa engakwenzanga ngabomo, uNkulunkulu evumele ukuba kwenzakale, kumele abalekele endaweni engizayiphawula. **14** Kodwa umuntu angaceba ukubulala omunye ngabomo, msuseni e-alithareni lami liyembulala. **15** Wonke umuntu ohlasele uyise kumbe unina kumele abulawe. **16** Wonke umuntu othumba omunye abesemthengisa kumbe aficwe elaye kumele abulawe. **17** Wonke umuntu othuka uyise kumbe unina kumele abulawe. **18** Nxa amadoda angaxabana omunye abesetshaya omunye ngelitshe kumbe ngenqindi, angafi kodwa agule alale phansi, **19** lowo ophose inqindi kasoze anikwe umlandu nxa omunye angavuka abesehambahamba ephethe intonga yakhe; lanxa kunjalo kumele ahlawule indoda elimeleyo ngokulahlekelwa yisikhathi njalo ayelaphise. **20** Nxa umuntu angatshaya isigqili sakhe sesilisa kumbe esesifazane ngomqwayi, isigqili besesisifa ngenxa yalesisenzo, kumele ajeziswe, **21** kodwa kasoze ajeziswe nxa isigqili singasila ngemva kwelanga elilodwa kumbe insuku ezimbili, ngoba isigqili siyimpahla yakhe. **22** Nxa amadoda alwayo angatshaya umfazi ozithweleyo abesebeletha isikhathi sakhe singakafiki, kodwa engalimalanga kakubi, owonileyo kumele ahlawuliswe lokho okuyabe kubizelwe yindoda yomfazi kwasekuvunywa ngumthethwandaba. **23** Kodwa kungangabi lokulimala okubi, kumele impilo ibhadalwe ngempilo, **24** ilihlo ngelihlo, izinyo ngezinyo, isandla ngesandla, unyawo ngonyawo. **25** Ukutshiswa ngokutshiswa, isilonda ngesilonda, ukulimala ngokulimala. **26** Nxa umuntu angatshaya isigqili

sakhe sesilisa kumbe esesifazane elihlweni alipatshaze, kumele asiyekele isisebenzi sizihambele kube yinhlawulo yelihlo. **27** Angatshaya akhumule izinyo lesigqili sesilisa kumbe esesifazane, kumele asiyekele isisebenzi sizihambele kube yinhlawulo yezinyo. **28** Nxa inkunzi ingahlaba indoda kumbe umfazi afe, leyonkunzi kumele itshaywe ngamatshe ize ife njalo inyama yayo kayingadliwa. Kodwa umnikazi wenkunzi akumelanga etheswe umlandu. **29** Kodwa nxa inkunzi ivele ilomkhuba wokuhlaba abantu, njalo umnikazi eseke wakhuzwa kodwa wekela ukuyivalela ibisibulala indoda kumbe umfazi, inkunzi kumele ibulawe ngamatshe lomnikazi abulawe. **30** Kodwa kungathiwa kahlawule, angahlenga impilo yakhe ngokuhlawula lokho okuyabe kubiziwe. **31** Umthetho lo uyasebenza njalo nxa inkunzi ingahlaba indodana kumbe indodakazi. **32** Nxa inkunzi ingahlaba isigqili sesilisa kumbe esesifazane, umnikazi kumele ahlawule amashekeli angamatshumi amathathu esiliva kumnini wesigqili, njalo inkunzi kumele ibulawe ngamatshe. **33** Nxa umuntu etshiya umgodi ukhamisile, loba esimba umgodi angawusibekeli kuwele kuwo inkabi ingabe ubabhemi, **34** umninimgodi kahlawule; kahlawule umnikazi, isifuyo esifileyo besesisiba ngesakhe. **35** Nxa inkunzi yomuntu ingalimaza eyomunye kuzamele ukuthi bathengise leyo ephilayo, babelane imali lesidumbu saleyo efileyo ngokulinganayo. **36** Kodwa nxa kusaziwa ukuthi inkunzi ivele ilomkhuba wokuhlaba ezinye, kodwa umnikazi engayivaleli esibayeni, umnikazi kumele ahlawule isifuyo ngesinye isifuyo, njalo isifuyo esifileyo sizakuba ngesakhe.”

22 “Nxa umuntu angantshontsha inkabi kumbe imvu abeseyibulala kumbe ayithengise, kumele ahlawule ngenkomo ezinhlanu zokuhlalwa inkabi, lezimvu ezine zokuhlalwa imvu. **2** Nxa isela lingafunyanwa ligqekeza ebusuku beselitshaywa life, lowo ozivikelayo kalacala lokuchitha igazi, **3** kodwa kungenzeka ilanga selikhwelile uyabe elomlandu wokuchitha igazi. Isela kumele lihlawule sibili, kodwa nxa lingelalutho, kumele lithengiswe ukwenzela ukuthi lokhu kube yinhlawulo yokuntshontsha kwalo. **4** Nxa isifuyo esintshontshiweyo singatholakala siphila ezandleni zesela, kungaba yinkabi kumbe ubabhemi loba imvu, kumele lihlawule okuphindwe kabili. **5** Nxa umuntu angayadlisa izifuyo zakhe ensimini kumbe esivinini abeseziyekela zizihambela besezisiya kudla ensimini yeyinye indoda, kumele ahlawule ngezithelo ezinhle zensimu yakhe loba isivini sakhe. **6** Nxa kuthungelwa umlilo ulumatha emeveni kuze kutshe lamahlanga amabele loba amabele angakavunwa loba insimu, othungelwa umlilo kumele ahlawule konke. **7** Nxa umuntu anganika umakhelwane wakhe isiliva kumbe impahla ukuba amgcinele izinto lezi besezintshontshwa endlini kamakhelwane, isela lingabanjwa kumele lihlawule okuphindwe kabili. **8** Kodwa nxa isela lingabanjwanga, umnikazi wendlu kumele ame phambi kwabahluleli ukuze kubonakale ingabe uke wabeka izandla empahleni zalowo omgcinisileyo na. **9** Kuzozonke izehlakalo eziquondene lokugcina ngaphandle komthetho inkabi, ubabhemi, imvu, isigqoko kumbe yonke impahla elahlekileyo omunye umuntu angathi ngayo, ‘Lokhu ngokwami,’ wonke amacele womabili kumele alethe izindaba zawo phambi kwabahluleli. Lowo abahluleli abazakuthi ulecala kumele ahlawule okuphindwe kabili kumakhelwane wakhe. **10** Nxa umuntu angasisela umakhelwane wakhe ubabhemi, inkabi, imvu kumbe esinye

isifuyo ukuze kugcinakale besekusifa kumbe kulimale kumbe kuthathwe kungelamuntu okhangeleyo, **11** udaba lwabantu laba luzaqedwa ngokufunga phambi kukaThixo ukuthi umakhelwane konanga impahla yomunye umuntu. Umnikazi kumele akwemukele lokhu njalo akulanhlawulo edingakalayo. **12** Kodwa nxa isifuyo santshontshwa sikumasiselwa kumele ahlawule umnikazi. **13** Nxa isifuyo sidatshudatshulwe yinyamazana yeganga saba yiziqu, uzaletsha izicucu eziseleyo njengobufakazi njalo akusoze kudingakale ukuthi ahlawulele isifuyo esidatshudatshulweyo. **14** Nxa umuntu angaboleka isifuyo kumakhelwane wakhe, besesilimala kumbe sife ngesikhathi umniniso engekho, kumele ahlawule. **15** Kodwa nxa umnikazi ekhona, lowo owasebolekayo akumelanga ahlawule. Nxa isifuyo siqhatshiwe, imali ehlahulwe ukusiqhatsha igoqela inhlawulo yokulahlekelwa.” **16** “Nxa indoda ingaqila intombi egcweleyo engakathenjiswa ilale layo, kumele ikhuphe amalobolo, leyontombi ibe ngumkayo. **17** Nxa uyise esala kokuphela ukuthi ayendisele, kumele akhuphe inhlawulo ekhutshelwa amantombazana agcweleyo. **18** Lingavumeli umthakathi ukuthi aphile. **19** Wonke umuntu olala lenyamazana kumele abulawe. **20** Loba ngubani onikela kwabanye onkulunkulu ngaphandle kukaThixo kumele abhujisiwe. **21** Lingahlukuluzi owezizweni ngoba lani lalingabezizweni eGibhithe. **22** Lingaqilibezeli umfelokazi kumbe intandane, **23** ngoba lingakwenza, besebekhala kimi ngizakuzwa ukukhala kwabo; **24** ulaka lwami luzavutha, ngibulale ngenkamba; abafazi benu babe ngabafelokazi labantwabenu babe zintandane. **25** Nxa lingbolekisa imali omunye wabantu bami ohluphekayo phakathi kwenu, akumelanga lenze njengebhizimisi yokweboleka abanye imali, lingamhlawulisi inzuzo. **26** Nxa ungathatha ijazi likamakhelwane wakho ulenze isibambiso, kumele ulibuyisele ilanga lingakatshoni, **27** ngoba ijazi lelo yilo lodwa embesa ngalo ubunqunu bakhe. Kambe kuyini okunye abangalala kukho? Nxa bengakhala kimi, ngizabezwa ngoba ngilozwelo. **28** Lingahlambazi uNkulunkulu kumbe lithuke umbusi wabantu bakini. **29** Lingagodli iminikelo eziphaleni zenu loba ezimbizeni zewayini lenu. Kumele lilethe kimi amadodana enu angamazibulo. **30** Yenzani njalo ngenkomo lezimvu zenu. Yekelani zihlale labonina njwenu ezizikhombisa kodwa linginike zona ngosuku lwesificaminwembili. **31** Lizakuba ngabantu bami abangcwele. Ngakho lingaze ladla inyama yenyamazana eyabe idatshudatshulwe yizilo zeganga; iphoseleni izinja.”

23 “Ungahambi ukhuluma izindaba zamanga. Ungahlanganyeli lomuntu omubi ngoba ngufakazi olomona. **2** Ungenzi okubi ulandela inengi labantu. Nxa ufakaza emthethwandaba, ungaphenduleli iqiniso ngokuvumelana labanengi, **3** njalo ungazweli umuntu ecaleni ngoba engumyanga. **4** Ungahlangana lenkomo kumbe ubabhemu wesitha sakho elahlekle, mnqande umbuyisele kumnikazi. **5** Nxa ufica ubabhemu womuntu okuzondayo ewiswe ngumthwalo, ungamtshiyi, umncedise umvuse. **6** Ahlulela kuhle abayanga bakini emacaleni. **7** Ungabungeni ubufakazi bamanga, njalo ungabulali muntu ongelacala loba oqotho ngoba kangiyi kumyekela olecala. **8** Lingavumi ukufunjathiswa ngoba ukufunjathiswa kufiphaza ababonayo besebeguqula amazwi omuntu omsulwa. **9** Ungancindezeli owezizweni, lina ngokwenu liyakwazi ukuthi kunjani ukuba ngabezizweni, njengoba lalingabezizweni eGibhithe.” **10**

“Okweminyaka eyisithupha lizalima amasimu enu livune amabele, **11** kodwa kuzakuthi ngomnyaka wesikhombisa liyekele amasimu enu alaluke engalinywanga. Ngakho abangabayanga phakathi kwenu bazazua ukudla kuwo, kuthi lezinyamazana zeganga zidle okuseleyo. Lizakwenza njalo okufananayo ngezivini zenu kanye lezihlahla zenu zama-oliva. **12** Uzakwenza imisebenzi yakho okwensuku eziyisithupha, kodwa ngosuku lwesikhombisa ungasebenzi, ukuze inkabi yakho lobabhemu wakho kuphumule, kuthi isigqili esazalelwa endlini yakho kanye lowezizweni baphumule. **13** Qaphelisisani lenze konke engilithshela khona. Lingamezezi amaziso abanye onkulunkulu; kawangezwakali ephuma ezindebeni zenu.” **14** “Kathathu ngomnyaka kufanele lingithakazelele umkhosi. **15** Lizathakazelela uMkhosi weSinkwa esingelaMvubelo; okwensuku eziyisikhombisa dlanini isinkwa esingelamvubelo, njengokulilaya kwami. Kwenzeni lokhu ngesikhathi esimisiweyo senyanga ka-Avivi, ngoba ngaleyonyanga yikho elaphuma khona eGibhithe. Kakungabi lamuntu ozakuma phambi kwami engaphathanga lutho. **16** Lithakazelele uMkhosi wokuVuna lokolibo kwenu ezilimweni zenu zemasimini. Lithakazelele uMkhosi wokuButhelela nxa selibutha izilimo zenu emasimini. **17** Kathathu ngomnyaka amadoda wonke kufanele ayebonakala phambi kukaThixo Wobukhosi. **18** Linganikeli igazi lomhlathshelo kimi ndawonye laloba yini elemvubelo. Amahwahwa eminikelo yemikhosi yami akumelanga agcinwe kuze kuse. **19** Lethani okolibo kwenu okuhle kakhulu endlini kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. Lingapheki izinyane lembuzi ngochago lukanina.” **20** “Khangelani, sengithumela ingilosi phambi kwenu ukuze ilivikele endleleni yenu njalo ize ilifikise endaweni engililungisele yona. **21** Liyinanzelele ingilosi yami njalo lilalele ekutshoyo. Lingayihlamukeli ngoba kayizukulithethelela nxa lingayihlamukela, njengoba iBizo lami likuyi. **22** Nxa lingalalelisa ekutshoyo njalo lenze konke engikutshoyo, ngizakuba yisitha sezitha zenu njalo ngizamelana laloba abamisana lani. **23** Ingilosi yami izahamba phambi kwenu ize ilingenise elizweni lama-Amori, lamaHithi, lamaPherizi, lamaKhenani lamaHivi kanye lamajebusi njalo ngizababhubhisa. **24** Lingabakhothameli onkulunkulu babo, lingabakhonzi njalo lingalandeli imikhuba yabo. Kufanele libhidlize onkulunkulu babo njalo lidilize amatshe abo abawakhonzayo. **25** Mkhonzeni uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, kuzakuthi isibusiso sakhe sibe phezu kokudla laphezu kwamanzi enu. Ngizasusa imikhuhlane phakathi kwenu, **26** njalo kakho ozaswela loba abe yinyumba ezweni lenu. Ngizaphelelisa insuku zenu. **27** Ngizathumela uchuku lwami phambi kwenu njalo ngisanganise zonke izizwe elizahlangana lazo. Ngizakwenza zonke izitha zenu zifulathele zilibalekele. **28** Ngizathumela olonyovu phambi kwenu ukuze basuse amaHivi, amaKhenani kanye lamaHithi endleleni yenu. **29** Kodwa angiyikubasusa ngomnyaka munye, ngoba ilizwe lingasala lingasela muntu besekusithi izinyamazana zeganga zande zilikhulele. **30** Ngizabasusa kancanekancane phambi kwenu, lani lize lande lenelise ukuthatha ilizwe. **31** Ngizabeka imingcele kusukela oLwandle oluBomvu kusiya oLwandle lwamaFilistiya, njalo kusuka enkangala kusiya emfuleni uYufrathe. Ngakho abantu abahlala kulelolizwe ngizabanikela ezandleni zenu ukuze libadudule. **32** Lingenzi isivumelwano loba loba labonkulunkulu babo. **33** Kabangahlali lani ezweni

lenu, funa balenze lingonele, ngoba ukukhonza kwabo okukulunkulu babo kuzakuba yisifu kini.”

24 Ngakho uThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Woza kuThixo, wena lo-Aroni, uNadabi lo-Abhihu, kanye labadala bako-Israyeli abangamatshumi ayisikhombisa. Lizakhonza libucwala, 2 kodwa uMosi yedwa zwi uzasondela kuThixo; abanye kabafanelanga ukusondela eduze. Kanti-ke abantu kabafanelanga ukuza laye.” **3** Kwathi uMosi esebuyele ebantwini wabathshela wonke amazwi kanye lemilayo kaThixo, abantu bakwamukela, bavungama ngalizwi linye bathi, “Konke okutshiwo nguThixo sizakwenza.” **4** UMosi waseloba konke uThixo ayekutshilo. Ngosuku olulandelayo uMosi wavuka kusesele wakha i-alithari ewatheni lwentaba wamisa khona izinsika zamatshe alitshumi lambili emele izizwe ezilitshumi lambili zako-Israyeli. **5** Wasethuma amajaha ako-Israyeli ahamba ayankela umnikelo wokutshiswa njalo benza imihlatshelo ngenkunzi ezincane njengomnikelo wobudlelwano kuThixo. **6** UMosini wasethatha ingxenye yegazi walithela emiganwini eyazingubhe, elinye wachela ngalo phezu kwe-alithari. **7** Ngakho wathatha iNcwadi yeSivumelwano wayifundela abantu. Bona bavuma besithi, “Sizakwenza konke okutshiwo nguThixo; sizamlalela.” **8** Ngemva kwalokho uMosi wathatha igazi wachela ngalo abantu esithi kubo, “Leli ligazi lesivumelwano sikaThixo asenze lani ngokuqondene lawo wonke lamazwi.” **9** UMosini lo-Aroni, uNadabi lo-Abhihu kanye labadala bako-Israyeli abangamatshumi ayisikhombisa bakhwela **10** bayabona uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. Ngaphansi kwezinyawo zakhe kwakungani ngumgwaqo owenziwe ngesafaya, kukhanya njengokukhanya komkhathi uqobo. **11** Kodwa uNkulunkulu kazange abaninzi ngesandla sakhe laba bakhokheli bako-Israyeli; sebonile uNkulunkulu badla banatha. **12** UThixo wathi kuMosi, “Khwela uze kimi entabeni njalo uhlale lapha, ngizakunika izibhebhedu zamatshe, engilobe kuzo imithetho lemilayo eyiziqondiso zabo.” **13** Ngakho uMosi wasuka loJoshuwa umsizi wakhe, uMosi wasekhwela entabeni kaNkulunkulu. **14** Wathi ebadaleni, “Silindelani khonapha size siphenduke. U-Aroni loHuri bazasala lani, kuzakuthi abaxabanayo babonane labo.” **15** Kwathi uMosi esekhwele intaba, yasibekelwa lyezi, **16** inkazimulo kaThixo yagcwala entabeni yaseSinayi. Iyezi lembesa intaba okwensuku eziyisithupha kwathi ngosuku lwesikhombisa uThixo wabiza uMosi eseyezini. **17** Ebantwini bako-Israyeli inkazimulo kaThixo yabonakala injengomlilo otshisa uqothule phezu kwentaba. **18** Ngakho uMosi wangena eyezini ekhwela intaba. Wahhlala khonale entabeni okwensuku ezingamatshumi amane lobusuku obungamatshumi amane.

25 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** “Tshela abako-Israyeli bangilethele umnikelo. Uzakwamukela umnikelo emuntwini munye ngamunye ofuqwa yinhliziyi yakhe ukuthi anikele. **3** Le yiyi iminikelo ozayamukela nxa sebenikela: igolide, isiliva kanye lethusi, **4** okwelukiweyo lamalembu aluhlaza, ayibubende kanye labomvu, lelembu elicolekileyo, loboya bembuzi, **5** izikhumba zenqama eziphendulwe ngomphendulo obomvu, kanye lezikhumba zezinyamazana ezinqinileyo, lezigodo zesihlahla som’akhakhiya, **6** amafutha e-oliva awokukhanyisa isibane, amakha azasetshenziswa lamafutha okugcoba abakhethiweyo lephunga lempepha elimnandi, **7** amatshe e-onikisi, lamanye amatshe aligugu

azathungelwa esembathweni semahlombe lesesifubeni. **8** Bangakhele indlu engcwele, ngalokho ngizahlala phakathi kwabo. **9** Yenza ithabanikeli leli kanye lezicciso zalo ngendlela engizakutshengisa yona.” **10** “Kabenze umtshokotsho ngezigodo zesihlahla som’akhakhiya, ubude bawo kube zingalo ezimbili ezilengxenywe, ububanzi kube yingalo elengxenywe njalo ukuyaphazulwa kwawo kube yingalo elengxenywe. **11** Lilihuqe ngegolide elicolekileyo, ngaphakathi langaphandle, ubuye ulizingelezele ngomqolo wegolide. **12** Libumbele amasongo amane egolide liwanamathisele ezinyaweni zalo zozine, amabili kwelinye icele kuthi amabili kwelinye njalo. **13** Beselisenza imijabo ngesihlahla som’akhakhiya liyihuqe ngegolide. **14** Hlomani imijabo kulawo masongo asemaceleni omtshokotsho kube yizibambo. **15** Izigodo lezi zizahlala emasongweni alumtshokotsho, zingakhitshwa. **16** Beselifaka ubufakazi emtshokotshweni engizakunika bona. **17** Yenzani isihlahlo somusa ngegolide elicolekileyo, ubude baso bube zingalo ezimbili ezilengxenywe elengxenywe eyodwa ububanzi. **18** Lizakwenza amakherubhi amabili ngegolide elikhandiweyo, liwenze ekucineni kwesisibekelo esiyisihlahlo somusa emaceleni womabili. **19** Yenzani ikherubhi elilodwa nganxanye kuthi ngakwelinye icele lenze elinye, uzawenza amakherubhi hase yinto yinye lesisibekelo emaceleni womabili. **20** Amakherubhi kumele elulele amaphiko awo phezu lwe embese isisibekelo ngawo. Kuzamele amakherubhi akhangelane, ubuso bawo bukhangele isisibekelo. **21** Bekani isisibekelo phezu komtshokotsho, ubusufaka ubufakazi engizakunika bona ebhokisini lesivumelwano. **22** Kulapho engizahlanguana lawe khona ngikunika imithetho ka-Israyeli ngisesihlahlweni somusa, phakathi laphakathi kwamakherubhi aphezu komtshokotsho wobufakazi.” **23** “Bazani itafula ngezigodo zesihlahla som’akhakhiya, ubude bayo bube zingalo ezimbili, ububanzi bayo bube yingalo eyodwa, kuthi ukudepha kwayo kube yingalo elengxenywe. **24** Liyihuqe ngegolide elicolekileyo, beseliyizingelezele ngomthando wegolide. **25** Lenze kuyo ibhanti eliyizingelezileyo, elilingana lobubanzi besandla, beselibumbela kuyo umthando wegolide phezu kwebhanti. **26** Lenze amasongo amane egolide liwafake emagumbini womane enyanywe zetafula. **27** Amasongo kumele asondelelane lebhanti ukuze abambe imijabo ezasetshenziswa ukuthwala itafula. **28** Lungisani imijabo ngesihlahla som’akhakhiya, liyihuqe ngegolide ukuze lithwale itafula ngayo. **29** Njalo yenzani imiganu lezinditshi zayo ngegolide elicolekileyo kanye lenze, imiganu eyingubhe lezitsha zokuthululela iminikelo. **30** Libeke etafuleni isinkwa esiNgcwele ukuze sibe phambi kwami ngezikhathi zonke.” **31** “Lizakwenza uluthi lwesibane ngegolide elicolekileyo. Likhande isidindi salo lomqwayi walo, imbizana zalo lamahlumela alo lamaluba alo likwenze kube yinto yinye. **32** Ingatsha eziyisithupha zixhunywe emaceleni oluthi, ezintathu nganxanye kuthi ezintathu kwelinye icele. **33** Inkezo ezintathu ezibunjwe okwamaluba e-alimondi, amahlumela lamaluba kumele abe sogatsheni lunye, ezintathu egatsheni olulandelayo, kube njalo kuzozonke ingatsha ezixhunywe emqwayini woluthi lwesibane. **34** Kuzakuthi oluthini lwesibane kube lezimbizana ezine ezibunjwe okwamaluba e-alimondi, zilamahlumela lamaluba. **35** Kumele kube lehlumela ngaphansi kwengatsha ezimbili ezixhunywe oluthini lwesibane, ihlumela lesibili ngaphansi kwezinye ezimbili, kuthi ihlumela lesithathu lalo libe ngaphansi kwezinye njalo ezimbili, zonke ingatsha zibe

yisithupha. **36** Amahlumela lezingatsha kuzakuba yinto yinye loluthi lwesibane, kukhandwe ngegolide elicolekileyo. **37** Ngakho lizalwenzela izibane eziyisikhombisa lizimise phezu kwalo ukuze zikhanyise phambi kwalo. **38** Incijana zentambo lembizana zalo zibe ngezegolide elicolekileyo. **39** Uluthi lwesibane kanye lakho konke okuphathele laso kuzenziwa ngegolide elicolekileyo eliyisindo sethalenta elilodwa. **40** Qaphela ukuba wenze konke njengalokhu owakutshengiswa entabeni.”

26 “Lenze ithabanikeli ngamakhetheni alitshumi elembu eliphothwe kuhle ngentambo eziluhlaza, eziyibubende kanye lezibomvu, acciswe ngamakherubhi elukelwe kuhle ngumuntu oleminwe. **2** Amakhetheni wonke kumele ukuthi alingane, abezingalo ezingamatshumi amabili lesificaminwembili ubude njalo ububanzi abezingalo ezine. **3** Lizahlanganisa amakhetheni amahlanu ndawonye, liphinde lenzenjalo lakwamanye amahlanu. **4** Lenze izihitshela ngelembu eliluhlaza emphethweni wekhethehi elisekucineni kwamakhetheni amahlanu elixheni lakuqala, lenze okufanayo elixheni lesibili. **5** Lizakwenza izihitshela ezingamatshumi amahlanu ekhethenini elilodwa liphinde lenze ezinye izihitshela ezingamatshumi amahlanu ekhethenini lokucina elixheni lesibili, izihitshela zikhangelene. **6** Emva kwalokho lizakwenza ingwegwe zegolide ezingamatshumi amahlanu, lizebenzise ukuhlanganisa amakhetheni ukuze ithabanikeli libe yintonye. **7** Yenzani amakhetheni ngoboya bembuzi abe ngawethente lokubekwa phezu kwethabanikeli, abelitshumi lanye esewonke. **8** Amakhetheni wonke alitshumi lanye alingane, abezingalo ezingamatshumi amathathu ubude, ububanzi abezingalo ezine. **9** Hlanganisa amakhetheni amahlanu abelilixha elilodwa kuthi ayisithupha abe kwelinye ilixha. Ligoqe ikhetheni lesithupha liphindwe kabili phambi kwethente. **10** Yenzani izihitshela ezingamatshumi amahlanu zilandele umphetho wekhethehi elisekucineni kwelilixha lakuqala, lenzenjalo lakwelinye ilixha. **11** Beselilungisa ingwegwe zethusi ezingamatshumi amahlanu lizifake ezihitsheleni ukuze zibophe ithente kube yinto yinye. **12** Kuzakuthi-ke isiqqa esiseleyo sekhetheni lethente, ingxenye yekhethehi eseleyo, ilenge emuva kwethabanikeli. **13** Amakhetheni ethente azakwedlula ngengalo eyodwa inxa zonke, kuthi okuseleyo kulenge emaceleni ethabanikeli ukuze alembese. **14** Lenze isembeso sethente ngezikhumba zenqama eziphendulwe ngomphendulo obomvu, kuthi phezu kwalokho kube lesembeso sezikhumba eziqinileyo. **15** Yenzani amathala ethabanikeli amiswayo ngezigodo zesihlahla som'akhakhiya. **16** Ithala linye kumele libe lide okuzingalo ezilitshumi, kuthi ububanzi bube yingalo elengxene, **17** kube lemisuka emibili ephutshayo ilinganiswe. Wonke amathala ethabanikeli enziwe ngale indlela. **18** Yenzani amathala ecele elisezansi kwethabanikeli angamatshumi amabili, **19** beselizenza izisekelo zesiliva ezingamatshumi amane ezizahamba ngaphansi kwawo, izisekelo ezimbili ethaleni linye, sibe sinye ngaphansi kwensika inye ngayinye. **20** Kulelicele elisenyakatho kwethabanikeli, misani amathala angamatshumi amabili **21** kanye lezisekelo zesiliva ezingamatshumi amane, ezimbili ngaphansi kwepulanka linye. **22** Yenzani amathala ayisithupha ecele elisekucineni ngentshonalanga kwethabanikeli, **23** lenze amathala amabili amagumbi asekucineni. **24** Emagumbini womabili la kumele abe

lohlonzi oluphindwe kabili kusukela phansi kusiya phezulu, abesehlanganiswa ngesongo elilodwa, wonke abe njalo. **25** Ngakho kuzakuba lamathala ayisificaminwembili lezisekelo zesiliva ezilitshumi lesithupha, ezimbili ngaphansi kwethala linye. **26** Yenzani njalo imithando enqumayo ngezigodo zesihlahla som'akhakhiya: emihlanu ibe ngeyamathala kwelinye icele lethabanikeli, **27** emihlanu ibe njalo kwelinye icele, kuthi eminye njalo emihlanu ibe ngeyamathala asentshonalanga, ekucineni kwethabanikeli. **28** Umthando waphakathi onqumayo uzakwedlula usuka kulelicele lokucina usiyacina kwelinye phakathi laphakathi kwamathala. **29** Huqani amathala ngegolide lenze amasongo egolide abambe imithando enqumayo. Njalo lihuqe imithando enqumayo ngegolide. **30** Limise ithabanikeli njengokutshengiswa kwakho entabeni. **31** Yenzani ikhetheni ngelembu elicolekileyo, eliphethwe kuhle ngentambo eziluhlaza, eziyibubende kanye lezibomvu, abe lamakherubhi elukelwe kuwo ngumuntu oleminwe. **32** Liwalengise ngezingwegwana zegolide ensikeni ezine zesihlahla som'akhakhiya ezihluqwe ngegolide njalo zimiswe phezu kwezisekelo zesiliva. **33** Lengisani-ke ikhetheni ngezingwegwana beselibeka umtshokotsho wobufakazi ngemva kwekhetheni. Ikhetheni lizakwehlukanisa indawo Engcwele kweNgcwelengcwele. **34** Bekani isisibekelo esiyisihlalo somusa phezu komtshokotsho wobufakazi osendaweni eNgcwelengcwele. **35** Bekani itafula ngaphandle kwekhetheni elisenyakatho kwethabanikeli, beselifaka uluthi lwesibane lukhangelane layo eceleni eliseningizimu. **36** Yenzani ikhetheni lesango lethente ngelembu eliphethwe kuhle ngentambo eziluhlaza, eziyibubende kanye lezibomvu kube ngumsebenzi wombalazi ngokuthunga. **37** Yenzelani ikhetheni ingwegwana zegolide kanye lezinsika ezinhlanu ezenziwe ngezigodo zesihlahla som'akhakhiya ezihluqwe ngegolide. Njalo beseliwafakela izisekelo ezinhlanu ezibunjwe ngethusi.”

27 “Lakhe i-alithari ngezigodo zesihlahla som'akhakhiya libe zingalo ezintathu ukudepha, kumele lilingane inxa zonke, ubude balo bube zingalo ezinhlanu lobubanzi balo bube zingalo ezinhlanu. **2** Egumbini linye ngalinye le-alithari uzakwenza uphondo, kuthi impondo le-alithari kube yinto yinye, ubusulihluka ngethusi. **3** Izinto zonke ezizasetshenziswa kulo uzazenza ngethusi, imbiza zalo zokubutha umlotha, amafotsholo alo, imiganu yokuchela, amafologwe enyama kanye lezindengezi zokubasela umlilo. **4** Lenzele iminxibo yokosa ngethusi njalo wenze isongo lethusi emagumbini wonke womane. **5** Libeke ngaphansi komphetho we-alithare okuyingxene yokuya phezulu. **6** Libaze imijabo ye-alithare ngezigodo zesihlahla som'akhakhiya liyihluqe ngethusi. **7** Lihlome imijabo le emasongweni asemaceleni womabili e-alithare ukuze ibe yizibambo nxa selithwalwa. **8** Beselithatha amapulanka lenze ngawo i-alithari libe ngumhome. Lenze njengalokhu owakutshengiswayo entabeni.” **9** “Lilungise iguma lethabanikeli. Ubude becele lezansi bube zingalo ezilikhulu njalo libe lamakhetheni elembu eliphethwe kuhle, **10** lensika ezingamatshumi amabili lezisekelo ezingamatshumi amabili konke kwenziwe ngethusi kanye lengwegwe zesiliva lamabhanti ensikeni. **11** Icele lenyakatho lalo lizakuba yizingalo ezilikhulu ubude njalo libe lamakhetheni, libe lensika ezingamatshumi amabili lezisekelo ezingamatshumi amabili ethusi futhi kube lengwegwana lezibopho zesiliva ensikeni. **12** Icele lentshonalanga yeguma lizakuba zingalo

ezingamatshumi amahlanu ububanzi, lilamakhetheni, lensika ezilitshumi kanye lezisekelo ezilitshumi. **13** Eceleni elisempumalanga, kusiya okuphuma khona ilanga, iguma lizakuba banzi okuzingalo ezingamatshumi amahlanu. **14** Amakhetheni azingalo ezilitshumi lanhlalanu ubude azakuba ngranxanye kwesango, ezilinsika ezintathu kanye lezisekelo ezintathu. **15** Ngakwelinye icele lakho kuzakuba lamakhetheni azingalo ezilitshumi lanhlalanu ubude kanye lezinsika ezintathu lezisekelo ezintathu. **16** Esangweni leguma, lifake ikhetheni elizingalo ezingamatshumi amabili ubude, elelukwe laphethwa kühle ngentambo eluhlaza, eyibubende kanye lebomvu, kube ngumsebenzi wombalazi ngokuthunga, kube lezinsika ezine lezisekelo ezine. **17** Zonke izinsika ezihonqolozele iguma zibe lamabhanti lengwegwe zesiliva kanye lezisekelo zethusi. **18** Ubude beguma buzakuba zingalo ezilikhulu lobubanzi obuzingalo ezingamatshumi amahlanu lamakhetheni elembu elelukwe kühle libe lide okuzingalo ezinhlalanu, lezisekelo zethusi. **19** Zonke izinto ezizasetshenziswa emsebenzini wethabanikeli loba kuyini okwenziwayo kuhlanganisa lazozonke izikhonkwane zalo kanye lezeguma, kumele kube ngokwethusi.” **20** “Laya abantu bako-Israyeli bakulethele amafutha acengekileyo, ahluze ema-oliveni, abe ngawokukhanyisa ukuze izibane zihlale zikhanyisa kokuphela. **21** Ethenteni lokuhlangana, ngaphandle kwekhetheni eligudle umtshokotsho wobufakazi, u-Aroni lamadodana akhe bazagcina izibane phambi kukaThixo zibhebha kusukela ntambama kuze kuse. Lokhu kuzakuba yisimiso saphakade phakathi kwabako-Israyeli lakuzikukulwane ezizayo.”

28 “Akulethe kuwe phakathi kwabako-Israyeli umfowenu u-Aroni kanye lamadodana akhe uNadabi, u-Abihlu, u-Eliyazari lo-Ithamari, ubehlukanisele ukuba babe ngabaphristi bami. **2** Wenzela u-Aroni umfowenu izembatho ezingcwele, ezizamenza abe lesithunzi njalo ahlonipheke. **3** Atshele wonke amadoda azingcitsi lalahlakaniphlo ngokuphathelane lalumsebenzi wokuthi benzele u-Aroni izembatho zokwahlukanisele umsebenzi wami wokuba ngumphristi. **4** Yilezi izembatho abazazenza: isembatho sesifubeni, isembatho semahlombe, isigqoko, ibhatshi elelukiweyo, iqhiye kanye lebhanti. Kumele benzele umfowenu u-Aroni lamadodana akhe izembatho lezi ezingcwele ukuze babe ngabaphristi bami. **5** Kabasebenzise intambo eziluhlaza, eziyibubende, ezibomvu kanye lelembu elicolekileyo.” **6** “Uzakwenza isembatho semahlombe ngelembu eliphethwe kühle ngentambo eziligolide, eziluhlaza, eziyibubende kanye lezibomvu, kube ngumsebenzi womuntu oleminwe. **7** Kumele sibe leziqa zemahlombe ezimbili zithungelwe emaceleni aso womabili ukuze sibotshwe. **8** Kuzakuthi ibhanti laso lasekhalweni leluke ngobungcithi lenziwe lifane laso, libe yinto yinye lesembatho semahlombe, lenziwe ngelembu eliphethwe kühle ngentambo eligolide, eluhlaza, eyibubende kanye lebomvu. **9** Thatha amatshe amabili ohlobo lwe-onikisi udwebele kuwo amabizo amadodana ka-Israyeli **10** ngokulandelana kwawo, ayisithupha kwelinye ilitsho kuthi aseleyo uwadwebele kwelinye njalo. **11** Dwebela amabizo amadodana ka-Israyeli ematsheni womabili njengombazi wamatshe aligugu edwebela uphawu. Ubusuwazingelezela ngezicciso zegolide **12** ubusuwathungela eziqeni zemahlombe kube ngamatshe esikhumbuzo samadodana ka-Israyeli. U-

Aroni kumele athwale amabizo emahlombe akhe kube yisikhumbuzo phambi kukaThixo. **13** Yenza izicciso zegolide **14** kanye lamaketane enziwe ngegolide elicolekileyo alukelwe ndawonye njengegoda uwabophele ezicicisweni zegolide.” **15** “Uzakwenza isembatho sesifuba sokwahlulela, senziwe ngumuntu oleminwe. Usenze njengesembatho semahlombe: ngelembu eliphothwe kühle ngentambo eligolide, eluhlaza, eyibubende kanye lebomvu. **16** Kufanele silingane inxa zonke, isandla ubude lesandla ububanzi, sigoqwe saphindwa kabili. **17** Ubusuthungela kuso imizila emine yamatshe aligugu. Emzileni wakuqala kuzakuba lerubhi, ithophazi kanye lebhariyeli, **18** emzileni wesibili kube yi-emeralodi, isafaya, ledayimana, **19** emzileni wesithathu ujasinti, i-agathi kanye le-amethisi, **20** emzileni wesine ikhrisolathi, i-onikisi kanye lejaspa. Athungele ezicicisweni zegolide. **21** Kumele kube lamatshe alitshumi lambili, lilinye limele ibizo lamadodana ka-Israyeli, linye ngalinye lilitshwe njengokudweba kombazi wamatshe, kungani luphawu, kulotshwe kulelo lalalo ibizo lezizwana zako-Israyeli ezilitshumi lambili. **22** Isembatho sesifubeni selukelwe amaketane ngegolide elicolekileyo kube njengegoda. **23** Yenza amasongo amabili ngegolide ubusuwabophela emagumbini amabili esembatho sesifubeni. **24** Bophela amaketane amabili egolide emasongweni asemagumbini esembatho sesifubeni, **25** kuthi ngapha acina khona abotshelwe ezicicisweni ezimbili, liwahlanganise eziqeni zemahlombe phambili kwesembatho semahlombe. **26** Yenza amasongo amabili egolide uwabophele kwamanye amagumbi amabili esembatho sesifubeni ngaphakathi komphetho phansi kwesembatho semahlombe. **27** Yenza amanye amasongo egolide amabili ubusuwabophela ngaphansi kweziqa zemahlombe phambi kwesembatho semahlombe, eduze komphetho ngaphezudlwana kwebhanti lasekhalweni lwesembatho semahlombe. **28** Amasongo esembatho sesifubeni kumele abotshaniswe lamasongo esembatho semahlombe ngentambo eluhlaza, kusihlanganisa lebhanti lasokhalweni, ukwenzela ukuthi isembatho sesifubeni singatshelwe sehlukane lesembatho semahlombe. **29** Kuzakuthi lapho u-Aroni engena Endaweni Engcwele, agqize phezu kwenhliziyo yakhe isembatho sesifubeni sokwahlulela esilamabizo amadodana ka-Israyeli kube yisikhumbuzo esiqhubekayo phambi kukaThixo. **30** Faka njalo i-Urimi kanye leThumimi esambathweni sesifubeni, ukuze ziqondane laphezu kwenhliziyo ka-Aroni loba kunini engena endaweni kaThixo. Ngakokho u-Aroni uzabe ethwele amandla okunquma izinqumo kwabako-Israyeli phezu kwenhliziyo yakhe phambi kukaThixo.” **31** “Yenza isigqoko sesembatho semahlombe ngelembu eliluhlaza kuphela, **32** kube lesikhala sokungenisa ikhanda phakathi laphakathi. Kuzakuba lomphetho onjengebheqe othungwe walandelisela isikhala lesi ukuze isembatho singadabuki. **33** Wenze emphethweni wesembatho amaphomegranathi ngentambo eluhlaza, eyibubende kanye lebomvu, uwugabanise lamabhera egolide. **34** Amabhera egolide kumele agabane lamaphomegranathi emphethweni wesembatho. **35** U-Aroni kufanele asemathe nxa esenza umsebenzi wokukhonza. Umsindo wamabhera uyabe uzwakala lapho engena eNdaweni eNgcwele phambi kukaThixo lalapho ephuma, ukuze angafi. **36** Yenza icence legolide elicolekileyo udwebe, uloba kulo njengombazi wamatshe udwebela uphawu oluthi: Ubungcwele kabube kuThixo. **37** Ulibophele eqhinye ngentambo eluhlaza

libe phambi kweqhiye. **38** Lizakuba sebunzini lika-Aroni ukuze athwale amacala aqondene lezipho ezingcwele ezinikelwa ngabako-Israyeli, kungakhathalekile ukuthi yisipho bani. Lizakuba sebunzini lika-Aroni kokuphela ukuze abako-Israyeli bemukeleke kuThixo. **39** Thunga ibhatshi ngelembu elicolekileyo kanye leqhiye yelembu elicolekileyo, elihle. Ibhanti lokhalo kumele lenziwe ngumbalazi ngokuthunga. **40** Wenzele amadodana ka-Aroni amabhatshi, lamabhanti kanye lamaqhiye ukuze abe lesithunzi, ahlonipheke. **41** Emva kokugqokisa u-Aroni umfowenu kanye lamadodana akhe lezimbatho, bagcobe ubahlukanisele ukuba ngabaphristi bami. **42** Thunga izimbatho zangaphansi ngelembu, zisukele ekhalweni kusiya emathangazini, zibe yizimbatho zomzimba. **43** U-Aroni kanye lamadodana akhe bazazigqoka izikhathi zonke nxa bengena ethenteni lokuhlangana lanxa besondela e-alithareni ukwenza umsebenzi wokukhonzana eNdaweni eNgcwele, ukuze bangabi lecala bafe. Lokhu kukubona yimisimo esingapheliyo ku-Aroni lakuzizukulwane zakhe.”

29 “Lokhu yikho ozakwenza nxa ubagcoba ukuze bangisebenzele njengabaphristi: Thatha inkunzi esesencane lenqama ezimbili ezingelasi. **2** Yenza izinkwa ezingelamvubelo ngefulawa ecolokileyo, izinkwa ezinkulu ezingelamvubelo, ezivutshwe ngamafutha e-oliva lezinkwa ezincane ezingelamvubelo, zigcotshwe ngamafutha e-oliva. **3** Uzifake esitsheni ubusuziletha ndawonye lenkunzi kanye lenqama ezimbili. **4** Emva kwalokho ulethe u-Aroni lamadodana akhe esangweni lethente lokuhlangana ubagezise ngamanzi. **5** Thatha izimbatho ugqokise u-Aroni ibhatshi, lesembatho samahlombe, isembatho samahlombe sona ngokwaso kanye lesigqoko sesifuba, umbophele isembatho samahlombe ngebhanti lokhalo elelukwe ngobungcwethi lokuhlu. **6** Mthwalise iqhiye yokuthandala ekhanda lakhe, unamathisele umqhele wamakhozi ongcwele eqhiyeni. **7** Thatha amafutha okugcoba isikhundla umgcobe ngokuwathela phezu kwekhanda lakhe. **8** Letha amadodana akhe uwagqokise amabhatshi **9** ubabophe ngamabhanti emakhanda, u-Aroni lamadodana akhe, ube usubathwalisa izingowane. Ubuphristi ngobabo ngesimiso esingapheliyo. Ngale indlela uzagcoba u-Aroni lamadodana akhe. **10** Letha inkunzi phambi kwethente lokuhlangana, u-Aroni lamadodana akhe babeke izandla zabo phezu kwekhanda layo, **11** uyihlabe phambi kukaThixo esangweni lethente lokuhlangana. **12** Uthathe igazi lenkunzi ulininde empondweni ze-alithare ngomunwe wakho, uthele igazi eliseleyo phansi e-alithareni. **13** Emva kwalokho uthathe lonke idanga eligoqela ezingaphakathi, amahwahwa aphezu kwesibindi, izinso zonke lamahwahwa akuzo, ukutshise konke lokho e-alithareni. **14** Kodwa-ke inyama yenkunzi, isikhumba sayo lamathumbu ayo, ukutshisele ngaphandle kwesihonqo; kungumnikelo wesono. **15** Thatha enye yenqama, u-Aroni lamadodana akhe babeke izandla zabo phezu kwekhanda layo, **16** uyihlabe, uthathe igazi layo ulichele emaceleni wonke e-alithare. **17** Emva kwalokho uhlahlele inqama ibe yiziqa ugezise ezingaphakathi lemilenze ukufake ndawonye lenhloko kanye lezinye iziqa, **18** ubusutshisa inqama yonke e-alithareni. Lokhu kungumnikelo wokutshiswa kuThixo, iphunga elimnandi, umnikelo onikelwa kuThixo ngomlilo. **19** Thatha enye inqama, u-Aroni lamadodana akhe babeke izandla zabo phezu kwekhanda layo. **20** Uyihlabe, uthathe igazi layo ulininde esiqwini sendlebe yakwesokunene

sika-Aroni lakwezamadodana akhe, lasezithupheni zabo zezandla zabo zokunene, lasemazwaneni amakhulu ezinyawo zabo zesandla sokunene. Emva kwalokho uchele igazi emaceleni wonke e-alithare. **21** Thatha igazi elise-alithareni lamafutha okugcoba uchele u-Aroni lezimbatho zakhe kanye lamadodana akhe lezimbatho zawo. Lapho-ke yena lamadodana akhe lezivunulo zabo kubaze sekungcwelisiwe. **22** Thatha amahwahwa kule inqama, lomsila ononileyo, ledanga eligoqela ezingaphakathi, lamahwahwa aphezu kwesibindi, lezinso zombili lamahwahwa akuzo kanye lomlenze wesandla sokunene. (Le yinqama yokugcotshwa komphristi.) **23** Esitsheni esilesinkwa esingelamvubelo esiphambi kukaThixo, thatha isinkwa esisodwa, isinkwa esisodwa esikhulu esixutshaniwe lamafutha e-oliva kanye lesinkwanyana. **24** Konke lokhu kufake ezandleni zika-Aroni lezamadodana akhe, bakuzunguze phambi kukaThixo kube ngumnikelo wokuzunguzwa. **25** Emva kwalokho kuthathe ezandleni zabo ukutshise e-alithareni ndawonye lomnikelo wokutshiswa ukuze kube liphunga elimnandi kuThixo, umhlathelo wokudla onikelwa kuThixo. **26** Emva kwalokho thatha isifuba senqama yokugcotshwa kuka-Aroni uzunguze phambi kukaThixo njengomnikelo wokuzunguzwa njalo sizakuba yisabelo sakho. **27** Zenze zibengcwele lezozitho zenqama yokugcotshwa komphristi ezingezika-Aroni lamadodana akhe, isifuba esizunguziweyo lomlenze onikelweyo. **28** Lokhu kuzaqhubeka kokuphela kuyisabelo sika-Aroni lamadodana akhe esivela kwabako-Israyeli. Kungumnikelo abako-Israyeli abawenzayo kuThixo uvela eminikelweni yabo yokuhlanganyela. **29** Izimbatho zika-Aroni ezingcwele zizakuba ngezezizukulwana zakhe ukuze bagcotshwe babekwe ubuphristi begqoke zona. **30** Indodana yakhe ezakuba ngumphristi esikhundleni sakhe izazigqoka insuku eziyisikhombisa lapho isiza ethenteni lokuhlangana ukuzakhona eNdaweni eNgcwele. **31** Thatha inqama yokugcotshwa komphristi uyiphikelele endaweni engcwele. **32** Ethenteni lokuhlangana, u-Aroni lamadodana akhe bazakudla inyama yenqama lesinkwa esisesitsheni. **33** Kumele badle leyomnikelo okwenziwa ngayo inhlawulo yokubekwa lokugcotshwa kwabo. Kodwa omunye umuntu nje akayikudla lokho ngoba kungcwele. **34** Njalo nxa eyinye yenqama yenqama yokugcotshwa komphristi kumba isinkwa kusele kuze kube sekuseni, kutshise ngomlilo. Akumelanga kudliwe ngoba kungcwele. **35** Menzele-ke u-Aroni lamadodana akhe konke engikulaye khona, ukugcotshwa kwabo kuthathe insuku eziyisikhombisa. **36** Nikela inkunzi eyodwa usuku ngosuku njengomnikelo wesono wokwenza inhlawulo. Yenza i-alithari libengcwele ngokulenzela inhlawulo, uligcobe ukuba ulingcwelise. **37** Yenza inhlawulelo ye-alithare okwensuku eziyisikhombisa ulingcwelise. Lapho-ke i-alithari lizakuba ngcwele kakhulu kuthi konke okulithintayo kube ngcwele. **38** Lokhu yikho ozakunikele e-alithareni usuku lunye ngalunye: amazinyane ezimvu amabili alomnyaka owodwa ezelwe. **39** Nikela elilodwa ekuseni, elinye unikele ngalo njalo kusihlwa. **40** Kanye lezinyane lakuqala nikela okwetshumi kwehefa yefulawa ecolokileyo ehlanganiswe lokwesine kwehini yamafutha e-oliva ahluziweyo, lokwesine kwehini yewayini ukuba kube ngumnikelo onathwayo. **41** Elinye izinyane linikele kusihlwa ngomnikelo ofanayo wamabele kanye lomnikelo wokunathwayo njengowekuseni ukuba kube liphunga elimnandi, umnikelo wokutshiswa onikelwa kuThixo. **42** Kuzizukulwane ezizayo umnikelo

wokutshiswa lo uzakwenziwa njalunjalo esangweni lethente lokuhlangana phambi kukaThixo, lapho engizahlangana lawe khona ngikhulume lawe. **43** Lapho futhi yikho engizahlangana khona labako-Israyeli, indawo leyo ingcweliswe yinkazimulo yami. **44** Ngokunjalo ngizakwenza ithente lokuhlangana kanye le-alithari kube ngcwele ukuba bangisebenzele bengabaphristi. **45** Lapho-ke ngizahlala phakathi kwabantu bako-Israyeli ngibe nguNkulunkulu wabo. **46** Bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wabo, owabakhupha eGibhithe ukuze ngihlale phakathi kwabo. Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wabo.”

30 “Yenza i-alithari lokutshisela impepha ngesihlahla som’akhakhiya. **2** Amacele womane kumele alingane, kube yingalo ubude lengalo ububanzi, kuthi ukudepha kube zingalo ezimbili, impondo zalo zibe yinto yinye lalo. **3** Huqa phezu lamacela wonke, lempondo zalo ngegolide elicolekileyo ubumbele umqolo wegolide inxa zonke. **4** Yenza amasongo egolide amabili e-alithare abe ngaphansi komqolo emaceleni amabili ehlukeneyo ukuba abambe imijabo yokulithwala. **5** Imijabo yenze ngesihlahla som’akhakhiya uyihlule ngegolide. **6** Beka i-alithari phambi kwekhettheni elisithe umtshokotsho wobufakazi, nganeno kwesihlalo somusa esiphezu kwezibhebhedu zesivumelwano somthetho lapho engizahlangana lawe khona. **7** U-Aroni kumele atshise impepha enuka mnandi e-alithareni nsuku zonke ekuseni elungisa izibane. **8** Kumele impepha ayitshise futhi kusihlwa lapho eselumathisa izibane ukuze impepha itshe kokuphela phambi kukaThixo kuze kube kuzizukulwane ezizayo. **9** Linganikeli kuleli-alithare olunye uhlobo lwempepha kumbe umnikelo wokutshiswa loba umnikelo wamabele, njalo lingatheli umnikelo wokunathwa phezu kwalo. **10** Kanye ngomnyaka u-Aroni uzakwenza inhlawulelo empondweni zalo. Inhlawulo yeminyaka yonke le kumele yenziwe ngegazi lomnikelo wokuhlawulela izono zezizukulwane ezizayo. Ingcwele kakhulu kuThixo.” **11** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, **12** “Lapho usubala abantu bako-Israyeli omunye lomunye kumele anike uThixo inhlawulo yokuphila kwakhe. Ngalokho akuyikuba lesifo esizabehlela lapho ubalala. **13** Akuthi lowo lawo odlulela ngakulabo asebebalwiwe anike ingxenye yeshekeli, ngokweshekeli lendawo engcwele, okuyisisindo esingamagera angamatshumi amabili. Ingxenye yeshekeli le ingumnikelo kuThixo. **14** Wonke umuntu obaliweyo, kusukela koleminyaka engamatshumi amabili kusiya phezu, uzanikela umnikelo kuThixo. **15** Abanothileyo akumelanga banikele ngokwedlula ingxenye yeshekeli, labayanga kabanganikeli ngokungaphansi lapho selinikela kuThixo ukuba lenze inhlawulelo yokuphila kwenu. **16** Wamukele imali yenhlawulo kwabako-Israyeli uyisebenzise enkonweni yethente lokuhlangana. Izakuba yisikhumbuzo kwabako-Israyeli phambi kukaThixo ukwenzela inhlawulelo yokuphila kwenu.” **17** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, **18** “Yenza inkonxa yethusi ibe lensika yethusi, izakuba ngeyokugezela. Uyibeke phakathi laphakathi kwethente lokuhlangana le-alithari, uthele amanzi phakathi kwayo. **19** U-Aroni lamadodana akhe bazageza izandla lezinyawo zabo ngamanzi akuyo. **20** Nxa bengena ethenteni lokuhlangana bazageza ngamanzi ukuze bangafi. Phezu kwalokho, lapho besondela e-alithareni ukuba bakhonze ngokwethula umnikelo wokutshiswa onikelwa kuThixo, **21** bazageza izandla zabo lezinyawo ukuze bangafi. Lokhu kuzakuba yisimiso esingapheliyo ku-Aroni lenzalo yakhe lakuzizukulwane ezizayo.” **22** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, **23** “Thatha lezinhlolo

zamazha amahle: Amashekeli angamakhulu amahlanu emure elingamanzi, isinamoni enuka mnandi eyingxenye yalokho (okuyikuthi amakhulu amabili lamatshumi amahlanu amashekeli), amashekeli angamakhulu amabili lamatshumi amahlanu ekhalamu elilephunga elimnandi, **24** amashekeli angamakhulu amahlanu ekhasiya, konke kumayelana lamashekeli endawo engcwele, kanye lehini lamafutha ama-oliva. **25** Lokhu kwenze kube ngamafutha angcwele okugcoba abakhethiweyo alungiswe ngumenzi wamakha, azakuba ngamafutha angcwele okugcoba abakhethiweyo. **26** Ngawo-ke uzagcoba ithente lokuhlangana, umtshokotsho wobufakazi, **27** itafula kanye lezitsha zawo zonke, uluthi lwesibane lezitsha zawo, i-alithari lempepha, **28** i-alithari lomnikelo wokutshiswa lezitsha zawo lomganu wokugezela kanye lezinyawo zawo. **29** Uzakungcwelisa konke ukuba kube ngcwele kakhulu, njalo loba yini ekuthintayo izakuba ngcwele. **30** Mgcoke u-Aroni lamadodana akhe ubehlukanisele ukuba bangisebenzele bengabaphristi. **31** Batshele abako-Israyeli uthi, ‘Lokhu kuzakuba ngamafutha ami angcwele okugcoba abakhethiweyo lakuzizukulwane zenu ezizayo. **32** Lingawatheli emizimbeni yabantu, njalo lingenzi amanye amafutha ngale indlela yokuwenza. Ingcwele, izakuba ngcwele lakini. **33** Lowo ozakwenza amakha afana lawo kumbe agcobe ngawo umuntu ongasuye mphristi, uzasuswa ebantwini bakibo.” **34** UThixo wabuye wathi kuMosi, “Thatha amakha anuka mnandi, isitakete, i-onika legalibhanumi kanye lenhlaka enhle, konke kungesilinganiso esifanayo, **35** wenze ingxube yempepha elephunga elimnandi njengomxubi wamakha, ifakwe itswayi ibenhle njalo ibe ngcwele. **36** Chola enye yayo ibe yimpuphu uyifake phambi komtshokotsho wobufakazi phakathi kwethente lokuhlangana lapho engizahlangana lawe khona. Izakuba ngcwele kakhulu kini. **37** Lingazenzeli eyenu impepha ngale indlela, iboneni njengento engcwele kuThixo. **38** Lowo ozakwenza enye efana layo ukuba akholise ukunukelela kwayo kamnandi, kumele asuswe ebantwini bakibo.”

31 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** “Khangela, sengikhethe uBhezaleli indodana ka-Uri oyindodana kaHuri owesizwe sikaJuda **3** ngamgcalisa ngomoya kaNkulunkulu, ukhulakanipha, ukuqedisa lolwazi ekwenzeni yonke imisebenzi yobungcitshi **4** ukuze adwebe imisebenzi yobungcitshi ngesimo sezinto ezenziwa ngegolide, isiliva kanye lethusi, **5** abaze amatshes awabeke kuhle, abaze izigodo kanye lokwenza yonke imisebenzi yomuntu oleminwe lobungcwethi. **6** Phezu kwalokho, ngikhethe lo-Oholiyabhi indodana ka-Ahisamakhii, owesizwe sikaDani ukuba amncedise. Nginike ulwazi kuzozonke izingcitshi ukuba zenze konke engikulaye ukuba kwenziwe: **7** ithente lokuhlangana, umtshokotsho wobufakazi, isihlalo somusa esikuwo, lakho konke okunye okokuhlobisa ithente: **8** itafula lezitsha zalo, uluthi lwesibane lwegolide elicolekileyo lezitsha zalo zonke, i-alithari lempepha, **9** i-alithari lomnikelo wokutshiswa kanye lezitsha zalo zonke, lomkolo kanye lezinyawo zawo **10** lezembatho ezelukiweyo, lezembatho ezingcwele zika-Aroni umphristi kanye lezembatho zamadodana akhe ezomsebenzi wabo wobuphristi, **11** lamafutha okugcoba isikhundla, lempepha enuka mnandi eyeNdawo eNgcwele. Kumele bakwenze njengoba ngikulayile.” **12** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, **13** “Batshele abako-Israyeli uthi, ‘Kumele ligcine

amaSabatha ami. Lokhu kuzakuba luphawu phakathi kwami lani kuzizukulwane zenu ezizayo, ukuze lazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo olenza libengcwele. **14** Gcinani iSabatha ngoba lingcwele kini. Lowo olonayo kumele abulawe, lalowo osebenzayo ngalolosuku uzasuswa ebantwini bakibo. **15** Umsebenzi kawenziwe okwensuku eziyisithupha, kodwa usuku lwesikhombisa luliSabatha lokuphumula, lungcwele kuThixo. Lowo osebenzayo ngosuku lweSabatha kumele abulawe. **16** Abako-Israyeli kumele bagcine iSabatha, baligcine kuzizukulwane zabo ezizayo njengesivumelwano esingapheliyo. **17** Lizakuba luphawu phakathi kwami labako-Israyeli nini lanini. Ngoba ngezinsuku eziyisithupha uThixo wenza amazulu lomhlaba, kwathi ngosuku lwesikhombisa waphumula.” **18** Kwathi lapho uThixo eseqedile ukukhuluma loMosi entabeni yaseSinayi wamnika izibhebhedu ezimbili zamatshe obufakazi, izibhebhedu zamatshe alotshwe ngomunwe kaNkulunkulu.

32 Kwathi lapho abantu bebona uMosi esephezule ukwehla entabeni, babuthana ku-Aroni bathi kuye, “Lalela, senzele onkulunkulu abazahamba phambi kwethu, ngoba umuntu lo, uMosi owasikhupha elizweni laseGibhithe, asikwazi osekwenzakale kuye.” **2** U-Aroni wabaphendula wathi, “Khuphani amacici egolide asendlebeni zamakhosikazi enu, amadodana enu lamadodakazi enu, liwalethe kimi.” **3** Ngakho abantu bonke wabakhupha amacici abo bawasa ku-Aroni. **4** Wathatha lokho abamnikeza khona wakwenza kwaba yisithombe esibunjwe ngesimo sethohle esebenzisa insimbi yokukhanda. Basebesithi, “Laba yibo onkulunkulu benu, Oh Israyeli, abalikhupha elizweni laseGibhithe.” **5** Kwathi u-Aroni ebona lokhu wakha i-alithari phambi kwethohle wamemezela wathi, “Kusasa kuzakuba lomkhosi kaThixo.” **6** Ngakho ngosuku olwalandelayo abantu bavuka ekuseni kakhulu banikela umnikelo wokutshiswa, baletha lomnikelo wobudlelwano. Emva kwalokho bahlala phansi badla, banatha; basukuma bagida. **7** Lapho-ke uThixo wathi kuMosi, “Yehla uye phansi ngoba abantu bakho owabakhupha elizweni laseGibhithe sebegcwele ububi. **8** Baphangisile badela konke engabalaya khona bazenzela isithombe esibunjwe safana lethohle. Basikhothamele banikela iminikelo kiso bathi, ‘Laba yibo onkulunkulu benu, bako-Israyeli, abalikhupha eGibhithe.’” **9** UThixo wasebuya wathi kuMosi, “Sengibabonile abantu laba; ngabantu abantamo zilukhuni. **10** Khathezi-ke ngiyekela ngingedwa ukuze ulaka lwami luvuthe phezu kwabo, ngibatshabalalise. Besengizakwenza isizwe esikhulu.” **11** Kodwa uMosi wacela umusa kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe, wathi, ‘Awu Thixo, kungani ulaka lwakho kumele luvuthele abantu bakho owabakhupha eGibhithe ngamandla amakhulu langesandla esiqinileyo na? **12** Kungani amaGibhithe kumele athi, ‘Wabakhupha elizweni ngenxa yenhloso embi ukuba ababulalele ezintabeni, ababhuhise baphele ebusweni bomhlaba?’ Phenduka olakeni lwakho olwesabekayo, uthambise umoya wakho, ungalethele abantu bakho ukubhujiswa. **13** Khumbula izinceku zakho u-Abrahama, u-Isaka lo-Israyeli owafunga kubo wena ngokwakho wathi, ‘Ngizakwandisa inzalo yenu ibe ngangezinkanyezi zasemkhathini, ngiyinike lonke ilizwe engalithembisa lona ukuba libe yilifa layo kuze kube nini lanini.’” **14** Lapho-ke uThixo waguquka ebubini ayesemise ukubehlisela ebantwini bakhe. **15** UMosi waphenduka wehla entabeni ephethe izibhebhedu ezimbili

zamatshe obufakazi ezandleni zakhe. Zazilotshwe inxa zombili, phambili langemuva. **16** Izibhebhedu zamatshe zazingumsebenzi kaNkulunkulu; umbhalo ungumbhalo kaNkulunkulu owawulotshwe ezibhebhedwini zamatshe. **17** Kwathi lapho uJoshua esizwa umsindo wabantu beklabalala, wathi kuMosi, “Kulokuhlokoma kwempi ezihonqweni.” **18** UMosi waphendula wathi: “Akusiyi nhloko yokunqoba, akusiyi nhloko yokunqotshwa; yinhloko yokuhlabela mina engiyizwayo.” **19** Kwathi uMosi esebanga ezihonqweni ebona ithole kanye lokugida okwakusenzisa, ulaka lwakhe lwavutha, walahla izibhebhedu ezazisezandleni zakhe, zahlephuka zaba yizicuku ewatheni lwentaba. **20** Wathatha ithole abebenzile walitshisa emlilweni; walichola laba yimpuphu, wayiphosela emanzini, wathi bawanathe abako-Israyeli. **21** Wasesithi ku-Aroni, “Abantu laba benzeni kuwe uze ubakhokhelele esonweni esikhulu kangaka na?” **22** U-Aroni waphendula wathi, “Ungathukutheli nkosi yami. Uyakwazi ukuthi abantu laba bathanda ububi. **23** Bathe kimi, ‘Senzele onkulunkulu abazahamba phambi kwethu. Umuntu lo, uMosi owasikhupha elizweni laseGibhithe, asikwazi osokwenzakale kuye.’” **24** Ngakho mina ngathi kubo, ‘Loba ngubani olomceciso wegolide kawukhuphe.’ Basebengipha-ke igolide ngaliphosa emlilweni, kwasekuphuma ithole leli.” **25** UMosi wabona ukuthi abantu babengasabambeki kanye lokuthi u-Aroni wayesebaxhwalisile baze baba yinhlekisa ezitheni zabo. **26** Ngakho wema esangweni lezihonqo wathi, “Wonke ongokaThixo, keze kimi.” Wonke amadodana kaLevi ayabuthana kuye. **27** Wasesithi kuwo, “Lokhu yikho okutshiwo nguThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, ukuthi, ‘Indoda ngayinye kayibophele inkemba yayo ngebhanti eceleni kwayo, lihambahambe phakathi kwezihonqo lisuka kwelinye icele lazo lisiya kwelinye, indoda ngayinye ibulale umfowabo, umzalwane lomakhelwane wayo.’” **28** Amadodana kaLevi enza njengokulaywa kwawo nguMosi. Ngakho ngalolosuku kwafa abantu ababengaba zinkulungwane ezintathu. **29** UMosi wasesithi kubo, “Lamuhla lina selahlukaniselwe uThixo ngoba limelane lamadodana enu labafowenu, ngalokho uselibusisile lamhla.” **30** Ngelanga elalandelayo uMosi wathi ebantwini, “Lenze isono esikhulu kakhulu. Kodwa khathesi ngizaqansa ngye phezu kuThixo, mhlawumbe ngingenza inhlawulelo yesono senu.” **31** Ngakho uMosi wabuyela kuThixo wathi kuye, “Awu, abantu laba sebenze isono esikhulu kakhulu. Bazenzele onkulunkulu ngegolide. **32** Ake ubathethelele izono zabo kodwa nxa kungenjalo, ngesula ogwalweni olulobileyo.” **33** UThixo waphendula uMosi wathi, “Lowo owenze isono kimi ngizamesula ogwalweni lwami. **34** Khathezi hamba, ukhokhelele abantu endaweni engakhuluma ngayo kuwe. Ingilosi yami izahamba phambi kwakho. Kodwa-ke nxa isikhathi sami sokujezisa sesifikile, ngizabajezisa ngenxa yesono sabo.” **35** UThixo wabajezisa abantu ngenziso ngenxa yalokho abakwenza ngethohle elenzizwe ngu-Aroni.

33 UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Suka kule indawo wena labantu owabakhupha elizweni laseGibhithe, uye elizweni engalithembisa u-Abrahama lo-Isaka loJakhobe ngifunga ngisithi, ‘Ngizalinya inzalo yakho.’” **2** Ngizathuma ingilosi ihambe phambi kwakho ixotshe amaKhenani, ama-Amori, amaHithi, amaPherizi, amaHivi lamaJebusi. **3** Yana elizweni eligeleza uchago loju. Kodwa mina angiyikuhamba lani ngoba lingabantu abantamo zilukhuni, hlezi ngilubhuhise endleleni.” **4** Kwathi lapho abantu

sebezwe amazwi la adabukisayo baqalisa ukukhala, akwaze kwaba loyedwa owagqiza izigqizo zakhe. **5** Phela uThixo wayethe kuMosi, “Tshela abako-Israyeli uthi, ‘Lina lingabantu abantamo zilukhuni. Nxa ngingahamba lani loba okomzuzwana nje, ngingalibhuhisa. Khathesi khululani izigqizo zenu; ngizakwenza isinqumo ukuthi ngenzeni ngani.’” **6** Ngakho-ke abako-Israyeli bazikhipha izigqizo zabo entabeni yeHorebbi. **7** UMosi wayejwayele ukuthatha ithente ayelimisa ngaphandle bucwadlana lezihonqo. Walibiza ngokuthi “lithente lokuhlangana.” Ubani lobani owayedinga uThixo wayesiya ethenteni lokuhlangana ngaphandle kwezihonqo. **8** Kwakusithi-ke lapho uMosi ephuma esiya kuletholente abantu bonke babesukuma bame eminyango yamathente abo bakhangele uMosi aze angene ethenteni. **9** Kwakusithi uMosi esengena ethenteni insika yeyazi yehlele phansi ime emnyango wethente lapho uThixo ekhuluma loMosi. **10** Kwakusithi abantu bangabona insika yeyazi isimi emnyango wethente basukume bonke bakhonze; lowo lalowo emnyango wethente lakhe. **11** UThixo wayekhuluma loMosi ubuso ngobuso njengomuntu ekhuluma lomngane wakhe. Ngemva kwalokho uMosi wayebuyela ezihonqweni, kodwa umncedisi wakhe owayesemncane, uJoshua indodana kaNuni, wayengasuki ethenteni. **12** UMosi wathi kuThixo, “Ubulokhu ungitshela usithi, ‘Khokhela abantu laba,’ kodwa kawungazisanga ukuthi ngubani ozamthuma ukuba ahambe lami. Utshilo wathi, ‘Ngiyakwazi ngebizo, njalo ufumene umusa kimi.’” **13** Nxa uthokoza ngami, ngifundisa izindlela zakho ukuze ngikwazi, ngiqhubeka ngithola umusa kuwe. Khumbula futhi lokuthi isizwe lesi singabantu bakho.” **14** UThixo waphendula wathi, “NgoBukhona bami ngizahamba lawe ngikuphumuze.” **15** UMosi wathi kuye, “Nxa uBukhona bakho bungahambi lathi, ungasisusi lapha. **16** Umuntu angakwazi njani ukuthi mina labantu bakho sifumene umusa kuwe ngaphandle kokuba uhamba lathi na? Kuyini okunye okungasiphawula, mina labantu bakho, kwabanye abantu bonke emhlabeni na?” **17** UThixo wathi kuMosi, “Ngizakwenza khona kanye lokhu okucelileyo ngoba ngiyathokoza ngawe, njalo ngikwazi ngebizo.” **18** UMosi wasesithi, “Ngicela ukuba ungitshengise inkazimulo yakho.” **19** UThixo wasesithi, “Ngizakwenza ukulungiswa kwami kudlule phambi kwakho, njalo ngizamemezela ibizo lami, uThixo, phambi kwakho. Ngizakuba lesihawu kulowo engizakuba lesihawu kuye njalo ngibe lesisa kulowo engizakuba lesisa kuye.” **20** UThixo waqhubeka wathi, “Kodwa, ubuso bami awungeke ububone, ngoba kakho ongangibona aphile.” **21** UThixo wabuya wathi, “Kulendawo phansi kwami lapho ongema khona phezu kwedwala. **22** Kuzakuthi lapho inkazimulo yami isedlula eduze, ngizakufaka emnkenkeni wedwala ngikusithe ngesandla sami ngize ngidlule. **23** Emva kwalokho ngizasusa isandla sami ubone umhlane wami; kodwa ubuso bami akumelanga ububone.”

34 UThixo wathi kuMosi, “Baza ezinye izibhebhedu zamatshe ezimbili zifanane lezakuqala. Ngizabhalala kuzo amazwi ayesezibhebhedwini zakuhala owaziphahlazayo. **2** Ube usulungile ekuseni, ubuye phezulu entabeni iSinayi, uziveze kimi engqongweni yentaba. **3** Akungabi lamuntu oza lawe kumbe oke abonakale loba kungaphi entabeni; ngitsho lezimvu lenkomo kazingadli phambi kwaleyontaba.” **4** Ngakho uMosi wabaza izibhebhedu zamatshe ezimbili zaba njengezakuqala, wakhwela entabeni iSinayi ekuseni kakhulu njengokulaywa kwakhe nguThixo ephethe izibhebhedu ezimbili zamatshe

ezandleni zakhe. **5** UThixo wehla ngeyezi wema khonapho laye wamezela ibizo lakhe esithi, “UThixo.” **6** Wedlula phambi kukaMosi ememezela esithi, “UThixo, uThixo; uNkulunkulu olesihawu lomusa, ophuzayo ukuthukuthela, ogcwele uthando lobuqotho, **7** olothando olungapheliyo kuzinkulungwane ethethelela ububi, iziphosiso lezono. Ikanti abalamacala kabayekeli bengajeziswanga; wehlisela ububi baboyise phezu kwabantwana, laphezu kwabantwana babantwana kusiya kusizukulwane sesithathu lesesine.” **8** UMosi waphanga wakhothamisela ikhanda lakhe phansi, wakhonza. **9** Wathi, “Awu Thixo, nxa ngithole umusa kuwe, ngiyacela, uThixo kahambe lathi. Lanxa abantu laba bentamo zilukhuni, sithethelele ububi bethu lezono zethu, usithathe njengelifa lakho.” **10** UThixo wasesithi, “Sengisenza isivumelwano lawe. Phambi kwabantu bakho bonke ngizakwenza izimangaliso ezingakaze zenziwe lanini lakusiphi isizwe emhlabeni wonke. Abantu ohlala phakathi kwabo bazabona ukuthi umangalisa njani umsebenzi, mina Thixo, engizakwenzela wona. **11** Lalela lokhu engikulaya khona lamhla. Ngizawaxotsha phambi kwakho ama-Amori, amaKhenani, amaHithi, amaPherizi, amaHivi lamajebusi. **12** Qaphela ukuba kungabi lesivumelwano ozenza labalo abahlala elizweni oya kulo ngoba bangaba yisifu kini. **13** Adilizeni ama-alithare abo, libhidlize lezithombe zabo, liqume lezinsika zika-Ashera wabo abamkhonzayo. **14** Lingakhonzi omunye unkulunkulu, ngoba uThixo, obizo lakhe linguBukhwele, nguNkulunkulu olobukhwele. **15** Qaphelani lingenzi isivumelwano labalo abahlala elizweni lelo ngoba nxa bephinga labonkulunkulu babo benikela iminikelo kubo, bazalinxusa beselisidla imihlatshelo yabo. **16** Njalo lapho likhetha amanye amadodakazi abo ukuba abe ngabafazi bamadodana enu kuzakuthi lapho amadodakazi lawo esezibhixxa kubonkulunkulu bawo, ahugele amadodana enu ekwenzeni okunjalo. **17** Lingazenzeli onkulunkulu ababunjiweyo. **18** Gcinani uMkhosi weSinkwa esingelaMvubelo. Okwensuku eziyisikhombisa dlanini isinkwa esenziwe kungekho mvubelo, njengokulaya kwami. Lokho kwenzeni ngesikhathi esimisiweyo enyangeni ka-Abhibhi, ngoba ngaleyonyanga laphuma eGibhithi. **19** Inzalo yakuqala yonke ezelweyo ngeyami, kanye lamazibulo wonke amaduna ezifuyo zenu, loba engangenkomo kumbe awezimvu. **20** Izibulo likababhemu lihlangeni ngezinyane. Kodwa nxa lingangalihlengi lephuleni intamo yalo. Ahlangeni wonke amadodana enu angamazibulo. Kakho ozakuza phambi kwami engaphethe lutho. **21** Lizasebaza insuku eziyisithupha, kodwa ngosuku lwesikhombisa lizaphumule; langesikhathi sokulima lesokuvuna kuzamele liphumule. **22** Thakazelelani uMkhosi wamaViki lokolibo kokuvuna kwenu ingqoloyi loMkhosi wokuButhelela ekupheleni komnyaka. **23** Kathathu ngomnyaka bonke abesilisa bakho kumele babonakale phambi kukaThixo Wobukhosi, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. **24** Ngizaxotsha izizwe eziphambi kwenu njalo ngiqhelise ilizwe lenu, kakho ozahawukela ilizwe lenu ngesikhathi lisiyabonakala kathathu ngomnyaka phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **25** Linganikeli igazi lomhlatshelo kimi ndawonye laloba yini elemvubelo, njalo akungabi lomhlatshelo woMkhosi wePhasika ogcinwa kuze kuse. **26** Lethani okolibo kwenu okuhle kakhulu endlini kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. Lingapheki izinyane lembuzi ngochago lukanina.” **27** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Loba amazwi la, ngoba ngamazwi la sengenze isivumelwano lawe kanye lo-Israyeli.”

28 UMosi wayekhonale loThixo insuku ezingamatshumi amane lobusuku obungamatshumi amane engadli sinkwa kumbe ukunatha amanzi. Amazwi esivumelwano ayimiThetho eliTshumi, wawaloba ezibhebhedwini zamatshe. **29** Kwathi lapho uMosi esehla entabeni yeSinayi ephethe izibhebhedu ezimbili zamatshe obufakazi, wayengazi ukuthi ubuso bakhe babukhazimula ngenxa yokuthi wayekhulume loThixo. **30** Kwathi u-Aroni labo bonke abako-Israyeli bebona uMosi, ubuso bakhe bukhazimula, besaba ukusondela kuye. **31** Kodwa uMosi wababiza; ngakho u-Aroni lezinduna zonke zabantu beza kuye, wakhuluma labo. **32** Emva kwalokho bonke abako-Israyeli basondela kuye wabanika yonke imilayo kaThixo ayemphe yona entabeni yeSinayi. **33** UMosi eseqedile ukukhuluma labo, wamboza ubuso bakhe ngeveli. **34** Kodwa kwakusithi lapho esengena ukuba abe phambi kukaThixo ukuze akhulume laye, wayelisusa iveli aze aphume. Wayesithi angaphuma, njalo esebatshelile abako-Israyeli lokho ayekulayiwe, **35** babebona ukuthi ubuso bakhe babukhazimula. Lapho-ke uMosi wayebumboza njalo ubuso bakhe ngeveli aze angene esiyakhuluma loThixo.

35 UMosi wabuthanisa isizwe sonke sako-Israyeli wathi kuso, “Lokhu yikho uThixo alilaye ukuba likwenze: **2** Okwensuku eziyisithupha lizaqhuba imisebenzi, kodwa usuku lwesikhombisa luzakuba lusuku lwenu olungcwele, iSabatha lokuphumula kuThixo. Loba ngubani ozakwena umsebenzi ngalolosuku kuzamele abulawe. **3** Lingabani umlilo loba kungaphi elihlala khona ngosuku lweSabatha.” **4** Ekhuluma lesizwe sonke sako-Israyeli uMosi wathi, “Lokhu yikho uThixo athe kwenziwe: **5** Kulokho elilakho khiphani umnikelo kaThixo. Wonke ozimiseleyo ukuletha kuThixo umnikelo: wegolide, isiliva kanye lethusi, **6** intambo eziluhlaza, eziyibubende kanye lezibomvu; ilembu elicolekileyo, uboya bembuzi, **7** izikhumba zenqama eziphendulwe ngomphendulo obomvu kanye lezikhumba zezinyamazana eziqinileyo; lezigodo zeshlahla som'akhakhiya; **8** amafutha e-oliva awokukhanyisa isibane, amakha azasetshenziswa lamafutha okugcoba abakhethiweyo lephunga lempepha elimnandi, **9** amatshe e-onikisi lamanye amatshe aliguu azathungelwa esemathweni semahlombe lesesifubeni. **10** Bonke abazingcitshi phakathi kwenu kumele beze bazokwenza konke lokho uThixo alaye ukuthi kwenziwe: **11** ithabanikeli lethente lalo kanye lesisibekelo, ingwegwe, amathala, imithando enqumayo, izinsika lezisekelo; **12** umtshokotsho wobufakazi lemijabo yawo kanye lesisibekelo esiyisihlalo somusa lekhetheni lokulisitha; **13** itafula lemijabo yalo lezitsha zonke kanye lesinkwa esiNgcwele, **14** uluthi lwesibane sokukhanyisa kanye lezitsha zalo, izibane lamafutha okukhanyisa, **15** i-alithari lempepha lemijabo yalo, amafutha okugcoba abakhethiweyo kanye lempepha elephunga elimnandi, ikhetheni lomnyango esangweni lokuya ethabanikeleni, **16** i-alithari leminikelo yokutshiswa leminxibo yokosa eyenziwe ngethushi, imijabo kanye lezitsha zalo zonke, inditshi yethusi kanye lesisekelo sayo, **17** amakhetheni eguma kanye lezinsika zalo lezisekelo, njalo lekhetheni lesango leguma, **18** izikhonkwane zethente, ezethabanikeli kanye lezeguma, lamagoda azo, **19** izembatho ezelukhiweyo ezisetshenziswa ekuphatheni umsebenzi endaweni engcwele, zonke izembatho ezingcwele zika-Aroni umphristi kanye lezembatho zamadodana akhe abazisebenzisayo emsebenzini wobuphristi.” **20** Ngemva

kwalokho isizwe sonke sako-Israyeli sasuka phambi kukaMosi, **21** kwathi wonke umuntu owayezimisele lowayefuqwa yinhliziyo waletha umnikelo kuThixo ukuze usetshenziswe ethenteni lokuhlangana lakuzo zonke inkonzo zalo, kanye lakuzembatho ezingcwele. **22** Bonke ababezimisele, abesilisa labesifazane ngokufanayo, baletha izinto zokucecisa ezemihlobo ngemihlobo ezenziwe ngegolide: zipenede, amacici, indandatho kanye lazozonke izinto zokucecisa. Bonke baletha igolide labo kwaba ngumnikelo wokuzunguzwa phambi kukaThixo. **23** Wonke umuntu owayelentambo eziluhlaza, eziyibubende, ezibomvu kumbe ilembu elicolekileyo, kumbe uboya bembuzi, izikhumba zenqama eziphendulwe ngomphendulo obomvu loba izikhumba zenyamazana zolwandle wakuletha. **24** Labo ababeleminikelo yesiliva kumbe eyethusi bayiletha njengomnikelo kuThixo, kanti laye wonke umuntu owayelezigodo zeshlahla som'akhakhiya ezazingasetshenziswa kuloba yiwuphi umsebenzi, waziletha. **25** Wonke owesifazane olobuciko bokweluka waletha ayekweluke ngezandla zakhe, intambo eziluhlaza, eziyibubende lezibomvu kumbe ilembu elicolekileyo. **26** Kanjalo bonke abesifazane ababezimisele futhi belobuciko beluka ngoboya bembuzi. **27** Abakhokheli baletha amatshe aliguu e-onikisi kanye lamanye njalo amatshe aliguu ukuthi athungelwe emahlombe lasesifubeni sesembatho. **28** Baletha njalo leziyoliso kanye lamafutha e-oliva awokukhanyisa lawokugcoba abakhethiweyo kanye lempepha elephunga elimnandi. **29** Bonke abako-Israyeli abesilisa labesifazane ababezimisele baletha iminikelo ngokukhululeka kuThixo ukuze kwenziwe yonke imisebenzi uThixo alaye uMosi ukuthi bayenze. **30** Ngalokho uMosi wathi kwabako-Israyeli, “Khangalani, uThixo usekhethe uBhezaleli indodana ka-Uri, indodana kaHuri, owesizwe sikaJuda, **31** njalo usemgcwalise ngoMoya kaNkulunkulu, ukhulakanipha, ukuqedisa kanye lolwazi ekwenzeni yonke imisebenzi yobungcitshi **32** ukuba adwebe ngobungcitshi isimo sezinto ezizabazwa ngegolide, isiliva kanye lethusi, **33** ukubaza amatshe lokuwamisa, ukubaza izigodo njalo enze yonke imisebenzi yomuntu oleminwe lobungcitshi. **34** Njalo usenike uBhezaleli kanye lo-Oholiyabhi indodana ka-Ahisamakhi, owesizwe sikaDani ulwazi ekufundiseni abanye. **35** UThixo usebagcwalise ngobuciko bokwenza yonke imihlobo yemisebenzi njengezizingcitshi, abadwebi kumbe ababumbi bezinto ezingathungwa kumbe ezingabazwa, abathungi beziceciso zentambo eziluhlaza, eziyibubende lezibomvu kanye lamalembu acolekileyo, labeluki, bonke bezingcitshi ezilolwazi olukhulu lababumbi bezinto ezingathungwa kumbe ezingabazwa.

36 Ngakho uBhezaleli, u-Oholiyabhi lomuntu wonke uThixo amuphe ubungcwethi lamandla okwazi ukwenza wonke lumsebenzi wokwakha indlu engcwele, kumele benze umsebenzi njengokulaywa kwabo nguThixo.” **2** UMosi wasebiza uBhezaleli, u-Oholiyabhi labo bonke abalobungcwethi, uThixo ayebaphe amandla lowayezimisele ukuzokwenza lowomsebenzi. **3** Bemukela abakuphiwa nguMosi kwakuyiminikelo yabako-Israyeli benikelela ukwakhiwa kwendlu engcwele. Abantu baqhubeka beletha iminikelo ngokukhululeka kwabo ukusa kwamalanga wonke. **4** Ngakho zonke izingcitshi ezazisenza umsebenzi wonke wokwakha indlu engcwele zatshiya yonke imisebenzi yazo **5** zathi kuMosi, “Abantu baletha okunengi kakhulu kulalokho uThixo alaya

ukuba kwenziwe.” **6** Ngakho uMosi wakhupha isiqondiso basebethumela ilizwi ezihonqweni elithi, “Kakho owesilisa loba owesifazane okusamele enze olunye ulutho ukuthi lube ngumnikelo wendlu engcwele.” Ngalokho abantu bavinjelwa ukuletha okunye futhi, **7** ngoba abasebelakho kwasekukunengi okwedlula lokho kwakuzaphetha umsebenzi. **8** Wonke amadoda alobngcwelethi phakathi kwabasebenzayo akha ithabanikeli ngamkhetheini alitshumi enziwe ngelemu eliphothwe kuhle ngentambo eziluhlaza, eziyibubende kanye lezibomvu, laceciswe ngamakherubhi elukelwa kuhle yingcitsihi. **9** Wonke amakhetheni ayelingana ubude bawo buzingalo ezingamatshumi amabili lefiscaminwembili njalo ububanzi ezingalo ezine. **10** Babambanisa amakhetheni amahlanu ndawonye, benza njalo lakwamanye amahlanu. **11** Basebesenza izihitshela ngelemu eliluhlaza belandela umphetho wekhetheini elisekucineni kwelixha lakuqala, kwenziwa okufananayo elixheni lesibili. **12** Benza njalo ezinye izihitshela ezingamatshumi amahlanu ekhethenini elilodwa, benza futhi ezinye izihitshela ezingamatshumi amahlanu ekhethenini lokucina lelixha lesibili, izihitshela zazikhangelene. **13** Basebesenza ingwegwe zegolide ezingamatshumi amahlanu, bazisebenzisa ukuhlanganisa izixha zombili zamkhetheini ukuze ithabanikeli libe yintonye. **14** Benza amakhetheni ngoboya bembuzi aba ngawethente lokubekwa phezu kwethabanikeli, wonke abalitshumi lanye. **15** Wonke amakhetheni alitshumi lanye ayelingana, ezingalo ezingamatshumi amathathu ubude, ububanzi ezingalo ezine. **16** Bahlanganisa amakhetheni amahlanu aba lilihxa layisithupha kwelinye ilixha. **17** Benza izihitshela ezingamatshumi amahlanu zilandela umphetho wekhetheini elisekucineni kwelixha lakuqala, benza okufananayo ekhethenini lelixha lesibili. **18** Balungisa ingwegwe zethusi ezingamatshumi amahlanu ukuze babophe ngazo ithente libe yinto yinye. **19** Benza isembeso sethente ngezikhumba zenqama eziphendulwe ngomphendulo obomvu, kwathi ngaphezu kwalokho benza isembeso ngezikhumba eziqinileyo. **20** Benza amathala ethabanikeli okumiswa ngezigodo zesihlahla som’akhakhiya. **21** Ithala linye lalilide okuzingalo ezilitshumi, kwathi ububanzi laba yingalo elengxenywe, **22** kulemisuka emibili ephutsha ilinganisene. Wonke amathala ethabanikeli enziwa ngale indlela. **23** Benza amathala ecele elisezansi kwethabanikeli angamatshumi amabili, **24** benza izisekelo zesiliva ezingamatshumi amane ezazihamba ngaphansi kwawo, izisekelo ezimbili ethaleni linye, isisekelo sinye ngaphansi kwensika inye ngayinye. **25** Kuleli elinye icele, icele elisenyakatho kwethabanikeli, bamisa amathala angamatshumi amabili **26** kanye lezisekelo zesiliva ezingamatshumi amane, ezimbili ngaphansi kwethala lilinye. **27** Benza amathala ayisithupha ecele elisekucineni ngentshonalanga kwethabanikeli, **28** benza amathala amabili emagumbini asekucineni. **29** Emagumbini womabili amathala ayelohlonzi oluphindwe kabili kusuka phansi kusiya phezu, ehlanganiswe ngesongo elilodwa njalo womabili enziwa ngokufananayo. **30** Ngakho kwenziwa amathala ayisifiscaminwembili lezisekelo zesiliva ezilitshumi lesithupha, zimbili ngaphansi kwethala linye. **31** Benza njalo imithando enqumayo ngezigodo zesihlahla som’akhakhiya: emihlanu ingeyamathala akwelinye icele lethabanikeli, **32** emihlanu yayingeyakwelinye icele, kwathi njalo eminye emihlanu yaba ngeyamathala aentshonalanga ekucineni kwethabanikeli. **33**

Umthando onquma phakathi bawenza wedlula usuka kwelinye icele usiya kwelinye phakathi laphakathi kwamathala. **34** Bahuqa amathala ngegolide benza amasongo ngegolide abamba imithando. Njalo bahuqa imithando ngegolide. **35** Benza ikhetheni ngelemu elicolekileyo, eliphethwe kuhle ngentambo eziluhlaza, eziyibubende lezibomvu, aba lamakherubhi elukelwe kuwo ngumuntu olemnwe. **36** Bawenzela izinsika ezine ngezigodo zesihlahla som’akhakhiya bazihuqa ngegolide. Izinsika bazenzela ingwegwe zegolide njalo bawamisela lezisekelo ezine zesiliva. **37** Benza ikhetheni lesango lethente ngelemu elicolekileyo elilentambo eziphothiweyo eziluhlaza, eziyibubende lezibomvu, kwaba ngumsebenzi wombalazi ngokuthunga; **38** njalo benza izinsika ezinhlanu zilengwegwe zazo. Bahuqa izihloko zensika kanye lamabhanti azo ngegolide njalo benza lezisekelo ezinhlanu ngethusi.

37 UBhezaleli wabaza umtshokotsho ngezigodo zesihlahla som’akhakhiya ubude bawo kuzingalo ezimbili ezilengxenywe, ububanzi kuyingalo elengxenywe njalo ukuyaphezulu kwawo kuyingalo elengxenywe. **2** Walihuqa ngegolide elicolekileyo, ngaphakathi langaphandle, wabuye walizingelezela ngomqolo wegolide. **3** Wawubumbela amasongo amane egolide wawanamathisela ezinyaweni zalo zozine, kwathi amasongo amabili kwelinye icele lamabili kwelinye njalo. **4** Wasebaza imijabo ngesihlahla som’akhakhiya wayihuqa ngegolide. **5** Wasehloma imijabo leyo emasongweni ayesemaceleni komtshokotsho wesivumelwano ukuze uthwalwe ngayo. **6** Wenza isihlalo somusa ngegolide elicolekileyo, ubude baso buzingalo ezimbili ezilengxenywe lengxenywe, ububanzi saba yingalo elengxenywe. **7** Njalo wenza amakherubhi amabili ngegolide elikhandiweyo ekucineni kwesihlalo somusa emaceleni womabili. **8** Wenza ikherubhi elilodwa nganxanye kwathi kwelinye icele wenza elinye aba yinto yinye lesisibekelo. **9** Amakherubhi ayelulele amaphiko awo phezu, embese isisibekelo ngawo. Amakherubhi ayekhangeleno, ubuso bawo bukhangele isisibekelo. **10** Babaza itafula ngezigodo zesihlahla som’akhakhiya, ubude bayo babuzingalo ezimbili, ububanzi buyingalo eyodwa, ukuphakama kwayo kuyingalo elengxenywe. **11** Basebelihuqa ngegolide elicolekileyo njalo balizingelezela ngomthando wegolide. **12** Babuya benza ibhanti eliyizingelezileyo, elalingangesandla somuntu ububanzi, basebefaka umthando wegolide phezu kwebhanti. **13** Benza amasongo amane egolide bawafaka emagumbini womane enyaweni zetafula. **14** Amasongo afakwa eduze lebhanti ukuze abambe imijabo eyayisetsheziwisa ukuthwala itafula. **15** Imijabo yokuthwalisa itafula yayenziwe ngezigodo zesihlahla som’akhakhiya njalo ihuqwe ngegolide. **16** Njalo benza ngegolide elicolekileyo izitsha zetafula ezibalisa imiganu, izinditshi, imiganu eyingubhe kanye lezitsha zokuthululela iminikelo enathwayo. **17** Benza uluthi lwesibane ngegolide elicolekileyo, bakhanda isidindi salo lomqwayi walo kwaba ngumsebenzi okhandiweyo, imbizana zalo, amahlumela alo kanye lamaluba alo kwenziwa kwaba yinto yinye. **18** Ingatsha eziyisithupha zaxhunywa emaceleni oluthi lwesibane, ingatsha ezintathu nganxanye kwathi ezintathu kwelinye icele. **19** Inkezo ezintathu ezibunjwe okwamaluba e-alimondi, amahlumela lamaluba kwakusogatsheni linye, ezinye ezintathu ogatsheni olulandelayo, kwabanjalo kuwo wonke ayisithupha exhunywe oluthini lwesibane. **20**

Njalo oluthini lwesibane kwakulembizana ezine ezibunjwe okwamaluba e-alimondi elamahlumela kanye lamaluba. **21** Ihlumela elilodwa lalingaphansi kwengatsha ezimbili, ihlumela lesibili lingaphansi kwezinye ezimbili lehlumela lesithathu lalingaphansi kwengatsha ezimbili, ingatsha zonke zaziyizithupha. **22** Amahlumela lezingatsha kwakuyinto yinye loluthi lwesibane, kukhandwe ngegolide elicolekileyo. **23** Balwenzela izibane eziyisikhombisa, incijana lembizana zalo ezenziwe ngegolide elicolekileyo. **24** Uluthi lwesibane kanye lakho konke okuphathele lalo kwenziwa ngegolide elicolekileyo eliyisisindo sethalenta elilodwa. **25** Benza i-alithari lempepha ngezigodo zesihlahla som'akhakhiya. Lenziwa lalingana inxa zonke, ubude balo buyingalo eyodwa, lobubanzi buyingalo eyodwa, kanti ukudepha kuzingalo ezimbili, impondo zalo zenziwa zaba yinto yinye kanye lalo. **26** Baliyuqa ngegolide elicolekileyo phezulu, lemaceleli kanye lempondo zalo ngegolide elicolekileyo njalo balibumbela umqolo wegolide inxa zonke. **27** Benza amasongo amabili kuleli icele lamanye amabili kwelinye njalo ukubambanisa imijabo yokuthwalisa i-alithari lempepha. **28** Benza imijabo ngesihlahla som'akhakhiya bayiyuqa ngegolide. **29** Benza njalo lamafutha angcwele okugcoba abakhethiweyo, lempepha elephunga elimnandi, kungumsebenzi womenzi wamakha.

38 Bakha i-alithari lomnikelo wokutshiswa ngezigodo zesihlahla som'akhakhiya laba zingalo ezintathu ukudepha, ubude balo laba zingalo ezinhlanu, ububanzi laba zingalo ezinhlanu, lilingana inxa zonke. **2** Benza uphondo kumagumbi womane e-alithare, kwathi impondo le-alithari kwaba yinto yinye, basebeliyuqa ngethusi. **3** Benza zonke izinto ezisetshenziswa kulo ngethusi, imbiza zalo, amafotsholo, imiganu yokuchela, amafologwe enyama kanye lezindengezi zokubasela umlilo. **4** Benza iminxobo ye-alithare, bayenza ngethusi yaba ngaphansi kwesengamo se-alithare okuyingxenywe yokuya phezulu. **5** Benza amasongo ethusi okubambisa imijabo yemagumbini womane yeminxobo yethusi. **6** Imijabo bayenza ngezigodo zesihlahla som'akhakhiya baziyuqa ngethusi. **7** Basebelhoma imijabo leyo emasongweni yaba semaceleli kwe-alithari ukuze lithwalwe ngayo. Balenza ngamapulanaka lafana lomkolo. **8** Benza umkolo wethusi lensika yawo yethusi yenziwa ngezibuko zethusi ezazingezabesifazane ababesebenza esangweni lethente lokuhlangana. **9** Ngemva kwalokho balungisa iguma lethabanikeli. Ubude becele lezansi babuzingalo ezilikhulu njalo lilamakhetheni elembu elelukwe kuhle, **10** lilensika ezingamatshumi amabili lezisekelo zethusi ezingamatshumi amabili, njalo lilezingwegwe zesiliva kanye lamabhanti ensikeni. **11** Icele lenyakatho lalo lalizingalo ezilikhulu ubude njalo lilensika ezingamatshumi amabili, lezisekelo zethusi ezingamatshumi amabili, kanye lengwegwe zesiliva lamabhanti ensikeni. **12** Icele lentshonalanga yeguma lalizingalo ezingamatshumi amahlanu ububanzi, lilamakhetheni, lilensika ezilithumi, ingwegwe zesiliva kanye lamabhanti ensikeni. **13** Eceleli lempumalanga kusiya okuphuma khona ilanga, lakhona iguma lalibanzi okwezingalo ezingamatshumi amahlanu. **14** Amakhetheni azingalo ezilithumi lanhlanu ubude ayenganxanye kwesango, kulezinsika ezintathu kanye lezisekelo ezintathu, **15** ngakwelinye icele lakho kwakulamakhetheni azingalo ezilithumi lanhlanu ubude, kulezinsika ezintathu kanye lezisekelo ezintathu. **16** Wonke amakhetheni ayehonqolozele

iguma lethabanikeli ayenziwe ngelembu eliphethwe kuhle. **17** Izisekelo zensika zazingezethusi. Ingwegwe kanye lamabhanti ensikeni kwakuyisiliva, njalo izihloko zazo zihuwwe ngesiliva, ngokunjalo zonke izinsika zeguma zazilamabhanti esiliva, njalo izihloko zazo zihuwwe ngesiliva, ngakho zonke izinsika zeguma zazilamabhanti esiliva. **18** Ikhetheni lesango leguma lalenziwe ngelembu eliphethwe kuhle ngentambo eluhlaza, eyibubende kanye lebomvu, kwaba ngumsebenzi wombalazi ngokuthunga. Ikhetheni lakhona lalizingalo ezingamatshumi amabili ubude, kanti njengekhetheni leguma ukudepha kwalo kwakuzingalo ezinhlanu, **19** lilensika ezine lezisekelo zethusi ezine. Ingwegwe zalo kanye lamabhanti kuyisiliva, njalo izihloko zalo zihuwwe ngesiliva. **20** Izikhonkwane zonke zethente lethabanikeli kanye lezizingelezele iguma zazenziwe ngethusi. **21** Lokhu yikho ngobunengi bakho, okwasetshenziswa ukwakha ithabanikeli, ithabanikeli lobufakazi, yikho okwalotshwa ngabaLevi ngokulawula kumaMosi ngaphansi kwesiqondiso sika-Ithamari indodana ka-Aroni, umphristi. **22** (UBhezaleli indodana ka-Uri, indodana kaHuri, owesizwe sakoJuda, wenza konke uMosi ayekulaywe nguThixo, **23** wayelo-Oholyabhi indodana ka-Ahisamakhi owesizwe sikaDani owayeyingcitshi yomsebenzi njalo engumdwebi, njalo engumbalazi ngokuthunga ngentambo eluhlaza, eyibubende lebomvu, kanye lelembu elicolekileyo.) **24** Isilinganiso segolide lonke lomnikelo wokuzunguzwa elasetshenziswa emsebenzini wonke wendawo engcwele lalingamathalenta ayisisindo esingamatshumi amabili lasificamunwemunye kanye lamashekeli angamakhulu ayisikhombisa amatshumi amathathu kusiya ngamashekeli endawo engcwele. **25** Isiliva esavela kulabo abahlala khona ababebaliwe ngesikhathi sokubalwa kwabantu sasilesisindo esingamathalenta alikhulu lamashekeli ayinkulungwane lamakhulu ayisikhombisa amatshumi ayisikhombisa lanhlanu, kusiya ngamashekeli endawo engcwele, **26** ibhekha linye ngomuntu, okuyikuthi, ingxenywe yeshekeli ngesilinganiso seshekeli endaweni engcwele, kubo bonke labo ababechaphela kwabasebaliwe, abaleminyaka engamatshumi amabili okuzalwa loba ukwedlula lapho, kwaba ngamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamakhulu ayisithupha lanathu lamakhulu amahlanu amatshumi amahlanu esehlengene wonke. **27** Isiliva esiyisisindo samathalenta alikhulu sasetshenziswa ekwenzeni izisekelo zendawo engcwele kanye lekhetheni, izisekelo ezilikhulu zenziwa ngesiliva esingamathalenta alikhulu, isilinganiso sethalenta linye ukwenza isisekelo esisodwa. **28** Basebenzisa isiliva esilesisindo esingamashekeli ayinkulungwane elamakhulu ayisikhombisa amatshumi ayisikhombisa lanhlanu ukwenza ingwegwe zensika, ukuhuqa izihloko zensika, kanye lokwenza amabhanti ensika. **29** Isilinganiso sethusi lonke lomnikelo wokuzunguzwa sasingamathalenta angamatshumi ayisikhombisa lamashekeli azinkulungwane ezimbili ezilamakhulu amane. **30** Balisebenzisa ukwenza izisekelo zesango lethente lokuhlangana, i-alithari lethusi, iminxobo yalo yethusi kanye lazozonke izitsha zalo, **31** izisekelo ezihonqolozele iguma lalezo ezisesangweni kanye lezikhonkwane zethabanikeli lazozonke ezihonqolozele iguma.

39 Benza izembatho zokwenza umsebenzi endaweni engcwele ngokuzeluka ngentambo eluhlaza, eyibubende

lebomvu. Basebesenza isembatho sika-Aroni esingcwele, njengalokhu uThixo wayelaye uMosi. **2** Benza isembatho semahlombe ngegolide, kanye lentambo eluhlaza, eyibubende lebomvu langelembu elicolekileyo. **3** Bakhanda izicecedu zegolide bazisika zaba zincipo bazeluka ngentambo eluhlaza, eyibubende lebomvu, kanye lelembu elicolekileyo, kwaba ngumsebenzi womuntu oleminwe. **4** Benza iziqa zemahlombe esambathweni leso, ezathungelwa emaceleni womabili ukuze sibotshwe. **5** Ukhalo lwaso olwelukwa ngobuciko lwalufanana laso, luyinto yinye lesembatho semahlombe, lwenziwe ngentambo eligolide, eluhlaza, eyibubende lebomvu, kanye lelembu eliphothwe kuhle, njengalokhu uThixo walaya uMosi. **6** Bathungela amatshe aligugu ohlolo lwe-onikisi ezicicisweni zegolide bawadwebela njengophawu elamabizo amadodana ka-Israelyeli. **7** Basebewathungela eziqeni zemahlombe esembatho semahlombe njengamatshe esikhumbuzo samadodana ka-Israelyeli, njengalokhu uThixo walaya uMosi. **8** Benza isembatho sesifubeni, kwaba ngumsebenzi wezingcwelethi. Basenza njengesembatho semahlombe: ngegolide, ngentambo eluhlaza, eyibubende lebomvu, kanye lelembu eliphothwe kuhle. **9** Sasilingana inxa zonke, singumunwe ubude lomunwe ububanzi, sigoqwe saphindwa kabili. **10** Basebuthungela imizila emane yamatshe aligugu. Emzileni wakuqala kwakulerubhi, ithophazi kanye lebheryeli; **11** emzileni wesibili kwakule-emeralidi, isafaya kanye ledayimana; **12** emzileni wesithathu kwakulejasinti, i-agathi kanye le-amethisi; **13** emzileni wesine kwakulekhrisolathi, i-onikisi kanye lejaspa. Athungelwa esizecicisweni zegolide. **14** Kwakulamatshe alitshumi lambili, lilinye limele ibizo ngalinye lamadodana ka-Israelyeli, linye ngalinye lilotshwe njengokudweba kombazi wamatshe, kungani luphawu, ngalinye lilotshwe ibizo lezizwana ka-Israelyeli ezilithumi lambili. **15** Isembatho sesifubeni selukelwa amaketane ngegolide elicolekileyo kungani ligoda. **16** Benza iziciciso zegolide ezimbili, kanye lamasongo amabili egolide, basebebophela amasongo amabili emagumbini esembatho sesifubeni. **17** Babophela amaketane amabili egolide emasongweni amabili asemagumbini esembatho sesifubeni, **18** kwathi ngapha acina khona bawabophela ezicicisweni ezimbili, bawahlanganisa eziqeni zemahlombe phambi kwesembatho semahlombe. **19** Benza amasongo amabili egolide bawabophela kwamanye amagumbi amabili esembatho sesifubeni ngaphakathi komphetho phansi kwesembatho semahlombe. **20** Baphinda benza njalo amanye amasongo egolide amabili bawabophela ngaphansi kweziqa zemahlombe, eduze komphetho ngaphezudlwana kwebhanti lasokhalweni lwesembatho semahlombe. **21** Babophela amasongo esembatho sesifubeni emasongweni esembatho semahlombe ngentambo eziluhlaza, kuhlanganiselwa okhalweni ukuze isembatho sesifubeni singazunguzeki sehluwane lesembatho semahlombe njengalokhu uThixo walaya uMosi. **22** Benza isigqoko sesembatho semahlombe ngelembu eliluhlaza kuphela kungumsebenzi womeluki, **23** kulesikhala phakathi laphakathi kwesigqoko njengokuvuleka kwamabheqe; kulomphetho olandiselwe isikhala lesi ukuze isembatho singadabuki. **24** Benza emphethweni wesigqoko amaphomegranathi ngentambo eluhlaza, eyibubende lebomvu, kanye lelembu eliphothwe kuhle. **25** Benza amabhera ngegolide elicolekileyo bawathungela emphethweni wesigqoko phakathi laphakathi kwamaphomegranathi. **26** Amabhera kanye lamaphomegranathi athungelwa

agatshaniswa emphethweni wesembatho esasizagqokwa ekwenzeni umsebenzi wenkonzo, njengalokhu uThixo walaya uMosi. **27** U-Aroni kanye lamadodana akhe bathungelwa amabhatshi ngelembu elicolekileyo, kungumsebenzi womeluki uqobo lwakhe, **28** kanye lamaqhiye elembu elicolekileyo, kanye lezembatho zangaphakathi zelembu elicolekileyo. **29** Ibhanti lekhalweni lathungwa ngelembu elicolekileyo kanye lentambo eluhlaza, eyibubende lebomvu, kwaba ngumsebenzi wombalazi ngokuthunga, njengalokhu uThixo walaya uMosi. **30** Benza icence lomqhele ongcwele ngegolide elicolekileyo bawudwebela khona njengombhalo wophawu othi: Ubungcwele kabube kuThixo. **31** Basebebophela intambo eluhlaza ukuze bakuhlanganise leqhiye, njengalokhu uThixo walaya uMosi. **32** Ngakho-ke wonke umsebenzi wethabanikeli lethente lokuhlangana waphelileswa. Abako-Israelyeli benza konke njengalokhu uThixo walaya uMosi. **33** Basebeletha ithabanikeli kuMosi: ithente kanye lazononke impahla zalo, ingwenge, amathala, imithando, izinsika lezisekelo; **34** isembeso esenziwe ngezikhumba zenqama eziphendulwe ngomphendulo obomvu, isembeso sezikhumba eziqinileyo kanye lekheteni eliphothiweyo; **35** umtshokotsho wobufakazi lemijabo yawo eyizibambo zawo kanye lesihlalo somusa; **36** itafula lezitsha zalo zonke kanye lesinkwa esiNgcwele; **37** uluthi lwesibane lwegolide elicolekileyo lodwendwe lwezibane lazononke izinto ezisetshezeniswa kulo, kanye lamafutha e-oliva okukhanyisa; **38** i-alithari legolide, amafutha okugcoba abakhethiweyo, impepha elephunga elimnandi, kanye lekheteni lesango lethente; **39** i-alithari lethusi leminxibo yalo yethusi, izigodo zalo eziyizibambo lezitsha zalo zonke; umkolo lezinyawo zawo; amakhetheni eguma lezinsika zawo kanye lezisekelo, **40** lekheteni lesango leguma; amagoda lezikhonkwane zethente leguma; zonke impahla zethabanikeli, ithente lokuhlangana; **41** izembatho ezelukiweyo zokusetshezeniswa emsebenzini wokukhonza endaweni engcwele, kuhlanganisa izembatho ezingcwele zika-Aroni lezamadodana akhe ababezazigqoka nxa besenza umsebenzi wobuphristi. **42** Abako-Israelyeli basebenza wonke umsebenzi njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo. **43** UMosi wawuhlola umsebenzi wabona ukuthi wawenziwe njengokulaya kukaThixo. Ngakho uMosi wababusisa.

40 UThixo wasesithi kuMosi: **2** “Misa ithabanikeli, ithente lokuhlangana, ngosuku lokuqala lwenyanga yakuqala. **3** Beka umtshokotsho wesivumelwano kulo ube ususitha umtshokotsho wobufakazi ngekheteni. **4** Ngenisa itafula ube usufaka izinto ezibekwa phezu kwayo. Letha-ke uluthi lwesibane ube usuxhuma izibane zalo. **5** Beka i-alithari lempepha elenziwe ngegolide phambi komtshokotsho wobufakazi njalo ufake ikheteni esangweni lethabanikeli. **6** Beka i-alithari lomnikelo wokutshiswa phambi kwesango lethabanikeli, ithente lokuhlangana; **7** beka umkolo phakathi laphakathi kwethente lokuhlangana le-alithari ube usuthela amanzi kuwo. **8** Lungisa iguma eliwugombolozeleyo ubusufaka ikheteni esangweni leguma. **9** Thatha amafutha okugcoba abantu abakhethiweyo ezikhundleni, ugcobe ngawo ithabanikeli lakho konke okukulo, ulibusise kanye lempahla zalo, ngalokho lizakuba ngcwele. **10** Gcoba-ke i-alithari lomnikelo wokutshiswa lazononke izitsha zalo; ubusise i-alithari ukuze libe ngcwelengcwele. **11** Gcoba umkolo lenyawo zawo ubusuwubusisa. **12** Letha u-Aroni lamadodana akhe ethenteni

lokuhlangana ubusubagezisa ngamanzi. **13** Ubusugqokisa u-Aroni izembatho ezingcwele umgobe ngamafutha umbusise ukuze angenzele umsebenzi wobuphristi. **14** Letha amadodana akhe uwagqokise amabhatshi. **15** Bagcobe labo njengokugcotshwa kukayise ukuze bangenzele umsebenzi wobuphristi. Ukugcotshwa kwabo kubapha umsebenzi wobuphristi kuzozonke izizukulwane ezizayo.” **16** UMosi wenza konke njengokulaywa kwakhe nguThixo. **17** Lamiswake ithabanikeli ngosuku lwakuqala ngenyanga yakuqala emnyakeni wesibili. **18** Kwathi uMosi emisa ithabanikeli, wafaka izisekelo endaweni yazo, wamisa amathala, wafaka imithando wasemisa izinsika. **19** Wasendlala ithente phezu kwethabanikeli wafaka isembeso phezu kwethente njengokulaywa kwakhe nguThixo. **20** Wathatha izibhebhedu zobufakazi wazibeka emtshokotshweni wesivumelwano, wahloma imijabo kuwo wasefaka isihlalo somusa phezu kwawo. **21** Wasengenisa umtshokotsho wobufakazi ethabanikeleni, waphanyeka ikhetheni lokusitha wawugubuzela, njengalokho okwakulaywe nguThixo. **22** UMosi wasebeka itafula ethenteni lokuhlangana eceleni langenyakatho lethabanikeli ngaphandle kwekhetheni, **23** wasebeka isinkwa phezu kwalo phambi kukaThixo njengokulaywa kwakhe nguThixo. **24** Wabeka uluthi lwesibane ethenteni lokuhlangana lukhangele itafula eningizimu kwethabanikeli, **25** wasemisa izibane phambi kukaThixo, njengokulaywa kwakhe nguThixo. **26** UMosi wabeka i-alithari legolide ethenteni lokuhlangana phambi kwekhetheni, **27** wasetshisela impepha phezu kwalo njengokulaywa kwakhe nguThixo. **28** Waselengisa ikhetheni esangweni lethabanikeli. **29** Wamisa i-alithari lomnikelo wokutshiswa phansi kwesango lethabanikeli lethente lokuhlangana, wanikela phezu kwalo iminikelo yokutshiswa lemnikelo yezilimo njengokulaywa kwakhe nguThixo. **30** Wasebeka umkolo phakathi laphakathi kwethente lokuhlangana le-alithari wasethela amanzi okugeza phakathi kwawo, **31** ngakho uMosi lo-Aroni kanye lamadodana akhe bawusebenzisa ukuze izandla zabo kanye lezinyawo. **32** Babegeza ngasosonke isikhathi nxa bengena ethenteni lokuhlangana loba nxa besiya e-alithareni njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo. **33** Ngakho uMosi walungisa iguma elihonqolozele ithabanikeli le-alithari waselengisa ikhetheni esangweni leguma kwaba yikho ukuqeda kukaMosi umsebenzi. **34** Emva kwalokho iyezi lasibekela ithente lokuhlangana, kwathi inkazimulo kaThixo yagcwala ithabanikeli. **35** UMosi kenelisanga ukungena ethenteni lokuhlangana ngenxa yeyezi elalimi phezu kwalo, inkazimulo kaThixo yagcwala ethabanikeleni. **36** Kulolonke uhambo lwabako-Israyeli, kwakusithi iyezi lingaphakama lisuka phezu kwethabanikeli, labo baqhubeke; **37** kodwa kuthi nxa iyezi lingaphakamanga, labo babengaqhubekeli phambili, kuze kube mhla liphakama. **38** Ngokunjalo iyezi likaThixo lalisiba phezu kwethabanikeli emini, kuthi ebusuku kube lomlilo eyezini, bekubona bonke abako-Israyeli ekuhambeni kwabo konke.

ULevi

1 UThixo wabiza uMosi, wakhuluma laye esethenti lokuhlangana. Wathi kuye, **2** “Khuluma labantu bako-Israyeli uthi kubo, ‘Nxa omunye wenu eletha umnikelo kuThixo, kalethe umnikelo wesifuyo esivela emhlambini wenkomo kumbe owezimvu. **3** Nxa umnikelo ungowokutshiswa uvela emhlambini wenkomo, kumele anikele ngesifuyo esiduna esingelasci. Kumele asilethe esangweni lethente lokuhlangana ukwenzela ukuthi samukelele kuThixo. **4** Kuzamele abeke isandla sakhe ekhanda lomnikelo wokutshiswa, ngalokho uzakwamukelwa esikhundleni sakhe, uphendle indlela yokubuyisana. **5** Kuzamele ahlabe inkunzi encinyane phambi kukaThixo, ngemva kwalokho, amadodana ka-Aroni, abangabaphristi, bazaletsha igazi alichele emaceleni wonke e-alithare esangweni lethente lokuhlangana. **6** Kuzamele ahlinze umnikelo wokutshiswa, abesewuhlalela ube ngamaqatha. **7** Kumele amadodana ka-Aroni umphristi abase umlilo e-alithareni, abesebeka inkuni emilweni. **8** Amadodana ka-Aroni abesehlanganisa inhloko lamahwahwa enkunini ezibhebha e-alithareni. **9** Kuzamele agezise ezangaphakathi lemilenze ngamanzi, njalo umphristi kumele akutshise konke e-alithareni. Lowo ngumnikelo wokutshiswa, umnikelo owenziwa ngomlilo, olephunga elimnandi kuThixo. **10** Nxa umnikelo ungowokutshiswa, uvela emhlambini wezimvu kumbe imbuzi, kuzamele anikele ngesifuyo esiduna esingelasci. **11** Kuzamele asihlabele enyakatho ye-alithare phambi kukaThixo, njalo amadodana ka-Aroni angabaphristi azachela igazi laso emaceleni wonke e-alithare. **12** Kuzamele isifuyo asihlahlele sibe ngamaqatha, kugoqela inhloko lamahwahwa, njalo umphristi uzawabeka kahle phezu kwenkuni eziyabe zibhebha e-alithareni. **13** Kuzamele agezise ezangaphakathi lemilenze ngamanzi, njalo umphristi uzaletsha inyama yonke, abeseyitshisela e-alithareni. Lowo ngumnikelo wokutshiswa, umnikelo owenziwa ngomlilo, olephunga elimnandi kuThixo. **14** Nxa umnikelo kaThixo ungowokutshiswa, ungowenyoni, kumele anikele ngejubu kumbe iphuphu lenkwilimba. **15** Umphristi uzakuletha e-alithareni, akutshile intamo, abesekutshisela e-alithareni, igazi lakho livuzele eceleni. **16** Kuzamele akhuphe isidlelo lalokho okuphakathi kwaso, asilahlele empumalanga ye-alithare, lapho okulomlotha khona. **17** Kayidabule ivuleke ngempiko zayo kodwa angayehlukanisi, emva kwalokho, umphristi uzayitshisela enkunini ezisemilweni ose-alithareni. Ngumnikelo wokutshiswa, umnikelo owenziwa ngomlilo, olephunga elimnandi kuThixo.”

2 “Nxa umuntu angaletsha umnikelo wamabele kuThixo; umnikelo wakhe uzakuba ngowefulawa ecolekileyo. Uzayithela amafutha ayihlanganise lempepha **2** abeseyisa emadodaneni ka-Aroni, abaphristi. Umphristi uzacupha ifulawa ecolekileyo egcwala isandla, ayihlanganise lamafutha lempepha ndawonye, abesekutshisa njengesikhumbuzo e-alithareni, umnikelo owenziwa ngomlilo, olephunga elimnandi kuThixo. **3** Okuseleyo emnikelweni wamabele ngokuka-Aroni lamadodana akhe, yingxenywe engcwele kakhulu yomhlatshelo wokudla onikelwa kuThixo. **4** Nxa ungaletsha umnikelo wamabele obekhwe eziko, kumele wenziwe ngefulawa ecolekileyo: amakhekhe abekhwe kungela mvubelo, ahlanganiswa lamafutha, kumbe amakhekhe ayizicecedu

enziwe kungela mvubelo, asegcotshwa ngamafutha. **5** Nxa umnikelo wakho wamabele uhlanganiselwe emganwini wensimbi, kumele ulungiswe ngefulawa ecolekileyo, ehlanganiswe lamafutha njalo ingela mvubelo. **6** Uvuthuze ubusuthela amafutha kuwo; ngumnikelo wamabele. **7** Nxa umnikelo wakho wamabele ubhekhele epaneni, kuzamele wenziwe ngefulawa ecolekileyo lamafutha. **8** Letha umnikelo wamabele olungiswe ngezinto lezi kuThixo: uziqhubele umphristi ozazisa e-alithareni. **9** Uzakhupha ingxenywe eyisikhumbuzo emnikelweni wamabele, abeseyitshisela e-alithareni njengomhlatshelo wokudla, olephunga elimnandi kuThixo. **10** Okuseleyo emnikelweni wamabele ngokuka-Aroni lamadodana akhe, yingxenywe engcwele kakhulu yomhlatshelo wokudla onikelwa kuThixo. **11** Wonke umnikelo wamabele owuletha kuThixo kumele ulungiswe ungelamvubelo, ngoba kakumelanga utshise imvubelo kumbe uluju emhlatshelweni wokudla onikelwa kuThixo. **12** Ungakuletha kuThixo njengomnikelo wokuchinsa izithelo zakuqala, kodwa kakumelanga ukuthi zinikelwe e-alithareni njengephunga elimnandi. **13** Tswayani yonke iminikelo yenu yamabele. Lingakhohlwa itswayi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu wenu eminikelweni yenu yamabele: fakani itswayi eminikelweni yenu yonke. **14** Nxa lingaletsha umnikelo wamabele ezithelo zakuqala kuThixo, nikelani ngezikhwebu zamabele amatsha agigwe ekhazingwe emlilweni. **15** Thelani amafutha lihlanganise lempepha: ngumnikelo wamabele. **16** Umphristi uzatshisa ingxenywe eyisikhumbuzo emabeleni agigiweyo, kanye lamafutha ndawonye lempepha yonke njengomhlatshelo wokudla owenzelwa onikelwa kuThixo.”

3 “Nxa umnikelo womuntu ungumnikelo wobudlelwano, enikela ngesifuyo esiduna kumbe esisikazi, esisuka emhlambini, kumele alethe kuThixo isifuyo esingelasci. **2** Kumele abeke isandla sakhe ekhanda lesifuyo somnikelo, abesihlabela esangweni lethente lokuhlangana. Ngemva kwalokho, amadodana ka-Aroni angabaphristi, azachela igazi emaceleni wonke e-alithare. **3** Emnikelweni wobudlelwano uzaletsha umhlatshelo onikelwa kuThixo ngomlilo: indaga lonke elembese ezangaphakathi, **4** izinso zombili lamahwahwa azo aseduzane lesinqe, lamahwahwa aphezu kwesibindi, okufanele kukhutshwe lezinso. **5** Ngakho amadodana ka-Aroni azakutshisela e-alithareni, phezu komnikelo wokutshiswa ophezu kwenkunini ezibhebhayo njengomnikelo owenziwa ngomlilo, uqhathisi olumnandi kuThixo. **6** Nxa anganikela ngesifuyo esisuka emhlambini wezimvu njengomnikelo wobudlelwano kuThixo, kuzamele anikele ngesiduna kumbe esisikazi esingelasci. **7** Nxa anganikela ngezinyane, kumele alilethe phambi kukaThixo. **8** Kumele abeke isandla sakhe phezu kwekhanda lomnikelo wakhe, asihlabele lesosifuyo phambi kwesango lethente lokuhlangana. Amadodana ka-Aroni azachela igazi laso emaceleni wonke e-alithare. **9** Emnikelweni wobudlelwano kuzamele alethe umhlatshelo owenziwa kuThixo ngomlilo; amahwahwa awo, lomsila ononileyo aqunywe eduzane lomgogodla, indaga lonke, lawo wonke amahwahwa embese ezangaphakathi, **10** izinso zombili lamahwahwa aseduzane lesinqe lamahwahwa aphezu kwesibindi, okuzakutshiswa ndawonye lezinso. **11** Umphristi uzakutshisela e-alithareni njengomhlatshelo wokudla, onikelwa kuThixo. **12** Nxa umnikelo wakhe kuyimbuzi, uzayethula phambi kukaThixo. **13** Uzabeka

isandla sakhe ekhanda layo, abeseyihlabela phambi kwesango lethente lokuhlanguana. Amadodana ka-Aroni azachela igazi layo emaceleni wonke e-alithare. **14** Kulokho akunikelayo, kuzamele anikele umhlatshelelo wokudla kuThixo, idanga lonke lawo wonke amahwahwa embese ezangaphakathi, **15** izinso zombili, lamahwahwa aseduzane lesinqe, lamahwahwa aphezu kwesibindi okuzakutshwa ndawonye lezinsu. **16** Umphristi uzakutshisela e-alithareni njengomhlatshelelo wokudla, iphunga elimnandi. Wonke amahwahwa ngakaThixo. **17** Lokhu kuzakuba yisimiso esingapheliyo ezizukulwaneni zenu zonke, kuzozonke izindawo elihlala kuzo. Akumelanga lidle yiloba ngumhlobo bani wamahwahwa kumbe igazi.”

4 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** “Tshela abantu bako-Israyeli ukuthi: ‘Nxa umuntu esona kodwa engoni ngabomo, njalo esenza konke okwalelwa yimilayo kaThixo, **3** Nxa umphristi ogcotshiweyo angona, besekuletha icala ebantwini, kumele alethe kuThixo ijongosi elingelasici njengomnikelo wesono ngenxa yesono ayabe esenzile. **4** Kalethe inkunzi esangweni lethente lokuhlanguana, phambi kukaThixo. Uzabeka isandla sakhe ekhanda layo, abeseyihlaba phambi kukaThixo. **5** Umphristi ogcotshiweyo uzathatha elinye igazi lenkunzi alise ethenteni lokuhlanguana. **6** Kagxamuze umunwe wakhe egazini, abesechela elinye lakhona kasikhombisa phambi kukaThixo, phambi kwekhetheeni lendlu engcwele. **7** Umphristi uzafaka elinye igazi empondweni ze-alithare lempepha elephunga elimnandi eliphambi kukaThixo ethenteni lokuhlanguana. Igazi lenkunzi eliseleyo uzalithela phansi kwe-alithari lomnikelo wokutshiswa, esangweni lethente lokuhlanguana. **8** Kumele akhuphe wonke amahwahwa enkunzi yomnikelo wesono, idanga lonke lawo wonke amahwahwa embese ezangaphakathi. **9** Izinso zombili, lamahwahwa aza aseduzane lesinqe, lamahwahwa aphezu kwesibindi okuzakutshwa ndawonye lezinsu, **10** njengalokho okwenziwa nxa ihwahwa likhutshwa enkabini eyabe ingumnikelo wobudlelwano. Umphristi uzakutshisela e-alithareni lomnikelo wokutshiswa. **11** Kodwa isikhumba senkunzi kanye lenyama yayo yonke, inhloko, amangqina, ezangaphakathi lamathumbu, **12** okutsho ingxenye yonke yenkunzi, kumele akukhuphele phandle kwezihonqo endaweni ehlanzekileyo ngokomkhuba, lapho okuchithelwa khona umlotha, abesekutshisela emlilweni wenkuni oyabe usenqumbini yomlotha. **13** Nxa uzulu wonke wako-Israyeli angona, engoni ngabomo, abesesenza konke okwalelwa yimilayo kaThixo, lanxa uzulu lowo engazilutho ngodaba lolu, ulecala. **14** Nxa bangavele bazi ngesono abasenzileyo, ibandla kumele lilethe inkunzi eliguqa njengomnikelo wesono, liyethule phambi kwethente lokuhlanguana. **15** Abadala bakuleyondawo bazabeka izandla zabo ekhanda lenkunzi phambi kukaThixo, njalo inkunzi izahlatshelela phambi kukaThixo. **16** Umphristi ogcotshiweyo uzathatha elinye igazi lenkunzi angene lalo ethenteni lokuhlanguana. **17** Uzacwilisa umunwe wakhe egazini, abeselichela phambi kukaThixo kasikhombisa phambi kwekhetheeni. **18** Kaninde elinye igazi empondweni ze-alithare eliphambi kukaThixo ethenteni lokuhlanguana. Igazi eliseleyo uzalithela phansi kwe-alithari lomnikelo wokutshiswa, esangweni lethente lokuhlanguana. **19** Kakhuphe wonke amahwahwa abesewatshisela e-alithareni, **20** abesesenza enkunzini le lokho akwenza enkunzini yomnikelo wesono. Ngalokho umphristi uzabenzela indlela yokubuyisana phakathi kwabo, njalo bazathethelela. **21** Kakhuphele

inkunzi phandle kwezihonqo, abeseyitshisa njengalokho akwenza inkunzi yakuqala. Lo ngumnikelo wesono okazulu wonke. **22** Nxa umkhokheli angona engakunxwanelanga enze okwaliwa yimilayo kaThixo uNkulunkulu, ulecala. **23** Nxa angatshelwa ngesono asenzileyo kumele alethe umnikelo wempongo engelasici. **24** Kabeke isandla sakhe ekhanda lembuzi abeseyihlabela lapho okuhlatshelela khona umnikelo wokutshiswa phambi kukaThixo. Kungumnikelo wesono. **25** Umphristi uzathatha elinye igazi lomnikelo wesono abeselininda empondweni ze-alithari lomnikelo wokutshiswa abesethela elinye lonke igazi phansi kwe-alithari. **26** Uzathisela wonke amahwahwa e-alithareni njengalokho akwenza amahwahwa omnikelo wobudlelwano. Ngale indlela umphristi uzakwenza indlela yokubuyisana ngesono somuntu abesethethelelwa. **27** Nxa omunye umuntu phakathi kwendawo angona engakunxwanelanga ukona, enze okwaliwa yimilayo kaThixo, uyabe elecala. **28** Nxa angatshelwa ngesono ayabe esenzile, kumele alethe umnikelo wesono sakhe, umnikelo wembuzi ensikazi engelasici. **29** Kabeke isandla sakhe ekhanda lomnikelo wesono, abesewuhlabela endaweni yomnikelo wokutshiswa. **30** Umphristi kumele athathe elinye igazi ngomunwe wakhe, abeselininda empondweni ze-alithare lomnikelo wokutshiswa, abesethela elinye eliseleyo phansi kwe-alithari. **31** Uzakhupha amahwahwa wonke njengalokho okwenziwa emnikelweni wobudlelwano, njalo umphristi zazawutshisela e-alithareni njengogqatshe olulephunga elimnandi kuThixo. Ngaleyondlela, umphristi uzamenzela indlela yokubuyisana, abesethethelelwa. **32** Nxa angaetha imvu njengomnikelo wesono, kumele alethe ensikazi engelasici. **33** Kumele abeke isandla sakhe ekhanda layo, abeseyihlaba njengomnikelo wesono endaweni lapho okuhlatshelela khona umnikelo wokutshiswa. **34** Emva kwalokho, umphristi uzathatha elinye igazi lomnikelo wesono ngomunwe, alininde empondweni ze-alithare lomnikelo wokutshiswa, abesethela elinye igazi eliseleyo ngaphansi kwe-alithari. **35** Bazakhupha wonke amahwahwa, njengalokho okwenziwa emvini yomnikelo wobudlelwano, njalo umphristi uzayitshisela e-alithareni phezu kwemihlatshelo yokudla enikelwa kuThixo. Ngalokho umphristi uzamenzela indlela yokubuyisana ngesono asenzileyo abesethethelelwa.”

5 “Nxa umuntu angona ngenxa yokuthi kakhulumanga ebika udaba oluthile emphakathini ngayabe ekubonile kumbe ekuzwile, uyabe elomlandu. **2** Loba nxa umuntu angathinta ulutho olungabe lungcolile ngokomkhuba (kungaba yizidumbu zezinyamazana zeganga ezingcolileyo kumbe ezizifuyo ezingcolileyo kumbe ezezidalwa ezingcolileyo ezihamba emhlabathini) lanxa engananzelele ngalokho, uyabe esengcolile njalo eselecala. **3** Loba engathinta ukungcola komuntu (konke okungenza ukuthi abe ngongcolileyo) lanxa engananzelele ngalokho nxa angavele akwazi uyabe eselecala, **4** kumbe umuntu angafunga enganakananga kuhle ukuthi ufuna ukwenza olunye ulutho, ingabe ngoluhle kumbe ngolubi (entweni yonke umuntu angafunga ngayo butshapha) lanxa engananzelele ngalokho, angavele akwazi uzakuba lecala, **5** nxa umuntu angazi ukuthi ulecala ngezinto lezi, kumele aveze ukuthi wone ngandlela bani. **6** Njengenhlawulo yesono ayabe esenzile, kumele alethe kuThixo imvana ensikazi kumbe imbuzi evela emhlabathini njengomnikelo wesono, njalo umphristi uzamenzela indlela yokubuyisana ngenxa yesono sakhe. **7** Nxa engenelisi ukuthola imvana uzaetha amajuba amabili kumbe

amaphuphu enkwilimba amabili kuThixo njengenhlawulo yesono sakhe, okunye kungumnikelo wesono, okunye kungumnikelo wokutshiswa. **8** Uzakuletha kumphristi, ozaqala ngokunikela okomnikelo wesono. Kumele akutshile intamo yakho kodwa angatshuphuni ikhanda, **9** njalo uzachela elinye igazi lomnikelo wesono eceleni kwe-alithari; igazi eliseleyo kumele likhanyelwe phansi kwe-alithari. Ngumnikelo wesono. **10** Umphristi usezanikela okunye njengomnikelo wokutshiswa ngendlela eyamiswayo, umphristi aphinde amenzele indlela yokubuyisana ngesono sakhe, abesethethelelwa. **11** Kodwa nxa esehluleka ukuthola amajuba amabili kumbe amaphuphu enkwilimba amabili, kalethe umnikelo wesono sakhe, alethe ingxenye yetshumi yehefa yefulawa ecolekileyo ukwenzela umnikelo wesono. Akumelanga athele amafutha kumbe afake impepha ngoba kungumnikelo wesono. **12** Kakulethe phambi komphristi ozacupha isilinganiso esigcwalisa isandla njengengxenye yesikhumbuzo, abeseyitshisela e-alithareni phezu kwemihlatshelo yokudla enikelwa kuThixo. Kungumnikelo wesono. **13** Ngalokhu umphristi uzamenzela indlela yokubuyisana ngesono ingabe yisiphi ayabe esenzile, uzathethelelwa, okuseleyo kuzakuba ngokomphristi, njengalokho okwenziwa emnikelweni wamabele.” **14** UThixo wathi kuMosi: **15** “Nxa umuntu anqophula umthetho abesona, engoni ngabomo ezintweni zonke zikaThixo ezingcwele, kalethe kuThixo njengenhlawulo inqama esuka emhlambini, engelasici njalo ebiza isiliva esamukelekayo ngesilinganiso seshekele lasendlini engcwele. Ngumnikelo wecala. **16** Kumele ahlawule ngesiphambeko sakhe kulokho ayabe ehluleke ukukwenza, okuphathelane lezinto ezingcwele, abesengezelela ingxenye yokuhlana yentengo yakho akunike umphristi konke, ozamenzela indlela yokubuyisana ngenqama njengomnikelo wecala, abesethethelelwa. **17** Nxa umuntu angona ngokwenza lokho okungavunyelwayo emlayweni kaThixo, lanxa engakwazi, uyabe ecalala njalo uzakwetheswa umlandu. **18** Uzalettha kumphristi njengomnikelo wecala inqama engelasici ezavela emhlambini, njalo elesilinganiso esamukelekayo. Ngalokhu umphristi uzamenzela indlela yokubuyisana ngesiphambeko sakhe angasenzanga ngabomo, njalo uzathethelelwa. **19** Kungumnikelo wecala: ulecala lokona phambi kukaThixo.”

6 UThixo wathi kuMosi: **2** “Nxa umuntu esona njalo engathembeki kuThixo ngokukhohlisa umakhelwane wakhe ngalokho ayabe ekuphathisiwe loba ayabe ekugcinisiwe loba okuyabe kuntshontshiwe, loba nxa edlelezela omunye, **3** loba nxa ethola obekulahlekile kodwa aqambe amanga ngakho, loba nxa efunga ngokungamanga, loba nxa esenza loba yisiphi isono esingenziwa ngabantu, **4** nxa esona kanjalo abe ngolecala, kumele abuyisele lokho ayabe ekuntshontshiwe loba ayabe ekuthethe ngodlakela, loba ayabe abe ekuphathisiwe, loba obekulahlekile wasekuthola, **5** loba yingabe yini ayabe efunge ngayo ngokwamanga kumele ahlawule ngokugcweleyo, engeze ngokukodwa kokuhlana kukho njalo akuphe umnikazi konke mhla evuma icala lakhe. **6** Ukuhlalwala icala kumele alethe kumphristi ozakusa kuThixo, umnikelo wakhe wecala, inqama esuka emhlambini, ingelasici njalo elingeneyo ngemfanelo. **7** Ngalokho umphristi uzamenzela indlela yokubuyisana phambi kukaThixo, njalo uzathethelelwa ngelezi izinto azenzileyo ezimenzelele waba lecala.” **8** UThixo wathi kuMosi: **9** “Phana u-Aroni kanye lamadodana akhe umlayo lo: ‘Le yimithetho yomnikelo wokutshiswa: Umnikelo wokutshiswa

kufanele usale eziko le-alithari ubusuku bonke kuze kuse, lomlilo kufanele uhlale ubhebha e-alithareni. **10** Umphristi uzagqoka-ke izigqoko zakhe zelembe, lezangaphansi kube ngezelembe, abesekhupha umlotha womnikelo wokutshiswa oyabe usutshiswe ngumlilo e-alithareni, awufake eceleni kwe-alithari. **11** Abesekhulula izigqoko lezi agqoke ezinye, athwale umlotha awukhuphele phandle kwezihonqo endaweni ehlanzekileyo ngokomkhuba. **12** Umlilo ose-alithareni kufanele uhlale ubhebha; akumelanga ucitshe. Insuku zonke ekuseni umphristi kumele engeze inkuni akhwezele, lungise kuhle umnikelo wokutshiswa emlilweni e-alithareni, atshise amahwaha omnikelo wobudlelwano kulo i-alithari. **13** Umlilo kumele uhlale ubhebha e-alithareni; akumelanga ucitshe.” **14** “Le yimithetho ephathelene lomnikelo wamabele okufanele amadodana ka-Aroni awulethe kuThixo, phambi kwe-alithari. **15** Umphristi kufanele acuphe ifulawa elicolekileyo kanye lamafutha, lempepha yonke yomnikelo wamabele, besekutshiswa ingxenye yesikhumbuzo e-alithareni, ibe liphunga elimnandi kuThixo. **16** U-Aroni kanye lamadodana akhe bazakudla okuseleyo, kodwa kumele kudliwe kungela mvubelo endaweni engcwele; bakudlele egumeni lethente lokuhlangana. **17** Akumelanga kubhekwe kulemvubelo. Ngibanika khona njengesabelo sabo seminikelo eyenziwa kimi ngomlilo. Kungcwele njengomnikelo wesono lomnikelo wecala. **18** Bonke abesilisa enzalweni ka-Aroni bangakudla. Kuzoba yisabelo sabo kokuphela esivela eminikelweni eyenziwe ngomlilo kuThixo ezizukulwaneni ezizayo. Okubathintayo kuphela kuzakuba ngcwele.” **19** UThixo wakhuluma njalo kuMosi wathi, **20** “Lo ngumnikelo ozanikelwa kuThixo ngu-Aroni kanye lamadodana akhe ngelanga azagcotshwa ngalo. Kuzakuba ngokwethshumi kwehefa yefulawa ecolekileyo, kube ngumnikelo wamabele owansuku zonke, ingxenye yawo ibe sekuseni kuthi enye ingxenye ibe kusihlwa. **21** Kulungise ngamafutha emganwini wensimbi oyingubhe; kulethe kuhlanganiswe kuhle, ubusuthela umnikelo wamabele wenziwe incezwana ube liphunga elimnandi kuThixo. **22** Indodana egcotshelwe ukuthatha isikhunda sika-Aroni njengomphristi yiyo ezalungisa lokho. Kuyisabelo sikaThixo sansukuzonke, njalo kufanele kutshiswe ngokupheleleyo. **23** Yonke iminikelo yamabele yomphristi izatshiswa iphele; akumelanga idliwe.” **24** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **25** “Tshono lokho ku-Aroni lamadodana akhe: ‘Le yimithetho yomnikelo wesono: Umnikelo wesono kufanele uhlatshe phambi kukaThixo endaweni lapho umnikelo wokutshiswa ohlatshelelwa khona. Ungcwele kakhulu. **26** Umphristi owunikelayo uzawudla; kumele udlelwe endaweni engcwele egumeni lethente lokuhlangana. **27** Konke okuthinta inyama leyo kuyakuba ngcwele. **28** Imbiza yebumba okuphekwe ngayo inyama kumele ibulawe; kodwa nxa iphekwe ngembiza yethusi, imbiza kufanele iphalwe ihlanjululwe ngamanzi. **29** Wonke owesilisa emulini yomphristi uzawudla, ungcwele kakhulu. **30** Kodwa loba yiwuphi umnikelo wesono okulethwa igazi lawo ethenteni lokuhlangana ukwenza ukubuyisana eNdaweni eNgcwele kawungadliwa kumele utshiswe.”

7 “Le yimithetho ephathelene lomnikelo wecala, oyiwo ongcwele kakhulu. **2** Umnikelo wecala kufanele uhlatshelelwe endaweni lapho umnikelo wokutshiswa ohlatshelelwa khona, njalo igazi lawo kufanele lichelwe emaceleni wonke e-alithare. **3** Wonke amahwaha awo azanikelwa: umsila

ononileyo kanye ledanga elembesa ezangaphakathi, 4 izinso zombili lamahwahwa azo aseduzane lesinqe, lamahwahwa aphezu kwesibindi, okufanele kukhutshwe lezinso. 5 Umphristi uzakukutshisela e-alithareni njengomhlatsshelo wokudla onikelwa kuThixo. Kungumnikelo wecala. 6 Wonke owesilisa emulini yomphristi angakudla, kodwa kufanele kudlwe endaweni engcwele; ngoba kungcwele kakhulu. 7 Umthetho munye uyasetshenziswa emnikelweni wesono kanye lemnikelweni wecala. Ungowomphristi owenza kube lendlela yokubuyisana labo. 8 Umphristi onikela umnikelo wokutshiswa kabani lobani angazigcinela isigogo. 9 Wonke umnikelo wamabele ophekelwa eziko, loba ophekelwa embizeni, loba embizeni yensimbi ungowomphristi owunikelayo, 10 njalo wonke umnikelo wamabele oyabe uhlanganiswe lamafutha loba womile, wonke ungowamadodana ka-Aroni ngokulinganayo.” 11 “Le yimithetho ephathelene lomnikelo wobudlelwano umuntu angawunikela kuThixo: 12 Nxa unganikelwa njengendlela yokubonga, kumele lumnikelo wokubonga unikelwe ndawonye lesinkwa esenziwe singelamvubelo sahlanganise lamafutha, amakhekhe ayizicedu enziwe engelamvubelo njalo egcotshwe ngamafutha, kanye lamakhekhe efulawa ecolikileyo avutshwe kuhle ahlanganiswa lamafutha. 13 Umnikelo wakhe wobudlelwano ongowokubonga kumele unikelwe ndawonye lomnikelo wezinkwa ezenziwe ngemvubelo. 14 Kufanele alethe okukodwa komhlobo munye ngamunye njengomnikelo onikelwa kuThixo. Ungowomphristi ochela igazi lomnikelo wobudlelwano. 15 Inyama yomnikelo wakhe wobudlelwano ingeyokubonga, kumele idliwe ngalelolanga inikelwa. Akumelanga eyinye isalele elakusasa. 16 Kodwa nxa umnikelo wakhe ungenxa yokugcwalisa isifungo loba ungumnikelo wesihle, umhlatsshelo lowo uzadliwa ngalelolanga lokuwunikela, kodwa okuyabe kusele kungadliwa ngelanga elilandelayo. 17 Yonke inyama yomhlatsshelo esalayo kuze kwedlule insuku ezintathu kufanele itshiswe. 18 Nxa kulenyama yomnikelo wobudlelwano engadliwa ngelanga lesithathu, lowo oyinikeleyo kasoze amukeleke. Ayisoze ibalelwe kulowo oyinikeleyo, ngoba ingahlambulukanga. Umuntu odla enye yayo uzakuba lomlandu ngayo. 19 Inyama ethinta loba yini engcolileyo ngokomkhuba akumelanga idliwe; kumele itshiswe. Kodwa eyinye inyama ingadliwa yiloba ngubani ohlambulukileyo ngokomkhuba. 20 Kodwa nxa kulomuntu ongcolileyo angadla inyama yomnikelo wobudlelwano engekaThixo, lowomuntu kumele axotshwe ebantwini bakibo. 21 Nxa kulomuntu othinta okuthile okungcolileyo, akukhathalekile kumbe kuyikungcola komuntu loba okwenyamazana loba okunye nje okungcolileyo, okwenyanyekayo, abesidla inyama yomnikelo wobudlelwano engekaThixo, lowomuntu kumele axotshwe ebantwini bakibo.” 22 UThixo wathi kuMosi, 23 “Tshela abako-Israyeli uthi: ‘Lingaze ladla amahwahwa enkomo, awezimvu loba awembuzi. 24 Amahwahwa enyamazana ezifeleyo loba edatshulwe yizilo zeganga angasetshenziswa kokunye, kodwa akumelanga liwadle. 25 Umuntu odla amahwahwa enyamazana okungenziwa ngayo umnikelo wokutshiswa kuThixo kumele axotshwe ebantwini bakibo. 26 Njalo lingadli igazi lenyoni loba inyamazana yiphi kuzozonke izindawo elihlala kuzo. 27 Nxa umuntu esidla igazi, lowomuntu kumele axotshwe ebantwini bakibo.” 28 UThixo wathi kuMosi, 29 “Tshela abako-Israyeli uthi: ‘Umuntu

oletha umnikelo wobudlelwano kuThixo kumele alethe ingxenye yawo njengomhlatsshelo wakhe kuThixo. 30 Kumele anikele ngezandla zakhe umhlatsshelo wokudla kuThixo. Kumele alethe amahwahwa, ndawonye lesifuba, abesezunguza isifuba phambi kukaThixo njengomnikelo wokuzunguza. 31 Umphristi uzatshisa amahwahwa e-alithareni, kodwa isifuba ngesika-Aroni kanye lamadodana akhe. 32 Kumele uphe umphristi umlenze wesokunene emnikelweni yakho yobudlelwano ube ngumnikelo wakho. 33 Indodana ka-Aroni enikela igazi lamahwahwa omnikelo wobudlelwano izathola umlenze wesokunene njengesabelo sayo. 34 Ngithethe isifuba esizunguzwayo kanye lomlenze onikelwayo emnikelweni wobudlelwano wabako-Israyeli ngapha u-Aroni umphristi kanye lamadodana akhe njengesabelo sabo sezikhathi zonke esivela kwabako-Israyeli.” 35 Le yingxenye yemihlatshelo yokudla enikelwa kuThixo eyabelwa u-Aroni kanye lamadodana akhe ngelanga abethulwa ngalo ukuba basebenzele uThixo njengabaphristi. 36 Ngelanga abagcotshwa ngalo, uThixo walaya abako-Israyeli ukuthi banikele lokho njengasabelo sabo sezikhathi zonke kuzizukulwane ezizayo. 37 Le-ke yiyo imithetho emayelana lomnikelo wokutshiswa, umnikelo wamabele, umnikelo wesono, umnikelo wecala, umnikelo wokugcotshwa lomnikelo wobudlelwano, 38 uThixo awupha uMosi entabeni yeSinayi ngelanga alaya ngalo abako-Israyeli ukuthi balethe iminikelo yabo kuThixo, enkangala yaseSinayi.

8 UThixo wathi kuMosi, 2 “Letha u-Aroni lamadodana akhe, izembatho zabo, amafutha okugcoba ogcotshelwa isikhundla, inkunzi yomnikelo wesono, inqama ezimbili lesitsha sokuthwalela isinkwa esibhekhe singelamvubelo, 3 ubusubuthanisa ibandla lonke esangweni lethente lokuhlangana.” 4 UMosi wenza njengokulaya kukaThixo, ibandla lonke laselibuthana esangweni lethente lokuhlangana. 5 UMosi wakhuluma ebandleni wathi, “Lokhu yikho uThixo alaye ukuthi kwenziwe.” 6 UMosi waseletha u-Aroni lamadodana akhe phambili, wabagezisa ngamanzi. 7 Wagqokisa u-Aroni ibhatshi, wasengaxa ibhanti, wamgqokisa isembatho semahlombe, waphinda wabopha isembatho semahlombe ngozwezwe lwaso olwelukwe ngobungcitshi; walibophela kuye. 8 Wamgqokisa isembatho sesifuba wasebeka i-Urimi leThumimi esambathweni leso. 9 Wamthwalisa iqhiye ekhanda lakhe, phambi kwayo wabeka icence legolide, umqhele ongcwele, njengalokhu uThixo ayelaye uMosi ukuthi akwenze. 10 UMosi wathatha amafutha okugcoba ogcotshelwa isikhundla wagcoba ithabanikeli lakho konke okwakukulo, wakwahlukanisele uThixo. 11 Wachela amanye amafutha e-alithareni kasikhombisa, wagcoba i-alithari lezitsha zalo zonke, lomkolo walo, lalapho obekwa khona kuze akwahlukanisele uThixo. 12 Wathela amanye amafutha ekhanda lika-Aroni wamgqokisa ukuba amahlukanisele uThixo. 13 Wasesondeza amadodana ka-Aroni phambili, wawagqokisa amabhatshi, wawabopha ngamabhanti njalo wawabophela izingwane emakhanda awo njengalokho uThixo akulaya uMosi. 14 Waseletha inkunzi yomnikelo wesono, u-Aroni lamadodana akhe babeka izandla zabo phezu kwekhanda layo. 15 UMosi wahlaba inkunzi, wasethatha elinye igazi, waselininda empondweni ze-alithare ngomunwe ukuze lihlambuluke. Wathululela igazi elalisele phansi kwe-alithari walahlukanisele uThixo, ukwenza ukubuyisana ngalo. 16 UMosi wasethatha

idanga eligoqela ezangaphakathi, amahwahwa aphezu kwesibindi, lezinso zombili lamahwahwa azo, wasekutshisela e-alithareni. **17** Kodwa inkunzi lesikhumba sayo, lenyama yayo, lamathumbu ayo waktshisela phandle kwezihonqo njengalokho uThixo amlaya khona. **18** Waseletha inqama ukuze ibe ngumnikelo wokutshiswa, u-Aroni lamadodana akhe babeka izandla zabo phezu kwekhanda layo. **19** UMosi wayihlaba inqama, wasechela igazi layo emaceleni wonke e-alithare. **20** Wahlahlela inqama yaba ngamaqatha, wasetshisa inhloko, amaqatha lamahwahwa. **21** Wagezisa ezangaphakathi lemilenze ngamanzi, wasetshisa isidumbu sonke senqama e-alithareni njengomnikelo wokutshiswa, iphunga elimnandi, umnikelo owenziwa kuThixo ngomlilo njengoba uThixo walaya uMosi. **22** Waseletha eyinye inqama, eyayizasetshenziswa begcotshelwa izikhundla, u-Aroni lamadodana akhe babeka izandla zabo phezu kwekhanda layo. **23** UMosi wahlaba inqama, wathatha elinye igazi layo walininda esiqwini sendlebe yokunene ka-Aroni, esithupheni sesandla sakhe sokunene lasozwaneni olukhulu lonyawo lwakhe lwesokunene. **24** UMosi waletha amadodana ka-Aroni phambili, waseninda elinye igazi eziqwini zendlebe zawo zakwesokudla lasezithupheni zezandla zabo zakwesokudla. Emva kwalokho wasechela igazi emaceleni wonke e-alithare. **25** Wathatha amahwahwa, umsila ononileyo ledanga eligoqela ezangaphakathi, amahwahwa aphezu kwesibindi, izinso zombili lamahwahwa azo kanye lomlenze wakwesokudla. **26** Esitsheni sesinkwa esibekhwa singelamvubelo, esasiphambi kukaThixo, wathatha isinkwa esikhulu, esasixutshaniswe lamafutha e-oliva kanye lesinkwa esincinyane, wasekufaka emahwahweni lasemlenzeni wesokunene. **27** Wabeka konke lokhu ezandleni zika-Aroni lezamadodana akhe, bakuzunguza phambi kukaThixo, kwaba ngumnikelo wokuzunguza. **28** UMosi wakuthatha ezandleni zabo wasekutshisela e-alithareni phezu komnikelo wokutshiswa, kwaba ngumnikelo wokugcotshwa olephunga elimnandi, umhlatshelelo wokudla onikelwa kuThixo. **29** UMosi wasethatha isifuba, esesiyisabelo sakhe enqameni yokugcotshwa, wasizunguza phambi kukaThixo njengomnikelo wokuzunguza njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo. **30** UMosi wasethatha amanye amafutha okugcobela isikhundla lelinye igazi elisuka e-alithareni, wasechela u-Aroni lezembatho zakhe kanye lamadodana akhe lezembatho zawo. Ngalokho wangcwelisa u-Aroni lezembatho zakhe, lamadodana akhe lezembatho zawo. **31** UMosi wasesithi ku-Aroni lamadodana akhe, “Phkelani inyama esangweni lethente lokuhlangana, lididlele khona lesinkwa esivela esitsheni seminikelo yokugcotshwa njengokulaywa kwami ukuthi ‘u-Aroni lamadodana akhe yibo abazakudla.’” **32** Beselitshisa yonke inyama lesinkwa okuzasala. **33** Lingasuki esangweni lethente lokuhlangana okwensuku eziyisikhombisa, kuze kuphele amalanga okugcotshwa kwenu, ngoba ukugcotshwa kwenu kuzathatha insuku eziyisikhombisa. **34** Lokho okwenziwa namuhla kwalaywa nguThixo ukwenzela ukuthi lilungiselwe indlela yokubuyisana. **35** Kumele lihlale esangweni lethente lokuhlangana ubusuku lemini, okwensuku eziyisikhombisa lisenza lokho okuyabe kufunwa nguThixo ukuze lingafi, ngoba yikho engakulaywayo.” **36** Ngakho u-Aroni lamadodana akhe benza konke uThixo ayebalaye khona ngoMosi.

9 Ngosuku lwesificaminwembili uMosi wabiza u-Aroni lamadodana akhe kanye labadala bako-Israyeli. **2** Wathi

ku-Aroni, “Thatha iguqa lenkunzi engelasici ibe ngumnikelo wesono, lenqama engelasici ibe ngumnikelo wokutshiswa, ukwethule phambi kukaThixo. **3** Ubususuthela abako-Israyeli uthi: ‘Thathani impongo ibe ngumnikelo wesono, ithole lezinyane, konke kungokulomnyaka owodwa njalo kungelasici, kube ngumnikelo wokutshiswa, **4** uthathe inkabi kanye lenqama kube ngumnikelo wobudlelwano oba ngumhlatshelelo phambi kukaThixo, ndawonye lomnikelo wamabele ohlanganiswe lamafutha, ngoba uThixo uzabonakala kuwe lamhlanje.’” **5** Bathatha izinto lezo uMosi ayebalaye ngazo bazisa phambi kwethente lokuhlangana, ibandla lonke lasondela eduze lema phambi kukaThixo. **6** UMosi wasesithi, “Lokhu yikho uThixo alaye ukuthi likwenze, ukuze inkazimulo kaThixo ibonakale kini.” **7** UMosi wathi ku-Aroni, “Woza e-alithareni uzonikela umhlatshelelo wesono sakho kanye lomnikelo wakho wokutshiswa, wenzele wena kanye labantu indlela yokubuyisana. Unikele umhlatshelelo wabantu ubenzele uxolo njengalokhu okulaywe nguThixo.” **8** Ngakho u-Aroni weza e-alithareni, wahlaba ithole laba ngumnikelo wakhe wesono. **9** Amadodana akhe aletha igazi kuye, wasegxumuzwa umunwe wakhe egazini waninda ngalo impondo ze-alithare. **10** E-alithareni watshisa amahwahwa, izinso kanye lamahwahwa aphezu kwesibindi kungomnikelo wesono, njengalokhu uThixo ayekulaye uMosi. **11** Inyama kanye lesikhumba waktshisela ngaphandle kwezihonqo. **12** Wasehlaba umnikelo wokutshiswa. Amadodana akhe amnika igazi, walichela inxa zonke ze-alithare. **13** Bamupha umnikelo wokutshiswa, isitho ngesitho kugoqela inhloko, waktshisela e-alithareni. **14** Wagezisa ezangaphakathi kanye lemilenze waktshisela phezu komnikelo wokutshiswa e-alithareni. **15** U-Aroni waseletha umnikelo owawungowabantu, wathatha imbuzi eyayingeyomnikelo wesono wayihlaba, waseyinikela yaba ngumnikelo wesono njengalokhu ayekwenze ngeyakuqala. **16** Waletha umnikelo wokutshiswa wawunikela ngendlela emisiweyo. **17** Waletha njalo umnikelo wamabele, wacupha ngesandla, wasewutshisela e-alithareni phezu kwalowo owokutshiswa ayewunikele ekuseni. **18** Wahlabala inkabi kanye lenqama kwaba ngumnikelo wobudlelwano ebantwini. Amadodana akhe amnika igazi, walichela inxa zonke ze-alithare. **19** Kodwa amahwahwa enkabi lawenqama, lomsila ononileyo, idanga, izinso, lamahwahwa aphezu kwesibindi **20** bakwendlala phezu kwesifuba, u-Aroni wasetshisela amahwahwa e-alithareni. **21** U-Aroni wazunguza izifuba kanye lomlenze wokwesokunene phambi kukaThixo njengomnikelo wokuzunguza, njengokulaywa kukaMosi. **22** U-Aroni wasephakamisela izandla zakhe ebantwini wababusisa. Kwathi esenikele umnikelo wesono, umnikelo wokutshiswa kanye lowobudlelwano, wahlala phansi. **23** UMosi lo-Aroni basebesiyangena ethenteni lokuhlangana. Bathi bephuma, babusisa abantu; inkazimulo kaThixo yabonakala kubo bonke abantu. **24** Kwavela umlilo lapho ngoba uThixo wayekhona, kwatsha umnikelo wokutshiswa kanye lamahwahwa e-alithareni. Abantu bonke bathi bebona lokho, bamemeza ngentokozo bathi mbo ngobuso phansi.

10 Amadodana ka-Aroni uNadabi lo-Abhihu bathatha izitsha zempepha, bafaka umlilo kuzo, bafaka impepha; basebenikela ngomlilo phambi kukaThixo ngokungekho emandleni abo, njalo kuphambene lomlayo wakhe. **2** Kwavela umlilo lapho uThixo ayekhona, wabatshisa bafa phambi

kukaThixo. **3** UMosI wasesithi ku-Aroni, “Lokhu yikho okwakhulunywa nguThixo aze athi: ‘Kulabo abasondela kimi Ubungcwele bami buzabonakala, phambi kwabo bonke abantu Ngizadunyiswa.’” U-Aroni wala ethule. **4** UMosI wabiza uMishayeli lo-Elizafani amadodana kamalumakhe ka-Aroni u-Uziyeli, wathi kubo, “Wozani lapha lizothwala abafowenu libakhuphele phandle kwezihonqo, khatshana laphambi kwendlu engcwele.” **5** Ngakho benza babathwala belokhu begqoke amabhatshi abo, babakhuphela ngaphandle kwezihonqo njengokulaya kukaMosI. **6** UMosI wasesithi ku-Aroni lamadodana akhe u-Eliyazari lo-Ithamari, “Lingayekeli inwele zenu zingembozwanza njalo lingadabuli izigqoko zenu ngokuhlululkelwa, funa life, loThixo athukuthelele abantu bonke. Kodwa zonke izihlobo zenu lendlu yonke ka-Israyeli bangabakhalela labo ababhujiswe nguThixo ngomlilo. **7** Lingaze lasuka esangweni lethente lokuhlangana funa life, ngoba amafutha kaThixo okugcoba ogcotshelwa isikhundla aphezu kwenu.” Ngakho benza njengokulaya kukaMosI. **8** UThixo wasesithi ku-Aroni, **9** “Wena lamadodana akho akumelanga linathe iwayini loba okunye okunathwayo okubilileyo nxa lisiyangena ethenteni lokuhlangana, funa life. Lo ngumlayo omi kuze kube nininini kuzizukulwane ezizayo. **10** Kumele lahlukalise okungcwele kokungangcwele, okuhlanzekileyo kokungahlanzekanga, **11** njalo kumele lifundise abako-Israyeli zonke izimiso uThixo abaphe zona ngoMosI.” **12** UMosI wathi ku-Aroni kanye lamadodana akhe aseleyo, u-Eliyazari lo-Ithamari, “Thathani umnikelo wamabele oseleyo emihlatshelweni yokudla enikelwe kuThixo, liwudle ungelamvubelo eceleni kwe-alithari ngoba ungwele kakhulu. **13** Udleleni endaweni engcwele, ngoba uyisabelo senu kanye lamadodana enu, njengoba ngilaywe ngokunjalo. **14** Kodwa wena lamadodana akho kanye lamadodakazi akho lingadla isifuba esazunguzwayo kanye lomlenze onikelweyo. Kudleleni endaweni ehlanzekileyo ngokomkhuba; kuphiwe wena kanye labantwabakho njengesabelo somnikelo wobudlelwano kwabako-Israyeli. **15** Umlenze owanikelwayo kanye lesifuba esazunguzwayo kumele kulethwe kanye lamahwahwa anikelwa ngomlilo, azozunguzwa phambi kukaThixo njengomnikelo wokuzunguzwa. Lokho kukakuba yisabelo sansukuzonke esakho kanye labantwabakho, njengokulaya kukaThixo.” **16** UMosI wathi ebuza ngembuzi yomnikelo wesono wathola ukuthi yayisitshisiwe, wathukuthelela u-Eliyazari lo-Ithamari, amadodana ka-Aroni ayesele, wawabuza wathi, **17** “Kungani lingadlelana umnikelo wesono endlini engcwele na? Ungcwele kakhulu; lawuphiwa ukuze ususe icala labantu ngokwenza ukuthi babuyiswe phambi kukaThixo. **18** Njengoba igazi lawo lingangeniswanga eNdaweni eNgcwele, bekumele imbuzi liyidlele endlini engcwele njengokulaya kwami.” **19** U-Aroni waphendula uMosI wathi, “Lamuhla benze umhlatshelo womnikelo wesono kanye lomnikelo wokutshiswa phambi kukaThixo, kodwa izinto ezinjengalezi sezenakele kimi. Nxa bengidle umnikelo wesono lamuhla, kambe uThixo ubengachelesa ngalokho na?” **20** UMosI wasuthiseka ekuzwa lokho.

11 UThixo wathi kuMosI lo-Aroni, **2** “Alibokuthi kwabako-Israyeli: ‘Kuzozonke izinyamazana ezisemhlabeni, yilezi elingazidla; **3** lingadla zonke izinyamazana ezilenklagu ezivulekileyo lezentshisayo. **4** Zikhona ezinye ezentshisayo kuphela, zibe khona ezinye ezilenklagu ezivulekileyo kuphela

kodwa lingabozidla. Ikamela loba lisentshisa kalilanklaga ezivulekileyo; ngomkhuba kalihlanzekanga kini. **5** Imbila loba isentshisa kayilanklaga ezivulekileyo; ingcolile kini. **6** Umvundla, loba usentshisa, kawulanklaga ezivulekileyo; ingcolile kini. **7** Lengulube, loba ilenklaga ezivulekileyo ngokupheleleyo, ayentshisi; ingcolile kini. **8** Akufanelanga lidle inyama yazo njalo akufanelanga lithinte loba izidumbu zazo; ngoba zingcolile kini. **9** Kuzozonke izidalwa ezihlala emanzini asolwandle lasezifuleni, lingadla zonke ezilempiko lamaxolo. **10** Kodwa zonke izidalwa ezisolwandle lasezifuleni ezingelampiko lamaxolo, kungelani lokuthi ngezihamba ngamaxuku kumbe phakathi kwazo zonke eziphila emanzini kumele lizenyane. **11** Njalo njengoba lizazenyanya, lingabokudla inyama yazo, njalo kumele lizenyane lezidumbu zazo. **12** Yonke inyamazana ehla emanzini engalampiko lamaxolo kumele yenyanyeke kini. **13** Lezi yizinyoni okumele lizenyane njalo lingazidla ngoba zingcolile: ukhozi, ilinqe, **14** uhelwane olubomvu, loba wuphi umhlobo wohelwane, **15** imihlobo yonke yamawabayi, **16** isikhova esilesicholo, isikhova esitshaya udweba, ingabuzane, loba wuphi umhlobo wokhozi, **17** umandukulo, itshayamanzi, isikhova esikhulu, **18** isikhova esimhlophe, isikhova senkangala, ukhozi oludla inhlanzi, **19** ingabuzane, lawuphi umhlobo welandu, invunduna lomalulwane. **20** Zonke izibungu ezilamaphiko ezihamba ngenyawo zazo ezine kumele zibe ngezingcolileyo kini. **21** Kodwa kulezinye izibungu ezilamaphiko, ezihamba ngezinyawo zazo ezine, lingadla lezo ezilamangqondo, ezeqa ngawo emhlabathini. **22** Kuzo lingadla intethe ngemihlobo yazo, lamadiye ngemihlobo yawo. **23** Kodwa zonke ezinye izibungu ezilamaphiko lenyawo ezine lizenyane. **24** Liyabe liyazingcolisa ngalezi; ngakho loba ngubani othinta izidumbu zazo uzatshona engongcolileyo kuze kuhlwe. **25** Ozaphakamisa izidumbu zezinyamazana lezi kumele ahlambulule izigqoko zakhe, kanti-ke yena uzaba ngongcolileyo kuze kuhlwe. **26** Yonke inyamazana elengqina elingehlukananga ngokupheleleyo loba emantsishiso ingcolile kini, wonke othinta isidumbu sezinyamazana lezi uzabe esengongcolile. **27** Kuzozonke izinyamazana ezihamba ngenyawo ezine, lezo ezihamba ngezdladla zingcolile kini; kuzakuthi wonke othinta izidumbu zazo abe ngongcolileyo kuze kuhlwe. **28** Loba ngubani ozaphakamisa izidumbu zezinyamazana lezi kumele ahlambulule izigqoko zakhe, njalo uzatshona engongcolileyo kuze kuhlwe. Zingcolile kini. **29** Ezinyamazananeni zonke ezihambahambayo emhlabathini, lezi zingcolile kini: indlegu, igundwane, lemihlobo yonke yemibankwa emikhulu, **30** untulo, imbulumakhasane, umbankwa, isiqhuza lonwabu. **31** Kuzozonke ezihquzelayo emhlabathini, lezi zingcolile kini. Loba ngubani ozithinta sezifile uzatshona engongcolileyo kuze kuhlwe. **32** Nxa kungafa eyinye yazo iwele phezu kolutho, lololutho, loba lusetshenziswani luzabe selungolungcolileyo, loba lwenziwe ngesigodo, ngelembu, ngesikhumba loba ngesaka. Lufakeni emanzini; luzabe lungcolile kuze kuhlwe, lapho-ke luzabe seluhlambululile. **33** Nxa esinye sazo singawela embizeni yomdaka, konke okusembizeni kuyabe sekungcolile, sekumele ubulale imbiza. **34** Konke ukudla obekungadliwa okuchaphakelwe ngamanzi aleyo mbiza kungcolile, njalo lobekunganathwa kuvela kuleyo mbiza kungcolile. **35** Loba yini ewelwe yizidumbu zezinanakazana lezi iba ngongcolileyo; iziko loba imbiza yokupheka sekumele kubhidlizwe. Kuyabe sekungcolile, njalo kumele likuthathe njengokungcolileyo. **36**

Kanti-ke, umthombo loba umgomo wokukha amanzi uhlala uhlambulukile, kodwa loba ngubani othinta izidumbu lezi ungcolile. **37** Nxa isidumbu sezinyamazana lezi singawela loba kuyiphi inhlangano esilungele ukuhlanyelwa, izahlala ihlambulukile. **38** Kodwa nxa amanzi esethelwe ehlanganyelweni, isidumbu sakhona besesiwela phezu kwayo, isingcolile kini. **39** Nxa inyamazana elivunyelwe ukuyidla ingazifela, lowo othinta isidumbu sayo uzakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kuhlwe. **40** Loba ngubani ozakudla inyama yalesidumbu kumele ahlambulule izigqoko zakhe, uzakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kuhlwe. Loba ngubani ozaphakamisa lesidumbu, kumele ahlambulule izigqoko zakhe, uzakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kuhlwe. **41** Loba yisiphi isinanakazana esihquzelayo emhlabathini siyenyanyeka, kasingadliwa. **42** Akufanelanga lidle izinanakazana zonke ezihambahambayo emhlabathini, loba ngezihquzela ngezisu loba ngezihamba ngazononke zone loba ngezilyawo ezinengi; ziyenyanyeka. **43** Lingazingcolisi ngezinanakazana lezi, lingazingcolisi ngenxa yazo njalo lingayekeli zilingcolisa. **44** NginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, zihlambululeni libengcwele, ngoba mina ngingcwele. Lingazingcolisi ngezinanakazana ezihquzelayo emhlabathini. **45** NginguThixo owalikhupha eGibhithe ukuze ngibe nguNkulunkulu wenu; kungakho wobani ngcwele, ngoba mina ngingcwele. **46** Le yiyo imithetho emayelana lezinyamazana, izinyoni, yonke into ephilayo entsheza emanzini lezinakazana ezihquzela emhlabathini. **47** Kumele lehlukane phakathi kwezingcolileyo lezihlambulukileyo, lehlukane phakathi kwezidalwa eziphilayo ezingadliwa kanye lokungamelanga zidlwe.”

12 UThixo wathi kuMosi: **2** “Tshela abako-Israyeli ukuthi: ‘Umfazi ozithweleyo obelethe indodana uzakuba ngongcolileyo ngokomkhuba okwensuku eziyisikhombisa njengoba engcolile ngesikhathi esemfuleni. **3** Ngosuku lwesificaminwembili indodana le kuzamele isokwe. **4** Owesifazane kufanele ame okwensuku ezingamatshumi amathathu lantathu ukuze ahlanjululwe ukopha kwakhe. Ngalesisikhathi, akumelanga abambe ulutho olungcwele njalo akumelanga aye endlini engcwele kuze kwedule insuku zakhe zokuhlanjululwa. **5** Nxa angabeletha indodakazi, owesifazane uzaba ngongcolileyo okwamaviki amabili, njenganxa esemfuleni. Kufanele ahlele okwensuku ezingamatshumi ayisithupha lezinsuku eziyisithupha ukuze ahlanjululwe ukopha kwakhe. **6** Nxa insuku zokuhlanjululwa ngokwendodana loba indodakazi seziphelile, kumele owesifazane alethe izinyane lemvu elilomnyaka owodwa kumphristi esangweni lethente lokuhlangana ukuze libe ngumnikelo wokutshiswa kanye lephuphu lenkwilimba loba ijuba kube ngumnikelo wesono. **7** Umpirsti nguye ozanikela umnikelo phambi kukaThixo ukumenzela ukubuyisana, ngalokho uzabe esehlambulukile ngokomkhuba ekopheni kwakhe. Le yiyo imithetho elandelwa ngowesifazane ekubeletheni umfana loba inkazana. **8** Nxa engenelisi ukunikela ngezinyane lemvu, kumele alethe amajuba amabili loba inkwilimba ezisesencane ezimbili, okunye kungumnikelo wokutshiswa okunye kungumnikelo wesono. Ngalingelela umpirsti uzamenzela ukubuyisana, owesifazane uzahlambuluka.”

13 UThixo wathi kuMosi lo-Aroni, **2** “Loba ngubani ozabe evuvukile, loba equbukile, loba elechatha

elicazimulayo ejwabini lakhe okungasuka kube ngumkhuhlane wobulephero, kumele alethe ku-Aroni umpirsti loba komunye wamadodana akhe ongumphristi. **3** Umpirsti kahlole lesilonda esisejwabini lakhe, kuthi kungabonakala ukuthi uboya obusesilondeni sebumhlophe, lokuthi lesilonda nxa sizikile enyameni, kuyabe kungumkhuhlane wobulephero. Loba umpirsti emhloa, uzamtshela ukuthi ungcolile ngokomlayo. **4** Kanti-ke lanxa ibala elisejwabini limhlophe kodwa libonakala ukuthi alijulanga enyameni njalo loboya obukhonapho bungakabimhlophe, umpirsti kamsuse ebantwini, ahlele yedwa okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. **5** Ngosuku lwesikhombisa umpirsti kumele amhlole, kuthi-ke nxa ebona ukuthi isilonda lokhu sinjalo njalo kasiqhelanga ejwabini, kumele amehlukanise kwabanye okwezinye njalo insuku eziyisikhombisa. **6** Ngosuku lwesikhombisa umpirsti uzamlhloa njalo, kuthi-ke nxa isilonda sesifiphele singaqhelanga ejwabini, umpirsti uzamtshela lomuntu ukuthi usehlambulukile, bekukade kuyikubuka kodwa nje. Leyondoda izagezisa izigqoko zayo njalo iyabe isihlambulukile. **7** Kodwa ukuqubuka kungaqhela ejwabini lakhe ngemva kokuba eseke waziveza kumphristi ukuba kuthiwe usehlambulukile, kumele aziveze njalo kumphristi. **8** Umpirsti uzamlhloa, kuthi-ke nxa ukuqubuka kuqhelile ejwabini, umpirsti kumele amtshele ukuthi kakahlambuluki; yibulephero. **9** Nxa kulomuntu olobulephero, kumele alethe kumphristi. **10** Umpirsti kamhlole, kuthi nxa kuleqhubu elimhlophe eseliphendule uboya babamhlophe njalo lilomlole, **11** yibulephero, ngakho umpirsti uzakuthi ungcolile. Kangamehlukanisi labanye, ngoba uvele esengongcolileyo. **12** Nxa ubulephero sobumemetheka umzimba wonke okubonwa ngumphristi ukuthi sobugcwele kusukela ekhanda kuze kube sezinyaweni, **13** umpirsti uzamlhloa, kuthi nxa bugcwele umzimba wonke, atsho athi lomuntu uhlambulukile. Njengoba ijwabu seliphenduke labamhlophe lonke, uyabe ehlambulukile. **14** Kodwa nxa kubonakala sekupetuka inyama esilondeni uzabe engongcolileyo. **15** Umpirsti nxa ebona inyama isipetuka uzakuthi ungcolile. Inyama epetukileyo ingcolile; ubulephero. **16** Kodwa leyonyama epetukileyo ingaguquka ibemhlophe kufanele onjalo aye kumphristi. **17** Umpirsti amhlole, kuthi nxa izilonda sezisuke zaba mhlophe, umpirsti uzakuthi lowo olazo uhlambulukile; ngakho uzabe esehlambulukile. **18** Nxa kulomuntu o lethumba ejwabini lakhe libe seliphloa, **19** kuthi lapho obekulethumba khona kubonakale kumhlotsana kuvuvukile loba iqhubu elibomvana, kumele azilethe kumphristi. **20** Umpirsti alihlole, kuthi nxa kubonakala lijulile loboya obuphezu kwalo sebumhlophe, umpirsti uzakuthi ungcolile. Yibulephero obuvela lapho obekulethumba khona. **21** Kodwa nxa khona laphayana ekuhlolweni kwalo ngumphristi kungelaboya obumhlophe phezu kwalo, njalo lingajulanga seliphelile, kulapho umpirsti azamehlukanisa khona labanye okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. **22** Nxa liqhela ejwabini, umpirsti uzakuthi ungcolile, lona liyisifo esithelelwanayo. **23** Kodwa nxa umbala walo ulokhu unjalo, njalo lingaqhelanga, kuyabe kulitshisa elatshiywa lithumba, ngakho umpirsti uzakuthi uhlambulukile. **24** Nxa umuntu elethuthuva ejwabini lakhe besekulela itshatha elibomvana loba elimhlophe enyameni epetukileyo yetshisa, **25** umpirsti kalihlole, kuzakuthi nxa uboya obuphezu kwalo sebumhlophe, kubonakale

kungani kujulile, yibulephero obuvela ngethuthuva. Umphristi uzakutsho ukuthi uncolile, yibulephero. **26** Kodwa umphristi angalihlola kubonakale kungelaboya obumhlophe, kungajulanga njalo sekufiphele, yikho lapho umphristi azamehlukanisa labanye okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. **27** Ngosuku lwesikhombisa umphristi uzamhlola, kuthi nxa liqhela ejwabini, umphristi athi uncolile, yibulephero. **28** Kodwa nxa itshatha lilokhu linjalo futhi lingaqhelanga ejwabini kodwa selifiphele, kuyabe kulithuthuva elivuvukileyo, umphristi uzakuthi uhlambulukile, bekulitshisa nje kuphela. **29** Nxa owesilisa loba owesifazane elesilonda ekhanda loba esilevini, **30** umphristi kasihlola, kuthi nxa kubonakala sijulile enyameni, inwele phezu kwaso sezimpofana njalo zingakhuli, umphristi uzakuthi lowomuntu uncolile, yibulephero bekhanda loba obesilevu. **31** Kodwa nxa umphristi angasihlola isilonda lesa abone singajulanga, kungelanwele ezimnyama kuso, umphristi uzamsusa lowomuntu ebantwini okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. **32** Ngosuku lwesikhombisa, umphristi kumele asihlola lesa silonda, kuthi nxa singaqhelanga ejwabini, njalo kungelaboya obulithanga phezu kwaso, khona kubonakala ukuthi asijulanga enyameni, **33** kufanele aphucwe kutshiywe indawo elesifo, umphristi aphinde amehlukanise kwabanye okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. **34** Ngosuku lwesikhombisa umphristi kumele asihlola, kuthi nxa singaqhelanga njalo kukhanya singajulanga enyameni, umphristi kathi uhlambulukile. Kufanele agezise izigqoko zakhe, abesesiba ngohlambulukileyo. **35** Kodwa nxa isilonda siqhela ejwabini emva kokuba sekuthiwe usehlambulukile, **36** umphristi uzamhlola, kanti-ke nxa isilonda sisuke saqhela ejwabini, akudingakali ukuthi umphristi adinge ukubona uboya obulithanga; lowomuntu uncolile. **37** Kodwa nxa ngokubona kwakhe isilonda lesa silokhu singaguqukanga sekulenwele ezimnyama kuso, siyabe sesipholile. Uyabe esehlambulukile, umphristi uzakuthi uhlambulukile. **38** Nxa indoda loba owesifazane elamabala amhlotshana ejwabini, **39** umphristi kumele awahlola, kuthi nxa amabala lawo emhlotshana okungani kufiphele, kuyabe kuyikuqubuka okumveleleyo ejwabini; ngakho lowomuntu uhlambulukile. **40** Nxa indoda ingaselanwele isilempabanga, ihlambulukile. **41** Nxa ingaselanwele phezu kwebunzi, isilempabanga ihlambulukile. **42** Kodwa nxa isilonda esibomvana-okumhlotshana ekhanda elilempabanga loba ebunzini, yibulephero obuyabe buqalisa ekhanda loba ebunzini. **43** Umphristi kayihlola leyondoda, kuthi nxa isilonda esivuvukayo ekhanda layo loba ebunzini sibomvana-okumhlotshana njengobulephero, **44** leyondoda isilabo njalo isingcolile. Umphristi uzakuthi leyondoda ingcolile ngenxa yaleso silonda esisekhanda layo. **45** Umuntu olobulephero kumele agqoke izigqoko ezidabukileyo, ayekele inwele zakhe zingakanywanga, embese ingxenye yangaphansi kobuso bakhe amemeze athi: 'Ngingcolile! Ngingcolile!' **46** Kuzakuthi nxa elokhu elaleso sifo, ahlale engongcolileyo. Kumele ahlale yedwa, ahlale ngaphandle kwesihonqo." **47** "Nxa isigqoko sagqokwa ngumuntu olobulephero, isembatho sewulu loba eselembu, **48** eselukiweyo loba esiphothiweyo kuyiwulu loba ilembu, isikhumba loba yini eyenziwe ngesikhumba, **49** nxa lokhu kungcola kusesembathweni selembu, isikhumba, loba yini eyelukiweyo, loba ephothiweyo loba kuyini okwesikhumba, kubonakala kuluhlazana loba kubomvana, yibulephero; kufanele kutshegiswe umphristi. **50** Umphristi kahlole ukungcola lokhu abesesehlukanisa

leyonto esingcolile, ibekwe yodwa okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. **51** Ngosuku lwesikhombisa kuzamele akuhlola, kuthi nxa ukungcola sekuqhelile esembathweni, eselukiweyo loba esithungiweyo, loba isikhumba, loba sisetshenziswani, lokho kuyibulephero, isembatho lesa singcolile. **52** Kumele asitshise isembatho lesa, loba eselukiweyo lesithungiweyo, kuyiwulu loba ilembu, loba kuyinto yesikhumba elesifo sokungcola, njengoba kuyibulephero; leyonto kumele itshiswe. **53** Kodwa, nxa kuyikuthi ekuhlolweni kwaso ngumphristi, kubonakale ukuthi isifo asiqhelanga ezigqokweni, loba eselukiweyo loba esithungiweyo, loba esesikhumba, **54** uzalaya ukuthi lolutho olungcolileyo lugezisewe. Kulapho-ke azakwehlukanisa khona kwezinye okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. **55** Ngemva kokuba lesosembatho esingcolileyo sesigezisiwe, umphristi uzasihlola, kuthi nxa isifo sokungcola esisesigqokweni singaguqukanga umbala waso lanxa siyabe singaqhelanga, singcolile. Kasitshiswe ngomlilo, loba isifo sokungcola sihlasele nganxanye. **56** Nxa, lapho umphristi esihlola, kubonakale isilonda sesifiphele ngemva kokugeziswa kwesigqoko, umphristi kadabule ingxenye ebilesifo esigqokweni loba yisikhumba loba ngeselukiweyo loba esiphothiweyo. **57** Kodwa nxa isifo sibonakala futhi esigqokweni, ingabe eselukiweyo loba esiphothiweyo, loba kungesikhumba, siyabe siyaqhela, akuthi konke okulesifo kutshiswe ngomlilo. **58** Isigqoko siphilasi, kungaba ngesokwelukwa, esokuphothwa loba esesikhumba esesike sageziswa sahlanzwa lesosifo kumele sigezise futhi, kube yikho ukuhlanzeka kwaso." **59** Le yiyo imilayo emayelana lokungcoliswa yibulephero ezigqokweni loba ngezewulu kumbe ezelembu, kungaba ngezewulu loba eziphothiweyo, loba isikhumba; ukuze kuthiwe zihlambulukile loba zingcolile.

14 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** "Le yimithetho eqondana lalowo lobulephero ngesikhathi sokuhlunjululwa kwakhe ngokomkhuba, nxa elethwa phambi komphristi. **3** Umphristi kaphume ezihonqweni ayemhlola. Nxa umuntu lowo esesilile ebulepherweni, **4** umphristi uzalaya ukuthi kulethelwe inyoni ezimbili eziphalayo, ezihlambulukileyo, kanye lenkuni zesihlahla somsedari, intambo ebomvu lehisophi ukuze lowo muntu ahlanjululwe. **5** Lapho-ke umphristi uzalaya ukuthi eyinye yalezo nyoni ibulawelwe phezu kwamanzi acengekileyo, asembezini yomdaka. **6** Usezathatha inyoni ephilayo ayigxamuze ndawonye lokhuni lomsedari, lentambo ebomvu lehisophi egazini lalayo nyoni ebulawelwe phezu kwamanzi ahlambulukileyo. **7** Uzachela lowo ohlanjululwa ubulephero ngalelogazi kasikhombisa, abesithi usehlambulukile. Abesekuhlula inyoni esaphila izihambeke egangeni. **8** Umuntu okufanele ukuthi ahlanjululwe kumele agezise izigqoko zakhe, aphuce zonke inwele zakhe, abesegeza umzimba ngamanzi, ngalokho uzabe esehlambulukile ngokomkhuba. Ngemva kwalokho usengangena ezihonqweni, kodwa kumele ahlale ngaphandle kwethente lakhe okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. **9** Ngosuku lwesikhombisa kumele aphuce zonke inwele zakhe, intshiya zakhe kanye lazonke inwele zakhe. Kufanele agezise izigqoko zakhe, ageze umzimba ngamanzi; ngalokho uzakuba ngohlambulukileyo. **10** Ngosuku lwesifamicaminwembili kumele alethe amazinyane amabili amaduna lelilodwa elisikazi, wonke elomnyaka owodwa, wonke engelasici, ndawonye lezilinganiso zehafa ezintathu etshumini zefulawa ecolikileyo, evutshwe ngamafutha, kungumnikelo wamabele,

kanye lehetshezana lwamafutha. **11** Umphristi obikayo ukuthi usehlambulukile lowomuntu nguye omethulayo kanye leminikelo yakhe kuThixo esangweni lethente lokuhlangana. **12** Ngemva kwalokho, umphristi kathathe elinye izinyane eliduna anikele ngalo kube ngumnikelo wecala, kanye lehetshezana lwamafutha; uzakunguza phambi kukaThixo, kungumnikelo wokuzunguzwa. **13** Uzahlabala lelozinyane endaweni engcwele lapho okuhlathshelwa khona iminikelo yesono kanye leminikelo yokutshiswa. Umnikelo wecala ungowomphristi, njengomnikelo wesono; ungcwele kakhulu. **14** Umphristi uzathatha elinye igazi lomnikelo wecala alininde oqwangeni lwendlebe yokunene yalowo ozahlanjululwa, esithupheni sesandla sokunene sakhe. **15** Umphristi uzathatha amanye amafutha, awathele esandleni sakhe sokhohlo, **16** agxamuze umunwe wakhe wenkomba emafutheni lawo, abesewafafaza phambi kukaThixo kasikhombisa. **17** Umphristi kaninde amafutha aseleyo esandleni oqwangeni lwendlebe yokunene yalowo ozahlanjululwa, esithupheni sesandla sokunene lasozwaneni olukhulu lonyawo lolwesokunene, phezu kwegazi lomnikelo wecala. **18** Amafutha lawo aseleyo esandleni somphristi kawagcobe ekhanda lalowo ohlanjululwayo, abesemenzela indlela yokubuyisana phambi kukaThixo. **19** Ngemva kwalokho, kalethe umnikelo wesono ecelela ozahlanjululwa indlela yokubuyisana kulokhu kungcola kwakhe. Ngemva kwalokho, umphristi uzenza umnikelo wokutshiswa, **20** anikele ngawo e-alithareni, kanye lowamabele, amenzele indlela yokubuyisana, ngalokho uzahlanjululwa. **21** Kodwa-ke, nxa engumyanga, engazenlisi lezizinto, kumele athathe izinyane lemvu eliduna libe ngumnikelo wecala ozazunguzwa ukumenzela indlela yokubuyisana, lengxenywe eyodwa etshumini yefulawa ecolokileyo ehlanganise lwamafutha, kungumnikelo wamabele, lehetshezana lwamafutha, **22** lamajuba amabili kumbe amaphuphu enkwilimba amabili, lokho angakwanelisa, okunye kungumnikelo wesono kuthi okunye kube ngumnikelo wokutshiswa. **23** Ngosuku lwesificaminwembili kumele akulethe kumphristi ukuba ahlanjululwe esangweni lethente lokuhlangana phambi kukaThixo. **24** Umphristi kathathe izinyane lemvu libe ngumnikelo wecala, ndawonye lehetshezana lwamafutha, akuzunguze phambi kukaThixo, kube ngumnikelo wokuzunguzwa. **25** Uzahlabala izinyane lemvu kube ngumnikelo wecala abesethatha elinye alininde oqwangeni lwendlebe yokwesokudla yalowo ozahlanjululwa, esithupheni sesandla sokunene kanye lasozwaneni olukhulu lonyawo lwesandla sokunene. **26** Umphristi uzathathekela amanye amafutha esandleni sakhe senxele, **27** besekusithi ngomunwe wakhe wenkomba, owesandla sokunene achele amanye amafutha kasikhombisa phambi kukaThixo. **28** Kuthi amanye amafutha asesandleni sakhe awaninde endaweni lezo aninde khona igazi lomnikelo wecala, oqwangeni lwendlebe yokwesokudla yalowo ozahlanjululwa, esithupheni sesandla sokunene kanye lasozwaneni olukhulu lonyawo lwesandla sokunene. **29** Umphristi uzagcoba ikhanda lalowo ohlanjululwayo ngamafutha aseleyo esandleni sakhe, emenzela indlela yokubuyisana phambi kukaThixo. **30** Ngakho uzanikela ngamajuba lawayana loba amaphuphu enkwilimba lezo, lokho ayabe ekwenelile, **31** okunye kungumnikelo wesono, kuthi okunye kube ngumnikelo wokutshiswa, ndawonye lomnikelo wamabele. Ngale indlela, umphristi uzakwenzela ozahlanjululwa indlela yokubuyisana

phambi kukaThixo.” **32** Le yiyo imithetho yokuphathwa kwaloba abalomkhuhlane wobulephero abangenelisi iminikelo yokuhlanjululwa ejayelekileyo. **33** UThixo wathi kuMosi lo-Aroni, **34** “Nxa lingena ezweni laseKhenani, lelo engilinka lona ukuba libe yisabelo senu, besengifaka isikhwekhwe esithelwanayo endlini kulelolizwe, **35** umnini waleyondlu kufanele ayetshelela umphristi athi ‘ngibona okufanana lesikhwekhwe endlini yami?’” **36** Umphristi engakayi kuleyondlu ukuyahlola isikhwekhwe kumele akhiphe isiqondiso sokuthi kutshiswe konke okukuleyondlu ukuze kungabi lalutho kuleyondlu oluzathiwa lungcolile. Ngemva kwalokho, umphristi uzangena ahlole leyondlu. **37** Uzahlola isikhwekhwe emidulini, kuthi nxa ebona ukuthi kulamabala aluhlaza loba abomvana emdulini njalo ebonakala ejulile emdulini, **38** umphristi uzaphuma ngomnyango wendlu, awuvale okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. **39** Ngosuku lwesikhombisa, umphristi uzabuyela ayehlola leyondlu. Nxa isikhwekhwe sesigcwele emidulini, **40** uzakhupha isiqondiso sokuthi amatshe alaleso sikhwekhwe adilizwe, ayephoselwa endaweni engcolileyo ngaphandle kwedolobho. **41** Kalaye ukuthi imiduli yonke eyangaphakathi iphalwe, kuthi lokho okuphaliweyo kuyalahlelwa endaweni engcolileyo ngaphandle kwedolobho. **42** Besebefaka amatshe amatsha esikhundleni salawo, bagudule indlu ngodaka olutsha. **43** Nxa isikhwekhwe sibonakala kutsha kuleyondlu ngemva kokudilizwa kwamatshe lokuphalwa kwemiduli njalo isigudulwe, **44** umphristi kahambe ayeyihlola, nxa efumana isikhwekhwe sesiqhelile kuleyondlu, kuyabe kuyisikhwekhwe esibulalayo; leyondlu ingcolile. **45** Kufanele idilizwe, amatshe ayo, izigodo, lodaka lwayo kumele kuyephoselwa endaweni engcolileyo ngaphandle kwedolobho. **46** Loba ngubani ongena kuleyondlu ngesikhathi isavaliwe uzakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. **47** Loba ngubani ozalala loba adlele kuleyondlu kufanele agezise izigqoko zakhe. **48** Kodwa umphristi angabuya ezoyihlola afumane ukuthi isikhwekhwe asiqhelanga ngemva kokugudulwa, uzakuthi indlu ihlambulukile, ngoba isikhwekhwe singasekho. **49** Ukuze indlu ibe ngehlanzekileyo, uzathatha inyoni ezimbili kanye lenkuni zesihlahla somsedari, lentambo ezelukiweyo ezibomvu lehisophi. **50** Uzahlabala enye yalezi zinyoni emanzini acengekileyo embizeni yodaka. **51** Abesethatha inkuni zesihlahla somsedari, ihisophi, intambo ebomvu elukiweyo lenyoni ephilayo, akugxamuze egazini lenye ebuleweyo lamanzi acengekileyo, abesechela leyondlu kasikhombisa. **52** Uzayihlanza leyondlu ngegazi lenyoni, amanzi acengekileyo, inyoni ephilayo, inkuni zesihlahla somsedari, ihisophi lentambo ephothiweyo ebomvu. **53** Ngemva kwalokho kakhulule inyoni ephilayo emangweni ngaphandle kwedolobho. Ngalindlela uzabe esenze indlela yokubuyisana kuleyondlu, izabe singehlambulukileyo.” **54** Le yiyo imithetho eqondane lobulephero, ukuluma komzimba, **55** isikhwekhwe ezigqokweni kumbe endlini, **56** ukuvuvuka, ukuqubuka kumbe itshatha elikhanyayo, **57** ukuze kubonakale ukuthi ulutho luhlambulukile loba lungcolile. Le yiyo imithetho yobulephero kanye lesikhwekhwe.

15 UThixo wathi kuMosi lo-Aroni, **2** “Khulumani labako-Israyeli lithi kubo: ‘Nxa indoda iphuma ubovu, ubovu obuphumayo bungcolile. **3** Lanxa buthonta emzimbeni wakhe loba buvalekile, bumenza abe ngongcolileyo. Lokhu yikho okwenza ubovu obuphuma emzimbeni wakhe bumenze abe

ngongcolileyo. 4 Loba yiwuphi umbheda indoda le ephuma ubovu ezalala kuwo, uzakuba ngongcolileyo, njalo loba kuyini okuzahlala phezu kwawo, kuzakuba ngokungcolileyo. 5 Loba ngubani othinta umbheda wakhe kufanele agezise izigqoko zakhe, abesegeza ngamanzi, uzakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. 6 Loba ngubani ozahlala loba kuphezu kwani lapho okuke kwahlala khona indoda ethonta ubovu, kufanele agezise izigqoko zakhe abesegeza ngamanzi, uzakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. 7 Loba ngubani ozathinta lindoda kufanele agezise izigqoko zakhe abesegeza ngamanzi, ngalokho uzakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. 8 Nxa indoda ephuma ubovu ingakhafulela omunye ongelabo, lowomuntu kagezise izigqoko zakhe abesegeza ngamanzi, yena uzakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. 9 Konke indoda le ehlala kukho igadile kuzakuba ngokungcolileyo, 10 njalo loba ngubani ozathinta loba yini yezinto ebezingaphansi kwakhe uzakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa, loba ngubani ozadobha lezozinto, kufanele agezise izigqoko zakhe, abesegeza ngamanzi, njalo uzabe engongcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. 11 Loba ngubani ozathintwa yindoda le ephuma ubovu engagezanga izandla zakhe ngamanzi kufanele agezise izigqoko zakhe abesegeza ngamanzi, kodwa uzakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. 12 Imbiza yomdaka ezathintwa yile indoda kufanele ibulawe, kuthi konke okwenziwe ngesigodo kumele kuhlanjululwe ngamanzi. 13 Nxa indoda isihlanjululwe ekuphumeni kwayo ubovu, kayibale insuku eziyisikhombisa kube yikuhlanjululwa kwayo ngokomkhuba; kufanele igezise izigqoko zayo, ibisigeza ngamanzi amahle andubana ihlambuluke. 14 Ngosuku lwesificaminwembili kufanele ithathe amajuba amabili, loba amaphuphu enkwilimba amabili ize phambi kukaThixo esangweni lethente lokuhlangana, iwaqhubele umphristi. 15 Umphristi uzanikela ngakho; okunye ngokomnikelo wesono, okunye ngokomnikelo wokutshiswa. Ngalokho, uzakwenza ukubuyisana phambi kukaThixo kwaleyondoda ngenxa yomkhuhlane wayo. 16 Nxa indoda ivuza ubudoda, kumele igeze umzimba wayo wonke ngamanzi, njalo izakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. 17 Loba yisiphi isigqoko kumbe isikhumba esilobudoda, kufanele sigezise ngamanzi, njalo kuzakuba ngokungcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. 18 Nxa indoda ingalala lowesifazane ichithe, kufanele ukuthi bobabili bageze ngamanzi, ngakho bazakuba ngabangcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. 19 Nxa owesifazane esemfuleni njengenjayelo, ukungcola kwakhe okubangelwa yikuba semfuleni kwakhe, kuzathatha insuku eziyisikhombisa, ngakho wonke omthintayo uzakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. 20 Yonke into owesifazane lo azalala phezu kwayo ngesikhathi esemfuleni izakuba ngongcolileyo, njalo loba kuyini azahlala phezu kwakho, sekungcolile. 21 Ozathinta umbheda wakhe kufanele agezise izigqoko zakhe abesegeza umzimba ngamanzi, njalo uzakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. 22 Loba ngubani ozathinta loba kuyini owesifazane lo abehlezi phezu kwakho kufanele agezise izigqoko zakhe, ageze umzimba ngamanzi, njalo uzakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. 23 Akukhathalekile ukuba kungaba ngumbheda loba enye into nje owesifazane lo abehlezi kukho, umuntu loba engubani angakuthinta, uzakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. 24 Nxa indoda ingalala lowesifazane osemfuleni ibe isithinta igazi lomopho wakhe, indoda izakuba ngongcolileyo okwensuku eziyisikhombisa, loba yiwuphi umbheda ezalala kuwo, uzakuba

ngongcolileyo. 25 Nxa owesifazane angopha okwensuku ezithile zilandelana kodwa engekho emfuleni, loba esopha okwensuku ezedlula insuku zokopha nxa esemfuleni, uzakuba ngongcolileyo nxa ukopha kungakemi, njengasezinsukwini zakhe esemfuleni. 26 Loba yiwuphi umbheda azalala kuwo nxa umopho uqhubeke, uzakuba ngongcolileyo, njengokungcola kombheda wakhe ngesikhathi esemfuleni, njalo konke ahlala phezu kwakho kuzakuba ngokungcolileyo, njengokungcola kwakhe nxa esemfuleni. 27 Loba ngubani ozathinta lezizinto uzakuba ngongcolileyo; kufanele agezise izigqoko zakhe abesegeza ngamanzi, ngalokho uzakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. 28 Nxa esehlanketile ekopheni kwakhe, kufanele ahlale insuku eziyisikhombisa andubana ahlambuluke ngokomkhuba. 29 Ngosuku lwesificaminwembili uzathatha amajuba amabili loba amaphuphu enkwilimba amabili akulethe kumphristi esangweni lethente lokuhlangana. 30 Umphristi uzanikela okunye kube ngumnikelo wesono, kuthi okunye kube ngumnikelo wokutshiswa. Ngale indlela uzakwenza ukubuyisana kwakhe phambi kukaThixo ngenxa yokungcola kwakhe esopha. 31 Kufanele wahlukanise abako-Israyeli ezintweni ezibangcolisayo, ukuze bangafeli ekungcoleni kwabo, bangcolise indawo enghlala kuyo, ephakathi kwabo.” 32 Le yiyi imithetho eqondene lendoda ephuma ubovu, loba ngubani ongcoliswe yikuphuma ubudoda, 33 lowesifazane nxa esemfuleni, lendoda loba owesifazane okuphuma kuye okungcolileyo, njalo lendoda elala lowesifazane ongcolileyo ngokomkhuba.

16 UThixo wakhuluma loMosi ngemva kokufa kwamadodana ka-Aroni azama ukuqondana loThixo. 2 UThixo wathi kuMosi, “Tshela umfowenu u-Aroni ukuthi angamani abuye nje ngokuthanda kwakhe endaweni eNgwelengcwele, ngemva kwekheteni, phambi kwesihlalo somusa phezu komtshokotsho funa afe, ngoba ngiyabonakala ngiseyezini phezu kwesihlalo somusa. 3 U-Aroni kuzamele angene endaweni engcwele ngale indlela: Keze lejongosi, kube ngumnikelo wesono, kuthi okomnikelo wokutshiswa, kube yinqama. 4 Uzagoka ibhatsi elingcwele elenziwe ngelembu elicolekileyo, lezigqoko zelineni ezangaphansi; kazibophe ngebhanti elenziwe ngelineni njalo athwale iqhiye yelineni. Lezi yizembatho ezingcwele; ngakho kufanele ageze umzimba ngamanzi andubana agqoke izembatho lezi. 5 Kathathe imbuzi ezinduna ezimbili esizweni sako-Israyeli zibe ngumnikelo wesono, lenqama ibe ngumnikelo wokutshiswa. 6 U-Aroni uzanikela ngenkunzi, ibe ngumnikelo wesono sakhe, ukwenzela ukubuyisana kwakhe lokwabendlu yakhe. 7 Abesethatha imbuzi zombili azilethe phambi kukaThixo, esangweni lethente lokuhlangana. 8 Uzaphosa inkatho yokubona ngembuzi zombili, eyinye izakuba ngekaThixo, enye ibe ngeyesesulelo. 9 U-Aroni uzalethe imbuzi yenkatho kaThixo ibe ngumnikelo wesono. 10 Kodwa imbuzi edliwe yinkatho yesesulelo izaletwa kuThixo iphila ukuze isetshenziswe ukwenza ukubuyisana ngokuyixotshela enkangala, njengembuzi yesesulelo. 11 U-Aroni uzalethe inkunzi ibe ngumnikelo wesono sakhe ukwenzela ukubuyisana kwakhe lokwendlu yakhe, njalo uzayihlaba leyonkunzi ibe ngumnikelo wesono sakhe. 12 Uzathatha isiphathelo sokutshiselwa imphepha sigcwele amalahlle avuthayo ase-alitharen phambi kukaThixo kanye lempepha ecolekileyo enuka kamnandi egcwala izandla ezimbili, ayelakho ngemva kwekheteni. 13 Uzathela imphepha emlilweni phambi

kukaThixo, kuthi intuthu yempepha isibekela isihlalo somusa esiphezu kwezibhebhedu zobufakazi ukuze angafi. **14** Uzathatha elinye igazi lenkunzi, achele ngalo phambi kwebhokisi lesihlalo somusa esebenzisa umunwe wakhe; ngomunwe wakhe njalo achele kasikhombisa phambi kwesihlalo somusa. **15** Ngemva kwalokho, uzabulala imbuzi ibe ngumnikelo wesono sabantu, abesethatha igazi layo aye ngemva kwekhethe, ayekwenza njengalokhu akwenze ngegazi lenkunzi: Uzachela phezu kwesihlalo somusa laphambili kwaso. **16** Ngalokho uzakwenza indlela yokubuyisana, endaweni eNgcwelengcwele ngenxa yokungcola lokuhlama kwabako-Israyeli, kungakhathalekile ukuthi benze sono bani. Uzakwenza njalo into efanayo ethenteni lokuhlangana eliphakathi kwabo ngokungcola okuphakathi kwabo. **17** Kakho ozangena ethenteni lokuhlangana, kusukela ekungeneni kuka-Aroni esiyakwenza indlela yokubuyisana endaweni eNgcwelengcwele aze aphume, esezenzele indlela yokubuyisana, leyabendlu yakhe kanye lesizwe sonke sako-Israyeli. **18** Ngakho uzakuza e-alithareni eliphambi kukaThixo, alenzele indlela yokubuyisana. Uzathatha elinye igazi lenkunzi lelinye elembuzi, aninde ngalo impondo zonke ze-alithare. **19** Uzachela elinye igazi ngomunwe wakhe kasikhombisa ukulihlanza lokulingcwelisa kulokho kungcola kwabako-Israyeli. **20** Nxa u-Aroni eseqedile ukwenzela indlela yokubuyisana indawo eNgcwelengcwele, ithente lokuhlangana kanye le-alithari, uzalethe imbuzi ephilayo. **21** Uzabeka izandla zakhe zombili ekhanda lembuzi ephilayo, avumele phezu kwayo ukona lokuhlama kwabako-Israyeli, izono zabo zonke azifake ekhanda lembuzi. Imbuzi le izaxotshelwa enkangala iqhutshwa yindoda ekhethele lowomsebenzi. **22** Imbuzi izathwala zonke izono zabo, ithubele lazo; indoda izayixotshela enkangala. **23** Ngakho u-Aroni uzangena ethenteni lokuhlangana, akhulule izigqoko zelineni abezigqoke engakangezi endaweni eNgcwelengcwele, azitshiye khonapho. **24** Uzageza umzimba ngamanzi endaweni engcwele, abesegqoka izigqoko zakhe. Ngemva kwalokho uzaphuma lapho ayezinkolela umnikelo wokutshiswa kanye lokunikelela abantu umnikelo wokutshiswa, esenzela ukubuyisana kwakhe lokwabantu. **25** Njalo uzatshisa amahwahwa omnikelo wesono e-alithareni. **26** Indoda ezaxotshela imbuzi eyisesulelo kumele ihlambe izigqoko zayo lomzimba ngamanzi; ngemva kwalokho isingangena ezihonqweni. **27** Inkunzi kanye lembuzi yomnikelo wesono, okulegazi elilethwe endaweni eNgcwelengcwele ukwenzela ukubuyisana, kakukhitshelwe ngaphandle kwezihonqo; kutshiswe izikhumba zakho, inyama kanye lezangaphakathi. **28** Indoda ezatshisa lokhu kayigezise izigqoko zayo njalo igeze lomzimba wayo ngamanzi; ngemva kwalokho isingangena ezihonqweni. **29** Lokhu kakube yisimiso kini esingapheliyo: Ngosuku lweshumi ngenyanga yesikhombisa, lizidele, lingabambi umsebenzi, loba lingabanikazi bendawo loba kungabezizwe phakathi kwenu, **30** ngenxa yokuthi ngalolusuku lizakwenzelwa ukubuyisana, ukulihlambulula. Ngakho, phambi kukaThixo, lizabe selihlanzekile ezonweni zenu zonke. **31** KuliSabatha lokuphumula, ngakho kumele lizidele, kuyisimiso esingapheliyo. **32** Umphristi ogcotshiweyo, wabekwa ukuthatha isikhundla sikayise ukuba ngumphristi omkhulu uzakwenza indlela yokubuyisana. Uzagqoka izigqoko ezingcwele zelineni, **33** enze ukubuyisana

kwendawo eNgcwelengcwele, lokwethente lokuhlangana lokwe-alithari, lokwabaphristi kanye labantu bonke bakuleyondawo. **34** Lokhu kuzakuba yisimiso esingapheliyo kini: Ukubuyisana kakwenziwe kanye ngomnyaka, kusenzelwa zonke izono zabako-Israyeli." Lokhu kwenziwa, njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo.

17 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** "Tshela u-Aroni lamadodana akhe, labo bonke abako-Israyeli ukuthi: 'Nanku okutshixo nguThixo: **3** Loba ngubani owako-Israyeli ozakwenza umhlatshelelo ngenkabi, izinyane lemvu loba imbuzi ezihonqweni loba ngaphandle kwazo, **4** esikhundleni sokuyiletha esangweni lethente lokuhlangana, ukuyinikela ukuthi ibe ngumnikelo uThixo phambi kwethabanikeli likaThixo, lowomuntu uzakuba lecala lokuchitha igazi; usechithe igazi ngakho kumele axotshwe ebantwini bakibo. **5** Lokhu kuzakwenza abako-Israyeli balethe kuThixo imihlatshelo le abayenzela egangeni. Kabayilethe kumphristi, lokhu kuyikuthi, kuThixo, esangweni lethente lokuhlangana njalo banikele njengeminikelo yobudlelwano. **6** Umphristi kachele i-alithari likaThixo ngegazi esangweni lethente lokuhlangana, atshise amahwahwa njengephunga elimnandi kuThixo. **7** Bangabe besanikela loba yiwuphi umnikelo kubonkulunkulu babo bembuzi labo ababaxhwalisayo. Lesi kumele kube yisimiso sabo esingapheliyo lakuzizukulwane ezizayo.' **8** Wothi kubo: 'Loba nguphi owako-Israyeli loba owezizwe ohlezi labo onikela umnikelo wokutshiswa loba umhlatshelelo, **9** kodwa engawulethi esangweni lethente lokuhlangana ukuba akuhlabele uThixo, lowomuntu kaxotshwe ebantwini bakibo. **10** Loba ngubani owako-Israyeli loba owezizwe ohlala phakathi kwabo ozakudla loba yiliphi igazi, ngizamelana laye odla igazi, ngimxotshela phakathi kwabantu bakibo. **11** Ngoba impilo yesidalwa isegazini, njalo ngiliphile ukuthi lenze ukubuyisana kwenu e-alithareni ngalo; kuligazi elenze ukubuyisana empilweni yomuntu. **12** Ngakho ngithi kwabako-Israyeli, "Kakho phakathi kwenu ozakudla igazi, loba owezizwe ohlala phakathi kwenu ozakudla igazi." **13** Loba ngubani owako-Israyeli loba owezizwe ohlala phakathi kwenu ozingela loba yiphi inyamazana loba inyoni edliwayo, kavuzise igazi aligqibele ngenhlabathi, **14** ngoba impilo yesidalwa isegazini laso. Yikho ngithe kwabako-Israyeli, "Lingabokudla igazi laloba yisiphi isidalwa, ngoba impilo yesidalwa sonke ligazi laso; loba ngubani olidlayo kaxotshwe." **15** Loba ngubani, kungaba ngumnikazi wendawo loba owezizwe, ozakudla loba kuyini okufunyanwe kufile, loba okubulewe yizinyamazana zeganga, kahlambe izigqoko zakhe kanye lomzimba wakhe ngamanzi, uzakuba ngongcolileyo ngokomkhuba kuze kuhlwe; uzakuba esehlambululike. **16** Kodwa nxa engahlambi izigqoko zakhe lokuzeza umzimba wakhe, uzakuba lecala."

18 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** "Tshela abako-Israyeli ukuthi: 'NginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **3** Lingabokwenza lokhu okwenziwa eGibhithe, lapho elalikhona, njalo lingabokwenza abakwenzayo ezweni laseKhenani, lapho engilisa khona. Lingalandeli abakwenzayo. **4** Lalelani imithetho yami njalo linanzelele, lilandele izimiso zami. Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **5** Gcinani izimiso zami lemithetho yami, ngoba umuntu oyilalelayo uzaphila ngayo. Mina nginguThixo. **6** Akungabi lamuntu onondela esihlotsheni sakhe esiseduze ukuthi alale laso. Mina nginguThixo. **7** Ungatheleli uyihlo ihlazo ngokulala lonoyoko. Ngunyoko;

ungalali laye. **8** Ungalali lomfazi kayihlo; lokho kuthlela uyihlo ihlazo. **9** Ungalali lodadewenu, loba indodakazi kayihlo loba indodakazi kanyoko, kungakhathalekile ukuthi wazalelwa ekhaya loba kwenye indawo. **10** Ungalali lendodakazi yendodana yakho loba indodakazi yendodakazi yakho; lokhu kuzakuthlela ihlazo. **11** Ungalali lendodakazi yomfazi kayihlo, eyazalwa nguyihlo, ingudadewenu. **12** Ungalali lodadewabo kayihlo; uyisihlobo sikayihlo esiseduze kakhulu. **13** Ungalali lodadewabo kanyoko, uyisihlobo sikanyoko esiseduzane kakhulu. **14** Ungatheleli umfowabo kayihlo ihlazo ngokusondela kumkakhe ukuthi ulale laye, ngoba ungunyoko. **15** Ungalali lomalokazana wakho, ngumfazi wendodana yakho; ungalali laye. **16** Ungalali lomfazi womfowenu; kuzathelela umfowenu ihlazo. **17** Ungalali lowesifazane kanye lendodakazi yakhe. Ungalali lendodakazi yendodana yakhe loba indodakazi yendodakazi yakhe; bayizihlobo zakho eziseduzane. Lokhu kuyikuxhwalwa. **18** Ungathathi udadewabo womkakho ukuthi ulale laye nxa umkakho esaphila. **19** Ungasondeli kowesifazane ukuthi ulale laye ngesikhathi esemfuleni ngoba uncolile. **20** Ungalali lomfazi kamakhelwane wakho ngoba uyazingcolisa ngaye. **21** Unganikeli loba nguphi wabantwabakho ukuthi abe ngumhlatshe lokukulunkulu uMoleki, ngoba akufanelanga ukuthi uncolise ibizo likaNkulunkulu wakho. Mina nginguThixo. **22** Ungalali lendoda njengendoda ilala lomfazi; lokhu kuyisinengiso. **23** Ungafebi lenyamazana, ngoba uyazingcolisa ngalokho. Owesifazane angafebi lenyamazana, ngoba kuyisinengiso. **24** Lingazingcolisi noma kungayiphi yalezizindlela, ngoba yizo izindlela izizwe engizaziudula phambi kwenu ezazingcolisa ngazo. **25** Kwaze kwangcola lelizwe; kungakho ngalijezisa ngesono salo, ilizwe ababehlala kulo labakhafula. **26** Kodwa kumele ligcine izimiso zami lemilayo yami. Lina banikazi belizwe labezizwe abaphakathi kwenu, akufanelanga benze lezizinto ezenyanyekayo, **27** ngoba zonke lezizinto zenziwa ngabantu ababehlala kulelilizwe lina lingakafiki, ngakho ilizwe langcola. **28** Nxa lingenza amanyala kulelilizwe, lizalikhafula njengendlela elakhafula ngayo izizwe ezalandulelayo. **29** Loba ngubani owenza lezizinto ezenyanyekayo, kumele axotshwe ebantwini bakibo. **30** Gcinani iziqondiso zami, lingalandeli izindlela zamanyala lemikhuba eyayilandelwa ngabantu abalandulelayo, njalo lingazingcolisi ngayo. Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu.”

19 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** “Tshela lonke ibandla lako-Israyeli uthi kulo: ‘Wobani ngcwele ngoba mina Thixo uNkulunkulu wenu ngingcwele. **3** Ngulowo lalowo kini kahloniphe unina loyise, njalo kumele ligcine amaSabatha ami. Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **4** Lingaphendukeli ezithombeni loba lizibumbele onkulunkulu wenu. NginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **5** Nxa lisenza umhlatshe lomnikelo wobudlelwano kuThixo, wenzeni ngendlela ezakwenza wamukeleke ukusiza lina. **6** Kumele udlwiwe ngalo ilanga lomhlatshe loba ngelanga lakusasa; lokho okuseleyo kuze kube lilanga lesithathu kumele kutshiswe. **7** Lokho okudliwa ngelanga lesithathu kuzabe sekungcolile, kungabe kusemukeleka. **8** Lowo okudlayo uzakuba lomlandu, ngoba uzabe esengcolise lokho okungcwele kuThixo. **9** Lapho libutha isivuno samasimu enu, lingabuthi konke kuze kube semaphethelweni ensimu kumbe lize liqede konke. **10** Lingakhi izithelo ezivinini zenu kabili kumbe lidobhe

ezikhithikileyo. Zitshiyeleni abayanga lezihambi. Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **11** Lingebi. Lingaqambi amanga. Lingakhohlisani. **12** Lingafungi amanga ngebizo lami, beselingcolisa ibizo likaNkulunkulu wenu. NginguThixo. **13** Lingaqilibezeli umakhelwane wenu, lingamkhuthuzi. Umuntu oqhatshiweyo lingambambeli iholo lakhe kuze kube kusasa. **14** Lingathuki isacuthe loba liphosele isikhwebekiso phambi kwesiphofu, kodwa yesabani uNkulunkulu wenu. NginguThixo. **15** Lingawutshili umthetho; lingabandlululi umyanga kumbe litshengise ukukhetha abakhulu, kodwa mahluleli ngokulunga umakhelwane wenu. **16** Lingahambi linyeya kwabakini. Ugenzi lutho olulimaza umakhelwane wakho. NginguThixo. **17** Lingamazondi umfowenu ngezinhlizyo zenu. Khuzani umakhelwane likhululekile ukuze lingabi lomlandu njengaye. **18** Lingaphindiseli loba libambe isikhwili komunye wabantu bakini, kodwa thandani omakhelwane benu njengalokhu lizithanda lina. NginguThixo. **19** Gcinani izimemezero zami. Lingenzi izifuyo zenu zikhwele ezolunye uhlobo. Lingahlanyeli insimu yinye ngemihlobo emibili yenhlanyelo etshiyeneyo. Lingavunuli izigqoko ezenziwe ngemihlobo yamalembu amabili atshiyeneyo. **20** Nxa indoda ingalala lowesifazane oyisigqili osethembise enye indoda kodwa ongakahlengwa loba waphiwa inkululeko, kayijeziwe leyondoda. Kodwa akumelanga babulawe ngoba owesifazane lowo kakakhululwa. **21** Kodwa indoda kumele ilethe inqama esangweni lethente lokuhlangana, ibe ngumnikelo wecala kuThixo. **22** Ngaleyonqama yomnikelo wecala, umphristi kamenzeli indlela yokubuyisana kuThixo ngenxa yesono esenzileyo. Isono sayo sizathethelelwa. **23** Nxa selingenile elizweni, lahlanyela zonke izihlahla ezidliwayo, lingadli izithelo zazo ngoba kuyazila. Ziyazila okweminyaka emithathu; kazingadliwa. **24** Ngomnyaka wesine, zonke izithelo zazo zizabangcwele, zibe ngumnikelo wokudumisa uThixo. **25** Kodwa ngomnyaka wesihlanu lidle izithelo zazo. Ngaleyondlela, isivuno senu sizakwandiswa. Mina yimi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **26** Lingadli inyama elegazi. Lingenzi izinto zokuvumisa loba ubungoma. **27** Lingagundi inwele emaceleni amakhanda enu njalo lingageli indevu zenu. **28** Lingazisiki imizimba yenu ngenxa yabafileyo kumbe lizicabe. Mina yimi uThixo. **29** Lingalulazisi amadodakazi enu ngokuwafebisa funa ilizwe lehlelwe yibubi bokuphinga. **30** Gcinani amaSabatha ami, lihloniphe indlu yami engcwele. Mina nginguThixo. **31** Lingayi kwabayizangoma loba lidinge izanuse ngoba zazingcolisa. Mina yimi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **32** Sukumelani asebeluphele, lihloniphe abantu abadala, limesabe uNkulunkulu wenu. Mina yimi uThixo. **33** Nxa owezizweni ehlala lani elizweni lenu, lingamhlukuluzi. **34** Owezizweni ohlala phakathi kwenu kumele laye aphahtwe njengowakini. Limthande njengoba lizithanda lina, ngoba lalingabezizweni eGibhithe. Mina yimi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **35** Lingasebenzisi izilinganiso zokuqilibezela nxa lilinganisa ubude, isisindo loba umthamo. **36** Sebenzisani izilinganiso eziqotho, ihefa eliqondileyo lehini eliqotho. Mina yimi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu owalikhupha eGibhithe. **37** Gcinani zonke izimemezero zami, layo yonke imithetho yami, liyilandele. Mina yimi uThixo.”

20 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** “Tshela abako-Israyeli uthi: ‘Loba ngubani kwabako-Israyeli kumbe owezizweni ohlala kini onikela abantwana bakhe kukulunkulu uMoleki, kumele abulawe. Izakhamizi kazimkhande ngamatshe. **3**

Mina ngizamdela lowomuntu, ngimkhuphe ebantwini bakibo; ngoba nxa enikele ngabantwabakhe kuMoleki, usengcolise indlu yami engcwele, wahlambaza lebizo lami elingcwele. **4** Nxa izakhamizi zendawo zingangamnanzi lowomuntu enikela umntanake kuMoleki zingambulali, **5** mina ngizamhlamukela lowomuntu labomuzi wakhe, ngibakhuphe ebantwini bakibo, yena kanye labo bonke abahlanganyela laye njengeziphingi kuMoleki. **6** Ngizamhlamukela lowo oya ezangomeni lezanuseni njengesiphingi sazo, ngokulandelana lazo. Ngizamkhupha kwabakibo. **7** Zingcweliseni libengcwele ngoba mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **8** Gcinani izimiso zami lizilandele. Mina nginguThixo olenza libengcwele. **9** Lowo othuka uyise loba unina kabulawe. Usethuke uyise loba unina ngakho usefanele ukufa. **10** Nxa indoda ifeba lomfazi womunye, umfazi kamakhelwane, kababulawe bobabili isiphingi lesiphingikazi lesu. **11** Nxa indoda ilala lomfazi kayise, isiyembule ubunqunu bukayise. Leyondoda lonina lowo kababulawe. Bafanele ukufa. **12** Nxa indoda ilala lomalokazana wayo, kababulawe bobabili. Lokho asebekwenzile kulihlazo. Bafanele ukufa. **13** Nxa indoda ilala lenye indoda ingathi ilala lomfazi, bobabili benze amanyala. Kababulawe. Bafanele ukufa. **14** Nxa indoda ithatha umfazi, ithathe lonina, kubi lokho. Yona indoda labesifazane labo kabatshiswe ngomlilo ukuze kungabi lokuxhwala phakathi kwenu. **15** Nxa indoda iphinga lesifuyo, kayibulawe, lesifuyo lesu sibulawe. **16** Nxa owesifazane ehahabela isifuyo aphiinge laso, mbulaleni owesifazane lowo kanye lesifuyo lesu sibulawe. Kumele kubulawe kokubili ngoba konke kulomlandu. **17** Nxa indoda ithatha udadewabo, indodakazi kayise loba ekanina balale bonke, kulihlazo. Kabaxotshwe kwabakibo. Isinqunule udadewabo ngakho isibelomlandu. **18** Nxa indoda ilala lowesifazane esemfuleni, isinqunule umthombo walowomfula, lowesifazane lowo usewembulile. Bobabili kabaxotshwe ebantwini bakibo. **19** Ungalali lodadewabo kanyoko loba okayihlo, ngoba kuyikunqunula isihlobo segazi. Lobabili lizakuba lomlandu. **20** Nxa umuntu elala lomkamfowabo kayise, usenqunule umfowabo kayise. Balomlandu. Bazakufa bengelamtwana. **21** Nxa indoda ithatha umfazi womfowabo, lokho kuyisenzo sokungcola; usembule ubunqunu bomfowabo. Bazakufa bengelamtwana. **22** Gcinani zonke izimiso zami lemithetho yami, liyilandele ukuze lelolizwe engililethe ukuba lihlale khona lingalikhafuli. **23** Lingabolandela amasiko ezizwe engizaxotsha phambi kwenu. Ngoba bazenza zonke lezizinto ngabenyanya. **24** Kodwa ngathi kini, “Lizalithumba ilizwe labo; ngizalipha lona libe yilifa lenu, ilizwe eligeleza uchago loluju.” Mina yimi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu olenze lehluka kwabezizwe. **25** Ngakho-ke kumele lazi umahluko phakathi kwezinyamazana ezihlanzekileyo lezingahlanzekanga; kanjalo lezinyoni. Lingazingcolisi ngezinyamazana loba ngezinyoni loba ngani ehuquzela phansi, lezo engiziphawule ngathi zingcolile kini. **26** Kumele libengcwele kimi ngoba mina Thixo ngingcwele njalo ngilahlukanisile kwabezizwe ukuthi libe ngabami. **27** Indoda loba umfazi ovumisayo loba oyanuse phakathi kwenu, kabulawe. Bakhandeni ngamatshu. Yindaba yabo.”

21 UThixo wathi kuMosi, “Khuluma labaphristi, amadodana ka-Aroni, ubatshelwe ukuthi: ‘Umphristi kakumelanga azingcolise ngokomlayo, ngokungcwaba loba ngubani wakibo ofileyo, **2** ngaphandle kwesihlobo esiseduze njengonina, uyise, indodana loba indodakazi yakhe, umfowabo **3** loba udadewabo

osegumeni ngoba engelandoda, labo angabangcwaba. **4** Kangazingcolisi ngenxa yezihlobo zomkakhe, azibhixhe ngokungcwabana lazo. **5** Abaphristi kabangaphuci amakhanda abo, loba bagunde amacele endevu zabo, loba bazicabe emzimbeni. **6** Kumele babengcwele kuNkulunkulu wabo, njalo kakumelanga bangcolise ibizo likaNkulunkulu wabo. Kababe ngcwele ngoba yibo abanikela imihlatshelo yokudla kuThixo, ukudla kukaNkulunkulu wabo, kumele babengcwele. **7** Kabangathathi abafazi abangcolileyo ngenxa yobufebe, loba abehlukana lamadoda abo ngoba abaphristi bangcwele kuNkulunkulu. **8** Bathatheni njengabantu abangcwele ngoba banikela ngokudla kukaNkulunkulu wenu. Bathatheni njengabantu abangcwele ngoba mina Thixo olingcwelisayo ngingcwele. **9** Nxa indodakazi yomphristi izingcolisa ngokuba yisifebe, iyangisa uyise; kayitshiswe ngomlilo. **10** Umphristi omkhulu kubafowabo, onguye othelwe amafutha okugcoba umphristi ekhanda, abekiweyo ukuthi agqoke izivunulo zobuphristi, kakumelanga ekele inwele zakhe zingakanywanga loba adabule izingqoko zakhe ngenxa yosizi. **11** Kakumelanga angene lapho okulesidumbu khona. Kangazingcolisi ngaleyondlela loba kufe uyise kumbe unina, **12** njalo kangasuki endlini kaNkulunkulu kumbe ayingcolise, ngoba usekhetiwe ngokugcotshwa ngamafutha kaNkulunkulu wakhe. Mina nginguThixo. **13** Umfazi amthathayo kabe yintombi egcweleyo. **14** Kangathathi umfelokazi, owehlukene lomkakhe loba umfazi ongcoliswe yibufebe, kodwa athathe kuphela intombi egcweleyo ebantwini bakibo, **15** angangcolisi inzalo yakhe phakathi kwabantu bakibo. Mina nginguThixo engimenza abengcwele.” **16** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **17** “Tshela u-Aroni uthi: ‘kakho owenzalo yakhe kuzozonke izizukulwane ezizayo nxa elesici esithile ongasondela anikele ukudla kukaNkulunkulu wakhe. **18** Akulamuntu olobulima obuthile ongasondela: umuntu oyisiphofu, longumqhuge, logogekileyo loba olezitho ezingaphelanga; **19** akulamuntu olobulima enyaweni loba esandleni, **20** kumbe odundubele emahlombe, loba ongumuthwa, kumbe elobulima bamehlo, loba olentembuzane, kumbe izilonda eziphihlikayo, loba olimele emaphambilini. **21** Akungabikhona owenzalo ka-Aroni umphristi othi nxa elobulima asondele ukuzanikela umnikelo wokudla kuThixo. **22** Angadla ukudla okungcwele kukaNkulunkulu wakhe loba yikudla bani okungcwele; **23** kodwa ngenxa yobulima bakhe kakumelanga asondele eduze kwekhethe, kumbe aye e-alithareni, ngoba ngaleyondlela angangcolisa indlu yami engcwele. Mina nginguThixo obenza babengcwele.” **24** Konke lokhu uMosi wakatshela u-Aroni lamadodana akhe, labo bonke abako-Israyeli.

22 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** “Tshela u-Aroni lamadodana akhe bahloniphe iminikelo abako-Israyeli abayinikela kimi ukuze bangadumazi ibizo lami elingcwele. Mina nginguThixo. **3** Batshele ukuthi, ‘Kuzozonke izizukulwane ezizayo, nxa ekhona ozabe engahlanzekanga ngokomkhuba kodwa ajinge asondele eminikelweni engcwele, abako-Israyeli abayihlukanisela uThixo, lowomuntu kasuswe ebusweni bami. Mina nginguThixo. **4** Nxa owenzalo ka-Aroni elobulephero kumbe ephihlika ubovu emzimbeni, kangadli iminikelo engcwele aze aqale ahlambuluke. Uzabe esengcolile njalo angabamba okungcoliswe yisidumbu loba athintane lomuntu ovuza ubudoda, **5** loba athinte iloba yini enwabuzelayo emenza angcole, loba kungumuntu omenza angcole, kungakhathalekile

ukuthi yikungcola bani. **6** Lowo othinta loba yikuphi kwalezi izinto uzabe esengcolile kuze kube kusihlwa. Kangadli loba yini eyeminikelo engcwele, ngaphandle kokuba eseqale wageza ngamanzi. **7** Ilanga lingatshona uzabe esehlanketile, lapho-ke usengadla iminikelo engcwele ngoba iyukudla kwakhe. **8** Kangadli lutho oluzifeleyo, loba olubulewe ngezinye izinyamazana zeganga, ngoba lokho kungamngcolisa. Mina nginguThixo. **9** Abaphristi kabagcine izimiso zami ukuze bangabi lecala bafe ngenxa yokuzeyisa. Mina nginguThixo obenza babengcwele. **10** Akulamuntu ongasawendlu yomphristi ovunyelwa ukudla umnikelo engcwele, loba isethekeli somphristi kumbe isisebenzi esiqhatshiweyo; bonke bangawudli. **11** Kodwa nxa umphristi ethenga isigqili ngemali, loba isigqili singesizelwe emzini wakhe, lesosigqili singakudla ukudla kwakhe. **12** Nxa indodakazi yomphristi ithathwa yindoda engasumphristi, kayingadli loba yisiphi isipho esingcwele. **13** Kodwa nxa indodakazi yomphristi naba ngumfelokazi loba ixotshwe ekwendeni ingelamntwana, ibisibuya izohlala ngakibo njengasebutsheni bayo, ingakudla ukudla kukayise; kodwa ongafanelanga kangakudli. **14** Nxa umuntu engadla umnikelo engcwele ngokungazi kumele ahlawule kumphristi, abuye engeze ingxenywe yesihlanu yalokho kudla. **15** Umphristi kangangcolisi iminikelo engcwele elethwa ngabako-Israyeli kuThixo **16** ngokubavumela ukuthi bayidle iminikelo leyo, besebesiba lecala okumele balihlawule. Mina nginguThixo obenza babengcwele.” **17** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **18** “Tshela u-Aroni lamadodana akhe labo bonke abako-Israyeli uthi loba ngubani kubo, owako-Israyeli loba owezizweni ohlala ko-Israyeli, oletha isipho somhlatshelo kuThixo egcwalisa isifungo loba umnikelo wokuzithandela, **19** kalethe isifuyo esiduna esingelacisi, esingaba yinkomo, imvu kumbe imbuzi ukuze yamukeleke ukumela. **20** Lingalethi lutho olulesici ngoba kaluyikwamukelwa ukulimela. **21** Nxa omunye ekhetha emhlabini wakhe umnikelo wobudlelwano ewuletha kuThixo ukugcwalisa isifungo esithile kumbe umnikelo wokuzithandela, lesosifuyo asingabi lasici, loba indawo esolekayo kuso ukwenzela ukuthi samukeleke. **22** Linganikeli ngezifuyo ziyiziphofu, ezilimeleyo, leziyizilima, loba ezilensumpa kumbe izilonde eziphihlikayo. Lezi lingazibeki phezu kwelithari ukuba ngumnikelo wokutshiswa kuThixo. **23** Kodwa umnikelo wokuzithandela ungaba yinkomo kumbe imvu eyisilima loba engakhulanga yaphelela, kodwa ingeke yamukeleke ukugcwalisa isifungo. **24** Linganikeli kuThixo isifuyo esathenwa ngokuxhokolwa, ngokugxotshwa loba ngokudatshulwa amaphambili. Lingakwenzi lokho elizweni lakini, **25** njalo lingazemukeli izifuyo ezinjalo kwabezizweni, beselinikela ngazo zibe yikudla kukaNkulunkulu wenu. Aziyi kwamukeleka ukulimela ngoba zigogekile, zizezici.” **26** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **27** “Ithole elizelweyo loba izinyane lemvu, kumbe elembuzi kalihlale kunina insuku ziyisikhombisa. Kusukela osukwini lwesificaminwembili selisamukeleka ukuba ngumnikelo wokutshiswa kuThixo. **28** Inkomokazi loba imvukazi ayingahlatshwa langa linye lomntanayo. **29** Nxa linikela umhlatshelo wokubonga kuThixo, wunikeleni ngendlela eyamukelekayo ukulimela. **30** Kayidliwe mhlalokho, lingatshiyi lutho lwayo kuze kuse kusasa. Mina nginguThixo. **31** Gcinani imilayo yami liyilandele. Mina nginguThixo. **32** Lingangcolisi ibizo lami elingcwele. Abako-Israyeli kabangazi ngokuthi ngingcwele. Mina nginguThixo olenza libengcwele,

33 yena owalikhupha eGibhithe ukuba abe nguNkulunkulu wenu. Mina nginguThixo.”

23 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** “Khuluma labako-Israyeli uthi kubo: ‘Le yimikhosi yami emisiweyo, imikhosi emisiweyo kaThixo okumele liyimemezele ukuba yimihlangano engcwele.’” **3** “Kulensuku eziyisithupha elingasebenza ngazo, kodwa usuku lwesikhombisa liSabatha lokuphumula, usuku lomhlangano engcwele. Lingenzi loba yiwuphi umsebenzi; kuzozonke izindawo elihlala kuzo, luliSabatha likaThixo.” **4** “Le yiyo imikhosi kaThixo emisiweyo, imihlangano engcwele elizayimemezela ngezikhathi zayo ezimisiweyo: **5** IPhasika likaThixo liqalisa kusihlwa ngosuku lwetshumi lane lwenyanga yakuqala. **6** Ngosuku lwetshumi lanhlana lwaleyonyanga kuqaliswa uMkhosi kaThixo weSinkwa esingelaMvubelo; okwensuku eziyisikhombisa kumele lidle isinkwa esingelamvubelo. **7** Ngosuku lwaquqala lenze umbuthano engcwele njalo lingenzi imisebenzi yenu yansuku zonke. **8** Okwensuku eziyisikhombisa nikelani umnikelo wokutshiswa kuThixo. Kuthi ngosuku lwesikhombisa libe lenkonzo engcwele, lingenzi imisebenzi yenu yansuku zonke.” **9** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **10** “Tshela abako-Israyeli uthi, ‘Nxa selingene elizweni engizalini lona kalibokuthi lingavuna lilethe kumphristi ilixha lesivuno samabele akuqala. **11** Kumele azunguze ilixha lelo kuThixo ukuze lamukeleke. Umphristi kufanele alizunguze ngelanga elilandela iSabatha. **12** Ngelanga lokuzunguza ilixha kumele enze umhlatshelo ube ngumnikelo wokutshiswa kuThixo, kube lizinyane lemvu eliduna eselilomnyaka, libe ngelingelacisi, **13** awunikele ndawonye lomnikelo wamabele oyingxenywe yehefa ngokubili etshumini, kube yifulawa ecolekileyo evutshwe ngamafutha. Lo ngumhlatshelo wokudla onikelwa kuThixo olephunga elimnandi. Kawenziwe njalo lomnikelo wokunatha oba yingxenywe yehini eyodwa kokune kuliwayini. **14** Lingadli sinkwa loba inhlamvu zamabele ezikhazangiweyo kumbe ezintsha kuze kube yilelolangela eliletha ngalo umnikelo lo kuNkulunkulu wenu. Lokhu kakube yisimiso esingapheliyo kuzozonke izizukulwane ezizayo kungelani lokuthi lihlala ngaphi.” **15** “Kusukela ngelanga elilandela iSabatha, ilanga elalethe ngalo ilixha lomnikelo wokuzunguza, balani amaviki ayisikhombisa agcweleyo. **16** Balani insuku ezingamatshumi amahlana kusiyafika ilanga elingemva kweSabatha lesikhombisa, besiletha umnikelo wamabele amatsha kuThixo. **17** Kungelani lokuthi lihlala ngaphi, lethani izinkwa ezimbili ezenziwe ngefulawa ecolekileyo, eyingxenywe yehefa ngokubili etshumini, siphekwe ngemvubelo, kube ngumnikelo wokuzunguza, owezithelo zakuqala kuThixo. **18** Lethani isinkwa lesi ndawonye lamawundlu amaduna ayisikhombisa, linye ngalinye lilomnyaka oodwa ubudala njalo lingelacisi, ijongosi lenqama ezimbili. Kuzakuba ngumnikelo wokutshiswa kuThixo kanye lomnikelo wamabele lowokunathwayo, umnikelo otshisiweyo ngomlilo oletha iphunga elimnandi kuThixo. **19** Beselinikela ngempongo umnikelo wesono, langamawundlu amabili alomnyaka oodwa abe ngumnikelo wobudlelwano. **20** Umphristi kumele azunguze amawundlu lawo womabili kuThixo njengomnikelo wokuzunguzwa kanye lesinkwa sezithelo zakuqala. Zingumnikelo womphristi ongcwele kuThixo. **21** Ngosuku olufanayo kumele limemezele inkonzo engcwele, lingenzi msebenzi yansuku zonke. Lokhu kuzakuba

yisimiso esingapheliyo ezizukulwaneni zenu ezizayo, lalapho elizabe lihlala khona. **22** Lapho livuna isivuno selizwe lakini, lingavuni lasemaphethelweni amasimu enu, futhi lingabuthi okukhithikayo lapho livuna. Lokhu kutshiyelani abayanga lezihambi. Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu.” **23** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **24** “Tshela abako-Israyeli ukuthi, ‘Ilanga lokuqala lenyanga yesikhombisa lusuku lwesabatha lokuphumula, umbuthano ongcewe wokukhonzisa ngokutshaya icilongo. **25** Lingenzi msebenzi, kodwa nikelani umnikelo wokutshiswa kuThixo.” **26** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **27** “Usuku lwetshumi lwenyanga yesikhombisa lilanga lokubuyisana. Wobani lenkonzo engcewe lizile ukudla, lilethe umnikelo wokutshiswa ngomlilo kuThixo. **28** Lingasebenzi ngalelolang, ngoba lilanga lokuBuyisana, lapho lihlawulelwa kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **29** Lowo ongaziliyo ngalelolang makasuswe ebantwini bakibo. **30** Lowo osebenzayo ngalelolang ngizambhubhisa phakathi kwabakibo. **31** Lulisabatha lenu lokuphumula njalo kumele lizile. **32** Kusukela kusihlwa ngelanga lesificaminwemunye lwenyanga kuze kube kusihlwa ngelanga elilandelayo ligcine isabatha lenu.” **33** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **34** “Tshela abako-Israyeli ukuthi ngelanga letshumi lanhlanu ngenyanga yesikhombisa uMkhosi kaThixo weziHonqo kawuqalise njalo uqhubeke okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. **35** Ilanga lokuqala ngelenkonzo engcewe; lingenzi msebenzi wansuku zonke. **36** Okwensuku eziyisikhombisa lethani iminikelo yokutshiswa kuThixo, kuthi ngosuku lwesificaminwembili libe lenkonzo engcewe lilethe umnikelo wokutshiswa kuThixo. Yinkonzo yokuvala; lingenzi msebenzi wansuku zonke. **37** (Le yimikhosi kaThixo emisiweyo elizayimemezela njengezinkonzo ezingcewe, ezokuletha iminikelo yokutshiswa kuThixo, iminikelo yokutshiswa, leminikelo yamabele, imihlatshelo leminikelo enathwayo efunekayo insuku ngensuku. **38** Iminikelo le ngengaphezu kwaleyo eyamaSabatha kaThixo njalo ngaphezu kweziphu zenu lalokho eliyabe lifungele ukukupha langaphezulu kweminikelo yonke yokuzithandela eliyinika uThixo.) **39** Ngakho-ke, kusukela ngosuku lwetshumi lanhlanu enyangeni yesikhombisa, ngemva kokuba selivunile amabele akulelolizwe, wobani lomkhosi wokuthokoza kuThixo okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. Elokuqala lilanga lokuphumula, kanye lesificaminwembili lalo lilanga lokuphumula. **40** Ngelanga lokuqala libokukha izithelo ezinhlle zezihlahla, ingatsha zamalala, ingatsha zezihlahla ezilamahlamvu amanengi, lemidubu, lijabule phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu lonke okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. **41** Thakazelelani umkhosi kaThixo lo minyaka yonke okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. Lesi kasibe yisimiso esingapheliyo ezizukulwaneni ezizayo; umkhosi liwenzwe ngenyanga yesikhombisa. **42** Libohlala ezihonqweni okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. **43** Bonke abako-Israyeli ngokuzalwa kumele bahlale ezihonqweni, ukuze izizukulwane zenu zazi ukuthi ngahlalisa abako-Israyeli emadumbeni mhla ngibakhipha eGibhithe. Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu.” **44** Ngakho uMosi wasebabikela abako-Israyeli ngemikhosi emisiweyo kaThixo.

24 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** “Laya abantu bako-Israyeli bakulethele amafutha acengekileyo, ahluzwe emaliveni, abe ngawokukhanyisa ukuze izibane zihlale zikhanyisa kokuphela. **3** Ngaphandle kwekhethele eligudle umtshokotsho wobufakazi, phakathi kwethente lokuhlanguka u-Aroni

kumele alinde izibane phambi kukaThixo izikhathi zonke nxa kusihlwa kuze kube sekuseni. Lokhu kuzakuba yisimiso saphakade lakuzizukulwane ezizayo. **4** Izibane ezisoluthini lwegolide elicolekileyo phambi kukaThixo kumele zilindwe izikhathi zonke. **5** Thatha ifulawa ecolikileyo wenze izinkwa ezilithumi lambili usebenzisa okubili kwetshumi kwehefa isinkwa ngasinye. **6** Zibeke emizileni embili, ziyisithupha emzileni munye, phezu kwetafula yegolide elicolekileyo phambi kukaThixo. **7** Emzileni ngamunye faka impepha enhle njengengxenywe yesikhumbuzo esimela isinkwa njalo kube ngumhlatshelo wokudla onikelwa kuThixo. **8** Isinkwa lesi kumele sibekwe phambi kukaThixo izikhathi zonke, amaSabatha wonke, kusenzelwa abako-Israyeli, kube yisivumelwano esingayikuphela. **9** Sizakuba ngesika-Aroni lamadodana akhe, abazasidlela endaweni engcewe ngoba siyengxenywe engcewe kakhulu yesabelo sabo esifaneleyo somhlatshelo onikelwa kuThixo.” **10** Kwasekusiba lendodana yomfazi wako-Israyeli, uyise wayengumGibhithe, yasuka yaya ebantwini bako-Israyeli, yaxisabana lomuntu wako-Israyeli ezihonqweni. **11** Indodana yomfazi wako-Israyeli leyo yahlambaza ibizo likaThixo ngesithuko. Ngakho bayiletha kuMosi. (Ibizo likanina lalinguShelomithi, indodakazi kaDibhiri, owesizwe sikaDani.) **12** Bayifaka entolongweni ukuba intando kaThixo ize yazakale kuhle kubo. **13** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, **14** “Umuntu lowo owathukayo mkhupheleni ngaphandle kwezihonqo. Bonke labo abamuzwayo babeke izandla zabo phezu kwekhanda lakhe, ibandla lonke limgongode ngamatshu. **15** Tshela abako-Israyeli uthi, ‘Loba ngubani othuka uNkulunkulu wakhe, uzakuba lecala. **16** Loba ngubani othuka ibizo likaThixo uzabulawa. Ibandla lonke kumele limgongode ngamatshu. Loba kungowezizweni kumbe oyinzalo yelizwe lakini angahlambaza ibizo likaThixo kumele abulawe. **17** Obulala umuntu kumele abulawe. **18** Obulala isifuyo somunye kumele ahlawule, kube okuphilayo ngokuphilayo. **19** Olimaza umakhelwane wakhe, loba ngayiphi indlela, kumele kwenziwe lakuye, **20** kube yikwephuka ngokwephuka, ilihlo ngelihlo, izinyo ngezinyo. Njengoba elimaze omunye, ngokunjalo laye kumele alinyazwe. **21** Obulala inyamazana kumele ayihlawule, kodwa obulala umuntu kumele abulawe. **22** Lizakuba lomlayo munye kowezizweni lowakini. Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu.” **23** Emva kwalokho uMosi wakhuluma kwabako-Israyeli, basebethatha umuntu lowo owayehlambaze uThixo, bamusa ngaphandle kwezihonqo, bamgongoda ngamatshu. Abako-Israyeli benza njengokulaywa kwabo nguThixo.

25 UThixo wathi kuMosi entabeni iSinayi, **2** “Khuluma ebantwini bako-Israyeli uthi kubo: ‘Lapho lingena elizweni engizalinika lona, ilizwe lona ngokwalo kumele ligcinele uThixo iSabatha. **3** Hlanyelani amasimu enu okweminyaka eyisithupha, kuthi kweminye iminyaka eyisithupha lithene amavini enu. **4** Kodwa ngomnyaka wesikhombisa ilizwe kalibe leSabatha lokuphumula, iSabatha likaThixo. Lingahlanyeli amasimu enu loba lithene izihlahla ezivinini zenu. **5** Lingavuni imkhukhuzela kumbe likhe izithelo zamavini angalungiselwanga, ilizwe libe lomnyaka wokuphumula. **6** Lokho okuzathelwa yilizwe ngomnyaka wesabatha kuzakuba yikudla kwenu, lokwezinceku lezincekukazi zenu, lokwezisebenzi eziqhatshiwayo kanye labemzini abahlala lani, **7** kanye lokwezifuyo zenu lezinamazana zeganga elizweni lenu. Konke okuthelwa yilizwe

kakudliwe.” **8** “Balani amasabatha ayisikhombisa eminyaka, iminyaka eyisikhombisa iphindwe kasikhombisa ukuze amasabatha eminyaka eyisikhombisa abe yisibanga seminyaka engamatshumi amane lesificamunwemunye. **9** Lapho-ke akutshaywe uphondo ezindaweni zonke ngosuku lwetshumi lwenyanga yesikhombisa; kuthi ngosuku lokuBuyisana kutshaywe uphondo kulolonke ilizwe lenu. **10** Umnyaka wamatshumi amahlanu wenzeni ube ngcwele, limemezele inkululeko elizweni lonke kubo bonke abahlezi kulo. Uzakuba lujubhili kini. Lowo lalowo wenu kuzamele abuyele emzini wakwabo, esizweni sakibo. **11** Umnyaka wamatshumi amahlanu uzakuba lujubhili kini. Lingahlanyeli lutho, njalo lingavuni imikhukhuzela kumbe likhe izithelo zamavini angalungiselwanga. **12** Ngoba uliJubhili, uzakuba ngcwele kini; dlanini kuphela lokho elikuthethe emasimini. **13** Ngalo umnyaka weJubhili, umuntu wonke kuzamele abuyele emzini wakwabo. **14** Nxa uthengisela umuntu welizwe lakini isiqinti, kumbe usithenga kuye, lingaqilibezelani. **15** Nxa uthenga emuntwini welizwe lakini kuzakuya ngokuthi mingaki iminyaka eseyadlulayo emva kweJubhili. Yena uzakuthengisela ngokuthi mingaki iminyaka eseleyo ukuthi kuvunwe amabele. **16** Nxa iminyaka iminengi uzakhweza intengo, kuthi nxa iminyaka imilutshwana wehlise intengo, ngoba okuyikho akuthengisela khona linani lezivuno zamabele. **17** Lingaqilibezelani; kodwa mesabeni uNkulunkulu wenu. NginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **18** Gcinani izimiso zami, lilalele imithetho yami ngokunanzelela ukuze lihlale livikelele elizweni. **19** Ilizwe lizathela izithelo zalo, lina lidle lisuthe, lihlale kulo livikelekile. **20** Lingabuza lithi, “Pho sizakudlani ngomnyaka wesikhombisa nxa singahlanyeli kumbe sivune amabele ethu na?” **21** Mina ngizalilethela isibusiso ngomnyaka wesithupha, ilizwe lithele izithelo zeminyaka emithathu. **22** Lapho selilima ngomnyaka wesifcamunwembili lizakube lisidla amabele amadala, liqhubeka lisidla wona kuze kufike isivuno somnyaka wesifcamunwemunye. **23** Ilizwe akumelanga lithengiswe kuze kube nininini, ngoba ilizwe ngelami njalo lihlala elizweni lami njengabezizweni. **24** Kulolonke ilizwe elingelenu, lungiselani ukuthi wonke umhlaba oawathengwayo uhlengwe. **25** Nxa omunye wakini esebe ngumyanga eseze ethengisa okunye kwempahla yakhe, isihlobo sakhe kasisize sihlenge lokho osekuthengiswe ngumuntu wakibo. **26** Kodwa-ke nxa umuntu engelaye ongamlhengela khona, abesebuya enotha yena ngokwakhe azeze okwanele ukuthi azihlengele, **27** kabale imali elingana leminyaka leyo kusukela impahla leyo ithengisiwe, abuyisele imali esalayo kulowomuntu ayemthengisele, abesethatha impahla yakhe. **28** Kodwa-ke nxa engelamali eyaneleyo yokuyibuyisa leyompahla ayithengisayo, kayihlale kulowo owayithengayo kuze kufike umnyaka weJubhili. Izabuyiselwa kuye ngeJubhili, kulapho-ke azayithatha khona impahla yakhe. **29** Nxa umuntu ethengisa indlu edolobheni elihonqozelwe ngomthangala ulungelo lokuyihlenga emva komnyaka ithengisiwe. Phakathi kwalesosikhathi angayihlenga. **30** Nxa ingahlengwanga kuze kuphele umnyaka ogcweleyo, indlu esedolobheni elihonqozelwe ngomthangala izakuba ngeyalowo owayithengayo, ibe ngeyakhe kokuphela lowo owayithengayo kanye lezizukulwane zakhe. Kayiyikubuyiselwa kowayenguminiyo ngeJubhili. **31** Kodwa izindlu ezisemizini engahonqozelwanga zizabalwa njengenganga elingelalutho.

Kazihlengwe, njalo kumele zibuyiselwe kubanikazi ngeJubhili. **32** AmaLevi ahlezi elungelo lokuhlenga izindlu zawo emadolobheni angawamaLevi. **33** Ngakho-ke, impahla yamaLevi iyahlengeka, lokhu kutsho indlu ethengiswe loba kukuliphi idolobho elingelabo, kumele ibuyiselwe ngeJubhili, ngoba izindlu ezisemadolobheni amaLevi zililifa lawo ebantwini labako-Israyeli. **34** Kodwa amadlelo angaphandle kwamadolobho awo akumelanga athengiswe ngoba ayilifa lawo kuze kube nininini. **35** Nxa omunye wabantu bakini esiba ngumyanga owehluleka ukuziphilisa phakathi kwenu, msizeni njengelingakwenza koweizizweni kumbe ohlezi lani okwesikhathshana, ukuze aqhubeka ehlala lani. **36** Akungabi lanzuzo eliyithatha kuye, kodwa mesabeni uNkulunkulu wenu, ukuze umuntu wakini aqhubeka ehlala lani. **37** Lingameboleki imali ezalayo kumbe limthengisele ukudla kulenzuzo. **38** Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu owalikhupha elizweni laseGibhithe, ukuba ngilinike ilizwe laseKhenani, ngibe nguNkulunkulu wenu. **39** Nxa omunye wakini ko-Israyeli esiba ngumyanga phakathi kwenu aze azithengise kuwe, ungamsebenzisi njengesigqili. **40** Kumele umphathe njengesisebenzi esiqhatshiweyo kumbe umuntu ohlezi okwesikhathshana phakathi kwenu. Kakusebenzele kuze kufike umnyaka weJubhili. **41** Lapho-ke yena labantwabakhe bazakuhlulwa, babuyele kwabosendo lwakibo lemfuyweni yabokhokho babo. **42** Ngenxa yokuthi abako-Israyeli bazinceku zami engazikhupha elizweni laseGibhithe, akumelanga bathengiswe njengezigqili. **43** Ungababusi ngochuku, kodwa mesabe uNkulunkulu wakho. **44** Iziqgili zenu zesilisa lezesifazane zizavela ezizweni ezilihonqolezeleyo; kuzo yikho lapho elingathenga khona iziqgili. **45** Lingathenga lezakhamizi ezihlezi phakathi kwenu okwesikhathshana, labomndeni wazo abazalelwa elizweni lenu. **46** Lingabenza babe yilifa labantwabenu, libenze babe yiziqgili zabo okwanininini, kodwa akumelanga libuse abako-Israyeli benu ngochuku. **47** Nxa owezizweni, kumbe umuntu ohlezi phakathi kwenu okwesikhathshana enotha, kuthi owakini abe ngumyanga azithengise koweizizweni ohlala phakathi kwenu loba kolilunga lomndeni wezizweni, **48** ulokhu elalo ilungelo lokuhlengwa emva kokuzithengisa kwakhe. Omunye wezihlobo zakhe angamlhenga. **49** Umalumakhe kumbe umzawakhe, loba esinye isihlobo somdeni wakhe singamlhenga. Loba nxa enotha, angazihlenga yena ngokwakhe. **50** Yena lomthengi wakhe kababale isikhathi kusukela ngomnyaka azithengisa ngawo kusiyafika emnyakeni weJubhili. Intengo yokukhululwa kwakhe izakuhambelana lenani elinikwa umuntu oqhatshiweyo okwalesosikhathi seminyaka. **51** Nxa kusele iminyaka eminengi, kumele ahlawulele ukuhlengwa kwakhe ngentengo eyingxenyeni enengi yentengo ayethengwe ngawo. **52** Nxa sekusele iminyaka emilutshwana ukuba kufike umnyaka weJubhili, uzabala lokho, akhuphe intengo yokuhlengwa kwakhe okulingana leyominyaka. **53** Uzabalwa njengomuntu oqhatshiweyo kusukela komunye umnyaka kusiya komunye. Kumele libone ukuthi lowo owamthengayo kambusi ngochuku. **54** Nxa engahlengwanga ngenye yalezizindlela, yena labantwabakhe bazakuhlulwa ngomnyaka weJubhili, **55** ngoba abako-Israyeli ngabami, bazinceku zami. Bazinceku zami engazikhupha elizweni laseGibhithe. Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu.”

26 “Lingazenzeli izithombe loba imifanekiso kumbe amatshe akhonzwayo, njalo lingafaki matshe elizweni lenu ukuba liwakhothamele. Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **2** Gcinani amaSabatha ami, lihloniphe indlu yami engcwele. Mina nginguThixo. **3** Lingalalela izimiso zami, ligcine imilayo yami, **4** ngizalehlisela izulu ngesikhathi salo, umhlabathi uthele amabele, lezihlala zeganga zithele izithelo zazo. **5** Ukubhula kwenu kuzaqhubeka kuze kufike isikhathi sokuvunwa kwamavini, kuthi ukuvunwa kwamavini kuqhubeka kuze kufike isikhathi sokuhlanyela, njalo lizakudla konke ukudla elikufunayo lihlale ngokuvikeleka elizweni lenu. **6** Ngizathela ukuthula elizweni lenu, kungekho muntu ozaletusa. Ngizasusa izinyamazana eziyingozi elizweni; inkemba ayiyikwedlula phakathi kwelizwe lenu. **7** Lizazitsha izitha zenu, ziwe ngenkamba phambi kwenu. **8** Abahlanu benu bazaxotsha abalikhulu, kuthi abalikhulu benu baxotshe abayinkungwane, njalo izitha zenu zizakuwa ngenkamba phambi kwenu. **9** Ngizakuba lomusa kini ngilinike inzalo lande; njalo ngizagcina isivumelwano sami lani. **10** Lizakudla okwesivuno sanyakenye lapho okuzamele lisisuse ukuze kube lendawo yesivuno esitsha. **11** Ngizabeka indawo yami yokuhlala phakathi kwenu, njalo kaliyikunginenga. **12** Ngizahamba phakathi kwenu, ngibe nguNkulunkulu wenu lina libe ngabantu bami. **13** Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu owalikhupha elizweni laseGibhithe ukuze lingabi yizigqili zamaGibhithe futhi. Ngizaphule izikeyi zejogwe lenu njalo ngenxa ukuba lenelise ukuhamba amakhanda enu ephakeme.” **14** “Kodwa nxa lingayikungilalela, lingayigcini lemilayo yonke le, **15** njalo nxa lizakwala izimiso zami, lingenwe yimithetho yami, lingenzi okwemilayo yami yonke, ngalokho lephule isivumelwano sami, **16** ngizakwenza lokhu kini: Ngizalilethela ukwesaba okukhulu, izifo ezicikizayo, loqhuqho oluzafiphaza amehlo enu, lunciphise impilo yenu. Lizahlanyela inhlanayo ingasizi ngalutho, ngoba izitha zenu zizayidla. **17** Ngizaliphendukela lehlulwe yizitha zenu, abalizondayo bazalibusa; lizabaleka lanxa kungekho olixotshayo. **18** Nxa emva kwakho konke lokhu lingayikungilalela, ngizalijejisa ngokuphindwe kasikhombisa ngenxa yezono zenu. **19** Ngizabudliza ubuqholo bokuzazisa kwenu, ngenze umkhathi phezu kwenu ube njengensimbi, kuthi umhlabathi ngaphansi kwenu ube njengethusi. **20** Amandla enu azachithelwa ize, ngoba umhlabathi wenu awuyikulonika amabele, lezihlala zelizwe aziyikuthela izithelo zazo. **21** Lingaqhubeka liyizitha kimi, lale ukungilalela, ngizalithumela inhlupheko zenu kasikhombisa njengokufanele izono zenu. **22** Ngizalithumela izilo zeganga, ezizalemuka abantwabenu, zibulale inkomo zenu, zilenze libe balutshwana, imigwaqo yenu ize isale ingaselamuntu. **23** Nxa phezu kwalezizinto lingemukeli iziqondiso zami, liqhubeke liyizitha kimi, **24** mina ngokwami ngizakuba yisitha kini, ngilitshayo okuphindwe kasikhombisa ngenxa yezono zenu. **25** Njalo ngizathela lenkamba phezu kwenu ukuba kuphindiselwe ukwepulwa kwesivumelwano. Lingahlehlala emadolobheni enu, ngizathumela isifo phakathi kwenu, linikelwe lezandleni zezitha. **26** Lapho sengimise ukulethwa kwezinkwa zenu, abesifazane abalithumi bazapheka izinkwa zenu eziko elilodwa, babele izinkwa zenu ngobunzima bazo; lizakudla kodwa lingasuthi. **27** Nxa lingaqhubeka lingangilaleli, liqhubeke liyizitha kimi, **28** lami ngolaka lwami ngizakuba yisitha kini, njalo mina ngokwami ngizalijejisa okuphindwe kasikhombisa ngenxa yezono zenu.

29 Lizakudla inyama yemizimba yamadodana enu, lidle lenyama yemizimba yamadodakazi enu. **30** Ngizabhidliza izindawo zenu eziphakemeyo, ngidilize lama-alithare enu empepha, besengibuthelela izidumbu zenu phezu kwezithombe zenu ezingaphiliyo, nginengeke ngani. **31** Ngizakwenza amadolobho enu abe ngamanxiwa, ngidilize izindlu zenu ezingcwele, njalo angiyikuthokoziswa yikunuka mmandi kwephunga leminikelo yenu. **32** Ilizwe ngizalitshabalalisa kuze kumangale izitha zenu ezihlala kulo. **33** Ngizalihlakazela phakathi kwezizwe, ngikhokhe inkemba yami, ngilixotshe. Ilizwe lenu lizatshabalaliswa, amadolobho enu abe ngamanxiwa. **34** Lapho-ke ilizwe lizathokoziswa ngamasabatha alo ngesikhathi sonke lichithekile, lina liselizweni lezitha zenu. Emva kwalokho, ilizwe lizaphumula lithokoze ngamasabatha alo. **35** Ngasosonke lesosikhathi ilizwe lichithekile lizakuba lokuphumula elingazange libe lakho ngamasabatha esikhathi lina lisahlala kulo. **36** Mayelana labalo abasele bephila, ngizakwenza inhlizyo zabo zibe lokwesaba okukhulu bekhonale emazweni ezitha zabo baze babalekele lomsindo wehlamvu liphethulwa ngumoya. Bazagijima angathi babalekela inkemba; bazakuwa lanxa kungekho muntu obaxotshayo. **37** Bazagwenxana angathi babalekela inkemba, lanxa kungekho muntu obaxotshayo. Ngakho aliyikuba lamandla okumelana lezitha zenu. **38** Lizabhubha phakathi kwezizwe, lidliwe yilizwe lezitha zenu. **39** Abenu labo abasalayo bazahlala behlulukelwe emazweni ezitha zabo ngenxa yezono zabo, njalo bazahlulukelwa ngenxa yezono zaboyise. **40** Kodwa bangavuma izono zabo lezono zaboyise, inkohliso abayenza kimi, lokumelana kwabo lami, **41** okwenza lami ngaba yisitha kubo ngaze ngabasa elizweni lezitha zabo, kuthi lapho inhlizyo zabo ezingasokwanga sezithobekile, behlawulela lezono zabo futhi, **42** ngizasisikhumbula isivumelwano sami lojakhobe, lesivumelwano sami lo-Isaka, lesivumelwano sami lo-Abrahama, besengilikhumbula ilizwe. **43** Ngoba ilizwe bazalithsiya lithokoze ngamasabatha alo lapho lichithekile, bengekho kulo. Bazahlawulela izono zabo ngoba imithetho yami bayala, benengeka ngezimiso zami. **44** Ikanti lanxa kunjalo, nxa sebeselizweni lezitha zabo angiyikubalahlala loba ngingenenge ngabo, besengibatshabalalisa ngephule lesivumelwano sami labo. Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wabo. **45** Kodwa ngenxa yabo ngizasisikhumbula isivumelwano sami labokhokho babo engabakhupha elizweni laseGibhithe, izizwe zikhangele ukuba ngibe nguNkulunkulu wabo. Mina nginguThixo.” **46** Lezi yizimiso, imithetho lemilayo eyabekwa nguThixo ngoMosi entabeni iSinayi phakathi kwakhe labako-Israyeli.

27 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** “Khuluma kwabako-Israyeli uthi kubo: ‘Nxa umuntu esenza isithembiso esingavamanga, ukuba anikele umuntu kuThixo ngokuqamba intengo engalingana lomuntu, **3** owesilisa oleminyaka ephakathi kwamatshumi amabili lamatshumi ayisithupha kabe ngamashekeli angamatshumi amahlanu esiliva kulinganiswa ngeshekeli lendlu engcwele. **4** Nxa engowesifazane, kakube ngamashekeli angamatshumi amathathu. **5** Nxa kungumuntu wesilisa oleminyaka ephakathi kwemihlanu lengamatshumi amabili, isilinganiso akube ngamashekeli angamatshumi amabili, kuthi owesifazane kube ngamashekeli alitshumi. **6** Nxa kungumuntu wesilisa ophakathi kwenyanga eyodwa leminyaka emihlanu, isilinganiso akube ngamashekeli amahlanu esiliva

kuthi owesifazane kube ngamashekeli esiliva amathathu. **7** Nxa kungumuntu wesilisa oleminyaka engamatshumi ayisithupha kumbe edlula lapho, isilinganiso akube ngamashekeli alitshumi lanhlano, kuthi owesifazane kube ngamashekeli alitshumi. **8** Nxa umuntu owenza isifungo engumyanga, esehluleka ukukhupha isilinganiso esitshiwoyo, uzakusa umuntu lowo kumphristi onguye ozamisa isilinganiso esinganeliswa ngulowomuntu owenza isifungo. **9** Nxa lokho akufungelayo kuyisifuyo esamukelekayo njengomnikelo kuThixo, isifuyo esinikelwe kanjalo kuThixo siba ngcwele. **10** Akumelanga asintshintshe kumbe enanisele esihle ngesibi, loba esibi ngesihle. **11** Nxa lokho akufungelayo kuyinyamazana engcolileyo, njalo ingamukeleki njengomnikelo kuThixo, kumele sinikwe umphristi, **12** abone ukuthi sihle kumbe sibi. Lokho okuzatshiwo ngumphristi yikho okuzakwamukelwa. **13** Nxa umnikazi waso efuna ukuzihlenga, kuzamele engezelele okwesihlanu phezu kwesilinganiso saso. **14** Nxa umuntu enikela indlu yakhe kuThixo njengolutho olungcwele, umphristi uzakwahlulela ukuthi inhle loba imbi. Loba yisiphi isilinganiso esizaqanjwa ngumphristi, yiso esizakwamukeleka. **15** Nxa umuntu onikele indlu yakhe esiyihlenga, kuzamele engezelele okwesihlanu phezu kwesilinganiso sayo, indlu ibe ngeyakhe futhi. **16** Nxa umuntu esahlukanisela uThixo ingxenywe yensimu eyilifa lakhe, isilinganiso sayo sizalingana lenhlanyelo engahlanyelwa kuyo, amashekeli esiliva angamatshumi amahlano kuhomeri lenhlanyelo yebhali. **17** Nxa enikela insimu yakhe ngomnyaka weJubhili, isilinganiso esimisiweyo sizahlala sinjalo. **18** Kodwa nxa enikela insimu yakhe emva kweJubhili, umphristi uzamisa isilinganiso sayo kusiya ngeminyaka eseleyo kusiyafika umnyaka weJubhili olandelayo, njalo isilinganiso sayo esimisiweyo sizakwehliswa. **19** Nxa umuntu onikela insimu yakhe efuna ukuhlenga, kumele engezelele okwesihlanu phezu kwesilinganiso sayo, insimu izakuba ngeyakhe futhi. **20** Kodwa-ke nxa insimu leyo engayihlengi, loba nxa eseyithengise komunye, ayingeke ihlengwe futhi. **21** Lapho insimu iyekelwa ngeJubhili, iba ngcwele njengensimu enikelwe kuThixo, izakuba yilifa lomphristi. **22** Nxa umuntu enikela kuThixo insimu ayithengayo, engasingxenywe yensimu yelifa lakwabo, **23** umphristi uzaqamba isilinganiso sayo kusiyafika emnyakeni weJubhili, kuthi umuntu lowo akhuphe isilinganiso sayo mhlalokho njengolutho olungcwele kuThixo. **24** Ngomnyaka weJubhili, insimu leyo izabuyela kulowomuntu eyathengwa kuye, onguye owayengumniniyo. **25** Izilinganiso zonke kumele zenziwe ngokumayelana leshekeli lendlu engcwele, amagera angamatshumi amabili kushekeli elilodwa. **26** Akekho umuntu ongehlukanisela iNkosi izibulo lenyamazana, ngoba izibulo livele ngelikaThixo; loba lingelenkomo, loba imvu, ngelikaThixo. **27** Nxa ingenye yezinyamazana ezingcolileyo, umuntu angaphinda ayithenge ngesilinganiso esimisiweyo, esengezelele okwesihlanu phezu kwesilinganiso. Nxa engayihlengi, kuzamele ithengiswe ngesilinganiso esimisiweyo. **28** Kodwa akulalutho umuntu alalo aselunikele kuThixo loba kungumuntu kumbe isifuyo, loba insimu eyilifa lakwabo, olungathengiswa kumbe luhlengwe; konke okunikelwe kanjalo kungcwele kakhulu kuThixo. **29** Akulamuntu onikelwe ekubhujisweni ongahlengwa; kumele abulawe. **30** Okwetshumi kwakho konke okwelizwe, ingabe ngamabele avela emhlabathini kumbe izithelo ezivela ezihlahleni, ngokukaThixo; kungcwele kuThixo. **31** Nxa umuntu ehlenga okunye kokwetshumi kwakhe, kumele

engezelele kukho okwesihlanu kwesilinganiso sakho. **32** Konke okwetshumi kwenkomo lezimvu, zonke izifuyo zethshumi ezidlla ngaphansi kwentonga yomelusi zizakuba ngcwele kuThixo. **33** Akumelanga akhethe enhle kwembi kumbe ananisele ngenye. Nxa esenanisela zombili, izifuyo ziba ngcwele; azingeke zihlengwe.”” **34** Le yimilayo uThixo ayinika uMosi entabeni yaseSinayi ukuba ayinike abako-Israyeli.

Amanani

1 UThixo wakhuluma kuMosi ethenteni lokuhlangana enkangala yaseSinayi ngosuku lwakuqala lwenyanga yesibili emnyakeni wesibili ngemva kokuphuma kwabako-Israyeli eGibhithe. UThixo wathi, **2** “Balani abantu bonke bako-Israyeli ngensendo langezindlu zabo, lenze uluhlu lwamaziso amadoda, inye ngayinye. **3** Wena lo-Aroni lizaqoqa ngezigaba wonke amadoda ako-Israyeli kusukela kwabaleminyaka engamatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu abangaba libutho. **4** Kuzozonke izizwe lithathe indoda eyodwa, eyinhloko yendlu yakibo, ukuze balincedise. **5** La yiwo amaziso amadoda azaliphathisa: esizweni sikaRubheni, u-Elizuri indodana kaShedewuri; **6** esizweni sikaSimiyoni, uShelumiyele indodana kaZurishadayi; **7** esizweni sikaJuda, uNahashoni indodana ka-Aminadabi; **8** esizweni sika-Isakhari, uNethaneli indodana kaZuwari; **9** esizweni sikaZebhuluni, u-Eliyabi indodana kaHeloni; **10** emadodaneni kaJosefa kwakuyila: esizweni sika-Efrayimi, u-Elishama indodana ka-Amihudi; esizweni sikaManase, uGamaliyele indodana kaPhedazuri; **11** esizweni sikaBhenjamini, u-Abhidani indodana kaGidiyoni; **12** esizweni sikaDani, u-Ahiyezeri indodana ka-Amishadayi; **13** esizweni sika-Asheri, uPhagiyele indodana ka-Okhirani; **14** esizweni sikaGadi, u-Elyasafi indodana kaDuweli; **15** esizweni sikaNafithali; u-Ahira indodana ka-Enani.” **16** La yiwo amadoda akhethwa ebantwini bakuleyondawo, bengabakhokheli bezizwe zabokhokho babo. Babezinhlolo zezizwana zako-Israyeli. **17** UMosini lo-Aroni bathatha amadoda la amaziso ayeqanjwe **18** basebebizela ndawonye bonke abantu ngosuku lwakuqala lwenyanga yesibili. Baziveza umdabuko wabo ngensendo langezindlu zabo, ngakho kusukela emadodeni alemnayaka engamatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu kwabhalwa amaziso awo, inye ngayinye, **19** njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo. Ngakho wababala enkangala yaseSinayi: **20** Ezizukulwaneni zikaRubheni indodana ka-Israyeli elizibulo: Wonke amadoda alemnayaka efika kumatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu ayengaba libutho abhalwa amaziso awo, inye ngayinye, kulandelwa imbali yosendo langezindlu zokuzalwa kwawo. **21** Inani labesizwana sikaRubheni lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane lesithupha, lamakhulu amahlanu. **22** Ezizukulwaneni zikaSimiyoni: Wonke amadoda alemnayaka efika kwengamatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu ayengaba libutho abalwa kwabhalwa amaziso awo, inye ngayinye, kulandelwa imbali yosendo langezindlu zokuzalwa kwawo. **23** Inani labesizwana sikaSimiyoni lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amahlanu lasifcamunwemunye, lamakhulu amathathu. **24** Ezizukulwaneni zikaGadi: Wonke amadoda alemnayaka efika kwengamatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu ayengaba libutho kwabhalwa amaziso awo, inye ngayinye, kulandelwa imbali yosendo langezindlu zokuzalwa kwawo. **25** Inani labesizwana sikaGadi lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane lanhlano, lamakhulu ayisithupha lamatshumi amahlanu. **26** Ezizukulwaneni zikaJuda: Wonke amadoda alemnayaka engamatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu ayengaba libutho abhalwa amaziso awo, inye ngayinye, kulandelwa imbali yosendo langezindlu zokuzalwa kwawo. **27** Inani labesizwana sikaJuda lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa lane lamakhulu ayisithupha. **28** Ezizukulwaneni zika-Isakhari: Wonke amadoda alemnayaka engamatshumi

amaziso ayengaba libutho abhalwa amaziso awo, inye ngayinye, kulandelwa imbali yosendo langezindlu zokuzalwa kwawo. **29** Inani labesizwana sika-Isakhari lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amahlanu lane, lamakhulu amane. **30** Ezizukulwaneni zikaZebhuluni: Wonke amadoda alemnayaka engamatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu ayengaba libutho abhalwa amaziso awo, inye ngayinye, kulandelwa imbali yosendo langezindlu zokuzalwa kwawo. **31** Inani lesizwe sikaZebhuluni lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amahlanu lasikhombisa, lamakhulu amane. **32** Emadodaneni kaJosefa: Ezizukulwaneni zika-Efrayimi: Wonke amadoda alemnayaka engamatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu ayengaba libutho abhalwa amaziso awo, inye ngayinye, kulandelwa imbali yosendo langezindlu zokuzalwa kwawo. **33** Inani labesizwe sika-Efrayimi lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane lamakhulu amahlanu. **34** Ezizukulwaneni zikaManase: Wonke amadoda alemnayaka engamatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu ayengaba libutho abhalwa amaziso awo, inye ngayinye, kulandelwa imbali yosendo langezindlu zokuzalwa kwawo. **35** Inani labesizwe sikaManase lalizinkulungwane ezintathu lambili, lamakhulu amabili. **36** Ezizukulwaneni zikaBhenjamini: Wonke amadoda alemnayaka engamatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu ayengaba libutho abhalwa amaziso awo, inye ngayinye, kulandelwa imbali yosendo langezindlu zokuzalwa kwawo. **37** Inani labesizwe sikaBhenjamini lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu lanhlano, lamakhulu amane. **38** Ezizukulwaneni zikaDani: Wonke amadoda alemnayaka engamatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu ayengaba libutho abhalwa amaziso awo, inye ngayinye, kulandelwa imbali yosendo langezindlu zokuzalwa kwawo. **39** Inani labesizwe sikaDani lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisithupha lambili, lamakhulu ayisikhombisa. **40** Ezizukulwaneni zika-Asheri: Wonke amadoda alemnayaka engamatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu ayengaba libutho abhalwa amaziso awo, inye ngayinye, kulandelwa imbali yosendo langezindlu zokuzalwa kwawo. **41** Inani labesizwe sika-Asheri lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane lanye, lamakhulu amahlanu. **42** Ezizukulwaneni zikaNafithali: Wonke amadoda alemnayaka engamatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu ayengaba libutho abhalwa amaziso awo, inye ngayinye, kulandelwa imbali yosendo langezindlu zokuzalwa kwawo. **43** Inani labesizwe sikaNafithali lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amahlanu lantathu, lamakhulu amane. **44** La yiwo amadoda abalwa nguMosi lo-Aroni kanye labakhokheli bako-Israyeli abalitshumi lambili, mune ngamunye emele abendlu yakhe. **45** Wonke ama-Israyeli alemnayaka esukela kwengamatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu ayengaba libutho abalwa ngezindlu zawo. **46** Inani lawo esehlalene wonke lalizinkulungwane ezingamakhulu ayisithupha lantathu, lamakhulu amahlanu, lamatshumi amahlanu. **47** Abendlu yesizwe sikaLevi, bonake, ababalwanga kanyekanye labanye. **48** UThixo wayethe kuMosi: **49** “Ungabali abesizwe sikaLevi njalo ungabahlanganisi kulokhu kubalwa kwabanye laba abako-Israyeli. **50** Kodwa, beka abaLevi ukuthi baphathe ithabanikeli lobufakazi, impahla zalo zonke kanye lazozonke izinto ezisetshenziswa kulo. Yibo abazathwala ithabanikeli lempahla zalo; bazalinalakekela njalo bazaliphonqolozela. **51** Ngezikhathi zonke nxa ithabanikeli lisuswa abaLevi yibo abazalethula, kuthi-ke nxa selimiswa njalo, abaLevi yibo abazalimisa. Loba ngubani onondela phansi kwalo uzabulawa. **52** Abako-Israyeli bazakwakha amathente

abo ngezigaba zabo, indoda ngayinye esihonqweni sayo ngaphansi kophawu lwayo. **53** Kodwa abaLevi bazamisa amathente abo ehonqolozele ithabanikeli loBufakazi ukuze isizwe sabako-Israyeli singayikwehlelwa lulaka. AbaLevi bazasebenza ukulinda iThabanikeli loBufakazi.” **54** Abako-Israyeli benza konke njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo.

2 UThixo wathi kuMosi lo-Aroni: **2** “Abako-Israyeli bazahlala ezihonqweni begombolozele ithente lokuhlangana bucwadlana lalo, indoda ngayinye ngaphansi kophawu lwayo kanye lezibonakaliso zendlu yayo.” **3** Empumalanga, isigaba sezihonqo zakoJuda sizakuba ngaphansi kophawu lwazo. Umkhokheli wabantu bakoJuda nguNahashoni indodana ka-Aminadabi. **4** Iviyo lakhe lizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa lane, lamakhulu ayisithupha. **5** Izihonqo zesizwana sika-Isakhari zibe seduze khonapho. Umkhokheli wabantu besizwana sika-Isakhari nguNethaneli indodana kaZuwari. **6** Iviyo lakhe lizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amahlanu lane, lamakhulu amane. **7** Kulandele isizwana sikaZebhuluni. Umkhokheli wabantu besizwana sikaZebhuluni ngu-Eliyabi indodana kaHeloni. **8** Iviyo lakhe lizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amahlanu lasikhombisa, lamakhulu amane. **9** Wonke amadoda akhethelwe izihonqo zakoJuda, ngamaviyo awo, azinkulungwane ezilikhulu lamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye lesithupha, lamakhulu amane. Yibo abazaqala ukusuka. **10** Eningizimu kuzakuba ngamaviyo ezihonqo zikaRubheni ngaphansi kophawu lwazo. Umkhokheli wabantu bakoRubheni ngu-Elizuri indodana kaShedewuri. **11** Iviyo lakhe lizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane lesithupha, lamakhulu amahlanu. **12** Izihonqo zesizwana sikaSimiyoni zibe seduzane khonapho. Umkhokheli wabantu bakoSimiyoni nguShelumiyeli indodana kaZurishadayi. **13** Iviyo lakhe lizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amahlanu lasificamunwemunye, lamakhulu amathathu. **14** Kulandele isizwana sikaGadi. Umkhokheli wabantu bakoGadi ngu-Elyasafi indodana kaRuveli. **15** Iviyo lakhe lizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane lanhlano, lamakhulu ayisithupha alamatshumi amahlanu. **16** Wonke amadoda akhethelwe izihonqo zakoRubheni ngamaviyo awo azinkulungwane ezilikhulu lamatshumi amahlanu lanye, lamakhulu amane alamatshumi amahlanu. Bazakuba ngabesibili ukusuka. **17** Emva kwalokho kuzakuba ithente lokuhlangana labezihonqo zabaLevi konke kube phakathi kwamaviyo ezihonqo. Bonke abantu bazalandelana ekuhambeni kwabo njengokuma kwezihonqo zabo kube yilowo lalowo endaweni yakhe ngaphansi kophawu lwakhe. **18** Entshonalanga kuzakuba: ngamaviyo ezihonqo zika-Efrayimi ngaphansi kophawu lwazo. Umkhokheli wabantu bako-Efrayimi ngu-Elishama indodana ka-Amihudi. **19** Iviyo lakhe lizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane lamakhulu amahlanu. **20** Isizwana sikaManase sibe seduzane khonapho. Umkhokheli wabantu bakoManase nguGamaliyeli indodana kaPhedazuri. **21** Iviyo lakhe lizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu lambili, lamakhulu amabili. **22** Kulandele isizwana sikaBhenjamini. Umkhokheli wabantu bakoBhenjamini ngu-Abhidani indodana kaGidiyoni. **23** Iviyo lakhe lizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu lanhlano, lamakhulu amane. **24** Wonke amadoda akhethelwe izihonqo zako-Efrayimi, ngokwamaviyo awo, ayezinkulungwane ezilikhulu lasificamunwembili lekhulu. Bazakuba ngabesithathu ekusukeni. **25** Enyakatho kuzakuba ngamaviyo ezihonqo zikaDani, ngaphansi kophawu lwazo.

Umkhokheli wabantu bakoDani ngu-Ahiyezeri indodana ka-Amishadayi. **26** Iviyo lakhe lizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisithupha lambili, lamakhulu ayisikhombisa. **27** Izihonqo zesizwana sika-Asheri zibe seduzane khonapho. Umkhokheli wabantu bako-Asheri nguPhagiyele indodana ka-Okhirani. **28** Iviyo lakhe lizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane lanye, lamakhulu amahlanu. **29** Kulandele isizwana sikaNafithali. Umkhokheli wabantu bakoNafithali ngu-Ahira indodana ka-Enani. **30** Iviyo lakhe lizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amahlanu lantathu, lamakhulu amane. **31** Wonke amadoda ezihonqo zakoDani azinkulungwane ezilikhulu lamatshumi amahlanu lesikhombisa, lamakhulu ayisithupha. Bazasuka ekucineni, ngaphansi kophawu lwabo. **32** Laba yiyo abako-Israyeli, ababalwa ngezindlu zabo. Bonke labo ababesezihonqweni, ngamaviyo abo, inani labo kuzinkulungwane ezingamakhulu ayisithupha lantathu, lamakhulu amahlanu alamatshumi amahlanu. **33** AbaLevi bona kababalwanga ndawonye labanye bonke abako-Israyeli njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo. **34** Ngakho abako-Israyeli benza konke uThixo ayelaye ngakho uMosi; kwaba yiyo indlela abahlala ngayo ezihonqweni ngaphansi kwempawu zabo, njalo yiyo indlela ababesuka ngayo nxa sekuhanjwa, munye ngamunye ngesizwana sakibo langendlu yakhe.

3 Lezi yizizukulwane zika-Aroni lezikaMosi ngesikhathi sokukhuluma kukaThixo kuMosi entabeni yaseSinayi. **2** Amabizo amadodana ka-Aroni kwakunguNadabi izibulo lo-Abhihi, u-Eliyazari kanye lo-Ithamari. **3** La ngamabizo amadodana ka-Aroni, agcotshwayo abekwa ukuba ngabaphristi. **4** Kodwa, uNadabi lo-Abhihi bafa phambi kukaThixo ngenxa yokunikela ngomlilo ongemukeyekiyo kuThixo enkangala yaseSinayi. Babengamadodana; kungakho u-Eliyazari lo-Ithamari babangabaphristi ngesikhathi uyise u-Aroni esaphila. **5** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **6** “Letha abesizwe sikaLevi ubethule ku-Aroni umphristi ukuze bamncedise. **7** Bazamsebenzela yena kanye lesizwana sonke ethenteni lokuhlangana beqhuba umsebenzi wethabanikeli. **8** Bazalondoloza yonke impahla yethente lokuhlangana, benzele abako-Israyeli imisebenzi nxa besenza inkonzo ethabanikeleni. **9** Yethula abaLevi ku-Aroni lakumadodana akhe; bangabako-Israyeli okumele bethulwe ngokugcweleyo kuye. **10** Khetha u-Aroni lamadodana akhe ukuthi babe ngabaphristi; loba ngubani omunye ozasondele endaweni engcwele kumele abulawe.” **11** UThixo waphinda wathi kuMosi, **12** “AbaLevi sengibakhetha phakathi kwabako-Israyeli esikhundleni samazibulo angabafana esizweni sonke sako-Israyeli. AbaLevi ngabami, **13** njengoba wonke amazibulo engawami. Ekubalaleni kwami wonke amazibulo aseGibhithe, ngazehlukanisela wonke amazibulo ako-Israyeli, awabantu loba awezinyamazana. Kumele abe ngawami. Mina nginguThixo.” **14** UThixo wathi kuMosi eNkangala yaseSinayi, **15** “Bala abaLevi ngezindlu zabo langosendo lwabo. Bala bonke abesilisa kusukela kwabalenyanga eyodwa bezelwe kusiya phezulu.” **16** Ngakho uMosi wababala, njengokulaywa kwakhe yilizwi likaThixo. **17** La ngamabizo amadodana kaLevi: uGeshoni, uKhohathi kanye loMerari. **18** La ngamabizo abosendo lukaGeshoni: uLibhini loShimeyi. **19** Abosendo lukaKhohathi babeyilaba: u-Amramu, u-Izihari, uHebhroni kanye lo-Uziyeli. **20** Abosendo lukaMerari babeyilaba: uMahili loMushi. Laba kwakungabosendo lwabaLevi, kusiya ngezindlu zabo. **21** KuGeshoni kwavela usendo lwamaLibhini

lowamaShimeyi; laba yibo abosendo lwamaGeshoni. **22** Inani lamadoda wonke kusukela kwabalenyanga eyodwa bezelwe kusiya phezulu ababalwayo babezinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa lamakhulu amahlanu. **23** Abosendo lwamaGeshoni babezahlala ezihonqweni zabo entshonalanga, ngemuva kwethabani. **24** Umkhokheli wabezindlu zabakoGeshoni kwakungu-Elyasafi indodana kaLayeli. **25** Umsebenzi wamadodana kaGeshoni ethenteni lokuhlangana wawungowokulondoloza ithabani, ithente, isembeso salo, ikhetheni lesango lethente lokuhlangana, **26** amakhetheni eguma, ikhetheni lesango leguma elihonqolozele ithabani kanye le-alithari, lamagoda, lakho konke okuphatheleane lalowo msebenzi. **27** Abosendo lukaKhhohathi kwakungama-Amramu, ama-Izihari, amaHebhroni kanye lama-Uziyeli. Laba yibo abosendo lwamaKhhohathi. **28** Inani lamadoda wonke kusukela kwabalenyanga eyodwa bezelwe kusiya phezulu babezinkulungwane eziyisifamicinwembili lamakhulu ayisithupha. AmaKhhohathi yiwo ayelomlandu wokugcina indawo engcwele. **29** Abosendo lwamaKhhohathi bahlala ezihonqweni zabo eningizimu yethabani. **30** Umkhokheli wabezindlu zabosendo lwamaKhhohathi kwakungu-Elizafani indodana ka-Uziyeli. **31** Babelomlandu wokugcina umtshokotsho wesivumelwano, itafula, uluthi lwezibane, ama-alithare, impahla zendawo engcwele ezazisetsheziwa emsebenzini wokukhona. **32** U-Eliyazari indodana ka-Aroni, umphristi, wayengumkhokheli omkhulu wabaLevi. Wabekwa phezu kwalabo ababelomlandu wokugcina indawo engcwele. **33** Abosendo lukaMerari kwakungamaMahili lamaMushi; laba babengabosendo lwamaMerari. **34** Inani lamadoda asukela kwabalenyanga eyodwa bezelwe kusiya phezulu ababalwayo babezinkulungwane eziyisithupha lamakhulu amabili. **35** Umkhokheli wezindlu zosendo lwamaMerari kwakunguZuriyeli indodana ka-Abhihayili; babezahlala ezihonqweni zabo enyakatho yethabani. **36** Abosendo lwamaMerari babelomlandu wokugcina amathala ethabani, imithando, izinsika, izisekelo, izitsha zalo zonke lakho konke okuphatheleane lemisebenzi yakho, **37** kanye lezinsika lezisekelo zazo ezihonqolozele iguma, izikhonkwane zethente kanye lamagoda. **38** UMosi kanye lo-Aroni lamadodana akhe babezahlala ezihonqweni zabo empumalanga yethabani, phambi kwethente lokuhlangana. Babelomlandu wokugcina abako-Israyeli indawo engcwele. Loba ngubani omunye owayezasondele endaweni engcwele kwakumele abulawe. **39** Inani labaLevi bonke ababalwayo njengokulaywa kukaMosi lo-Aroni nguThixo kulandelwa insendo zawo, kusukela kwabesilisa ababalenyanga eyodwa yokuzalwa kusiya phezulu, babezinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lambili. **40** UThixo wathi kuMosi, “Bala wonke amazibulo esilisa ako-Israyeli kusukela kwabalenyanga eyodwa bezelwe kusiya phezulu wenze uluhlu lwamazibulo abo. **41** Esikhundleni samabizo ako-Israyeli nginika abaLevi, njalo lezifuyo zabaLevi esikhundleni samazibulo ezifuyo zabako-Israyeli. Mina nginguThixo.” **42** Ngalo-ke uMosi wabala wonke amazibulo abako-Israyeli, njengokulaywa kwakhe nguThixo. **43** Inani lawo wonke amazibulo esilisa kusukela kwabalenyanga eyodwa yokuzalwa kusiya phezulu, ebalwe ngoluhlu lwamazibulo, ayezinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lambili, lamakhulu amabili alamatshumi ayisikhombisa lantathu. **44** UThixo wabuya wathi kuMosi, **45** “Esikhundleni

samazibulo ako-Israyeli thatha abaLevi, lezifuyo zabaLevi esikhundleni sezifuyo zabo. AbaLevi kumele babengabami. Mina nginguThixo. **46** Ukuhlenga amazibulo ako-Israyeli angamakhulu amabili alamatshumi ayisikhombisa lantathu abangaphezu kwenani labaLevi, **47** thatha amashekeli amahlanu omunye ngamunye wabo, kusiya ngeshekeli lendawo engcwele, elileisindo samagera angamatshumi amabili. **48** Imali yokuhlenga abako-Israyeli abangaphezu kwenani uyiphe u-Aroni lamadodana akhe.” **49** Lakanye uMosi wayibutha imali yokuhlenga labo ababelinani eledlula kwabahlengwa ngabaLevi. **50** Wamukela kuvela emazibulweni abako-Israyeli isiliva esingamashekeli ayinkulungwane elamakhulu amathathu amatshumi ayisithupha lanhlano ngesilinganiso seshekeli lendawo engcwele. **51** UMosi waqhubela u-Aroni lamadodana akhe imali yokuhlenga, njengokulaywa kwakhe nguThixo.

4 UThixo wathi kuMosi lo-Aroni: **2** “Balani ingxenye yabaLevi abangamaKhhohathi libabale ngosendo langezindlu zabo. **3** Balani wonke amadoda kusukela kwabaleminyaka engamatshumi amathathu kusiya kwabaleminyaka engamatshumi amahlanu yokuzalwa abeza bezosebenza emsebenzini wethente lokuhlangana. **4** Lo yiwo umsebenzi ozakwenziwa ngamaKhhohathi ethenteni lokuhlangana, ukulondoloza yonke into engcwele. **5** Nxa kuthuthwa kusukwa ezihonqweni, u-Aroni lamadodana akhe kabangene bayekwethula ikhetheni elisithileyo basibekele ibhokisi lobufakazi ngalo. **6** Lokhu bazakugubuzela ngezikhumba zezinyamazana, bendlale ilembu eliluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka phezu kwalokho besebefaka izibambo endaweni yazo. **7** Phezu kwetafula yoBukhona bukaThixo kumele bendlale ilembu eliluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka bafake phezu kwalo imiganu, izinditshi lengubhe, lenkezo zeminikelo enathwayo; kuthi lesosinkwa esihlala sikhonapho sisale phezu kwayo. **8** Phezu kwalokhu bazakwendlala ilembu elibomvu, bembese lokho ngezikhumba zezinyamazana besebefaka izibambo ezindaweni zazo. **9** Kumele bathathe ilembu eliluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka bembese ngalo uluthi lwesibane sokukhanyisa, kanye lezibane zalo, izintambo zesibane kanye lezibambiso zakhona, lemiganu, lezitsha zamafutha zokuthelisa kuso. **10** Besebelugoqela kanye lezinto zalo zonke ngezikhumba zezinyamazana balufakele izibambo zokuthwala. **11** Phezu kwe-alithari legolide kabendlale ilembu eliluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka bakugoqele ngezikhumba zezinyamazana besebefaka izibambo zokuthwalisa endaweni yazo. **12** Bazathatha zonke izinto zokusebenzisa endaweni engcwele, bazigoqele ngelembu eliluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka, bembese lokho ngezikhumba zezinyamazana bafake phezu kwethala lokuthwalisa. **13** Kumele babuthe umlotha bawususe phezu kwe-alithari elilithusi besebendlala ilembu eliyibubende phezu kwalo. **14** Besebefaka phezu kwalo zonke izitsha ezisetsheziwa emsebenzini we-alithari, kuhlanganisa lezindengezi zeziko, izitsha zokosa inyama, amafotsholo lemiganu yokuchelisa. Phezu kwalo kumele bendlale isembeso sezikhumba zezinyamazana babe sebefaka izibambo zokuthwalisa endaweni yazo. **15** Ngemva kokuba u-Aroni lamadodana akhe sebeqedile ukwemba impahla zonke ezendawo engcwele lazonke izinto ezingcwele, kanye lokuthi sebelungele ukusuka, amaKhhohathi yiwo okumele eze azothwala. Kodwa akumelanga bathinte izinto ezingcwele ngoba bazakufa.

AmaKxhohathi azathwala lezozinto ezisethenteni lokuhlangana. **16** U-Eliyazari indodana ka-Aroni, umphristi, uzakhangela amafutha esibane, impepha, umnikelo ojayelekileyo wamabele lamafutha okugcoba abakhethiweyo. Uzagcina ithabanikeli ngonanzelelo layo yonke into ephakathi kwalo, kanye lempahla ezingcwele lezitsha zalo.” **17** UThixo watshela uMosi lo-Aroni wathi, **18** “Nanzelelani ukuthi izizwe zosendo lwamaKxhohathi azehlukaniwisa labaLevi. **19** Lokhu kuyikuthi baphile bengafi nxa bethe basondela phansi kwezinto ezingcwele, balungiseleni lokhu: U-Aroni lamadodana akhe bazakuya endaweni engcwele bayekwabela indoda yinye ngayinye umsebenzi wayo kanye lalokho okumele bakuthwale. **20** Kodwa amaKxhohathi akumelanga angene ukuthi ayebona izinto ezingcwele, loba okomzuzwana nje kuphela, ngoba bazakufa.” **21** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **22** “Bala njalo amaGeshoni ngezindlu langosendo lwawo. **23** Bala wonke amadoda kusukela kwabaleminyaka engamatshumi amathathu kusiya kwabaleminyaka engamatshumi amahlanu yokuzalwa labo abezayo ukuzosebenza ethenteni lokuHlangana. **24** Lo ngumsebenzi okumele wenziwe ngabosendo lwamaGeshoni ekusebenzeni kwabo lekuthwaleni kwabo imithwalo: **25** Bazathwala amakhetheni ethabanikeli, ithente lokuhlangana, isembo salo kanye lesangaphandle esezikhumba zezinyamazana, amakhetheni entuba yethente lokuhlangana, **26** amakhetheni eguma elihonqolozele ithabanikeli le-alithari, ikhetheni lesango, izintambo lakho konke okusetshenziswa kulo umsebenzi. AmaGeshoni azakwenza konke okumele kwenziwe ngalezizinto. **27** Imisebenzi yabo yonke abayenzayo, kumbe yikuthwala kumbe ngumsebenzi othile, bazayenza ngokuqondisa kuka-Aroni lamadodana akhe. Uzabapha kube ngumlandu wabo ukuthwala lokho ozabe uthe bakuthwale. **28** Lokhu kuzakuba ngumsebenzi wobosendo lwamaGeshoni ethenteni lokuhlangana. Umsebenzi wabo bazawenza ngokuqondisa kuka-Ithamari indodana ka-Aroni, umphristi.” **29** “Bala amaMerari ngosendo langezindlu zawo. **30** Bala wonke amadoda kusukela kwabaleminyaka engamatshumi amathathu kusiya kwabaleminyaka engamatshumi amahlanu yokuzalwa abezayo ukusebenza ethenteni lokuhlangana. **31** Lo yiwo ozakuba ngumsebenzi wabo ethenteni lokuhlangana: ukuthwala amathala ethabanikeli, imithando yalo, izinsika lezisekelo, **32** kanye lezinsika ezihonqolozele iguma kanye lezisekelo zazo, izikhonkwane zethente, amagoda, izitsha zakhona lakho konke okuhambelana lokusetshenziswa kwazo. Batshengise bonke munye ngamunye lezozinto abafanele bazithwale. **33** Lo yiwo umsebenzi ozakwenziwa ngabosendo lwamaMerari ekusebenzeni kwabo ethenteni lokuhlangana beqondiswa ngu-Ithamari indodana ka-Aroni, umphristi.” **34** UMosi, u-Aroni labakhokheli babantu babala amaKxhohathi ngosendo langezindlu zawo. **35** Wonke amadoda aleminyaka esukela kwabaleminyaka engamatshumi amathathu kusiya kwabaleminyaka engamatshumi amahlanu abezayo ukusebenza ethenteni lokuhlangana, **36** bebalwa ngosendo, babazinkulungwane ezimbili lamakhulu ayisikhombisa amamatshumi amahlanu. **37** Leli linani eligcweleyo labalo abosendo lwamaKxhohathi abasebenza ethenteni lokuhlangana. UMosi lo-Aroni babala njengokulaywa kwabo nguThixo etshela uMosi. **38** AmaGeshoni abalwa ngosendo langezindlu zawo. **39** Wonke amadoda aleminyaka yokuzalwa engamatshumi amathathu kusiya kwabaleminyaka

engamatshumi amahlanu ababesebenza ethenteni lokuhlangana, **40** bebalwa ngosendo langezindlu zabo, babazinkulungwane ezimbili lamakhulu ayisithupha alamatshumi amathathu. **41** Leli linani eligcweleyo lwosendo zamaGeshoni abasebenza ethenteni lokuhlangana. UMosi lo-Aroni babala njengokulaywa kwabo nguThixo. **42** AmaMerari abalwa ngosendo langezindlu zawo. **43** Wonke amadoda ayeleminyaka yokuzalwa esukela kwabalamatshumi amathathu kusiya kwabaleminyaka engamatshumi amahlanu ababesebenza ethenteni lokuhlangana, **44** sebebaliwe ngosendo zabo, babazinkulungwane ezintathu lamakhulu amabili. **45** Leli kwaba linani eligcweleyo kwabosendo lwamaMerari. UMosi lo-Aroni babala njengokulaya kukaThixo elaya uMosi. **46** Ngalokho uMosi, u-Aroni labakhokheli bako-Israyeli babala bonke abalevi ngosendo langezindlu zabo. **47** Wonke amadoda asukela kwabaleminyaka engamatshumi amathathu kusiya kwabaleminyaka engamatshumi amahlanu yokuzalwa abeza ukulungisa kanye lokuthwala ithente lokuhlangana **48** babezinkulungwane ezizisificaminwembili lamakhulu amahlanu alamatshumi ayisificaminwembili. **49** Ngokulaya kukaThixo elaya uMosi, ngulowo lalowo wabelwa umsebenzi wakhe ayezawenza lokwakumele akuthwale. Yiyo le indlela ababalwa ngayo, njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo.

5 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** “Tshela abako-Israyeli ukuthi basuse ezihonqweni wonke olobulephero loba ophuma ubovu loba bungobunjani, loba engongcolileyo ngokomkhuba ngenxa yesidumbu sofileyo. **3** Susani ngokufanayo loba ngowesilisa loba ngowesifazane; kumele limsuse ukuze angangcolisi isihonqo sakwabo; ngoba ngihlala khona phakathi kwabo.” **4** Abako-Israyeli bakwenza lokho; babakhuphela ngaphandle kwezihonqo. Bakwenza njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo. **5** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **6** “Tshona kwabako-Israyeli uthi: ‘Nxa indoda loba umfazi onele omunye loba ngayiphi indlela etshengisele ukungathembeki kuThixo, lowomuntu ulomlandu **7** njalo kumele avume isono sakhe. Kahlawule ngokugcweleyo icala lakhe, engezelele ingxenye yesihlanu ekhulawuleni lowo amoneleyo. **8** Kodwa uba lowo engelasihlobo okungahlawulwa kuso icala, inhlawulo ngekaThixo, kodwa lizaphiwa umphristi, kanye lenqama azamenzela ngayo indlela yokubuyisana. **9** Izipho zonke ezingcwele ezilethwa ngabako-Israyeli kumphristi zizakuba ngezakhe. **10** Izipho zendoda inye ngayinye ezingcwele ngezayo, kodwa lokho indoda ezakupha umphristi ngokumphristi.” **11** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **12** “Khuluma labako-Israyeli ubatshela ukuthi: ‘Nxa umfazi wendoda ephambuka engathembeki endodeni **13** ngokulala lamanye amadoda kodwa lokhu kungesobala endodeni yakhe lehlazo lelo lingabonakali (njengoba kungelamfakazi njalo engabanjwanga ekwenza), **14** kodwa indoda ikhulelwe yibukhwele ibisimnakanela umfazi wayo ukuthi ungcolile, loba ilobukhwele imnakanela kodwa yena engangcolanga, **15** kumele ithathe umfazi wayo iye laye kumphristi. Phezu kwalokho kumele imphathele ifulawa yebhali eyingxenye yetshumi yehefa. Akumelanga ithela amafutha e-oliva phezu kwayo loba afake impepha phezu kwayo ngoba kungumnikelo wobukhwele wamabele, umnikelo wokubonisa ukuthi kulecala. **16** Umphristi uzamletha owesifazane amise phambi kukaThixo. **17** Abesethatha amanzi angcwele

ngembiza yomdaka athele emanzini uthuli olubuthwe phansi ethabanikeleni. **18** Ngemva kokuba umphristi eseke wamisa owesifazane phambi kukaThixo kumele atshombulule inwele zakhe abesefaka ezandleni zakhe umnikelo wokukhumbuzwa, umnikelo wobukhwele wamabele, umphristi yena uzabe ephethe amanzi ababayo aletha isithuko. **19** Ngalokho-ke umphristi uzafungisa owesifazane athi kuye, “Nxa kungelandoda eke yalala lawe loba ungazange uphambuke ungcole wena wendile, akuthi lamanzi ababayo aletha isithuko angakulimazi. **20** Kodwa nxa uphambukile wena wendile wazingcolisa ngokulala lenye indoda engasumkakho,” **21** lapho umphristi kufanele afungise owesifazane ngesithuko lesi athi, “sengathi uThixo angenza abakini bakuthuko, bakuhlamukele lapho ekwenza ukuba uswele kuthi isisu sakho sikhukhumale. **22** Akuthi amanzi la aletha isithuko angene emzimbeni wakho ukuze isisu sakho sikhukhumale kumbe uswele.” Ngakho owesifazane uzakuthi, “Ameni. Akube njalo.” **23** Umphristi uzaloba lezi zithuko ogwalweni azigezisele emanzini ababayo. **24** Uzanathisa owesifazane amanzi ababayo aletha isithuko, wona amanzi azamzwise ubuhlungu nxa esewanathile. **25** Umphristi uzasusa ezandleni zowesifazane umnikelo wamabele obukhwele, awuzinguze phambi kukaThixo abesewuletha e-alithareni. **26** Umphristi abesechupha-ke ngesandla umnikelo wamabele njengomnikelo wesikhumbuzo awutshisele e-alithareni; ngemva kwalokho kumele anathise owesifazane amanzi la. **27** Nxa ezingcolisile ngokungathembeki kumkakhe, kuzakuthi lapho enatha amanzi aletha isithuko, angene emzimbeni abangele ubuhlungu; isisu sakhe sikhukhumala njalo aswele, abe ngoqalekisiweyo ebantwini bakibo. **28** Kodwa-ke nxa lo owesifazane engazingcolisanga, emsulwa, uzakhululwa kulelo cala abelakho ukuthola inzalo. **29** Ngakho-ke, lo yiwo umlayo wobukhwele nxa owesifazane ephambukile wazingcolisa yena endile, **30** loba nxa indoda ifikelwa yibukhwele ngoba ilesazela ngomkayo. Umphristi uzamisa owesifazane phambi kukaThixo asebenzise lumlayo ngokugcweleyo kowesifazane. **31** Indoda izabe imsulwa ekoneni konke, kodwa owesifazane uzathwala izehlakalo zonke zesono sakhe.”

6 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** “Khuluma labako-Israyeli ubatshela lokhu: ‘Nxa owesilisa loba owesifazane efuna ukwenza isifungo esibalulekileyo, isifungo sokuzahlukanisela kuThixo ukuba abe ngumNaziri, **3** kumele angabe esanatha iwayini loba yikuphi okunathwayo okulemvubelo njalo akumelanga ukuthi anathe iviniga eyenziwe ngewayini loba okunathwayo okulemvubelo. Kanganathi umhluzi wezithelo zevini, njalo angadli izithelo zevini ezimanzi loba ezomileyo. **4** Nxa elokhu engumNaziri kangadli lutho oluvela esivini kungakhathalekile ukuthi zintanga loba ngamakhasi esithelo. **5** Ngasonke isikhathi esemi esifungweni sokuzahlukanisela akumelanga kube lempuco ekhanda lakhe. Kumele abengcwele size sedlule isikhathi sakhe sokuzahlukanisela uThixo; kayekele inwele zakhe zikhule zibende. **6** Kusonke isikhathi sakhe sokuzahlukanisela uThixo kangasondeli esidunjini. **7** Loba kungaze kube kufe uyise loba unina loba umfowabo loba udadewabo, akumelanga azingcolise ngokomkhuba ngenxa yabo, ngoba uphawu lokuzahlukanisela unkulunkulu lusekhanda lakhe. **8** Ngasonke isikhathi sokuzahlukanisela kwakhe ungokhethiweyo kuThixo. **9** Nxa kungafa umuntu emehlweni akhe, ngakho besekungcolisa inwele zakhe asezinikele, kumele aphuce ikhanda ngosuku

lokuhlunjululwa kwakhe, usuku lwesikhombisa. **10** Ngakho ngosuku lwesificaminwembili kalethe kumphristi esangweni lethente lokuhlangana amajuba amabili loba inkwilimba ezincane ezimbili. **11** Umphristi uzanikela umnikelo wesono ngenye inyoni kuthi enye ibe ngumnikelo wokutshiswa ukumenzela indlela yokubuyisana ngoba enze isono ngoba lapho okulesidumbu khona. Ngalo lolosuku kumele angcwele ikhanda lakhe. **12** Kazinikele kuThixo okwesikhathi lesi azahlukanisele sona njalo alethe izinyane lemvu elimomnyaka owodwa eliduna libe njengomnikelo wecala. Insuku ezadlulayo kazibalwa, ngoba ube ngongcolileyo ngesikhathi sokuzahlukanisela kwakhe. **13** Lo ngumlayo womNaziri nxa isikhathi sakhe sokuzahlukanisela sesiphelile. Kumele alethe esangweni lethente lokuhlangana. **14** Kethule lapho umnikelo wakhe kuThixo: izinyane lemvu elimomnyaka owodwa eliduna elingelacisi libe ngumnikelo wokutshiswa, izinyane lemvu elisikazi elimomnyaka owodwa elingelacisi libe ngumnikelo wesono, inqama engelacisi ibe ngumnikelo wobudlelwano, **15** ndawonye leminikelo yamabele leyokunathwayo, kanye lesitsha sesinkwa esingelamvubelo, amakhekhe enziwe ngefulawa ecolokileyo ixutshwe ngamafutha, njalo lamaqebelengwane agcotshwe ngamafutha. **16** Umphristi uzakwethula lokhu phambi kukaThixo enze umnikelo wesono lowokutshiswa. **17** Umphristi uzakwethula isitsha esilesinkwa esingelamvubelo njalo enze umhlatshelelo ngenqama kube ngumnikelo wobudlelwano kuThixo, ndawonye lomnikelo wakho wamabele lowokunathwayo. **18** Ngakho umNaziri uzaphucela inwele zakhe zokuzahlukanisela esangweni lethente lokuhlangana. Uzaphosele inwele lezo emlilweni ongaphansi komnikelo wobudlelwano. **19** Nxa umNaziri esephuce inwele zokuzahlukanisela kwakhe, umphristi uzabeka ezandleni zakhe umkhono wenqama ephekiweyo, kanye lekhekhe leqebelengwane esitsheni, kokubili kungela mvubelo. **20** Umphristi uzakuzunguza phambi kukaThixo njengomnikelo wokuzunguza; kungcwele njalo kungokomphristi, kuhlanguanisa lesifuba esizunguziweyo kanye lomlenze owethuliweyo. Ngemva kwalokho, umNaziri usenganatha iwayini. **21** Lo ngumlayo womNaziri ofunga ngokunikela kuThixo kusiya ngokuzahlukanisela, kuyikwengeza kulokho ayabe ekwenelile. Kagcwalise isifungo asenzileyo, ngokomlayo womNaziri.” **22** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **23** “Tshela u-Aroni lamadodana akhe uthi, ‘Le yiyo indlela elizabusisa ngayo abako-Israyeli. Khulumani lithi kubo: **24** “UThixo alibusise njalo aligcine; **25** UThixo kakhazimulise ubuso bakhe phezu kwenu njalo abe lomusa kini; **26** UThixo kakhangelise ubuso bakhe kini njalo aliphe ukuthula.” **27** Ngokunjalo bazabiza ibizo lami phezu kwabako-Israyeli, mina ngizababusisa.”

7 Kwathi uMosi eseqedile ukumisa ithabanikeli, waligcoba njalo walibusisa kanye lempahla yalo yonke. Wabuye wagcoba njalo wabusisa i-alithari kanye lezitsha zalo zonke. **2** Kwasekusithi abakhokheli bako-Israyeli, inhloko zezimuli ezazingabakhokheli zensendo ziphethe labo ababebalwa, zanikela. **3** Zaletha izipho zazo kuThixo, izinqola eziyisithupha ezembesiweyo lenkabi ezilitshumi lambili, kuyikuthi umkhokheli munye anikele ngenkabi eyodwa kuthi ababili bahlanganyele inqola eyodwa. Lokhu bakuletha ethabanikeleni. **4** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **5** “Yamukela izipho ezivela kubo ukuze zisetshenziswe ethenteni lokuhlangana.

Yabela abaLevi kusiya ngomsebenzi wendoda yinye ngayinye.”

6 Ngakho uMosi wathatha izingqola kanye lenkabi wazinika abaLevi. **7** Wanika abakoGeshoni izingqola ezimbili kanye lenkabi ezine, kusiya ngomsebenzi wabo, **8** abakoMerari bona wabapha izingqola ezine kanye lenkabi eziyisificaminwembili, kusiya ngomsebenzi wabo. Bonke babelawulwa ngu-Ithamari indodana ka-Aroni, umpfhisti. **9** Kodwa uMosi kazange aphe lokukodwa kumaKhohathi, ngenxa yokuthi kwakungumlandu wabo wokuthwala ngamahlombe abo zonke izinto ezingcwele. **10** Ekugcotshweni kwe-alithari, abakhokheli baletha phambi kwalo iminikelo yabo yokuhlukanisela. **11** Ngoba uThixo wayethe kuMosi, “Umkhokheli oyedwa ngelanga uzaletha umnikelo wakhe wokwahlukaniselwa kwe-alithari.” **12** Owaletha umnikelo wakhe ngosuku lwakuqala nguNahashoni indodana ka-Aminadabi owesizwana sakoJuda. **13** Umnikelo wakhe: wawungumganu wesiliva isisindo sawo esingamashekeli alikhulu lamatshumi amathathu, lomganu oyingubhe wokuchela wesiliva, isisindo sawo ungamashekeli angamatshumi ayisikhombisa, yomibili kulinganiswa ngeshekeli lendlu engcwele, ngamunye ugcwele ifulawa ecolekileyo ixutshaniswe lamafutha njengomnikelo wamabele; **14** inditshi yegolide eyodwa elelisindo esingamashekeli alitshumi, igcwele impepha; **15** inkunzi eliguqa, inqama eyodwa lezinyane lemvu eliduna elilomnyaka owodwa, kungumnikelo wokutshiswa; **16** impongo eyodwa kungumnikelo wesono; **17** kanye lenkabi ezimbili, inqama ezinhlanu, impongo ezinhlanu kanye lamazinyane amaduna ezimvu alomnyaka owodwa, ukuze kube ngumhlatshele womnikelo wobudlelwano. Lo kwaba ngumnikelo kaNahashoni indodana ka-Aminadabi. **18** Ngosuku lwesibili uNethaneli indodana kaZuwari umkhokheli wabendlu ka-Isakhari, waletha umnikelo wakhe. **19** Umnikelo awulethayo: kwakungumganu wesiliva isisindo sawo ungamashekeli alikhulu elilamatshumi amathathu, lomganu owodwa wesiliva oyingubhe wokuchela olesisindo samashekeli angamatshumi ayisikhombisa, yomibili kulinganiswa ngeshekeli lendlu engcwele, ngamunye ugcwele ifulawa ecolekileyo ixutshaniswe lamafutha njengomnikelo wamabele; **20** inditshi yegolide eyodwa elelisindo esingamashekeli alitshumi, igcwele impepha; **21** inkunzi eliguqa, inqama eyodwa kanye lezinyane lemvu eliduna elilomnyaka owodwa, kungumnikelo wokutshiswa; **22** impongo eyodwa kungumnikelo wesono; **23** lenkabi ezimbili, inqama ezinhlanu, impongo ezinhlanu kanye lamazinyane ezimvu amahlanu alomnyaka owodwa, kube ngumhlatshele womnikelo wobudlelwano. Lo kwaba ngumnikelo kaNethaneli indodana kaZuwari. **24** Ngosuku lwesithathu, u-Eliyabi indodana kaHeloni, umkhokheli wabantu bakaZebhuluni, waletha umnikelo wakhe. **25** Umnikelo wakhe: wawungumganu wesiliva olesisindo esingamashekeli alikhulu lamatshumi amathathu, lomganu wesiliva oyingubhe wokuchela olesisindo esingamashekeli angamatshumi ayisikhombisa, yomibili ibe lesilinganiso samashekeli endlu engcwele, ngamunye ugcwele ifulawa ecolekileyo, exutshaniswe lamafutha njengomnikelo wamabele; **26** inditshi yegolide eyodwa elelisindo esingamashekeli alitshumi, igcwele impepha; **27** inkunzi eliguqa, inqama kanye lezinyane eliduna lemvu elilomnyaka owodwa, kungumnikelo wokutshiswa; **28** impongo eyodwa kungumnikelo wesono; **29** kanye lenkabi ezimbili, inqama ezinhlanu, impongo ezinhlanu kanye lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna alomnyaka owodwa, kube ngumhlatshele womnikelo

wobudlelwano. Lo kwakungumnikelo ka-Eliyabi indodana kaHeloni. **30** Ngosuku lwesine u-Elizuri indodana kaShedewuri, umkhokheli wabantu bakaRubheni, waletha umnikelo wakhe. **31** Umnikelo wakhe: wawungumganu wesiliva olesisindo esingamashekeli alikhulu lamatshumi amathathu, lomganu wesiliva oyingubhe wokuchela olesisindo esingamashekeli angamatshumi ayisikhombisa, yomibili ibe lesilinganiso samashekeli endlu engcwele, ngamunye ugcwele ifulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha njengomnikelo wamabele; **32** inditshi yegolide eyodwa elelisindo esingamashekeli alitshumi, igcwele impepha; **33** inkunzi eliguqa, inqama eyodwa kanye lezinyane eliduna lemvu elilomnyaka owodwa, kungumnikelo wokutshiswa; **34** impongo eyodwa kungumnikelo wesono; **35** kanye lenkabi ezimbili, inqama ezinhlanu, impongo ezinhlanu kanye lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna amahlanu alomnyaka owodwa kube ngumhlatshele womnikelo wobudlelwano. Lo kwakungumnikelo ka-Elizuri indodana kaShedewuri. **36** Ngosuku lwesihlanu uShelumiyeli indodana kaZurishadayi, umkhokheli wabantu bakaSimiyoni waletha umnikelo wakhe. **37** Umnikelo wakhe: wawungumganu wesiliva olesisindo esingamashekeli alikhulu lamatshumi amathathu, lomganu wesiliva oyingubhe wokuchela olesisindo esingamashekeli angamatshumi ayisikhombisa, yomibili ibe lesilinganiso samashekeli endlu engcwele, ngamunye ugcwele ifulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha njengomnikelo wamabele; **38** inditshi yegolide eyodwa elelisindo esingamashekeli alitshumi, igcwele impepha; **39** inkunzi eliguqa, inqama eyodwa kanye lezinyane eliduna lemvu elilomnyaka owodwa, kungumnikelo wokutshiswa; **40** impongo eyodwa kungumnikelo wesono; **41** kanye lenkabi ezimbili, lenqama ezinhlanu, impongo ezinhlanu kanye lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna amahlanu alomnyaka owodwa kube ngumhlatshele womnikelo wobudlelwano. Lo kwakungumnikelo kaShelumiyeli indodana kaZurishadayi. **42** Ngosuku lwesithupha u-Eliyasafi indodana kaDuweli, umkhokheli wabantu bakaGadi, waletha umnikelo wakhe. **43** Umnikelo wakhe: wawungumganu wesiliva olesisindo esingamashekeli alikhulu lamatshumi amathathu, lomganu wesiliva oyingubhe wokuchela olesisindo esingamashekeli angamatshumi ayisikhombisa, yomibili ibe lesilinganiso samashekeli endlu engcwele, ngamunye ugcwele ifulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha njengomnikelo wamabele; **44** inditshi yegolide eyodwa elelisindo esingamashekeli alitshumi, igcwele impepha; **45** inkunzi eliguqa, inqama eyodwa kanye lezinyane eliduna lemvu elilomnyaka owodwa, kungumnikelo wokutshiswa; **46** impongo eyodwa kungumnikelo wesono; **47** kanye lenkabi ezimbili, inqama ezinhlanu, impongo ezinhlanu kanye lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna amahlanu alomnyaka owodwa kube ngumhlatshele womnikelo wobudlelwano. Lo kwakungumnikelo ka-Eliyasafi indodana kaDuweli. **48** Ngosuku lwesikhombisa u-Elishama indodana ka-Amihudi, umkhokheli wabantu baka-Efrayimi, waletha umnikelo wakhe. **49** Umnikelo wakhe: wawungumganu wesiliva olesisindo esingamashekeli alikhulu lamatshumi amathathu, lomganu wesiliva oyingubhe wokuchela olesisindo esingamashekeli angamatshumi ayisikhombisa, yomibili ibe lesilinganiso samashekeli endlu engcwele, ngamunye ugcwele ifulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha njengomnikelo wamabele; **50** inditshi yegolide eyodwa elelisindo esingamashekeli alitshumi igcwele impepha; **51**

inkunzi eliguqa, inqama eyodwa kanye lezinyane eliduna lemvu elilomnyaka owodwa, kungumnikelo wokutshiswa; **52** impongo eyodwa kungumnikelo wesono; **53** kanye lenkabi ezimbili, inqama ezinhlanu, impongo ezinhlanu kanye lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna amahlanu alomnyaka owodwa ukuba kube ngumhlatshele womnikelo wobudlelwano. Lo kwakungumnikelo ka-Elishama indodana ka-Amihudi. **54** Ngosuku lwesificaminwembili uGamaliyeli indodana kaPhedazuri, umkhokheli wabantu bakaManase, waletsa umnikelo wakhe. **55** Umnikelo wakhe: wawungumganu wesiliva olesisindo esingamashekeli alikhulu lamatshumi amathathu, lomganu wesiliva oyingubhe wokuchela olesisindo esingamashekeli angamatshumi ayisikhombisa, yomibili ibe lesilinganiso samashekeli endlu engcwele, ngamunye ugwele ifulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha njengomnikelo wamabele; **56** inditshi yegolide eyodwa elesisindo esingamashekeli alitshumi, igcwele impepha; **57** inkunzi eliguqa, inqama eyodwa kanye lezinyane eliduna lemvu elilomnyaka owodwa, kungumnikelo wokutshiswa; **58** impongo eyodwa kungumnikelo wesono; **59** kanye lenkabi ezimbili, inqama ezinhlanu, impongo ezinhlanu kanye lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna amahlanu alomnyaka owodwa kube ngumhlatshele womnikelo wobudlelwano. Lo kwakungumnikelo kaGamaliyeli indodana kaPhedazuri. **60** Ngosuku lwesificaminwemunye u-Abhidani indodana kaGidiyoni, umkhokheli wabantu bakaBhenjamini, waletsa umnikelo wakhe. **61** Umnikelo wakhe: wawungumganu wesiliva olesisindo esingamashekeli alikhulu lamatshumi amathathu, lomganu wesiliva oyingubhe wokuchela olesisindo esingamashekeli angamatshumi ayisikhombisa, yomibili ibe lesilinganiso samashekeli endlu engcwele, ngamunye ugwele ifulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha njengomnikelo wamabele; **62** inditshi yegolide eyodwa elesisindo esingamashekeli alitshumi, igcwele impepha; **63** inkunzi eliguqa, inqama eyodwa kanye lezinyane eliduna lemvu elilomnyaka owodwa, kungumnikelo wokutshiswa; **64** impongo eyodwa kungumnikelo wesono; **65** kanye lenkabi ezimbili, inqama ezinhlanu, impongo ezinhlanu kanye lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna amahlanu alomnyaka owodwa, kube ngumhlatshele womnikelo wobudlelwano. Lo kwakungumnikelo ka-Abhidani indodana kaGidiyoni. **66** Ngosuku lwetshumi u-Ahiyezeri indodana ka-Amishadayi, umkhokheli wabantu bakaDani, waletsa umnikelo wakhe. **67** Umnikelo wakhe: wawungumganu wesiliva olesisindo esingamashekeli alikhulu lamatshumi amathathu, lomganu wesiliva oyingubhe wokuchela olesisindo esingamashekeli angamatshumi ayisikhombisa, yomibili ibe lesilinganiso samashekeli endlu engcwele, ngamunye ugwele ifulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha njengomnikelo wamabele; **68** inditshi yegolide eyodwa elesisindo esingamashekeli alitshumi, igcwele impepha; **69** inkunzi eliguqa, inqama eyodwa kanye lezinyane eliduna lemvu elilomnyaka owodwa, kungumnikelo wokutshiswa; **70** impongo eyodwa kungumnikelo wesono; **71** kanye lenkabi ezimbili, inqama ezinhlanu, impongo ezinhlanu kanye lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna amahlanu alomnyaka owodwa, kube ngumhlatshele womnikelo wobudlelwano. Lo kwakungumnikelo ka-Ahiyezeri indodana ka-Amishadayi. **72** Ngosuku lwetshumi lanye uPhagiyele indodana ka-Okhirani, umkhokheli wabantu baka-Asheri, waletsa umnikelo wakhe. **73** Umnikelo

wakhe: wawungumganu wesiliva olesisindo esingamashekeli alikhulu lamatshumi amathathu, lomganu wesiliva oyingubhe wokuchela olesisindo esingamashekeli angamatshumi ayisikhombisa, yomibili ibe lesilinganiso samashekeli endlu engcwele, ngamunye ugwele ifulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha njengomnikelo wamabele; **74** inditshi yegolide eyodwa elesisindo esingamashekeli alitshumi, igcwele impepha; **75** inkunzi eliguqa, inqama eyodwa kanye lezinyane eliduna lemvu elilomnyaka owodwa, kungumnikelo wokutshiswa; **76** impongo eyodwa kungumnikelo wesono; **77** kanye lenkabi ezimbili, inqama ezinhlanu, impongo ezinhlanu kanye lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna amahlanu alomnyaka owodwa, kube ngumhlatshele womnikelo wobudlelwano. Lo kwakungumnikelo kaPhagiyele indodana ka-Okhirani. **78** Ngosuku lwetshumi lambili u-Ahira indodana ka-Enani, umkhokheli wabantu bakaNafithali, waletsa umnikelo wakhe. **79** Umnikelo wakhe: wawungumganu wesiliva olesisindo esingamashekeli alikhulu lamatshumi amathathu, lomganu wesiliva oyingubhe wokuchela olesisindo esingamashekeli angamatshumi ayisikhombisa, yomibili ibe lesilinganiso samashekeli endlu engcwele, ngamunye ugwele ifulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha njengomnikelo wamabele; **80** inditshi yegolide eyodwa elesisindo esingamashekeli alitshumi, igcwele impepha; **81** inkunzi eliguqa, inqama eyodwa kanye lezinyane eliduna lemvu elilomnyaka owodwa, kungumnikelo wokutshiswa; **82** impongo eyodwa kungumnikelo wesono; **83** kanye lenkabi ezimbili, inqama ezinhlanu, impongo ezinhlanu kanye lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna amahlanu alomnyaka owodwa, kube ngumhlatshele womnikelo wobudlelwano. Lo kwakungumnikelo ka-Ahira indodana ka-Enani. **84** Le yayiyiminikelo yabakhokheli bako-Israyeli yokwahlukaniselwa kwe-alithari mhla ligcotshwa: imiganu elitshumi lambili yesiliva, imiganu yokuchela yesiliva eyingubhe elitshumi lambili kanye lenkezo zegolide ezilitshumi lambili. **85** Umganu munye wesiliva ulesisindo samashekeli alikhulu lamatshumi amathathu, njalo umganu oyingubhe wokuchela ngamunye ulesisindo samashekeli angamatshumi ayisikhombisa. Sezihlangene, izitsha zesiliva zazilesisindo esingamashekeli azinkulungwane ezimbili lamakhulu amane, kulinganiswa ngesisindo seshekeli lendlu engcwele. **86** Izinditshi ezilitshumi lambili zegolide zigcwele impepha zilesisindo samashekeli alitshumi inye, kulinganiswa ngesisindo seshekeli lendlu engcwele. Sezindawonye, inkezo zegolide zilesisindo samashekeli alikhulu elilamatshumi amabili. **87** Inani lezinyamazana zonke ezomnikelo wokutshiswa zazibalisa itshumi lambili lenkunzi ezingamaguqa, itshumi lambili lenqama kanye letshumi lambili lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna alomnyaka owodwa, kanye lomnikelo wazo wamabele. Impongo ezilitshumi lambili zaba ngezomnikelo wesono. **88** Sezihlangene zonke izinyamazana zomhlatshele womnikelo wobudlelwano kwaba zinkabi ezingamatshumi amabili lane, inqama ezingamatshumi ayisithupha, impongo ezingamatshumi ayisithupha kanye lamazinyane amaduna ezimvu alomnyaka owodwa angamatshumi ayisithupha. Le kwakuyiminikelo yokwahlukaniselwa kwe-alithari emva kokugcotshwa kwalo. **89** Kwathi uMosi engena ethenteni lokuhlangana ukuba ayekhuluma loThixo, wezwa ilizwi likhuluma laye liphuma sengathi liphahlwe ngamakerubhi amabili ngaphezu

kwesibekelo sesihlalo somusa, phezu kwebhokisi lobuFakazi. Wasekhuluma laye.

8 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** “Tshono ku-Aroni uthi, ‘Nxa usumisa izibane eziyisikhombisa, kufanele zikhanyise indawo ephambi koluthi lwezibane.’” **3** U-Aroni wenza njalo; wamisa izibane oluthini zikhangele phambili, njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo. **4** Uluthi lwesibane lwalwenziwe ngale indlela: Lwalwenziwe ngegolide elikhandiweyo kusukela esidindini salo kusiya embaxeni zamalaba alo. Uluthi lwesibane lwenziwa lwafana xathu lalokho uThixo ayekutshengise uMosi. **5** UThixo wathi kuMosi: **6** “Yahlukanisa abaLevi kwabanye bonke abako-Israyeli ubahlambulule ngokomkhuba. **7** Nanku ozakwenza nxa usubahlambulule: Bachele ngamanzi okuhlambulule, uthi baphuze imizimba yabo yonke njalo bagezise izigqoko zabo, bazihlambulule. **8** Kabathathe inkunzi eliguqa ndawonye lomnikelo wayo wamabele ayifulawa ecolokileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha; ubusuthatha inkunzi yesibili ibe ngumnikelo wesono. **9** Letha abaLevi phambi kwethente lokuhlangana ubusubuthanisa isizwe sonke sako-Israyeli. **10** Letha abaLevi phambi kukaThixo, abako-Israyeli babeke izandla zabo phezu kwabaLevi. **11** U-Aroni kethule abaLevi phambi kukaThixo njengomnikelo wabako-Israyeli wokuzunguzwa, ukuze balungele ukwenza umsebenzi kaThixo. **12** Nxa abaLevi sebebeke izandla zabo phezu kwamakhanda enkunzi, uzakwenza umnikelo wesono kuThixo ngenye yazo kanye lomnikelo wokutshiswa, ukwenzela abaLevi indlela yokubuyisana. **13** Misa abaLevi phambi kuka-Aroni kanye lamadodana akhe ubethule njengomnikelo wokuzunguzwa phambi kukaThixo. **14** Ngalokhu uzabe usubahlukanisile abaLevi kwabanye bonke abako-Israyeli, ngakho abaLevi bazakuba ngabami. **15** Ngemva kokuba usuhlambulule wethula abaLevi njengomnikelo wokuzunguzwa, kabeze benze umsebenzi wabo ethenteni lokuhlangana. **16** Bangabako-Israyeli abaphiwe mina ngokugcweleyo. Sengibathethe baba ngabami esikhundleni samazibulo, wonke umntwana ongumfana wokuqala ozelwe ngowesifazane wako-Israyeli. **17** Wonke amazibulo ako-Israyeli, awabantu kumbe aweziyamazana, angawami. Ngazehlukanisela wona mhla ngibulala amazibulo wonke eGibhithe. **18** Ngakho-ke sengithethe abaLevi esikhundleni samazibulo wonke angabafana bako-Israyeli. **19** Kubo bonke abako-Israyeli, senginike abaLevi ku-Aroni kanye lamadodana akhe ukuba babe yizipho ukuze benzele abako-Israyeli umsebenzi kanye lendlela yokubuyisana ethenteni lokuhlangana ukuze abako-Israyeli bangahlaselwa yisifo nxa besondela endlini engcwele.” **20** UMosi lo-Aroni kanye labo bonke abako-Israyeli benza njalo kubaLevi njengalokhu uThixo walaya uMosi. **21** AbaLevi bazihlambulula njalo bagezisa izigqoko zabo. Ngakho u-Aroni wabethula phambi kukaThixo njengomnikelo wokuzunguzwa njalo wabenzela indlela yokubuyisana ebahlambulule. **22** Ngemva kwalokho, abaLevi beza ethenteni lokuhlangana ukuzokwenza umsebenzi wabo ngaphansi kuka-Aroni kanye lamadodana akhe. Benza njalo kubaLevi njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo. **23** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **24** “Lokhu kuqondane labaLevi: Abesilisa abaleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lanhlano kusiya phezulu bazakwenza umsebenzi ethenteni lokuhlangana, **25** kodwa asebeleminyaka engamatshumi amahlano okuzalwa bazamiswa ukuphatha imisebenzi yabo yensuku ngensuku

bangabe besabeenza futhi. **26** Bangasiza nje abafowabo nxa besenza imisebenzi yabo ethenteni lokuhlangana, kodwa bona ngokwabo bangasebenzi. Le yiyo-ke indlela ozakupha ngayo abaLevi imisebenzi.”

9 Ngenyanga yakuqala ngomnyaka wesibili ngemva kokuphuma kwabo eGibhithe uThixo wakhuluma loMosi enkangala yaseSinayi, wathi, **2** “Yenza abako-Israyeli bagcine iPhasika ngesikhathi esimisiweyo. **3** Ccinani umkhosi walo ngesikhathi esimisiweyo, kusihlwa ngosuku lwetshumi lane lwayonale inyanga, ngokwezimiso kanye lemithetho yawo.” **4** Ngakho uMosi watshela abako-Israyeli ukuthi bagcine iPhasika, **5** benza njalo kusihlwa ngosuku lwetshumi lane lwenyanga yakuqala enkangala yaseSinayi. Abako-Israyeli benza konke njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo. **6** Kodwa abanye babo abazange bagcine iPhasika ngalolosuku ngoba babengcolile ngokomkhuba ngenxa yesidumbu. Ngakho beza kuMosi lo-Aroni ngalolosuku **7** bathi kuMosi, “Sesingcolile ngenxa yesidumbu, kambe kungani siqatshelwa ukwethula umnikelo kaThixo kanye labanye bako-Israyeli ngesikhathi esimisiweyo na?” **8** UMosi wabaphendula wathi, “Manini, ukuze ngizwe ukuthi uThixo uzakuthini ngani.” **9** Ngakho uThixo wathi kuMosi, **10** “Tshono kwabako-Israyeli uthi: ‘Nxa omunye wenu loba ubani wakini kumbe izizukulwane zenu ezingcoliswe yisidumbu kumbe ethethe uhambo, angagcina iPhasika likaThixo. **11** Bangagcina lumkhosi kusihlwa ngosuku lwetshumi lane lwenyanga yesibili. Kabadle iwundlu, kanye lesinkwa esingelamvubelo lembhida ebabayo. **12** Bangatshiyi lutho lwakho kuze kuse kumbe ukwephula loba yiliphi lamathambo alo. Nxa begcina iPhasika, kabalandele yonke imithetho yalo. **13** Kodwa nxa umuntu ehlabululule ngokomkhuba njalo engekho ohanjweni ehluleke ukugcina iPhasika, lowomuntu kasuswe ebantwini bakibo ngoba engethulanga umnikelo kaThixo ngesikhathi esimisiweyo. Lowomuntu uzathwala umlandu wesono sakhe. **14** Owezizweni ohlala phakathi kwenu ofuna ukugcina iPhasika likaThixo kakwenze ngokwezimiso kanye lemithetho yalo. Wobani lezimiso zinye koweziizweni kanye lowakini.’” **15** Ngosuku okwamiswa ngalo ithabanikeli, ithente lobuFakazi lamiswa, iyezi lalisibekela. Kusukela kusihlwa kwaze kwasa iyezi elaliphezu kwethabanikeli lalinjengomlilo. **16** Laqhubeka linjalo; lembeswe iyezi, ebusuku lalinjengomlilo. **17** Kwakusithi iyezi lingaphakama lisuka phezu kwethente, abako-Israyeli labo babesuka bahambe kuthi lapho elima khona, abako-Israyeli bamise izihonqo zabo khona. **18** Abako-Israyeli babesuka bahambe ngokulaya kukaThixo, kuthi njalo ngokulaya kwakhe bamise izihonqo zabo. Ngesikhathi sonke iyezi limi phezu kwethabanikeli, abako-Israyeli bahlala ezihonqweni zabo. **19** Lapho iyezi lihlala isikhathi eside phezu kwethabanikeli, abako-Israyeli bamlalela uThixo abaze bahamba. **20** Kwesinye isikhathi iyezi lalisima phezu kwethabanikeli okwezinsukwana nje kuphela; ngokulaya kukaThixo babehlala ezihonqweni khonapho, kuthi njalo ngokulaya kwakhe basuke bahambe. **21** Kwesinye isikhathi iyezi lalisima kusukela kusihlwa kuze kuse, kuthi nxa lisuka ekuseni, labo bahambe. Kungakhathalekile ukuthi kusemini loba kusebusuku, sonke isikhathi lapho iyezi lisuka babesuka bahambe. **22** Loba iyezi lalisima phezu kwethabanikeli okwensuku ezimbili, kumbe okwenyanga eyodwa loba okomnyaka, abako-Israyeli babehlala khonapho ezihonqweni bangasuki; kodwa nxa lingasuka, labo babesuka.

23 Ngokulaya kukaThixo babehlala ezihonqweni, langokulaya kwakhe njalo babesuka bahambe. Balalela okwakutshiwo nguThixo ngokulaya kwakhe ngoMosi.

10 UThixo wathi kuMosi: 2 “Yenza amacilongo amabili ngesiliva esikhandiweyo, ukuze uwasebenzise nxa ubizela abako-Israyeli ndawonye lanxa izihonqo sezifanele ukususwa ukuba kuhanjwe. 3 Kuzakuthi nxa amacilongo womabili angakhala sikhathi sinye, isizwe sonke sako-Israyeli sibuthane phambi kwakho esangweni lethente lokuHlangana. 4 Kungakhala elwodwa nje, abakhokheli, inhloko zezizwana zako-Israyeli, kumele babuthane phambi kwakho. 5 Nxa icilongo lingakhala kakhulu, izizwana ezihlala ezihonqweni ezisempumalanga zizasuka. 6 Lingakhala kakhulu okwesibili izihonqo ezingeningizimu zizasuka. Ukukhala kakhulu kwecilongo kutsho ukuthi kakusukwe. 7 Ekubuthanisweni kwabantu ndawonye, lizakhalisa amacilongo, kodwa kube lomahluko ukukhala kwawo. 8 Amadodana ka-Aroni, abaphristi, yibo abazatshaya amacilongo. Lesi siyisimiso esizakuma njalo kini lakuzizukulwane ezizayo. 9 Nxa lisilwa impi lesitha esilincindezelayo elizweni lakini, lizakhalisa kakhulu amacilongo. Ngalokho uThixo unkulunkulu wenu uzalikhumbula njalo lisindiswe ezitheni zenu. 10 Njalo lazezikhathini zenu zentokozo, emikhosini emisiweyo kanye lemadilini okuThwasa kwenyanga, lizakhalisa amacilongo phezu kweminikelo yokutshiswa kanye leminikelo yobudlelwano, ngakho izakuba yisikhumbuzo senu phambi kukaNkulunkulu wenu. Mina nginguThixo unkulunkulu wenu.” 11 Ngosuku lwamatshumi amabili ngenyanga yesibili ngomnyaka wesibili, iyezi lasuka phezu kweThabanikeli lobuFakazi. 12 Ngalokho abako-Israyeli basuka enkangala yaseSinayi bazula indawo ngendawo iyezi laze layakuma enkangala yasePharani. 13 Basuka, okwehlandle lakuqala ngokulaya kukaThixo ngoMosi. 14 Izigaba zezihonqo zakuJuda zasuka kuqala, ngophawu lwazo. Zazilawulwa nguNahashoni indodana ka-Aminadabi. 15 UNethaneli indodana kaZuwarei ekhokhele izigaba zesizwana sika-Isakhari, 16 kuthi u-Eliyabi indodana kaHeloni ekhokhele izigaba zesizwana sikaZebhuluni. 17 Ngakho basebechitha ithabanikeli, kwathi amaGeshoni lamaMerari ayelithwala, lawo asuka. 18 Kwalandela izigaba zezihonqo zikaRubheni, lazo zingaphansi kophawu lwazo. U-Elizuri indodana kaShedewuri wayekhokhele. 19 UShelumiyeli indodana kaZurishadayi ekhokhele isigaba zesizwana sikaSimiyoni, 20 kanti u-Eliyasafi indodana kaDuweli wayekhokhele isigaba sesizwana sikaGadi. 21 Kwasekusuka amaKhhathani, wona asuka ethwele izinto ezingcwele. Ithabanikeli kwakumele limiswe abako-Israyeli bengakafiki. 22 Izigaba zezihonqo zika-Efrayimi zalandela, ngaphansi kophawu lwazo. Owayekhokhele ngu-Elishama indodana ka-Amihudi. 23 UGamaliyeli indodana kaPhedazuri wayekhokhele isigaba sesizwana sikaManase, 24 kanti u-Abhidani indodana kaGidiyoni wakhokhela isigaba sezihonqo zesizwana sikaBhenjamini. 25 Ekucineni, beliviyo elalivimbe emuva kwazo zonke izigaba, kwaba ngabezihonqo zesizwana sikaDani, abasuka ekucineni labo bengaphansi kophawu lwabo. Owayekhokhele kwakungu-Ahiyezeri indodana ka-Amishadayi. 26 UPagiyeli indodana ka-Okhirani wayekhokhele isigaba zesizwana sika-Asheri, 27 kanti u-Ahira indodana ka-Enani wayekhokhele isigaba zesizwana sikaNafithali. 28 Lokhu kwakuyindlela yokulandelana

kokuhamba kwezigaba zabako-Israyeli ekusukeni kwabo. 29 UMosi wathi kuHobhabhi indodana kaRuveli onguMidiyani uyizezela kaMosi, “Sesisuka sisiya elizweni lelo elatshiwo nguThixo ukuthi ‘Ngizalipha lona.’ Woza sihambe lawe thina sizakuphatha kuhle, uThixo uthembise abako-Israyeli izinto ezinhle.” 30 Waphendula wathi, “Hatshi, angiyikuhamba, ngizabuyela kwelakithi ebantwini bakithi.” 31 Kodwa uMosi wathi, “Ngiyakuncenga ungasuki phakathi kwethu. Nguwe owazi lapha okufanele sihlale khona enkangala, njalo ongaba ngamehlo ethu. 32 Nxa ungahamba lathi, sizakwabelana lawe izinto ezinhle esiyabe siziphiwe nguThixo.” 33 Ngakho basuka entabeni kaThixo bahamba okwensuku ezintathu. Umthokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo wahamba phambi kwabo okwalezonsuku ezintathu ukubafunela indawo yokuphumula. 34 Iyezi likaThixo lalisiba phezu kwabo emini lapho sebesuka ezihonqweni. 35 Kwakusithi lapho umthokotsho wesivumelwano usuka, uMosi athi, “Phakama, Thixo! Sengathi izitha zingahlakazeka; sengathi izitha zakho zingabaleka phambi kwakho.” 36 Kwakusithi lingema, athi, “Buya, Thixo, kuzinkulungwane zako-Israyeli ezingebalwe.”

11 Abantu basola ngobunzima ababelabo uThixo esizwa, kwathi ekuzwa lokho wathukuthela kakhulu. Kwasekusithi umlilo ovela kuThixo wavutha phakathi kwabo waze waqothula lezinye izindawo ezisemaphethelweni ezihonqo. 2 Kwathi lapho abantu sebekhale kuMosi, yena wakhuleka kuThixo ngakho umlilo wadeda. 3 Indawo leyo yasibizwa ngokuthi yiThabhera, ngoba umlilo kaThixo wavutha phakathi kwabo. 4 Uquqaba lwabantu olwaluphakathi kwabo lwaqala ukufisa okunye ukudla, ngakho labako-Israyeli baqala ukulila bathi, “Aluba besingazuza inyama yokudla nje kodwa lokhu! 5 Sesikhumbula inhlanzi esazizidla eGibhithi kungelambadal lamakhomane, amakhabe, amalikhilimihlobo yonke yehanyanisi kanye legalikhilimihlobo. 6 Pho khathesi lapha sesize singasakhwabithi lokudla; kasiboni lutho ngaphandle kwemana yonale zwii!” 7 Imana yayiphose ilingane lentanga yekhoriyanda ilombala ofana lowenhlaka. 8 Abantu babephuma bayeyibutha, bayichole kumbe bayigige. Babeyipheka embizeni kumbe benze amaqebelengwana ngayo. Yayinambitheka njengento ephekwe ngamafutha e-oliva. 9 Kwakusithi nxa kusiba lamazolo ezihonqweni ebusuku, imana layo ikhithika. 10 UMosi wezwa abantu bendlu inye ngayinye bekhala, ngulowo esemnyango wethente lakhe. UThixo wathukuthela kakhulu, njalo uMosi wakhathazeka. 11 UMosi wathi kuThixo, “Kungani wehlisele ubunzima encekwini yakho na? Kuyini engikwenzileyo okungakuthokozisanga ukuze ungenele ngobunzima babantu bonke laba na? 12 Ngingunina wabo na? Yimi engabazalayo yini? Kungani usithi ngibaphathe ngezandla zami njengomngikazi ephelethe usane, ngibase elizweni lesithembiso owafunga ngalo kubokhokho babo na? 13 Ngingayithatha ngaphi inyama yokupha abantu bonke laba? Lokhu bengikhalela besithi, ‘Sinike inyama sidle!’ 14 Ngeke ngibathwale abantu bonke laba ngingedwa; umthwalo lo unzima kakhulu kimi. 15 Nxa kuyiyo indlela ozangiphatha ngayo, ngibulala khathesi, nxa ngifumane umusa kuwe, ukuze ngingaboni ukhulupheka kwami.” 16 UThixo wathi kuMosi: “Ngilethela ebadaleni bako-Israyeli abangamatshumi ayisikhombisa obaziyo ukuthi bangabakhokheli futhi yizikhulu zabantu. Balethe ethenteni lokuhlangana ukuze bame lawe khonapho. 17 Ngizakwehla

ngizikhuluma lawe khonapho, ngizathatha ingxenye yoMoya okuwe ngiwufake phezu kwabo. Bazakuncedisa ukuthwala umthwalo wabantu bako-Israyeli ukuze ungangathwale wedwa. **18** Tshela abantu uthi: Zingcweliseni lilungiselela usuku lwakusasa, lapho elizakudla khona inyama. UThixo ulizwile likhala kuye lisithi, 'Ngubani ozasipha inyama ukuba sidle? Kwakungcono kithi siseGibhithe!' Khathesi uThixo uzalinika inyama, njalo lizayidla. **19** Aliyikuyidla okosuku olulodwa loba ezimbili, loba ezinhlanu, ezililishumi loba ezingamatshumi amabili, **20** kodwa lizayidla okwenyanga yonke, ize iphume ngamakhala enu, ilitshiphele, ngoba limhlamukele uThixo ephakathi kwenu, njalo likhalile phambi kwakhe, lisithi, 'Kanti sivele sasukelane eGibhithe.'" **21** Kodwa uMosi wathi, "Mina ngilapha phakathi kwamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamakhulu ayisithupha ahamba ngezinyawo, kodwa wena uthi, 'Ngizabanika inyama abazayidla okwenyanga yonke!' **22** Bebenegeneliswa na aluba bebehlatshelwe imihlambi yezimvu lezeyifuyo? Babezakweneliswa na aluba begolelwe inhlanzi zonke zaselwandle?" **23** UThixo wamphendula uMosi wathi, "Kambe ingalo kaThixo imfitshane na? Uzabona-ke khathesi longabe yebo loba hayi ukuthi engikutshoyo kuzagcwaliseka kuwe." **24** Ngakho uMosi waphuma wayatshela abantu lokho okwakutshwano nguThixo. Wahlanganisa abadala abangamatshumi ayisikhombisa wabamisa bahonqolozela ithente. **25** Ngalokho uThixo wehla ngeyezi wakhuluma laye, yena wasethatha uMoya owawuphezu kwakhe wawethulela phezu kwabadala bebandla abangamatshumi ayisikhombisa. Kwathi uMoya usuphezu kwabo, baphrofitha, kodwa kabazange baphinde bakwenze emva kwalokho. **26** Kodwa-ke, kwakukhona amadoda amabili, kungu-Elidadi loMedadi ababesele esihonqweni. Lanxa babebalelwa ebadaleni, kodwa kabazange baphume ukuya eThenteni. Kanti-ke uMoya wawehlele phezu kwabo labo, njalo babeprofitha besesihonqweni. **27** Ljahana elincinyane lagijima layabikela uMosi lathi, "U-Elidadi loMedadi bayaphrofitha besesihonqweni." **28** UJoshuwa indodana kaNuni, owayekade engumsekeli kaMosi kusukela ebutsheni bakhe, waphakamisa ilizwi wathi, "Mosi, nkosi yami, bathulise!" **29** Kodwa uMosi waphendula wathi, "Uyangikhwelezela na? Ngiyafisa ukuthi ngabe bonke abantu bakaThixo bangabaphrofithi njalo lokuthi UThixo wehlisele uMoya wakhe phezu kwabo!" **30** Ngakho uMosi labadala bako-Israyeli babuyela ezihonqweni. **31** Kwasekuphaphetha umoya uvela kuThixo wathinta izagwaca zivela owandle. Zakhithika zelekana ukusuka phansi okwezingalo ezimbili ezihonqweni, zendlela okomango ongahanjwa okosuku lonke inxa zonke. **32** Mhlalokho emini lebusuku njalo langosuku olulandelayo abantu baphuma bayabutha izagwaca. Akekho owabutha izagwaca ezinganeno kwamahomeri alitshumi. Ngakho basebezichaya indawana zonke ezihonqweni. **33** Kodwa kwathi belokhu besayihlafuna inyama bengakayiginyi, ulaka lukaThixo lwawutha phezu kwabantu, njalo wabatshaya ngokubehlisela umkhuhlane. **34** Ngakho indawo leyo yabizwa ngokuthi yiKhibhrothi Hathava, ngoba kulapho okwangcwatshwa khona abantu ababebukhali kokunye ukudla. **35** Ekusukeni kwabo eKhibhrothi Hathava abantu bahamba baze bayafika eHazerothi bahlala khona.

12 UMiryemu lo-Aroni basuka basebeqalisa ukusola uMosi ngenxa yomkakhe ongumKhushi, njengoba wayethethe umKhushi. **2** Babuzana bathi: "Kambe uMosi nguyeyedwa ongumlomo kaThixo na? Kanti lathi kazange

asenze izikhulumeli zakhe na?" UThixo wakuzwa lokhu. **3** (UMosi wayeyindoda ethobekakhulu, ethobekakwedelela wonke amadoda asemhlabeni.) **4** Khonokho nje uThixo wathi kuMosi, u-Aroni loMiryemu, "Phumani lize ethenteni lokuhlangana, lonke lobathathu." Lakanye beza bobathathu. **5** UThixo wehla ngensika yeyezi; wema esangweni lethente wasebiza u-Aroni loMiryemu. Kwathi lapho sebesondele bobabili, **6** uThixo wasesithi, "Lalelani amazwi ami: Nxa kulomphrofethi kaThixo phakathi kwenu, ngiziveza kuye ngemibono, ngikhuluma laye emaphutsheni. **7** Kodwa akunjalo ngenceku yami uMosi; uthembekile endlini yami yonke. **8** Nxa ngikhuluma laye siqondana ubuso ngobuso, ngokucacileyo kungesikuphucana; uyasona isimo sikaThixo. Kungani pho belingesabi ukusola inceku yami uMosi na?" **9** Ulaka lukaThixo lwavutha phezu kwabo, uThixo wasesuka kubo. **10** Ekusukeni kweyezi phezu kwethente, kwabonakala uMiryemu esemi lapho eselobulephero obunjengongqwaqwane. U-Aroni uthi emkhangela wambona eselobulephero; **11** wasesithi kuMosi, "Awu, nkosi yami, ungasibeki icala ngenxa yesono esisenze ngobuwula. **12** Ungamyekeli enjengomntwana ozelwe efile, inyama yakhe idliwe nganxanye." **13** Ngakho uMosi wakhala kuThixo wathi, "Nkulunkulu, ngiyakucela, misilise." **14** UThixo waphendula uMosi wathi, "Kambe ngabe uyise ubemkhafulele ebusweni, ubengayikuthwala ihlazo okwensuku eziyisikhombisa na? Mkhupheni ahlele ngaphandle kwezihonqo okwensuku eziyisikhombisa; ngemva kwalokho selingambuyisa." **15** Ngakho uMiryemu wahlaliswa ngaphandle kwezihonqo okwensuku eziyisikhombisa, ngakho abantu bakaqhubekanga ngohambo waze waphenduka. **16** Ngemva kwalokho, abantu basuka eHazerothi bayamisa izihonqo enkangala yasePharani.

13 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** "Thuma amadoda athile ukuba ayehlola ilizwe laseKhenani, engilinka abako-Israyeli. Kusendo ngalunye lwesizwe thuma umkhokheli oyedwa." **3** Ngakho ngokulaya kukaThixo uMosi wabakhupha labo enkangala yePharani. Bonke babengabakhokheli bako-Israyeli. **4** Nanka amabizo abo: esizweni sikaRubheni, kwakunguShamuwa indodana kaZakhuri; **5** esizweni sikaSimiyoni, kwakunguShafathi indodana kaHori; **6** esizweni sikaJuda, kwakunguKhalabi indodana kaJefune; **7** esizweni sika-Isakhari, kwakungu-Igali indodana kaJosefa; **8** esizweni sika-Efrayimi, kwakunguHosheya indodana kaNuni; **9** esizweni sikaBhenjamini, kwakunguPhalithi indodana kaRafu; **10** esizweni sikaZebhuluni, kwakunguGadiyeli indodana kaSodi; **11** esizweni sikaManase (owesizwe sikaJosefa), kwakunguGadi indodana kaSusi; **12** esizweni sikaDani, kwakungu-Amiyeli indodana kaGemali; **13** esizweni sika-Asheri, kwakunguSethuri indodana kaMikhayeli; **14** esizweni sikaNafithali, kwakunguNabhi indodana kaVofisi; **15** esizweni sikaGadi, kwakunguGewuweli indodana kaMakhi. **16** La ngamabizo alawomadoda athunyuwa nguMosi ukuyahlola ilizwe. (UMosi wetha uHosheya indodana kaNuni ibizo elithi Joshuwa.) **17** Ekubathumeni kwakhe ukuyahlola ilizwe laseKhenani, uMosi wathi kubo, "Hambani liye eNegebi likhuphukele elizweni lezintaba. **18** Likhangele ukuthi ilizwe lakhona linjani njalo lokuthi abantu bakhona balamandla kumbe babuthakathaka, balutshwana kumbe banengi. **19** Ilizwe abahlala kulo linjani? Lihle na loba libi? Amadolobho abahlala kuwo anjani? Agonjolozelwe ngemiduli loba asegekene nje?"

20 Umhlabathi wakhona unjani? Uvundile na loba ulugwadule? Langabe lilezihlahla loba hayi? Yenzani ubungcono benu libuye lezinye zezithelo zakulelilizwe.” (Kwakuyisikhathi sokuvuthwa kwezithelo zakuqala zevini.) 21 Ngakho bahamba ukuyahlola ilizwe besukela eNkangala yaseZini kuze kuyefika eRehobhi, ngokuya eLebho Hamathi. 22 Bahamba-ke badabula eNegebi baze bayafika eHebhroni, lapho okwakuhlala khona u-Ahimani, loSheshayi kanye loThalimayi, izizukulwane zika-Anakhi. (IHebhroni yakhiwa iminyaka eyisikhombisa kungakakhiwa idolobho laseZovani eGibhithe.) 23 Bathi befika esihotsheni sase-Eshikholi baquma ugatsha olwalulesixha sezithelo zevini. Ababili babo basithwala besigaxe egodweni ndawonye lamaphomegranathi kanye lomkhwa. 24 Lindawo yabizwa ngokuthi yisihotsha sase-Eshikholi ngenxa yesixha sezithelo zevini esaqunywa khona ngabako-Israyeli. 25 Ngemva kwensuku ezingamatshumi amane zokuhlola ilizwe inhlozi zabuyela emuva. 26 Babuyela kuMosi lo-Aroni lakuso sonke isizwe sako-Israyeli eKhadeshi, enkangala yasePharani. Babikela uMosi lo-Aroni kanye labo bonke abako-Israyeli njalo batshengisa lezithelo zakulelilizwe. 27 Balandisela uMosi bathi: “Sihambile elizweni lelo obukade usithume kulo, ngempela ligeleza uchago loluju! Nanzi izithelo zalo. 28 Kodwa abantu abahlala khona balamandla kanti lamadolobho akhona makhulu njalo avikelwe. Size sabona lezizukulwane zika-Anakhi khonale. 29 Ama-Amaleki ahlala eNegebi; amaHithi, lamaJebusi lama-Amori bahlala elizweni lezintaba, amaKhenani wona ahlala eduzane lolwandle esekele umfula uJordan.” 30 Emva kwalokho uKhalebi wathulisa abantu phambi kukaMosi wasesithi, “Kufanele ukuthi sihambe siyethatha ilizwe leli libe ngelethu, ngoba singakwenza sibili.” 31 Kodwa amadoda lawo ayehambe laye athi, “Asingeki sibahlasele abantu labo; balamandla kulathi.” 32 Basebethela abantu bako-Israyeli umbiko omubi ngelizwe ababelihlolile. Bathi, “Ilizwe esilihlolileyo liyabagabhela labantu abahlala kulo. Bonke abantu esibabone khonale yiziqhwaga. 33 Sibone khona amaNefilimi (isizukulwane sika-Anakhi sivela kumaNefilimi). Emehlweni ethu besingangentethe phambi kwabo, lasemehlweni abo besinjalo.”

14 Ngalobobusuku abantu bonke emphakathini baphakamisa amazwi abo bakhala kakhulu. 2 Bonke abako-Israyeli bakhonona besola uMosi lo-Aroni, lonke ibandla lathi kubo, “Ngabe sahle sazifela eGibhithe, kumbe khonapha enkangala! 3 Kungani uThixo esilethe kulelilizwe ukuthi sife sibulawa ngenkomba na? Amakhosikazi ethu kanye labantwabethu bazakuba yimpango. Kambe kakungcono yini ukuthi sibuyele eGibhithe na?” 4 Bakhulumisana besithi, “Asikhetheni omunye umkhokheli asibuyisele eGibhithe.” 5 Ngakho uMosi lo-Aroni bathi mbo ngobuso phansi phambi kwabantu bako-Israyeli bonke ababebuthene lapho. 6 Kwathi uJoshua indodana kaNuni kanye loKhalebi indodana kaJefune, ababengabanye balabo ababeyehlola ilizwe, badabula izigqoko zabo 7 bathi kubo bonke abako-Israyeli ababebuthene, “Ilizwe esadabula kulo salihlola lihle kakhulu. 8 Nxa uThixo ethokoza ngathi, uzasikhokhelela kulo, ilizwe eligeleza uchago loluju, njalo uzakusinika lona. 9 Kuphela nje lingamhlamukeli uThixo. Futhi lingabesabi abantu bakulelilizwe, ngoba sizabadla sibaqede. Kabaselaso isivikelo, kodwa uThixo ulathi. Lingabesabi.” 10 Kodwa ibandla wonke wathi kabakhandwe ngamatshe. Inkazimulo kaThixo yasonakala kubo bonke abako-Israyeli ethenteni

lokuhlangana. 11 UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Koze kube nini abantu laba bengeyisa na? Kuzaze kube nini bengangikholwa, loba sengenze izinto ezimangalisayo phakathi kwabo na? 12 Ngizabatshaya ngomkhuhlane ngibabhubhise, kodwa wena ngizakwenza ube yisizwe esikhulu njalo esilamandla kulabo.” 13 UMosi wasesithi kuThixo, “AmaGibhithe azakuzwa lokhu! Abantu laba bakhutshwa ngawe phakathi kwabo ngamandla akho. 14 Ngakho bazatshela abakhileyo kulelilizwe ngalesisehlakalo. Bavele sebezile ukuthi wena, Oh Thixo, ulabo lababantu njalo lokuthi wena, Thixo, ubonakale uqondene labo ubuso ngobuso, lokuthi iyezi lakho lihlahla liphezu kwabo, njalo lokuthi uhamba phambi kwabo ngensika iyezezi lakho emini kuthi ebusuku ngensika yomlilo. 15 Pho ungababhubhisa abantu bonke laba ngasikhathi sinye, izizwe esezizwile ngalezizindaba ngawe zizakuthi, 16 UThixo wehlulekile ukungenisa abantu laba elizweni abathembisa lona ngesifungo; ngakho usebabbhubhise enkangala.” 17 Amandla kaThixo kabonakaliswe khathesi, njengokutsho kwakho ukuthi: 18 UThixo uyaphuza ukuthukuthela, ugcwele ngothando njalo uyathethelela isono lokuhlamuka. Kodwa kayikubayekela abalecala bengajeziwangwa; ujezisa abantwana ngenxa yezono zaboyise kuze kube kusizukulwane sesithathu lesesine.” 19 Thethelela isono salabantu, ngenxa yothando lwakho olukhulu, ubaxolele njengokubaxolela kwakho kusukela ngesikhathi abasuka ngaso eGibhithe kuze kube khathesi.” 20 UThixo waphendula wathi, “Sengibathethelele njengesicelo sakho. 21 Impela njengoba ngiphila, lanjengoba inkazimulo kaThixo igcwalise umhlaba wonke, 22 akulamuntu loyedwa owabona inkazimulo yami kanye lezibonakaliso zezimanga engenzenza eGibhithe lasenkangala kodwa kaze angilalela njalo wangilinga okungaba ngamahlamandla alitshumi, 23 akukho loyedwa wabo ozalibona ilizwe engalithembisa okhokho babo ngesifungo. Futhi kakho loyedwa ongidelelayo ozalibona. 24 Kodwa ngenxa yokuthi inceku yami uKhalebi ulomoya owehlukileyo njalo ungilandela ngenhliziyo yakhe yonke, ngizamngenisela elizweni afika kulo, lizakuba yilifa lezizukulwane zakhe. 25 Njengoba ama-Amaleki lamaKhenani ehlala ezigodini, lina phendukani kusasa liqonde enkangala ngendlela yasoLwandle oLubomvu.” 26 UThixo wathi kuMosi lo-Aroni: 27 “Koze kube nini lababantu abangalunganga bekhonona bengisola na? Sengizwile ukusola lokukhonona kwabako-Israyeli. 28 Ngakho batshele uthi, ‘Njengoba ngiphila impela, kutsho uThixo, ngizakwenza kini zona lezizinto engilizwe lizikhuluma. 29 Izidumbu zenu zizagcwala enkangala yonale, lina lonke elabalwayo ngesikhathi sokubalwa kwabantu efileminyaka yokuzalwa engamatshumi amabili kusiya phezu labo bonke abakade bekhonona bengisola. 30 Kakho loyedwa wenu ozangena elizweni engafunga ngokuphakamisa isandla ukuthi libe likhaya lenu, ngaphandle kukaKhalebi indodana kaJefune loJoshua indodana kaNuni. 31 Mayelana labantwana benu labo elathi bazakuba yimpango, ngizabangenisa elizweni lelo lilalileyo ukuze bathokoze kulo. 32 Kodwa lina, izidumbu zenu zizawohlakela kule inkangala. 33 Abantwabenu bazakuba ngabelusi lapha okweminyaka engamatshumi amane, behlupheka ngenxa yokungathembeki kwenu, kuze kungcwatshwe isidumbu sokucina enkangala. 34 Okweminyaka engamatshumi amane, umnyaka munye umele usuku lunye elahlola ngalo ilizwe, lizahlupheka ngenxa yezono zenu lize lazi ukuthi kuyinto enjani nxa mina

ngimelana lani.’ **35** Mina Thixo, sengikhulumile, njalo ngempela ngizazenza lezizinto ebantwini laba bonke, abamanyeneyo bemelana lami. Bazabhubha kuyonale inkangala; bazafela khonapha.” **36** Ngakho amadoda ayethunywe nguMosi ukuthi ayehlola ilizwe, lawo athi ekuphendukeni kwawo amemethekisa umbiko omubi owabangela ukuthi abantu bakhonone besola uMosi, **37** lawomadoda amemethekisa umbiko ongalunganga mayelana lelizwe atshaywa ngomkhuhlane afa phambi kukaThixo. **38** Emadodeni ayeyehlola ilizwe, kwasila kuphela uJoshua indodana kaNuni kanye loKhalebi indodana kaJefune. **39** Kwathi lapho uMosi esebikele bonke abako-Israyeli, bakhala kabuhlungu. **40** Ngosuku olulandelayo ekuseni kakhulu baqonda elizweni lamaqaqa. Bathi, “Sonile, sizakuya kuleyondawo esayithenjiswa nguThixo.” **41** Kodwa uMosi wathi kubo, “Kungani lingalaleli umlayo kaThixo na? Lokhu elikwenzayo akuzo kuphumelele! **42** Lingakhuphuki, ngoba uThixo kalisekeli. Lizakwehlulwa yizitha zenu, **43** ngoba lizaqondana lama-Amaleki kanye lamaKhenani khonale. Ngenxa yokuthi limhlamukele uThixo, yena kayikuba lani ngakho lizabhujiiswa ngenkamba.” **44** Loba kunjalo, baqhubeka beqonde elizweni lamaqaqa benganakile, loba uMosi kumbe umtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo kungasukanga ezihonqweni. **45** Ngakho ama-Amaleki lamaKhenani ayehlola kulelolizwe lamaqaqa ehla abahlasela, ababhuqa ebaxotsha baze bayafika eHoma.

15 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** “Tshela abako-Israyeli uthi kubo: ‘Ngemva kokungena kwenu elizweni engilini lona ukuba libe likhaya lenu, **3** kumele lethule iminikelo yenu eyenziwa ngomlilo kuThixo, kusukela emihlambini yenkomo levezimvu, kube liphunga elimnandi kuThixo, kungakhathalekile ukuthi ngumnikelo wokutshiswa kumbe ngumhlatshelelo, kungokwezifungo eziqakathekileyo loba iminikelo yokuzithandela loba eyemikhosi emisiweyo, **4** ngakho lowo oletha umnikelo wakhe uzakwethula kuThixo umnikelo wamabele oyingxeny eyodwa etshumini lehefa lefulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha ayingxenyey eyodwa kokune kwehini. **5** Lungisa lewundlu ngalinye elomnikelo wokutshiswa loba umhlatshelelo ingxenyey eyodwa kokune yehini yewayini njengomnikelo wokunathwayo. **6** Kuthi ngenqama ulungise umnikelo wamabele ube yisilinganiso sokubili kokulitshumi kwehefa lefulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha ayisilinganiso esisodwa kokuthathu kwehini, **7** lewayini eliyisilinganiso sehini esisodwa kokuthathu kube ngumnikelo wokunathwayo. Kunikele kube liphunga elimnandi kuThixo. **8** Nxa ulungisa inkunzi eliguqa njengomnikelo wokutshiswa loba umhlatshelelo, kusenzelwa isifungo esiqakathekileyo loba umnikelo wobudlelwano kuThixo, **9** lethu ndawonye lenkunzi umnikelo wamabele acholiweyo aba yifulawa ecolekileyo eyisilinganiso sehefa sokuthathu etshumini exutshaniswe lamafutha ayingxenyey yehini. **10** Letha njalo lewayini eliyisilinganiso zengxenyey yehini kube ngumnikelo wokunathwayo. Lokhu kuzakuba ngumhlatshelelo wokudla, iphunga elimnandi kuThixo. **11** Ngakho inkunzi inye ngayinye loba inqama, iwundlu linye ngalinye loba izinyane lembuzi, akulungiswe ngale indlela. **12** Lokhu kwenze emnikelweni ngamunye loba ulungise emingaki. **13** Wonke ozalwa lapha kumele enze lezizinto ngale indlela lapho eletha umnikelo wakhe owenziwe

ngomlilo njengephunga elimnandi kuThixo. **14** Ezizukulwaneni ezilandelayo, owezizweni loba ngubani ohlezi lani nxa esethula umnikelo owenziwa ngomlilo njengoqhatshi olumnandi kuThixo, kumele enze khona lokho elikwenzayo. **15** Imithetho le kumele uyilandele wena labantu bonke kanye labezizweni abahlala phakathi kwenu; lesi yisimiso esimi njalo lakuzizukulwane ezilandelayo. Lina kanye labezizweni lizafanana phambi kukaThixo: **16** Lizabuswa ngemithetho lemilayo efananayo lina kanye labezizwe abahlala phakathi kwenu.” **17** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **18** “Tshela abako-Israyeli uthi: ‘Ekungeneni kwenu elizweni engilisa kulo **19** lingadla ukudla kwalelolizwe, yethulani ingxenyey yakho ibe ngumnikelo kuThixo. **20** Lethani isinkwa esenziwe ngempuphu yakuqala lisethule njengomnikelo ovela esizeni. **21** Kuzozonke izizukulwane ezilandelayo lizakwethula umnikelo kuThixo uthethwe emputshini yenu yakuqala.” **22** “Kungakho nxa wehlulekile ukugcina loba yiphi imilayo uThixo ayinika uMosi ungananzelelanga, **23** loba yiphi imilayo kaThixo alitshelwe yona ngoMosi, kusukela ngosuku uThixo amupha yona kuqhubeka ezizukulwaneni ezilandelayo, **24** kanti njalo lokhu kwenzakele ngephutha abantu bengakunanzelele, kutsho ukuthi abantu bonke bakuleyondawo bazanikele ngenkunzi eliguqa kube ngumnikelo wokutshiswa olephunga elimnandi kuThixo, ndawonye lomnikelo wamabele lowokunathwayo, kanye lempongo yomnikelo wesono njengokumisiweyo. **25** Umphristi uzakwenzela isizwe sonke sako-Israyeli indlela yokubuyisana, ngakho bazathethelelwa, ngoba bekungayisingabomo njalo banikele kuThixo ngokona kwabo umhlatshelelo wokudla kanye lomnikelo wesono. **26** Abantu bonke bako-Israyeli kanye labezizwe abahlala labo bazathethelelwa, ngoba bonke lababantu babengonanga ngabomo. **27** Kodwa nxa kungumuntu oyedwa owonayo kungesikho ngabomo, kumele alethe imbuzi ensikazi elomnyaka owodwa ibe ngumnikelo wesono. **28** Umphristi uzamenzela lowo owone ngokwenza isono kungesikho ngabomo indlela yokubuyisana phambi kukaThixo, kuthi ngemva kokuba indlela yokubuyisana isiyenziwe, uzathethelelwa. **29** Wonalo umthetho ngowomuntu wonke owonayo kungesikho ngabomo, kungakhathalekile ukuthi ngowako-Israyeli ozalelwe khonapha kumbe ngwezizweni. **30** Kodwa loba ngubani owenza isono ngabomo, kungaba ngowakini loba owezizweni, athuke uThixo, lowomuntu uzaxotshwa ebantwini bakibo. **31** Ngenxa yokweyisa ilizwi likaThixo lokwephula imilayo yakhe, lowomuntu ngempela kaxotshwe kwabakibo; uhlala elokhu elalo icala.” **32** Ngesikhathi abako-Israyeli besenkangala, indoda ethile yatholakala itheza inkuni ngosuku lweSabatha. **33** Kwathi labo abamficayo etheza bamusa kuMosi lo-Aroni kanye lakubo bonke abantu, **34** ngoba kungakazakali ukuthi kumele enziweni; wavalelwa entolongweni. **35** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Indoda leyo kumele ife. Abantu bonke kumele bamkhande ngamatshwe ngaphandle kwezihonqo.” **36** Ngakho abantu bamusa ngaphandle kwezihonqo bamkhande ngamatshwe waze wafa, njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo. **37** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **38** “Tshela abako-Israyeli uthi kubo: ‘Kuzozonke izizukulwane ezizayo, kumele lithungele izixha zentshaka emiphethweni yezembatho zenu, isixha ngasinye sibe lentambo eluhlaza. **39** Lizakhumbula imilayo yonke kaThixo njalo liyilalele izikhathi zonke nxa likhangela intshaka lezi ukuze lingazibhixi ngokulandela izinkanuko zezinhlizyo zenu kanye lamehlo enu liduhe. **40** Ngakho lizakhumbula

ukuyilandela yonke imilayo yami ukuze lehlukaniselwe uNkulunkulu wenu. **41** Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, owalikhupha eGibhithe ukuze ngibe nguNkulunkulu wenu. NginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu.”

16 UKhona indodana ka-Izihari, indodana kaKhohathi, indodana kaLevi, labathile abakoRubheni, uDathani kanye lo-Abhiramu, amadodana ka-Eliyabi, kanye lo-Oni indodana kaPhelethi baqala ukuba yiziqholo **2** bavukela uMosi. Bakwena lokuthi bendawonye lamanye amadoda angamakhulu amabili alamatshumi amahlanu ako-Israyeli, abakhokheli abadumileyo babantu bakuleyondawo ababekhethelwe ukuthi babe ngamalunga enkundla. **3** Beza beliqembu ukuzomelana loMosi lo-Aroni bathi kubo, “Seledlulise amalawulo! Abantu bonke bako-Israyeli bangcwele, bonke ngamunye wabo, njalo uThixo uyabasekela. Pho kungani liziphakamisa ngaphezu kwabantu bakaThixo na?” **4** UMosi wathi ekuzwa lokhu, wawela phansi ngobuso. **5** Wasesithi kuKhona lakubalandeli bakhe: “Kusasa ekuseni uThixo uzaveza obala ukuthi ngubani ongowakhe lokuthi ngubani ongcwele, njalo uzamvumela lowomuntu ukuthi asondele kuye. Indoda azayikhetha ziyayivumela ukuthi isondele phansi kwakhe. **6** Wena, Khora, kanye labalandeli bakho yenzani lokhu: Thathani indengezi **7** kuthi kusasa libasele umlilo njalo litshisele impepha kuzo phambi kukaThixo. Indoda ezakhethwa nguThixo yiyo engcwele. Lina baLevi seledlulise amalawulo!” **8** UMosi wabuye wathi kuKhora, “Khathezi lalalani-ke, lina baLevi! **9** Kanti akulanelisanga yini ukuthi uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli ulikhethile phakathi kwabo bonke abako-Israyeli njalo walisondeza phansi kwakhe ukuze lenze umsebenzi ethabanikeleni likaThixo lokuthi lizakuma phambi kwesizwe lisenzele inkonzo na? **10** Ukusondezile wena kanye labanye bakho abangabaLevi phansi kwakhe, kodwa-ke khathesi selifuna lobuphristi. **11** Ukubambana kwakho kanye labalandeli bakho kuyikumelana loThixo limphikisa. Kambe ungubani u-Aroni elingakhonona ngaye?” **12** Ngakho uMosi wabiza uDathani lo-Abhiramu amadodana ka-Eliyabi. Kodwa bona bathi, “Ve! kasibuyi! **13** Kambe bekungenelanga yini ukuthi wasikhitha elizweni eligeleza uchago loluju ukuzasibulalela enkangala na? Khathesi usufuna lokuba yinkosi phezu kwethu? **14** Kunjalo-nje, awukasingenisi elizweni eligeleza uchago loluju kumbe ukusipha ilifa lamasimu kanye lezivini. Ufuna ukukopola amehlo amadoda la na? Hatshi, kasibuyi!” **15** Ngalokho uMosi wathukuthela kakhulu wasesithi kuThixo, “Ungawemukeli umnikelo wabo. Angithathanga lutho kubo ngitsho lobabhemi kodwa lokhu, njalo kakho loyedwa engimoneleyo.” **16** UMosi wathi kuKhora, “Wena kanye labo bonke abalandeli bakho kumele lime phambi kukaThixo kusasa, wena, bona kanye lo-Aroni. **17** Indoda inye nganye kumele ithathe udengezi ifake impepha kulo, indengezi ezingamakhulu amabili alamatshumi amahlanu, njalo iwethule phambi kukaThixo. Wena kanye lo-Aroni lani kufanele liveze ezenu indengezi.” **18** Ngakho indoda inye ngayinye yathatha udengezi lwayo, yafaka umlilo kanye lempepha kulo, njalo yema loMosi lo-Aroni esangweni lethente lokuhlangana. **19** Kwathi uKhona esebaqoqile abalandeli bakhe bephikisana labo esangweni lethente lokuhlangana, inkazimulo kaThixo yabonakala kubo bonke abantu ababebuthene kuleyondawo. **20** UThixo wathi kuMosi lo-Aroni, **21** “Sukani phakathi kwalaba ababutheneyo ukuze ngibabhubhise khathesi.” **22** Kodwa uMosi lo-Aroni bawaphansi ngobuso bakhala bathi, “Oh Nkulunkulu, Nkulunkulu

wemiphfumulo yabantu bonke, uzathukuthelela abantu bonke jikelele ngenxa yomuntu oyedwa owonileyo na?” **23** Ngakho uThixo wathi kuMosi, **24** “Tshela ibandla uthi, ‘Sukani eduze kwamathente aboKhona, loDathani lo-Abhiramu.’” **25** UMosi wasukuma waya kuDathani lo-Abhiramu, kwathi labadala bako-Israyeli bamlandela. **26** Waqonqosela ibandla wathi, “Buyalani emuva lisuke emathenteni abantu laba ababi! Lingathiinti lutho olungolwabo ngoba lingenzenjalo lizakhuculwa ngenxa yezono zabo.” **27** Ngakho basuka emathenteni kaKhona, uDathani lo-Abhiramu. UDathani lo-Abhiramu basebephume phandle bem labomkabo, labantwabobo kanye labancane emasangweni amathente abo. **28** UMosi wasesithi, “Nansi indlela elizabona ngayo ukuthi uThixo ungithumile ukuzokwenza konke lokhu engikwenzayo kanye lokuthi akusingqondo yami. **29** Nxa amadoda la ezazifela ngendlela abantu abazifela ngayo, kumbe nxa bengethekelelwa emva kokwethekelela kwabantu bonke kuzabe kusitsho ukuthi uThixo kangithumanga. **30** Kodwa nxa uThixo ezakwena esingakaze sikubone okunye okutsha kwenzakale ukuthi umhlaba uvuleke ubaginye kanye lakho konke okungokwabo, bangene bephila engcwabeni, kulapho elizakwazi khona ukuthi amadoda la ameyisile uThixo.” (Sheol **h7585**) **31** Kwathi eqeda ukutsho lokhu, umhlaba wavuleka ngaphansi kwabo, **32** wavuleka wabaginya bona, kanye labantwabobo lamadoda wonke ayekhokhelwa nguKhona kanye lempahla zawo. **33** Batshona engcwabeni bephila, lakho konke okwakungokwabo; umhlabathi wabambokotha, kwaba yikutshabalala kwabo, basuswa kwabakibo. (Sheol **h7585**) **34** Besizwa ukukhala kwabo, bonke abako-Israyeli ababelapho babaleka, beklabalala besithi, “Umhlaba uzasiginya lathi!” **35** Kwavela umlilo kuThixo watshaya waqothula amadoda angamakhulu amabili alamatshumi amahlanu ayenikela ngempepha. **36** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **37** “Tshela u-Eliyazari indodana ka-Aroni, umphristi, ukuthi athathe indengezi azikhipe emlotheni achithele amalahle endaweni ekhatshana, ngoba indengezi lezi zingcwele, **38** indengezi zamadoda onileyo aze alahlekelwa yimpilo yawo. Khanda lezondengezi ukuze zendleleke e-alithareni, ngoba zethulwa phambi kukaThixo zaba ngezincgcwele. Azibe yisibonakaliso kwabako-Israyeli.” **39** Ngakho u-Eliyazari umphristi wabutha indengezi zethusi ezazilethe yilabo abats Shayo, walungisa ukuba zikhandwe zendlalwe e-alithareni, **40** njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo. Lokhu kwakuzakhumbuzwa abako-Israyeli ukuthi kakho ovunyelwayo ukutshisa impepha phambi kukaThixo ngaphandle kuka-Aroni lesizukulwane sakhe, funa abe njengoKhona labalandeli bakhe. **41** Ngosuku olulandelayo abako-Israyeli bonke bakhonona basola uMosi lo-Aroni. Bathi, “Selibulele abantu bakaThixo.” **42** Kodwa kwathi ibandla selibuthene bephikisa uMosi lo-Aroni njalo sebekhangele ethenteni lokuhlangana, masinyane iyezi lalisibekela kwavela inkazimulo kaThixo. **43** Ngakho uMosi lo-Aroni baya phambi kwethente lokuhlangana, **44** uThixo wasesithi kuMosi, **45** “Suka kulelibandla ukuze ngibatshabalalise.” Ngakho bawaphansi ngobuso. **46** Kusenjalo uMosi wathi ku-Aroni, “Thatha udengezi lwakho uthle impepha kulo, ndawonye lomlilo ovela e-alithareni, uphange uye ebandleni ukuze ubenzele indlela yokubuyisana. Ulaka lukaThixo lubonakele; isifo sesiqalisile.” **47** U-Aroni wenza okwakutshiwo nguMosi, waphanga wangena phakathi kwebandla. Isifo sesivele sesiqalisile ebantwini, kodwa u-Aroni wanikela impepha wabenzela indlela yokubuyisana. **48** Wema phakathi kwabaphilayo lasebefile, isifo saphela. **49**

Kodwa kwasekufe abantu abazinkulungwane ezilithumi lane lamakhulu ayisikhombisa bebulawa yisifo, phezu kwalabo ababefe ngenxa kaKhora. **50** Ngemva kwalokho u-Aroni wabuyela kuMosi esangweni lethente lokuhlangana, njengoba isifo sasiphilele.

17 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** “Tshela abako-Israyeli ukuthi bakuphe intonga ezilithumi lambili, kuphume ibenye kumkhokheli munye ngamunye wesizwana sabokhokho bakhe. Bhalala ibizo lendoda ngayinye entongeni yayo. **3** Entongeni kaLevi uzabhala ibizo lika-Aroni, ngoba kumele kube lentonga eyodwa emele inhloko inye ngayinye yesizwana sabokhokho bayo. **4** Zifake ethenteni lokuhlangana phambi komtshokotsho wobufakazi, lapho engihlangana lawe khona. **5** Intonga yendoda engizayikhetha izahluma, njalo mina ngizahle ngikuqede lokhu kukhonona okulokhu kuqhubeka kusolwa wena ngabako-Israyeli.” **6** Ngakho uMosi wakhuluma kwabako-Israyeli, abakhokheli babo bamnika intonga ezilithumi lambili, ngayinye ingeyomkhokheli wesizwana sabokhokho bakhe, kwathi leka-Aroni yayibalelwa kuzo. **7** UMosi wabeka intonga lezo phambi kukaThixo ethenteni lobufakazi. **8** Ngosuku olulandelayo uMosi wangena ethenteni lobufakazi wabona ukuthi intonga ka-Aroni eyayime indlu kaLevi, yayisihlumile yaqhakaza, isilamaluba njalo isithele izithelo ze-alimondi. **9** Ngakho uMosi wazisusa zonke intonga phambi kukaThixo waziletha phambi kwabo bonke abako-Israyeli. Bazikhangela, ngulowo wathatha eyakhe intonga. **10** UThixo wathi kuMosi, “Buyisela intonga ka-Aroni phambi komtshokotsho wobufakazi, igcinwe khonapho ibe yisibonakaliso kulabo abahlamakayo. Lokhu kuzaqeda ukukhonona kwabo ngami, ukuze bangafi.” **11** UMosi wenza khona lokho kanye uThixo ayemlaye ngakho. **12** Abako-Israyeli bathi kuMosi, “Sizakufal Sifile, sonke sesifile! **13** Loba ngubani ozasondela phansi kwethabanikeli likaThixo uzakufa. Sizakufa sonke na?”

18 UThixo wathi ku-Aroni, “Wena, lamadodana akho labemuli kayihlo lizakuba lomlandu wokukhangela ukwephulwa kwemithetho yendawo yokukhonzela, njalo wena kanye lamadodana akho yini lodwa elizakuba lomlandu walabo abonela abaphristi. **2** Letha abaLevi bakini bevela ezizwaneni zabokhokho benu bazohlanganyela kunye lani bakuphathise wena lamadodana akho lapho lisenza inkonzo phambi kwethente lobufakazi. **3** Bazakuba ngaphansi kwakho njalo benze yonke imisebenzi yasethenti, kodwa akumelanga basondele phansi kwezimpahla zendlu engcwele kumbe e-alithareni, funa lonke, wena kanye labo life. **4** Kumele bahlanganele lawe babelomlandu wokunakekela ithente lokuhlangana, wonke umsebenzi wethenteni, njalo akungabibikho loyedwa ozasondela lapho wena okhona. **5** Wena uzakuba lomlandu wokugcina indlu engcwele le-alithari, ukuze abako-Israyeli bangehlelwa lulaka njalo. **6** Mina ngokwami ngibakethile abafowenu abalevi phakathi kwabako-Israyeli ukuba babe yisipho kuwe, behlukanisele uThixo ukuba benze umsebenzi ethenteni lokuhlangana. **7** Kodwa wena kanye lamadodana akho yini lodwa elivunyelwayo ukwenza umsebenzi wobuphristi kukho konke okuse-alithareni langaphakathi kwekheteni. Ngikunika umsebenzi wobuphristi kukho konke okuse-alithareni langaphakathi kwekheteni. Ngikunika umsebenzi wobuphristi njengesipho. Loba ngubani omunye ozasondela endaweni engcwele kumele abulawe.” **8** UThixo wasesithi ku-Aroni, “Mina ngokwami yimi

engikunike umlandu wokukhangela iminikelo eyethulelwa mina, yonke iminikelo engcwele engiyiphiwa ngabako-Israyeli ngiyinika wena lamadodana akho ukuba kube yingxenyeye yesabelo sakho esimi njalo. **9** Kumele uzuze leyongxenyeye yomnikelo ongcwelengcwele ongatshiswanga. Kuzozonke izipho abaziletha kimi zingumnikelo ongcwelengcwele, loba ngowamabele loba ngowesono kumbe owecala, leyongxenyeye yomnikelo ngeyakho lamadodana akho. **10** Idle njengento engcwelengcwele; wonke owesilisa kumele ayidle. Kumele akuphathe njengento engcwele. **11** Lokhu lakho ngokwakho: konke okubekwa eceleni kwalezizipho zonke zomnikelo wokuzunguzwa zako-Israyeli. Lokhu ngikunika wena lamadodana akho lamadodakazi akho ukuba kube yisabelo esimi njalo. Kuzakuthi wonke owendlu yakho ohlambulukileyo ngokomkhuba avunyelwe ukudla. **12** Ngikunika wonke amafutha acengekileyo e-oliva lewayini lonke elitsha elicengekileyo kanye lamabele abawana uThixo kuyizithelo zakuqala zesivuno sabo. **13** Zonke izithelo zakuqala zomlimela abaziletha kuThixo ngezakho. Kuzakuthi wonke owendlu yakho ohlambulukileyo ngokomkhuba avunyelwe ukudla. **14** Yonke into yako-Israyeli emiselwe uThixo ngeyakho. **15** Amazibulo wonke azelweyo, kuhlanganisa awabantu kanye lawezinyamazana, anikelwe kuThixo ngawakho. Kodwa uzahlenga wonke amadodana angamazibulo kanye lawo wonke amazibulo amaduna ezinyamazana ezingcolileyo. **16** Kuzakuthi zingafikisa inyanga eyodwa zizelwe uzihlengi ngentengo yokuhlenga ayisilinganiso samashekeli amahlanu esiliva, kusiya ngesilinganiso seshekeli lendlu engcwele, eyisindiso esingamagera angamatshumi amabili. **17** Kodwa ungahlengi amazibulo enkomo, loba awemvu loba awembuzi; ngoba angcwele. Chela igazi lawo e-alithareni ubusutshisa amahwahwa awo kube ngumhlathshelo wokudla, iphunga elimnandi elithokozisa uThixo. **18** Inyama yawo izakuba ngeyakho njengoba isifuba somnikelo wokuzunguzwa kanye lomlenze kungokwakho. **19** Loba kuyini okubekwe eceleni eminikelweni engcwele eyethulwe ngabako-Israyeli kuThixo ngikunika wena kanye lamadodana njalo lamadodakazi akho ukuba kube yisabelo senu senjayelo. Lesi yisivumelwano setswayi esingapheliyo phambi kukaThixo, esakho kanye lenzalo yakho.” **20** UThixo wathi ku-Aroni, “Wena kawuyikuba lelifa elizweni labo, njalo awuyikuba lesabelo phakathi kwabo; mina ngiyisabelo sakho kanye lelifa lakho phakathi kwabako-Israyeli. **21** Abalevi ngibanika konke okwetshumi kwelako-Israyeli kube yilifa labo ngenxa yomsebenzi abawenza ethenteni lokuhlangana. **22** Kusukela khathe si abako-Israyeli akumelanga basondele ethenteni lokuhlangana, funa babelomlandu wesono sabo bafe. **23** NgabaLevi okufanele benze umsebenzi ethenteni lokuhlangana njalo baphathe umsebenzi wokukhangela abonayo ethenteni. Lesi yizimiso esingapheliyo lakuzizukulwane ezizayo. Kabayikuziza ilifa phakathi kwabako-Israyeli. **24** Kodwa-ke abalevi ngibanika okwetshumi okwethulwa ngabako-Israyeli njengomnikelo kuThixo kube yilifa labo. Kokuqondene labo yikho ngathi: ‘Kabayikuba lelifa phakathi kwabako-Israyeli.’” **25** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **26** “Tshela abalevi utsho lokhu kubo: ‘Lapho lisamukela okwetshumi engilunika khona kuvela kwabako-Israyeli njengelifa lenu, kumele likhuphe ingxenyeye yetshumi kokwetshumi kube ngumnikelo kuThixo. **27** Umnikelo wenu uzabalelwa kini njengamabele avela esizeni loba umhluzi ovela esihluzweni sewayini. **28** Ngale indlela

lani lizakwethula eyenu iminikelo kuThixo kukho konke okwetshumi elizakwamukela kuvela kwabako-Israyeli. Kulokho okwetshumi kumele liphe okuyisabelo sikaThixo ku-Aroni umphristi. **29** Kumele lethule njengesabelo sikaThixo okuhle ukwedlula konke njalo kungokungcwelengcwele kwakho konke elikuphiweyo.’ **30** Tshela abeLevi uthi: ‘Nxa lisethula okuhle kakhulu, kuzaphathwa kini njengesithelo esivela esizeni loba esihluzweni sewayini. **31** Lina kanye labezindlu zenu lingadla konke okunye ngaphi langaphi, ngoba kuyinkokhelo yenu yomsebenzi ethenteni lokuhlangana. **32** Ngokwethula okuhle kulakho konke aliyikuba lecala kulokho; ngakho kaliyikungcolisa iminikelo engcwele yako-Israyeli, njalo kaliyikufa.”

19 UThixo wathi kuMosi lo-Aroni: **2** “Lokhu yikho okukhangelelwe ngomthetho njengokulaya kukaThixo: Tshela abako-Israyeli bakuphe ithokazi elibomvu eliphelelyo njalo lingelasici kanti njalo kumele kube ngelingakaze lifakwe ejogeni. **3** Liqhubeleni u-Eliyazari umphristi; kumele likhithshelwe ngaphandle kwesihonqo njalo lihlatshelwe khona. **4** Ngakho u-Eliyazari umphristi uzathatha elinye igazi lalo ngomunwe alichele kasikhombisa eqondise phambi kwethente lokuhlangana. **5** Ithokazi lizatsishwa ekhangele, isikhumba salo, inyama, igazi lomswane. **6** Umphristi uzathatha ezinye inkuni zesihlahla somsedari, ihisophi kanye lewulu ebomvu akuphosele phezu kwethokazi elitshayo. **7** Ngenwa kwalokho umphristi kumele agezise izigqoko zakhe abesegeza yena ngamanzi. Ngenwa kwalokho usengangane-ke ezihonqweni, kodwa uzakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. **8** Indoda ezatshisa ithokazi kumele layo igezise izigqoko zayo njalo layo igeze ngamanzi, izakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. **9** Indoda ehlambulukileyo izabutha umlotha wethokazi iwufake endaweni ehlabulululeyo ngokomlayo ngaphandle kwesihonqo. Umlotha lo uzagcinwa ngabantu bako-Israyeli ukuze bawusebenzise emanzini okuhlambulula; ungowokuhlanza izono. **10** Indoda ebutha umlotha wethokazi kumele layo igezise izigqoko zayo, kanti njalo layo izabe ingongcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. Lo ngumlayo omi njalo kwabako-Israyeli labezizwe abahlala phakathi kwabo. **11** Lowo ozathintwa yisidumbu sofileyo uzabe engongcolileyo okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. **12** Kumele azihlambulule ngamanzi ngosuku lwesithathu langosuku lwesikhombisa; kodwa nxa engazihlambululi ngosuku lwesithathu langolwesikhombisa uzabe engahlambululanga. **13** Lowo othinta isidumbu sofileyo abesehluleka ukuzihlambulula uncolisa ithabanikeli likaThixo. Lowomuntu kumele axotshwe kwabako-Israyeli. Ngenxa yokuthi kachelwanga ngamanzi okuhlambulula, unongcolileyo; uzahlala ngcolile. **14** Lo ngumthetho osebana nxa umuntu efele ethenteni: Loba ngubani ongena ethenteni njalo loba ngubani ophakathi kwalo uzakuba ngongcolileyo okwensuku eziyisikhombisa, **15** njalo siphi lasiphi isitsha esingasibekelwanga sizabe ngcolile. **16** Loba ngubani ofice isidumbu somuntu obulewe ngenkamba egangeni loba esomuntu ozifeleyo asithinte, kumbe loba ngubani othinta ithambo lomuntu ofileyo loba ingcwaba, uzakuba ngongcolileyo okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. **17** Umuntu ongcolileyo, mfakale embizeni umlotha womnikelo otshisiweyo wokuhlambulula ube usuthela amanzi ahlambulukileyo phezu kwawo. **18** Kuzakuthi-ke indoda ehlambulukileyo ngokomlayo

ithathe ihisophi, iligxamuze emanzini ibe isichela ithente kanye lezitsha zonke labantu abakade belapho. Kumele ichele wonke umuntu oke wathinta ithambo lofileyo loba ingcwaba loba umuntu obuleweyo loba umuntu ozifeleyo. **19** Indoda ehlambulukileyo izachela lowo ongcolileyo ngosuku lwesithathu langosuku lwesikhombisa, kuthi-ke ngosuku lwesikhombisa ibisimhlambulula. Umuntu ohlanjululwayo kumele agezise izigqoko zakhe abesegeza umzimba wakhe ngamanzi, Ngalokhokuhlwa uzabe esehlambulululekile. **20** Kodwa umuntu ongcolileyo nxa engazihlambululanga, kumele axotshwe ebantwini, ngoba uzabe eletha ihlazo endlini engcwele kaThixo. Njengoba engachelwanga ngamanzi angcwele, kutsho ukuthi uncolile. **21** Lesi yisimiso esimi njalo kubo. Indoda echela ngamanzi okuhlambulula layo kumele igezise izigqoko zayo, kanti njalo laye wonke ozathinta amanzi okuhlambulula uzakuba ngongcolileyo kuze kube kusihlwa. **22** Konke okuthintwe ngumuntu ongcolileyo kuzakuba ngongcolileyo, kuthi loba ngubani okuthintayo abe ngongcolileyo kuze kuhlwe.”

20 Ngenyanga yakuqala abantu bonke bako-Israyeli bafika enkangala yaseZini, basebelhala eKhadshi. UMiryemu wafela lapho njalo wangcwatshelwa khona. **2** Abantu baswela amanzi, ngakho babambana ekuphikiseni uMosi lo-Aroni. **3** Baxabana loMosi kanye lo-Aroni bathi, “Ngabe lathi sahle sazifela mhla abafowethu besifa phambi kukaThixo! **4** Labaethelani abantu bakaThixo kule inkangala na? Ukuze thina kanye lezifuyo zethu sizifela lapha na? **5** Lasikhuphelani eGibhithe lisiletha endaweni le embi kangaka na? Ayilamabele kumbe imikhiwa, amavini loba amaphomegranathi. Njalo akulamanzi okunatha!” **6** UMosi lo-Aroni basuka embuthanweni wabantu baya esangweni lethente lokuhlangana bawaphansi ngobuso, inkazimulo kaThixo yasibonakala kubo. **7** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **8** “Thatha intonga kuthi wena lomfowenu u-Aroni libizele abantu ndawonye. Khulumani elitshe ni phambi kwabo ngakho lona lizakhupha amanzi alo. Lizathatha amanzi aphuma edwaleni liphe abantu ukuze banathe bona kanye lezifuyo zabo.” **9** Ngakho uMosi wathatha intonga phambi kukaThixo, njengokulaywa kwakhe nguThixo. **10** UMosi lo-Aroni basebebizela abantu ndawonye phambi kwedwala, uMosi wasesithi kubo, “Lalelani, lina bahlamuki. Silikhuphele amanzi kulelidwala na?” **11** Ngakho uMosi waphakamisa ingalo yakhe watshaya idwala kabili ngenqonga yakhe. Amanzi antshantshaza ephuma edwaleni, Kwathi abantu kanye lezifuyo zabo banatha. **12** Kodwa uThixo wathi kuMosi lo-Aroni, “Ngenxa yokuthi kalingethembanga okokungipha udumo njengongcwele phambi kwabako-Israyeli, kaliyikukhokhelela lababantu engkeneni elizweni engibapha lona.” **13** La ngamanzi aseMeribha, lapho abako-Israyeli abaphikisana khona loThixo njalo kulapho uThixo abonakalisa ubungcwele bakhe phakathi kwabo. **14** UMosi wathumela izithunywa enkosini yase-Edomi zisuka eKhadshi, esithi: “Nanku okutshiwo ngumfowenu u-Israyeli: Uyabazi bonke ubunzima obusehleleyo. **15** Okhokho bethu basuka baya eGibhithe, sahlala khona okweminyaka eminengi. AmaGibhithe asiphatha ngochuku kanye labobaba, **16** kodwa sakhala kuThixo wezwa ukukhala kwethu wasithumela ingilosi yasikhipha eGibhithe. Khathesi silapha eKhadshi idolobho elisemngceleni welizwe lakho. **17** Ake usivumele sidlule elizweni lakho. Kasiyikudabula phakathi lakuwaphi amasimu

loba isivini sakho, kumbe ukunatha amanzi loba kuwuphi umthombo. Sizahamba silandela umgwaqo wenkosi njalo kasiyikuphambukela kwesokudla kumbe kwesokunxele size sedlule elizweni lakho.” **18** Kodwa u-Edomi waphendula wathi: “Ngeke lidlule lapha, lingake lilinge, sizaphuma silihhlasele ngenkamba.” **19** Abako-Israyeli baphendula bathi: “Sizahamba ngomgwaqo omkhulu, njalo thina loba izifuyo zethu singanatha amanzi enu, sizawabhadala. Sifuna ukuzedlulela ngenyawo kuphela nje.” **20** Abase-Edomi baphendula njalo bathi: “Lingadluli lapha.” Ngakho u-Edomi waphuma kanye lebutso elikhulu elilamandla ukuyahlasela abako-Israyeli. **21** Njengoba u-Edomi wala ukuthi badabule elizweni labo, abako-Israyeli baphenduka bahamba ngenye indlela. **22** Isizwe sonke sako-Israyeli sasuka eKhadeshi sahamba saze sayafika entabeni yaseHori. **23** Sebesentabeni yaseHori, eduze lomngcele wase-Edomi, uThixo wathi kuMosi lo-Aroni, **24** “U-Aroni usezakufa angcwatshwe. Akuyikungena elizweni engilini abako-Israyeli, ngoba lina lobabili langihlamukela emanzini aseMeribha. **25** Biza u-Aroni kanye lendodana yakhe u-Eliyazari ukhwele labo entabeni yaseHori. **26** Uhlubule u-Aroni izembatho zakhe uzizqokise indodana yakhe u-Eliyazari, ngoba u-Aroni uzalandela abakibo; uzafela khona.” **27** UMosi wenza njengokulaywa kwakhe kuThixo: Bakhwela entabeni yaseHori isizwe sonke sibakhangele. **28** UMosi wamhlabula u-Aroni izembatho zakhe wazizqokisa indodana yakhe u-Eliyazari. Ngakho u-Aroni wafela khonapho phezu kwentaba. Ngemva kwalokhu uMosi lo-Eliyazari behla entabeni, **29** Kwathi abantu bonke sebezile ukuthi u-Aroni wayesefile, yonke indlu ka-Israyeli yamhlala okwensuku ezingamatshumi amathathu.

21 Kwathi inkosi yase-Arabi engumKhenani eyayihlala eNegebi isizwa ukuthi abako-Israyeli babesiza behamba ngomgwaqo beqonde e-Atharimi, yabahlasela abako-Israyeli yaze yathumba abanye babo. **2** Ngakho u-Israyeli wenza lesisifungo kuThixo wathi: “Nxá unganikela lababantu ezandleni zethu, sizachithiza amadolobho abo nya.” **3** UThixo walalela ukuncenga kwabako-Israyeli wasenikela amaKhenani kubo. Abako-Israyeli bawaqothula amaKhenani bachithiza kanye lamadolobho awo; ngakho indawo leyo yabizwa ngokuthi yiHoma. **4** Bahamba besuka entabeni yaseHori ngendlela eqonda olwandle oluBomvu, ukuze baceze ilizwe lase-Edomi. Kodwa besendleleni abantu basebenengekile sebhethelwe yikubekezele; **5** bakhuluma kubi besola uNkulunkulu kanye loMosi, bathi, “Lasikhuphelani na eGibhithe ukuze sizafela enkangala? Akulasinkwa! Akulamanzi! Futhi lalokhu ukudla kwenu okubi siyakuzonda.” **6** Ngakho uThixo wasebathumela izinyoka ezazilobuhlungu obesabekayo kakhulu, zabaluma abantu bako-Israyeli abanengi bafa. **7** Abantu baya kuMosi bathi, “Sonile ngokukhuluma kwethu kubi ngoThixo langokukhuluma kwethu ngawe. Akukhuleke ukuthi uThixo asuse izinyoka lezi phakathi kwethu.” Ngakho wabakhulekela abantu. **8** UThixo wathi kuMosi, “Yenza inyoka yethusi uyiphanyeke esigodweni; loba ngubani olunyiweyo angakhangela kuyo uzaphila.” **9** Ngakho uMosi wenza inyoka yethusi wayiphanyeka esigodweni. Kwakusithi lowo olunyiwe yinyoka angakhangela inyoka yethusi aphile. **10** Abako-Israyeli basuka baqhubeka baze bayamisa izihonqo zabo e-Obhothi. **11** Basuka njalo e-Obhothi bayamisa izihonqo zabo e-Iye-Abharimi, enkangala eyayimalungana

leMowabi ngokuya ngempumalanga. **12** Besuka lapho baqhubeka ngohambo baze bayamisa izihonqo zabo esigodini saseZeredi. **13** Basuka lapho bayamisa izihonqo zabo eduze le-Arinoni esenkangala eqhelela elizweni lama-Amori. I-Arinoni isemngceleni welaseMowabi, phakathi laphakathi kweMowabi kanye lama-Amori. **14** Kungakho uGwalo lweziMpi zikaThixo lusithi: “Lokho akwenza olwandle olubomvu lakwenza emifuleni yeWahebbhi eseSufa lemifuleni yase-Arinoni **15** lamawa ezindonga ehlela endaweni yase-Ari lasekela umngcele weMowabi.” **16** Besuka lapho baqhubeka baze bayafika eBheri, emthonjeni lapho uThixo athi kuMosi, “Buthanisa abantu ngibanike amanzi.” **17** Ngakho abako-Israyeli bahlabela ingoma le ethi: “Mpompoza, wemthombo! Hlabelelani ngawo, **18** ngomthombo owenjiwa ngamakhosana, owenjiwa yizikhulu zabantu, izikhulu ezilentonga zobukhosi kanye lezinduku.” Basuka-ke enkangala bayafika eMathana, **19** besuka eMathana baya eNahaliyeli, besuka eNahaliyeli, baya eBhamothi, **20** kwathi besuka eBhamothi baqonda esigodini eMowabi, lapho isiqongo sentaba yasePhisiga esikhangele elizweni elilugwadule. **21** U-Israyeli wathumela izithunywa kuSihoni inkosi yama-Amori wathi: **22** “Sivumele sidabule elizweni lakho. Kasiyikuphambukela loba lakuliphi icele ukuze singene loba kuwaphi amasimu akho kumbe isivini, loba ukunatha amanzi emthonjeni loba yiwuphi. Sizazihambela nje ngomgwaqo omkhulu weNkosi size sedlule elizweni lakho.” **23** Kodwa uSihoni kavumanga ukuthi u-Israyeli adabule elizweni lakhe. USihoni waqoqa ibutho lakhe waphuma waqonda enkangala ukuyahlasela u-Israyeli. Wathi esefikile eJahazi walwa lo-Israyeli. **24** Kodwa u-Israyeli wamngqoba ngenkamba, wambhubhisa njalo wamthathela ilizwe lakhe kusukela e-Arinoni kusiya eJabhoki, kusiya fika elizweni lama-Amori kuphela, ngoba umngcele walo wawuvikelwe ngemithangala. **25** U-Israyeli wathatha wonke amadolobho ama-Amori wahlala kuwo, kwakungoqela iHeshibhoni kanye leziqinti ezaziqingobolozele. **26** IHeshibhoni kwakulidolobho likaSihoni inkosi yama-Amori, owayelwe lenkosi yamaMowabi eyayikade ibusa khona wayinqoba wayithathela ilizwe layo lonke kuze kuyefika e-Arinoni. **27** Yingakho izimbongi zisithi: “Wozani eHeshibhoni; kayivuselelwe yakhiwe njalo; akuthi idolobho likaSihoni livuselelwe. **28** Umlilo wavutha eHeshibhoni ilangabi lavela edolobheni likaSihoni. Laqothula i-Ari laseMowabi, abantu basemiqolweni yase-Arinoni. **29** Maye kuwe, Mowabi! Selibhujisiwe lina, Oh bantu baseKhemoshi! Udedele amadodana akhe njengeziphepheli lamadolodakazi njengabathunjweyo bethunjwa nguSihoni inkosi yama-Amori. **30** Kodwa thina sibehlule; iHeshibhoni siyitshabalalisile kuze kuyefika eDibhoni. Sibachithile kwaze kwaba seNofa, eqhelela eMedebha.” **31** Ngakho u-Israyeli wahlala elizweni lama-Amori. **32** Ngemva kokuba uMosi esethumele inhlozi ejazeri, abako-Israyeli bathumba iziqinti eziseduze njalo batoshama ama-Amori ayehlala khona. **33** Basebephenduka bahamba ngomgwaqo oya eBhashani. U-Ogi inkosi yaseBhashani kanye lebutso lakhe lonke baphuma ukuyahlangana labako-Israyeli ukubahlasela e-Edreyi. **34** UThixo wathi kuMosi, “Ungamesabi, ngoba sengimnikela kuwe lamabutho akhe wonke kanye lelizwe lakhe. Menze konke owakwenza kuSihoni inkosi yama-Amori, owayebusa eHeshibhoni.” **35** Ngakho bambulala ndawonye lamadolodana akhe kanye lebutso lakhe lonke, kakho loyedwa owaphephayo. Basebethatha ilizwe lakhe.

22 Abako-Israyeli basuka lapho baya emagcekeni aseMowabi bamisa izihonqo zabo zisekele umfula ijodani ngaphetsheya kweJerikho. **2** UBhalaki indodana kaZiphori wabona konke okwenziwa ngu-Israyeli kuma-Amori, **3** ngakho uMowabi wesaba ngoba abantu bako-Israyeli babebanengi kakhulu. Ngempela uMowabi watshaywa luvalo ngenxa yokwesaba abako-Israyeli. **4** AmaMowabi athi ebadaleni bamaMidiyani, “Ixuku leli lizahuquluzi konke esilakho, njengenkabi isidla utshani emadlweni.” Ngakho uBhalaki indodana kaZiphori, uwayeyinkosi yamaMowabi ngalesosikhathi, **5** wathumela izithunywa ukuyabiza uBhalamu indodana kaBheiyori, owayehlala ePhethori eduzane lomfula iYufrahe elizweni lakibo lomdabuko. UBhalaki wathi, “Kulabantu abanengi kakhulu abavela eGibhithe; bagcwele ilizwe lonke njalo bahlezi eduze kwami. **6** Woza khathesi uzeletha isithuko phezu kwabo, ngoba balamandla kulami. Mhlawumbe ngalokho ngingabehlula ngibaxotshe elizweni. Ngoba ngiyazi ukuthi labo obabusisayo bayabusiseka, njalo labo obaqalekisayo bayaqalekiswa.” **7** Abadala bamaMowabi labamaMidiyani basuka, bathatha imbadalo yokuhlalula. Batha befika kuBhalamu, bamtshela lokho okwatshiwu nguBhalaki. **8** “Lalani lapha okwamuhla,” watsho uBhalamu kubo, “Ngizalilethela impendulo engaziyiphwa nguThixo.” Ngakho amakhosana amaMowabi ahlala laye. **9** UNkulunkulu weza kuBhalamu wambuza wathi, “Amadoda la olawo ngobani?” **10** UBhalamu wathi kuNkulunkulu, “UBhalaki indodana kaZiphori inkosi yamaMowabi ungithumele lelizwi elithi: **11** ‘Kulabantu abavele eGibhithe abagcwele elizweni lonke. Woza masinyane uzongiqalekise lababantu. Mhlawumbe ngingaba lakho ukubalwisa ngibaxotshe lapha.’” **12** Kodwa uNkulunkulu wathi kuBhalamu, “Ungahambi labo. Ungabaqalekisi lababantu, ngoba babusisiwe.” **13** Ekuseni ngosuku olulandelayo uBhalamu wavuka esithi ukumakhosana kaBhalaki, “Buyelani ezweni lenu, ngoba uThixo walile ukuthi ngihambe lani.” **14** Ngakho amakhosana amaMowabi abuyela kuBhalaki athi, “UBhalamu walile ukubuya lathi.” **15** Ngakho uBhalaki wathumela amanye amakhosana amanengi njalo adumileyo kulawakuqala. **16** Eza kuBhalamu afika athi: “Nanku okutshiwu nguBhalaki indodana kaZiphori: Akungabi lalutho olungakuvimbela ukuza kimi, **17** ngoba ngizakunika umvuzo omuhle njalo ngenze konke okutshoyo. Woza uzongiqalekise lababantu.” **18** Kodwa uBhalamu wabaphendula wathi, “Loba uBhalaki enganginika isigodlo sakhe sigcwele isiliva legolide, angingeke ngenze ulutho olukhulu loba oluncane oluphambene lelizwi likaThixo uNkulunkulu wami. **19** Khathesi hlalani lapha okwalobubusuku njengalokho okwenziwe ngabanye, mina ngizadingisisa ukuthi kuyini okunye uThixo azangitshela khona.” **20** Ngalobobusuku uNkulunkulu weza kuBhalamu wathi, “Njengoba ethunywe ukuzakubiza, hamba lawo, kodwa wenze lokho kuphela engizakutshela khona.” **21** UBhalamu wavuka ekuseni, wagada ubabhemi wakhe wahle wahamba lamakhosana amaMowabi. **22** Kodwa uNkulunkulu wathukuthela kakhulu ngokuhamba kwakhe, ngakho ingilosi kaThixo yajama phambi kwakhe yamvimbela. UBhalamu wayegade ubabhemi wakhe elezinceku zakhe ezimbili. **23** Kwathi ubabhemi ebona ingilosi kaThixo imi endleleni iphethe inkemba esandleni sayo, waphambuka endleleni waqonda iganga. UBhalamu wamtshaya ubabhemi embuyisela endleleni. **24** Ngakho ingilosi kaThixo yayakuma emkhandlwini phakathi kwezivini

ezimbili, kulemiduli inxa zonke. **25** Kwathi ubabhemi ebona ingilosi kaThixo, ubabhemi wasondela emdulini, ehluzelela unyawo lukaBhalamu emdulini. Ngalokho wamtshaya njalo ubabhemi. **26** Ngakho ingilosi kaThixo yaya phambili yema emkhandlwini onciphileyo lapho okwakungelandlela yokuphendukela kwesokudla loba esenxele. **27** Kwathi ubabhemi ebona ingilosi kaThixo, ubabhemi walala phansi, uBhalamu wathukuthela kakhulu wamtshaya ubabhemi ngentonga yakhe. **28** Ngalokho uThixo wavula umlomo kababhemi, wathi kuBhalamu, “Kanti ngenzeni na kuwe uze ungitshe okwamahlandla amathathu?” **29** UBhalamu waphendula ubabhemi wathi, “Ungenze isiwula! Ngabe bengilenkamba esandleni sami bengizakubala khathesi.” **30** Ubabhemi wathi kuBhalamu, “Kanti kangisubabhemi wakho na ovele uhlezi umgada insuku zonke kuze kube namhlanje? Kambe ngiyake ngikwenze lokhu kuwe na?” UBhalamu waphendula wathi, “Hatshi.” **31** Ngakho uThixo wavula amehlo kaBhalamu, wabona ingilosi kaThixo imi endleleni iqaphise inkemba. Ngakho wakhothama wawa phansi ngobuso. **32** Ingilosi kaThixo yambuza yathi, “Kungani utshaye ubabhemi wakho okwamahlandla amathathu na? Ngize lapha ukukuvimbela ngoba indlela yakho iyibutshapha phambi kwami. **33** Ubabhemi ungibonile waphambuka okwamahlandla amathathu. Alubana kaphambukanga, ngabe khathesi sengikubulele wena, ngayekela ubabhemi.” **34** UBhalamu wathi engilosini kaThixo, “Ngonile. Angizange nginanzelele ukuthi umi endleleni ukungivimbela. Nxa kungakuthokozisi khathesi, ngizabuyela emu.” **35** Ingilosi kaThixo yathi kuBhalamu, “Hamba lawo lamadoda, kodwa ukhulume lokho engikutshela khona kuphela.” Ngakho uBhalamu wahamba lamakhosana kaBhalaki. **36** Kwathi uBhalaki esizwa ukuthi uBhalamu uyeza, waphuma ukumhlangabeza edolobheni lamaMowabi emngceleni wase-Arironi emaphethelweni elizwe lakhe. **37** UBhalaki wathi kuBhalamu, “Angikuthumelanga phizwi lokuphangisa na? Kungani ungezanga kimi? Kambe kangelenisi ukukupha umvuzo na?” **38** UBhalamu waphendula wathi, “Yebo, sengifikile kuwe khathesi. Kodwa angiyikukhuluma loba yini engiyifunayo. Ngizakhuluma lokho uNkulunkulu azakubeka emlonyeni wami kuphela.” **39** Ngakho uBhalamu wahamba loBhalaki eKhiriyathi-Huzothi. **40** UBhalaki wenza umhlatshelelo wenkomo lezimvu, njalo ezinye wazipha uBhalamu ezinye wazipha amakhosana ayehamba lawo. **41** Ekuseni ngosuku olulandelayo uBhalaki wathatha uBhalamu waya eBhamothi-Bhali, kulapho abona khona izihonqo zabako-Israyeli.

23 UBhalamu wathi, “Ngakhela ama-alithare ayisikhombisa lapha, ube usungilungisela inkunzi eziyisikhombisa kanye lenqama eziyisikhombisa.” **2** UBhalaki wenza njengokutshiwu nguBhalamu, kwathi bobabili babo banikela ngenkunzi langenqama eyodwa e-alithareni linye ngalinye. **3** Ngakho uBhalamu wasesithi kuBhalaki, “Hlala lapha eceleni lomnikelo wakho mina ngisaya eceleni. Mhlawumbe uThixo uzabuya azohlangana lami. Lokho azakuveza kimi ngizakutshela.” Wasesuka waya endaweni ephakemeyo eligeke. **4** UNkulunkulu wahlangana laye, njalo uBhalamu wathi, “Sengakhe ama-alithare ayisikhombisa njalo e-alithareni linye ngalinye nginikele ngenkunzi langenqama eyodwa.” **5** Ngakho uThixo watshela uBhalamu wathi, “Buyela kuBhalaki uyemupha umbiko lo.” **6** Ngakho wabuyela kuBhalaki wamfika emi eceleni komnikelo wakhe, kanye

lawo wonke amakhosana amaMowabi. 7 Ngakho uBhalamu wasesitsho umbiko wakhe: “UBhalaki ungilethe ngivela e-Aramu, inkosi yamaMowabi evela ezintabeni zasempumalanga. ‘Woza,’ watsho njalo, ‘ngiqalekise la uJakhobe; woza, mchothoze u-Israyeli.’” 8 Ngingabaqalekisa njani labo abangaqalekiswa nguNkulunkulu? Ngingachothoza njani labo abangazange bachothoze nguThixo? 9 Eziquongweni zamatshe ngiyababona, khonale phezu lu bayangikhanyela. Ngibona abantu abahlezi ngokwehluka, njalo kabaziboni bengabalezizwe. 10 Ngubani ongabala uthuli lukajakhobe loba ingxenyane yesine yabako-Israyeli na? Yekela ngife ukufa kwabalungileyo, njalo sengathi isiphetho sami singafana lesabo!” 11 UBhalaki wathi kuBhalamu, “Kuyini osungenzele khona na? Ngize lawe ukuze uqalekise izitha zami, kodwa akulalutho olwenzileyo ngaphandle kokuzibusisa!” 12 UBhalamu, waphendula wathi, “Ngingakukhulumi na engikutshelwe nguThixo?” 13 Ngakho uBhalaki wathi kuBhalamu, “Woza asiye kwenye indawo lapha ozababona khona; uzabona ingxenyane kuphela kungeyisibo bonke. Khonapho-ke ungiqalekisele bona.” 14 Wasesuka laye waya emangweni waseZofimu phezu kwentaba iPhisiga, kulapho akha khona ama-alithare ayisikhombisa wanikela ngenkunzi langenqama e-alithareni linye ngalinye. 15 UBhalamu wathi kuBhalaki, “Hlala lapha eceleni komnikelo wakho mina ngisayahlanga laye ngale.” 16 UThixo wahlangana loBhalamu wamtshela wathi, “Buyela kuBhalaki uyemnika umbiko lo.” 17 Wasebuyela kuBhalaki wamfica emi eceleni komnikelo wakhe, kanye lamakhosana amaMowabi. UBhalaki wambuzwa wathi, “Utheni uThixo?” 18 Wasesitsho umbiko wakhe: “Vuka, Bhalaki, njalo ulalele; zwana mina, ndodana kaZiphori. 19 UNkulunkulu kasumuntu, ukuthi angaqamba amanga, loba indodana yomuntu, yona eguquguqule ingqondo yayo. Kambe ukhuluma angenzi na? Uyathembisa angacwalisi isithembiso na? 20 Ngamukele umlayo wokubusisa; usebusisile, njalo ngingeke ngikuguqule lokho. 21 Akulamabhadi ehlela kuJakhobe, akulasizi olubonakala ku-Israyeli. UThixo uNkulunkulu wabo ukanye labo; umkhosi weNkosi uphakathi kwabo. 22 UNkulunkulu wabakhipha eGibhithe; balamandla enyathi. 23 Akulamilingo engalinga uJakhobe, akulamasalamusi angamelana lo-Israyeli. Khathesi sekuzathiwa ngoJakhobe kanye lo-Israyeli, ‘Khangela okwenziwe nguNkulunkulu!’ 24 Abantu bayavuka njengesilwanekazi; badlwanguluka njengesilwane sona esingaphumuliyo size sitshwabadele inyamazana yaso njalo sinathe igazi layo.” 25 Ngakho uBhalaki wasesithi kuBhalamu, “Ungabaqalekisi, njalo ungababusisi!” 26 UBhalamu waphendula wathi, “Angikutshelanga na ukuthi ngenza engikutshelwe nguThixo?” 27 Ngakho uBhalaki wathi kuBhalamu, “Woza, kahle ngikuse kwenye indawo. Mhlawumbe kuzamthokozisa uNkulunkulu akuvumele ukuthi ungiqalekisele bona ukhonale.” 28 Ngakho uBhalaki wahamba loBhalamu baya phezu kwePheyori ekhangele enkangala. 29 UBhalamu wathi, “Ngakhela ama-alithare ayisikhombisa khonapha, ungilungisele inkunzi eziyisikhombisa lenqama eziyisikhombisa.” 30 UBhalaki wenza lokho ayekutshelwe nguBhalamu, wanikela inkunzi eyodwa lenqama e-alithareni linye ngalinye.

24 Kwathi uBhalamu esebonile ukuthi kuyamthokozisa uThixo ukubusisa u-Israyeli, kasadinganga njalo imilingo

njengakuqala, kodwa waphenduka wakhangele enkangala. 2 Kwathi uBhalamu ekhangele wabona u-Israyeli emise izihongo zakhe ngokwezizwe zakhe, uMoya kaNkulunkulu wehlela phezu kwakhe 3 wasesitsho isambulelo sakhe: “Isambulelo sikaBhalamu indodana kaBheyori, isambulelo salowo omehlo akhe abonisisa kuhle, 4 isambulelo salowo ozwa amazwi kaNkulunkulu, lowo obona umbono owela kuSomandla, lowo owela phansi ngokuzehlisa, njalo omehlo akhe avulekile: 5 Aze aba mahle amathente akho, Oh Jakhobe, izindawo zakho zokuhlala, Oh Israyeli! 6 Njengezigodi zisabalele, njengezivande zisekele umfola, sashlaba ehlangyelwe nguThixo, njengezihlahla zomsedari esingasemanzini. 7 Amanzi agezeleza emigqonyeni yabo; inhlanyelo yabo ibe semanzini amanengi. Inkosi yabo izakuba nkulu kulo-Agagi; umbuso wabo uzakuba ngophakemeyo. 8 UNkulunkulu wabakhupha eGibhithe; balamandla anjengawenyathi. Bayazitshwabadele izizwe eziyizitha njalo bephule amathambo azo abe yizicucu, ngemits'hoko yabo babacibe. 9 Njengesilwane bayaqutha bacathame phansi, njengesilwanekazi, ngubani olesibindi sokubavusa na? Akuthi labo abakubusisayo babusiswe njalo lalabo abakuqalekisayo baqalekiswa!” 10 Ngakho uBhalaki wamthukuthelela kakhulu uBhalamu. Watshaya izandla zakhe wathi, “Ngikubizele ukuthi uzengiqalekisele izitha zami, kodwa wena usubabusise okwamahlandla la amathathu. 11 Wohle usuke nje khathesi ubuyele kini! Ngithe ngizakupha umvuzo omuhle kakhulu, pho-ke uThixo usekuvimbele ukwamukeliswa umvuzo.” 12 UBhalamu wamphendula uBhalaki wathi, “Kanti kangizitshelanga yini izithunywa zakho owazithuma kimi ukuthi, 13 ‘Loba uBhalaki enganginika isigodlo sakhe sigcwele isiliva legolide, akulalutho lolulodwa ebengizalwenza ngokwentando yami, okuhle kumbe okubi, okuphambene lomlayo kaThixo, kufanele ngitsho lokho kuphela uThixo akutshoyo na?’ 14 Khathesi sengibuyela ebantwini bakithi, kodwa woza, ngikuxwayise ukuthi kuyini okuzakwenziwa ngabantu laba ebantwini bakho ensukwini ezilandelayo.” 15 Ngakho uBhalamu wasesitsho isambulelo sakhe: “Isambulelo sikaBhalamu indodana kaBheyori, isambulelo salowo omehlo akhe abonisisa kuhle, 16 isambulelo salowo olalela ezwe amazwi kaNkulunkulu, ololwazi olulela koPhezukonke, obona umbono owela kuSomandla, owela phansi ngokuzehlisa, njalo omehlo akhe avulekile: 17 Ngiyambona, kodwa hatshi khathesi; ngiyambona, kodwa kungesikho eduze. Inkanyezi izaphuma ivela kuJakhobe; intonga yobukhosi izaphakama ivela ku-Israyeli. Uzacobodisa amabunzi kaMowabi, inkakhayi zamadodana wonke kaSethi. 18 I-Edomi izanqotshwa; uSeyiri, oyisitha sakhe, uzanqotshwa, kodwa u-Israyeli uzakhula abe lamandla. 19 Umbusi uzavela kuJakhobe njalo uzabhubhisa abaseleyo balelodolobho.” 20 Ngakho uBhalamu wabona u-Amaleki wasesitsho isambulelo sakhe: “U-Amaleki wayengowokuqala ezizweni, kodwa ekucineni uzakuba lunxiwa.” 21 Ngakho wasebona amaKheni wasesitsho isambulelo sakhe njalo: “Indawo yakho yokuhlala ivikelekile, isidleke sakho sakhelwe edwaleni; 22 kanti-ke lina maKheni lizabhujiiswa ekuthunjweni kwenu yi-Asiriya.” 23 Ngakho wasitsho isambulelo sakhe: “Kambe ngubani ongaphila nxa uNkulunkulu esenza lokhu na? 24 Imikhumbi izakuziva ivela okhunjini lwaseKhithimi; bazayehlula u-Asiriya kanye le-Ebha, kodwa laba bazachithwa babe ngamanxiwa.” 25 Ngakho uBhalamu wasukuma wasebuyela kibo loBhalaki wahamba ngeyakhle indlela.

25 Ngesikhathi u-Israyeli esehlala eShithima, amadoda aqala ukuhlobonga labafazi bamaMowabi, **2** bona abamema amadoda ako-Israyeli ukuba eze emihlatshelweni yabonkulunkulu babo. Abantu laba babesidla ukudla kwabonkulunkulu labo njalo bebakhothamele. **3** Ngakho u-Israyeli wahlanganyela ekukhonzeni uBhali wasePheyori. Yikho uThixo wabathukuthela kakhulu. **4** UThixo wathi kuMosi, “Thatha bonke abakhokheli balababantu, ubabulale njalo ubeke izidumbu zabo egcekeni emini libalele phambi kukaThixo, ukuze intukuthelo eyesabekayo kaThixo isuke ku-Israyeli.” **5** Ngakho uMosi wathi kubahluleli bako-Israyeli, “Kumele ukuthi munye ngamunye wenu abulale amadoda akini lawo asehlanganyela ekukhonzeni uBhali wasePheyori.” **6** Kwathi indoda ethile yako-Israyeli yaletha umfazi woMidiyani emulini yayo khonapho phambi kukaMosi laphambi kwabako-Israyeli bonke ababebuthene bekhala esangweni lethente lokuhlanguka. **7** Kwathi uFinehasi indodana ka-Eliyazari indodana ka-Aroni, umphristi, ekubona lokho, watshiya ababebuthene, **8** wathatha umkhonto wayilandela indoda leyo ethenteni. Wagadla ngomkhonto wabagwaza bobabili wayathutsha ngale kom’Israyeli wangena wayathutshela esiswini sowesifazane. Ngakho sasesiphela isifo esasesihlasele abako-Israyeli; **9** kodwa labo abasebefile ngenxa yesifo babezinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lane. **10** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **11** “UFinehasi indodana ka-Eliyazari indodana ka-Aroni umphristi, uqedile ukuthukuthela kwami abantu bako-Israyeli, ngoba wayetshisekela udumo lwami phakathi kwabo njengami, ukuze ngesihawu sami ngingabaqedi. **12** Ngalokho umtshela ukuthi sengisenza isivumelwano sokuthula laye. **13** Yena kanye lezizukulwane zakhe bazakuba lesivumelwano sobuphristi esimi kokuphela, ngoba utshisekelele udumo lukaNkulunkulu wakhe njalo wenzele abako-Israyeli indlela yokubuyisana.” **14** Ibizo lendoda yako-Israyeli eyabulawa kanye lowesifazane weMidiyani kwakunguZimri indodana kaSalu, umkhokheli wabemuli yamaSimiyoni. **15** Njalo ibizo lowesifazane woMidiyani owabulawayo lalinguKhozibhi indodakazi kaZuri, induna yesizwana semuli yamaMidiyani. **16** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **17** “Kumele liphathe amaMidiyani njengezitha njalo liwabulale, **18** ngoba aliphathe njengezitha alikhohlisa ngendaba kaPheyori kanye lodadewabo uKhozibhi indodakazi yomkhokheli wamaMidiyani, owesifazane owabulawa ngesikhathi sokuhlaselela kwesifo esabakhona ngenxa kaPheyori.”

26 Ngemva kwesifo uThixo wathi kuMosi lo-Eliyazari indodana ka-Aroni, umphristi, **2** “Balani abantu bonke abako-Israyeli ngezimuli zabo bonke abaleminyaka esukela kwengamatshumi amabili yokuzalwa kusiya phezulu abangaba libutho lako-Israyeli.” **3** Ngakho uMosi lo-Eliyazari umphristi batshele abantu basemagcekeni aseMowabi eduze lomfula uJodani ngaphetsheya kwejerikho bathi kubo, **4** “Balani amadoda alemninyaka yokuzalwa esukela kwengamatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu, njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo.” Laba ngabako-Israyeli abaphuma eGibhithe: **5** Izizukulwane zikaRubheni izibulo lika-Israyeli, kwakuyilezi: uHanokhi, wadabula abosendo lwamaHanokhi; uPhalu, wadabula abosendo lwamaPhalu; **6** uHezironi wadabula abosendo lwamaHezironi; uKhami wadabula abosendo lwamaKhami. **7** Laba babengabezinsendo zikaRubheni; inani labo lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane lantathu,

lamakhulu ayisikhombisa amatshumi amathathu. **8** Indodana kaPhalu kwakungu-Eliyabi, **9** njalo amadodana ka-Eliyabi kwakunguNemuweli, uDathani kanye lo-Abhiramu. Bona laba uDathani lo-Abhiramu yibo ababeyizikhulu zabantu abahlamakela uMosi lo-Aroni njalo babengabanye babalandeli bakaKhora ngesikhathi behlamukela uThixo. **10** Umhlaba wavuleka wabaginya kanye loKhora, kanye labalandeli babo abafa beqothulwa ngumilo bengamadoda angamakhulu amabili amatshumi amahlanu. Njalo baba yisixwayiso. **11** Loba kunjalo, inzalo kaKhora kayibhubhanga yonke, yaphela. **12** Izizukulwane zikaSimiyoni ngokwensendo zazo kwakuyilezi: uNemuweli wadabula abosendo lwamaNemuweli; uJamini wadabula abosendo lwamaJamini; uJakhini wadabula abosendo lwamaJakhini; **13** uZera wadabula abosendo lwamaZera; uShawuli wadabula abosendo lwamaShawuli. **14** Laba babengabezinsendo zikaSimiyoni; inani labo lalingamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lambili, lamakhulu amabili. **15** Izizukulwane zikaGadi ngokwensendo zazo kwakuyilezi: uZifoni wadabula abosendo lwamaZifoni; uHagi wadabula abosendo lwamaHagi; uShuni wadabula abosendo lwamaShuni; **16** u-Ozini wadabula abosendo lwama-Ozini; u-Eri wadabula abosendo lwama-Eri; **17** u-Arodi wadabula abosendo lwama-Arodi; u-Areli wadabula abosendo lwama-Areli. **18** Laba bengabensendo zikaGadi; inani labo lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane lamakhulu amahlanu. **19** U-Eri lo-Onani babengamadodana kaJuda, kodwa bafela eKhenani. **20** Izizukulwane zikaJuda ngokwensendo zazo kwakuyilezi: uShela wadabula abosendo lwakoShela; uPHEREZI wadabula abosendo lwamaPHEREZI; uZera wadabula abosendo lwamaZera. **21** Izizukulwane zikaPHEREZI kwakuyilezi: uHezironi wadabula abosendo lwamaHezironi; uHamuli wadabula abosendo lwamaHamuli. **22** Laba babezinsendo zikaJuda; inani labo lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa lesithupha, lamakhulu amahlanu. **23** Izizukulwane zika-Isakhari ngokwensendo zazo kwakuyilezi: uThola wadabula abosendo lwamaThola; uPhuwa wadabula abosendo lwamaPhuwa; **24** uJashubi wadabula abosendo lwamaJashubi; uShimroni wadabula abosendo lwamaShimroni. **25** Laba ngabensendo zika-Isakhari; inani labo lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisithupha lane, lamakhulu amathathu. **26** Izizukulwane zikaZebhuluni ngokwensendo zazo kwakuyilezi: uSeredi wadabula abosendo lwamaSeredi; u-Eloni wadabula abosendo lwama-Eloni; uJaliyeli wadabula abosendo lwamaJahileli. **27** Laba ngabensendo zikaZebhuluni, inani labo lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisithupha lamakhulu amahlanu. **28** Izizukulwane zikaJosefa ngokwensendo zabo bezalwa nguManase lo-Efrayimi kwakuyilezi: **29** Izizukulwane zikaManase ngokwensendo zazo kwakuyilezi: uMakhiri wadabula abosendo lwamaMakhiri (uMakhiri wayenguyise kaGiliyadi); uGiliyadi wadabula abosendo lwamaGiliyadi. **30** Laba yizizukulwane zikaGiliyadi: u-Iyezeri wadabula abosendo lwama-Iyezeri; uHeleki wadabula abosendo lwamaHeleki; **31** u-Asiriyeli wadabula abosendo lwama-Asiriyeli; uShekhemu wadabula abosendo lwamaShekhemu; **32** uShemida wadabula abosendo lwamaShemida; uHeferi wadabula abosendo lwamaHeferi. **33** (UZelofehadi indodana kaHeferi wayengelamadodana; wayelamadodakazi wodwa, amabizo awo ayenguMahila, uNowa, uHogila, uMilikha kanye loThiza.) **34** Laba kwakungabensendo zikaManase; inani labo lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi

amahlanu lambili, lamakhulu ayisikhombisa. **35** Laba kwakuyizizukulwane zika-Efrayimi ngokwensendo zazo: uShuthela wadabula abosendo lwamaShuthela; uBhekheri wadabula abosendo lwamaBhekheri; uThahani wadabula abosendo lwamaThahani. **36** Laba kwakuyizizukulwane zikaShuthela: u-Erani wadabula abosendo lwama-Erani. **37** Laba kwakungabensendo zika-Efrayimi; inani labo lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu lambili, lamakhulu amahlanu. Laba kwakuyizizukulwane zikaJosefa ngokwensendo zazo. **38** Izizukulwane zikaBhenjamini ngokwensendo zazo kwakuyilezi: uBhela wadabula abosendo lwamaBhela; u-Ashibheli wadabula abosendo lwama-Ashibheli; u-Ahirami wadabula abosendo lwama-Ahirami; **39** uShufamu wadabula abosendo lwamaShufamu; uHufamu wadabula usendo lwamaHufamu **40** Izizukulwane zikaBhela ezazalwa ngu-Adi kanye loNamani yilezi: u-Adi wadabula abosendo lwama-Adithe; uNamani wadabula abosendo lwamaNamani. **41** Laba kwakungabensendo zikaBhenjamini; inani labo lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane lanhlanu, lamakhulu ayisithupha. **42** Laba babeyizizukulwane zikaDani ngokwensendo zazo: uShuhamu wadabula abosendo lwamaShuhamu. Laba babengabezinsendo zikaDani: **43** Bonke babengabosendo lwamaShuhamu; njalo inani labo lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisithupha lane, lamakhulu amane. **44** Izizukulwane zika-Asheri ngokwensendo zazo kwakuyilezi: u-Imna wadabula abosendo lwama-Imna; u-Ishivi wadabula abosendo lwama-Ishivi; uBheriya wadabula abosendo lwamaBheriya; **45** njalo izizukulwane ezadathulwa nguBheriya yilezi: uHebheri wadabula abosendo lwamaHebheri; uMalikhiyeli wadabula abosendo lwamaMalikhiyeli. **46** (U-Asheri wayelendodakazi okwakuthiwa nguSera.) **47** Laba babengabezinsendo zika-Asheri; inani labo lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amahlanu lantathu, lamakhulu amane. **48** Izizukulwane zikaNafithali ngokwensendo zazo kwakuyilezi: uJaziyeli wadabula abosendo lwamaJaziyeli; uGuni wadabula abosendo lwamaGuni; **49** uJezeri wadabula abosendo lwamaJezeri; uShilemu wadabula abosendo lwamaShilemu. **50** Laba babengabezinsendo zikaNafithali; inani labo lalizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane lanhlanu, lamakhulu amane. **51** Inani lamadoda wonke ako-Israyeli lalizinkulungwane ezingamakhulu ayisithupha lanye, lamakhulu ayisikhombisa alamatshumi amathathu. **52** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **53** “Ilizwe lizakwahlukaniselwa abantu njengelifa labo kusiya ngenani lamabizo abo. **54** Isizwe esikhulu uzasinika isabelo esikhulu, kuthi isizwana esincinyane usiphe isabelo esincane; isizwana ngasinye sizakwabelwa ilifa laso ngokuya ngenani lamabizo alabo ababhaliweyo. **55** Iba leqiniso lokuthi ilizwe labiwa ngenkatho. Isabelo seqembu ngalinye sizakuya ngamabizo esizwana sabokhokho baso. **56** Isabelo ngasinye selizwe sizakwehlukaniwisa ngokwenza inkatho phakathi kwezizwana ezinkulu lezincinyane.” **57** Laba ngabaLevi ababalwa kulandelwa insendo zabo: uGeshoni wadabula abosendo lwamaGeshoni; uKhohathi wadabula abosendo lwamaKhohathi; uMerari wadabula abosendo lwamaMerari. **58** Laba labo babengabezinsendo zabaLevi: usendo lwamaLibhini, usendo lwamaHebhroni, usendo lwamaMahili, usendo lwamaMushi, usendo lwamaKhora. (UKhohathi wayengukhokho ka-Amramu; **59** inkosikazi ka-Amramu kwakunguJokhebedi, oysisizukulwane sikaLevi, owayezalelwe eGibhithe ngabaLevi. Wazala lo-Amramu u-

Aroni, loMosi kanye lodadewabo uMiryemu. **60** U-Aroni wayenguyise kaNadabi, u-Abhihu, u-Eliyazari kanye lo-Ithamari. **61** Kodwa uNadabi lo-Abhihu bafa baze banikele kuThixo ngomlilo ongavunyelwayo.) **62** Bonke abaLevi abesilisa ababalwayo kusukela kwabalenyanga eyodwa yokuzalwa kusiya phezulu babezinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lantathu. Kababalwanga ndawonye labanye abako-Israyeli ngoba kabanikwanga isabelo esiyilifa phakathi kwabo. **63** Laba yibo ababalwa nguMosi lo-Eliyazari umphristi mhla bebala abako-Israyeli emagcekeni aseMowabi ngenano komfula iJodani malungana leJerikho. **64** Kwakungekho loyedwa phakathi kwabo owayekhona mhla uMosi lo-Aroni bebala abako-Israyeli enkangala yaseSinayi. **65** Ngoba uThixo wayetshilo kwabako-Israyeli labo ukuthi ngempela babezakufa enkangala, njalo kakho loyedwa wabo owasalayo ngaphandle kukaKhalebi indodana kafefune loJoshuwa indodana kaNuni.

27 Amadodakazi kaZelofehadi indodana kaHeferi, indodana kaGilyadi, indodana kaMakhiri, indodana kaManase babengabezinsendo zikaManase indodana kaJosefa. Amabiko alawomahodakazi ayenguMahila, uNowa, uHogila, uMilikha, loThiza. Aya **2** esangweni leThente lokuHlangana ema phambi kukaMosi lo-Eliyazari umphristi, abakhokheli kanye lebandla lonke, athi, **3** “Ubaba wafela enkangala. Wayengekho phakathi kwabalandeli bakaKhora, bona ababambana ekuphikiseni kwabo uThixo, kodwa wafela isono sakhe njalo katshiyanga madodana. **4** Kungani bizo likababa licitsha kwabosendo lwakhe ngokungabi lendodana na? Sipheni ilifa lethu lathi ezihlotsheni zikababa.” **5** Ngakho uMosi wethula indaba yawo phambi kukaThixo, **6** uThixo wathi kuye, **7** “Lokho okutshiwo ngamadodakazi kaZelofehadi kqondile. Kufanele ubaphe isabelo sabo selifa ezihlotsheni ziyayise njalo ubaphe ilifa likayise. **8** Tshono uthi kwabako-Israyeli, “Nxa indoda ife ingelandodana, ilifa layo kaliphiwe indodakazi yayo. **9** Nxa ingelandodakazi, ilifa layo kaliphiwe abafowabo. **10** Nxa ingelabafowabo ilifa layo kaliphiwe abafowabo bakayise. **11** Nxa uyise engelabafowabo, ilifa layo kaliphiwe oyisihlobo esiseduze kwabosendo lwayo, ukuze libe ngelakhe. Lokho kumele kube ngumthetho oyisimiso kwabako-Israyeli, njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo.” **12** UThixo wasesithi kuMosi, “Khwela entabeni le yase-Abharimi ukuze ubone ilizwe engilinike abako-Israyeli. **13** Ngemva kokuba usulibonile, lawe uzalandela abakini, ufe njengomfowenu u-Aroni, **14** ngoba ekuhlamukeni kwabantu emanzini asenkangala yaseZini, lina lobabili kalilandelanga ukulaya kwami, ukungidumisa ngobungcwele bami emehlweni abo.” (La ayengamanzi aseMeribha Khadeshi, enkangala yaseZini.) **15** UMosi wathi kuThixo, **16** “Akuthi uThixo, uNkulunkulu wemimoya yabantu bonke akhethe indoda ezakhokhela abantu laba **17** ekuphumeni lasekungeneni, lowo ozabakhokhela ekuphumeni lekungeneni kwabo, ukuze abantu bakaThixo bangafanani lezimvu ezingelamelusi.” **18** Ngakho uThixo wathi kuMosi, “Thatha uJoshuwa indodana kaNuni, indoda elomoya wobukhokheli, ubeke isandla sakho phezulu kwayo. **19** Umise phambi kuka-Eliyazari umphristi laphambi kwebandla lonke ubusumbeka esikhundleni phambi kwabo. **20** Umnike ingxenye yamandla akho ukuze isizwe sonke sako-Israyeli simlalele. **21** Kumele ame phambi kuka-Eliyazari umphristi, yena ozamtholela izinqumo ngokubuya i-Uriri phambi kukaThixo. Ngokulawula kwakhe yena kanye labantu bonke bako-Israyeli bazaphuma, kuthi njalo ngokulawula kwakhe bangene.” **22** UMosi wenza

njengokulaywa kwakhe nguThixo. Wathatha uJoshuwa wamisa phambi kuka-Eliyazari umphristi kanye laphambi kwebandla lonke. **23** Wasebeka izandla zakhe phezu kwakhe embeka esikhundleni, njengokulaya kukaThixo ngoMosi.

28 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** “Phana abako-Israyeli umlayo lo uthi kubo, ‘Nanzelelani ukuthi lingilethele ngesikhathi esimisiweyo imihlatshelo yokudla, njengephunga elimnandi kimi.’” **3** Tshono uthi kubo: “Lo ngumnikelo owenziwe ngomlilo okumele liwuse kuThixo: amazinyane emvu amabili angelasici njalo alomnyaka owodwa ezelwe, kube ngumnikelo wokutshiswa wansuku zonke. **4** Linikele izinyane lemvu elilodwa ekuseni beselinikela elinye kusihlwa, **5** ndawonye lomnikelo wamabele ayisilinganiso sokwetshumi kwehefa yefulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lengxenyane yesine yehini yamafutha ahluze ema-oliveni. **6** Lo ngumnikelo wokutshiswa wezikhathi zonke owamiswa entabeni yaseSinayi njengephunga elimnandi, umnikelo owenzelwa uThixo ngomlilo. **7** Umnikelo wokunathwayo ozakwenziwa ndawonye lengxenyane yesine yehini yokunathwayo okulemvubelo ndawonye lezinyane lemvu. Thela umnikelo wokunathwayo phambi kukaThixo endlini ongwele. **8** Unikele izinyane lesibili kusihlwa ndawonye lomnikelo wamabele ofanayo lomnikelo wokunathwayo ofana lalowo owunikele ekuseni. Lo ngumhlatshelo wokudla, iphunga elimnandi kuThixo.” **9** “Ngosuku lweSabatha, ulungise umnikelo wamazinyane emvu amabili alomnyaka owodwa ezelwe engelasici, ndawonye lomnikelo wokunathwayo kanye lomnikelo wamabele ozingxenyane ezimbili zehefa etshumini zefulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha. **10** Lo ngumnikelo wokutshiswa kuwo wonke amasabatha, phezu komnikelo wokutshiswa lokunathwayo ojayelekileyo.” **11** “Ngosuku lwakuqala inyanga zonke, letha kuThixo umnikelo wokutshiswa wenkunzi ezingamaguqa ezimbili, inqama eyodwa lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna alomnyaka ezelwe, angelasici. **12** Inkunzi eyodwa izahamba lomnikelo wamabele ozingxenyane ezintathu etshumini zehefa yefulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha; inqama izahamba lomnikelo wamabele ayingxenyane ezimbili etshumini zehefa yefulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha; **13** izinyane lemvu ngalinye lizahamba lomnikelo wamabele oyingxenyane eyodwa etshumini lehefa yefulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha. Lokhu ngokomnikelo wokutshiswa, iphunga elimnandi, umnikelo owenzelwa uThixo ngomlilo. **14** Inkunzi nganye izahamba lomnikelo wokunathwayo okuyingxenyane yehini yewayini; lenqama, ingxenyane yesithathu yehini; kuthi izinyane lemvu ngalinye lihambe lengxenyane yesine yehini. Lo ngumnikelo wokutshiswa owenyanga zonke okumele wenziwe ekuthwaseni kwezinyanga zonke ngomnyaka. **15** Ngaphandle komnikelo wokutshiswa ojayelekileyo kanye lomnikelo wakhona wokunathwayo, impongo eyodwa kumele iphiwe uThixo njengomnikelo wesono.” **16** “Ngosuku lwetshumi lane ngenyanga yakuqala kuzakuba lePhasika likaThixo. **17** Ngosuku lwetshumi lanlanu lwaleyonyanga kuzakuba lomkhosi; okwensuku eziyisikhombisa lizakudla isinkwa esingelamvubelo. **18** Ngosuku lwakuqala lenze umbuthano ongwele njalo lingenzi imisebenzi yenu yansuku zonke. **19** Kodwa linikele kuThixo umnikelo owenziwe ngomlilo, umnikelo wokutshiswa owenkunzi ezingamaguqa ezimbili, inqama eyodwa kanye lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna ayisikhombisa alomnyaka owodwa ezelwe, konke kungelasici. **20** Kuzakuthi

inkunzi nganye liyinikele kanye lomnikelo wamabele ayingxenyane yokuthathu etshumini lehefa yefulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha; kuthi inqama ihambe lokubili etshumini; **21** kuthi-ke linye ngalinye izinyane lemvu kwayisikhombisa, lihambe lokukodwa etshumini. **22** Akubekhona lempongo eyodwa ukuba ibe ngumnikelo wesono ukuzenzela indlela yokubuyisana. **23** Phezu kwalokho lungisani umnikelo wokutshiswa wekuseni ojayelekileyo. **24** Ngaleyondlela nikelani umhlatshelo wokudla okwensuku eziyisikhombisa kube liphunga elimnandi kuThixo; lokhu kumele kulungiswe kusengezelela umnikelo ojayelekileyo wokutshiswa kanye lomnikelo wakho wokunathwayo. **25** Ngosuku lwesikhombisa lizakuba lombuthano ongwele njalo lingenzi imisebenzi yenu yansuku zonke.” **26** “Ngosuku lwezithelo zakuqala, nxa lisethula kuThixo umnikelo wamabele amatsha ngesikhathi soMkhosi wamaViki, wobani lombuthano ongwele njalo lingenzi imisebenzi yensukwini. **27** Nikelani umnikelo wokutshiswa ngenkunzi ezingamaguqa ezimbili, inqama eyodwa kanye lamazinyane amaduna ayisikhombisa awezimvu alomnyaka owodwa ezelwe kube liphunga elimnandi kuThixo. **28** Kuzakuthi inkunzi nganye liyilungise kanye lomnikelo wamabele ayingxenyane yokuthathu etshumini lehefa yefulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha; kuthi inqama ihambe lokubili etshumini; **29** kuthi-ke linye ngalinye izinyane lemvu ngalinye kwayisikhombisa, lihambe lokukodwa etshumini. **30** Akubekhona lempongo eyodwa ukuba ibe ngumnikelo wesono ukuzenzela indlela yokubuyisana. **31** Lungisani lokho ndawonye leminikelo yokunathwayo, ukwengezelela eminikelweni ejayelekileyo yokutshiswa kanye lomnikelo wawo wamabele. Nanzelelani ukuthi lezozifuyo azilasici.”

29 “Ngosuku lwakuqala ngenyanga yesikhombisa yenzani umbuthano ongwele njalo lingenzi imisebenzi yansuku zonke. Lusuku lwenu lokutshaya amacilongo. **2** Lungisani umnikelo wokutshiswa, kube liphunga elimnandi kuThixo, inkunzi eliguqa eyodwa, inqama eyodwa lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna ayisikhombisa alomnyaka owodwa wokuzalwa, konke kungelasici. **3** Kuzakuthi inkunzi leyo liyilungise kanye lomnikelo wamabele azingxenyane ezintathu kokulitshumi kwehefa yefulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha; kuthi inqama ibe lokubili etshumini; **4** kuthi-ke linye ngalinye izinyane lemvu kwayisikhombisa, lihambe lokukodwa etshumini. **5** Akubekhona lempongo eyodwa ukuba ibe ngumnikelo wesono ukuzenzela indlela yokubuyisana. **6** Lokhu kuzabe kusengezelela iminikelo yokutshiswa yenyanga zonke kanye leyezinsuku zonke ndawonye leminikelo yamabele leyokunathwayo njengokumisiweyo. Le yimihlatshelo yokudla eyenzelwa uThixo, iphunga elimnandi.” **7** “Ngosuku lwetshumi lwaleyonyanga yesikhombisa yenzani umbuthano ongwele. Kumele lizidele njalo lingasebenzi. **8** Nikelani umnikelo wokutshiswa, kube liphunga elimnandi kuThixo, inkunzi eliguqa eyodwa, inqama eyodwa lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna ayisikhombisa alomnyaka owodwa wokuzalwa, konke kungelasici. **9** Kuzakuthi inkunzi leyo uyilungise kanye lomnikelo wamabele azingxenyane ezintathu kokulitshumi zehefa zingezefulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe ngamafutha; kuthi inqama ihambe lokubili etshumini; **10** kuthi-ke linye ngalinye izinyane lemvu kwayisikhombisa, lihambe lokukodwa etshumini. **11** Akubekhona lempongo eyodwa ukuba ibe

ngumnikelo wesono, phezu komnikelo wesono, owokubuyisana kanye lomnikelo wokutshiswa wansuku zonke lomnikelo wawo wamabele, kanye lemnikelo yayo yokunathwayo.”

12 “Ngosuku lwetshumi lanhlana ngenyanga yesikhombisa, yenzani umbuthano ongwele njalo lingenzi imisebenzi yensukwini. Thakazelelani lumkhosi kuThixo okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. **13** Nikelani umnikelo wokutshiswa, kube liphunga elimnandi kuThixo, umnikelo wokutshiswa wenkunzi ezingamaguqa ezilithumi lantathu, inqama ezimbili lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna alithumi lane alomnyaka ezelwe, konke kungelasici. **14** Kuthi inkunzi inye ngayinye kwezilithumi lantathu liyilungise kanye lomnikelo wamabele azingxenye ezintathu kokulithumi kwehefa lefulawa ecolekileyo exutshaniswe lamafutha; kuthi inqama nganye kwezimbili, ihambe lokubili etshumini; **15** kuthi-ke linye ngalinye izinyane lemvu kwalithumi lane, lihambe lokukodwa etshumini. **16** Akube lempongo eyodwa ezakuba ngumnikelo wesono, phezu komnikelo wokutshiswa wansuku zonke ndawonye lomnikelo wawo wamabele kanye lowokunathwayo. **17** Ngosuku lwesibili lungisani inkunzi ezingamaguqa ezilithumi lambili, inqama ezimbili lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna alithumi lane alomnyaka owodwa wokuzalwa, konke kungelasici. **18** Ndawonye lenkunzi, inqama kanye lamawundlu, linikele iminikelo yakho yamabele kanye leyokunathwayo kusiya ngenani elimisiweyo. **19** Akube lempongo eyodwa ukuba ibe ngumnikelo wesono, phezu komnikelo wokutshiswa wansuku zonke ndawonye lomnikelo wawo wamabele, kanye lemnikelo yayo yokunathwayo. **20** Ngosuku lwesithathu nikelani inkunzi ezilithumi lanye, inqama ezimbili kanye lamazinyane ezimvu alithumi lane alomnyaka owodwa wokuzalwa, konke kungelasici. **21** Ndawonye lenkunzi, inqama, kanye lamawundlu, linikele iminikelo yakho yamabele kanye leyokunathwayo kusiya ngenani elimisiweyo. **22** Akube lempongo eyodwa ukuba ibe ngumnikelo wesono, phezu komnikelo wokutshiswa wansuku zonke ndawonye lomnikelo wakho wamabele kanye lomnikelo wokunathwayo. **23** Ngosuku lwesine nikelani inkunzi ezilithumi, inqama ezimbili kanye lamazinyane ezimvu alithumi lane amaduna alomnyaka owodwa wokuzalwa, konke kungelasici. **24** Ndawonye lenkunzi, inqama kanye lamawundlu, linikele iminikelo yakho yamabele kanye leyokunathwayo kusiya ngenani elimisiweyo. **25** Akube lempongo eyodwa ezakuba ngumnikelo wesono, phezu komnikelo wokutshiswa wansuku zonke ndawonye lomnikelo wawo wamabele kanye lowokunathwayo. **26** Ngosuku lwesihlanu nikelani inkunzi eziyisificaminwemunye, inqama ezimbili kanye lamazinyane ezimvu alithumi lane amaduna alomnyaka owodwa wokuzalwa, konke kungelasici. **27** Ndawonye lenkunzi, inqama kanye lamawundlu, linikele iminikelo yakho yamabele kanye leyokunathwayo kusiya ngenani elimisiweyo. **28** Akube lempongo eyodwa ukuba ibe ngumnikelo wesono, phezu komnikelo wokutshiswa wansuku zonke ndawonye lomnikelo wakho wamabele kanye lomnikelo wakho wokunathwayo. **29** Ngosuku lwesithupha nikelani inkunzi eziyisificaminwembili, inqama ezimbili lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna alithumi lane alomnyaka owodwa wokuzalwa, konke kungelasici. **30** Ndawonye lenkunzi, inqama kanye lamawundlu, linikele iminikelo yakho yamabele kanye leyokunathwayo kusiya ngenani elimisiweyo. **31** Akube lempongo eyodwa ukuba ibe ngumnikelo wesono, phezu

komnikelo wokutshiswa wansuku zonke ndawonye lomnikelo wakho wamabele kanye lomnikelo wakho wokunathwayo. **32** Ngosuku lwesikhombisa nikelani inkunzi eziyikhombisa, inqama ezimbili lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna alithumi lane alomnyaka owodwa wokuzalwa, konke kungelasici. **33** Ndawonye lenkunzi, inqama lamawundlu, linikele iminikelo yakho yamabele kanye leyokunathwayo kusiya ngenani elimisiweyo. **34** Akube lempongo eyodwa ukuba ibe ngumnikelo wesono, phezu komnikelo wokutshiswa wansuku zonke ndawonye lomnikelo wakho wokunathwayo. **35** Ngosuku lwesificaminwembili buthanani njalo lingenzi imisebenzi yensukwini. **36** Nikelani umnikelo owenziwe ngomlilo kube liphunga elimnandi kuThixo, umnikelo wokutshiswa owenkunzi eyodwa, inqama eyodwa kanye lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna ayisikhombisa alomnyaka owodwa wokuzalwa, konke kungelasici. **37** Ndawonye lenkunzi, inqama kanye lamazinyane ezimvu, linikele iminikelo yakho yamabele kanye lemnikelo yakho yokunathwayo kusiya ngenani elimisiweyo. **38** Akube lempongo eyodwa ukuba ibe ngumnikelo wesono, phezu komnikelo wokutshiswa wansuku zonke ndawonye lomnikelo wakho wamabele kanye lomnikelo wakho wokunathwayo. **39** Ukwengezelela kulokho elinikela ngakho ngesifungo loba iminikelo yenu yokuzithandela, nikelani lokhu kuThixo emikhosini yenu emisiweyo: iminikelo yenu yokutshiswa, iminikelo yamabele, iminikelo yokunathwayo kanye lemnikelo yobudlelwano.”

40 UMOsi watshela abako-Israyeli konke lokho uThixo ayemlaye ngakho.

30 UMOsi wathi kwabazinhloko zezizwana zabako-Israyeli: “Nanku ukulaya kukaThixo: **2** Nxa indoda isenza isifungo kuThixo loba isenza isifungo ziphe icala ngokuthembisa, akumelanga yephule isithembiso sayo kodwa kumele igcalise ngokwenza konke ekutshiloyo. **3** Nxa intombazana elokhu isezandleni zabazali bayo isenza isifungo kuThixo loba ziphe icala ngokuthembisa **4** kuthi uyise abesesiwa ngesifungo loba isithembiso sayo kodwa uyise angaze atsho lutho ngalokho kuyo, kutsho ukuthi izinqumo kanye lezithembiso zayo njengokuzethesa kwayo lowomlandu kuzakuma kunjalo. **5** Kodwa uyise angakuzwa lokho ayalise asikho isifungo lesithembiso sayo esizasebenza; uThixo uzayikhulula leyontombazana ngoba yalelwe nguyise. **6** Nxa ingenda ngemva kokwenza isifungo loba kube ngemva kokuba indebe zaye zize zatho isithembiso ngokucunuka izethesa icala **7** kuthi indoda yayo ikuzwe lokho kodwa ingatsho lutho kuyo, lokho-ke kutsho ukuthi izifungo zayo loba izithembiso eyazethesa icala ngazo zizakuma zinjalo. **8** Kodwa nxa umkayo eyalela ekukuzweni kwakhe, kutsho ukuthi umkayo usesuse icala lesifungo loba isithembiso ngokujaha kwayo, ngakho uThixo uzayikhulula. **9** Loba yisiphi isifungo loba isithembiso esenziwe ngumfelokazi loba umfazi owehlukana lendoda yakhe kuyisibophu kuye. **10** Nxa owesifazane ohlala lomkakhe esenza isinqumo loba ezethesa icala lesithembiso ngesifungo **11** kuthi indoda yakhe ikuzwe kodwa ingaze yatsho lutho kuye ingamaleli, kutsho ukuthi izifungo zakhe zonke lezithembiso zokuzethesa icala zizakuma zinjalo. **12** Kodwa indoda yakhe ingakuzwa lokho imalise, kutsho ukuthi akukho isifungo loba isithembiso esivela endebeni zakhe esizakuma njalo. Indoda yakhe isikwalile lokho, ngakho uThixo uzamkhulula. **13** Indoda yakhe ilakho ukuqinisa loba ukwala loba yisiphi isifungo azasenza loba yisiphi isifungo sesithembiso sokuzidela kwakhe. **14** Kodwa nxa indoda yakhe ingatshongo lutho kuye

ngakho okwensuku, kuzakutsho ukuthi iyaziqinisa zonke izifungo loba izithembiso eziyisibopho kowesifazane. Indoda yakhe iyakuqinisa lokho ngokungatsho lutho kuye ekukuzweni kwakhe lokho. **15** Kodwa-ke, nxa angakwenqabela ngemva kwesikhathi ezwile ngakho, kutsho ukuthi usethwele icala lakhe.” **16** Le yiyo imithetho eyaphiwa uMosi nguThixo emayelana lokuhlalisana kwendoda lomkayo, njalo phakathi kukayise lendodakazi yakhe esakhulayo elokhu isesezandleni zakhe.

31 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** “Phindisela kumaMidiyani usenzela abako-Israyeli. Ngemva kwalokho, uzalandela okhokho bakho.” **3** Ngakho uMosi wathi ebantwini, “Hlomisani amanye amadoda aye empini ayekulwa lamaMidiyani kanye lokuphindisela kukaThixo kuwo. **4** Thumelani amadoda ayinkulungwane avela esizwaneni ngasinye sako-Israyeli ukuyahlasela.” **5** Ngakho amadoda azinkulungwane ezilithshumi lambili ahlomela ukuyahlasela, kuyinkulungwane yamadoda avela esizwaneni ngasinye, ebuthwe ngosendo lunye ngalunye kwabako-Israyeli. **6** UMosi wabathumela ukuyahlasela, kuyinkulungwane evela esizwaneni ngasinye, kanye loFinehasi indodana ka-Eliyazari, umphristi, owathatha izitsha endlini engcwele kanye lamacilongo okubikelana. **7** Balwa lamaMidiyani, njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo, babulala amadoda wonke. **8** Phakathi kwababulawayo kwakulamakhosi amahlanu amaMidiyani abalisa u-Evi, uRekhemu, uZuri, uHuri kanye loRebha. Babulala loBhalamu indodana kaBheyori ngenkamba. **9** Abako-Israyeli bathumba abesifazane bamaMidiyani labantwana, basebethumba lemihlambi yenkomo zamaMidiyani, leyezimvu kanye lokubutha impahla njengempango. **10** Batshisa wonke amadolobho lapha okwakuhlala khona amaMidiyani, kanye lezihonqo zawo zonke. **11** Bathatha konke ababekubuthile lababekuthumbile, kuhlanganisa abantu lezifuyo, **12** njalo basebeletha abathunjwa, okuthunjweyo lokubuthiweyo kuMosi lo-Eliyazari umphristi kanye lebandleni lonke lako-Israyeli ezihonqweni zabo zasemagcekeni aseMowabi, ngaseJodani ngaphetsheya ukuvelela eJerikho. **13** UMosi, u-Eliyazari umphristi kanye labo bonke abakhokheli babantu baphuma ukuyabahlangabeza ngaphandle kwezihonqo. **14** UMosi wathukuthelela abalawuli bamabutho, ababelawula amaxuku ezinkulungwane lababelawula amaxuku angamakhulu, abavelela ekuhlaleni. **15** UMosi wababuza wathi, “Selivumele abesifazane ukuthi baphile na? **16** Yiyo ababelandela ukucebisa kukaBhalamu njalo bahugela abako-Israyeli ekungathembekini kuThixo kulokhu okwenzakala ePheyori, kwaze kwathi abantu bakaThixo behlelwa yisifo. **17** Khona khathesi bulalani abafana bonke. Njalo libulale wonke owesifazane oseke walala lendoda, **18** kodwa lizigcinele loba yiphi intombazana engakaze ilale lendoda. **19** Lina lonke elibulele loba ngubani loba lina elike lathinta loba ngubani obuleweyo lizahlala ngaphandle kwezihonqo okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. Ngosuku lwesithathu langosuku lwesikhombisa lizihlambulule lina kanye labathunjwa benu. **20** Lihlambulule zonke izembatho kanye lakho konke okwenziwe ngesikhumba, uboya bembuzi loba okwezigodo.” **21** Ngakho u-Eliyazari umphristi wathi kwabebutho ababeye empini, “Nanku okufaneleyo ngokomthetho owaphiwa uMosi nguThixo: **22** Igolide, isiliva, ithusi, insimbi, izenge lomnuso, **23** kanye lakho konke okunye okungatshi kutshabalale emlilweni

kumele kudlule emlilweni, ngalokho kuzabe sekuhlambululile. Kodwa kumele njalo kube sekuhlambululile ngamanzi okuhlambulula. Kanti njalo kuthi lakuphi okungeke kwamelana lomlilo kumele kudluliswe kulawomanzi. **24** Ngosuku lwesikhombisa gezisani izigqoko zenu ukuze lihlambulule. Ngemva kwalokho selingangena ezihonqweni.” **25** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **26** “Wena kanye lo-Eliyazari umphristi kanye labazinhloko zezimuli zabantu lizabala abantu bonke lezinyamazana, konke okwathunjwayo. **27** Yabelani amabutho ayesempini kanye labantu bonke impango ngokulinganayo. **28** Emabuthweni alwayo empini, thathani okukodwa emakhulwini amahlanu kube yisabelo sikaThixo, kumbe ngabantu, inkomo, obabhemi, izimvu loba imbuzi. **29** Thathani lesisabelo engxenyeni yesabo liyiphe u-Eliyazari umphristi ibe yingxenyeni kaThixo. **30** Kungxenyeni yabako-Israyeli, khethani okukodwa ematshumi amahlanu, phakathi kwabantu, inkomo, obabhemi, izimvu, imbuzi loba ezinye izifuyo. Zipheni abalevi, bona abalomlandu wokunakekela ithabanikeli likaThixo.” **31** Ngakho uMosi lo-Eliyazari umphristi benza njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo. **32** Impango eyayisele kulokho okwathathwa ngamabutho kwakuyizimvu eziyizinkulungwane ezingamakhulu ayisithupha lamatshumi ayisikhombisa lanhlanu, **33** inkomo eziyizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa lambili, **34** obabhemi abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisithupha lanye **35** kanye labesifazane abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu lambili ababengakaze balale lamadoda. **36** Ingxenyeni yesabelo salabo abalwayo empini: sasingesezimvu eziyizinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi amathathu alesikhombisa, lamakhulu amahlanu, **37** lapho abakhapha khona umnikelo kaThixo oyizimvu ezingamakhulu ayisithupha lamatshumi ayisikhombisa lanhlanu; **38** lenkomo eziyizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu lesithupha, okwakhitshwa kizo ezomnikelo kaThixo ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa lambili; **39** obabhemi abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu lamakhulu amahlanu, kwathi umnikelo kaThixo waba ngamatshumi ayisithupha lanye; **40** abantu abazinkulungwane ezilithshumi lasithupha, kwanikelwa kuThixo ngabangamatshumi amathathu lambili. **41** UMosi wanika u-Eliyazari umphristi isabelo sikaThixo, njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo. **42** Ingxenyeni yesabelo sabako-Israyeli uMosi wayeseyehlukanise leyamabutho, **43** ingxenyeni eyayingeyabantu yaba yizimvu eziyizinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi amathathu lesikhombisa, lamakhulu amahlanu, **44** inkomo eziyizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu lasithupha, **45** obabhemi abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu lamakhulu amahlanu **46** kanye labantu abazinkulungwane ezilithshumi lasithupha. **47** Engxenyeni yesabelo sabako-Israyeli, uMosi waqambula okukodwa ematshumini amahlanu abantu lasezifuyweni, njengokulaywa kwakhe nguThixo, njalo wakuqhubela abalevi, bona abalomlandu wokunakekela ithabanikeli likaThixo. **48** Ngakho izikhulu ezaziphethe izigaba zebutho, abalawuli bamaxuku azinkulungwane kanye labalawuli bamaxuku angamakhulu baya kuMosi **49** bafika bathi kuye, “Izinceku zakho sezizabalile amabutho eziwalawulayo, akukho lelilodwa ibutho elingekho. **50** Ngakho sesilethe njengomnikelo kuThixo izinto zegolide esizitholileyo munye ngamunye, izigqizo, amasongo, izindandatho, amacici kanye lezigqizo zentanyeni, ukuzenzela indlela yokubuyisana

phambi kukaThixo.” **51** UMosi lo-Eliyazari umphristi bemukela igolide elalivela kubo, konke lokho kungokubaziweyo. **52** Lonke igolide elalethwa ngabalawuli emunye elawula amaxuku azinkulungwane labalawuli emunye elawula ikhulu lelo uMosi lo-Eliyazari abalethula njengesipho kuThixo lalilesisindo samashekeli azinkulungwane ezilithumi lesithupha, lamakhulu ayisikhombisa amatshumi amahlanu. **53** Ibutho ngalinye lazithumbela okwalo lalo. **54** UMosi lo-Eliyazari umphristi bemukela igolide elalivela kubalawuli emunye elawula amaxuku azinkulungwane lakubalawuli emunye elawula amaxuku angamakhulu, balisa ethenti lokuhlangana ukuze kube yisikhumbuzo kwabako-Israyeli phambi kukaThixo.

32 AbakoRubheni labakoGadi ababilemihlambi emikhulu yenkomo leyezimvu babona ukuthi amadlelo emangweni wejazeri leGilyadi ayemahle ezifuyweni. **2** Ngakho baya kuMosi laku-Eliyazari umphristi lakubakhokheli babantu, bathi, **3** “Umhlaba we-Atharothi, leDibhoni, leJazeri, leNimra, leHeshibhoni, le-Eliyale, leSebhami, leNebho kanye leBheyoni, **4** uThixo awunqoba phambi kwabako-Israyeli, ngumhlaba olungele izifuyo, njalo thina nceku zenu silezifuyo.” **5** Basebesithi, “Nxa sifumene umusa emehlweni enu, lelilizwe aliphiwe izinceku zenu libe yisabelo sethu. Lingenzi ukuba sichaphe uJodani.” **6** UMosi wabuza abakoGadi labakoRubheni wathi, “Kambe lingahlala lapha amanye amadoda akini esiya empini na? **7** Kungani lithelala abako-Israyeli ukwesaba ukuchaphela elizweni abaliphiwa nguThixo na? **8** Yikho lokhu okwenziwa ngoyihlo ekubathumeni kwami besuka eKhadeshi Bhaneya ukuyahlola ilizwe. **9** Bathi sebehambe baze bayafika eSigidomi sase-Eshikholi balibona ilizwe, bathelela abako-Israyeli ukwesaba ukungena elizweni abaliphiwa nguThixo. **10** Ulaka lukaThixo lwaqubuka ngalolosuku waze wenza lesisifungo. **11** ‘Ngenxa yokuthi abangilandelanga ngezinhliziyi zabo ezipheleleyo, zakho loyedwa emadodeni wonke aleminyaka engamatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu okuzalwa kwabavela eGibhithe ozabona ilizwe engalithembisa u-Abraham, u-Isaka lojakhobe ngesifungo, **12** kakho loyedwa ngaphandle kukaKhalebi indodana kafefune umKhenizi kanye loJoshuwa indodana kaNuni, ngoba laba balandela uThixo ngezinhliziyi ezipheleleyo.’ **13** Ulaka lukaThixo lwavutha wabazondela abako-Israyeli njalo wabenza bantula enkangala okweminyaka engamatshumi amane, kwaze kwaphela bonke abentanga yalabo ababonile phambi kukaThixo. **14** Khathezi nanku-ke lina, nzalo yezoni, selimi endaweni yaboyihlo libangela ukuthi uThixo athukuthelele abako-Israyeli ngamanda. **15** Nxa lingala ukumlandela, uThixo uzaphinde atshiye bonke lababantu bakhe enkangala, njalo kuzabe kuyini elibangele incithakalo yabo.” **16** Ngakho beza kuye bathi, “Sifuna ukwakha izibaya zezifuyo zethu njalo sakhele omkethu labantwabethu amadolobho. **17** Kodwa thina sesilungele ukuzihlomisa ukuze sikhokhele abako-Israyeli size siyebafikisa endaweni yabo. Kunjalo-nje omkethu labantwabethu bazasala emadolobheni avikelekileyo, ukuze bangahlaselwa ngabanikazi balelolizwe. **18** Kasiyikubuyela kweyethu imizi wonke owako-Israyeli aze azuze isabelo sakhe. **19** Thina kasiyikuzisa isabelo kanye labo ngale kweJodani, ngoba esethu isabelo sisithole ngapha ngempumalanga kweJodani.” **20** Ngakho uMosi wathi kubo, “Nxa lizakwenza lokhu, lizihlomisele ukukhulasa phambi kukaThixo, **21** njalo

nxalolobho, njalo lakhele izifuyo zenu izibaya, kodwa yenzani lokho elikuthembisileyo.” **25** AbakoGadi labakoRubheni bathi kuMosi, “Thina izinceku zakho sizakwenza njengokulaya kwenkosi yethu. **26** Abantwabethu labomkethu, imihlambi zezimvu zethu leyenkomo zethu kuzasala lapha emadolobheni aseGilyadi. **27** Kodwa thina zinceku zakho, yonke indoda ehlolele ukukhulasa, izachapha iyekulwa phambi kukaThixo, njengokutsho kwenkosi yethu.” **28** UMosi wasekhupha ilizwi lesiqondiso ngabo ku-Eliyazari umphristi lakuJoshuwa indodana kaNuni kanye lakulabo abazinhloko bezimuli zezizwana zako-Israyeli. **29** Wathi kubo, “Nxa abakoGadi labakoRubheni, wonke amadoda ayabe ehlolele ukukhulasa, angachaphela ngale kweJodani kunye lani phambi kukaThixo, kube sekusithi nxa ilizwe selinqotshiwe phambi kwenu banikeni ilizwe laseGilyadi libe yisabelo sabo. **30** Kodwa nxa bengachaphanga lani behlomile, kumele bemukele isabelo sabo kunye lani eKhenani.” **31** AbakoGadi labakoRubheni baphendula bathi, “Izinceku zakho zizakwenza okutshiwo nguThixo. **32** Sizachaphela ngale phambi kukaThixo singene eKhenani sihlomile, kodwa ilifa eliyisabelo sethu lizakuba nangeno kweJodani.” **33** Ngakho uMosi wasenika abakoGadi, labakoRubheni kanye lengxenywe yesizwana sakoManase indodana kaJosefa umbuso kaSihoni inkosi yama-Amori kanye lombuso ka-Ogi inkosi yaseBhashani, ilizwe lonke kanye lamadolobho alo kanye lamazwe ayebagqagqele. **34** AbakoGadi bakha iDibhoni, i-Atharothi, i-Aroweri, **35** i-Athirothi-Shofani, iJazeri, iJogibheha, **36** iBhethi-Nimra kanye leBhethi-Harani aba ngamadolobho ahonqolozelwe ngemithangala, njalo bakha lezibaya zemihlambi yezifuyo zabo. **37** Kanti-ke abakoRubheni bakha kakutsha iHeshibhoni, i-Eliyale kanye leKhiriyyathayimi, **38** kanye lokwakha iNebho kanye leBhali-Meyoni (la amabizo aguqulwa) leSibhima. Betha amadolobho abawakha kutsha amabizo. **39** Izizukulwane zikaMakhiri indodana kaManase zaya eGilyadi, zalithumba njalo zaxotsha ama-Amori ayekulelolizwe. **40** Ngakho uMosi wapha elaseGilyadi kumaMakhiri, izizukulwane zikaManase, basebhlala khona. **41** UJayiri, umzukulwa kaManase, wathumba imizi yabo wayibiza ngokuthi yiHarothi Jayiri. **42** Kanti uNobha wathumba iKhenathi kanye lemizi eyigqagqeleyo njalo wayetha ibizo lakhe wathi yiNobha.

33 Nanka amalombolombo ohambo lwabako-Israyeli ekuphumeni kwabo eGibhithe ngamaviyo abo bekhokhelwa nguMosi lo-Aroni. **2** Ngokulaya kukaThixo waloba walonda izigaba zamalombolombo ohambo lwabo. Nantu uhambo lwabo ngezigaba zakhona: **3** Abako-Israyeli basuka eRamesesi ngosuku lwethshumi lanhlalu lwenyanga yakuqala, ngosuku kwedlule iPhasika. Baphuma ngesibindi bekhangelwe ngamaGibhithe wonke, **4** wona eyephathekile engcwaba wonke amazibulo awo, lawo ayebulewe nguThixo phakathi kwawo; ngoba uThixo wayehlulele ngokujezisa onkulunkulu bawo. **5** Abako-Israyeli

basuka eRamesesi bayamisa izihonqo zabo eSukhothi. **6** Basuka eSukhothi bayamisa izihonqo zabo e-Ethamu, emaphethelweni enkangala. **7** Basuka e-Ethamu, baphenduka baya ePhi-Hahirothi; beqonda empumalanga yaseBhali-Zefoni, babuye njalo bamisa izihonqo zabo eMigidoli. **8** Basuka ePhi-Hahirothi badabula olwandle bangena enkangala, bathi sebehambe okwensuku ezintathu enkangala ye-Ethamu, bamisa izihonqo zabo eMara. **9** Basuka eMara baya e-Elimi, lapho okwakulezintombo zamanzi ezilitshumi lambili kanye lezihlahla zohlobo lwelala ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa, bafika bamisa izihonqo khonapho. **10** Basuka e-Elimi bayamisa izihonqo zabo besekele uLwandle oluBomvu. **11** Basuka olwandle oluBomvu bayamisa enkangala yaseSini. **12** Basuka enkangala yeSini bayamisa eDofuka. **13** Basuka eDofuka bayamisa e-Alusha. **14** Basuka e-Alusha bayamisa eRefidimu, lapho okwakungelamanzi okunathwa ngabantu. **15** Basuka eRefidimu bayamisa enkangala yeSinayi. **16** Basuka enkangala yeSinayi bayamisa eKhibhrothi Hathava. **17** Basuka eKhibhrothi Hathava bayamisa eHazerothi. **18** Basuka eHazerothi bayamisa eRithima. **19** Basuka eRithima bayamisa eRimoni-Pherezi. **20** Basuka eRimoni-Pherezi bayamisa eLibhina. **21** Basuka eLibhina bayamisa eRisa. **22** Basuka eRisa bayamisa eKhehelatha. **23** Basuka eKhehelatha bayamisa eNtabeni yaseShefa. **24** Basuka eNtabeni yaseShefa bayamisa eHarada. **25** Basuka eHarada bayamisa eMakhelothi. **26** Basuka eMakhelothi bayamisa eThahathi. **27** Basuka eThahathi bayamisa eThera. **28** Basuka eThera bayamisa eMithika. **29** Basuka eMithika bayamisa eHashimona. **30** Basuka eHashimona bayamisa eMosera. **31** Basuka eMosera bayamisa eBhene Jayakhani. **32** Basuka eBhene Jayakhani bayamisa eHori-Hagidigadi. **33** Basuka eHori-Hagidigadi bayamisa ejothibhatha. **34** Basuka ejothibhatha bayamisa e-Abhurona. **35** Basuka e-Abhurona bayamisa e-Eziyoni-Gebheri. **36** Basuka e-Eziyoni-Gebheri bayamisa eKhadeshi, eNkangala yaseZini. **37** Basuka eKhadeshi bayamisa eNtabeni yaseHori, emngceleni wase-Edomi. **38** Ngokulaya kukaThixo, u-Aroni umphristi wakhwela eNtabeni yaseHori, lapho afela khona ngosuku lwakuqala lwenyanga yesihlanu yomnyaka wamatshumi amane emva kokuphuma kwabako-Israyeli eGibhithe. **39** U-Aroni wayeseleminyaka elikhulu eileminyaka engamatshumi amabili lemithathu yokuphila ekufeni kwakhe eNtabeni yaseHori. **40** Inkosi yase-Aradi engumKhenani eyayihlala eNegebi yaseKhenani, yezwa ukuthi abako-Israyeli babesiza. **41** Basuka eNtabeni yaseHori bayamisa eZalimona. **42** Basuka eZalimona bayamisa ePhunoni. **43** Basuka ePhunoni bayamisa e-Obhothi. **44** Basuka e-Obhothi bayamisa e-Iye-Abharimi, emngceleni waseMowabi. **45** Basuka e-Iye-Abharimu bayamisa eDibhoni Gadi. **46** Basuka eDibhoni Gadi bayamisa e-Alimoni-Dibhilathayimi. **47** Basuka e-Alimoni-Dibhilathayimi bayamisa ezintabeni zase-Abharimi, phansi kweNebho. **48** Basuka ezintabeni zase-Abharimi bayamisa emageckeni aseMowabi besekele uJodani ngaphetsheya malungana leJerikho. **49** Khonapho emageckeni aseMowabi bamisa izihonqo zabo belandela umfula uJodani kusukela eBethi-Jeshimoth kusiya e-Abheli-Shithima. **50** Emageckeni aseMowabi ngasemfuleni uJodani ngaphetsheya uvelela ngaseJerikho uThixo wathi kuMosi, **51** “Khuluma kwabako-Israyeli ubatsheloku uthi: ‘Nxa lichapha uJodani lingena eKhenani, **52** xotshani phambi kwenu bonke abahlala kulelolizwe. Dilizani zonke izithombe zabo ezibaziweyo kanye lezibunjiweyo, njalo libhidlize zonke

izindawo eziphakemeyo zokukhonzela. **53** Thumbani ilizwe lelo lihlahle kulo, ngoba ngilinike ukuthi libe ngelenu. **54** Yabelanani ilizwe ngenkatho, kusiya ngokwensendo zenu. Ixuku elikhulu kaliphiwe isabelo esikhulu, kuthi ixuku elincinyane liphiwe isabelo esincinyane. Okuzakuya kubo ngenkatho akube ngokwabo. Kwabelanani kusiya ngezizwana zabokhokho benu. **55** Kodwa nxa lingaxotshanga abahlala kulelolizwe, abaseleyo babo bazakuba lukhophe emehlweni enu njalo babe ngameva enyameni yenu. Bazakuba luhlupho ezweni elizahlala kulo. **56** Ngakho-ke ngizakwenza kini lokho engizimisele ukukwenza kubo.”

34 UThixo wathi kuMosi, **2** “Laya abako-Israyeli uthi kubo: ‘Nxa lingena eKhenani, ilizwe elizaliphiwa ukuba libe yisabelo senu lizakuba lale imingcele: **3** Icele leningizimu yenu lizahlanganisa isigaba esithile senkangala yaseZini kulandela umngcele we-Edomi. Empumalanga, umngcele wenu weningizimu uzasukela ekucineni koLwandle lweTswayi, **4** udabula eningizimu yoMkhandlu weNkume, kusiya ngaseZini njalo kuye eningizimu yeKhadeshi Bhaneya. Usuka lapho uzaqonda eHazari Adari njalo wedulele e-Azimoni, **5** lapho ozajika khona, kuhlange lesiHotsha saseGibhithe njalo uyephelela olwandle lwaseMedithereniyeni. **6** Umngcele wenu wentshonalanga uzakuba ligumbi loLwandle loLukhulu. Lo uzakuba ngumngcele wenu entshonalanga. **7** Okomngcele wenu wenyakatho, usekela uLwandle olukhulu usiya eNtabeni yaseHori **8** njalo usuka eNtabeni yaseHori uye eLebo Hamathi. Umngcele uzakuba lapho uqonde eZedadi, **9** ubusuqhubeka usiya eZifironi uze uyekuma eHazari-Enani. Lo yiwo umngcele wenu enyakatho. **10** Okomngcele wenu wempumalanga, sukelani eHazari-Enani kusiya eShefamu. **11** Umngcele uzakwehla usuka eShefamu usiya eRibhila engempumalanga kwe-Ayini njalo uqhubeka ulandela umthezuko empumalanga koLwandle lwaseKhinerehi. **12** Kusuka lapho umngcele uzakwehla ulandela umfula uJodani uze uyecina olwandle lweTswayi. Leli lizakuba yilizwe lenu, ngemingcele yalo inxa zonke.” **13** Umosi walaya abako-Israyeli wathi: “Yabelanani lelilizwe ngenkatho njengelifa lenu. UThixo usekhuphe isiqondiso sokuthi aliphiwe izizwana eziyisificamunwemunye kanye lesizwana esiyingxenyi, **14** ngenxa yokuthi abezimuli zesizwana sikaRubheni, abesizwana sikaGadi kanye lengxenyi yesizwana sikaManase sebethole isabelo sabo. **15** Izizwana lezi ezimbili kanye lalesi esiyingxenyi sezithole isabelo sazo empumalanga komfula uJodani malungana leJerikho, ngokuya ngempumalanga.” **16** UThixo wathi kuMosi, **17** “La ngamabizo amadoda azalabela ilizwe njengelifa lenu: u-Eliyaziri umphristi kanye loJoshuwa indodana kaNuni. **18** Beselikhetha umkhokheli oyedwa esizwaneni ngasinye ukuncedisa ukwaba ilizwe: **19** La yiwo amabizo abo: uKhalebi indodana kaJefune, owesizwana sakoJuda; **20** uShemuyeli indodana ka-Amihudi, owesizwana sakoSimiyoni; **21** u-Elidadi indodana kaKhisisiloni, owesizwana sakoBhenjamini; **22** uBhukhi indodana kaJogili, umkhokheli ovela esizwaneni sakoDani; **23** uHaniyeli indodana ka-Efodi, ongumkhokheli ovela esizwaneni sikaManase indodana kaJosefa; **24** uKhemuweli indodana kaShifuthani, engumkhokheli ovela esizwaneni sako-Efrayimi indodana kaJosefa; **25** u-Elizafani indodana kaPhanaki, umkhokheli ovela esizwaneni sikaZebbuluni; **26** uPhalithiyeli indodana ka-Azani, umkhokheli ovela esizwaneni sika-Isakhari, **27** u-Ahihudi indodana kaShelomi, umkhokheli ovela esizwaneni sika-Asheri; **28** uPhedaheli indodana ka-

Amihudi, umkhokheli ovela esizwaneni sikaNafithali.” 29 La yiwo amadoda uThixo alaya ukuthi ahlukhanisele abako-Israyeli isabelo sabo selizwe laseKhenani.

35 Ngasemagcekeni aseMowabi kusekele umfula uJodani nganeno malungana leJerikho, uThixo wathi kuMosi, 2 “Laya abako-Israyeli ukuthi bakhethe elifeni labo amadolobho bawanike abaLevi ukuze bahlale kuwo. Njalo babanike lamadlalo eduze lamadolobho lawo. 3 Ngalokho bazakuba lamadolobho okuhlala kanye lamadlalo enkomo zabo, imihlambi yezimvu kanye leyezinye izifuyo zabo zonke. 4 Amadlalo azingezelele amadolobho elizawanika abaLevi, azakuba zingalo eziyinkulungwane ukuqhela kwawo kusukela emidulini yamadolobho. 5 Ngempumalanga, ngaphandle kwedolobho, kuzakuba zingalo eziyinkulungwane ezimbili kubo njalo laseningizimu izingalo eziyinkulungwane ezimbili, entshonalanga izingalo eziyinkulungwane ezimbili, kufane laseceleni lenyakatho izingalo eziyinkulungwane ezimbili, idolobho liphakathi laphakathi. Le kuzakuba yindawo yabo yamadlalo emadolobheni.” 6 “Phakathi kwamadolobho elizawanika abaLevi, ayisithupha azakuba ngawokuphephela, yikho lapho okuzakuthi umuntu angabalala omunye abalekele khona. Phezu kwalawo, bapheni amanye amadolobho angamatshumi amane lamabili. 7 Wonke esehlangene abaLevi bapheni amadolobho angamatshumi amane lasificaminwembili, kuhlanganisa lamadlalo abo. 8 Amadolobho eliwanika abaLevi elizweni labako-Israyeli kawabiwe ngokuya ngelifa lesizwana ngasinye: Thathani amadolobho amanengi esizwaneni esilamadolobho amanengi, kodwa lithathe amalutshwana kwesilamadolobho.” 9 Ngakho uThixo wasesithi kuMosi: 10 “Khuluma labako-Israyeli njalo ubatshelwe uthi: ‘Ekuchapheeni kwenu uJodani lingena eKhenani, 11 khethani amanye amadolobho abe ngawokuphephela, lapho okuzakuthi nxa umuntu ebulele omunye ngengozi abalekele khona. 12 Azakuba zindawo zokuphephela ukuzivikela kwabaphindiselayo, ukuze kuthi lowo owetheswa icala lokubulala angafi engakathonisiswa phambi kwebandla. 13 Amadolobho ayisithupha la elibapha wona azakuba ngamadolobho enu okuphephela. 14 Bapheni amathathu ngakulelicele lomfula uJodani kuthi amathathu abe ngamadolobho okuphephela eKhenani. 15 Amadolobho la ayisithupha azakuba yindawo yokuphephela kwabako-Israyeli, labezizweni kanye labo bonke abantu abahlezi phakathi kwabo, ukuze kuthi loba ngubani obulele omunye ngengozi abalekele khona. 16 Nxa indoda itshaya umuntu ngento eyinsimbi afe, ingumbulali; umbulali kumele abulawe. 17 Kumbe nxa omunye ephethe ilitshe abesetsi omunye afe, ungumbulali; umbulali kumele abulawe. 18 Njalo nxa omunye ephethe ulutho oluyisigodo abesetsi omunye afe, ungumbulali; umbulali kumele abulawe. 19 Umphindiseli wegazi kumele ambulale umbulali; nxa ehlangana laye, kumele ambulale. 20 Loba ngubani olomona ohlezi eqophile engafuqa omunye loba amjikijele ngolutho oluthile ngabomo kubangele ukufa kwakhe 21 loba kuthi ngolaka amtsihaye ngenqindi afe, lowomuntu kumele abulawe; ungumbulali. Umphindiseli wegazi kumele ambulale umbulali nxa ehlangana laye. 22 Kodwa nxa kungayisikho ngolaka, umuntu aqabuke esefuqe omunye loba amjikijele ngolutho engaqondile 23 loba engamboni, amgxobe ngelitshe elingambulala, afe, ngakho njengoba engasisositha sakhe njalo engaqondanga

ukumlimaza, 24 ibandla kumele lahlulele phakathi kwakhe lomphindiseli wegazi kulandelwa lezi zimiso. 25 Ibandla kumele livikele owetheswa icala lokubulala kumphindiseli wegazi njalo abuyiselwe edolobheni lokuphephela azabe ebalekele kulo. Kumele ahlahle khonale kuze kufe umphristi omkhulu, owagcotshwa ngamafutha angcwele. 26 Kodwa lowo owetheswa icala angaba ngaphandle kwedolobho lokuphephela lelo ayabe ebalekele kulo 27 kuthi umphindiseli wegazi amfumane ngaphandle kwaledolobho, umphindiseli wegazi angambulala lowo owetheswe icala kodwa angabi lalala lokubulala. 28 Owetheswe icala kumele ahlahle edolobheni lakhe lokuphephela kuze kufe umphristi omkhulu; uzaze abuyele emzini wakhe kuphela nxa umphristi omkhulu esefile. 29 Le kumele kube yimithetho yesimiso kini lakuzizukulwane ezizayo, loba kungaphi lapho elizahlala khona. 30 Loba ngubani obulala umuntu kumele abulawe njengombulali ngobufakazi balabo abayabe bebonile kuphela. Kodwa akungabikho loyedwa ozabulawa ngobufakazi bofakazi oyedwa. 31 Lingemukeli inhlawulo yokuhlenga impilo yombulali, yena kumele afe, loba kutheni kabulawe. 32 Lingemukeli inhlawulo yokuhlenga loba ngubani abalekele edolobheni lokuphephela libe selimvumela ukuba abuyele ukuyahlala emzini wakhe umphristi omkhulu engakafi. 33 Lingalingcolisi ilizwe lelo elihlala kulo. Ukuchitha igazi kungcolisa ilizwe, njalo indlela yokubuyisana ingeke yenzelwe lapho okuchithwe khona igazi, ngaphandle kwegazi lalowo olichithileyo. 34 Lingalingcolisi ilizwe elihlezi kilo kanye lalapho enghlala khona, ngoba Mina, Thixo, ngihlala phakathi kwabako-Israyeli.”

36 Inhloko zezindlu zosendo lukaGilyadi indodana kaMakhiri, indodana kaManase, ababengabensendo zezizukulwane zikaJosefa, beza bakhuluma loMosi kanye labakhokheli, abazinhloko zezimuli zako-Israyeli. 2 Bathi kubo, “Lapho uThixo walaya inkosi yami ukuba iphe ilizwe njengelifa ngenkatho kwabako-Israyeli, yakhupha isiqondiso sokuthi uphe ilifa lomfowethu uZelofehadi kumadodakazi akhe. 3 Khathesi akesithi thina nxa bendele emadoleni ezinye izizwana zako-Israyeli; kuzakutsho ukuthi ilifa lizasuswa kwelabokhokho bethu liyekwengezelela elalesosizwana abazakwendela kuso. Ngakho kutsho ukuthi ingxenye yelifa esaliphiwayo sizayithathelwa. 4 Kuzakuthi ngomnyaka weJubhili kwabako-Israyeli, ilifa labo lizakwengezelela elalesosizwana abendele kuso, njalo impahla yabo izasuswa elifeni lesizwana sabokhokho bethu.” 5 Ngakho ngokulaya kukaThixo uMosi wakhupha lesiqondiso kwabako-Israyeli: “Lokho okutshiwo yizizukulwane sesizwana sikaJosefa kuqondile. 6 Lokhu yikho ukulaya kukaThixo ngamadodakazi kaZelofehadi: Bakhululekile ukwendela loba kukubani obathathayo kodwa akube ngabosendo lwesizwana sikayise. 7 Kalikho ilifa ko-Israyeli elizasuka esizwaneni lisiya kwesinye isizwana, ngoba wonke owako-Israyeli kumele agcine ilizwe lesizwana eliyilifa labokhokho bakhe. 8 Yonke indodakazi ezakuba yindlalifa yelizwe esizwaneni sako-Israyeli kumele yendele emuntwini wesizwana sosendo lukayise, ukuze wonke owako-Israyeli abe lelifa laboyise. 9 Kalikho ilifa elizasuka esizwaneni lisiya kwesinye isizwana, ngoba loba yisiphi isizwana sako-Israyeli kumele sigcine ilizwe eliyilifa laso.” 10 Ngakho amadodakazi kaZelofehadi enza njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo. 11 Amadodakazi kaZelofehadi uMahila, loThiza, loHogila, loMilikha kanye loNowa, bendela emadodaneni abafowabo bakayise. 12 Bendela

kwabezinsendo zezizukulwane zikaManase indodana kaJosefa, njalo ilifa labo lasala kwabosendo lukayise lesizwaneni sakhe. **13** Le yiyo imilayo lemithetho eyaphiwa abako-Israyeli nguThixo ngoMosi emagcekeni aseMowabi ngasemfuleni waseJodani ngakuleli iphetsheya malungana leJerikho.

UDutheronomi

1 La ngamazwi akhulunywa nguMosi kubo bonke abako-Israyeli enkangala, empumalanga yeJodani, lokhu kuyikuthi, e-Arabha, maqondana leSufi, phakathi kwePharani leThofeli, eLabhani, eHazerothi kanye laseDizahabi. **2** (Loluhambo luthatha insuku ezilithumi lanye ukusuka eHorebhi kusiya eKhadeshi Bhaneya ngomgwaqo odlula eNtabeni yaseSeyiri.) **3** Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amane, ngosuku lwakuqala lwenyanga yetshumi lanye, uMosi wamezela kwabako-Israyeli konke lokho uThixo ayemlaye ngakho ngabo. **4** Lokhu kwakungemva kokuba esenqobe uSihoni inkosi yama-Amori, owayebusa eHeshibhoni, njalo wayesenqobe e-Edreyi u-Ogi inkosi yaseBhashani, owayebusa e-Ashitharothi. **5** Empumalanga kweJodani elizweni laseMowabi, uMosi waqalisa ukufundisa ngalo umthetho, esithi: **6** "UTHixo uNkulunkulu wethu wakhuluma lathi siseHorebhi wathi, 'Selihlale isikhathi eseneleyo kule intaba. **7** Dilizani izihonqo zenu ledlulele elizweni lamaqaqa lama-Amori; yanini kubo bonke abangomakhelwane e-Arabha, ezintabeni, emawatheni angentshonalanga, eNegebi lilandelele ukhumbi, liye ezweni lamaKhenani kanye laseLebhanoni, lidabule lize liyefika emfuleni omkhulu, iYufurathe. **8** Khangelani, sengiliphile lelilizwe. Ngenani lilithumbe lelilizwe uThixo afunga wathi uzalipha okhokho benu, u-Abrahama, u-Isaka, uJakhobe kanye lezizukulwane zabo emva kwabo.'" **9** "Ngalesosikhathi ngathi kini, 'Lina lingumthwalo omkhulu kakhulu onzima ukuthi ngiwuthwale ngingedwa. **10** UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu usengezelele amanani enu okokuthi lamuhla selilingana lezinkanyezi zemkhathini. **11** Sengathi uThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho benu, angalibusisa njalo alandise ngokuphindwe kankulungwane njengokuthembisa kwakhe! **12** Kodwa ngingazithwala njani inhlupho zenu lemithwalo yenu kanye lezingxabano zenu ngingedwa na? **13** Khethani amadoda akhaliphileyo, azwisisayo lahloniphekayo phakathi kwezizwana zakini zonke, ofisa ngizawabeka alikhokhele.' **14** Langiphendula lathi, 'Lokho ofisa ukukwenza kulungile.' **15** Ngakho ngathatha abakhokheli bezizwana zenu, amadoda akhaliphileyo njalo ahloniphekayo, ngabanika amandla phezu kwenu ukuze babe ngabalawuli bezinkulungwane, bamakhulu, bamatshumi amahlanu, betshumi kanye lokuba yizikhulu zezizwana zenu. **16** Njalo ngapha isiqondiso kubahluleli ngalesosikhathi ngathi: 'Hluzani ingxabano phakathi kwabafowenu njalo lahlulele ngokufaneleyo, kungakhathalekile ukuthi yingxabano phakathi kwabako-Israyeli bodwa loba kungowako-Israyeli oxabana lowezizweni. **17** Lingathathi hlangothi ekwahluleleni; hluzani amacala abancinyane labakhulu ngokufananayo. Lingesabi loba ngubani, ngoba ukwahlulela ngokukaNkulunkulu. Kuthi icala elinzima lililethe kimi, ngizalihluzana ngilahlulele.' **18** Njalo ngalesosikhathi ngalithshela konke okwakumele likwenze." **19** "Kwathi-ke, njengoba uThixo wethu wayesilayile, sasuka eHorebhi saqonda ezweni lama-Amori elilamaqaqa sadabula inkangala enkulu eyesabekayo eseliyibonile, saze sayafika eKhadeshi Bhaneya. **20** Ngakho ngathi kini, 'Selifikile elizweni lama-Amori elamaqaqa, ilizwe uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu asinika lona. **21** Khangelani, uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uselinike lelilizwe. Hambani lithumbe njengoba uThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho benu alithshela.

Lingesabi; lingadangali.' **22** Kusenjalo lina lonke leza kimi lathi, 'Asithumeni amadoda ahambe phambili ayehlola lelolizwe abuye azositshengisa indlela esizangena ngayo kanye leyokuthumba amadolobho esizafikela kuwo.' **23** Lokho kwakhanya kungumbono omuhle kimi; lakanye ngakhetha abalitshumi lababili phakathi kwenu, indoda eyodwa esizwaneni ngasinye. **24** Basuka baya ezweni lamaqaqa njalo bafika bahlola isihotsha sase-Eshikholi. **25** Bathatha ezinye izithelo zelizwe babuya lazo kithi, njalo bethula umbiko othi, 'Yilizwe elihle uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu asipha lona.'" **26** "Kodwa lina lalingazimisela ngokuhamba; lahlamukela uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ngokungalaleli umlayo wakhe. **27** Lina lakhonona lisemathenteni enu lathi, 'UTHixo uyasizonda; kutsho ukuthi wasikhapha eGibhithe ukuze asinikele ezandleni zama-Amori ukuthi asibhubhise. **28** Singaya ngaphi na? Abafowethu sebesithelele ubuthakathaka. Bathi bona, 'Abantu bakhona balamandla njalo bade kulathi; amadolobho akhona makhulu, alemiduli esithaya emakhathini. Size sabona lama-Anakhi khonale.'" **29** Mina ngasengisithi kini, 'Lingethuki; lingebesabi. **30** UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ohamba phambi kwenu uzalilwela, njengalokho alenzela khona eGibhithe lizibonela ngamehlo enu, **31** njalo lasenkangala. Khonale lizibonela ukuthi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu walithwala, njengobaba ethwala indodana yakhe, uhambo lwenu lonke laze lafika lapha.' **32** Lanxa kunjalo, kalizange limethembe uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, **33** yena owahamba phambi kwenu kuloluhambo, elikhokhela ngomlilo ebusuku kanti kusiba leyezi emini, elidingela izindawo zokumisa izihonqo zenu lokulitshengisa lapho bamakele liye khona. **34** Kwathi uThixo esezwile elalikutsho, wathukuthela, wafunga wathi: **35** 'Kakho loyedwa kulesisizukulwane esingalunganga ozalibona lelolizwe engafungela ukulipha okhokho benu, **36** ngaphandle kukaKhalebi indodana kaJefune. Yena uzalibona, njalo ngizamupha yena lesizukulwane sakhe lelolizwe azafikela kilo, ngoba walalela uThixo ngenhliziyo yakhe yonke.' **37** Ngenxa yenu uThixo wangithukuthela lami njalo wathi, 'Wena lawe awuyikungena khona. **38** Kodwa umsekelo wakho, uJoshuwa indodana kaNuni, uzangena kulelolizwe. Umkhuthaze yena, ngoba uzakhokhela abako-Israyeli kulo ukuba libe yilifa labo. **39** Kanti njalo labalo abancane elalisithi bazathunjwa, abantwabenu abangakehlukanisi phakathi kokubi lokuhle, bazangena kulelolizwe. Ngizabapha lona njalo bazalithatha libe ngelabo. **40** Kodwa lina, phendukani njalo lisuke liqonde enkangala lilandelele indlela eya oLwandle oluBomvu.' **41** Lina laphendula lathi, 'Sonile kuThixo. Sizahamba siyekulwa, njengokulaywa kwethu nguThixo uNkulunkulu wethu.' Ngalokho lonke lahloma ngezikhali linakana ukuthi kulula ukungena elizweni lamaqaqa. **42** Kodwa uThixo wathi kimi, 'Wothi kubo, 'Lingayi ukuyakulwa, ngoba kangiyikubani. Lizakwehlulwa yizitha zenu.'" **43** Ngakho ngalithshela, kodwa kalizange lilalele. Lahlamukela umlayo kaThixo kwathi ngobuqholo benu layangena elizweni lamaqaqa. **44** Kwathi ama-Amori ayehlala kulawomaqaqa alihlangabeza alihlasela; alixotsha njengomtshitshi wenyosi, alibhuka kusukela eSeyiri indlela yonke kusiya eHoma. **45** Laphenduka lafika lalakhala phambi kukaThixo kodwa kazange alalele ukukhala kwenu walifulathela. **46** Ngakho lahlala eKhadeshi okwensuku ezinengi, okwesikhathi sonke elasichitha likhonale."

2 “Sasesiphenduka siqonda enkangala ngendlela yoLwandle oluBomvu njengokulaywa kwami nguThixo. Okwesikhathi eside sasilokhu sibhoda ezweni lamaqaqa aseSeyiri. **2** UThixo wasesithi kimi, **3** ‘Selibhoda labhoda ezweni lamaqaqa sekwanele; khathesi phendukani likhangele enyakatho. **4** Nika abantu leliziqondiso: ‘Khathesi selizakwedlula elizweni labafowu isizukulwane sika-Esawu, abahlala eSeyiri. Bazalesaba, kodwa libolimuka linanzelele. **5** Lingaboqala livuse impi ngoba angiyikulipha ilizwe labo, sengisitsho lesiqinti esilingana uyawo olulodwa. Nganika u-Esawu ilizwe laseSeyiri elamaqaqa ukuthi libe ngelakhe. **6** Lizababhada ngesiliva libhadalela ukudla elizakudla lamanzi elizawanatha.’” **7** UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uyibusisile imisebenzi yezandla zenu. Ulikhokhele kulolonke uhambo lwenu phakathi kwenkangala enkulu kangaka. Iminyaka engamatshumi amane uThixo wenu ube lani, kalizange lisele lutho. **8** Ngakho sahamba sedlula ezihlotsheni zethu isizukulwane sika-Esawu abahlala eSeyiri. Saphenduka sika emgwaqweni wase-Arabha okhwela usuka e-Elathi le-Eziyoni-Gebheri, sahamba ngomgwaqo wenkangala yaseMowabi. **9** UThixo wasesithi kimi, ‘Lingahlukuluzi amaMowabi loba ukubavusele impi, ngoba angiyikulinika ngitsho lesiqintshana selizwe labo. Senginike ele-Ari isizukulwane sikaLothi ukuba kube yisabelo sabo.’” **10** (Ama-Emi ake ahlala khonapho, abantu abalamandla njalo abanengi kakhulu, futhi bebade njengama-Anakhi. **11** Labo njengama-Anakhi babebalwa njengamaRefayi, kodwa amaMowabi ayebabiza ngokuthi ngama-Emi. **12** AmaHori ayekade ehlanga eSeyiri, kodwa adudulwa yisizukulwane sika-Esawu. Babhubhisa amaHori ayelapho basebesakha endaweni yawo, njengalokho okwenziwa ngabako-Israyeli ezweni abaliphiwa nguThixo ukuba libe yisabelo sabo.) **13** “UThixo wasesithi, ‘Khathesi sukani lichaphe isiHotsha saseZeredi.’ Ngakho sachapha isihotsha. **14** Kwedlula iminyaka engamatshumi amathathu leysificaminwembili sisuke eKhadeshi Bhaneya sisiyachapha isiHotsha saseZeredi. Ngalesosikhathi, amadoda ebutho alesosizukulwane ayesebhuhile, njengokufungelwa kwabo nguThixo. **15** UThixo wamelana labo waze wabatshabalalisa bonke ezihonqweni. **16** Kwathi-ke sekufe abokucina emadodeni ebutho, **17** uThixo wathi kimi, **18** ‘Lamuhla uzakwedlula emangweni waseMowabi ngase-Ari. **19** Ekufikeni kwakho kuma-Amoni, ungawahlukuluzi loba ukuwavusele impi, ngoba angiyikukunika loba yiliphi ilizwe lama-Amoni. Ngilinye lesisizukulwane sikaLothi ukuba kube yisabelo sabo.’” **20** (Leli lalo laliphathwa njengelizwe lamaRefayi ayehlala khonapho; kodwa ama-Amoni ayebabiza ngokuthi ngamaZamzumu. **21** Babengabantu abalamandla bebanengi kakhulu, njalo bebade njengama-Anakhi. UThixo wababhubhisa phambi kwama-Amoni, wona abadudulayo njalo ahlala endaweni yabo. **22** UThixo wayenze njalo esizukulwaneni sika-Esawu, esasiseSeyiri, ekubhuhiseni kwakhe amaHori phambi kwabo. Babadudula basebhilala endaweni yabo kuze kube lamuhla. **23** Kanti-ke okunjengama-Avi ayehlala emizini ekhatshana njengeGaza, amaKhafithori ayeyela eKhafithori ababhubhisa asehlala endaweni yabo.) **24** “Suka khathesi uchaphe uDonga lwase-Arinoni. Uyabona, senginikele esandleni sakho uSihoni um’Amori inkosi yaseHeshibhoni kanye lelizwe lakhe. Qalisa ukuthatha lelilizwe ulwe impi laye. **25** Kusukela lamuhla ngizaqalisa ukuthela izizwe zonke ngaphansi kwezulu ukukwesaba. Zizakulwa indumela yakho zethuke

zesabe zihlukuluzike ngenxa yakho.’ **26** Kusukela enkangala yaseKhedemothi ngathumela izithunywa kuSihoni inkosi yaseHeshibhoni ngisithi akubekhona ukuthula njalo ngisithi, **27** ‘Sivumele sidabule elizweni lakho. Sizahamba ngomgwaqo omkhulu kuphela, asiyikuphambukela ngakwesokudla loba ngakwesokunxele. **28** Sithengisele ukudla lamanzi okunatha ngentengose yeseliva. Sivumele nje sedlule ngezinyawo, **29** njengezizukulwane zika-Esawu ezihlala eSeyiri, kanye lamaMowabi ahlala e-Ari, asenzela khona, size sichaphe uJodani singene elizweni uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu asinika lona.’ **30** Kodwa uSihoni inkosi yaseHeshibhoni yala ukuthi sedlule. Ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu wayeyenze umoya wakhe waba lobuqhulo lenhliziyo yakhe yaba lukhuni ukuze amnikele ezandleni zenu, njengoba esekwenzile khathesi. **31** UThixo wathi kimi, ‘Khangela, sengiqalisile ukunikela uSihoni lelizwe lakhe kuwe. Qalisa khathesi ukunqoba utathe ilizwe lakhe.’ **32** Kwathi uSihoni ephuma lebutho lakhe ukusihlangabeza ekhulaseleni eJahazi, **33** uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu wamnika kithi sambulala, yena kanye lamadoda akhe lebutho lakhe lonke. **34** Ngalesosikhathi sathatha amadolobho akhe sawabhidliza, amadoda, abesifazane kanye labantwana. Kakho owasilayo. **35** Kodwa izifuyo lakho konke esakuthumbayo emadolobheni esawunqobayo sazithathela khona. **36** Kusukela e-Arower emngceleni wodonga lwase-Arinoni, kanye lokusuka edolobheni elisedongeni, kusiya khonale eGilyadi, akuladolobho elalingamelana lathi. UThixo uNkulunkulu wethu wawanikela wonke kithi. **37** Kodwa kusiya ngokulaya kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu, alizange lingene elizweni lama-Amoni, kumbe elizweni elisemngceleni yomfula uJabhoki loba lelo elilamadolobho asemaqageni.”

3 “Sasuka sasesiphenduka sakhwela njalo sisekele umgwaqo oya eBhashani, kanti u-Ogi inkosi yaseBhashani kanye lamabutho akhe wonke wayesihlangabeza ukuze alwe lathi e-Edreyi. **2** UThixo wathi kimi, ‘Ungamesabi ngoba sengimnikele kuwe lamabutho akhe wonke kanye lelizwe lakhe. Menze konke owakwenza kuSihoni inkosi yama-Amori, owayebusa eHeshibhoni.’ **3** Ngakho uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu wanikela u-Ogi inkosi yaseBhashani lamabutho akhe wonke ezandleni zethu. Sababulala bonke, kakho loyedwa owaphephayo. **4** Ngalesosikhathi sathumba wonke amadolobho akhe. Akusalanga dolobho lalinye esingalithumbanga phakathi kwawo wonke engamatshumi ayisithupha, umhlubulo wonke welizwe le-Agobhi, ilizwe lika-Ogi eBhashani. **5** Wonke amadolobho la ayevikelwa ngemiduli ephakemeyo langemigoqo yokuvala amasango lemijabo yokunxiba, kanti njalo yayiminengi eminye imizi eyayingahonqolozelwanga ngemiduli yokuvikela. **6** Satshaya sabhuqa konke, kwaba njengalokhu esakwenza kuSihoni inkosi yaseHeshibhoni, sabhidliza wonke amadolobho, amadoda, abesifazane kanye labantwana. **7** Kanti-ke izifuyo zonke kanye lesakuthumba emadolobheni abo sazithathela kwaba ngokwethu. **8** Ngakho ngalesosikhathi kulawo makhosi womabili ama-Amori sathumba ilizwe elisempumalanga yeJodani, kusukela ezindongeni zase-Arinoni kuze kuyefika ezintabeni zaseHemoni.” **9** (IHemoni ibizwa ngokuthi yiSiri yoni ngamaSidoni, kanti-ke ama-Amori ayibiza ngokuthi yiSeniri.) **10** “Sathumba wonke amadolobho emagcekeni, kanye lawo wonke eGilyadi, laseBhashani yonke kusiya eSalekha lase-Edreyi, engamadolobho ombuso ka-Ogi eBhashani.” **11** (U-Ogi

inkosi yaseBhashani nguye yedwa owayesesele emthonselaneni wamaRefayi. Umbheda wakhe wawungowensimbi njalo umude ukwedlula izingalo ezilithumi lantathu kanti ubanzi bawo buzingalo eziyisithupha. Wona ulokhu useRabha yase-Amoni.) **12** "Phakathi kwelizwe esalithumbayo ngalesosikhathi, ngranika abakoRubheni labakoGadi ilizwe elisenyakatho yase-Aroweri endongeneni zase-Arinoni, kuhlanganisa lengxenyeyelizwe lamaqaqa aseGilyadi, kanye lamadolobho akhona. **13** EleGilyadi lonke kanye lalo lonke eleBhashani, lombuso ka-Ogi, ngalinika abayingxenyeyezisukulwane sikaManase." (Umhlabulo wonke welizwe le-Agobhi ngaseBhashani lalisaziwa ngokuthi yilizwe lamaRefayi. **14** UJayiri, owosendo lukaManase, wathatha sonke isiqinti esisukela emangweni we-Agobhi kusiya emngceleni weGeshuri lamaMahakhathi; saba yisiqinti esabizwa ngaye, okokuthi lalamuhla iBhashani ibizwa ngokuthi yiHavothi-Jayiri.) **15** "IGilyadi ngayinika uMakhiri. **16** Kodwa abakoRubheni labakoGadi ngabanika isiqinti selizwe elisuka eGilyadi lisiya ezindongeni zase-Arinoni (phakathi laphakathi kwendonga kungumngcele) kusehla kusiya eMfuleni uJabhoki, ongumngcele wama-Amoni. **17** Umngcele wentshonalanga kuyijodani ngase-Arabha, kusukela eKhinerethi kusiya oLwandle lwase-Arabha (uLwandle lweTswayi) ngaphansi ekwehleni okungapha ngePhisiga. **18** Ngalilaya ngalesosikhathi ngathi: 'uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho ukuphile lelizwe, lithathe libe ngelakho. Kodwa wonke amadoda asaqinile, ahlemele ukulwa, kumele achaphe kuqala phambi kwabafowenu abako-Israyeli. **19** Kanti-ke abafazi benu, abantwana lezifuyo zenu (ngiyazi lifuyile kakhulu) bangazihlalela emadolobheni engilinike wona, **20** kuze kuthi uThixo aphumuze abafowenu njengalokhu akwenzileyo kini, kanti labo njalo bazabe sebelithethe ilizwe abaliphiwe nguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, ngaphetsheya kweJodani. Ngemva kwalokho, lonke ngamunye kusamele libe yelezinqindi engilinike zona.'" **21** "Ngalesosikhathi ngalaya uJoshuwa ngathi: 'Usuzibonele ngamehlo akho konke uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho akwenze emakhosini amabili la. UThixo uzakwenza khonokho kuzozonke izizwe oya kuzo. **22** Ungazesabi lezozizwe, uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho uzakulwela yena uqobo lwakhe.' **23** Ngalesosikhathi ngacela kuThixo ngathi: **24** 'Oh Thixo wobukhosi, usualqisile ukutshengisa inceku yakho ubukhulu bakho lesandla sakho esilamandla amakhulu. Kambe nguphi unkulunkulu ezulwini loba emhlabeni ongenza lokhu okwenzileyo lemisebenzi emikhulu oyenzayo? **25** Ngivumela ngiye khona ngiyebona ilizwe elingaphetsheya kweJodani, ilizwe elihle lamaqaqa kanye leLebhanoni.' **26** Kodwa ngenxa yenu uThixo wangithukuthelela akazange athande ukungizwa. UThixo wathi kimi, 'Kwanele, ungabe usakhluma kimi futhi ngalindaba. **27** Khwela phezu kwePhisiga ukhangele entshonalanga, enyakatho, engingizimu lasempumalanga. Ukhangele ulibone ngawakho amehlo ilizwe njengoba ungasoze uchaphe uJodani. **28** Kodwa beka uJoshuwa esikhundleni, umkhuthaze njalo umqinise, ngoba uzakhokhela lababantu abachaphise njalo uzakwenza balithathe lelolizwe ozalibona libe yilifa labo.' **29** Ngakho sahlala esihotsheni phansi kweBhethi-Pheyori."

4 "Zwana-ke khathesi, Oh Israyeli, izimiso lemithetho engizalifundisa yona. Ilandeleni ukuze liphile njalo libe lakho ukuyalithatha lelolizwe uThixo uNkulunkulu wobokhokho benu alinika lona. **2** Lingangezeleli kulokho

engilinya khona njalo lingaphunguli loba yikuphi kwakhona, kodwa gcinani imilayo kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu engilinike yona. **3** Lazibonela ngawenu amehlo okwenziwa nguThixo eBhali-Pheyori. UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu wabatshabalalisa bonke ababekhonzela uBhali wasePheyori, **4** kodwa lina lonke elabambelela kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu lilokhu lisaphila lalamuhla lokhu. **5** Liyabona sengalifundisa izimiso lemithetho uThixo wami angilaya ngazo, ukuze liyigcine elizweni elingena kulo ukuba lilithathe. **6** Lizigcine ngonanzelelo ngoba lokhu kuzaveza obala ukhulakanipha lokuzwisa kwenu ezizweni ezizakuzwa ngalezizimiso njalo zitsho zithi, 'Ngeqiniso lesiziswe esilodumo yizizwe sabantu abahlakaniphileyo njalo abazwisayo.' **7** Yisiphi esinye isizwe esilodumo esilabonkulunkulu baso ababaseduze laso njengoThixo uNkulunkulu wethu oba lathi nxa sikhuleka kuye? **8** Yisiphi esinye isizwe esilezizwe eziqondileyo lemithetho engjenge imithetho engiyethula phambi kwenu lamuhla na? **9** Kodwa linanzelele, liqaphelise ukuze lingakhohlwa izinto elizibonileyo loba zilibaleke ezinhliziyweni zenu ekuphileni kwenu konke. Fundisani abantwabenu ngalezizimiso njalo labo babofundisa abantwababo labantwana babantwana abalandela emva kwabo. **10** Khumbulani usuku elema ngalo phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu eHorebhi, lapho athi khona kimi, 'Buthanisa abantu ukuze bezwe amazwi ami ukuze bakwazi ukungidumisa nxa belokhu besahlala elizweni njalo bafundise abantwababo.' **11** Lasondela lema ngaphansi kwentaba ilavuka amalangabi eqonga phezu, kulamayezi amnyama lomnyama owesabekayo. **12** Ngakho uThixo wakhuluma lani ephakathi komlilo. Lezwa umdumo welizwi kodwa alizange libone lutho; kwaba yilizwi lodwa nje. **13** Wakhupha ilizwi lokubuyisana lesivumelwano sakhe, imiThetho eliTshumi, waselilaya ukuba liyilande njalo wayiloba ezibhebhedwini zamatshe ezimbili. **14** Kungalesosikhathi lapho uThixo angiqondisa ukuba ngilifundise izimiso lemilayo okuzamele liyilande ekuchapheni kwenu uJodani lisiya elizweni elizalithumba libe ngelenu.'" **15** "Akulalutho loba yisimo bani elasibonayo mhla uThixo ekhuluma lani eHorebhi ephakathi kwelangabi lomlilo. Kunjalo-nje kumele lizinanzelele okuqinileyo, **16** ukuze lingaxhali libe selizenzelele isithombe, loba umfanekiso olesimo bani, loba ngesilesimo sesilisa loba esesifazane, **17** loba yiphi inyamazana emhlabeni loba inyoni endizayo emkhathini, **18** loba yisiphi isinanakazana esihquzelayo emhlabathini loba yinhlanzi ngaphansi kwamanzi. **19** Njalo nxa likhangele phezu libe libakabhakeni libona ilanga, inyanga kanye lezinkanyezi, zonke ezihlobise zacecisa isibhakabhaka, lingalingeki lizikhothamele beselikhonza izinto uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu azibekela izizwe zonke ngaphansi kwezulu. **20** Kodwa-ke lina, uThixo walithatha walenyula eziko lokuncibilikisa insimbi, walikhapha eGibhithe, ukuze libe ngabantu belifa lakhe, njengoba linje lamuhla. **21** UThixo wangithukuthelela ngenxa yenu, wafunga waphelela wathi angiyikuchapha uJodani ngingene elizweni uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona ukuba libe yilifa lenu. **22** Mina ngizafela kulelizwe; angiyikuchapha uJodani, kodwa lina seliseduze ukuba lichaphe liyelithumba lelolizwe elihle. **23** Nanzelelani ukuthi lingalibali isivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu wenu asenza lani; lingazenzeli isithombe loba singesesimo bani salokho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu akwalileyo. **24** Ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ungumlilo oqothulayo,

uNkulunkulu olobukhwele. **25** Ngemva kokuba selike laba labantwana, lesizukulwane njalo selihlale ezweni okwesikhathi eside, lingasuka libe selixhwalaba beselizenzela loba yisiphi isithombe, lisenza okubi emehlweni kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu limthukuthelisa, **26** ngibiza izulu lomhlaba ukuthi libe ngufakazi wami ukuze libhujiswe masinyazana lingangeni elizweni elizachapha uJodani ukuze lilithumbe. Aliyikuhlala kulo isikhathi eside kodwa iqiniso yikuthi lizatshabalaliswa. **27** UThixo uzalihlakaza ezizweni, njalo abalutshwana benu yibo abazasinda ezizweni uThixo azalifuqela khona. **28** Khonale lizakhonza onkulunkulu ababunjwe ngabantu ngezigodo langamatshe, abangeke babone loba bezwe loba badle loba bezwe ukunuka. **29** Kodwa nxa likhonale lingadinga uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, lizamfumana nxa lindinga ngezinhliziyo zenu ezipheleleyo langemiphfumulo yenu yonke. **30** Nxa selisosizini zonke lezizinto sezilehlela, lapho-ke ngezinsuku ezizayo libabuyela kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu limlalele. **31** Phela uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu nguNkulunkulu olomusa; kayikulidela loba alibhubhise loba alibale isivumelwano sakhe asenza labokhokho benu, leso asiqinisa kubo ngesifungo.” **32** “Buzani khathezi ngezinsuku ezedelulayo, kudala lingakabi khona, kusukela ngosuku uNkulunkulu adala ngalo umuntu emhlabeni; buzani kusukela ngapha kwamazulu kusiya ngale kwamazulu. Kambe kukhona yini okukhulu kangaka okwedlula lokhu osekuke kwenzakala loba kwezakala na? **33** Sikhona na esinye isizwe esake sezwa uNkulunkulu ekhuluma ephakathi kwelangale lomlilo, njengalokhu eselikuzwile, saphila na? **34** Kukhona na uNkulunkulu osekwe wazama ukuzithathela esinye isizwe ephakathi kwesinye, ngokuhlola, ngemilingo yezibonakaliso, lezimangaliso, lezimpi, ngesandla esilamandla langokwelula ingalo, loba izenzo ezinkulu ezesabekayo, njengakho konke uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alenzela khona eGibhithe lizibonela ngamekho enu? **35** Lakutshengiswa konke lokhu ukuze lazi ukuthi uThixo unguNkulunkulu; ngaphandle kwakhe kakho omunye futhi. **36** Esemazulwini wakwenza ukuthi lilizwe ilizwi lakhe ukuze libe lobuntu. Emhlabeni walitshengisa amalangabi omlilo akhe omkhulu, njalo lawezwa amazwi akhe ephuma emlilweni. **37** Ngenxa yokuthi wabathanda okhokho benu wakhethe izizukulwane zabo ezalandela ngemva kwabo, walikhapha eGibhithe ngoBukhona bakhe kanye langamandla akhe amakhulu, **38** ukuxotsha zonke izizwe phambi kwenu, izizwe ezilamandla kulezenu lokulingenisa elizweni lazo ukuze aliphe lona libe yilifa lenu, njengoba kunjalo lamuhla. **39** Yamukelani njalo likugcine ezinhliziyo zenu lamuhla ukuthi uThixo unguNkulunkulu ezulwini phezu lasemhlabeni phansi. Kakho omunye. **40** Gcinani izimiso zakhe lemilayo yakhe, engilinika yona lamuhla, ukuze kulihambe kahle lina kanye labantwabenu lokuthi liphile isikhathi eside elizweni eliliphiwa nguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ukuze libe ngelenu kokuphela.” **41** Ngakho uMosi wasekhetha amadolobho amathathu empumalanga yeJodani, **42** ukuze kuthi wonke oyabe ebulele omunye abalekele khona nxa eyabe ebulele umakhelwane kungekho mona kodwa kube yingozi. Bangabalekela kwelinye lala amadolobho ukuze baphephise impilo zabo. **43** Amadolobho lawo kwakuyila: iBhezeri emagcekeni asenkangala, lingelabakoRubheni; iRamothe eGilyadi, lingelabakoGadi; kanye lelaseGolani eBhashani lona lingelabakoManase. **44** Lo ngumthetho owethulwa nguMosi kwabako-Israyeli. **45** Lezi kwakuyizilinganiso, izimiso

lemithetho eyethulwa nguMosi kubo ekuphumeni kwabo eGibhithe **46** njalo babesesigodini esiseduzane leBhethi-Pheyori empumalanga yeJodani elizweni likaSihoni inkosi yama-Amori, yena owabusa eHeshibhoni njalo wehlulwa nguMosi labako-Israyeli bephuma eGibhithe. **47** Bathatha ilizwe lakhe kanye elizwe lika-Ogi inkosi yaseBhashani, amakhosi ama-Amori womabili empumalanga yeJodani. **48** Ilizwe leli lalisuka e-Aroweri emaphethelweni ezindonga zase-Arionini kusiya entabeni yaseSiyoni (khona kuyiHemoni), **49** kuhlanganisa layo yonke i-Arabha empumalanga yeJodani kuze kuyefika oLwandle lwe-Arabha, ngaphansi komthezuko wasePhisiga.

5 UMosi wabizela ndawonye wonke u-Israyeli wathi kuye: “Zwana, wena Israyeli, izimiso lemithetho engizayethula ngesibopho phambi kwakho lamuhla. Ifunde njalo ube leqiniso ukuthi uyayilandela. **2** UThixo uNkulunkulu wethu wenza isivumelwano lathi eHorebhi. **3** UThixo kenzanga isivumelwano lesi labazali bethu, kodwa wasenza lathi, thina sonke esilokhe siphila kuze kube lamuhla. **4** UThixo wakhuluma lawe likhangelene ubuso ngobuso ephakathi komlilo phezu kwentaba. **5** (Ngalesikhathi ngema phakathi kukaThixo lawe ukuze ngikwethulele ilizwi likaThixo, ngoba wawusesaba umlilo njalo awuzange ukhwele entabeni.) Wasesithi: **6** ‘NginguThixo uNkulunkulu wakho owakukhupha eGibhithe, elizweni lobugqili. **7** Ungabi labanye onkulunkulu ngaphandle kwami. **8** Ungazenzeli isithombe ngesimo saloba yini esezulwini phezu loba phansi emhlabeni kumbe ngaphansi kwamanzi. **9** Ungazikhothameli loba ukuzikhonza; ngoba Mina, Thixo uNkulunkulu wakho, nginguNkulunkulu olobukhwele, ojezisa abantwana ngenxa yezono zabazali babo kuze kube yisizukulwane sesithathu lesesine salabo abangizondayo, **10** kodwa ngitshengisela uthando kuzizukulwane eziyinkulungwane zalabo abangithandayo njalo begcina imilayo yami. **11** Ungalibenzisi ngeze ibizo likaThixo uNkulunkulu wakho, ngoba uThixo kayikumyeka olecala lokudlala ngebizo lakhe. **12** Gcina usuku lweSabatha ngokulwenza lubengcwele njengokulaywa kwakho nguThixo uNkulunkulu wakho. **13** Okwensuku eziyisithupha uzasebenza wenze yonke imisebenzi yakho, **14** kodwa usuku lwesikhombisa luyiSabatha kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakho. Ngalo awuyikwenza loba yiwuphi umsebenzi, wena, indodana yakho loba indodakazi yakho, inceku loba incekekazi yakho, inkabi yakho, ubabhemi wakho loba yisiphi isifuyo sakho, loba isihambi esikwethekeleleyo, ukuze izisebenzi zakho zesilisa kanye lezesifazane ziphumule njengawe. **15** Khumbula ukuthi wawuyisigqili eGibhithe lokuthi uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho wakukhipha khona ngesandla esilamandla lengalo eyelulekileyo. Ngalokho uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho ukulaye ukuthi ugcine usuku lweSabatha. **16** Hlonipha uyihlo lonyoko, njengokulaywa nguThixo uNkulunkulu wakho, ukuze impilo yakho ibende lokuthi kukulungele elizweni uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho akunika lona. **17** Ungabulali. **18** Ungafebi. **19** Ungantshontshi. **20** Ungafakazi amanga ngomakhelwane wakho. **21** Ungahawukeli umfazi kamakhelwane wakho. Ungahawukeli indlu kamakhelwane wakho loba isiqinti sakhe, inceku loba incekekazi yakhe, inkabi yakhe loba ubabhemi wakhe loba yini ekamakhelwane wakho.’ **22** Le yijo imilayo eyatshiwo nguThixo ngelizwi eliphakemeyo liphuma

elangabini lomlilo leyezi kanye lomnyama owesabekayo; lina libuthene lonke entabeni, njalo kazange engezelele lutho. Ngakho wasekubhala konke lokhu ezibhebhedwini ezimbili zamatshe anginika zona. **23** Lathi lisizwa ilizwi livela emnyameni, intaba ivutha amalangabi omhlo, wonke amadoda angabakhokheli labadala bezizwana zenu beza kimi. **24** Lathi, 'uThixo wethu usitshengisile inkazimulo yakhe kanye lobukhosi bakhe, njalo silizwile ilizwi lakhe livela elangabini lomlilo. Lamuhla sesibonile ukuthi umuntu angaphila noma eke wakuluma loNkulunkulu. **25** Kodwa khathesi, kanti sizafelani pho? Umhlo omkhulu kangaka uzaziqeda du, njalo sizakufa nxa singaphinda sizwe ilizwi likaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu. **26** Ngoba ngubani umuntu wenyama onjengathi owake wezwa ilizwi likaNkulunkulu ophilayo ekhuluma ephakathi komlilo, waphila na? **27** Sondela eduzane ulalele lokho okutshiwo nguThixo uNkulunkulu wethu. Ubususitshela lokho uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu azakutshela khona. Sizakulalela njalo sikulandele.' **28** UThixo walizwa ekukhulumeni kwenu lami wasesithi kimi, 'Ngizwile okutshiwo ngabantu kuwe. Konke abakutshiloyo kulungile. **29** Sengathi ngabe inhliziyi zabo zingaxhila ekungesabeni njalo bayigcine imilayo yami, ukuze kubalungele bona kanye labantwabobo kuze kube laphakade! **30** Hamba uyebatshela ukuthi babuyele emathenteni abo. **31** Kodwa wena hlala khonapha lami ukuze ngikuphe yonke imilayo, izimiso lemithetho ozabafundisa ukuthi bayigcine bayilandele elizweni lelo engizabanika lona ukuba libe ngelabo.' **32** Ngakho nanzelelani lenze lokho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alilaya ngakho; lingaphambukeli yiloba kwesokudla loba kwesenzele. **33** Hambani ngaleyondlela uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alilaye ngayo, ukuze liphile liphumelele njalo lengezelele insuku zenu elizweni elizakuba ngelenu."

6 "Le yiyo imilayo, izimiso lemithetho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu angithuma ukuthi ngilifundise ukuyigcina elizweni elizachapha uJodani lithathe libe ngelenu, **2** ukuze lina, labantwabonu kanye labantwabobo abezayo bamesabe uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ekuphileni kwenu ngokugcina izimiso lemilayo engizalinika yona, ukuze libe lempilo ende. **3** Zwana, wena Israyeli, njalo unanzelele ukuthi uyalalele ukuze kukulungele njalo wande kakhulu elizweni eligeleza uchago loluju, njengokuthembisa kukaThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho benu. **4** Zwana, wena Israyeli: UThixo uNkulunkulu wethu, nguThixo munye. **5** Thanda uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho ngenhliziyi yakho yonke langomphefumulo wakho wonke kanye langamandla akho wonke. **6** Imilayo le engikupha yona lamuhla kumele ibe sezinhliziyweni zenu. **7** Igcizeleleni ebantwaneni benu. Likhulume ngayo nxa lihlezi emakhaya enu lalapho lihamba endleleni, lapho lilala lanxa livuka. **8** Ibopheleni ezandleni zenu ibe luphawu, liyibophele lasemabunzini enu. **9** Ibhaleni emigubazini yezindlu zenu kanye lasemasangweni enu. **10** Kuzakuthi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu eselengisa elizweni afunga ngalo kuboyihlo, u-Abrahamama, u-Isaka loJakhobe, ukulinika lona, ilizwe elilamadolobho amakhulu, aphumelelayo kodwa elingazakhelanga wona, **11** izindlu ezigcwele konke okuhle elingazange likuhluphekele, imithombo yamanzi elingazange liyigebhe, kanye lezivini lezilahlala zama-oliva elingazihlanyelanga, ukuze kuthi lingadla lisuthe, **12** linanzelele ukuthi alimkhohlwa uThixo, yena owalikhupha eGibhithe, elizweni lobugqili. **13** Mesabeni uThixo uNkulunkulu

wenu, mkhonzeni yena yedwa njalo lifunge ngebizo lakhe. **14** Lingabalandeli abanye onkulunkulu babantu elakhelene labo; **15** ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, ophakathi kwenu, nguThixo olobukhwele njalo ongalithukuthela, alitshabalalise ebusweni bomhlaba. **16** Lingamlingi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu njengalokhu elakwenza eMasa. **17** Nanzelelani ukuthi liyayigcina imilayo kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu lezimiso kanye lemilayo aliphe yona. **18** Yenzani okuqondileyo lokuhle emehlweni kaThixo, ukuze konke kulihambele kuhle njalo lingene liyethatha ilizwe uThixo alithembisa okhokho benu ngesifungo, **19** lidudule zonke izitha eziphambi kwenu, njengokutsho kukaThixo. **20** Kuzakuthi ngokuqhubeka kwesikhathi nxa indodana yakho ikubiza isithi, 'Zitshoni izimiso, imilayo lemithetho leyo uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu alipha yona?' **21** Wena uzakuthi: 'Sasiyizigqili zikaFaro eGibhithe, kodwa uThixo wasikhupha eGibhithe ngesandla sakhe esilamandla. **22** Thina sazibonela ngawethu amehlo uThixo ethumela izibonakaliso lezimangaliso ezinkulu lezesabekayo phezu kweleGibhithe laphezu kukaFaro labo bonke abendlu yakhe. **23** Kodwa wasikhupha khonale wasiletha lapha ukuze asinike ilizwe alithembisa okhokho bethu ngesifungo. **24** UThixo wasilaya ukuba silalele zonke lezi zimiso lokwesaba uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu, ukuze sithole ukuphumelela lokuphila, njengoba kunje lamhlanje. **25** Kanti-ke nxa sinanzelele silalele wonke umthetho lo phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu, njengokusilaya kwakhe, lokhu kuzakuba yikulunga kwethu."

7 "Lapho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu elingenisa elizweni alinika lona ukuba libe ngelenu uxotsha izizwe ezinengi phambi kwenu, amaHithi, amaGigashi, ama-Amori, amaKhenani, amaPherizi, amaHivi lamaJebusi, izizwe eziyisikhombisa ezinkulu njalo ezilamandla kulani, **2** kuthi lapho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu esezinikele ezandleni zenu lani selizingobile kufanele lizitshabalalise ngokupheleleyo. Lingabi lesivumelwano lazo, njalo lingabi lesihawu kuzo. **3** Lingendiseleni lazo. Lingendiseli amadodakazi enu emadodaneni azo, kumbe lithathele amadodana enu amadodakazi azo, **4** ngoba azaphambula amadodana enu ekungikhonzeni abesekhonza abanye onkulunkulu, kuthi ulaka lukaThixo luvuthe luitshabalalise. **5** Nanku okumele likwenzwe kulezi zizwe: Dilizani ama-alithare azo, libhidlize amatsheshe eziwakhonzayo, ligamule izinsika zika-Ashera njalo litshise izithombe zazo ngomhlilo. **6** Phela lina lingabantu abangcwele kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ulikethile phakathi kwabantu bonke emhlabeni ukuthi libe ngabantu bakhe, isipho sakhe esiligu. **7** UThixo kazange ehlisele uthando lwakhe phezu kwenu ngoba libanengi kuleziywe izizwe, phela lina livele liyisizwe sabantu abalutshwana. **8** Kodwa kungenxa yokuthi uThixo walithanda wagcina isifungo asifunga kubokhokho benu walikhupha ngesandla esilamandla walihlenga ezweni lobugqili, emandleni kaFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe. **9** Yazinike ukuthi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu unguNkulunkulu; unguNkulunkulu othembekileyo, ogcina isivumelwano sothando kuze kufike esizukulwaneni senkulungwane salabo abamthandayo njalo begcina imilayo yakhe. **10** Kodwa labo abamzondayo uzaphindisela kubo ngokubabhubhisa; kayikuphuza ukuphindisela kulabo abamzondayo. **11** Kungakho, nanzelelani lilandele imilayo, izimiso kanye lemithetho engilinika yona lamuhla. **12** Nxa linanzelele

limithetho njalo liyilandela, uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzacina isivumelwano sakhe sothando kini, njengoba wafunga kubokhokho benu. **13** Uzalithanda alibusise andise ubunengi benu. Uzabuisa izithelo zenzalo yezisu zenu, izilimo zamasimu enu, amabele enu, iwayini elitsha kanye lamafutha, amathole emihlambi yenkomo zenu kanye lamazinyane emihlambi yezimvu zenu elizweni afunga ukuthi uzalinika okhokho benu ukuba balinike lona. **14** Lina libabusiswa okungaphezu kwabanye abantu; kakho phakathi kwamadoda labafazi kini ozaswela umntwana, njalo lezifuyo zenu ngeke ziswele amankonyane. **15** UThixo uzaliphephisa emikhuhlaneni yonke. Kayikulehlisa imikhuhlane yonke eyesabekayo elaliyibona eGibhithe, kodwa uzayehlisa kulabo abalizondayo. **16** Libobhubhisa bonke abantu uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu abanikela ezandleni zenu. Lingabazweli usizi, lingakhonzi onkulunkulu babo, ngoba lokho kuzakuba yisifu kini. **17** Mhlawumbe lizakuthi: ‘Lezizwe zilamandla kulathi. Sizaxotsha njani lapha?’ **18** Kodwa lingazesabi; khumbulani ukuthi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu wenzani kuFaro kanye lakulo lonke elaseGibhithe. **19** Lazibonela ngawenu amehlo imilingo emikhulu, izibonakaliso zemilingo lezimanga, isandla esilamandla lokwelulwa kwengalo, khona okwasetshenziswa nguThixo wenu ukulikhupha. UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzakuphinda khonokho kubo laba abantu elibesabayo. **20** Phezu kwalokho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzathumela olonyovu phakathi kwabo kuze kuthi labasilileyo balicatshela babhujiswe. **21** Lingabesabi, ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ophakathi kwenu, nguThixo omkhulu njalo owesabekayo. **22** UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzazidudula lezoziwe phambi kwenu kancanekancane. Aliyikuvunyelwa ukuzibhubhisa ngasikhathi sinye ngoba izinyamazana zeganga zinganda zilihanqe. **23** Kodwa uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzabanikela kini, abaphazamise baze babhujiswe. **24** Amakhosi azo uzawanikela ezandleni zenu, njalo lizakwesula amabizo awo ngaphansi komkhathi. Kakho ozakwenelisa ukumelana lani, lizababhubhisa. **25** Izithombe zabonkulunkulu bazo lizazitshisa ngomlilo. Lingahawukeli isiliva legolide eliphezu kwezithombe, lingazigcineli lona, ngoba lizabe selizibambisile emjibileni ngalo, ngoba liyisinengiso kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **26** Lingalethi okunengisayo ezindlini zenu, ngoba lani njengakho lokho lizakhethelwa ukubhujiswa. Kwenyanyeni linengeke ngakho, ngoba kumiselwe ukutshabalaliswa.”

8 “Nanzelelani njalo lilandele yonke imilayo engilini yona lamuhla, ukuze liphile njalo lande khona lizangena lithumbe ilizwe uThixo alinika okhokho benu ethembisa ngesifungo. **2** Likhumbule ukuthi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu walikhokhela njani lidabula inkangala okweminyaka engamatshumi amane, elichumisa lokulilinga ukuthi abone okwakuzezinhliziyweni zenu, ukuthi kambe lizayigcina imiyalo yakhe na loba hayi. **3** UThixo walichumisa, walenza lalamba kanti njalo walipha ukudla okuyimana, ukudla lokho laboyihlo abangazange bakwazi, kuyikulifundisa ukuthi umuntu kaphili ngesinkwa kuphela zwi kodwa ngalo lonke ilizwi eliphuma emlonyeni kaThixo. **4** Izigqoko zenu aziguzanga njalo lezinyawo zenu azivuvukanga kuleyo minyaka engamatshumi amane. **5** Gcinani lokhu ezinhliziyweni zenu lazi ukuthi njengendoda ikhuza indodana yayo, ngokufananayo uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uyalikhuza. **6** Gcinani imilayo kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu lihambe endleleni yakhe njalo limkhonze. **7**

Ngakho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ulisa elizweni elihle, ilizwe elilezifula leziziba zamanzi, intombo zamanzi ezimpompoza ezigodini lasemaqaqeni; **8** elizweni lengqoloyi lebhali, amavini lemikhiwa, amaphomegranathi, amafutha ama-oliva lenyosi; **9** elizweni lapha okungasayi kusweleka khona isinkwa njalo aliyikuswela lutho; elizweni lapho amatshe akhona ayinsimbi kanti njalo lingemba ikhophama emaqeni. **10** Lizakuthi selidlile lasutha, lidumise uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ngelizwe elihle alinike lona. **11** Linanzelele ukuthi alilibali uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, lingehluleki ukugcina imilayo yakhe, imithetho kanye lezimiso engilini zona lamuhla. **12** Kungenzeka ukuthi lithi selidlile lasutha, selakhe izindlu ezinhle lahlala laziza, **13** njalo imihlambi yezifuyo zenu leyezimvu zenu isiqhelile yanda kuze kuthi lesiliva legolide lenu selilineni kanye lakho konke okwenu sekukunengi kuphindwe kanenginengi, **14** liziqhenye ezinhliziyweni zenu, libe selikhohlwa uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, yena owalikhupha eGibhithe, walikhupha elizweni lobugqili. **15** UThixo walikhokhela enkangala enkulu eyesabekayo, eyomileyo engelamanzi, elobuthi benyoka lenkume. Walinika amanzi aphuma edwaleni. **16** Walinika imana ukuba lidle enkangala, into abangazange bayazi oyihlo, ukulichumisa njalo lokulilinga ukuze kuthi ekucineni kulihambe kuhle. **17** Mhlawumbe lingathi, ‘Ngokuzimisela kwami langamandla ezandla zami sengizidalele inotho.’ **18** Kodwa khumbulani uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ngoba kunguye olipha amandla okunotha, lokho kuyikho ukugcwaliseka kwesivumelwano sakhe, sona afunga kubokhokho benu, okulokhu kunjalo lalamuhla. **19** Nxa lizake likhohlwe uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu beselilandela abanye onkulunkulu libakhonze libakhothamele, ngiyalifungela lamuhla ukuthi lizabhujiswa ngempela. **20** Njengezizwe uThixo azibhubhisa phambi kwenu lani lizabhujiswa nguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu.”

9 “Zwana, We Israyeli. Khathezi ususiyachapha iJodani ukuze ungene uyethathela izizwe ezinkulu ezilamandla kulawe, ezilamadolobho amakhulu alemiduli etshaya emkhathini. **2** Abantu bakhona balamandla njalo bade, ngama-Anakhi. Liyakwazi konke ngabo njalo selike layizwa indumela yabo yokuthi: ‘Ngubani ongamelana lama-Anakhi?’ **3** Kodwa qinisekani lamuhla ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu nguye ozachapha phambi kwenu njengomlilo otshisa ubhuqe. UThixo uzababhubhisa; uzabanyathela phambi kwenu. Lizabaxotsha libabhubhise masinyane, njengokuthembisa kukaThixo. **4** Ngemva kokuba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu esebanqobile phambi kwenu, lingabozikhohlisa lisithi, ‘UThixo ungilethe lapha ukuba ngilithathe libe ngelami lelilizwe ngenxa yokulunga kwami.’ Akunjalo, kungenxa yezono zalezizwe okuzakwenza ukuthi uThixo azisuse phambi kwakho. **5** Akusikho ukuthi kungenxa yokulunga kwakho loba ukuziphatha ngobuntu bakho okuzakwenza ungene kulelilizwe ulithathe; kodwa kungenxa yezono zalezozizwe, uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho uzaxizotsha phambi kwakho lezizwe ukuze kugcwaliseke isifungo uThixo wakho asenza kuboyihlo, u-Abrahama, u-Isaka kanye loJakhobe. **6** Zwisisa manje, ukuthi akungenxa yokulunga kwakho ukuthi uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho ukunika lelilizwe ukuba libe ngelakho, ngoba lina simo senu lingontamozilukhuni.” **7** “Khumbulani lokhu njalo lingakhohlwa ukuthi lamthukuthelisa njani uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu enkangala waze wazonda. Kusukela ngosuku elasuka ngalo eGibhithe lize lizofika lapha, belilokhu

lihlamukela uThixo. **8** EHorebhi lavusa uluka lukaThixo ngalokho wazonda okokuthi wayezalibhubhisa. **9** Kwathi ekukhweleni kwami intaba ngisiyakwamukela izibhebhedu zamatshe, izibhebhedu zesivumelwano uThixo asenza lani, ngahlala entabeni okwensuku ezingamatshumi amane lobusuku obungamatshumi amane; angidlanga sinkwa njalo angizange nginathe amanzi. **10** UThixo wanginika izibhebhedu zamatshe ezimbili okwakulotshwe kuzo ngomunwe kaNkulunkulu. Kulezizibhebhedu kwakulotshwe yonke imilayo eyayethulwe nguThixo kini phezu kwentaba ephakathi komlilo, ngosuku lombuthano. **11** Ekupheleni kwensuku ezingamatshumi amane njalo lobusuku obungamatshumi amane, uThixo wangipha izibhebhedu zamatshe ezimbili, izibhebhedu zesivumelwano. **12** UThixo wangitshela wathi, 'Suka lapha wehle ngokuphangisa, ngoba abantu bakho owabakhupha eGibhithe sebexhwalile. Sebephambukile masinyane kulokho engangibalaye ngakho njalo sebezibumbele isithombe.' **13** UThixo wathi kimi, 'Sengibanonile lababantu, njalo bangontamozilukhuni ngeqiniso! **14** Ngiyekela ukuze ngibabhuhise njalo ngesule amabizo abo ngaphansi kwamazulu. Njalo ngizakwenza ube yisizwe esilamandla futhi esikhulu kulesabo.' **15** Ngasengiphenduka ngehla entabeni yona ivutha ilangabi lomlilo. Kanti njalo izibhebhedu zombili zesivumelwano zazisezandleni zami. **16** Ngathi ngiyakhangela ngabona ukuthi lonile phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu; laselizibumbele isithombe esibunjwe ngesimo sethohle. Laseliphambukile masinyane lasuka endleleni uThixo ayelilaye ngayo. **17** Ngalokho ngathatha izibhebhedu zombili ezazisezandleni zami ngazisakazela phansi, zaphahlazeka zaba yizicucu phambi kwenu. **18** Kanti-ke njalo ngazilahla ngawa phambi kukaThixo okwensuku ezingamatshumi amane njalo lobusuku obungamatshumi amane; angidlanga sinkwa njalo angizange nginathe amanzi, ngenxa yezono zonke elaselizidalile, lisenza okubi emehlweni kaThixo njalo lamthukuthelisa waze wazonda. **19** Ngesaba intukuthelo lolaka lukaThixo, ngoba wayezonde kangangokuba wayengalibhubhisa. Kodwa-ke futhi uThixo wangilalela. **20** UThixo wamthukuthelisa u-Aroni kangangokuba wayengamthshalalisa, kodwa-ke ngalesosikhathi laye u-Aroni ngamkhulekela. **21** Ngabuye ngathatha into yokona kwenu, ithole leli elalilibumbile, ngalithisa emlilweni. Ngasengilichoboza njalo ngalichola laba yimpuphu ecoleke njengothuli ngaluhaza esifuleni esigeleza entabeni. **22** Laphinda ngalithukuthelisa uThixo eThabhera, laseMasa kanye laseKhibhrothi Hathava. **23** Kanti uThixo wathi elisusa eKhadashi Bhaneya, wathi, 'Qhubekani njalo liyethatha ilizwe engilinike lona.' Kodwa lihlamukela umlayo kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. Alizange limethembe loba ukumlalela. **24** Belivele limhlamukela uThixo kusukela ngiqalisa ukulazi. **25** Ngazilahla ngawa phambi kukaThixo okwensuku ezingamatshumi amane kanye lobusuku obungamatshumi amane ngoba uThixo wayethe uzalibhubhisa. **26** Ngakhuleka njalo kuThixo ngathi, 'Oh! Thixo Wobukhosi, ungabhuhisi abantu bakho, ilifa lakho owalilhenga ngamandla akho amakhulu wabakhipha eGibhithe ngesandla sakho esilamandla. **27** Khumbula izinceku zakho u-Abraham, u-Isaka kanye loJakhobe. Xola ebuqholweni balababantu, eubuni lasezonweni zabo. **28** Nxa kungenjalo ilizwe owasisusa kilo lizakuthi, "Ngoba uThixo wehluleka ukubangenisa elizweni ayebathembise lona, njalo langenxa yokuthi wayebazonda,

wabakhupha ukuze bayefela enkangala." **29** Kodwa ngabantu bakho, abayilifa lakho owalikhupha ngamandla akho amakhulu langengalo yakho eyeluliweyo."

10 "Ngalesosikhathi uThixo wathi kimi, 'Baza ezinye izibhebhedu zamatshe ezimbili zifanane lezakuqala uze lazo kimi entabeni. Uphinde njalo wenze ibhokisi ngezigodo. **2** Ngizabhala kulezozizibhebhedu amazwi ayesezibhebhedwini zakuqala owaziphahlazayo. Ube usuzifaka kulelobhokisi.' **3** Ngakho ngenza ibhokisi lesivumelwano ngezigodo zesihlahla som'akhakhiya ngasengibaza izibhebhedu ezimbili zamatshe ezifanana lezakuqala, ngasengikhwela entabeni ngiphethe lezo zibhebhedu ezimbili. **4** UThixo wabhala kulezozizibhebhedu lokho ayekubhale kwezakuqala, imiThetho eliTshumi ayeyimemezele kimi ephakathi komlilo, entabeni, ngosuku lokuhlanguka. UThixo wasenginika zona izibhebhedu. **5** Ngakho ngasengibuyi ngisehla entabeni ngafika ngafaka izibhebhedu ebhokisini engangilenzile njengokulaywa kwami nguThixo, yikho zilokhu zikhona lakhathesi." **6** (Abako-Israyeli bahamba besuka emithonjeni yaseBherothi-Bheni-Jakhani kusiya eMosera. Kulapho u-Aroni afela khona njalo wangcwatshwa khona, kwathi indodana yakhe u-Eliyazari yathatha isikhundla sakhe sobuphristi. **7** Besuka lapho bahamba baya eGudigoda bedlulela eJothibhatha, ezweni elilezifula ezilamanzi. **8** Ngalesosikhathi uThixo wehlukanisaba Levi ukuze bathwale umtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo, ukuma phambi kukaThixo besenza umsebenzi wokukhonza kanye lokwethula izibusiso ngebizo lakhe, njengoba bekwenza lanamuhla. **9** Yikho abaLevi bengelasabelo loba ilifa phakathi kwabafowabo; elabo ilifa nguThixo, njengoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu wabatshele.) **10** "Ngasengihlale phezu kwentaba insuku ezingamatshumi amane lobusuku obungamatshumi amane, njengalokhu engangikwenze kuqala, lakanye uThixo wangilalela futhi okwalesosikhathi. Kwakungasikufisa kwakhe ukulibhubhisa. **11** UThixo wathi kimi, 'Hamba uyekhokhela abantu endleleni yabo, ukwenzela ukuthi bangane bathathe ilizwe engafunga kuboyise ukuthi ngizabapha lona.'" **12** "Khathezi-ke, Oh Israyeli, kuyini uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho angakucela kuwe ngaphandle kokuba umesabe uThixo wakho, ukuhamba ezindleleni zakhe, ukumthanda, ukumsebenzela uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho ngenhliziyo yakho yonke langomoya wakho wonke, **13** lokugcina imilayo kaThixo kanye lezimiso lezi engilinike zona lamhlanje ukuze kulilungele? **14** Amazulu ngakaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, lamazulu aphakameyo, umhlaba kanye lakho konke okukiwo. **15** Kanti-ke uThixo watshengisela isihawu sakhe kubokhokho benu njalo wabathanda, ngalokho wakhetha lina, eliyizizukulwane zabo, phezu kwazo zonke ezinye izizwe, njengoba kunjalo lalamuhla. **16** Ngakho-ke, sokani inhliziyo zenu, njalo lingabe lisaba ngontamozilukhuni futhi. **17** Ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu nguNkulunkulu wabonkulunkulu njalo unguMbusi wababusi, uNkulunkulu omkhulu, olamandla njalo owesabekayo, ongelabandlululo futhi ongemukele isivalamlomo. **18** Uyawavikela amalungelo ezintandane kanye labafelokazi, njalo uyabathanda abangabezizweni phakathi kwenu, ubanika ukudla lezembatho. **19** Ngakho kuzamele lithande abezizweni, njengoba lina lalingabezizweni eGibhithe. **20** Mesabeni uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu njalo limkhonze. Bamelelani kuye njalo lenze izifungo zenu ngebizo lakhe. **21** Uyindumiso yenu,

unguNkulunkulu wenu, owalenzela lezozimanga ezinkulu lezesabekayo elazibona ngamehlo enu. **22** Okhokho benu abaya eGibhithe babengamatshumi ayisikhombisa kuphela, kanti khathesi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uselenze laba banengi njengezinkanyezi esibhakabhakeni.”

11 “Thandani uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu lilondolozekwakhe, izimiso, imithetho lemilayo yakhe ngazozonke izikhathi. **2** Khumbulani lamuhla ukuthi abantwabenu akusibo ababunayo njalo babazi ubukhulu bukaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu; ubukhosi bakhe, isandla sakhe esilamandla, lengalo yakhe eyelulekileyo; **3** izibonakaliso azenzayo kanye lakho konke akwenzayo phakathi kwelizwe leGibhithe, ezenza kuFaro iNkosi yeGibhithe laselizweni lakhe lonke; **4** lalokho akwenza kubutho leGibhithe, lasemabhizeni lezinqola zawo, ukuthi wakunqoba njani konke lokhu ngamanzi oLwandle oluBomvu mhla bexotshana lani, kanye lokuthi uThixo wabachitha baphela du. **5** Akusibantwabenu ababona alenzela khona enkangala laze lazafika lapha, **6** kanye lalokho akwenza kuDathani lo-Abhiramu, amadodana ka-Eliyabi wako-Rubheni. Lapho umhlaba owavuleka khona phambi kwabako-Israyeli wabaginya bonke kanye lezimuli zabo, lamathente abo lakho konke okuphilayo okwakungokwabo. **7** Kodwa-ke kwakungawenu amehlo abona zonke lezizinto ezazenziwe nguThixo. **8** Yikho-ke gcinani lilalele yonke imilayo engilinka yona lamuhla, ukuze lizuze amandla okuchapha ijodani yilithumba lelolizwe, **9** njalo lihlale kulo isikhathi eside ilizwe uThixo alinika okhokho benu lezizukulwane zenu, ilizwe eligeleza uchago lolu. **10** Lelolizwe elizangena kulo lilitombe alifanani lelizwe laseGibhithe, lapho elivela khona, lapho elahlhanyela inhlayelo yenu lithwala amanzi nzima lithelale njengesivandeni semibhida. **11** Kodwa ilizwe elilichaphela uJodani ukuze lilitombe libe ngelenu yilizwe lezintaba lezihotsha ezinatha zigcwele ngamanzi ezulu. **12** Yilizwe uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alikhathalelayo, amehlo kaThixo wenu aphezu kwalo kusukela ekuqaleni komnyaka kuze kube sekupheleni kwawo. **13** Ngakho lingalalela ngokwethembeka imilayo yami engilinka yona lamuhla, ukuthanda uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu njalo limkhonze ngenhliziyo zenu zonke, langemphefumulo yenu yonke, **14** ngalokho ngizanisela izulu emhlabeni wenu ngesikhathi salo, ekwindla kanye lasentwasa, ukuze libe lenala yamabele njalo livune, iwayini elitsha kanye lamafutha. **15** Ngizamalisa utshani egangeni obuzadliwa zinkomo zenu, lina lizakudla lisuthe. **16** Qaphelani linanzelele ukuthi aliyikuhugeka lihlamuke likhonze abanye onkulunkulu libakhothamele. **17** Kungaba njalo ulaka lukaThixo luzavutha kini, njalo uzavala amazulu akhe ukuze kungabi lezulu elizakuna kuthi umhlaba wenu ungatheli izithelo, kuthi lina libhubhe masinyane elizweni elihle uThixo alinika lona. **18** Gcinani amazwi ami la ezinhliziyweni lasengqondweni zenu, abopheleni njengezimpawu ezandleni zenu, liwabophele lemaxunzini emu. **19** Afundiseni abantwabenu, lixoxe ngawo nxa lihlezi emakhaya enu kanye lalapho lihamba endleleni, lapho lilala lanxa livuka. **20** Abhaleni emigabazini yezindlu zenu kanye lasemasangweni enu, **21** ukuze kuthi insuku zenu kanye lezabantwabenu zande elizweni uThixo afunga ukulinika okhokho benu, kuze kube laphakade. **22** Nxa lingamhlonipha lilandele imilayo yami le engilinka yona ukuba liyilandele, ukuthanda uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, ukuhamba ngendlela zakhe libambelele kuye ngokuqinileyo, **23** ngalokho uThixo uzaxixotsha zonke izizwe phambi

kwenu njalo lani lizazemuka izizwe ezinkulu kulani, njalo ezilamandla kulani. **24** Yonke indawo elizanyathela kuyo izakuba ngeyenu: umhlaba wenu uzaqhela ukusuka enkangala usiya eLbhanoni, kusuka emfuleni iYufathe kusiya olwandle olusentshonalanga. **25** Kakho ozamelana lani. UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, njengokulithembisa kwakhe, uzaletsa ukuthuthumela ngani lokulesaba elizweni lonke, ngaphi langaphi elihamba khona. **26** Khangelani, lamuhla ngifaka phambi kwenu isibusiso lesithuko, **27** isibusiso nxa lilalele imilayo kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu engilinka yona lamuhla; **28** isithuko nxa lingalaleli imilayo kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu njalo libe selitshiya indlela engilikhombisa yona ngokulandela abanye onkulunkulu elingabaziyo. **29** Nxa uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu eselifikisile elizweni eselingena kulo ukuba lilitombe, kalibomemezela liseNtabeni iGerizimu lezozibusiso, kuthi liseNtabeni ye-Ebhali limemezele izithuko. **30** Njengoba lisazi, izintaba zingaphetsheya kweJodani, entshonalanga yomgwaqo okhangele entshonalanga, eduzane lezihlahla ezinkulu zaseMore, elizweni lalawo maKhenani ahlala e-Arabha eduzane kweGiligali. **31** Seliseduze ukuchapha ijodani ukuba lingene lithumbe lelolizwe uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona. Kuzakuthi nxa selilithethe selihlala khona, **32** libe leqiniso lokuthi lilalelela zonke izimiso lemithetho engilibekelela yona lamuhla.”

12 “Lezi yizo izimiso lemilayo okumele likugcine ngonanzelelo elizweni uThixo uNkulunkulu wabokhokho benu alinika lona ukuba libe ngelenu nxa lilokhu lisahlala kulelolizwe. **2** Dilizani ngokupheleleyo zonke izindawo izizwe elizingqobayo ezazikhonzela onkulunkulu bazo khona, ezintabeni eziphakemeyo lasemaqaneni kanye langaphansi kwezihlahla ezinabileyo. **3** Dilizani ama-alithare ezizwe, libhidlize amatshe abawakhonzayo litshise izinsika zika-Ashera emlilweni, dilizeleni phansi izithombe zabo lihle lichithe licitshe amabizo abo kulezondawo. **4** Lingalandeli izindlela zabo zokukhonza uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **5** Kodwa lizadinga indawo uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu azayikhetha phakathi kwazo zonke izizwana zenu, ukuze abeke iBizo lakhe lapho, ahlale khona. Kumele liye kuleyondawo; **6** khonapho lilethe iminikelo yenu yokutshiswa lemihlatshelo, lokwetshumi kwenu lezipho zenu eziqakathekileyo, lokho elifunge ukukunikela kanye leminikelo yenu yokuzithandela, amazibulo emihlambi yenu yenkomo leyezimvu. **7** Khonapho, phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, lina kanye labantwabenu lizakudla njalo lijabule ngakho konke elike labeka izandla zenu kukho, ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ulibusisile. **8** Lingabokwenza njengalokhu esikwenza lamuhla, ngamunye esenza njengokuthanda kwakhe, **9** ngoba alikangeni endaweni yokuphumula kanye lelifeni uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona. **10** Kodwa lizachapha uJodani liyekwakha lihlale elizweni uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona ukuba libe yilifa lenu, njalo uzaliphumuza ezitheni zenu elakhelene lazo ukuze lihlale livikelekile. **11** Okumayelana lendawo uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu azayikhetha ibe likhaya leBizo lakhe, kulapho elizaletsa konke engililaya ngakho: iminikelo yenu yokutshiswa lemihlatshelo, okwetshumi kwenu lezipho zenu eziqakathekileyo, kanye lazozonke impahla elikhethe ukufunga ngazo kuThixo. **12** Khona lapho lijabule phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, lina, amadodana lamadodakazi enu, izinceku lezincekukazi zenu, kanye labaLevi abavela

emadolobheni enu, abangelasabelo loba ilifa abaliphwayo libe ngelabo. **13** Limukani linganikeleli iminikelo yenu yokutshiswa ingqe kungaphi elithanda khona. **14** Nikelelani kuphela endaweni uThixo azayiketha phakathi kwezizwana zenu kuthi selilapho linanzelele konke engilayana ngakho. **15** Ngalokho-ke, selilakho ukuhlaba izifuyo zenu lizibulale njengalokho okwenziwayo emadolobheni enu njalo lidle yonke leyonnyama elifisa ukuyidla, kungani lithaka loba imbabala, kusiya ngesibusiso lesi lowo ayabe ebusiswe ngaso nguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. Bonke labangahlanzekanga labahlanzekileyo ngokomkhuba bavunyelwe ukuyidla. **16** Kodwa lingadli igazi lazo; lilahlani kungathi lichitha amanzi phansi. **17** Lingakudli emadolobheni enu okwetshumi kwamabele enu kanye lokweyayini elitsha lamafutha, loba amazibulo emihlambi yezifuyo zenu, lakho konke eselifunge lathembisa ukuba lizanikela ngakho, leminikelo yenu yokuzithandela loba izipho eziqakathekileyo. **18** Kodwa kumele likudle phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu endaweni ezakhethwa nguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, lina, amadodana lamadodakazi enu, izinceku lezincekukazi zenu, kanye labaLevi abavela emadolobheni enu, lina labo lizajabula phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ngakho konke elikuphatha ngezandla zenu. **19** Linanzelele lingalibali beselikhothlwa abaLevi nxa lilokho lisahlala elizweni lenu. **20** Nxa uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu eseqhelisile ilizwe lenu njengokulethembisa kwakhe, libe seliloyisa ukudla inyama lithi, 'Ngifisa ukudla inyama,' kulapho elizakudla khona lize lifike lapho elithanda khona. **21** Nxa indawo leyo lapho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu akhetha ukubeka iBizo lakhe ikhathshana kakhulu lani, lingahlaba emihlambini yezifuyo leyezimvu njengokuyiphwiwa kwenu nguThixo, njengoba ngililayile, kuthi emadolobheni enu lizidle lezozifuyo njengokuthanda kwenu. **22** Lidle kungathi lidla ithaka lembabala. Bonke abangahlanzekanga ngokomkhuba labahlanzekileyo bangadla. **23** Kodwa linanzelele lingadli igazi, ngoba igazi yiyo impilo ngakho akufanelanga ukuthi lidle impilo lenyama. **24** Lingabokudla igazi; lichitheleni emhlabathini kungathi lilahla amanzi. **25** Lingadli, ukuze kulihambebe kuhle lina kanye labantwabenu abezayo, ngoba lizabe lenze okuhle emehlweni kaThixo. **26** Kodwa thathani lokho okugcotshiweyo lalokho elifunge ukunikela lisuke liye endaweni ezakhethwa nguThixo. **27** Lethani iminikelo yenu yokutshiswa e-alithareni likaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, konke inyama kanye legazi. Igazi leminikelo yenu lilichithele phansi kwe-alithari likaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, kodwa lingadla inyama yakhona. **28** Linanzelele lilandele iziqondiso zonke engilinika zona, ukuze kulihambebe kuhle lina kanye labantwabenu abezayo ngemva kwenu, ngoba lizabe lenze okuhle njalo kulungile emehlweni kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **29** UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzazichitha phambi kwenu zonke izizwe okufanele lizihlasele libe selizemuka okungokwazo. Kodwa nxa selizinqobile lazichitha selihlezi elizweni lazo, **30** njalo nxa sezichithiwe phambi kwenu, liqaphele lingahugeki ngokubuzwa ngabonkulunkulu bazo lisithi, 'Kanti zona lezizwe zibakhonza njani onkulunkulu bazo? Lathi sizakwenza okufananayo.' **31** Lingabokhonza uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ngendlela abakhonza ngayo, ngoba ekukhonzeni kwabo onkulunkulu babo, benza konke okunengisayo okungasoze kwamukeleke kuThixo. Baya baze batshise amadodana lamadodakazi abo emhlweni bethi

bayanikela kubonkulunkulu babo. **32** Nanzelelani ukuthi lenza lokho engililaya ngakho, lingengezeleli loba liphungule kulokho."

13 "Nxa umphrofethi, loba umuntu oboniswa ngamaphupho, angavela phakathi kwenu abesebika imilingo loba isimanga, **2** kuthi leyomilingo loba lesosimanga ayabe ekhulume ngaso, kubonakale kusenzakala, abesesithi, 'Asilandeleni abanye onkulunkulu' (onkulunkulu elingabaziyo) 'njalo asibakhonzeni,' **3** lingalaleli amazwi alowo mphrofethi loba umuntu wamaphupho. UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzabe elilinga efuna ukubona kumbe liyamthanda yini ngezinhliziyu zenu kanye langemphefumulo yenu yonke. **4** NguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu okumele limlandele, kanti nguye uqobo okumele limesabe. Gcinani imilayo yakhe njalo limlalele; mkhonzeni libambebele liqine kuye. **5** Lowo mphrofethi loba lowomuntu wamaphupho akhe kumele abulawe, ngoba utshumayeke wakhuthaza ukukhlamukela uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, owalikhupha eGibithi njalo walihlenga elizweni lobugqili; njalo ngumuntu obezama ukuliphambula endleleni uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alilaya ngayo ukuba liyilandele. Kumele lihlambulule ububi phakathi kwenu. **6** Nxa umfowenu uqobo, loba indodana loba indodakazi yakho, loba umfazi wakho omthandayo, loba umngane wakho osekhwapeni, angavele akuhuge ensitha, esithi, 'Asihambe siyekhonza abanye onkulunkulu' (onkulunkulu lina laboyihlo elingazange libazi), **7** onkulunkulu babantu elakhelene labo, eduzane loba khatshana, kusukela emaphethelweni esigaba kusiyaphutsha ngale kwaso), **8** lingamvumeli futhi lingamlaleli. Lingamshengisele uzwelo. Lingamphaphisi njalo lingamvikeli. **9** Kumele ngeqiniso abulawe. Isandla senu kumele sibe yiso esikhokhela ukubulawa kwakhe, kulandele zonke ezabanye abantu. **10** Mkhandeni ngamatshe limbulale, ngoba uzame ukuliphambula elisusa kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, owalikhupha eGibithi, walikhupha elizweni lobugqili. **11** Ngalokho wonke u-Israyeli uzakuzwa esabe, kakho loyedwa phakathi kwenu ozake aphinde enze into enjalo futhi. **12** Lingezwa kuthiwa kuledolobho elikwenzayo lokhu phakathi kwamadolobho eliwaphiwe nguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ukuba lihlale kuwo **13** kulamadoda aphakathi kwenu asedukise abantu balawo madolobho, esithi, 'Asihambeni siyekhonza abanye onkulunkulu' (onkulunkulu elingakaze libazi), **14** kufanele libuzisise, lichwayisise lihlole ngokupheleleyo. Kuthi nxa kuliqiniso njalo kugcwaliseke ukuthi lesisinengiso sikhona phakathi kwenu, **15** kumele lifake inkemba ngeqiniso kulabo bonke abahlala kuledolobho. Lilichithe litshabalale ngeqiniso, abantu bakhona kanye lezifuyo zakhona. **16** Buthelelani konke okuthunjweyo kuledolobho phakathi enzikini yalo enkundleni yokuhlangukela kwabantu lilithungele litshe lilobe lelolobho kanye lempahla zalo zonke njengomnikelo wokutshiswa kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. Kumele lisale lilunxiwa lelolobho kokuphela, lingakhiwa kutsha futhi. **17** Akungabi lokukodwa kwalokho okusoliweyo okuzafunyanwa ezandleni zenu, ukuze uThixo adedise ulaka lwakhe oluvuthayo; alitshengisele umusa wakhe, abe lozwelo kini, andise amanani enu, njengoba wathembisa ngesifungo kubokhokho benu, **18** ngoba lilalela uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, ligcina imilayo yakhe le engilinika yona lamuhla njalo lisenza okulungileyo emehlweni akhe."

14 “Lingabantwana bakaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. Lingabozisika loba liphuce amakhanda enu lizilela abafileyo, **2** ngoba lingabantu abangcwele kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. Ebantwini bonke abasemhlabeni, uThixo ulikhethile lina ukuthi libe ngabantu bakhe abaligugu. **3** Lingadli loba kuyino okunengisayo. **4** Nanzi izinyamazana elingazidla: inkomo, imvu, imbuzi, **5** umziki, impala, umziki obomvu, imbuzi yeganga, imbuzi mawa, umtshwayeli lemvu yentaba. **6** Lingadla zonke izinyamazana ezilenklagu ezivulekileyo lezentshisayo. **7** Kodwa-ke kulezo ezilenklagu ezivulekileyo loba lezo ezentshisayo zilani lingadli ikamela, umvundla loba imbila. Zingcolile nini ngokomkhuba. **8** Ingulube layo ayihlanzekanga; lanxa ilenklagu ezivulekileyo kayentshisi. Lingabokudla inyama yazo, lingathinti lezidumbu zazo. **9** Kuzozonke izidalwa ezihlala emanzini, lingadla zonke lezo ezilempoko lamaxolo. **10** Kodwa konke lokho okungelampiko lamaxolo akumelanga likudle; kungcolile kini. **11** Lingadla loba yiphi inyoni ehlanzekileyo. **12** Kodwa lezi lingazidla: ukhozi, ilinqe elimnyama, **13** uhelwane olubomvu, uhelwane olumnyama, loba yiwuphi umhlobo womzwazwa **14** loba yiphi imihlobo yamawabayi, **15** isikhova esilesicholo, ingabuzane, idada lolwandle, loba wuphi umhlobo wokhozi, **16** umandukhulo, isikhova esikhulu, isikhova esimhlophe, **17** isikhova senkangala, ukhozi lwenhlanzi, itshayamanzi, **18** ingabuzane, lawuphi umhlobo welanda, imvenduna lomalulwane. **19** Zonke izibungu eziphaphayo zingcolile kini; lingabozidla. **20** Kodwa konke okulempiko okuhlanzekileyo kudleni. **21** Lingabokudla ingcuba. Lingakunika loba ngubani owezizweni othele loba kukuliphi phakathi kwamadolobho enu, yena angakudla, ulakho njalo ukuthi angathengisela omunye laye owezizweni. Kodwa lina lingabantu abangcwele kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. Lingapheki izinyane lembuzi ngochago lukanina.” **22** “Wobani leqiniso ukuthi libeka eceleni lokhu okuyingxenywe eyodwa yetshumi yesivuno somnyaka. **23** Dlanini okwetshumi kwamabele enu, iwayini elitsha lamafutha, kanye lamazibulo emihlambi yenkomo zenu lawezimvu emehlweni kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu endaweni azalikhethela yona ukuba ibe leBizo lakhe, ukuze lifunde ukumphakamisa uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ngezikhathi zonke. **24** Kodwa nxa leyondawo ikhatshana kakhulu lina libusisiwe nguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu njalo lingenelisi ukuthwala okwetshumi kwenu (ngenxa yokuthi lapho uThixo akhethe ukubeka khona iBizo lakhe kukhatshana kakhulu), **25** thengisani okwetshumi kwenu ngesiliva, libe selithatha lihambe lesiliva liye endaweni leyo ezabe ikhethwe nguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **26** Sebenzisani isiliva lithenge ngaso loba yini elifuna ukuyithenga: inkomo, izimvu, iwayini loba kuyini elikufunayo. Ngakho lina kanye labendlu yenu lizakudla khonapho phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu njalo libe lokujabula. **27** Njalo lingakohlwa abaLevi abahlala emadolobheni enu, ngoba abalaso isabelo esingesabo njalo abaphiwa ngalifa. **28** Ekupheleni kweminyaka emithathu, lethani okwetshumi kwesivuno salowomnyaka likugcine emadolobheni enu, **29** yikho kuzakuthi abaLevi (bona abangelasabelo loba ilifa elingelabo) kanye labezizweni, izintandane ezingelabo yise labafelokazi abahlala emadolobheni enu beze labo bazokudla basuthe, njalo kuze kuthi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alibusise kuyo yonke imisebenzi yezandla zenu.”

15 “Ekupheleni kweminyaka eyisikhombisa kumele lesule izikwelede. **2** Nanso indlela elizakuphatha ngayo: Wonke umuntu owake waboleka omunye wakibo wako-Israyeli impahla yakhe kumele esule lesosikwelede. Akusafanelanga ukuthi adinge ukhululwa ngomunye wakhe wako-Israyeli loba umfowabo, ngoba isikhathi sikaThixo sokwesula izikwelede sesimenyazelwe. **3** Lilakho ukuthi lihlawulwe ngabezizweni, kodwa kumele lesule isikwelede umfowenu ayabe elaso kini. **4** Kodwa akungabi lomuntu oswelayo phakathi kwenu, ngoba elizweni lelo uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona ukuze libe yilifa lenu, uzalibusisa kakhulu, **5** nxa lizalalela uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu linanzelele njalo ukuthi liyayilandela yonke imilayo yakhe engilethulela yona lamuhla. **6** Kungenxa yalokho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu azalibusisa njengokulithembisa kwakhe, njalo lizakweboleka izizwe ezinengi kodwa lina aliyikweboleka lutho kuzo. Lizabusa phezu kwezizwe ezinengi kodwa lina akulasizwe esizalibusisa. **7** Nxa ekhona ongumyanga phakathi kwabafowenu emadolobheni la uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika wona lasemazweni eliwaphiweyo, lingabi lezinhliziyo ezilukhuni loba ukuba ngabancitshanayo kumfowenu ongumyanga. **8** Kuhle ukuthi libe ngabaphanayo limeboleke ngokukhululeka loba yini ayiswelayo. **9** Limukani lingacini umnakano omubi othi: ‘Umyaka wesikhombisa, umnyaka wokwesulwa kwezikwelede, usondele,’ ukuze lingabi lomoya omubi ngomfowenu oswelayo lingabe lisamnika lutho. Kungenzeka acele kuThixo ukuba alihlanekele, libe selifunyanwa filesono. **10** Mupheni okunengi njalo lokhu likwenze ngezinhliziyo ezingelamona; kanti-ke ngenxa yalokho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzalibusisa kuyo yonke imisebenzi yenu lakukho konke elibeka izandla zenu kukho. **11** Kuzahlala kulokhu kulabantu abangabayanga elizweni. Ngakho ngiyalilaya ukuba phanini ngezandla ezivulekileyo kubafowenu kanye lakubo bonke abangabayanga labaswelayo elizweni lenu.” **12** “Nxa omunye wenu ongumHeberu, owesilisa loba owesifazane, ezithengisile kini, angasebenza iminyaka eyisithupha, ngomnyaka wesikhombisa kumele limkhulule azihambe. **13** Mhla limkhulula lingamyekeleli ehamba eze engaphethe lutho. **14** Mnikeni emihlambini yenu ngomoya wokuphanya, lasemabeni asebhulwe kanye lewayini eselihluziwe. Mnikeni njengokubusiswa kwenu nguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **15** Khumbulani ukuthi laliyiziqgili eGibhithe uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu walikhulula. Yikho ngililika umlayo lo lamuhla. **16** Kodwa nxa isisebenzi senu singathi kini, ‘Angifuni ukusuka lapha,’ ngenxa yokuthi siyalithanda lina labendlu yenu njalo sihlezi kuhle lani, **17** thathani usungulo libhobozele indlebe yaso emnyango, sihle sibe yisebenzi senu kokuphela. Lokhu likwenze lasesiqqilini sesifazane. **18** Lingakuthathi njengomthwalo onzima ukukhulula izisebenzi zenu, ngoba umsebenzi esiyabe sikwenzele wona eminyakeni eyisithupha uyalingana lomsebenzi ophindwe kabili owenziwa ngoqhatshiweyo. Ngakho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzalibusisa kukho konke elikwenzayo.” **19** “Yehlukaniselani uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu amazibulo wonke amaduna emihlambini yenu kanye leyezimvu. Lingasebenzi loba yiliphi izibulo emhlambini loba owezimvu njalo lingagundi uboya bamazibulo ezimvu zenu. **20** Ngayo yonke iminyaka lina kanye labendlu yenu lizawadla phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu endaweni azayikhethe yena. **21** Nxa inyamazana ilelisi, iqhula loba iyisiphofu,

loba ilokunye okusolekayo, linganikeli ngayo kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **22** Leyo lizayidlela emadolobheni enu. Bonke abahlanzekileyo labangahlanzekanga ngokomkhuba balakho ukuyidla, kungani badla ithaka lembabala. **23** Kodwa lingadli igazi lazo, lichitheleni emhlabathini kungathi lichitha amanzi.”

16 “Gcinani inyanga ka-Abhibhi njalo lihloniphe iPhasika likaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, ngoba ngenyanga ka-Abhibhi walikhupha eGibhithe ngobusuku. **2** Nikelani okwePhasika kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ngesifuyo esivela emhlambini wenu loba emhlambini wezimvu endaweni ezakhethwa nguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ukuba ibe yindawo yebizo lakhe. **3** Lingasidli ndawonye lesinkwa esilemvubelo, kodwa okwensuku eziyisikhombisa kumele lidle isinkwa esingelamvubelo, isinkwa sokuhlupheka, ngoba lasuka eGibhithe ngokujaha ukuze insuku zonke zokuphila kwenu likhumbule isikhathi elasuka ngaso eGibhithe. **4** Akungafunyanwa mvubelo kini lakulo lonke ilizwe lenu okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. Njalo lingatshiyi inyama yomhlatshelelo wantambama ivuke ilokhu ikhona ngosuku olulandelayo. **5** Linganikeli okwePhasika loba kukuliphi idolobho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu azalinika lona **6** ngaphandle kwalapho azakhetha khona ukuba kube yindawo yeBizo lakhe. Kulapho elizakwenzela khona umhlatshelelo wePhasika ntambama, ekutshoneni kwelanga, kuyisikhumbuzo selanga elasuka ngalo eGibhithe. **7** Yoseni libe seliyidlela endaweni uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu azalikhethela yona. Kuzakuthi ekuseni libuyele emathenteni enu. **8** Okwensuku eziyisithupha lizakudla isinkwa esingelamvubelo kuthi ngosuku lwesikhombisa libuthane kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu lingenzi msebenzi.” **9** “Balani amaviki ayisikhombisa kusukela mhla liqalisa ukuvuna amabele. **10** Beselithakazelela uMkhosi wamaViki kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ngokupha umnikelo wokuzithandela kusiya ngezibuso uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu aliphe zona. **11** Ngakho thokozani phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu endaweni azayikhethela ukuba ngeyeBizo lakhe, lina lamadodana lamadodakazi enu, izinceku lezincekukazi zenu zesifazane, abalevi abasemadolobheni enu, kanye labezizweni, izintandane labafelokazi abahlezi phakathi kwenu. **12** Khumbulani ukuthi laliyizigqili eGibhithe, ngakho landelani leziziqondiso ngonanzelelo.” **13** “Gcinani uMkhosi weziHonqo okwensuku eziyisikhombisa ngemva kokubutha amabele enu ezindaweni zokubhulela lezokuhluzela iwayini. **14** Thokozani emkhosini wenu, lina, amadodana enu kanye lamadodakazi enu, izinceku lezincekukazi zenu, kanye labalevi, abezizweni, izintandane kanye labafelokazi abahlezi emadolobheni enu. **15** Okwensuku eziyisikhombisa thakazelelani umkhosi kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ezindaweni ezakhethwa nguThixo. Ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzalibusisa esivunweni senu sonke kanye lemisebenzini yezandla zenu, ukuze kupheleliswe intokozo yenu. **16** Kathathu ngomnyaka, wonke amadoda kumele azeveze phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu endaweni azayikhetha, eMkhosini weSinkwa esingelamvubelo, eMkhosini wamaViki kanye leMkhosini weziHonqo. Akungabi lamuntu ozabuya phambi kukaThixo engaphathanga lutho: **17** Ngamunye phakathi kwenu kumele lize liphethe isipho kusiya ngokuthi liphiwe labusiswa ngokunganani nguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu.” **18** “Khethani abehluleli lezikhulu ezizwaneni zenu

zonke kuwo wonke amadolobho enu elizawaphiwa nguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, njalo bahlulele abantu ngemfanelo. **19** Lingonakalisi ukulunga loba libandlulule. Lingavumi ukufunjathiswa ngoba ukufunjathiswa kufiphaza amehlo abahlakaniphileyo kulahlekise amazwi omuntu ongelalaca. **20** Landelani ukulunga lilandele khona kuphela, khona lizaphila lilitombe ilizwe uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona.” **21** “Lingazimiseli o-Ashera bezigodo phansi kwe-alithari elizalakhela uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, **22** njalo lingamisi ilitshe elizakuthi lina lingcwele, ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uyakuzonda lokho.”

17 “Lingenzi umhlatshelelo kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ngenkabi loba imvu elesici lesolekayo, ngoba lokho kuyisinengiso kuye. **2** Nxa kulendoda loba owesifazane ohlala phakathi kwenu kwelinye lamadolobho eliwaphiwa nguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu limfumana esona emehlweni kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu esephula isivumelwano, **3** njalo ngokwephula imilayo yami esezikhonzela abanye onkulunkulu, ebakhothamela loba ekhonza ilanga loba inyanga loba izinkanyezi zezulu, **4** kube kanti lokhu sekubikiwe kini, kutsho ukuthi kuzamele likuchwayisise ngokupheleleyo. Nxa kuliqiniso njalo sekubonakele ukuthi kuliqiniso lokhu okuyisinengiso okwenzakele ko-Israyeli, **5** thathani leyondoda loba owesifazane lowo owenze lesi senzo esibi limuse esangweni ledolobho lenu limkhande ngamatshe aze afe. **6** Ngobufakazi bababili loba abathathu indoda izabulawa, kodwa kakho ozabulawa ngobufakazi bomuntu oyedwa kuphela. **7** Akuthi ofakazi labo kube yibo abaqalisayo ukumkhanda, besekulandela bonke abanye abantu. Kumele lisuse ububi phakathi kwenu.” **8** “Nxa amacala eza phambi kwemithethwandaba yenu enzima ukawahlulela, loba awokuchitha igazi, ukwephula imithetho loba awokuhlaselela, athatheni liye lawo endaweni uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu azayikhetha. **9** Hambani kubaphristi, abangabaLevi, kanye lakumahluleli osesikhundleni okwalesosikhathi. Buzani kibo bona bazalinika isigwebo esifanaleyo. **10** Lina-ke kumele lenze njengokucebisa kwabo endaweni uThixo azayikhetha. Linanzelele ukuthi lenza lokho kanye abaliqondisa ukuba likwenze. **11** Yenzani ngokomthetho njengalokho abalifundisa ngakho lezinquomo abalipha zona. Lingaphambuki kulokho abalithshela khona, liye kwesokudla loba kwesenxele. **12** Indoda etshengisela ukudelela iseyisa umahluleli loba umphristi owenza umsebenzi wokukhonza khonapho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu kumele ibulawe. Kumele lisuse bonke ububi phakathi kuka-Israyeli. **13** Bonke abantu bazakuzwa besabe, bangabe besadelela futhi.” **14** “Ekungeneni kwenu elizweni uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona selilithethe laba ngelenu njalo selihlezi kulo, njalo selisithi, ‘Asibekeni inkosi isibuse ukuze sifanane lezinye izizwe esakhelene lazo,’ **15** wobani leqiniso lokuthi libeka inkosi ekhethwe nguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. Kumele abe ngomunye wabafowenu. Lingafaki umuntu wezizweni ukuba alibuse, ongasiye wakini ko-Israyeli. **16** Inkosi njalo ukumelanga izifuyele amabhiza amanengi loba ithume abantu babuyele eGibhithe ukuyazuza amanye khona ngoba uThixo ulitshelile wathi, ‘Lingaphindi liyihambe njalo leyondlela.’ **17** Kayingathathi abafazi abanengi funa inhliziyo yayo idukiswe. Kayingazinothisi ngesiliva langegolide elinengi kakhulu. **18** Nxa isithatha isihlalo sobukhosi bombuso wayu kayithathe umqulu izilobele kulo umthetho lo iwuthatha encwadini yabaphristi abangabaLevi.

19 Umqulu lowo kawuhlale ukuyo, ihlale iwubala zonke insuku zokuphila kwayo ukuze ifunde ukwesaba uThixo uNkulunkulu wayo, ilandele ngokunanzelela wonke amazwi omthetho lo lalezi izimiso, 20 njalo ukuze ingazenzi ongcono kulabanye abakibo, ingaphambuki emthethweni iye ngakwesokunene loba ngakwesokhohlo. Ngakho yona kanye lezizukulwane zayo bazabusa isikhathi eside embusweni wayo ko-Israyeli.”

18 “Abaphristi abangabaLevi ngempela, isizwana sonke sabaLevi kabangabi lesabelo loba ilifa ndawonye labako-Israyeli. Bazaphila ngemihlatshelo yokudla enikelwa kuThixo, ngoba leli yilo ilifa labo. 2 Abayikuba lelifaphakathi kwabafowabo; uThixo uyilifa labo, njengokuthembisa kwakhe. 3 Le yiyo ingxenye yabaphristi ezavela emihlatshelweni yabantu eyenkunzi loba eyemvu: umkhono, inhloko kanye lezangaphakathi. 4 Kufanele libaphe izithelo zakuqala zamabele enu, iwayini elitsha lamafutha, uboya bakaqala ekugundweni kwezimvu zenu, 5 ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ubakhethile bona kanye lezizukulwane zabo phakathi kwazo zonke izizwana zenu ukuze kube yiyo abazakwenza umsebenzi wokukhonza ebizweni likaThixo ngezikhathi zonke. 6 Nxa umLevi angasuka kwelinye lamadolobho enu loba kungaphi kwelabako-Israyeli lapho abehlala khona, abeseziletha ngokuzimisela endaweni ezakhethwa nguThixo, 7 angenza umsebenzi wokukhonza ebizweni likaThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe njengabo bonke abafowabo abangabaLevi abasebenzela khonapho phambi kukaThixo. 8 Uzakwabelana labanye bakhe ngokulinganayo lokuloh abakuzayo, lanxa yena esezuze imali ekuthengisweni kwempahla yakwabo.” 9 “Lapho selingena elizweni uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona, lingabozifundisa ukulingisa izezo ezinengekayo zezinye izizwe khonale. 10 Akungabi lamuntu phakathi kwenu ozakwenza umhlatshelo ngendodana yakhe loba indodakazi yakhe ngomlilo, kangabi ovumisayo loba ochasisa ngemibono, ochasisa imilingo njalo oyenza okuphathelane lobuthakathi, 11 ophosayo, loba isanuse loba isangoma loba obuza kwabafowabo. 12 Loba ngubani owenza lezizinto uyisinengiso kuThixo, kanti njalo ngenxa yezenzo lezi ezinengekayo uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu azazixotsha phambi kwenu lezizizwe. 13 Kumele libemsulwa phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu.” 14 “Izizwe elizazithathela ilizwe zilalela okwalabo abathakathayo labavumisayo. Kodwa lina, uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu kalivumeli ukukwenza lokho. 15 UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzalivusele umphrofethi phakathi kwabafowabo; ngizamfunza amazwi ami, yena nguye ozabatshela konke engizamlaya ngakho. 19 Nxa loba ngubani ongayikulalela amazwi ami azakhulunywa ngumphrofethi ngebizo lami, mina ngokwami yimi engizamelana laye. 20 Kodwa-ke umphrofethi ozenza okhuluma amazwi ami wona kungesivo engimlaye ngawo ukuba awatsho, loba umphrofethi okhuluma ngebizo labanye onkulunkulu, kumele abulawe.” 21 Lingazitshela lokhu lithi, ‘Singakwazi njani ukuthi lelilizwi kaliveli kuThixo na?’ 22 Nxa lokho okumenyezela ngumphrofethi ngebizo likaThixo kungenzakali loba kungagcwaliseki, lokho kuyilizwi eliyabe

lingaveli kuThixo. Lowo mphrofethi uyabe ekhuluma ize. Lingamesabi.”

19 “Kuzakuthi lapho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu esebhuhise izizwe zelizwe lelo alinika lona, futhi lani selizixotshile njalo lahlala emadolobhene kanye lasezindlini zazo, 2 kulapho-ke eselingazikhethela amadolobho amathathu enkabazwe yelizwe lelo uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona ukuba libe ngelenu. 3 Yakhani imigwaqo eqonda kuwo njalo lehlukalise ilizwe lelo uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona njengelifa lenu libe yizigaba ezintathu, ukuze kuthi loba ngubani obulala umuntu abalekele khona. 4 Lesi yisimiso maqondana lomuntu obulala omunye abesebalekela khona ukuze asindise impilo yakhe, lowo obulala umakhelwane wakhe engakunxwanelanga ngomona njalo engamqophanga. 5 Njengokuthi, umuntu angaya egangani ukuyagumula inkuni lomakhelwane wakhe, kuthi lapho egamula isihlahla ngehloka lakhe, ihloka likhumuke emphinini litshaye umakhelwane wakhe afe. Lowomuntu angabalekela kwelinye lamadolobho lawo ukuze asindise impilo yakhe. 6 Phela kungenzeka ukuthi umphindiselelwe wegazi axotshane lombulali ngentukuthelo, amfice nxa umango umude kakhulu, ambulale lanxa lowombulali ubengafanelanga ukufa, ngoba engambulalanga ngabomo langenxa yenzondo umakhelwane wakhe. 7 Yikho-nje ngilaye ukuthi lizehlukalisele amadolobho amathathu. 8 Nxa uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu angaqhelisa isabelo senu njengokuthembisa kwakhe okhokho benu ngesifungo, aliphe lonke ilizwe abathembisa lona, 9 ngoba lilandela ngokunanzelela yonke imithetho engililaya yona lamuhla, ukuthanda uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu lokuhamba kokuphela ngezindlela zakhe, kufanele ukuthi likhetha amanye njalo amadolobho amathathu. 10 Kwenzeni lokhu ukuze kungachitheki igazi elingelacala elizweni lenu, lelo uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona njengelifa lenu, njalo lokuthi lingabi lecala lokuchitha igazi. 11 Kodwa nxa umuntu emzonda umakhelwane wakhe, amcathamele, amtschaye ambulale, abesebalekela kwelinye lamadolobho la, 12 abakhokheli bedolobho lakibo bazamthumela abantu, bamlande kulelolobho babuye laye, bamnikele kumphindiselelwe wegazi ukuba afe. 13 Lingamzwele isihawu. Kufanele liqede ububi bokuchitha igazi elingelacala ko-Israyeli ukuze kulilungele. 14 Lingabosusa izikhonkwane zomngcele wendawo kamakhelwane wenu ezabethelwa ngalandulelayo kulo ilifa eliliphiwa elizweni uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona ukuba libe ngelenu.” 15 “Ufakazi oyedwa angeke afakaze kwanele ukuthi umuntu olomlandu wokwenza loba licala bani etheswe icala. Indaba ingaqiniswa ngofakazi ababili loba abathathu. 16 Nxa ufakazi wamanga emelana lendoda eyetheswa icala, 17 amadoda la womabili axabeneyo afanele ukuthi ame phambi kukaThixo phambi kwabaphristi kanye labehluleli abayabe besesikhundleni ngalesosikhathi. 18 Abahluleli kumele bachwayisise ngokupheleleyo kuthi lapho bangafumana ukuthi ufakazi uqamba amanga, esipha ubufakazi bamanga ngomzalwane wakhe, 19 lizakwenza kuye khonkoko abehlose ukukwenza kumzalwane wakhe. Kumele liqede ububi phakathi kwenu. 20 Abanye bonke abantu bazakuzwa ngalokhu besabe, ngakho akusayikwenziwa futhi phakathi kwenu ububi obunjalo. 21 Lingabi lozwelo: ukuphila akwenanwe yikuphila, ilihlo ngelihlo, izinyo ngezinyo, isandla ngesandla, iyawo ngonyawo.”

20 “Lapho liphuma ukuyakulwa lesitha senu empini libe selibona amabhiza leziqola kanye lebutho elikhulu ukwedlula elenu, lingabesabi, ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, owalikhupha eGibhithe, uzakuba lani. **2** Nxa selilungele ukuhlasela, umphristi uzakuba akhulume lebutho. **3** Uzakuthi: ‘Zwana, wena Israyeli, namuhla liya ekuhlaseleni izitha zenu. Lingapheli amandla kumbe lesabe; lingatshaywa luvalo njalo lethuke phambi kwabo. **4** Ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu nguye ohamba lani ukuyalilwela ezitheni zenu ukuba liqobe.’ **5** Izikhulu zizakuthi ebuthweni: ‘Ukhona owakhe indlu entsha ongakayihlali na? Kabuyele emzini wakhe, funa afe empini kuthi omunye asale esezihlalela endlini yakhe. **6** Ukhona ohlangene isivini kodwa engakadli izithelo zaso na? Kabuyele emzini wakhe, funa afe empini kuthi omunye azidlele izithelo zaso. **7** Ukhona osethembise owesifazane kodwa engamthathi ukuthi abe ngumkakhe na? Kabuyele emzini wakhe, funa afe empini kuthi omunye umuntu amthathe’ **8** Izikhulu zizaqhubeka zithi, ‘Ikhona indoda eyesabayo kumbe ephelelwa ngamandla na? Kayibuyele emzini wayo ukuze abafowabo labo bangaphelwela ngamandla.’ **9** Kuzakuthi lapho izikhulu seziqedele ukukhuluma lebutho, zizakhetha abalawuli bebutho. **10** Nxa lisiya edolobheni ukuthi lihlasela, khulumani labantu bakulelolobho lidinga ukuthula. **11** Bangavuma njalo balivulele amasango abo, bonke abantu bakulelolobho bazakuba yizichaka zenu balisebenzele. **12** Kodwa bangala ukwamukela amazwi enu okuthula balihlasele, livimbezeleni ledolobho. **13** Kuzakuthi lapho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu esenikele idolobho lelo kini, libulale amadoda wonke ngenkamba. **14** Kodwa abesifazane, abantwana, izifuyo kanye lakho konke okukulelolobho kuzakuba yimpango yenu. Yonke impango yezitha zenu uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika yona izakuba ngeyenu. **15** Lokhu yikho okumele likwenze emadolobheni wonke akude lani njalo angaswe ezizwe ezihlala eduzane lani. **16** Kanti-ke, emadolobheni ezizwe uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika wona njengelifa, lingatshiyi lutho oluphefumulayo luphila. **17** Lizawabhuhisa liwaqede wonke amaHithi, ama-Amori, amaKhenani, amaPherizi, amaHivi kanye lamaJebusi njengokulaywa kwenu nguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **18** Funa balifundise ukwenza imikhuba yabo enengekayo yokukhona onkulunkulu babo, lone kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **19** Nxa idolobho selilivimbezele okwesikhathi eside, lilihlasele ukuze lilithumbe, lingatshabalalisi izihlahla zalo ngokuzigamula, ngoba lingadla izithelo zazo. Lingazigamula. Kambe izihlahla zeganga zingabantu ukuthi lingazivimbezela na? **20** Kodwa ke lingamamula izihlahla elizaziyo ukuthi azitheli izithelo ezidliwayo ukuze lizisebenzise ekwakheni amadumba lize liqobe ledolobho lelo empini.”

21 “Nxa kungafunyanwa umuntu obuleweyo egangeni, elizweni uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona ukuba libe ngelenu, kungaziwa ukuthi ubulewe ngubani, **2** abakhokheli kanye labehleleli benu bazakuya balinganise umango phakathi kwalowo obuleweyo lamadolobho aseduze. **3** Kuzakuthi abakhokheli bamadolobho aseduzane lesidumbu leso bathathe ithokazi elingakaze lisetshenziswe futhi okungakaze kugaxwe ijogwe phezu kwalo **4** balithintele esigodini esingakaze silinywe kumbe kuhlanyelwe ulutho kiso njalo lapho okulesifula esigelezayo khona. Kabephule intamo yalo khonapho esigodini lesi. **5** Abaphristi,

amadodana kaLevi, bazasondela, ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ubakhethele ukuba benze inkonzo njalo bamemezele izibusiso ebizweni likaThixo bahlulele amacala okuxabana lawokulwa. **6** Abakhokheli balawo madolobho aseduzane lesidumbu leso bazagezela izandla zabo phezu kwethokazi elephulelwe intamo esigodini, **7** bafakaze bathi: ‘Izandla zethu kazilichithanga leligazi, futhi asibonanga kusenzeka. **8** Yamukela lindlela yokubuyisana yabantu bakho abako-Israyeli, obahlengileyo, Oh Thixo, ungabeki icala phezu kwabantu bakho ngenxa yegazi lomuntu omsulwa.’ Ngakho ukuchithwa kwegazi kuzahlawulelwa. **9** Ngalokho lizazigeza emlandwini wokuchitha igazi elingelacala, njengoba selenzele okuhle emehlweni kaThixo.” **10** “Nxa usiya empini ukuyahlasele izitha zakho kuthi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu anikele izitha zenu ezandleni zenu, lizithumbe, **11** ungabona owesifazane omuhle njalo akukhange, ungamthatha abe ngumkakho. **12** Uzamusa emzini wakho, aphece ikhanda lakhe, aqume iziphlo zakhe njalo **13** akhulule izigqoko athunjwe ezigqokile. Kuzakuthi lapho eseqede inyanga eyodwa esemzini wakho elilela uyise lonina, usungamthatha abe ngumkakho, **14** kodwa nxa engakuthokozisi, umkhulule ayelapho athanda khona. Ungamthengisi kumbe umphathe njengesigqili, ngoba usumngcolisile.” **15** “Nxa indoda ilabafazi ababili, ithande omunye kodwa omunye ingamthandi, kuthi bobabili bayizalele amadodana kodwa izibulo libe yindodana yomfazi engamthandiyo, **16** nxa ehlela ukwabela amadodana akhe impahla yakhe, akumelanga emuke izibulo lakhe ilungelo lalo aliphe indodana yomfazi amthandayo esikhundleni sezibulo langempela, indodana yomfazi engamthandiyo. **17** Kufanele itshengisele ukuthi indodana yomfazi ongathandwayo yilo izibulo ngokuyinika isabelo esiphindwe kabili sempahla yayo yonke. Indodana leyo iyisibonakaliso sakuqala samandla kaysiwe. Ilungelo lobuzibulo ngelayo.” **18** “Nxa indoda ilendodana eyisiphulo njalo engumhlamuki engalaleli uyise lonina nxa beyikhuzo, **19** uyise lonina bazayibamba bayise ebadaleni esangweni ledolobho lakibo. **20** Kumele bafike ebadaleni balelolobho bathi, ‘Indodana yethu le iyisiphulo njalo ingumhlamuki. Ayisilaleli. Iyisixhwalu njalo iyisidakwa.’ **21** Ngakho wonke amadoda akulelolobho azayitshaya ngamatsho ize ife. Kufanele liqede bonke ububi phakathi kwenu. U-Israyeli wonke uzakuzwa lokhu esabe.” **22** “Nxa umuntu olecala elikhulu ebulawa kuthi isidumbu silengiswe esihlahleni, **23** lingaboyekela isidumbu sakhe silenga esihlahleni ubusuku bonke. Kangcwatshwe mhlahloko, ngoba umuntu olengiswa esihlahleni uqalekisiwe nguNkulunkulu. Lingangcolisi ilizwe uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona njengelifa.”

22 “Ungabona inkabi loba imvu yomfowenu iduha, ungayiyekeli kodwa ibuyisele kuye. **2** Nxa umzalwane wakho engahlali eduze lawe loba ungakwazi ukuthi isifuyo lesi ngesikabani, sithathe uhambe laso emzini wakho usigcine aze afike esidinga. Usungasibuyisela kuye. **3** Wenzenjalo ungafumana ubabhemi loba ibhatshi lomzalwane wakho loba kuyini okumlahlekeleyo. Ungakuyekeli. **4** Ungabona ubabhemi loba inkabi yomfowenu iwele endleleni, ungayiyekeli. Msizwe umfowenu ngokuyivusa. **5** Owesifazane angagqoki izigqoko zesilisa, lowesilisa angagqoki izigqoko zowesifazane, ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uyanengeka ngalowo owenza lokho. **6** Nxa ungafumana isidleke senyoni eceleni kwendlela,

sisesihlahleni loba phansi, unina efukamele amatsiyane kumbe amaqanda akhe, ungathathi unina labantwabakhe. **7** Ungathatha abantwana, uyekele unina ahambe ukuze kube kuhle kuwe njalo ube lempilo ende. **8** Nxa usakha indlu entsha, uzakwakha umduli oluthango ophahleni lwayo ukuze kungabi lomuntu owayo ophahleni lwendlu yakho ube lecala lokuchitha igazi. **9** Ungahlanyeli inhlanyelo eziyimihlobo emibili esivini sakho; ungakwenza, akuyikuba yizilimo ozihlanyelayo kuphela eziqalekiswa, kodwa lezithelo zevini. **10** Ungabophi ndawonye ejogeni inkabi lobabhemini nxa ulima. **11** Ungaqoqi isigqoko eselukwe ngewulu lelineni ndawonye. **12** Yenza intshaka uzithungele emiphethweni yomine yebhatshi lakho oligqokileyo.” **13** “Nxa indoda ithatha umfazi, kuthi ngemva isike yalala laye, ingamthakazeleli **14** imgcone imbize ngamagama amabi, isithi, ‘Ngathatha umfazi lo, kodwa ngathi ngilala laye ngafumana ukuthi kaseyiyontombi egcweleyo,’ **15** ngakho uyise lomina wentombi bazelelwa ubufakazi ebadaleni bakulelodoobho esangweni bokutshengisa ukuthi ibikade iyintombi. **16** Uyise wentombi uzakuthi ebadaleni, ‘Ngendisela indodakazi yami endodeni le, kodwa ayisamfuni. **17** Khathesi isiyigcoca isithi, ‘Indodakazi yakho kangiyifumananga iyintombi egcweleyo.’ Kodwa nampu ubufakazi bokuthi indodakazi yami iyintombi egcweleyo.’ Ngakho abazali bentombi bazakwendlala ilembu phambi kwabadala bakulelodoobho, **18** kuthi abadala bayijezise leyondoda. **19** Bazayihlawulisa amashekeli esiliva alikhulu, bawanike uyise wentombi, ngoba indoda le isigcane intombi yakwo-Israyeli. Intombi izaqhubeke ingumfazi wayo indoda; okwempilo yayo yonke akumelanga iyale lintombi. **20** Nxa kungenzeka ukuthi umlandu ewetheswayo uliqiniso njalo kungaze kwafunyanwa ubufakazi bobuntombi bayo, **21** izaletlwa emnyango wendlu kayise kuthi amadoda akulelodoobho ayikhahlele khona ngamatshe ize ife. Yenze into eyangisayo ko-Israyeli ngokungaziphathi ngesikhathi isahlala emzini kayise. Kumele liqede ububi phakathi kwenu. **22** Nxa indoda ingafunyanwa ilele lomfazi wenye indoda bobabili kumele babulawe. Kufanele liqede ububi ko-Israyeli. **23** Nxa kungenzeka ukuthi indoda ihlangane lentombi esikhombile edolobheni ilale layo, **24** libabathatha bobabili libase esangweni lakulelodoobho libakhande ngamatshe khona baze bafe ngoba intombi kayihlabanga mkhosi ukuthi ilanyulelwe yona isedolobheni, njalo indoda isixhwalise umfazi wenye indoda. Kumele liqede ububi phakathi kwenu. **25** Kodwa nxa kungenzeka ukuthi indoda ihlangane lentombi esikhombile egangeni ibe isiyibamba, indoda ekwenzileyo lokhu yiyo kuphela ezakufa. **26** Lingenzi lutho entombini; kayenzanga sono esingabangela ukuthi ife. Lindaba iyafanana leyomuntu ohlasela abulale umakhelwane wakhe, **27** ngoba indoda ifumene inkazana egangeni, loba intombi le ekhombileyo ibihlabe umkhosi, bekungelamuntu wokuyilamulela. **28** Nxa kungenzeka ukuthi indoda ihlangane lentombi engakakhombi ibe isiyidlwengula njalo kwazakale. **29** Indoda leyo izahlawula uyise wentombi amashekeli esiliva angamatshumi amahlanu. Kumele iyithathe ibe ngumfazi wayo ngoba isiyingcolisile. Akumelanga iyale ukuphila kwayo konke. **30** Akumelanga ukuthi umuntu athathe umkayise; angahlazisi umbheda kayise.”

23 “Loba ngubani olimele amaphambili, kungaba ngokuthenwa kumbe ukugxotshwa kavunyelwa

ukungena ebandleni likaThixo. **2** Loba ngubani ozelwe ngobufebe loba izizukulwane zakhe kuze kube ngesetshumi, kavunyelwa ukungena ebandleni likaThixo. **3** Kakho um’Amoni loba owaseMowabi loba izizukulwane sakhe kuze kufike esizukulwaneni setshumi ozavunyelwa ukungena embuthanweni kaThixo. **4** Kungenxa yokuthi abalihlangabezanga beliphathele isinkwa kanye lamanzi endleleni yenu ekuphumeni kwenu eGibhithe, bona basuka baqhatsha uBhalamu indodana kaBheyori owePhethori e-Aramu Naharayimu ukuba ehlisele isiqalekiso phezu kwenu. **5** Kodwa-ke, uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu kazangalalele uBhalamu kodwa waphendula isiqalekiso saba yisibusiso kini, ngenxa yokuthi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uyalthanda. **6** Lingadingi ukwakha ubungane labo ekuphileni kwenu konke. **7** Lingamenyanyi owase-Edomi, ngoba ungumfowenu. Lingamenyanyi umGibhithe, ngoba laphila njengabezizweni elizweni lakhe. **8** Isizukulwane sesithathu sabantwana abazalwa lapho bangangena ebandleni likaThixo.” **9** “Nxa lithobelene lezitha zenu ekuhlaseleni, xekani lakho konke okungahlanzekanga. **10** Nxa kukhona indoda phakathi kwenu ezichithele ngobudoda ebusuku, kumele iphumele ngaphandle kwezihonqo ihle iyehlala khonale. **11** Kodwa-ke akuthi ilanga selithambeka igeze, kuthi-ke ngokutshona kwelanga ibuyele ezihonqweni. **12** Khethani indawo ngaphandle kwezihonqo lapho elizayela ngaphandle khona. **13** Wobani lesikhali sokugebha kuthi lingaya ngaphandle, ligebehe igodi ligqibele leyonkeceke. **14** Ngenxa yokuthi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uyahambahamba phakathi kwezihonqo zenu ukuze alivikele ezitheni zenu. Izihonqo zenu kumele zibengcwele, ukuze angaboni lutho olungalunganga phakathi kwenu okuzakwenza alifulathele.” **15** “Nxa isigqili sidinga ukuphephela kini lingasibuyisele kumnikazi waso. **16** Siyekeleni sizihlalele lapho esifuna ukuhlala khona njalo sizihlalele kulelodoobho esifuna ukuhlala kulo. Lingasincindezeli. **17** Akungabi lowesilisa wako-Israyeli loba owesifazane ozakuba yisifube sethempelini. **18** Lingaboletsha inzuzo yowesifazane ofebayo loba owesilisa ofebayo endlini kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ezobhadala loba yisiphi isithembiso, ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uyanengeka ngabo bonke. **19** Umfowenu ungahlawulisi inzuzo, loba ngeyemali loba ngeyokudla loba yini engamlethela inzuzo. **20** Owezizweni lingahlawulisa inzuzo, kodwa hatshi umfowenu wako-Israyeli, ukuze uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alibusise kukho konke elikwenza ngezandla zenu elizweni elizangena kulo ukuba libe ngelenu. **21** Nxa lingenza isifungo kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, lingaphuzi ukusibhadala, ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzakufuna kini loba sekutheni njalo lizakuba lomlandu wesono. **22** Kodwa nxa lingayekela ukwenza isifungo kaliyikuba lomlandu. **23** Konke lokho okuphuma endebeni zenu kumele libe leqiniso ukukwenza, ngoba lenze lesosifungo ngokukhululeka lithembisa kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ngemilomo yenu. **24** Nxa lingangena esivini sikamakhelwane wenu, lingadla wonke amagrebisi elifisa ukuwadla, kodwa lingafaki leliodwa esitsheni senu. **25** Nxa lingena ensimini kamakhelwane eyamabele, lilakho ukudobha okuwileyo ngezandla, kodwa limukani lingasebenzisi isikela emabeleni alokhu emi ngamahlanga.”

24 “Nxa indoda ingathatha imfazi kodwa angayithokozisi ngoba indoda ifumene ihlazo ngaye ibe isimlobela incwadi yokuquma umtshado, imnike, ibisimxotsha endlini yayo, **2** kuthi esesukile endlini yaleyondoda athathwe ngeyinye

indoda, **3** layo leyondoda yesibili imsole imnike incwadi yokwehlukana, imqhubele ibe isimxotsha emzini wayo, kumbe leyondoda ife, **4** kutsho ukuthi indoda yakhe yakuqala, eyamalayo, ayivunyelwa ukumthatha futhi ngemva kokuba eselalelihlo. Lokho kungaba yisiningiso emehlweni kaThixo. Lingaetha isono elizweni uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona ukuba libe yilifa lenu. **5** Nxa indoda isanda kuthatha, akufanelanga ukuba ithunyelwe empini loba ukuthi iphiwe umsebenzi oqakathekileyo.” **6** “Lingathathi ilitshe lokuchola lembokodo loba imbokodo yodwa nje ukuba kube yisibambiso senhlawulo, ngoba ngokwenza njalo uthatha ukuphila kube yisibambiso. **7** Nxa owesilisa angafunyanwa ethumba umfowabo wako-Israyeli abesesiya ngcina njengesigqili loba amthengise, kumele afe. Kumele liqede ububi phakathi kwenu. **8** Nxa kuyisifo sobulephero kumele linanzelele kakhulu lenze lokho abaphristi abangabaLevi abalilaya khona. Kumele lilandele khona kanye engabalaya ngakho. **9** Khumbulani lokho okwenziwa nguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu kuMiryemu endleleni emva kokusuka kwenu eGibhithe. **10** Nxa umakhelwane wakho umeboleka loba yini ungangeni endlini yakhe ukuba uthathe lokho abambisa ngakho. **11** Mana phandle uyekele lowo omebolekayo alethe isibambiso kuwe. **12** Nxa kuyindoda ongumyanga, ungayilala isibambiso sakhe silokhu sikuwe. **13** Buyisela isembatho sakhe lingakatshoni ukuze alale esembethe. Yena uzakubonga, kuzaphathwa njengesenzo sokulunga phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wakho. **14** Nxa umbodlezela umuntu oqhatshweyo ongumyanga loba oswelayo, loba engumfowenu wako-Israyeli loba owezizweni ohlala kwinye lamadolobho enu. **15** Muphe iholo lakhe insuku zonke ilanga lingakatshoni, ngoba ungumyanga uthembe leholo. Funa asuke akhale kuThixo ekusola, ube lomlandu wesono. **16** Abazali abayikufela abantwababo, loba abantwana bafele abazali babo; ngulowo lalowo uzafela isono sakhe. **17** Ungavaleli owezizweni loba intandane ilungelo layo loba uthathe isembatho somfelokazi ukuze sibe yisibambiso. **18** Khumbula ukuthi wawuyisigqili eGibhithe uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho wakuhlenga khona. Yikho ngikulaya ukuba wenze lokhu. **19** Nxa uvuna ensimini yakho ube usutshiya isikhwebu, ungabuyeli emuva ukuyasithatha, sitshiyele owezizweni, intandane, lomfelokazi, ukuze uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho akubusise kuwo wonke umsebenzi wezandla zakho. **20** Nxa ubhula ama-oliva ezihlahleni zakho ungabuyeli ukuhlola amatsho njalo. Okuseleyo tshiyela owezizweni, intandane lomfelokazi. **21** Nxa uvuna izithelo zesivini sakho, ungabuyeleli futhi ukuvuna lapho osuvune khona. Okuseleyo tshiyela owezizweni, intandane lomfelokazi. **22** Khumbulani ukuthi laliyizigqili eGibhithe. Yikho ngililaya ukuba lenze lokhu.”

25 “Nxa amadoda exabana, ingxabano yawo kumele isive emthethwandaba ukuze kuthi abehluleli bakhuphe isinqumo ngaleyondaba, bakhulule omsulwa njalo bamlahle olecala. **2** Nxa olecala kufanele atshaywe, umahluleli uzakuthi kalale acambalale athi katshaywe laye ekhona ngalezonswazi ezilingene lelocala, **3** kodwa akufanelanga zedlule ezingamatshumi amane. Nxa etshaywe inswazi ezedlula lapho, umfowenu usezabe esuswe isithunzi emehlweni akho. **4** Ungafaki inkabi yakho isayeke nxa ibhula amabele. **5** Nxa amadodana endoda ehlala kwenye indawo omunye abe esesifa engalandodana, umfelokazi akumelanga ayekwendela

kwenye indawo. Umfowabo wendoda kumele amthathe ukuze agcwalise umlandu womfowabo kulowomfelokazi. **6** Indodana yakuqala ezalwa lapho kumele ibizwe ngomfowabo owafayo ukuze ibizo lakhe lingatshabalali ko-Israyeli. **7** Kodwa-ke, indoda nxa ingafuni ukuthatha umfazi womfowabo, kuzamele umfazi lowo aye ebadeleni esangweni ledolobho akufe athi, ‘Umfowabo wendoda yami uyala ukuqhuba ibizo lomfowabo ko-Israyeli. Kafuni ukuthi agcwalise umlandu womfowabo.’ **8** Ngakho abadala balelodolobho lakhe bazambiza bakhulumelane. Nxa angala kokuphela esithi, ‘Angifuni ukumthatha,’ **9** umfelokazi lowo uzamqonda phambi kwabadala, bamkhuphe inyathelo elilodwa, amkhafulele emehlweni athi, ‘Lokhu yikho okwenziwa endodeni engafunyo ukuvusela umfowabo indlu yakhe.’ **10** Usendo lwaleyondoda ko-Israyeli luzakwaziwa njengeNdlu engelaNyathelo. **11** Nxa amadoda amabili esilwa kube sekusithi umfazi wenye athelele, ancedise indoda yakhe, abesexhakalaza leyondoda ngamaphambili, **12** kumele liqume isandla sowesifazane lowo. Lingabi lesihawu kuye lakancane. **13** Ungabokuba lezilinganiso zesisindo ezimbili emgodleni wakho ezehlukeneyo, esinye esinzima lesinye esilula. **14** Ungabi lezilinganiso ezimbili ezehlukeneyo endlini yakho, esinye esikhulu lesinye esincinyane. **15** Kumele libe lezilinganiso eziqondileyo leziqotho loba ngezesisindo loba ngezobukhulu, ukuze libe lempilo ende elizweni uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona. **16** Ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uyanengeka ngomuntu owenza lezizinto, yiloba ngubani owenza izinto zobuqili. **17** Khumbula okwenziwa ngama-Amaleki kuwe endleleni uphuma eGibhithe. **18** Kwathi lapho usudinwe kakhulu ungaselamandla, akuhlangabeza ohanjweni lwakho, abachitha bonke ababesalela emuva; ayengamesabi uNkulunkulu. **19** Mhla uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho ekunika ukuphumula kuzozonke izitha zakho ezikuhanqileyo elizweni akunika lona ukuba libe yilifa lakho, uzatshabalalisa nya ibizo lama-Amaleki ngaphansi kwezulu. Ungakhohlwa!”

26 “Nxa usungenile elizweni uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho akunika lona njengelifa njalo usulithethe wahlala kulo **2** thatha ezinye zezithelo zakuqala zazo, zonke izilimo zomhlabathi welizwe uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho akunika lona uzifake esitsheeni. Uhambe uye endaweni leyo uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho azayikhetha njengendawo yokuhlala yeBizo lakhe **3** uthi kumphristi osesikhundleni ngalesosikhathi, ‘Ngiyamemezela lamuhla kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakho ukuthi sengifikile elizweni uThixo afunga kubokhokho bethu ukuthi uzasinika lona.’ **4** Umphristi uzakwamukela isitsha esisezandleni zakho asibeke phansi phambi kwe-alithari likaThixo uNkulunkulu wakho. **5** Ngakho uzakutsho phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wakho uthi: ‘Ubaba wayeluzulani lom’Aramu, wehla waya eGibhithe elabantu abalutshwana bafika bahlala khona baze baba yisizwe esikhulu kakhulu, esilamandla njalo esilabantu abanengi kakhulu. **6** Kodwa amaGibhithe asiphatha ngochuku, asihlupha, asisebenzisa nzima. **7** Ngakho sakhalu kuThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho bethu, uThixo walizwa ilizwi lethu njalo wabona lokuhlupheka kwethu, ukutshikathika kwethu kanye lokuncindezelwa kwethu. **8** Ngenxa yalokho uThixo wasikhupha elizweni laseGibhithe ngesandla esilamandla langengalo eyeluliweyo, ngenzeno ezesabekayo langezibonakaliso kanye lezimangaliso. **9** Wasiletha kubandawo njalo wasinika lelilizwe, ilizwe eligeleza uchago loluju; **10** khathezi sengiletha izithelo zakuqala zomhlabathi lowo, Oh Thixo, onginike wona.’

Uzabeka isitsha phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wakho umkhothamele. **11** Ngakho wena labaLevi kanye labezizweni abahlala phakathi kwenu lizathokoza ezintweni zonke ezinhle uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho akunike zona wena kanye labendlu yakho. **12** Kuzakuthi lapho usuqedile ukwahlukanisa okwetshumi kwaso sonke isivuno sakho ngomnyaka wesithathu, okungumnyaka wokwetshumi, wena uzakunika umLevi, owezizweni, intandane kanye lomfelokazi, ukuze badle basuthe emadolobheni akho. **13** Tshono futhi kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakho uthi: ‘Sengikhuphile isabelo esingcwele endlini yami ngasinika umLevi, owezizweni, intandane lomfelokazi, njengokulaya kwakho. Kangeqanga imilayo yakho kumbe ukukhohlwa eminye yayo. **14** Angizange ngidle lutho lwesabelo esingcwele ngesikhathi sokulila, kumbe ukususa okunye kwakho ngesikhathi ngingongcolileyo, loba ukunikela ingxenye yakho kwabafileyo. Ngikulalele Thixo Nkulunkulu wami; ngenzile konke ongilaye khona. **15** Khangela phansi usezulwini, indawo yakho yokuhlala engcwele, ubusise abantu bakho bako-Israyeli kanye lelizwe osinike lona njengesithembiso owasenza ngesifungo kubokhokho bethu, ilizwe eligeleza uchago loluju.’” **16** “UTHixo uNkulunkulu wakho uyakulaya lamuhla ukuba ulandele izimiso kanye lemithetho le; uyigcine ngonanzelelo olukhulu ngenhliziyo yakho yonke kanye langomphfumulo wakho wonke. **17** Lamuhla usuvume obala ukuthi uThixo unguNkulunkulu wakho lokuthi uzahamba ezindleleni zakhe, ukuthi uzagcina izimiso zakhe, imilayo, lemithetho yakhe, lokuthi uzamlalela. **18** Futhi uThixo ukuvumile lamuhla ukuthi lina lingabantu bakhe, liyisabelo sakhe esiligugu njengokuthembisa kwakhe njalo kumele ligcine yonke imilayo yakhe. **19** Umemezele ukuthi uzaliphakamisa ngodumo, ngokwaziwa langenhlonipho phezu kwezizwe zonke azidalayo lokuthi lizakuba ngabantu abangcwele kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu njengokuthembisa kwakhe.”

27 UMosini kanye labadala bako-Israyeli balaya abantu bathi: ‘Gcinani imilayo yonke esilipha yona lamuhla. **2** Kuzakuthi lapho selichaphile umfula uJodani langena elizweni lelo uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona, lizamisama matshe amakhulu liwahuqe ngekalaga. **3** Lizabhala kuwo wonke amazwi alumthetho nxa selichaphile umfula langena elizweni lelo uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona, ilizwe eligeleza uchago loluju, njengalokhu uThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho benu walithembisa. **4** Kuzakuthi lapho selichaphile umfula uJodani, lizamisama matshe la phezu kweNtaba yase-Ebhali, njengalokhu ngilayile lamuhla, liwahuqe ngekalaga. **5** Khonapho yakhelani uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu i-alithari, i-alithari lamatshe. Lingasbenzisi lutho olwenziwe ngenzimbi phezu kwawo. **6** Yakhani i-alithari likaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ngamatshe angabazwanga linikele phezu kwalo iminikelo yokutshiswa kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **7** Lizanikela iminikelo yokuthula khonapho, liyidle lithokoze phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **8** Ngakho lizabhala kancane wonke amazwi alumthetho phezu kwamatshe la eliwamisileyo.” **9** Ngemva kwalokho uMosini kanye labaphristi abangabaLevi, bathi kubo bonke abako-Israyeli, “Thula uthi zwi wena Israyeli, njalo ulalele! Khathezi selingabantu bakaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **10** Lalelani uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu futhi lilandele imilayo kanye lezimiso engilitsihela zona namuhla.” **11** Ngalolosuku uMosini walaya abantu wathi: **12** “Nxa selichaphile umfula uJodani, kuzakuthi izizwana ezibalisa esakoSimiyoni,

esakoLevi, esakoJuda, esako-Isakhari, esakoJosefa kanye lesakoBhenjamini zizakuma eNtabeni yaseGerizimu ukuze zibusise abantu. **13** Kodwa izizwana ezibalisa esakoRubheni, esakoGadi, esako-Asheri, esakoZebbuluni, esakoDani kanye lesakoNafithali, zizakuma eNtabeni yase-Ebhali zimemezele iziqalekiso. **14** AbaLevi bazamemezela kubo bonke abantu bako-Israyeli ngelizwi elikhulu bathi: **15** ‘Kaqaqalekiswe umuntu obaza isithombe loba isithombe esibunjiweyo, into eyisinengiso kuThixo, umsebenzi wezandla zomuntu olobungcwethi, asimise ensitha.’ Ngakho abantu bonke bazakuthi, ‘Amenii!’ **16** ‘Kaqaqalekiswe umuntu othelela uyise loba unina ihlazo.’ Ngakho abantu bonke bazakuthi, ‘Amenii!’ **17** ‘Kaqaqalekiswe umuntu osusa isikhonkwane somngele wendawo kamakhelwane wakhe.’ Ngakho abantu bonke bazakuthi, ‘Amenii!’ **18** ‘Kaqaqalekiswe umuntu oduhisa isiphofu endleleni.’ Ngakho abantu bonke bazakuthi, ‘Amenii!’ **19** ‘Kaqaqalekiswe umuntu ovimbela ukuthonisiswa ngokulanga koweizweni, lentandane kanye lomfelokazi.’ Ngakho abantu bonke bazakuthi, ‘Amenii!’ **20** ‘Kaqaqalekiswe umuntu olala lomfazi kayise, ngoba ethelela umbheda kayise ihlazo.’ Ngakho abantu bonke bazakuthi, ‘Amenii!’ **21** ‘Kaqaqalekiswe umuntu olala lenyamazana.’ Ngakho abantu bonke bazakuthi, ‘Amenii!’ **22** ‘Kaqaqalekiswe umuntu olala lodadewabe, indodakazi kayise loba indodakazi kanina.’ Ngakho abantu bonke bazakuthi, ‘Amenii!’ **23** ‘Kaqaqalekiswe umuntu olala loninazala.’ Ngakho abantu bonke bazakuthi, ‘Amenii!’ **24** ‘Kaqaqalekiswe umuntu obulala umakhelwane wakhe ensitha.’ Ngakho abantu bonke bazakuthi, ‘Amenii!’ **25** ‘Kaqaqalekiswe umuntu owamukela isivalamlomo ukuze ayebulala umuntu ongelacala.’ Ngakho abantu bonke bazakuthi, ‘Amenii!’ **26** ‘Kaqaqalekiswe umuntu ongalaleli amazwi okumlaya ngokuwenza.’ Ngakho bonke abantu bazakuthi, ‘Amenii!’”

28 “Nxa limlalela ngokupheleleyo uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu njalo lilandele yonke imilayo yakhe engilitsihela yona lamuhla ngonanzelelo, uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzaliphakamisa libe phezu kwezizwe zonke emhlabeni. **2** Lezizibusiso zonke zizakwehlela phezu kwenu zibe ngezenu nxa limlalela uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **3** Lizabusiswa edolobheni libusiswe futhi lemaphandleni. **4** Inzalo yenu izabusiswa, lezithelo zomhlabathi wenu kanye lenzalo yezifuyo zenu, amathole emihlambi yenu kanye lamazinyane emihlambi yenu. **5** Kuzabusiswa isitsha senu kanye lomganu wenu wokuxowela izinkwa. **6** Uzabusiswa nxa ungena ubusiswe lanxa uphuma. **7** UThixo uzakwenza ukuthi izitha zakho ezikuvukelayo zinqotshwe phambi kwakho. Zizakulihlasela zivelela endleleni eyodwa, kodwa zizabaleka ngezindlela eziyisikhombisa. **8** UThixo uzakwehlisela isibusiso phezu kweziphala zenu, lakukho konke elizakwenza. UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzalibusisa elizweni lelo alinika lona. **9** UThixo uzalimisa njengabantu bakhe abangcwele, njengokulithembisa kwakhe ngesifungo, nxa lingagcina imilayo kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu lihambe ngezindlela zakhe. **10** Ngalokho bonke abantu emhlabeni bazabona ukuthi lina libizwa ngebizo likaThixo, balesabe. **11** UThixo uzalenza liphumelele kakhulu, enzalweni yenu, lenzalo yezifuyo zenu kanye lezithelo zomhlabathi wenu elizweni afunga ngalo kubokhokho benu ukuthi uzalinika lona. **12** UThixo uzavula amazulu, isiphala sakhe esiphuphumayo, ukuze anise izulu phezu kwelizwe lenu ngesikhathi salo njalo abusise yonke imisebenzi eliyenzayo. Lizakweboleka izizwe ezinengi kodwa lina lingebileki lutho kuzo. **13** UThixo

uzalenza libe yinhloko, hatshi umsila. Nxa lizalalelisisa imilayo kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu englinika yona lamuhla njalo liyilande le ngonanzelelo, lizahlala njalo liphezulu, lingabi ngaphansi lanini. **14** Lingaphambuki loba lakuwuphi wemilayo englinika yona lamuhla, lingaphambukeli kwesokunene loba kwesinxele, lilandela abanye onkulunkulu lokubakhonza.” **15** “Kodwa-ke, nxa lingayikumlalela uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu futhi lingalandeli yonke imilayo yakhe ngonanzelelo kanye lezimiso zakhe englinika zona lamuhla, zonke leziziqalekiso zizakuba phezu kwenu zilehlele: **16** Lizaqalekiswa edolobheni, liqalekiswe futhi emaphandleni. **17** Isitsha senu kanye lomganu wenu wokuxovela izinkwa kuzaqalekiswa. **18** Inzalo yenu izaqalekiswa, lezithelo zomhlabathi wenu, lamathole emihlambi yenu kanye lamazinyane emihlambi yenu. **19** Lizaqalekiswa ekungeneni kwenu libuye liqalekiswe lasekuphumeni kwenu. **20** UThixo uzakwehlisela phezu kwenu izaqalekiso, ukuphambana kanye lezithoko emisebenzini yenu yonke eliyanzayo, lize libhujiswe njalo lichithwe ngenxa yobubi elibenzileyo ngokumdela. **21** UThixo uzalehlisela isifo lemikhuhlane ize ilibhubhise iliqede elizweni elingena kulo ukuba libe ngelenu. **22** UThixo uzalithshaya ngomkhuhlane olidla kancanekancane, langokutshisa kwelanga lendlala, ngofuba langesikhwekhe, konke lokhu kuzalehlela kuze kuliqede. **23** Isibhakabhaka ngaphezu kwenu sizakuba lithusi, kuthi umhlabathi ngaphansi kwenu ube yinsimbi. **24** UThixo uzaguqula izulu elina elizweni lenu kube zintuli lothuli, kuzakwehla kuvela esibhakabhakeni lize libhujiswe. **25** UThixo uzavumela ukuthi izitha zenu zilehlule. Lizakuya kuzo lihamba ngendlela eyodwa kodwa lizabaleka ngezindlela eziyisikhombisa, futhi lizakuba yinto eyenyanyekayo kuyo yonke imibuso yasemhlabeni. **26** Izidumbu zenu zizakuba yikudla kwezinyoni zonke zasemoyeni, kanye lezinyamazana zasemhlabeni, njalo aziyikwethuswa muntu. **27** UThixo uzalithshaya ngamathumba aseGibhithe langesifo sokuvuvuka, izilonda ezibhibhidlayo lamaqhubu alumayo, okungelaphekiyo. **28** UThixo uzalehlisela umkhuhlane wokuphambana kwengqondo, ubuphofu lowokudungeka kwengqondo. **29** Lizaphumela loba kusemini njengesiphofu emnyameni. Aziyikuphumelela kukho konke elikwezayo; lizaphangwa njalo lincindezelwe insuku ngenaku, kungekho muntu ongalihlenga. **30** Uzathembisana lowesifazane ukuba lithathane, kodwa kuthi enye indoda imthathe ilale laye. Uzakwakha indlu, kodwa kawusoze uhlale kuyo. Uzahlangela isivini, kodwa kawusoze ukholise izithelo zaso. **31** Inkabi yakho izahlathsha phambi kwakho, kodwa kawusoze uyidle. Uzathathela ubahemi wakho ngenkani kodwa angabuyiselwa kuwe. Izimvu zakho zizanikwa izitha zakho, kodwa kakho ozakuzihlenga. **32** Amadodana akho kanye lamadodakazi akho azanikwa esinye isizwe, njalo amehlo akho azafiphala ngokuwalindela insuku zonke, ungelamandla okuphakamisa isandla. **33** Abantu ongabaziyo bazakudla izithelo zomhlabathi kanye lomsebenzi wezandla zakho, akulalutho ozaluzuzwa ngaphandle kokuncindezelwa ngesihluku insuku zakho zonke. **34** Izinto ozibonayo zizakwenza uphambane ingqondo. **35** UThixo uzakutshaya amadolo akho milenize yakho ngamathumba abuhlungu njalo angelaphekiyo, amemetheke esuka ngaphansi kwezinyawo zakho kuze kuyefika ekhanda. **36** UThixo uzalinikela esizweni elingasaziyo lina kumbe okhokho benu, lina kanye lenkosi yenu elayibekayo ukuthi ilibuse. Khonale

lizakhonza abanye onkulunkulu, onkulunkulu abenziwe ngezigodo langamatshhe. **37** Lizakuba yinto eyenyanyekayo lento yokuchothozwa lokweyiswa kuzozonke izizwe lapho uThixo azalixotshela khona. **38** Lizahlanyela inhlanyelo enengi emasimini enu kodwa lizavuna okuyingcosana, ngoba izikhongwane zizabhuqa amabele enu. **39** Lizahlanyela izivini njalo lizihlakulele kodwa kaliyikunatha iwayini loba ukukha izithelo zazo, ngoba zizadliwa yimihogoyi. **40** Lizakuba lezihlahla zama-oliva zigcwele ilizwe lenu lonke kodwa kaliyikuwasebenzisa amafutha azo, ngoba izithelo zama-oliva zizakhithikela phansi. **41** Lizakuba lamadodana kanye lamadodakazi kodwa kaliyikubondla, ngoba bazathunjwa. **42** Isikhongwane sizabhuqa zonke izihlahla zenu kanye lamabele elizwe lenu. **43** Owezizwe ohlala phakathi kwenu uzaphakama phezu kwenu njalonjalo, kodwa lina lehlele phansi njalonjalo. **44** Yena uzaleboleka, kodwa lina kaliyikumeboleka lutho. Yena uzakuba yinhloko, lina libe ngumsila. **45** Izaqalekiso zonke lezi zizalehlela. Zizalilandelela zilihlasele lize libhubhe, ngoba lingamlalanga uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu langacini imilayo yakhe kanye lezimiso zakhe alinika zona. **46** Lizakuba yisibonakaliso lesimangaliso phezu kwenu laphezu kwezizukulwane zenu kuze kube nininini. **47** Ngoba alizange limkhonze uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ngentokoza langenjlabulo ngesikhathi senu sempumelelo, **48** ngakho lizasebenzela izitha uThixo azalithumela zona lina lilambile njalo lomile, lihambaze ebuyangeni obukhulu. UThixo uzafaka ijogwe lensimbi entanyeni zenu aze alibhubhise. **49** UThixo uzaletha isizwe esizakozela lani esivela kude emikhawulweni yomhlaba, njengokhoke oluhwithayo, isizwe esikhuluma ulimi elingaluzwayo, **50** isizwe sabantu abesabekayo abangahlonphi abantu abadala loba ukuba lozwelo kwabancinyane. **51** Bazakudla inzalo yezifuyo zenu kanye lamabele elizwe lenu lize libhujiswe. Kabayikulitshiyela amabele, iwayini loba amafutha, kumbe amathole enkomo zenu kumbe amazinyane emihlambini yenu lize lichithwe. **52** Bazalivimbezela emadolobheni enu wonke aselizweni lenu kuze kuwe imiduli yawo eqinileyo emide njalo eliyithembileyo. Bazalivimbezela amadolobho enu wonke aselizweni lenu uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona. **53** Ngenxa yokuhlupheka kwenu okuzabangela yikuvinjazelwa kwenu yizitha zenu, lizakudla inzalo yenu, inyama yamadodana kanye lamadodakazi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinike wona. **54** Loba indoda ethobekileyo kakhulu lelozwelo phakathi kwenu ayiyikuba lesihawu kumfowabo kumbe umfazi wayo emthandayo loba abantwabayo abasaphila, **55** kayiyikupha loba ngubani wabo inyama yabantwabayo eyabe iyidla. Kuzabe kuyikho kodwa okuseleyo ngenxa yokuhlupheka okwehliselwe phezu kwenu yizitha zenu ngesikhathi zilivimbezele emadolobheni enu wonke. **56** Owesifazane obuthakathaka njalo olozwelo phakathi kwenu, olozwelo njalo obuthakathaka okokuthi angeke athinte umhlabathi ngenyawo zakhe uzakuba lolaka endodeni yakhe ayithandayo lasendodaneni lendodakazini yakhe, **57** inzalo yethumbu lakhe abantwana abazeleyo. Ngoba esehlose ukubada ensitha ngesikhathi sokuvinjazelwa lokuhlupheka isitha senu elizalehlisela khona phezu kwenu emadolobheni enu. **58** Lingayekela ukulandela ngonanzelelo wunke amazwi alo umthetho, alotshwe kule incwadi, njalo lingalesabi lelibizo lenkazimulo eyesabekayo uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, **59** uzakwehlisela phezu kwenu kanye lezizukulwane zenu izifo ezesabekayo, inhlupheko ezimangalisayo ezizathatha isikhathi

eside, lemikhuhlane enzima engapheliyo. **60** Uzakwehlisela phezu kwenu imikhuhlane yonke yaseGibhithe elalisesaba, inamathele phezu kwenu. **61** UThixo uzakwehlisela futhi phezu kwenu inhlobo zonke zemikhuhlane kanye lezinhlupheko ezimangalisayo ezingalotshwanga kule iNcwadi yoMthetho, lize libhujiswe. **62** Lina elalibanengi njengezinkanyezi zasmkhathini lizasala selibalutshwana, ngoba lingalalelanga uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **63** Njengalokho kwamthokozisa uThixo ukuba aliphumelelise njalo alengezelele inani lenu, ngokufanayo kuzamthokozisa ukulichitha njalo alibhubhise. Lizasuswa elizweni lelo eselilungele ukungena kulo ukuthi lilithathe. **64** UThixo uzalihlakazela ezizweni zonke, kusukela komunye umkhawulo womhlaba kuze kuyefika komunye njalo. Khonale lizakhonza abanye onkulunkulu, onkulunkulu abenziwe ngezigodo labenziwe ngamatshe, elingazange libazi lina kumbe okhokho benu. **65** Phakathi kwalezozizwe kaliyikufumana ukuphumula, kumbe indawo yokuphumuzwa inyawo zenu. Khonapho uThixo uzalipha ingqondo ekhathazekileyo lamehlo akhathaleyo ngokufisa, kanye lenhliziyo ethuthumelayo. **66** Lizahlalela ovalweni izikhathi zonke, ligcwele ukwesaba emini lebusuku, lingelaqiniso ngempilo yenu. **67** Ekuseni lizakuthi, 'Aluba sekuntambama!' ntambama lithi, 'Ngabe kusekuseni!' ngenxa yokwesaba okuzakwehla inhliziyo zenu lengxenye yezinto elizazibona ngamehlo enu. **68** UThixo uzalithumela futhi eGibhithe ngemikhumbi uhambo engathi aliyikuluhamba luthi. Lapho lizazithengisa ezitheni njengezizigqili zesilisa lezesifazane, kodwa kakho ozalithenga."

29 Lezi yizimiso zesivumelwano uThixo alaya uMosi ukuthi azenze labako-Israyeli eMowabi, phezu kwesivumelwano lesa asenza labo eHorebhi. **2** UMosizi wabiza bonke abako-Israyeli wathi kubo: "Amehlo enu akubonile konke uThixo akwenza kuFaro eGibhithe, ezikhulwini zakhe zonke lakulo lonke ilizwe lakhe. **3** Ngamehlo enu lazibonela imilingo emikhulu, lezibonakaliso ezimangalisayo kanye lezimanga ezesabekayo. **4** Kodwa kuze kube lamuhla uThixo kaliphanga ingqondo ezwisayo, kumbe amehlo abonayo, loba indlebe ezizwayo. **5** Okweminyaka engamatshumi amane ngilihola enkangala, izigqoko zenu kazizange ziguge, loba izicathulo ezinyaweni zenu. **6** Alidlanga sinkwa loba ukunatha iwayini kumbe ukunatha okudakayo. Ngakwenza lokhu ukuze lazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **7** Kwathi ekufikeni kwenu kulindawo, uSihoni inkosi yaseHeshibhoni kanye lo-Ogi inkosi yaseBhashani balihlangabeza ukuze balwe lani, kodwa sabehlula. **8** Salithatha ilizwe labo salipha abakoRubheni, abakoGadi kanye lengxenye yesizwana sakoManase njengelifa. **9** Ngakho gcinani izimiso zalesivumelwano ukuze liphumelele kukho konke elikwenzayo. **10** Lonke limi lapha lamuhla phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, abakhokheli benu kanye lezinduna zenu, abadala benu kanye lezikhulu zenu, kanye lawo wonke amanye amadoda ako-Israyeli, **11** ndawonye labantwabenu kanye labafazi benu, labezizweni abahlala ezihonqweni zenu beligamulela inkuni njalo belikhela amanzi. **12** Selimi lapha ukuze lingene esivumelwaneni loThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, isivumelwano uThixo asenzayo lani lamuhla esiqinisa ngesifungo, **13** eveza ngokugcweleyo ukuthi lina lamuhla selingabantu bakhe, lokuthi abe nguNkulunkulu wenu njengokulithembisa kwakhe njalo wafunga kubokhokho benu, u-Abrahama, u-Isaka lojakhobe. **14** Ngenza lesivumelwano, langesifungo saso, hatshi lani

kuphela **15** elimiyo kanye lathi lamuhla phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu kodwa lalaba abangekhoyo lamuhla. **16** Lina ngokwenu liyakwazi ukuthi sasiphila njani eGibhithe lokuthi sadabula njani phakathi kwezizwe sisiza kulindawo. **17** Labona phakathi kwabo izithombe zabo ezinengisayo ezenziwe ngezigodo lezamatshhe, eziseliva kanye lezegolide. **18** Wobani leqiniso lokuthi akulandoda loba owesifazane, abosendo kumbe isizwana phakathi kwenu lamuhla olenhliziyo ezafulathela uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu ukuze akhonze onkulunkulu bezizwe lezo; qaphelani funa kubelempande phakathi kwenu ethela izithelo ezilempethu. **19** Lapho umuntu onjalo esizwa amazwi alesisifungo, athokozele ukuthi isibusiso sehlele phezu kwakhe abezizwela ukuthi, 'Ngizavikeleka, lanxa ngiqhubeka ngizihambela ngezindlela zami.' Lokhu kuzaletha uhlupho olukhulu emhlabathini omanzi lowomileyo. **20** UThixo kazimisela ukumthethela; ulaka lwakhe kanye lokutshiseka kwakhe kuzavutha phezu kwalowomuntu. Zonke iziqalekiso ezilotshwe kule incwadi zizakwehla phezu kwakhe, njalo uThixo uzacitsha ibizo lakhe ngaphansi kwezulu. **21** UThixo uzamehlukanisa amasuse phakathi kwezizwana zonke zako-Israyeli amehlisele uhlupho, kusiya ngazozonke iziqalekiso zesivumelwano ezilotshwe kule iNcwadi yoMthetho. **22** Abantwabenu abazakuya ngemva kwenu ezizukulwaneni ezilandelayo kanye labezizwe abavela emazweni akude bazabona inhlupeko ezehlele lelilizwe lezifo uThixo azehlisele kulo. **23** Ilizwe lonke lizakuba ngelichithiweyo latshiswa laba litswayi lesolufa kungekho lutho oluhlaneylweyo, kungelalutho oluhlumayo, kungekho zimila kulo. Kuzafana lokutshabalalisa kweSodoma leGomora, i-Adima kanye leZebhoyimi, uThixo awachitha ngolaka lwakhe oluvuthayo. **24** Izizwe zonke zizabuza zithi: 'UThixo ukwenzeleni lokhu elizweni leli na? Kungani ehlise ulaka oluvuthayo lolwesabekayo kangaka na?' **25** Impendulo izakuba yikuthi: 'Kungenxa yokuthi abantu badela isivumelwano sikaThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho babo, isivumelwano asenza labo ekubakhupheni kwakhe eGibhithe. **26** Badukile bakhonza abanye onkulunkulu babakhothamela, onkulunkulu abangazange babazi, onkulunkulu angazange abaphe bona. **27** Ngalokho ulaka lukaThixo lwavutha phezu kwalelizwe, waze wehlisele lapha kwalo zonke iziqalekiso ezilotshwe kule incwadi. **28** UThixo wabasiphula elizweni labo ngentukuthelo enkulu langolaka olukhulu wabalahlala kwelinye ilizwe, njengoba kunjalo lakhathesi.' **29** Okufihlakeleyo ngokukaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu, kodwa izinto ezambuliweyo zingezethu kanye labantwabethu kuze kube nininini, ukuze silandele wonke amazwi alo umlayo."

30 "Kuzakuthi zonke lezizibusiso lalezi ziqalekiso engilimisele zona sezehlele phezu kwenu beselizigcina ezinhliziyweni zenu kuyo yonke indawo lapho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu azalihlakazela khona phakathi kwezizwe, **2** lalapho lina labantwabenu selibuyela kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu limlalela ngenhliziyo yenu yonke langomphefumulo wenu wonke kusiya njengokulilaya kwami lamuhla, **3** kulapho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ezabuyisela ukuphumelela kwenu abe lozwelo kini njalo alibuthe yena lapho alihlakazela khona ezizweni. **4** Kungaze kube khatshana okunganani ngaphansi kwelanga lapho elizabe lixotshelwe khona, kusukela khonapho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzalithatha libuye ekhaya. **5** Uzalikhokhelela elizweni alinika okhokho benu,

lina-ke lizalithatha libe ngelenu. Uzalenza liphumelele njalo lande ukwedlula okhokho benu. **6** UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzasoka inhliziyi zenu kanye lezinhliziyi zezizukulwane zenu, ukuze limthande ngezinhliziyi zenu zonke langomoya wenu wonke, liphile. **7** UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzakwehlisela zonke leziziqalekiso phezu kwezitha zenu ezilizondayo lezilihlukuluzayo. **8** Lizaphinda njalo limlalele uThixo wenu njalo liyilandele imilayo yakhe engilinyaka yona lamuhla. **9** Ngakho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzaliphumelelisa kakhulu kuyo yonke imisebenzi yezandla zenu njalo alibusise ngenzalo langamazinyane ezifuyo zenu lamabele amasimu enu. UThixo uzathokozisa ngani njalo aliphumelelise, njengoba wathokozisa ngokhokho benu, **10** nxa lizalalela uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ligcine imilayo lezimiso lezo ezabhalwa kule iNcwadi yoMthetho liphendukele kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ngenhliziyi yenu yonke langomphefumulo wenu wonke.” **11** “Engililaya ngakho lamuhla akunzima kakhulu njalo akukhatshana lani ukuba likufinyelele. **12** Akukho phezu ezulwini, okungabangela ukuthi libuze lithi: ‘Ngubani ozakwenyukela ezulwini ayesithathela ukuze akwethule kithi sibe lakho ukukulandela sikwenze na?’ **13** Kanti njalo akukho ngaphetsheya kolwandle, okungabangela ukuthi libuze lithi, ‘Ngubani ozachapha ulwandle ayesithathela ukuze akwethule kithi sibe lakho ukukulandela sikwenze na?’ **14** Akunjalo, ilizwi liseduzane lawe kakhulu, lisehlonyeni wakho lasenhliziyweni yakho ukuze ulilalele. **15** Khangalani, ngiletha phambi kwenu lamuhla ukuphila lokuphumelela, ukufa lokubhidlika. **16** Ngakho ngiyalilaya lamuhla ukuthi lithande uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, lihambe ezindleleni zakhe, kanye lokugcina imilayo yakhe, izimiso lemithetho; ngalokho lizaphila lande, njalo uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzalibusisa elizweni eseligena kulo ukuba lilithathe libe ngelenu. **17** Kodwa nxa inhliziyi zenu zifulathela lingabe lisalalela ngokuzithoba, njalo lingaholelwa ekuthini likhonze abanye onkulunkulu libe selibakhonza, **18** ngiyalitshela lamuhla ukuthi ngeqiniso libabhujiswa. Aliyi kuphila isikhathi eside ezweni elizalithatha ekuchapheni kwenu ijodani. **19** Lamuhla nginxusa izulu lomhlaba ukuba ngofakazi bami ukumelana lani ngisithi sengimise phambi kwenu ukuphila lokufa, izibusiso leziziqalekiso. Kzathesi zikhetheleni ukuphila, ukuze kuthi lina kanye labantwabenu libe lokuphila **20** kanye lokuthi limthande uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, lilalele ilizwi lakhe, libambelele liqine kuye, ngoba uThixo uyikuphila kwenu, njalo nguye ozalinika iminyaka emineni lihlezi elizweni afunga ukuba uzalinika okhokho benu, u-Abrahama, u-Isaka lojakhobe.”

31 UMosi waphuma wayakwethula lamazwi kubo bonke abako-Israyeli wathi: **2** “Sengileminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi amabili yokuzalwa angisenelisi ukulikhokhela. UThixo usethe kimi, ‘Awusayi kuchapha ijodani.’ **3** UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu nguye ozachapha phambi kwenu. Uzabhubhisa lezizizwe phambi kwenu, lina lizathatha ilizwe lazo libe ngelenu. UJoshua laye uzachapha ahambe phambi wenu, njengokutsho kukaThixo. **4** UThixo uzakwenza lokho akwenza kuSihoni lo-Ogi, amakhosi ama-Amori, ababhubhisa wabatshabalalisa lamazwe abo. **5** UThixo uzabanikela kini, lina-ke kufanele lenze lokho engililaye khona. **6** Qinani libe lesibindi. Lingesabi lithithibale ngenxa yabo, ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uhamba lani, kayikulitshiya njalo

kayikulifulathela.” **7** Ngakho uMosi wasebiza uJoshua wasesithi kuye phambi kwakhe wonke u-Israyeli, “Qina njalo iba lesibindi, ngoba kumele uhambe lalabantu kulelolizwe uThixo afunga kubokhokho babo ukubanika, njalo uzamele ubabele lona ubahlukanisele libe yilifa labo. **8** UThixo ngokwakhe uhamba phambi kwakho njalo uzakuba lawe; kasoze akutshiye loba akufulatehe. Ungesabi; ungapheli amandla.” **9** UMosi wawuloba phansi umthetho wawuqhubela abaphristi, amadodana abaLevi, ababethwala umtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo, kanye labadala bonke bako-Israyeli. **10** UMosi wasebalaya wathi, “Ekupheleni kweminyaka eyisikhombisa, ngomnyaka wokwesulelana izikwelede, ngoMkhosi weziHono, **11** ngesikhathi abako-Israyeli bonke bezokuma phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu endaweni azabe eyikhethele, lizawubala lumthetho phambi kwabo bezizwela. **12** Lizabuthanisa abantu, amadoda, abafazi labantwana, kanye labezizweni abahlala emadolobheni enu ukuze bazizwele bafunde ukwesaba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu balandele ngonanzelelo wonke amazwi alumthetho. **13** Abantwababo, abangawaziyo lumthetho, kumele bawuzwe njalo bafunde ukwesaba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ngasosonke isikhathi lisahlezi kulelilizwe elizachapha uJodani ukuba liyelithatha.” **14** UThixo wathi kuMosi, “USuku lokubhubha kwakho selusondele. Biza uJoshua lize lobabili ethenteni lokuhlangana, lapho engizamgcobela khona.” Ngakho uMosi loJoshua bahamba bayazethula ethenteni lokuhlangana. **15** UThixo wasebonakala ethenteni ngenzisa yeyezi, njalo iyezi lelo lema phezu komnyango wethente. **16** UThixo waphinda wathi kuMosi: “Ususiyaphumula laboyihlo, kanti-ke lababantu bazahugeka masinyazana bakhonze onkulunkulu balelilizwe abazangena kulo. Bazangifulathela bephule isivumelwano engasenza labo. **17** Ngalolosuku ngizabathukuthela ngibafulatehe; ngizabafihlela ubuso bami, njalo bazabuhjiswa. Bazakwehlelwa zingozu ezinenge lobunzima phezu kwabo, njalo ngalolosuku bazabuzab bathi: ‘Kambe akusikuthi ingozi lezi zisehlela kubi kangaka ngoba uNkulunkulu wethu kakho phakathi kwethu na?’ **18** Ngiqinisile ubuso bami ngizabufihla ngalolosuku ngenxa yobubi babo ngokuphendukela kwabanye onkulunkulu. **19** Lobani lingoma liyifundise abako-Israyeli ukuze bayihlabele ibe ngufakazi wami wokumelana labo. **20** Ngizakuthi sengibangeniselwa elizeleza uchago loluju, ilizwe engalithembisa okhokho babo ngesifungo, bathi nxa sebedle basutha baphumelela, bazaphendukela kwabanye onkulunkulu babakhonze, bangiphike njalo bephule isivumelwano sami. **21** Kuzakuthi nxa sebhelaselwa zingozu lobunzima, ingoma le izakuba yibufakazi bokumelana labo ngoba ayiyikukhohlakala lakuzizukulwane zabo. Ngiyakwazi okulula kubo ukuba bakwenze, lanxa ngingakabangeniselwa elizweni engibathembise lona ngesifungo.” **22** Ngakho uMosi wabhala leyongoma mhlalokho wahle wayifundisa abako-Israyeli. **23** UThixo wanika uJoshua indodana kaNuni umlayo othi “Qina ube lesibindi, ngoba uzangenisa abako-Israyeli elizweni engabathembisa lona ngesifungo, njalo mina ngokwami ngizakuba lawe.” **24** Ngemva kokuba uMosi eseqedile ukuloba okgalweni amazwi alowomthetho kusukela ekuqaleni kusiya ekucineni, **25** walaya abaLevi ababethwala umtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo wathi: **26** “Thathani iNcwadi yoMthetho le liyifake eceleni komtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, izahlala lapha njengofakazi walokho elikwenzayo. **27** Mina ngiyakwazi

ukuhlamuka kwenu lokuba ngontamozilukhuni kwenu. Nxa kade lihlamukela uThixo ngisaphila njalo ngiselani, kuzakuba nganani ukuhlamuka kwenu nxa sengifile! **28** Buthanisani phambi kwami bonke abadala bezizwana zenu kanye lezikhulu zenu zonke ukuze ngethule lamazwi bezizwela nginxuse izulu lomhlaba ukuba kufakaze ububi babo. **29** Ngoba ngiyakwazi ukuthi nxa ngingasekho sengifile lizaxhwalala liphambuke endleleni engililaye yona. Ensukwini ezizayo, lizawelwa yingozi ngoba lizakwenza ububi phambi kukaThixo limvuse ulaka ngemisebenzi emibi yezandla zenu.” **30** Ngakho uMosi wawaphinda amazwi engoma leyo kusukela ekuqaleni kusiya ekuphetheni ibandla lonke lako-Israyeli lilalele:

32 “Lalelani, we mazulu, ngizakhuluma, zwana, we mhlaba, amazwi onmlomo wami. **2** Akuthi imfundiso yami inethe njengezulu kuthi amazwi ami ehle njengamazolo, njememifefezo etshanini obutsha, njengezulu elinengi phezu kwamahlumela. **3** Ngizaliphakamisa ibizo likaThixo. Yebo dumisani ubukhulu bukaNkulunkulu wethu! **4** UliDwala, imisebenzi yakhe iphelele, njalo zonke izindlela zakhe zilungile. UNkulunkulu othembekileyo ongenzi okubi, uqotho njalo ulungile yena. **5** Sebenze okubi phambi kwakhe; balihlazo kabase bantwabakhe, kodwa isizukulwane esixhwalileyo lesingaqondanga. **6** Yiyonale na indlela yokubonga kwenu uThixo, lina ziwula zabantu abangelakuhlakanipha? KasuYihlo, uMdali wenu, owalenzayo njalo owalibumbayo na? **7** Khumbulani insuku zakudala; likhumbule izizukulwane zasendulo. Buza uyihlo yena uzakutshela, abadala benu, njalo bazakuchasisela. **8** Kwathi oPhezukonke esephe izizwe ilifa lazo, eselwahlukanisile uluntu, walufakela imingcele, kusiya ngenani lamadodana ka-Israyeli. **9** Ngoba isabelo sikaThixo ngabantu bakhe, yjakhobe yisabelo sakhe esikhethiweyo. **10** Wamfica elizwini eliyinkangala, indawo engatheli lutho njalo elodlame. Wamvikela, wamonga; wamsingatha njengegugu lakhe, **11** njengokhozi lunyakazisa isidleke salo, beselundiza phezu kwamachwane alo, lwelule amaphiko alo ukuwagola, luwathwale ngamaphiko alo. **12** Nguye yedwa uThixo owamkhokhelayo; kungekho unkulunkulu wezizweni owayelaye. **13** Wamkhawayo engqoneni yelizwe wamondla ngezithelo zeganga. Wamondla ngolujulu olwaluvela edwaleni, langamafutha aphuma ezingoxweni zeliwa, **14** lezankefu langochago oluvela emihlambini yenkomo leyezimvu; lamazinyane anonisiweyo ezimvu lembuzi, lenqama zekhethele zaseBhashani, kanye lengqoloyi elezinhlamvu ezinhle. Wanatha igazi eliphuphumayo lesithelo samavini. **15** UJeshuruni wazimuka watshakala; esesuthi ukudla, wakhuluphala waba butshelezi. Wamlahla uNkulunkulu owamdalayo waliphika iDwala uMsindisi wakhe. **16** Bambangela ubukhwele ngabonkulunkulu babo bezizweni bambhukuthelisa ngezithombe zabo ezinengekayo. **17** Benza imihlatshelo kuwo amadimoni, wona angasiNkulunkulu, onkulunkulu ababengazange babazi, onkulunkulu ababesanda kuvela, onkulunkulu ababengakhonzwa ngoyihlo. **18** Walihlamukela iDwala, elinguyihlo; wakhohlwa uNkulunkulu owakuzalayo. **19** UThixo wakubona lokhu wabafulathela ngoba wathukuthelisa ngamadodana lamadodakazi akhe. **20** ‘Ngizabufihla ubuso bami kubo,’ watsho uThixo, ‘ngize ngibone ukuthi bazaphetha ngani; ngoba bayisizukulwana esixhwalileyo abantwana abangathembekanga. **21** Bangenza ngaba lobukhwele ngalokho okwakungasinkulunkulu njalo

banghukuthelisa ngezithombe zabo ezingasizi lutho. Ngizabavusele umhawu ngesizwe esingebantu balutho; ngibazondise ngesizwe esingazwisisiyo. **22** Ngoba umlilo usulunyathiswe yikhukuthela kwami, wona otshisa ujule uze uyethinta ukufa ngaphansi. Uzahangula udle umhlaba kanye lesivuno sawo uthungele lezinsika zezintaba. (Sheol **h7585**) **23** Ngizabehlisela izigigaba, imitshoko yami iphelele phezu kwabo. **24** Ngizabathumela inkengane eqeda amandla, izifo ezibhubhisayo lomkhuhlane otshabalalisayo; ngizabathumela amazinyo abukhali ezinyamazana zeganga, ubuthi bezinhlanguwane ezihuqezelayo emhlabathini. **25** Ezindleleni inkemba izabaswela abantwana, emizini kuzabusa uchuku. Amadodana lamadodakazi azabhujiswa aphele, abantwana abancinyane kanye lamadoda alenwele ezimhlophe. **26** Ngithe ngizabachitha ngisuse imbali yabo bakhohlakale emhlabeni, **27** kodwa ngesaba ukweyisa kwesitha, funa isitha singezwisisi besesithi, “Isandla sethu sinqobile, njalo uThixo kakwenzanga konke lokhu.” **28** Bayisizwe esingelangondo, akukho ukuqedisisa kubo. **29** Ngabe kodwa bahlakaniphile njalo bezwisise lokhu, babe lokuqedisisa ukuthi sizakuba yini isiphetho sabo! **30** Kungenzeka njani ukuthi umuntu oyedwa axotshane lenkulungwane, loba ababili basukele izinkulungwane ezilitshumi zibaleke na, ngaphandle kokuthi iDwala labo nxa labathengisa; langaphandle kokuthi uThixo wabo esebhlanekela? **31** Ngoba elabo idwala alinjengelethu iDwala, njengoba lezitha zethu zivuma. **32** Iwayini labo livela esivini saseSodoma lamemasimini aseGomora. Amagrebisi abo agcwele itshifu, lamaxha awo amunyo. **33** Iwayini labo liyibuthi bezinyoka, ubuhlungu obubulalayo bezinhlanguwane. **34** ‘Kambe lokhu angikugodlana na ngakugcikelela eziphaleni zami na? **35** Ukuphindisela ngokwami; ngizabuyisela. Ngesikhathi esifaneleyo unyawo lwabo luzatshela; usuku lwabo lokubhujiswa luseduze, ukuchitheka kwabo kubalanda ngesiqubu.’ **36** UThixo uzakwahlulela abantu bakhe, abe lizwelo ezincekweni zakhe lapho esebona amandla abo ephela njalo kakho ozasala, isigqili loba okhululekileyo. **37** Uzakuthi: ‘Kanti bangaphi onkulunkulu babo, lelodwala ababephephela kulo, **38** onkulunkulu abadla amafutha emihlatshelo yabo njalo banatha iwayini elingumnikelo wokunathwayo kwabo? Kabaphakame balincedisel! Kabaliphe umthunzi wokuphephela! **39** Angithi liyazibonela ukuthi Mina ngiNguye! Kakho omunye unkulunkulu ngaphandle kwami. Ngiyabhubhisa njalo ngiyaphilisa. Ngilimizile njalo ngizelapha, kakho ongaphunyuka esandleni sami. **40** Ngiphakamisela isandla sami ezulwini ngithi: Njengoba ngeqiniso ngiphila nini lanini, **41** nxa ngilola inkemba yami ephazimayo lesandla sami siyibamba ekwehluleni, ngizaphindisela kuzozonke izitha zami, ngiphindisele kulabo abangizondayo. **42** Imitshoko yami izagava igazi, kanti inkemba izakudla enyameni: igazi labalo ababalawayo labathunjwayo, amakhanda alabo abangabakhokheli bezitha.’ **43** Jabulani, lina zizwe, kanye labantu bakhe, ngoba uzaphindisela igazi lezincedu zakhe, uzaphindisela ezitheni zakhe, njalo enzele ilizwe lakhe labantu bakhe indlela yokubuyisana.” **44** UMosi weza loJoshuwa indodana kaNuni wethula wonke amazwi engoma le abantu bonke besizwa. **45** UMosi wathi eqeda ukuwethula lamazwi phambi kwabo bonke abako-Israyeli, **46** wathi kubo, “Alondolozeni ezinhliziyweni zenu wonke lamazwi engiwethule phambi kwenu ngesifungo lamuhla, ukuze libe lakho ukubalaya abantwabenu ukuba bawalalele

ngonanzelelo amazwi alo umthetho. **47** Akusimazwi alula nje kini, ayikuphila kwenu. Ngala amazwi lizaphila isikhathi eside elizweni eselengena kulo lichapha uJodani ukuba lilithathe libe ngelenu.” **48** Ngalolosuku uThixo watshele uMosi wathi, **49** “Khwela uye okhahlamba lwezintaba zase-Abharimi eNtabeni yaseNebho kwelamaMowabi, ngaphetsheya kweJerikho, ukuze ubone iKhenani, ilizwe engilinka abako-Israyeli ukuba balithathe libe ngelabo. **50** Phezu kwaleyontaba okhwele phezu kwayo uzakufa umbelwe uye kubokhokho bakho njengoba u-Aroni laye wafela entabeni yaseHori wembelwa kwabakibo. **51** Lokhu kungenxa yokuthi lina lobabili lalahlathemba lenu kimi phambi kwabako-Israyeli emachibini aseMeribha Khadeshi, eNkangala yaseZini langenxa yokuthi alizange lime ngobungcwele bami phambi kwabako-Israyeli. **52** Ngenxa yalokho, ilizwe uzalibonela kude, awusoze ungene elizweni esengilinka abako-Israyeli ukuba bangene kulo.”

33 Lesi yiso isibusiso esethulwa nguMosi umuntu kaNkulunkulu kwabako-Israyeli engakafi. **2** Wathi: “UThixo wehla eSinayi njalo wakhazimula kubo ngaseSeyiri; wakhanyisa njalo kusiya eNtabeni yasePharani. Wabuya labazinkulungwane ezilishumi zabangcwele bevela eningizimu, emehlweni ezintaba zakhe. **3** Ngempela nguwe othanda abantu, bonke abangcwele basezandleni zakho. Ezinyaweni zakho bayakhothama bonke bamukele iziqondiso ezivela kuwe, **4** umthetho esawuphiwa nguMosi, inotho yebandla likajakhobe. **5** Wayeyinkosi phezu kukaJeshuruni lapho abakhokheli babantu bebuthene, ndawonye lezizwana zako-Israyeli. **6** Kaphile uRubheni njalo angafi, abesilisa bakhe bangaphunguki babebalutshwana.” **7** Lokhu wakutsho ngoJuda: “Zwana, wena Thixo wami, ukukhala kukaJuda; mlethe ebantwini bakhe. Ngezandla zakhe uvikela lokho akumeleyo. Yebo, msizwe amelane lezitha zakhe!” **8** NgoLevi wathi: “IThumimi kanye le-Urimi yakho ngokwayo inceku yakho ethembekileyo. Wamhlola eMasa; waba laye emachibini aseMeribha. **9** Wathi ngoyise lonina, ‘Angilandaba labo mina.’ Kazange akwamukele ukuthi ulabafowabo njalo kazange ananze abantwabakhe, kodwa walilondoloza ilizwi lakho wasigcina isivumelwano sakho. **10** Ufundisa amanyathelo akho kujakhobe lomthetho wakho ku-Israyeli. Unikela ngempepha phambi kwakho langeminikelo egcweleyo yokutshiswa e-alithareni. **11** Busisa bonke ubuciko bakhe, Thixo, ujabule ngomsebenzi wezandla zakhe. Babhubhise labo abamvukelayo; zitshaye izitha zakhe zingaphindi zimvukele.” **12** NgoBhenjamini wathi: “Yekelani othandekayo kaThixo aphumule kuye evikelekile, ngoba umvikela ilanga lonke, kanti njalo lowo uThixo amthandayo uphumula emahlombe akhe.” **13** NgoJosefa wathi: “Sengathi uThixo angabusisa umhlaba wakhe ngamazolo aligugu avela phezulu ezulwini langamanzi ajulileyo ageleza ngaphansi; **14** langobuhle obuyingqala obulethwa lilanga kanye lokucoleka okungalethwa yinyanga; **15** lezipho zekhethelelo zasezintabeni zendulo lokuthela kwezithelo zamaqqa emi nini lanini; **16** langezipho eziyingqala zomhlaba lokugcwala kwawo lozwelo lwakhe yena wayeseisixukwini esivuthayo. Konke lokhu akube sekhanda likaJosefa, ebunzini lobuso benkosana phakathi kwabafowabo. **17** Ebukhosini unjengenkunzi ecane elizibulo; impondo zakhe zinjengezenyathi. Ngazo uzagweba abhuqe izizwe, aze agwebwe lalezo ezisemaphethelweni omhlaba. Banjalo abezinkulungwane zamatshumi baka-Efrayimi; banjalo abezinkulungwane zikaManase.” **18** NgoZebhuluni wathi:

“Jabula, Zebhuluni, ekuphumeni kwakho, lawe wena, Isakhari, emathenteni akho. **19** Bazabizela abantu ezintabeni khonale banikele imihlatshelo yabo yokulunga; bazakudla baminze ngobunengi bokusolwandle ngawo amagugu afihlakele etshebetshebeni.” **20** NgoGadi wathi: “Ubusisiwe lowo oqhelisa umbuso kaGadi! UGadi uhla khona njengesilwane, edlithiza engalwani loba ekhanda. **21** Wazikhethela umhlaba omuhle okwamagama waba ngowakhe; isabelo somkhokheli sagcinelwa yena. Kwathi ekuhlanganeni kwabakhokheli babantu, wakwenza lokho okufunwa nguThixo olungileyo, kanye lokwahlulela kwakhe kwabako-Israyeli.” **22** NgoDami wathi: “UDani ngumdlwane wesilwane, otshakala uphuma eBhashani.” **23** NgoNafithali wathi: “UNafithali uyaphuphuma ngozwelo lukaThixo njalo ugcwele izibusiso zakhe; elakhe ilifa uzazusa kusiya eningizimu ngechibini.” **24** Ngo-Asheri wathi: “Obusisiweyo kakhulu kulawo wonke amadodana ngu-Asheri; ababelozwelo kuye abafowabo, myekelani ageze inyawo zakhe emafutheni. **25** Amabhawudo emasangweni akho azakuba ngawensimbi lethusi njalo amandla akho azalingana insuku zakho. **26** Kakho ofana loNkulunkulu kaJeshuruni, ophezulu emazulwini ukuze akuncede kanti njalo lasemayezini ngobukhosi bakhe. **27** UNkulunkulu ongusimkade uyisiphephelo sakho, njalo ngaphansi kuzingalo ezingelakuphela. Uzazixotsha izitha phambi kwakho esithi, ‘Mbulale!’ **28** Ngakho u-Israyeli uzaphila yedwa evikelekile, umthombo kaJakhobe uvikelekile, elizweni lamabele kanye lewayini elitsha, lapho amazulu phezulu akhithizela khona amazolo. **29** Ubusisiwe wena, Oh Israyeli! Ngubani onjengawe, abantu abahlengwa nguThixo? Ulihuwa lakho lomsozi wakho njalo uyinkemba yakho ekhazimulayo. Izitha zakho zizatshotshobala phambi kwakho njalo uzazinyathela phansi zonke izindawo zabo zokukhonza eziphakemeyo.”

34 UMosi wasekhwela eNtabeni yaseNebho evelela emagcekeni eMowabi esiya phezu kwePhisiga, ngaphetsheya malungana leJerikho. Kukhona uThixo amtshengisa khona ilizwe lonke, kusukela eGilyadi kusiya kwelikaDani, **2** lonke elikaNafithali, ilizwe lika-Efrayimi lelikaManase, lonke ilizwe likaJuda kusiyafika olwandle olungentshonalanga, **3** iNegebi kanye lomhlaba wonke osuka eSogodini seJerikho, iDolobho laMalala, kusiya kude khonale eZowari. **4** Ngakho uThixo wathi kuye, “Leli yilo ilizwe engathembisa ngesifungo u-Abrahama, u-Isaka loJakhobe, lapho engathi khona, ‘Ngizalinka izizukulwane zenu.’ Ngikuvumele ukuthi ulibone ngawakho amehlo, kodwa awusoze uchaphele kulo.” **5** Ngakho uMosi inceku kaThixo wafela khonapho kwelamaMowabi, njengokwakutshiwo nguThixo. **6** Wamngcwaba eMowabi, esigodini esikhangelene leBhethi-Pheyori, kodwa kuye kube lamuhla lokhu kakho loyedwa olaziyo ingcwaba lakhe. **7** UMosi wayeseleminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi amabili ekufeni kwakhe, ikanti amehlo akhe ayesabona kuhle njalo engakaphelelwa ngamandla. **8** Abako-Israyeli bamlilela uMosi emagcekeni aseMowabi okwensuku ezingamatshumi amathathu, kwaze kwedlula insuku zokukhala lokulila. **9** UJoshuwa indodana kaNuni wayegcwele umoya wokuhlakanipha ngoba uMosi wayembeke izandla. Ngakho abako-Israyeli bamlalela njalo benza lokho uThixo ayekulaye uMosi. **10** Kusukela lapho, kakukabi lomunye njalo umphrofethi ko-Israyeli onjengoMosi, wayesaziwa nguThixo ubuso ngobuso, **11** owenza zonke lezozizimanga lezibonakaliso ayethunywe nguThixo ukuba ayezenza

eGibhithe, kuFaro lakuzo zonke izikhulu zakhe lakulo lonke ilizwe lakhe. **12** Ngoba kakho oyake atshengisele amandla amakhulu kangako loba ukwenza izezo ezesabekayo uMosi azenzayo emehlweni abo bonke abako-Israyeli.

UJoshuwa

1 Ngemva kokufa kukaMosi inceku kaThixo, uThixo wathi kuJoshuwa indodana kaNuni, umsekele kaMosi: **2** “UMosi inceku yami usefile. Ngakho-ke, wena labantu bonke laba, lungiselelani ukuchapha umfula uJodani liye elizweni esengizalinika lona, abako-Israyeli. **3** Ngizalinika zonke izindawo lapho elizanyathela khona ngezinyawo zenu njengokuthembisa engakwenza kuMosi. **4** Ilizwe lenu lizasukela enkangala yeLebhanoni lasemfuleni omkhulu uYufathe, ilizwe lonke lamaHithi, lize liyekhawula olwandle olukhulu entshonalanga. **5** Kakulamuntu ozenelisa ukumelana lani zonke insuku zokuphila kwenu. Njengoba ngangiloMosi, ngizakuba lawe; kangisoze ngikutshiye, kangisoze ngikudele. **6** Qina ube lesibindi ngenxa yokuthi uzakhokhela abantu laba ukuze bayethatha ilizwe elilifa labo engafunga kubokhokho babo ukuthi ngizabanika lona. **7** Qina ube lesibindi. Ugcine yonke imithetho owayiphiwa nguMosi inceku yami, ungaze waphambuka kuyo uye kwesokunene kumbe kwesokhohlo ukuze uphumelele kuzozonke izindawo ozakuya kuzo. **8** INCwadi yoMthetho le kayingasuki emlonyeni wakho, cabanga ngayo emini lebusuku ukuze unanzelele ukugcina konke okulotshwe kuyo. Ngokwena njalo uzaphumelela. **9** Angikulayanga na? Qina ube lesibindi, ungethuki njalo ungalahlali ithemba, ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho uzakuba lawe laba kungaphi lapho oya khona.” **10** Ngakho-ke uJoshuwa walaya iziphathamanda zabantu wathi: **11** “Dabulani phakathi kwezihonqo litshele abantu ukuthi, ‘Lungisani imiphako yenu. Ensukwini ezintathu kusukela lamhla lizachapha uJodani lapha ukuze lingene liyethatha ilizwe uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona ukuba libe ngelenu!” **12** UJoshuwa wathi kwabakoRubheni, labakoGadi lengxenye yezizwana sikaManase, **13** “Khumbulani umlayo uMosi inceku kaThixo alinika wona owokuthi: ‘UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzaliphumusa ngokulinika ilizwe leli.’ **14** Amakhosikazi enu, abantwabenu lezifuyo zenu zingahlala elizweni elalinikwa nguMosi empumalanga yeJodani, kodwa ibutho lenu lonke, lihlome liphelele, kumele lichaphe ngaphambi kwabafowenu. Kuzamele lincedise abafowenu, **15** uThixo aze abaphumuze, njengalokho alenzele khona lina, labo baze bathathe ilizwe lelo uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu abanika lona. Ngemva kwalokho selingabuyela liyehlala elizweni lenu, uMosi inceku kaThixo alinika lona ngempumalanga yeJodani.” **16** Baphendula uJoshuwa bathi, “Konke osilaya khona sizakwenza, lalapho osithuma khona sizahamba. **17** Njengalokhu salalela uMosi ngokupheleleyo, lawe sizakulalela. Sifisa ukuthi uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho abe lawe njengoba wayeloMosi. **18** Yiloba ngubani ohlamukela ilizwi lakho njalo engalaleli lokho okutshoyo, lalokho oyabe ukulaya, kumele abulawe. Kumele uqine ube lesibindi!”

2 UJoshuwa indodana kaNuni wasethumela inhlozi ezimbili ngasese zisuka eShithima. Wathi kuzo, “Hambani liyehlola ilizwe lakhona, ikakhulu iJeriko.” Ngakho zahamba zayangena endlini yesifebe esithiwa nguRahabi, zahlala khona. **2** Inkosi yaseJeriko yatshelwa ukuthi “Khangela! Abanye abantu bako-Israyeli bafike lapha ebusuku ukuzohlola ilizwe lethu.” **3** Ngakho inkosi yaseJeriko yathumela ilizwi kuRahabi yathi, “Khupha amadoda angene endlini yakho, ngoba alande ukuzohlola ilizwe lonke.” **4** Kodwa

owesifazane wayethethe amadoda womabili wawafihla. Wasesithi, “Liqiniso amadoda afikile kimi, kodwa bengingazi ukuthi abevela ngaphi. **5** Kusihlwa, sesifikile isikhathi sokuvala isango ledolobho, amadoda asuke azihambela. Kangikwazi ukuthi aqonde ngaphi. Axhumeni masinyane. Engxenye lingawafica.” **6** (Kodwa wayebakhweze phezu kophahla wabafihla ngaphansi kwezinqwaba zesikhusa ayesichaye ophahleni). **7** Ngakho amadoda aphuma ijumo elandela inhlozi emgwaqweni oya ezibukweni leJodani, njalo athi esanda kuphuma isango lavalwa. **8** Inhlozi zathi zingakalali ngalobobusuku, wakhwela phezu kophahla **9** wasesithi kuzo, “Ngiyazi ukuthi uThixo uselinike lelilizwe lokuthi sonke sesehlelwe yikwesabo okukhulu ngenxa yenu, okwenza ukuthi bonke abahlala kulelilizwe babelomhedehede wokulesaba. **10** Sesizwile ukuthi uThixo walenzela amanzi oLwandle Olubomvu atsha ngesikhathi liphuma eGibthite, lalokho elakwenza kuSihoni lo-Ogi amakhosi amabili ama-Amori empumalanga yeJodani elawatshaya lawaqothula. **11** Sathi sizakuba lokho inhliziyi zethu zahle zaphela amandla njalo wonke umuntu kazabe esaba lesibindi ngenxa yenu ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu unguNkulunkulu opezulu ezulwini laphansi emhlabeni. **12** Ngakho-ke ngicela ukuthi lifunge kimi ngoThixo ukuthi lizakuba lomusa emulini yami ngoba lami ngitshengise umusa kini. **13** Nginikani isiqiniseko sokuthi lizaphephisa impilo kababa lomama, abanewethu labodadewethu labo bonke abangababo, njalo lizasisindisa ekufeni.” **14** Amadoda amthembisa athi, “Ukuphila kwethu yikuphila kwenu! Ungayekela ukuveza lokho esikwenzayo sizakwenza umusa lokwethemba lapho uThixo esesipha ilizwe.” **15** Ngakho-ke wabehlisela phansi ngentambo baphuma ngefasitela kalokho indlu ayehlala kuyo yayingumduli munye lalowo owawugombolozele idolobho. **16** Wayethe kubo, “Qondani emaqaqeni ukwenzela ukuthi abaxhuma umzila wenu bangaze balifika. Licatshe khonale okwensuku ezintathu baze baphenduke beseliqhubeka ngendlela yenu.” **17** Amadoda athi kuye, “Isifungo osifungise sona sizakuba yize **18** ngaphandle kokuthi nxa sesingena kulelilizwe sifce ubophele leliqhele elibomvu ewindini osikhuphe ngalo, njalo usulethe uyihlo lonyoko, abafowenu lemuli yakho yonke endlini yakho. **19** Nxa umuntu angaphuma phandle kwendlu yakho abesisiya esitaladeni, igazi lakhe lizakuba sekhandla lakhe; kawusoze ube ngumlandu wethu. Kuye wonke oyabe ephakathi kwendlu kanye lawe, igazi lakhe lizakuba sekhandla lethu nxa angavele athintwe. **20** Kodwa ungavele uveze lokhu esikwenzayo, sizabe sesikhululwe esifungweni osifungise sona.” **21** Waphendula wathi, “Ngiyavuma, kakube njengokutsho kwenu.” Ngakho wavalelisana labo basebezihambela. Wasebophela iqhele elibomvu ewindini. **22** Bathi besuka lapho baqonda emaqaqeni lapho abahlala khona okwensuku ezintathu ababebaxhuma baze badela ukubadinga emgwaqweni wonke, basebebuyela bengababonanga. **23** Ngakho-ke amadoda womabili aphindela emuva. Ehla emaqaqeni, achapha umfula, afika kuJoshuwa indodana kaNuni amthshela konke okwakwenzakele kuwo. **24** Athi kuJoshuwa, “UThixo ngeqiniso uphe ilizwe lonke ezandleni zethu; bonke abantu bayathuthumela ngokwesaba, ngenxa yethu.”

3 Ekuseni kakhulu uJoshuwa labo bonke abako-Israyeli basuka eShithima baqonda eJodani lapho abamisa khona izihonqo zabo bengakachaphi. **2** Ngemva kwensuku ezintathu iziphathamanda zangena phakathi kwezihonqo, **3** zinika

imilayo ebantwini zisithi, “Lapho libona umtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu labaphristi abangabaLevi belithwele kuzamele litshiye izindawo zenu lililandele. **4** Ngakho lizakwazi ukuthi lilandele yiphi indlela, njengoba lingakaze libe kuwonalo umango. Kodwa kumele ligcine ibanga elingaba yizingalo eziyinkulungwane ezimbili phakathi kwenu lomtshokotsho; lingasondeli phansi kwalo.” **5** UJoshuwa wathi ebantwini, “Zihlambululeni ngoba kusasa uThixo uzakwenza izimanga phakathi kwenu.” **6** UJoshuwa wathi kubaphristi, “Thathani umtshokotsho wesivumelwano beselikhokhela phambi kwabantu.” Ngakho bawuthatha basebhabha phambi kwabo. **7** UThixo wasesithi kuJoshuwa, “Lamhla ngizaqalisa ukukuphakamisa emehlweni abako-Israyeli bonke ukuze babone ukuthi ngilawe njengoba ngangiloMosi. **8** Tshela abaphristi abathwala umtshokotsho wesivumelwano uthi, ‘Lingafika okhunjinjini lwamanzi kajodani, lingene liyekuma phakathi komfula.’” **9** UJoshuwa wathi kwabako-Israyeli, “Wozani lapha lizolalela amazwi kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **10** Lokhu yikho okuzakwenza ukuthi lazi ukuthi uNkulunkulu ophilayo uphakathi kwenu njalo ngempela uzaxotsha phambi kwenu amaKhenani, amaHithi, amaHivi, amaPherizi, amaGigashi, ama-Amori lamaJebusi. **11** Khangelani, umtshokotsho wesivumelwano sebnosi womhlaba wonke lizangena phakathi kweJodani phambi kwenu. **12** Ngakho-ke, khethani amadoda alitshumi lambili esuka ezizwaneni zako-Israyeli, oyedwa esizwaneni esisodwa. **13** Kuzakuthi masinyanzana abaphristi abathwele umtshokotsho kaThixo, iNkosi yomhlaba wonke, sebengene eJodani, amanzi omfula ogelezayo azakwehlukani swa abesima abe yinqwaba.” **14** Ngakho kwathi abantu sebesuke ezihonqweni ukuze bayechapha uJodani, abaphristi ababethwele umtshokotsho wesivumelwano bahamba phambili. **15** UJodani wayehlala egcwele ngezikhathi zonke zokuvuna. Kukanti kwathi abaphristi ababethwele umtshokotsho befika eJodani inyawo zabo zazithinta amanzi, **16** amanzi ayevelela ngaphezulu ema ukugeleza. Abuthana aba yinqwaba ema khatshana laphaya, malungana ledolobho elithiwa yi-Adamu duzane leZarethani kukanti amanzi ayegelezela phansi ngekuyeni olwandle lwe-Arabha (okutsho uLwandle Lwetswayi) ahle ehlanisa ngokuphelelyo. Ngakho-ke abantu bachaphela ngaphetsheya malungana leJerikho. **17** Abaphristi ababethwele umtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo bema bathi mpo emhlabathini owomileyo phakathi kweJodani, ngesikhathi abantu bonke bako-Israyeli bechapha isizwe sonke saze saqeda ukuchapha emhlabathini owomileyo.

4 Kwathi isizwe sonke sesimchaphile uJodani, uThixo wathi kuJoshuwa, **2** “Khetha amadoda alitshumi lambili phakathi kwabantu, yileyo imele isizwana sako-Israyeli, **3** ubusubatshelela ukuthi bathathe amatshe alitshumi lambili phakathi laphakathi kweJodani kusukela lapho okwakumi khona abaphristi, beseliwathwala liwabeke endaweni lizalala kuyo lamuhla ebusuku.” **4** Ngakho-ke uJoshuwa wabiza amadoda alitshumi lambili ayewakhethe phakathi kwabako-Israyeli, eyodwa ivela esizwaneni. **5** Wasesithi kuwo, “Hambani phambi komtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu liye phakathi laphakathi kweJodani. Omunye lomunye wenu kumele athwale ilitshe ehlo mbe lakhe, kusiya ngenani lezizwana zako-Israyeli, **6** ukuze kube luphawu phakathi kwenu. Kwelizayo nxa abantwana benu belibuzisa besithi, ‘Kanti amatshe la atshoni?’ **7** Libatshele ukuthi ukugeleza

kweJodani kwamiswa phambi komtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo. Kwathi lapho umtshokotsho uchapha uJodani, amanzi omfula uJodani ehlukaniswa. Amatshe la azakuba yisukhumbuzo ebantwini bako-Israyeli nini lanini.” **8** Ngakho-ke abako-Israyeli benza njengokulaya kukaJoshuwa. Bathatha amatshe alitshumi lambili phakathi laphakathi kweJodani, kusiya ngenani lezizwana zako-Israyeli, njengokulaya kukaJoshuwa nguThixo; basebewathwalele ezihonqweni zabo lapho abafika bawabeka khona phansi. **9** UJoshuwa wamisa amatshe alitshumi lambili ayekade ephakathi laphakathi kweJodani, endaweni lapho abaphristi ababethwele umtshokotsho wesivumelwano abafika bema khona njalo lokhu ekhonapho kuze kube lamhlanje. **10** Abaphristi ababethwele umtshokotsho baqhubeka bemi phakathi kweJodani abantu baze baqeda konke uThixo ayekulaye uJoshuwa, njengokuqondiswa kukaJoshuwa nguMosi. Abantu bedlula ngokuphangisa **11** njalo bathi bonke sebechaphile, umtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo labaphristi beza kwelinye icele abantu bekhangele. **12** Amadoda akoRubheni, akoGadi lengxenyi yesizwana sakoManase achapha ehlo mile phambi kwabako-Israyeli njengokuqondisa kukaMosi. **13** Abantu abaphose bafike kunkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane ababehloze impi bachapha phambi kukaThixo besiya emagekeni eJerikho ukuyakulwa impi. **14** Ngalololanga uThixo waphakamisa uJoshuwa emehlweni abo bonke abako-Israyeli; njalo bamhlonipha okwempilo yakhe yonke, njengoba babehloniphe uMosi. **15** UThixo wathi kuJoshuwa, **16** “Laya abaphristi abathwele umtshokotsho woBafakazi bakhuphuke baphume eJodani.” **17** Ngakho uJoshuwa walaya abaphristi wathi, “Phumani phakathi kweJodani.” **18** Abaphristi baphuma emfuleni bethwele umtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo. Bonela ukunyatshela umhlabathi owomileyo amanzi eJodani ahle abuyela endaweni yawo, ageleza okomfula ogcweleyo njengakuqala. **19** Ngelanga letshumi enyangueni yakuqala abantu basuka eJodani bayamisa izihonqo eGiligali emngceleni ongempumalanga yeJerikho. **20** UJoshuwa wamisa amatshe alitshumi ayethethwe phakathi kweJodani eGiligali. **21** Wakhuluma kwabako-Israyeli wathi, “Kwelizayo nxa izizukulwane zenu zingabuzisa abazali bazo zisithi, ‘Amatshe la atshoni?’” **22** Kumele libatshele ukuthi ‘Abako-Israyeli bachapha uJodani emhlabathini owomileyo!’ **23** Ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu womisa umfula uJodani phambi kwenu laze lachapha. UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu wenza kuJodani lokho akwenza olwandle Olubomvu aze alomise phambi kwethu saze sachapha sonke. **24** Wenza lokhu ukuze abantu bonke bomhlaba bakwazi ukuthi isandla sikaThixo silamandla lokuthi lihlale limesaba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu.”

5 Kwathi amakhosi ama-Amori ayebusa entshonalanga kweJodani lamakhosi wonke amaKhenani ayebusa ezigcawini ezisekela ulwandle esizwa ukuthi uThixo wayomise njani uJodani phambi kwabako-Israyeli baze bachapha, inhliziyi zawo zathuthumela aswela izibindi zokumelana labako-Israyeli. **2** Ngalesosikhathi uThixo wathi kuJoshuwa, “Khanda izingqamu ezibukhali ubususoka abako-Israyeli njalo.” **3** Ngakho-ke uJoshuwa wakhandla izingqamu ezibukhali wasesoka abako-Israyeli eGibhiya Haralothi. **4** Lokhu wakwenzela ukuthi: Bonke labo abaphuma eGibhithe, wonke amadoda ayengabuthelwa empini afela enkangala esemangweni wokusuka eGibhithe.

5 Bonke abantu abaphumayo babesokiwe, kodwa bonke abantu ababazalelwe enkangala phakathi kohambo lokusuka eGibhithe babengasokwanga. 6 Abako-Israyeli babezulazule enkangala okweminyaka engamatshumi amane, amadoda wonke ayefanele ukubuthelwa empini ngesikhathi esuka eGibhithe aze afa, njengoba engazange amlalele uThixo. Ngoba uThixo wayefunge waqinisa kubo wathi ayengasoze alibone ilizwe ayelithembise okhokho babo ukuthi bazalnikwa, ilizwe eligeleza uchago loluju. 7 Ngakho wondla amadodana ezikhundleni zawo, njalo yiwo la asokwa nguJoshua. Ayelokhu engakasokwa ngoba kungazange kube lethuba lokubasoka endleleni. 8 Kwathi isizwe sonke sesisokiwe, sahlala ezihonqweni baze baphola. 9 UThixo wasesithi kuJoshua, “Lamuhla ngisuse ihlazo laseGibhithe kini.” Yikho indawo leyo lokhu ibizwa ngokuthi yiGiligali kuze kube lamhlanje. 10 Kusihlwa ngelanga letshumi lane kuleyo nyanga, bathi belokhu besamisa izihonqo zabo eGiligali emagcekeni eJerikho, abako-Israyeli bagcina iPhasika. 11 Ngokusa olwalandela usuku lwePhasika badla okunye kwesivuno sabo ababekuvunile: isinkwa esingelamvubelo lamabele akhazingiweyo. 12 Imana yema ukukhithika ngelanga elalandela lelo abadla ngalo ukudla okwakuvela emhlabathini; ngakho kwakungasela mana yabako-Israyeli, kodwa ngalowomnyaka badla okwelizwe leKhenani. 13 Kwathi uJoshua esesondele eJerikho, wakhangele wabona indoda eyayimi phambi kwakhe ilomhedla esandleni sayo, uJoshua wasondela kuyo wayibuza wathi “Ungowakithi kumbe ungowezitha zethu?” 14 Yaphendula yathi “Angikho ndawo, kodwa njengomlawuli webutho likaThixo sengifikile.” UJoshua wathi mbo phansi ngobuso edumisa waseyibuza esithi, “Kambe iNkosi yami ilombiko bani wenceku yayo?” 15 Umlawuli wamabutho kaThixo waphendula wathi, “Khulula izicathulo zakho ngoba indawo omi kuyo ingcwele.” UJoshua wenza njalo.

6 IJerikho yayivalwe ngci ngenxa yabako-Israyeli. Akulamuntu owayephuma loba owayengena. 2 Ngakho uThixo wathi kuJoshua, “Khangele, senginikele iJerikho, inkosi yayo kanye lamabutho ayo ezandleni zakho. 3 Hambani libhode idolobho kanye lamadoda wonke ahlomileyo. Kwenzeni lokhu okwensuku eziyisithupha. 4 Abaphristi abayisikhombisa kabathwale amacilongo enziwe ngempondo zenqama phambi komtshokotsho wesivumelwano. Ngosuku lwesikhombisa libhode idolobho kasikhombisa, abaphristi bevuthela amacilongo. 5 Nxa lingabezwa sebethshaya amacilongo bedonsa, abantu bonke kabahlabe umkhosi; umduli wedolobho uzadilika abantu bahle bangene, yilowo lawo aqonde phambili.” 6 Ngakho uJoshua indodana kaNuni wabiza abaphristi wathi kubo, “Thathani umtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo kuthi abaphristi abayisikhombisa bahambe phambi kwawo bethwele amacilongo.” 7 Waselaya abantu esithi, “Akuhanjwe! Hambani libhode idolobho, amabutho ahlomileyo ehamba phambi komtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo.” 8 Kwathi uJoshua esekhulume labantu, abaphristi abayisikhombisa ababethwele amacilongo ayisikhombisa phambi kukaThixo bahamba phambili bevuthela amacilongo, njalo umtshokotsho wesivumelwano ubalandela. 9 Amabutho ayehlomile ahamba phambi kwabaphristi ababevuthela amacilongo, njalo amabutho angemuya ayelandela umtshokotsho. Ngasosonke lesisikhathi amacilongo ayekhala. 10 Kodwa uJoshua wayelaye abantu wathi, “Lingaze lahlaba umkhosi wempini,

lingakhwezi amazwi enu, lingakhulumu lutho kuze kufike isikhathi engizalitshele ngaso ukuthi limemeze. Beselihlabake umkhosi.” 11 Ngakho umtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo bawuthwala babhoda lawo idolobho kanye. Abantu babuyela ezihonqweni bayalala. 12 UJoshua wavuka kusecele ngelanga elilandelayo njalo abaphristi bathwala umtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo. 13 Abaphristi abayisikhombisa ababethwele amacilongo ayisikhombisa bahamba phambili bekhokhele umtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo, bevuthela amacilongo. Amadoda ayehlomile ayehamba phambi kwabo njalo amabutho angemuya ayelandela umtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo, kukantike amacilongo aqhubeka ekhala. 14 Ngosuku lwesibili babhoda idolobho kanye basebebuyela ezihonqweni. Bakwenza lokhu okwensuku eziyisithupha. 15 Ngelanga lesikhombisa bavuka emadabukakusa babhoda idolobho kasikhombisa ngendlela efanayo, ngaphandle kokuthi ngalelologa babhoda kasikhombisa. 16 Ngokwesikhombisa, kwathi abaphristi bekhalisa amacilongo, uJoshua walaya abantu wathi, “Memezani! Ngoba uThixo useliphile idolobho. 17 Idolobho lakho konke okukulo kuzakwahlukaniselwa uThixo. URahabi isifebe lalabo ahlala labo endlini yakhe yiyo abazasindiswa ngenxa yokuthi wafihla inhlozi esazithumayo. 18 Kodwa xwayani izinto ezahlukaniselwe ukubhujiswa, ukwenzela ukuthi lingazehlisele ukubhujiswa ngokuthatha okunye kwalezozinto. Lokho kungenza ukuthi izihonqo zako-Israyeli zehlele luhlupho njalo zintshabalaliswe. 19 Sonke isiliva, igolide lezinto zonke ezizwe ngethusi langensimbi ezingcwele ziletheni kuThixo njalo kumele zifakwe esipheleni sakhe sengcebo.” 20 Kwathi amacilongo ekhala abantu bahlaba umkhosi; ekukhaleni kwecilongo, abantu sebehlaba umkhosi omkhulu, umduli wabhidlika, ngakho wonke umuntu wangena phakathi balithatha idolobho. 21 Idolobho balehlukanisela uThixo basebecakaza ngenkamba yonke into ephilayo eyayihlala kulo, amadoda labesifazane, abatsha labadala, inkomo, izimvu labobabhemi. 22 UJoshua wakhuluma emadodeni amabili ayeke athunywa njengezinhloli zelizwe wathi, “Yanini endlini yesifebe liyesikhupha lezihlobo zaso zonke ligcwalise isifungo elasenza kuso.” 23 Ngakho amadoda ayahambe ukuyahlola angena akhupha uRahabi, uyise lonina labanewabo lazozonke izihlobo zakhe. Bakhupha imuli yonke bayifaka endaweni eyayingaphandle kwezihonqo zako-Israyeli. 24 Basebethshisa idolobho lonke lakho konke okwakuphakathi kwalo, kodwa befake isiliva legolide lezinto ezilungiswe ngethusi lensimbi esipheleni sengcebo yendlu kaThixo. 25 Kodwa uJoshua waphephisa uRahabi isifebe lemuli yakhe labo bonke abangabakhe ngenxa yokuthi wafihla amadoda ayethunywe nguJoshua ukuba zinhlozi eJerikho, futhi ulokhu ehlala phakathi kwabako-Israyeli kuze kube lamhlanje. 26 Ngalesosikhathi uJoshua wenza isifungo esiqinileyo esithi, “Iqalekise phambi kukaThixo indoda ezimisela ukwakha kutsha lelidolobho laseJerikho: Ngempilo yezibulo lakhe lendodana uzakwenza izisekelo; ngempilo yecinathunjana uzalungisa amasango alo.” 27 UThixo wayeloJoshua, udumo lwakhe lwanda elizweni lonke.

7 Kodwa abako-Israyeli bephula umthetho ngokuphathelane lengcebo eyayehlukaniselwe uThixo; u-Akhani indodana kaKhani, indodana kaZabhidhi, indodana kaZera, owesizwana sakoJuda, wathatha ezinye zakhona. Ngakho ulaka lukaThixo lwavutha kwabako-Israyeli. 2 UJoshua wasethumela

amadoda esuka eJerikho esiya e-Ayi eseduzane leBhethi-Aveni ngempumalanga yeBhetheli wathi kubo: “Hambani liyehlola lelolizwe.” Ngakho amadoda aphuma ayalihlola ilizwe. **3** Bathi bephindela kuJoshuwa bafika bathi, “Akudingeki ukuthi lonke ibutho liyewisana le-Ayi. Thumela amadoda azinkulungwane ezimbili kube ezintathu nje ukuze ayoyithumba njalo ungaze wadinisa ibutho lonke, ngenxa yokuthi ledolobho libantu abalutshwana.” **4** Amadoda angaba zinkulungwane ezintathu asuka ahamba kodwa ehlulwa ngamadoda e-Ayi, wona **5** abulala amadoda angamatshumi amathathu lesithupha. Baxotsha abako-Israyeli besuka esangweni ledolobho baze bayabatshiya enkwalini babulalela ekwehleni. Bathi besizwa lokhu abantu baba lokwesaba okukhulu, baphelelwa ngamandla. **6** UJoshuwa wadabula izigqoko zakhe wathi mbo phansi ngobuso phambi komtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo, wala elokhu enjalo kwise kwahlwa. Abadala bako-Israyeli labo benza njalo, basebezithela ngothuli emakhanda abo. **7** UJoshuwa wasesithi, “Maye, Thixo Wobukhosi, wabachaphiselaani ijodani labantu ukuzabanikela ezandleni zama-Amori ukuze asibhubhise? Ngabe sasuthiseka ngokuzihlalela kwelinye iphetsheya lejodani! **8** Maye, Thixo kuyini engingakutsho, njengoba u-Israyeli esebhuqwe yizitha zakhe? **9** AmaKhenani labanye abantu belizwe bazakuzwa ngalokhu besebesihanqa besule ibizo lethu emhlabeni. Pho kuyini ozakwenza ibizo lakho elikhulu kangaka na?” **10** UThixo wathi kuJoshuwa, “Sukuma. Kuyini okwenzayo uthe mbo ngobuso bakho? **11** Abako-Israyeli bonile; bephule isivumelwano sami engabalaya ukuthi basigcine. Sebethehe ezinye izinto ezahlukaniselwe mina; bebile, baqamba amanga, sebezifake empangweni yabo. **12** Yikho abako-Israyeli bengeke bamelana lezitha zabo; bayabafulathela bebaleka ngoba sebeyinto efanele ukubhujiswa. Kangisoze ngibe lani ngaphandle kokuthi lichithe lokho okwakwehlukaniselwe ukubhujiswa. **13** Hamba ungcelwise abantu. Ubatshela uthi, ‘Zingcelwiseni ukulingiselela kusasa; ngoba lokhu yikho okutshiwo nguThixo, uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli ukuthi: Lokho okwahlukaniselwe uThixo kuphakathi kwenu, lina bako-Israyeli. Kalingeke limelane lezitha zenu ngaphandle kokuba selikukhuphile. **14** Ekuseni kumele lisondeze isizwana ngesizwana. Isizwana esikhethwa nguThixo kuzamele sisondele phambili usendo ngosendo; usendo oluzakhethwa nguThixo luzasondele imuli ngemuli; imuli ezakhethwa nguThixo izasondele umuntu ngamunye. **15** Lowo ozafunyanwa elezinto ezahlukaniselwe uThixo uzatshiswa ngomlilo, lakho konke alakho. Wephule isivumelwano sikaThixo njalo wenze into elihlazo phakathi kuka-Israyeli.” **16** Kusesele ngelanga elilandelayo uJoshuwa wenza u-Israyeli wasondela ngezizwana, inkatho yadla koJuda. **17** Insendo zakoJuda zasondele, inkatho yadla abakoZera. Wasondeza insendo zakoZera ngezimuli. Inkatho yadla uZabhidi. **18** UJoshuwa wasondeza imuli kaZabhidi indoda yinye ngayinye, inkatho yadla u-Akhani indodana kaKhami, indodana kaZabhidi, indodana kaZera owesizwana sakoJuda. **19** UJoshuwa wathi ku-Akhani, “Ndodana yami, dumisa uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, umuphe udumo. Ngitshela lokho okwenzileyo, ungaze wangifihlela.” **20** U-Akhani waphendula wathi, “Liqiniso! Ngonile phambi kukaThixo, uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli. Nanku engikwenzileyo: **21** Ngathi ngibona phakathi kwempango ingubo enhle yaseBhabhiloni, lamashekeli esiliva angamakhulu amabili lomgqala wegolide olesisindo samashekeli angamatshumi

amahlanu ngakuhawukela, ngakuthatha. Ngakumbela phansi ethenteni lami, isiliva singaphansi.” **22** UJoshuwa wathuma izithunywa, zagijima zaya ethenteni lakhe, zakufumana kufihlilwe ethenteni lakhe, isiliva singaphansi. **23** Bathatha izinto ezazisethenteni, baziletha kuJoshuwa lebantwini bonke bako-Israyeli, bazichaya phambi kukaThixo. **24** UJoshuwa labo bonke abako-Israyeli bathatha u-Akhani indodana kaZera lesiliva, ingubo, lomgqala wegolide, lamadodana lamadodakazi akhe, lenkomo zakhe, obabhemi kanye lezimvu, ithente lakhe lakho konke ayelakho bakusa esiHotsheni se-Akhori. **25** UJoshuwa wathi, “Kungani usilethele uhluho olungaka? UThixo uzakwehlisela uhluho lamhlanje.” Bonke abako-Israyeli bamkhanda ngamatshe, njalo bathi sebeqedile ukukhanda labanye ngamatshe babatshisa. **26** Babuthelela inqwaba yamatshe amakhulu phezu kuka-Akhani alokhu ekhona lalamhlanje. Ukuvutha lokola lukaThixo kwahle kwaphela. Ngakho leyondawo lalamhlanje ilokhu isabizwa ngokuthi yisiGodi sika-Akhori.

8 UThixo wathi kuJoshuwa, “Ungesabi, ungalahli ithemba. Thatha ibutho lonke uhambe uyehlasela i-Ayi, ngoba senginikele inkosi yase-Ayi, abantu bayo, idolobho layo lelizwe layo ezandleni zakho. **2** Khonale uzakwenza owakwenza eJerikho lenkosini yakhona, kodwa lingazithathela impahla zonke eliyabe lizithumbile lezifuyo kube ngokwenu. Cathamani ngemva kwedolobho.” **3** Ngakho uJoshuwa lebutho lonke baphuma bayahlasela i-Ayi. Wakhetha amabutho azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu ayezingcitshi ukwedlula amanye ekulweni, wasewathuma ebusuku. **4** Wawalaya wathi, “Lalelisani, kumele licathame ngemva kwedolobho. Lingaze laya khatshana lalo. Lonke kumele lihlale liqaphela. **5** Mina labalo engizabe ngilabo sizaqhubeka siqonde edolobheni, kuthi nxa amadoda ephuma ukusihlasela njengalokho akwenza kuqala, sizawabalekela. **6** Bazaxotshana lathi size sibahugele khatshana ledolobho, ngoba bazakuthi, ‘Bayasibalekela njengalokho abakwenza kuqala.’ Ngakho nxa sesibalekela, **7** lina lizavuka lapho eliyabe licathame khona beselithumba idolobho. UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzalinikela ezandleni zenu. **8** Nxa selilithumbile idolobho, lithungeleni ngomlilo. Yenzani lokho okulaywe nguThixo. Wobani leqiniso lokuthi lilandela iziqondiso zami.” **9** UJoshuwa wasebalaya ukuthi bahambe, basebesiya endaweni okwakumele bacathame kuyo phakathi kweBhetheli le-Ayi, entshonalanga ye-Ayi kodwa uJoshuwa waqeda ubusuku lobo elabantu. **10** Ekuseni ngelanga elilandelayo uJoshuwa waqoqa amabutho akhe, kwathi yena labadala bako-Israyeli bahamba phambi kwabo besiya e-Ayi. **11** Iviyo lonke labo ayelabo lahamba laya edolobheni lafika lema phambi kwabo. Bamisa izihonqo enyakatho ye-Ayi, isigodi siphakathi kwabo ledolobho. **12** UJoshuwa wayethehe amadoda aphosa afike kunkulungwane ezinhlano wawacathamisa phakathi kweBhetheli le-Ayi entshonalanga yedolobho. **13** Benza ukuthi amabutho aye ezikhundleni zawo zonke ezaziphakathi kwezihonqo enyakatho yedolobho lendaweni yokucathamela eyayisentshonalanga yalo. Ngalobobusuku uJoshuwa waya esigodini. **14** Inkosi yase-Ayi yathi ibona lokhu yona lawo wonke amadoda akulelolobho aphanga aphuma kusesele ekuseni ukuze ayehlangana lo-Israyeli empini kweyinye indawo ekhangelane le-Arabha. Kodwa yayingazi ukuthi kwakulamabutho ayeycathamele ngemva

kwedolobho. **15** UJoshuwa labantu bonke bako-Israyeli bathambela ukubuyiselwa emuva, babalekela enkangala. **16** Wonke amadoda e-Ayi atshelwa ukuthi abaxotshe, basebexotshana loJoshuwa badonselwa khatshana ledolobho. **17** Kakukho lendoda eyodwa eyasala e-Ayi kumbe eBetheli engazanga ixotshane labako-Israyeli. **18** UThixo wasesithi kuJoshuwa, “Phakamisa umkhonto osesandleni ukhombe e-Ayi, ngenxa yokuthi idolobho leli ngizalinelwa ezandleni zakho.” Ngakho uJoshuwa wakhombela e-Ayi ngomkhonto wakhe. **19** Wathi esanda kwenza lokhu, amadoda ayecathamele ukuhlasela aphakama masinyane ezindaweni ayekuzo agijimela phambili. Angena edolobheni alithumbu, aphanga alithungela ngomlilo. **20** Amadoda e-Ayi anyemukula abona intuthu eyayisuka edolobheni iqonga emayezini kodwa aswela ukuthi azabalekela ngaphi ngoba abako-Israyeli ababebalekele enkangala basebephendukele labo ababebaxotsha. **21** Kwathi uJoshuwa labako-Israyeli bonke bebona ukuthi labo ababecatheme basebethumbe idolobho lokuthi intuthu yayiqonga emayezini ivela edolobheni, batshibilika baqalisa ukuhlasela amadoda ase-Ayi. **22** Amadoda ayecatheme lawo aphuma edolobheni abahlasela, okwenza ukuthi babe phakathi laphakathi, inxa zombili zilabako-Israyeli. Abako-Israyeli babatshaya bababhūqa akwaze kwasala muntu owaphunyukayo. **23** Kodwa bathatha inkosi yase-Ayi iphila basebeyiletha kuJoshuwa. **24** Kwathi abako-Israyeli sebeqedile ukubulala wonke amadoda ase-Ayi emageckeni enkangala lapho ababewaxotshela khona, njalo wonke esegwazwe ngenkamba, bonke abako-Israyeli babuyela e-Ayi babulala abantu bonke abakulelo dolobho. **25** Amadoda labesifazane abazinkulungwane ezilithshumi lambili bafa ngalelolanga, bonke kungabantu be-Ayi, **26** ngoba uJoshuwa kazange ehlise isandla sakhe esiphethe umkhonto ngawo baze babhujiswa bonke abantu ababehlala e-Ayi. **27** Kodwa abako-Israyeli bathatha zonke izifuyo lempango yonke eyayithunjwe kulelolobho njengokulaywa kukajoshuwa nguThixo. **28** UJoshuwa watshisa i-Ayi wayenza yaba lunxiwa oluyinqwaba, indawo engelakuhlalwa muntu kuze kube lamhlanje. **29** Walengisa inkosi yase-Ayi esigodweni wayitshiya kwaze kwaba ntambama. Ekutshoneni kwelanga uJoshuwa walaya ukuthi bethule isidumbu sayo basiphosele esangweni ledolobho. Babuthelela inqumbi yamatshe phezu kwaso, njalo lokhu kunjalo kuze kube lamhlanje. **30** UJoshuwa wasesakhela uThixo, uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli i-alithari e-Ebhali. **31** Njengokulaya okwenziwa nguMosi inceku kaThixo kwabako-Israyeli, walakha njengokulaywa okulotshwe eNcwadini yoMthetho kaMosi i-alithari lamatshe angabazwanga, okungazanga kusetshenziswe nsimbi phezu kwawo. Kulo banikela kuThixo iminikelo yokutshiswa leminikelo yokuthula. **32** Lapho, phambi kwabako-Israyeli uJoshuwa waloba ematsheni umthetho kaMosi ayewubhalile. **33** Bonke abako-Israyeli, abezizweni labayinzalo yalolizwe, labadala babo, iziphathamandla labahluleli babemi emaceleni womabili omtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaThixo bekhangelane lalabo ababelithwele, abaphristi, ababengabaLevi. Ingxenye yabantu yema phambi kwentaba yeGerizimu kwathi eyinye ingxenye yema phambi kwentaba ye-Ebhali, njengokulaya kukaMosi inceku kaThixo owayelaye ukuthi kubusiswe abantu bako-Israyeli. **34** Emva kwalokho uJoshuwa wafunda wonke amazwi omthetho, izibusiso leziqalekiso, njengokulotshwa okwenziwe eNcwadini yeMithetho. **35** Kakulalizwi elalaywa nguMosi

elingazanga lifundwe nguJoshuwa phambi kombuthano wonke wako-Israyeli kugoqela abesifazane labantwana labezizweni ababehlala phakathi kwabo.

9 Kwathi amakhosi wonke ayebusa ngentshonalanga yeJodani, layeselizweni lamaqaqa, layesewatheni lwamaqaqa angentshonalanga, layesekele uLwandle oLukhulu kusiyafika eLebhanoni, amakhosi amaHithi, ama-Amori, amaKhenani, amaPherizi, amaHivi lamaJebusi esizwa ngalezizinto **2** ahlngana ukuze alwisane uJoshuwa labako-Israyeli. **3** Kodwa kwathi ngesikhathi abantu beGibhiyoni sebezwe konke uJoshuwa ayekwenze eJeriko le-Ayi, **4** benza ubuqili: Bahamba njengamanxusa ayelabobabhemi ababethwele amasaka adabukileyo lezixingqi zewayini ezindala ezazidabuke zangcinwa. **5** Amadoda ayegqoke amanyathela ayedabukile njalo exaxelwe, begqoke lezigqoko ezigugileyo. Zonke izinkwa ababazithwele njengomphako zazomile njalo zikhuntile. **6** Baya kuJoshuwa esihonqweni seGiligali bathi kuye lakwabako-Israyeli, “Sivela elizweni elikude; ngakho yenzani isivumelwano lathi.” **7** Abako-Israyeli baphendula amaHivi bathi, “Kodwa mhlawumbe lihlala eduzane lathi, pho singasenza kanjani isivumelwano lani?” **8** Bathi kuJoshuwa “Siyizinceku zenu.” Kodwa uJoshuwa wababuzisa wathi, “Lingobani njalo livela ngaphi?” **9** Baphendula bathi, “Izinceku zakho zivela elizweni elikude njalo zikhangwe yindumela kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. Ngoba sesezwa imibiko emininzi ngaye: konke akwenza eGibhithe, **10** lakho konke akwenza emakhosini amabili ama-Amori empumalanga yeJodani, uSihoni inkosi yeHeshibhoni lo-Ogi inkosi yaseBhashani owayebusa e-Ashitharothi. **11** Abadala bethu labo bonke abakhileyo elizweni lakithi bathi kithi, “Thwalani umphako wohambo lwenu; lihambe liyehlanga labo lithi kubo, “Sizinceku zenu: yenzani isivumelwano lathi.” **12** Isinkwa sethu lesi sasifudumala ngesikhathi sisifaka emigodleni yethu sisesemakhaya ngelanga esasuka ngalo sisiza kini. Kodwa-ke khangelani ukuthi sesome njalo sakhunta njani. **13** Izixingqi lezi zewayini esazigcalisisayo zazizintsha, kodwa-ke khangelani ukuthi sezidabuke njani. Izigqoko lamanyathela ethu sekudatshulwe yibude bomango.” **14** Abako-Israyeli bahlola imiphako yabo kodwa-ke kabasabuzanga kuThixo. **15** Ngakho uJoshuwa wenza isivumelwano sokuthula labo wabavumela ukuthi bahlale, njalo abathungameli bebandla bavumelana lalokhu ngesifungo. **16** Sekwedlule insuku ezintathu benze isivumelwano lamaGibhiyoni, abako-Israyeli bezwa ukuthi lababantu babengomakhelwana, ababehlala eduzane labo. **17** Abako-Israyeli baya emadolobheni abo ayebalisa iGibhiyoni, iKhefira, iBherothi leKhiriyathi-Jeyarimi. **18** Kodwa abako-Israyeli kabazange babahlasele ngenxa yokuthi abathungameli bebandla babefunge ngoThixo, uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli. Ibandla lonke lakhonona ngabadala bebandla; **19** kodwa bona bonke baphendula bathi, “Sibanike isifungo sethu ngoThixo, uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli njalo asingeke sabathinta khathesi. **20** Lokhu yikho esizakwenza kubo: Sizabayekela bahlale, ukuze ulaka lungezi kithi ngenxa yokwephula isifungo esasenza phambi kwabo.” **21** Baqhubeka bathi, “Bayekeleni bahlale, kodwa bazakuba ngababandi benkuni labakhi bamanzi abazasebenzela uzulu wonke.” Ngakho-ke isivumelwano sabakhokheli sagcinwa. **22** UJoshuwa wabiza wonke amaGibhiyoni wathi kuwo, “Kungani

lisikhohlisile ngokuthi, ‘Sihlala khatshana lani, lina lihlala eduzane lathi kangaka?’ **23** Seliqalekisiwe: kalisoze liyekele ukuba ngababandi benkuni labakhi bamanzi lisebenzela indlu kaNkulunkulu wami.” **24** Baphendula uJoshuwa bathi, “Izinceku zakho zatshelwa mgceke ukuthi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu walaya njani inceku yakhe uMosi ukuthi alinike ilizwe lonke lokuthi litshabalalise bonke ababakhele kulo lina lingakafiki. Ngakho-ke sesabela impilo zethu ngenxa yenu, yikho okwenze senza lokhu. **25** Sesizinikele ezandleni zenu. Yenzani kithi konke elikubona kufanele njalo kuqondile kinyi.” **26** Ngakho-ke uJoshuwa wabasindisa esandleni sika-Israyeli, njalo kabasababulalanga. **27** Ngalelolanga wenza ukuthi amaGibhiyoni abe ngababandi benkuni labakhi bamanzi besebenzela uzulu njalo besebenza e-alithareni likaThixo endaweni eyayikhethwe nguThixo. Yikho abayikhona kuze kube lamhlanje.

10 U-Adoni-Zedekhi inkosi yaseJerusalema wezwa ukuthi uJoshuwa wayesethumbe i-Ayi wayitshabalalisa, njengalokho akwena eJeriko lenkosini yayo, lokuthi abantu beseGibhiyoni babenze isivumelwano sokuthula labako-Israyeli njalo sebehla labo. **2** Yena labantu bakhe besaba kakhulu ngalokhu, ngenxa yokuthi iGibhiyoni kwakulidolobho eliqakatheke kakhulu, njengeliyane lamadolobho esikhosini; lalikhulu kule-Ayi, njalo amadoda alo wonke ayezingwazi ezilamandla. **3** Ngakho u-Adoni-Zedekhi inkosi yaseJerusalema wakhalaza kuHohamu inkosi yaseHebhroni, kuPhiramu inkosi yaseJamuthi, kuJafiya inkosi yaseLakhishi lakuDebhiri inkosi yase-Egiloni. **4** Wathi kubo, “Wozani lizongincedisa ukuhlasela iGibhiyoni ngenxa yokuthi yenze isivumelwano sokuthula loJoshuwa labako-Israyeli.” **5** Ngakho amakhosi womahlanu ama-Amori, aseJerusalema, eHebhroni, eJamuthi, eLakhishi lase-Egiloni abambana. Aphuma lamabutho awo wonke ayihonqolozela iGibhiyoni ayihlasela. **6** AmaGibhiyoni athumela ilizwi kuJoshuwa ezihonqweni zaseGiligali athi: “Ungalahlali izinceku zakho. Woza ngapha kithi ngokuphangisa uzosisiza! Sincede, ngoba wonke amakhosi ama-Amori abusa emazweni asemaqaneni asebambene ukuze alwisane lathi.” **7** Ngakho uJoshuwa wasuka eGiligali, wenyuka kanye lebutho lakhe lonke, elaligoqela wonke amadoda ayekwazi ukulwa. **8** UThixo wathi kuJoshuwa, “Ungabesabi; sengibanikele esandleni sakho. Kakho loyedwa ozakwenelisa ukumelana lawe.” **9** Ngenxa kokuhamba okobusuku bonke besuka eGiligali, uJoshuwa wabajuma. **10** UThixo wenza ukuthi basanganiseke phambi kuka-Israyeli, wabehlula ngokunqoba okukhulu eGibhiyoni. Abako-Israyeli baxotshana labo emgwaqweni oya eBethi-Horoni, baxhumana labo baze bayafika e-Azekha leMakheda. **11** Lapho bebalekela abako-Israyeli emgwaqweni osuka eBethi-Horoni usiya e-Azekha, uThixo wehlisa isiqhotho esikhulu sivela emkhathini, njalo inengi labo lafa libulawa yisiqhotho ukwedlula ababulawa zinkemba zabako-Israyeli. **12** Ngalelolanga uThixo wanikela ngalo ama-Amori kwabako-Israyeli, uJoshuwa wathi kuThixo phambi kwabako-Israyeli: “We langa, mana uthi mpo ngaphezu kweGibhiyoni, lawe nyanga, mana ngaphezu kweSigodi se-Ayijaloni.” **13** Ngakho ilanga lema lathi mpo, lenyanga yema, isizwe saze saphindisela ngokupheleleyo ezitheni zaso, njengoba kulotshiwe oGwalweni lukaJasha. Ilanga lema phakathi laphakathi kwesibhakabhaka laphuza ukutshona okosuku lonke. **14** Kazuzenge kube losuku olwafana lalo ngaphambili kumbe kuze kube lamhlanje,

usuku lapho uThixo alalela khona umuntu. Ngeqiniso uThixo wayelwela u-Israyeli! **15** Ngakho uJoshuwa waphindela labo bonke abako-Israyeli ezihonqweni zaseGiligali. **16** Amakhosi lawo womahlanu abaleka ayacatsha ebhalwini lwaseMakheda. **17** Kwathi uJoshuwa esetshelwe ukuthi amakhosi womahlanu ayetholakale ecatshele ebhalwini lweMakheda, **18** wathi, “Giqani amatshe amakhulu liwafake emlonyeni wobhalu, beselisithi amanye amadoda alinde. **19** Kodwa lingemi! Xotshani izitha zenu, lingazivumeli ukuthi zifike emadolobheni azo, ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu esezinikele ezandleni zenu.” **20** Ngakho uJoshuwa labako-Israyeli bababhuhisa baphosa baphela bonke kodwa abalutshwana abasalayo banelisa ukufika emadolobheni abo ayezingqaba. **21** Ibutho lonke lenelisa ukuphenduka ngokuthula kuJoshuwa esihonqweni seMakheda, njalo kakho owake wakhuluma okubi ngabako-Israyeli. **22** UJoshuwa wathi, “Vulani umlomo wobhalu besileletha amakhosi womahlanu eze kimi.” **23** Ngakho bakhupha amakhosi womahlanu ebhalwini, inkosi yaseJerusalema, eyeHebhroni, yeJamuthi, eyeLakhishi kanye leyase-Egiloni. **24** Bathi sebelethe amakhosi la kuJoshuwa, wabiza wonke amadoda ako-Israyeli wasesithi kubo bonke abalawuli bamabutho ababeze laye, “Wozani lapha lizofaka inyawo zenu entanyeni zala amakhosi.” Ngakho beza phambili basebefaka inyawo zabo entanyeni zawo. **25** UJoshuwa wathi kubo, “Lingesabi; lingadangali qinani libe lezibindi. Lokhu yikho okuzakwenziwa nguThixo kuzozonke izitha elizalwisana lazo.” **26** Ngakho uJoshuwa wawabulala amakhosi la wawalengisa ensikeni ezinhlanu, alenga lapho kwaze kwahlwa. **27** Ekutshoneni kwelanga uJoshuwa walaya ukuthi bawethule bawaphose ebhalwini lapho ayekade ecatshe khona. Emlonyeni wobhalu bafaka amatshe amakhulu alokhu ekhona lanamhlanje. **28** Ngalelolanga uJoshuwa wathumba iMakheda. Wahlasela idolobho kanye lenkosi yalo ngenkamba, wabhuhisa wonke umuntu owayephakathi kwalo. Kakho owatshiywa ephila. Wenza enkosini yeMakheda lokho ayekwenze enkosini yaseJeriko. **29** Ngakho uJoshuwa labo bonke abako-Israyeli ababelaye basuka eMakheda baya eLibhina balihlasela. **30** UThixo waphinda wanikela lelolobho lenkosi yalo esandleni sika-Israyeli. UJoshuwa wahlasela ngenkamba idolobho laye wonke umuntu owayephakathi kwalo. Kakho owatshiywa ephila lapho. Wenza enkosini yalo lokho ayekwenze enkosini yeJeriko. **31** Ngakho uJoshuwa labo bonke abako-Israyeli ayelabo bahamba besuka eLibhina besiya eLakhishi; balihanqa basebelihlasela. **32** UThixo wanikela iLakhishi ku-Israyeli, uJoshuwa wayithatha ngelanga lesibili. Idolobho laye wonke umuntu owayephakathi kwalo wakuhlalala ngenkamba, njengalokho ayekwenze eLibhina. **33** Kunjalo-nje uHohamu inkosi yaseGezeri yayize ukuzoncedisa iLakhishi kodwa uJoshuwa wayehlula ndawonye lebutho layo, kakho owatshiywa ephila. **34** Ngakho uJoshuwa labo bonke abako-Israyeli ababelaye basuka eLakhishi baya edolobheni le-Egiloni; basebelihanqa balihlasela. **35** Balithumba ngalelolanga, balihlakaza ngenkamba basebebhuhisa wonke umuntu owayephakathi kwalo, njengalokho ababekwenze eLakhishi. **36** Ngakho uJoshuwa labo bonke abako-Israyeli ababelaye bahamba besuka e-Egiloni baya eHebhroni bayihlasela. **37** Balithumba lelolobho ngenkamba ndawonye lamakhosi alo, imizana yalo laye wonke umuntu owayephakathi kwalo, kakho owatshiywa ephila. Njengalokho abakwenza e-Egiloni, balitshabalalisa laye wonke umuntu owayephakathi

kwalo. **38** Ngakho uJoshuwa labo bonke abako-Israyeli ayelabo baphenduka bahlasela iDebhiri. **39** Bathumba lelidolobho, inkosi lemizi yalo, bayihlasela ngenkamba. Bonke abantu ababephakathi kwalo babhujiswa baphela. Kakho owatshiywa ephila. Benza eDebhiri lenkosini yakhona lokho abakwenza eLibhina lenkosini yakhona kanye leHebhroni. **40** Ngakho uJoshuwa wasinqoba sonke isabelo, okugqela ilizwe lamaqaqa, iNegebi, emawatheni ezintaba entshonalanga lemithezukweni yezintaba ndawonye lamakhosi alapho wonke. Kakho owatshiywa ephila. Wabhuhisa bonke abebephefumula, njengoba uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli wayebalayile. **41** UJoshuwa wabanqoba kusukela eKhadeshi Bhaneya kusiya eGaza lakuso sonke isabelo seGosheni kusiya eGibhiyoni. **42** Wonke amakhosi la lamazwe awo athunjwa nguJoshuwa ekulhaseleni kunye, ngenxa yokuthi uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, walwela u-Israyeli. **43** Ngakho uJoshuwa waphindela laye wonke u-Israyeli ezihonqweni zaseGiligali.

11 Kwathi ujabhini inkosi yeHazoni isizwa lokhu yathumela ilizwi kuJobhathi inkosi yeMadoni lasemakhosini eShimroni le-Akshishafi, **2** lasemakhosini enyakatho ayesezintabeni ze-Arabha eningizimu yeKhinereithi emawatheni amaqqa entshonalanga kanye laseNafothi Dori entshonalanga; **3** lakumaKhenani empumalanga lentshonalanga; lakuma-Amori, amaHithi, amaPherizi lamaJebusi elizweni elilamaqaqa; kanye lakumaHivi ngaphansi kweHemoni esabelweni seMizipha. **4** Baphuma lamabutho abo wonke lenani elikhulu lamabhiza lezinqola, ibutho elikhulu, ubunengi lingangetshehetshebe okhunjini lolwandle. **5** Wonke amakhosi la abambana asesakha izihonqo ndawonye eManzini aseMeromi, ukulwa labako-Israyeli. **6** UThixo wathi kuJoshuwa, “Ungabesabi, ngoba ngalesisikhathi kusasa ngizabanikela bonke kwabako-Israyeli sebefile. Uzaquma imisipha yamabhiza abo njalo utshise izihonqo zabo.” **7** Ngakho uJoshuwa lebutho lakhe lonke bahlangana labo mathupha eManzini eMeromi wasebahlasela, **8** uThixo wabanikela esandleni ka-Israyeli. Babanqoba, baxotshana labo baze babafikisa eSidoni Enkulu kusiya eMisirefothi-Mayimi, leSigodini seMizipha empumalanga kwaze kwasala kungelamuntu ophilayo. **9** UJoshuwa wenza kibo lokho ayekulaywe nguThixo: Waquma imisipha yamabhiza abo njalo watshisa izinqola zabo. **10** Ngalesosikhathi uJoshuwa waphenduka wabuyela emuva wathumba iHazoni wasehlasa inkosi yakuleyo ndawo ngenkamba. (IHazoni yayiyisigodlo sayo yonke imibuso leyo.) **11** Wonke umuntu owayephakathi kwayo wabhujiswa ngenkamba. Bababhuhisa baphela, abaze batshiya lutho oluphefumulayo, watshisa iHazoni ngokwayo. **12** UJoshuwa wathumba wonke amadolobho esikhosini lamakhosi awo wawahlasela ngenkamba. Wabhuhisa wonke, njengokulaya kukaMosi inceku kaThixo. **13** Kukanti-ke u-Israyeli kazange atshise loba yiwaphi amadolobho ayakhelwe emadundulwini ngaphandle kweHazoni, eyatshiswa nguJoshuwa. **14** Abako-Israyeli bathatha zaba ngezabo zonke impahla ababezithumbile okwakuqoqela izifuyo zamadolobho la bahamba lakho kodwa bonke abantu bababhuhisa ngenkamba baphela du, bengatshiyi lutho oluphefumulayo. **15** Njengoba uThixo walaya inceku yakhe uMosi, uMosi laye walaya uJoshuwa, uJoshuwa wakwenza lokho: katshiyanga lutho lungenziwanga ezintweni zonke uThixo owazilaya uMosi. **16** Ngakho uJoshuwa wathatha ilizwe lonke: ilizwe lamaqaqa, yonke iNegebi, isabelo sonke seGosheni, amawatha asentshonalanga, i-Arabha, lezintaba

zako-Israyeli lamawatha azo, **17** kusukela entabeni yeHalakhi, ephakama ngokuya eSeyiri, kusiya eBhali-Gadi esiGodini seLebhanoni ngaphansi kwentaba iHemoni. Wathumba wonke amakhosi awo, wawehlula, wawabulala. **18** UJoshuwa walwa impi lawo wonke amakhosi okwesikhathi eside. **19** Ngaphandle kwamaHivi ayehlala eGibhiyoni, kalikho idolobho loba elilodwa elenza isivumelwano sokuthula labako-Israyeli, kwabawathumba empini. **20** Ngoba kwakunguThixo owenza inhlizyo zawo zaba lukhuni zafuna ukulwa impi lo-Israyeli, ukwenzela ukuthi enelise ukubachitha baphele, ebabhuhisa okungelazwelo, njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo. **21** Ngalesosikhathi uJoshuwa waphuma wabhuhisa ama-Anakhi elizweni lamaqaqa: kusukela eHebhroni, eDebhiri le-Anabhi, kusukela elizweni lonke lamaqaqa akoJuda. UJoshuwa wabhuhisa wababhuqa bona kanye lamadolobho abo. **22** Akula ma-Anakhi asala esabelweni sabako-Israyeli; ngaphandle kweGaza iGathi le-Ashidodi lapho okwasila abanye bakhona. **23** Ngakho uJoshuwa wathumba ilizwe lonke njengoba uThixo walaya uMosi, waselinika abako-Israyeli njengelifa kusiya ngokwahlukaniswa kwezizwana zabo. Ngakho-ke ilizwe laphumula ekulweni izimpi.

12 La ngamakhosi amazwe anqotshwa ngabako-Israyeli njalo alezabelo ezathunjwa empumalanga yeJodani, kusukela eDongeni lwase-Arinoni kusiya entabeni yaseHemoni, okugqela lonke icele langempumalanga ye-Arabha: **2** USihoni inkosi yama-Amori, wayebusa eHeshibhoni. Wayebusa kusukela e-Aroweri emaphethelweni oDonga lwase-Arinoni, kusukela phakathi laphakathi kodonga kusiyafika emfuleni ujabhoki, oyiwo umngcele wama-Amoni. Lokhu kwakugqela ingxenye yeGilyadi. **3** Wayebusa njalo empumalanga ye-Arabha kusukela owandle lweKhinereithi kusiyafika owandle lwe-Arabha (uLwandle lweTswayi) kusiya eBethi-Jeshimothi, eningizimu phansanyana kwemithezuko yasePhisiga: **4** Lelizwe lika-Ogi inkosi yaseBhashani, omunye wamaRefayi okucina owayebusa e-Ashitharothi le-Edreyi. **5** Wabusa eNtabeni yaseHemoni, eSalekha, iBhashani yonke kusiya emngceleni wabantu beGeshuri leMahakhathi, lengxenye yeGilyadi kusiya emngceleni kaSihoni inkosi yeHeshibhoni. **6** UMosi inceku kaThixo, labako-Israyeli babanqoba. UMosi inceku kaThixo wanika ilizwe labo abakoRubheni labakoGadi lengxenye yesizwana sakoManase ukuthi libe ngelabo. **7** La yiwo amakhosi elizwe lelo uJoshuwa labako-Israyeli balthumbayo eceleni elisentshonalanga yeJodani, kusukela eBhali-Gadi esiGodini seLebhanoni kusiya eNtabeni yeHalakhi ekhangele eSeyiri (amazwe abo uJoshuwa wawanika njengelifa ezizwaneni zako-Israyeli kusiya ngezigaba zezizwana zabo, **8** indawo elamaqaqa, amawatha asentshonalanga, i-Arabha, lemithezukweni yezintaba, inkangala leNegebi, amazwe amaHithi, ama-Amori, amaKhenani, amaPherizi, amaHivi, lamaJebusi): La ayengamakhosi: **9** inkosi yeJerikho, eyodwa inkosi ye-Ayi (eduze leBethetheli), eyodwa **10** inkosi yeJerusalem, eyodwa inkosi yeHebhroni, eyodwa **11** inkosi yeJamuthi, eyodwa inkosi yeLakhishi, eyodwa **12** inkosi ye-Egloni, eyodwa inkosi yeGezeri, eyodwa **13** inkosi yeDebhiri, eyodwa inkosi yeBethi-Gaderi, eyodwa **14** inkosi yeHoma, eyodwa inkosi ye-Aradi, eyodwa **15** inkosi yeLibhina, eyodwa inkosi ye-Adulam, eyodwa **16** inkosi yeMakheda, eyodwa inkosi yeBethetheli, eyodwa **17** inkosi yeThaphuwa, eyodwa inkosi yeHeferi, eyodwa **18** inkosi ye-Afekhi, eyodwa inkosi yeLasharoni, eyodwa **19** inkosi yeMadoni, eyodwa inkosi yeHazoni, eyodwa

20 inkosi yeShimron Meroni, eyodwa inkosi ye-Akhisafi, eyodwa 21 inkosi yeThanakhi, eyodwa inkosi yeMegido, eyodwa 22 inkosi yeKhedeshi, eyodwa inkosi yeJokhiniyamu esekhamele, eyodwa 23 inkosi yeDori (eNafothi Dori), eyodwa inkosi yeGoyimi eseGiligali, eyodwa 24 inkosi yeThiza, eyodwa. Amakhosi angamatshumi amathathu lanye esewonke.

13 UJoshuwa esemdala njalo eseluphele kakhulu, uThixo wathi kuye, “Usuluphele kakhulu, njalo lokhu usasalelwe yilizwe elikhulu kakhulu okumele ulithumbe. 2 Nanti ilizwe elisaseleyo: zonke izabelo zamaFilistiya lamaGeshuri: 3 kusukela emfuleni uShihori empumalanga yeGibhithe kusiya esabelweni se-Ekroni enyakatho, lonke libaliswa njengelamaKhenani lanxa libanjwe ngababusi beFilistiya abahlanu eGaza, e-Ashidodi, e-Ashikheloni, eGathi le-Ekroni ilizwe lama-Avi; 4 kusukela eningizimu, lonke ilizwe lamaKhenani, kusukela eMeyara yamaSidoni kusiyafika e-Afekhi, isabelo sama-Amori, 5 indawo yamaGebhali; layo yonke iLebanoni ngempumalanga, kusukela eBhali-Gadi ngaphansi kweNtaba yeHemoni kusiya eLebho Hamathi. 6 Bonke abakhele ezabelweni ezisezintabeni kusukela eLebanoni kusiya eMisirefothi-Mayimi, okutsho wonke amaSidoni, mina ngokwami ngizabaxotsha phambi kwabako-Israyeli. Wobani leqiniso lokuthi lelilizwe labelwe abako-Israyeli ukuze libe yilifa labo njengokulilaya kwami, 7 njalo lilabe njengelifa phakathi kwezizwana eziyisificamunwemunye lengxenye yesizwana sakoManase.” 8 Eyinye ingxenye yakoManase, eyakoRubheni leyakoGadi yayizuze ilifa eyalinikwa nguMosi empumalanga yeJodani njengalokho inceku kaThixo eyayibaphe lona. 9 Lasuka e-Aroweri emaphethelweni oDonga lwe-Arironi lasedolobheni eliphakathi kodonga, njalo ligoqela amagecke eMedebha kusiyafika eDibhoni, 10 lamadolobho wonke kaSihoni inkosi yama-Amori, owabusa eHeshibhoni, kusiyafika emngceleni wama-Amori. 11 Laligoqela iGilyadi, isabelo sabantu baseGeshuri leMahakhathi, leNtaba yonke yeHemoni leBhashani yonke kusiyafika eSalekha, 12 okutsho ukuthi, umbuso wonke ka-Ogi eBhashani, yena owabusa e-Ashitharothi le-Edreyi njalo wayengomunye wamaRefayi ayelokhu esaphila. UMosi wayebanqobile wathatha ilizwe labo. 13 Kodwa abako-Israyeli kabazange babaxotsho abantu beGeshuri leMahakhathi, yikho lokhu behlala phakathi kwabako-Israyeli kuze kube lamhlanje. 14 Kodwa abesizwana sabaLevi kazange abanike ilifa, njengoba iminikelo eyayisenziwa ngomlilo kuThixo, uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli iyilifa labo njengokubathembisa kwakhe. 15 Lokhu yikho uMosi akunika isizwana sakoRubheni, usendo lunye ngalunye: 16 Isigaba esisuka e-Aroweri emaphethelweni oDonga lwe-Arironi, lokusuka edolobheni eliphakathi koDonga lawo wonke amagecke adabula eMedebha 17 kusiya eHeshibhoni lawo wonke amadolobho asemagekeni agoqela iDibhoni, iBhamothi-Bhali, iBhethi-Bhali-Meyoni, 18 ijahazi, iKhedemothi, iMefahathi, 19 iKhiriyathayimi, iSibhima, iZerethi-Shahari eqaqeni olusesigodini, 20 iBhethi-Pheyori, lemithezuko yasePhisiga, leBhethi-Jeshimothi, 21 wonke amadolobho asemagekeni lombuso wonke kaSihoni inkosi yama-Amori, owayebusa eHeshibhoni. UMosi wayemehlule yena lezinduna zamaMidiyani, u-Evi, uRekhemu, uZuri, uHuri, loRebha, wonke engamakhosana amanyane loSihoni owayehlala kulelizwe. 22 Phezu kwalabo ababulawa empini abako-Israyeli babebulele ngenkamba uBhalamu indodana kaBheyori, owayeyisanuse. 23 Umngcele wamaRubheni

wawusokhunjini lweJodani. Amadolobho la lemezana yawo ayeyilifa labakoRubheni, usendo lunye ngalunye: 24 Lokhu yikho uMosi akupha isizwana sakoGadi usendo lunye ngalunye: 25 Isabelo seJazeri, amadolobho wonke eGilyadi lengxenye yelizwe lama-Amori kusiyafika e-Aroweri, eduzane leRabha; 26 lokusuka eHeshibhoni kusiya eRamathi Mizipha leBhethonimi, lokusuka eMahanayimi kusiya esigabeni seDebhiri; 27 esigodini iBhethi-Haramu, iBhethi-Nimra, iSukhothi leZafoni lawo wonke umbuso kaSihoni inkosi yeHeshibhoni (icele elisempumalanga yeJodani, isabelo esisekucineni kolwandle lweKhinerehi). 28 Amadolobho la ndawonye lemezana yawo ayeyilifa labakoGadi; usendo lunye ngalunye. 29 Lokhu yikho uMosi ayekunike ingxenye yesizwana sakoManase, okutsho ingxenye yemuli eyayiyinzalo kaManase, usendo lunye ngalunye: 30 Umango owawusuka eMahanayimi ugoqela iBhashani, wonke umbuso ka-Ogi inkosi yaseBhashani, yonke imizana yeJayiri eBhashani, amadolobho angamatshumi ayisithupha, 31 ingxenye yeGilyadi, le-Ashitharothi le-Edreyi (amadolobho obukhosi ka-Ogi eBhashani). Lokhu kwakungokwezizukulwane zikaMakhiri indodana kaManase, kungokwengxenye yamadodana kaMakhiri usendo lunye ngalunye. 32 Leli yilo ilifa uMosi ayelabile lapho esasemagekeni eMowabi ngaphetsheya kweJodani empumalanga yeJeriko. 33 Kodwa esizwaneni sabaLevi, uMosi kazange asabele ilifa; uThixo, uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli, nguye ilifa labo njengokubathembisa kwakhe.

14 Lezi yizo izindawo abako-Israyeli abazamukela njengelifa elizweni laseKhenani, u-Eliyazari umphristi, uJoshuwa indodana kaNuni lezinhlalo zezizwana zako-Israyeli abazabela zona. 2 Ilifa labo labiwa ngokwenza inkatho ezizwaneni eziyisificamunwemunye lengxenye, njengokulaya kukaThixo nguMosi. 3 UMosi wayenike izizwe ezimbili lengxenye ilifa lazo empumalanga yeJodani, kodwa wayengabelanga abaLevi ilifa phakathi kwazo, 4 ngoba amadolobho kaJosefa ayeyizizwana ezimbili, esikaManase lesika-Efrayimi. Abalevi kabazuzanga sabelo ngaphandle kwamadolobho okuhlala lamadlelo emihlabi yezimvu leyenkomo. 5 Ngakho abako-Israyeli behlukanisa umhlaba, njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguThixo. 6 Amadoda akoJuda aya kuJoshuwa eGiligali, uKhalebi indodana kaJefune umKhenizi wathi kuye, “Uyakwazi ukuthi uThixo wathini kuMosi umuntu kaNkulunkulu eKhadeshi Bhaneya ngawe lami. 7 Ngangileminyaka engamatshumi amane lapho uMosi inceku kaThixo yangithuma ngisuka eKhadeshi Bhaneya ukuyahlola ilizwe. Ngaletsa kuye umbiko owawuphathelane lemibono yami, 8 kodwa abazalwane engahamba labo benza ukuthi inhliziyo zabantu zithuthumele ngokwesaba. Mina, lanxa kunjalo, ngalandela uThixo uNkulunkulu wami ngenhliziyo yami yonke. 9 Ngakho ngalelolanga uMosi wafunga kimi wathi, ‘Umhlabathi lowo onyathelwe yizinyawo zakho uzakuba yilifa lakho labantwabakho kuze kube nini lanini, ngenxa yokuthi ulandele uThixo uNkulunkulu wami ngenhliziyo yakho yonke.’ 10 Ngakho-ke, njengoba uThixo wayethembisile, usengicine ngiphila okweminyaka engamatshumi amane lanhlalu kusukela ngezikhathi lapho akhuluma lokhu kuMosi, u-Israyeli esazulazula enkangala. Ngakho nanku sengilapha lamuhla, sengileminyaka yokuzalwa engamatshumi ayisificaminwembili lanhlalu! 11 Lokhu ngisaqinile lanamuhla njengelanga uMosi angithuma ngalo; lokhu ngiselamandla

okuyakrolwa impi khathesi okufanana lalokho engangiyikho khona ngalesosikhathi. **12** Ngakho nginika lelizwe lamaqaqa engalithenjiswa nguThixo ngalelolanga. Wena ngokwakho wezwa ngalesosikhathi ukuthi ama-Anakhi ayekhona lapho njalo amadolobho awo ayemakhulu ehonqolozelwe, kodwa ngokwendiswa nguThixo, ngizawaxotsha njengokutsho kwakhe.” **13** Ngakho UJoshua wabawisa uKhalebi indodana kaJefune, wamnika iHebhroni yaba yilifa lakhe. **14** Ngakho iHebhroni yaba lilifa likaKhalebi indodana kaJefune umKhenizi kusukela ngalesosikhathi ngenxa yokuthi walandela uThixo, unkulunkulu ka-Israyeli ngenhliziyo yakhe yonke. **15** (IHebhroni yayithiwa yiKhiriyaathi Aribha ibizwa ngo-Abhe wayeyindoda eyayisikhulu esesabekayo phakathi kwama-Anakhi). Ngakho ilizwe laba lokuphumula ekulweni izimpi.

15 Isabelo sesizwe sikaJuda, usendo lunye ngalunye sasiqhele sehla sayafika elizweni le-Edomi, sisiyakhawula eNkangala yeZini eningizimu kude le. **2** Umngcele wabo weningizimu wawuqalisela ethekweni oluseningizimu emaphethelweni oLwandle lweTswayi, **3** uchaphela eningizimu yoMkhandlu weNkume, uqhubeke usiya eZini, usiyaphutsha eningizimu yeKhadeshi Bhaneya. Wasusedlula eHezironi usiyafika e-Adari wabhoda unquma wayaphutsha ususeKhakha. **4** Wasusedlula usiya e-Azimoni usiyaxhumana lesiHotsha saseGibhithe, uphelela olwandle. Lo yiwo umngcele wabo waseningizimu. **5** Umngcele wempumalanga luLwandle lweTswayi kuze kufike lapho okuthela khona iJodani. Umngcele weningizimu waqalela okhunjini lolwandle ekuqaleni kweJodani, **6** wakhwela usiya eBhethi-Hogla, wabuye waqhubeka usiya Bhethi-Arabha uqonda eLitsheni likaBhohani indodana kaRubheni. **7** Umngcele wasuqansa usiya eDebhiri usuka esigodini sika-Akhor, wasujika usiya enyakatho ukhangele eGiligali ekhangelane loMkhandlu ka-Dumimu eningizimu yodonga. Waqhubeka usiya emanzini ase-Eni Shemeshi wasufika e-Eni Rogeli. **8** Wasuqonda esigodini seBheni-Hinomu emthezukungweni wangingizimu yedolobho lamaJebusi (okutsho iJerusalem). Usuka lapho waqansa phezu koqaqa entshonalanga yesigodi seHinomu ekucineni kwangenyakatho yesigodi seRefayi. **9** Usuka engqongeni yoqaqa, umngcele waqonda emthonjeni wamanzi aseNefuthowa, wasuphutsha emadolobheni eNtabeni ye-Efroni wasusehla usiya eBhala (okutsho iKhiriyaathi-Jeyarimi). **10** Wasujika usiya entshonalanga usuka eBhala usiya entabeni yeSeyiri, wedlula emthezukungweni wangenyakatho yentaba iJeyarimi (okutsho iKhesaloni) waqhubeka usiya eBhethi-Shemeshi uchaphela eThimina. **11** Waqonda emthezukungweni wenyakatho owe-Ekroni, wajika ukhangele eShikheroni, wedlule usiya eNtabeni yeBhala wafika eJabhiniyeli. Umngcele waphela olwandle. **12** Umngcele wagentshonalanga likhumbi lolwandle oLukhulu. Le yiyo imingcele eyayigombolozele abantu bakoJuda usendo lunye ngalunye. **13** Njengokulaya kukaThixo kuye, uJoshua wanika uKhalebi indodana kaJefune ingxenye eseJuda, iKhiriyaathi Aribha, okutsho iHebhroni (u-Abha wayengukhokho ka-Anakhi). **14** Esuka eHebhroni uKhalebi waxotsha ama-Anakhi amathathu abalisa uSheshayi, u-Ahimani loThalimayi abantwana baka-Anakhi. **15** Esuka lapho wahamba ehlasela abantu ababelhala eDebhiri (okwakuthiwa yiKhiriyaathi-Sefa). **16** UKhalebi wathi, “Ngizakwendisela indodakazi yami u-Akhisa endodeni ezahlasela ithumbe iKhiriyaathi-Sefa.” **17** U-Othiniyeli

indodana kaKhenazi, umfowabo kaKhalebi, wayithumba; ngakho uKhalebi wendisela indodakazi yakhe u-Akhisa kuye. **18** Ngelinye ilanga u-Akhisa wafika ku-Othiniyeli wamkhuthaza ukuthi acele insimu kuyise. Lapho esehlile kubabhemi wakhe, uKhalebi wambuza wathi, “Kuyini engingakwenzela khona?” **19** Waphendula wathi, “Ngicela ungenze umusa obalulekileyo. Njengoba unginike umhlaba eNegebi, ngicela unginike lemithombo yamanzi.” Ngakho uKhalebi wamnika imithombo eyayingaphezulu leyayingaphansi. **20** Leli lilifa lesizwe sikaJuda ngezingendo zaso: **21** Amadolobho aseningizimu kwesizwe sikaJuda eNegebi ekuyeni emngceleni we-Edomi ayeyila: iKhabhizeli, i-Ederi, iJaguri, **22** iKChina, iDimona, i-Adada, **23** iKhedeshi, iHazori, i-Ithinani, **24** iZifi, iThelemu, iBheyalothi, **25** iHazori-Hadatha, iKheriyothe Hezironi (okutsho iHazori), **26** i-Amamu, iShema, iMolada, **27** iHazari-Gada, iHeshimoni, iBhethi Phelethi, **28** iHazari-Shuwali, iBherishebha, iBhiziyotheiya, **29** iBhala, i-Iyimu, i-Ezema, **30** i-Elitholadi, iKhesili, iHoma **31** iZikhilagi, iMadimana, iSansana, **32** iLebhayothi, iShilimu, i-Ayini leRimoni, esewonke kwakungamadolobho angamatshumi amabili lesificamunwemunye lemizana yawo. **33** Emawatheni asentshonalanga kwakulamadolobho la: i-Eshithawoli, iZora, i-Ashina, **34** iZanowa, i-Eni-Ganimu, iThaphuwa, i-Enamu, **35** iJamuthi, i-Adulami, iSokho, i-Azekha, **36** iShaharayimu, i-Adithayimu leGedera (kumbe iGederothayimu) amadolobho alitshumi lane lemizi yawo. **37** IZENani, iHadasha, iMigidali-Gadi, **38** iDiliyeni, iMizipha, iJokhitheyeli, **39** iLakhishi, iBhozikhathi, i-Egiloni, **40** iKhabhoni, iLahimasi, iKithilishi **41** iGederothi, iBhethi-Dagoni, iNahama leMakheda, amadolobho alitshumi lesithupha lemizi yawo. **42** ILIbhina, i-Etheri, i-Ashani, **43** i-Ifitha, i-Ashina, iNezibhi, **44** iKheyila, i-Akhizibhi leMaresha, amadolobho ayisificamunwemunye lemizi yawo. **45** I-Ekroni, lemizana eyigqagqeleyo; **46** entshonalanga ye-Ekroni, wonke ayeseudane le-Ashidodi, ndawonye lemizana yawo; **47** i-Ashidodi lemizana eyigqagqeleyo leGaza, imizana eyigqagqeleyo kusiyafika esiHothsheni saseGibhithe lekunjini lolwandle oLukhulu. **48** Elizweni lamaqaqa kwakule: iShamiri, iJathiri, iSokho, **49** iDana, iKhiriyaathi-Sana (okutsho iDebhiri), **50** i-Anabhi, i-Eshithemo, i-Animi, **51** iGosheni, iHoloni leGilo, amadolobho alitshumi lanye lemizana yawo. **52** I-Arabhu, iDuma, i-Eshani, **53** iJanimu, iBhethi-Thaphuwa, i-Afeka, **54** iHumtha, iKhiriyaathi Aribha (okutsho iHebhroni) leZiwori, amadolobho ayisificamunwemunye lemizana yawo. **55** IMawoni, iKhameli, iZifi, iJutha, **56** iJezzerili, iJokideyamu, iZanowa, **57** iKhayini, iGibhiya leThimina, amadolobho alitshumi lemizana yawo. **58** IHaluhuli, iBhethi Zuri, iGedori, **59** iMaharathi, iBhethi-Anothi le-Elithekhoni, amadolobho ayisithupha lemizana yawo. **60** IKhiriyaathi-Bhali (okutsho ukuthi iKhiriyaathi-Jeyarimi) leRabha, amadolobho amabili lemizana yawo. **61** Enkangala: iBhethi-Arabha, iMidini, iSekhaka, **62** iNibhishani, iDolobho leswayi le-Eni-Gedi, amadolobho ayisithupha lemizana yawo. **63** UJuda wehluleka ukususa amaJebusi ayehlala eJerusalem; lanamuhla amaJebusi lokhu ehlala lapho labantu bakoJuda.

16 Isabelo sikaJosefa saqala eJodani, empumalanga yamanzi eJeriko, sakhwela sisuka lapho sisuya enkangala singena elizweni lamaqaqa eBetheli. **2** Sadabula sisuka eBetheli (okutsho iLuzi) sachaphela esabelweni sama-Arikhithi e-Atharothi, **3** sehlela entshonalanga esabelweni samajafilethi sisiyabamba ekhunjini lweBhethi-Horoni, sibuye siqonde

eGezeri, sisiyaphelela olwandle. **4** Ngakho uManase lo-Efrayimi, izizukulwane zikaJosefa, bemukela ilifa labo. **5** Leli kwakulilizwe lika-Efrayimi ngokosendo lwakhe: Umngcele welifa labo wawusuka e-Atharothi-Ada empumalanga usiya eBhethi-Horoni Ephezulu **6** waqhubeka usiya olwandle. Usuka eMikhimethathi enyakatho wajika empumalanga usiya eThahanathi-Shilo, usedlula eJanowa empumalanga. **7** Wasusehlela phansi usuka eJanowa usiya e-Atharothi leNara, wagudla ijerikho wayaphutshela kuJodani. **8** Usuka eThaphuwa umngcele waya entshonalanga eDongeni lweKhana wayaphelela olwandle. Leli kwakuyilifa lesizwana sako-Efrayimi, usendo luncyane. **9** Wawuqoqela njalo wonke amadolobho lemizana yawo eyayehlukaniselwe abako-Efrayimi phakathi kwelifa labakoManase. **10** Kabazange bawadudule amaKhenani ayehlala eGezeri; kuze kube lamhla amaKhenani ahhlala phakathi kwabantu bako-Efrayimi kodwa besenziswa umsebenzi wesibhalo.

17 Lesi kwakuyisabelo sesizwana sikaManase njengezibulo likaJosefa. UMakhiri izibulo likaManase, ukhokho wamaGilyyadi, wathatha iGilyyadi leBhashani ngenxa yokuthi amaMakhire ayengamaqhawe amakhulu. **2** Ngakho isabelo lesi sasingsabantu bonke bakoManase, insendo zika-Abhiyezeri, uHelekihi, u-Asiryeli, uShekhemu, uHeferi loShemida. Lezi ngezinye izizukulwane zesilisa zikaManase indodana kaJosefa ngokwensendo zazo. **3** UZelofehadi indodana kaHeferi, indodana kaGilyyadi, indodana kaMakhiri indodana kaManase, wayengelamadodana kodwa wayelamadodakazi wodwa, amabizo awo kwakunguMahila, uNowa, uHogila, uMilikha loThiza. **4** Aya ku-Eliyazari umphristi, loJoshuwa indodana kaNuni kanye labakhokheli athi, “UTHixo walaya uMosi ukuthi asabele ilifa kanye labanewethu.” Ngakho uJoshuwa wabanika ilifa ndawonye labanewabo bakayise, kulandelwa umlayo kaThixo. **5** Isabelo sikaManase sasigoqela iziqinti ezililishumi zomhlabathi emhlabeni weGilyyadi leBhashani empumalanga yeJodani, **6** ngenxa yokuthi amadolobho esizwana sikaManase athola ilifa kanye labafowabo. IGilyyadi yayingeyezizukulwane zikaManase. **7** Ilizwe likaManase lalisukela e-Asheri lisiya eMikhimethathi empumalanga kweShekhemu. Umngcele wawudabula usiya usiyagoqela abantu ababehlala e-Eni-Thaphuwa. **8** (UManase wayelomhlaba elizweni leThaphuwa, kodwa iThaphuwa ngokwayo, emngceleni kaManase, yayingeyama-Efrayimi.) **9** Umngcele waqhubeka eningizimu usiya oDongeni lweKhana. Kwakulamadolobho ka-Efrayimi ayakhelwe phakathi kwamadolobho kaManase, kodwa umngcele kaManase wawulice langenyakatho lodonga njalo uphelela olwandle. **10** Eningizimu ilizwe lalingelika-Efrayimi, enyakatho lingelikaManase. Ilizwe likaManase lalifika olwandle njalo lingcelezelane lo-Asheri enyakatho kanye lo-Isakhari empumalanga. **11** Phakathi kuka-Isakhari lo-Asheri uManase wayeloBhethi-Shani, u-Ibhilyami labantu beDori, abe-Endo, abeThanakhi leMegido, ndawonye lemizana ababakhelane layo (owesithathu eluhlwini kwakunguNafothi). **12** Kodwa-ke abakoManase kabenelisanga ukuthatha amadolobho la ngoba amaKhenani ayezimisele ukuhlala kuleyondawo. **13** Lanxa kunjalo, kwathi abako-Israyeli sebelamandla amakhulu, bonza amaKhenani izigqili zabo kodwa kababaxotshanga kokuphela. **14** Abantu bakoJosefa bathi kuJoshuwa, “Kungani lisinike isabelo esisodwa kuphela lengxenye eyodwa yelifa na? Singabantu abanengi kakhulu njalo uThixo usibusise kakhulu.”

15 UJoshuwa wabaphendula wathi; “Nxa libanengi kakhulu, njalo nxa ilizwe lamaqaqa elako-Efrayimi lilincinyane kini, ngenani eguswini liyecenta umhlaba ube ngowenu elizweni lamaPherizi lelamaRefayi.” **16** Abantu bakoJosefa baphendula bathi, “Ilizwe lamaqaqa kaliseneli njalo amaKhenani wonke ahla emagcekeni elezingqola zensimbi, bonke abaseBhethi-Shani lemizana yakhona lababo ababehlala esigodini seJezerili.” **17** Kodwa uJoshuwa wakhuluma labendlu kaJosefa, ku-Efrayimi loManase wathi, “Libanengi njalo lilamandla amakhulu kakhulu. Kalisoze libe lesabelo esisodwa kuphela, **18** kodwa lelizwe lamaqaqa aliligusu. Licenteni lize liyefika lapho eliphelela khona kube ngelenu; lanxa amaKhenani elezingqola zensimbi njalo lanxa elamandla, lingawaxotsha.”

18 Ibandla lonke lako-Israyeli labuthana eShilo laselimisa ithente lokuhlangana khonapho. Ilizwe lalethwa ngaphansi kombuso wabo, **2** kodwa kwakulokhu kulezizwana zako-Israyeli eziyisikhombisa ezazingakemukeli ilifa lazo. **3** Ngakho uJoshuwa wathi kwabako-Israyeli, “Lizakuma okwesikhathi esingakanani lingakathathi ilizwe uThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho benu alinike lona na? **4** Khethani amadoda amathathu esizweni sinye ngasinye. Ngizawathuma ukuthi ayehlola ilizwe abeseloba ngesimo salo, kusiya ngelifa lesizwana ngasinye. Azaphenduka kimi. **5** Lizakwaba umhlaba ube yizigaba eziyisikhombisa. UJuda uzaqhubeka eselizweni lakhe eningizimu njalo indlu kaJosefa iselizweni layo enyakatho. **6** Ngemva kokuba selibhala izimo zezigaba eziyisikhombisa zelizwe, lizilethe kimi lapha njalo ngizalenzela inkatho phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu. **7** Kodwa abaLevi kabayikuzuzwa lutho phakathi kwenu, ngoba umsebenzi wobuphristi kuThixo yilifa labo. Njalo uGadi, uRubheni lengxenye yesizwe sikaManase sebethola ilifa labo eceleni elingasempumalanga yeJodani. UMosi inceku kaThixo wabanika lona.” **8** Kwathi amadoda engena indlela esiyahlola umhlaba, uJoshuwa wawalaya wathi, “Hambani liyehlola umhlaba beselibhala isimo sawo. Emva kwalokho beseliphenduka kimi, khona ngizalenzela inkatho lapha eShilo phambi kukaThixo.” **9** Ngakho amadoda asuka adabula phakathi kwelizwe. Abhala isimo salo emqulwini, idolobho ngedolobho, ezigabeni eziyisikhombisa, asephindela kuJoshuwa esihonqweni seShilo. **10** UJoshuwa wawenzela inkatho eShilo phambi kukaThixo, njalo lapho wabela ilizwe kwabako-Israyeli kusiya ngokwehlukaniswa kwezizwana zabo. **11** Inkatho yakuqala yawela esizwaneni sakoBhenjamini ngensendo zaso. Ilizwe labo elabiwayo laliphakathi kwezizwana zakuJuda loJosefa: **12** Eceleni elisenyakatho umngcele wabo wawuqalisela kuJodani, usedlula emthezukweni wangenyakatho yeJerikho usiya entshonalanga elizweni elilamaqaqa, ututhshela enkangala yeBhethi-Aveni. **13** Usuka lapho wawuchaphela emthezukweni weningizimu weLuzi (okutsho iBhetheli) usehlela e-Atharothi-Ada eqaqeni eliseningizimu ngaphansi kweBhethi-Horoni. **14** Usuka eqaqeni elikhangelane leBhethi-Horoni eningizimu ulandela icele elisentshonalanga wasuthutshela eKhiriya-Bhali (okutsho iKhiriya-Jeyarimi) idolobho labantu bakoJuda. Leli kwakulicele elisentshonalanga. **15** Icele leningizimu laliqalisela emaphethelweni asentshonalanga kweKhiriya-Bhali, njalo umngcele waba semthonjeni wamanzi eNefuthowa. **16** Umngcele wehla waya ewatheni lentaba ekhangelane leSigodi seBheni-Hinomu, enyakatho yeSigodi seRefayi.

Waqhubeka usehla eSigodini seHinomu ulandela umthezuko wedolobho lamaJebusi usiya e-Eni Rogeli. **17** Wasubhoda usiya enyakatho, waya e-Eni Shemeshi, waqhubeka usiya eGelilothi ekhangele uMkhandlu we-Adumimu, wehla phansi usiya elitsheni likaBhohani indodana kaRubheni. **18** Waqhubeka ukhangele enyakatho, emthezukweni weBhethi Arabha usehla ungena e-Arabha. **19** Wasusiya emthezukweni ongasenyakatho eBhethi-Hogla wasuphumela ewatheni elingenyakatho koLwandle lweTswayi lapho okuthela khona iJodani eningizimu. Lo kwakungumngcele oseningizimu. **20** IJodani yenza umngcele eceleni langempumalanga. Le kwakuyimngcele eyayiphawula ilifa lensendo zikaBhenjamini emaceleni wonke. **21** Isizwana sikaBhenjamini, usendo ngosendo sasilamadolobho alandelayo: IJerikho, iBhethi-Hogla, i-Emeki Khezizi, **22** iBhethi-Arabha, iZemarayimu, iBhetheli, **23** i-Avimu, iPhara, i-Ofira, **24** iKhefa-Amoni, i-Ofini leGebha, amadolobho alitshumi lambili kanye lemizana yawo. **25** IGibhiyoni, iRama, iBherothi, **26** iMizipha, iKhefira, iMoza, **27** iRekhemu, i-Iphiyeli, iTharala, **28** iZela, iHayelefi, idolobho lamaJebusi (okuyikuthi iJerusalem), iGibhiya leKhiriyathi, amadolobho alitshumi lane kanye lemizana yawo. Leli kwakuyilifa likaBhenjamini lensendo zakhe.

19 Inkatho yesibili yawela esizwaneni sikaSimiyoni ngensendo zaso. Ilifa labo laliphakathi kwelizwe likaJuda. **2** Laligoqela: iBherishebha (noma Shebha), iMolada, **3** iHazari-Shuwali, iBhala, i-Ezema, **4** i-Elitholadi, iBhethuli, iHoma, **5** iZikhilagi, iBhethi-Makhabhothi, iHazari-Susa, **6** iBhethi-Lebhawothi leSharuheni, amadolobho alitshumi lantathu lemizana yawo; **7** i-Ayini, iRimoni, i-Etheri le-Ashani, amadolobho amane lemizana yawo, **8** layo yonke imizana eyakhelene lalawo madolobho kusiyafika eBhalathi-Bheri (iRama eseNegebi). Leli kwakuyilifa lesizwana sikaSimiyoni ngensendo zaso. **9** Ilifa labakoSimiyoni lathathwa kungxenyekajuda ngenxa yokuthi isigaba sakoJuda sasisikhulu kakhulu. Ngakho abakoSimiyoni bathola ilifa labo phakathi kwelizwe likaJuda. **10** Inkatho yesithathu yawela uZebhuluneni lensendo zakhe: Umngcele welifa labo wawufika eSaridi. **11** Waqonda entshonalanga wadabula usiya eMarala, wathinta iDabheshethi, waqhela usiya odongeni eduze leJokhinyamu. **12** Wajikela empumalanga usuka eSaridi ukhangele empumalanga elizweni likaKhisilothi-Thabhothi njalo waqhela usiya eDabherathi ukhwela usiya eJafiya. **13** Waqhubeka ukhangele empumalanga usiya eGathi-Heferi le-Ethi Khazini; wathutshela eRimoni wasujikela eNeya. **14** Lapho umngcele wabhoda enyakatho usiya eHanathoni wakhawula eSigodini se-Ifitha Eli. **15** Kwakukhona njalo iKhatathi, iNahalali, iShimroni, i-Idala leBhethilehema. Kwakulamadolobho alitshumi lambili lemizana yawo. **16** Amadolobho la lemizana yawo ayeyilifa likaZebhuluneni lensendo. **17** Inkatho yesine yawela u-Isakhari ngensendo zakhe. **18** Ilizwe labo laligoqela: iJezerili, iKhesulothi, iShunemi, **19** iHafarayimi, iShiyoni, i-Anaharathi, **20** iRabhithi, iKishiyoni, i-Ebbezi **21** iRemethi, i-Eni-Ganimu, i-Eni-Hada leBhethi-Phazezi. **22** Umngcele wawugudla iThabhothi, iShahazuma leBhethi-Shemeshi wasukhawula eJodani. Kwakulamadolobho alitshumi lesithupha lemizana yawo. **23** Amadolobho la lemizi yawo kwakuyilifa lesizwana sika-Isakhari lensendo zakhe. **24** Inkatho yesihlanu yawela esizwaneni sika-Asheri ngensendo zakhe. **25** Ilizwe labo laligoqela: iHelikhathi, iHali, iBhetheni, i-Akhishafi, **26** i-Alameleki, i-

Amadi leMishali. Entshonalanga umngcele wagudla iKhameli leShihori-Libhinathi. **27** Wajikela empumalanga ukhangele eBhethi-Dagoni, ugudla iZebhuluneni leSigodi se-Ifitha Eli, waqonda enyakatho usiya eBhethi-Emekhi leNeyiyeli, usedlula eKhabhuli kwesenzele. **28** Waya e-Abhidoni, eRehobhi, eHamoni leKhana usiyafika eSidoni enkulu. **29** Umngcele waphinda wajika ukhangele eRama wasusiya edolobheni eliyinqaba eleThire, wajika ukhangele iHosa wathutshela olwandle olusesabelweni se-Akhizibhi, **30** i-Uma, i-Afekhi leRehobhi. Kwakulamadolobho angamatshumi amabili lambili lemizana yawo. **31** Amadolobho la lemizana yawo ayeyilifa lesizwana sika-Asheri lensendo zakhe. **32** Inkatho yesithupha yawela uNafithali ngensendo zakhe: **33** Umngcele wasuka eHelefi kanye lesihlahla som'Okhi eZananimi usedlula e-Adami Nekhebi leJabhinyeli usiya eLakhumi njalo uphelela eJodani. **34** Umngcele wadabula entshonalanga phakathi kwe-Azinothi-Thabhothi wayaphuma ususeHukhokhi. Wagudla iZebhuluneni eningizimu, i-Asheri entshonalanga kwajuda usiya empumalanga eJodani. **35** Amadolobho ayelezingqaba yiZidimu, iZeri, iHamathi, iRakhathi, iKhinerehi, **36** i-Adama, iRama, iHazoni, **37** iKhedeshi, i-Edreyi, i-Eni-Hazo, **38** iYironi, iMigidali-Eli, iHoremu, iBhethi-Anathi leBhethi-Shemeshi. Kwakulamadolobho alitshumi lesificamunwemuni lemizana yawo. **39** Amadolobho la lemizana yawo kwakuyilifa lesizwana sikaNafithali ngensendo zakhe. **40** Inkatho yesikhombisa yawela isizwana sikaDani ngensendo zakhe. **41** Ilizwe lelifalabo laligoqela: iZora, i-Eshithawoli, i-Iri Shemeshi, **42** iShayalabhini, i-Ayjaloni, i-Ithila, **43** i-Eloni, iThimina, i-Ekroni, **44** i-Elithekhe, iGibhethoni, iBhalathi, **45** iJehudi, iBhene-Bherakhi, iGathi-Rimoni, **46** iMe-Jarikhoni leRakhoni lendawo ekhangele iJopha. **47** (Kwathi abakoDani sebenqotshiwe bathathelwa ilizwe labo, basuka bayahlasele iLeshemu ngenkamba, bayithumba. Bahlala eLeshemu bayibiza ngokuthi yiDani, ibizo likakhokho wabo.) **48** Amadolobho la lemizana yawo ayeyilifa lesizwe sikaDani ngensendo zakhe. **49** Bathi sebeqede ukwabelana umhlaba ngendlela eyayiphawulwe yinkatho, abako-Israyeli banika uJoshuwa indodana kaNuni ilifa phakathi kwabo, **50** njengokulaya kukaThixo. Bamnika idolobho ayelicile, iThimnathi-Sera elizweni lamaqaqa ko-Efrayimi. Wakha idolobho wahlala khona. **51** La yiwo amazwe u-Eliyazari umphristi, uJoshuwa indodana kaNuni labakhokheli bonke lensendo zezizwana zako-Israyeli abazehlukanisela wona ngenkatho eShilo phambi kukaThixo entubeni yethente lokuhlangana. Ngakho-ke baqeda ukwaba umhlaba.

20 UThixo wasesithi kuJoshuwa: **2** “Tshela abako-Israyeli ukuthi baphawule amadolobho okuphephela njengokulilaya engakwenza ngoMosi, **3** ukuze wonke umuntu obulala omunye ngengozi hatshi ngabomo abalekele kulo ukuze aphephe esandleni somphindiseli wegazi. **4** Lapho ebalekela kwelinye lala amadolobho, kumele eme esangweni ledolobho abesetsitsho ukuthi ukhala ngani ebadaleni balelodolobho. Abadala sebezamamukela-ke edolobheni labo besebemnika indawo yokuhlala phakathi kwabo. **5** Nxa umphindiseli wegazi emlandela, akumelanga bamnikele lowo owetheswa umlandu ngoba kambulalanga ngabomo kumbe ngenhlizyo embi. **6** Usezhlala kulelodolobho kuze kufike isikhathi sokuthonisiswa phambi kwebandla njalo kuze kufe umphristi omkhulu oyabe epethe umsebenzi ngalesosikhathi. Lapho usengabuyela ngakibo, edolobheni abaleka kulo.” **7** Ngakho

behlukanisa iKhedeshi eseGalile elizweni lamaqaqa koNafithali, iShekhemu elizweni lamaqaqa ko-Efrayimi leKhiriyaithi Aribha (okutsho iHebhroni) elizweni lamaqaqa koJuda. **8** Empumalanga yeJodani leJerikho baphawula iBhezeri enkangala esemagcekeni esizwaneni sikaRubheni, iRamothisi eseGilyadi esizwaneni sikaGadi, leGolani eseBhashani esizwaneni sikaManase. **9** Iloba ngubani owako-Israyeli kumbe omunye owezizweni ohlala phakathi kwabo owabulala omunye umuntu ngengozi wayengabalekela emadolobheni aqanjweyo, aphephe ekubulaweni ngumphindiseli wegazi engakamiswa phambi kwebandla ukuba athonisisewe.

21 Abakhokheli bezimuli zabaLevi balanda u-Eliyazari umphristi, uJoshuwa indodana kaNuni, labakhokheli bezinye izimuli ezizwaneni zaka-Israyeli **2** eShilo eShekenani bathi kubo, “UTHixo walaya ngoMosi wathi lisinike amadolobho okuhlala, alamadlelo ezifuyo zethu.” **3** Ngakho njengoba uThixo wayelayile, abako-Israyeli banika abaLevi amadolobho alandelayo lamadlelo kuvela elifeni labo: **4** Inkatho yakuqala yawela amaKhhohathi ngensendo zawo. AbaLevi ababezizukulwane zika-Aroni umphristi babelwa amadolobho alitshumi lantathu ezizwaneni zakoJuda, ezakoSimiyoni lezakoBhenjamini. **5** Izizukulwane zonke zikaKhhohathi zabelwa amadolobho alitshumi kuzinsendo zezizwana zaka-Efrayimi, ezakoDani lengxenye yakoManase. **6** Izizukulwane zikaGeshoni zabelwa amadolobho alitshumi lantathu kuzinsendo zezizwana zaka-Isakhari, ezako-Asheri, ezakoNafithali lengxenye yesizwana sakoManase eBhashani. **7** Izizukulwane zikaMerari ngensendo zazo zathola amadolobho alitshumi lambili ezizwaneni zakoRubheni, ezakoGadi lezakoZebhuluni. **8** Ngakho abako-Israyeli babelwa abaLevi amadolobho la lamadlelo awo, njengokulaya kukaThixo ngoMosi. **9** Ezizwaneni zakoJuda lezakoSimiyoni amadolobho abawayo nanka ngamabizo awo **10** Amadolobho la anikwa izizukulwane zika-Aroni ezazivela kuzinsendo zamaKhhohathi phakathi kwabaLevi ngoba inkatho yakuqala yawela kuzo: **11** Bazinika iKhiriyaithi Aribha (okutsho iHebhroni) emadlelweni akulowomango elizweni lamaqaqa koJuda (u-Abha wayengukhokho ka-Anakhi). **12** Kodwa amasimu lemizana okwakuseduzane ledolobho babekunike uKhalebi indodana kaJefune ukuba kube ngokwakhe. **13** Ngakho izizukulwane zika-Aroni umphristi bazinika iHebhroni (idolobho lokuphephela kwalabo abalamacala okubulala), iLibhina, **14** ijathiri, i-Eshithemowa **15** iHoloni, iDebhiri, **16** i-Ayini, ijutha leBhethi-Shemeshi, ndawonye lamadlelo awo, amadolobho ayisificamunwemunye esuka ezizwaneni lezi zombili. **17** Esizweni sakoBhenjamini bazinika iGibhiyoni, iGebha, **18** i-Anathothi le-Alimoni, ndawonye lamadlelo awo kwaba ngamadolobho amane. **19** Wonke amadolobho abaphristi, izizukulwane zika-Aroni, ayelitshumi lantathu ndawonye lamadlelo awo. **20** Ezinye zonke insendo zikaKhhohathi phakathi kwabaLevi zabelwa amadolobho ezizwaneni sako-Efrayimi. **21** Elizweni elilamaqaqa ko-Efrayimi zanikwa iShekhemu (idolobho lokuphephela kwalabo abalamacala okubulala) leGezeri, **22** iKhibhizayimi leBhethi-Horoni, ndawonye lamadlelo awo, kwaba ngamadolobho amane. **23** Esizwaneni sakoDani zathola, i-Elithekhe, iGibhethoni, **24** i-Ayijaloni leGathi-Rimoni, ndawonye lamadlelo awo, kwaba ngamadolobho amane. **25** Kungxenye yesizwe sakoManase zathola iThanakhi leGathi-Rimoni, ndawonye lamadlelo awo, kwakungamadolobho amabili.

26 Wonke la amadolobho alitshumi lamadlelo awo anikwa kuzozonke insendo zamaKhhohathi. **27** Insendo zamaLevi ezeGeshoni zanikwa: kungxenye yesizwana sakoManase, iGolani eseBhashani (idolobho lokuphephela kwalabo abalamacala okubulala) leBheshithera, ndawonye lamadlelo awo, amadolobho amabili; **28** esizwaneni sika-Isakhari, iKhishiyoni, iDabherathi, **29** ijamuthi le-Eni-Ganimu, ndawonye lamadlelo awo, amadolobho amane; **30** esizwaneni sika-Asheri, iMishali, i-Abhidoni, **31** iHelikhathi leRehobhi, ndawonye lamadlelo awo, amadolobho amane; **32** kusukela esizwaneni sakoNafithali, iKhedeshi eseGalile (idolobho lokuphephela kwalabo abalamacala okubulala), iHamothi-Dori leKhathani, ndawonye lamadlelo awo, amadolobho amathathu. **33** Wonke amadolobho ensendo zamaGeshoni ayelitshumi lantathu, ndawonye lamadlelo awo. **34** Insendo zamaMerari (okutsho bonke abaLevi) zanikwa kanje esizwaneni sikaZebhuluni, ijokhinyamu, iKhatha, **35** iDimina leNahalali ndawonye lamadlelo awo, amadolobho amane. **36** Esizwaneni sakoRubheni, iBhezeri, ijahazi, **37** iKhedemothi leMefahathi ndawonye lamadlelo awo, amadolobho amane. **38** Esizwaneni sakoGadi, iRamothisi eseGilyadi (idolobho lokuphephela kwalabo abalamacala okubulala), iMahanayimi, **39** iHeshibhoni leJazeri ndawonye lamadlelo awo, amadolobho amane esewonke. **40** Wonke amadolobho abelwa insendo zamaMerari, eyingxenye yonke eseleyo yabaLevi, ayelitshumi lambili. **41** Amadolobho abaLevi elizweni eliphansi kwabako-Israyeli ayengamatshumi amane lasificaminwembili mibili esewonke ndawonye lamadlelo awo. **42** Linye ngalinye lamadolobho la lalilamadlelo aligombolozeyo. Konke kwakunjalo ngawo wonke la amadolobho. **43** Ngakho uThixo wanika abako-Israyeli wonke umhlaba ayefunge ukuwunika okhokho babo, bawuthatha bakha khonapho. **44** UThixo wabapha ukuphumula enhlangothini zonke, njengokufunga ayekwenze kubokhokho babo. Akulasitha lesisodwa esenlela ukumelana labo; uThixo wanikela zonke izitha zabo kubo. **45** Asikho lesisodwa sazo zonke izithembiso ezinhle zikaThixo endlini ka-Israyeli esingagcalisekanga; zonke zagcaliseka.

22 UJoshuwa wamema abakoRubheni, abakoGadi lengxenye yesizwe sikaManase **2** wathi kubo, “Selenze konke uMosi inceku kaThixo eyakulayayo, njalo lingilalele kukho konke engililaye ngakho. **3** Okwesikhathi eside khathesi, kuze kube lamuhla, kalizange lihlamukele abafowenu kodwa lenze umsebenzi lowo uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinike wona. **4** Njengoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu wanika abafowenu ukuphumula njengokuthembisa kwakhe, buyelani emakhaya enu elizweni uMosi inceku kaThixo alinika lona ngaphetsheya kweJodani. **5** Kodwa linanzelele kakhulu ukuthi lilondolozayo umthetho uMosi inceku kaThixo alinika wona: Ukuthanda uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, ukuhamba ezindleleni zakhe zonke, ukulalela imilayo yakhe, ukubambelela kuye lokumsebenzela ngenhlizyo yenu yonke lomphfumulo wenu wonke.” **6** UJoshuwa wasebabusisa wathi kabahambe; yikho basebesiya emizini yabo. **7** Ingxenye yesizwana sakoManase uMosi wayeyinike ilizwe eBhashani, kwathi eyinye ingxenye yesizwana uJoshuwa wayeyinike indawo lapho okwakwachele abafowabo eJodani. Kwathi uJoshuwa esethe kabahambe emakhaya, wababusisa **8** wathi, “Buyelani emakhaya enu lenotho yenu enengi, lilemihlambi emikhulu yezifuyo, lilesiliva, igolide ithusi

lensimbi, lamalembu amanengi, beselisabelana labafowenu lokho elakuthumba ezitheni zenu.” **9** Ngakho abakoRubheni, abakoGadi lengxenyane yesizwana sakoManase batshiya abako-Israyeli eShilo eseKhenani babuyela eGiliyadi, ilizwe labo, ababelizuze kulandela umlayo kaThixo awethula ngoMosi. **10** Bathi sebefike eGelithothi eduzane leJodani elizweni leKhenani, abakoRubheni, abakoGadi lengxenyane yesizwana sakoManase bakha i-alithari elikhulu eduzane leJodani. **11** Kwathi abako-Israyeli sebezwe ukuthi sebakhe i-alithari emngceleni weKhenani eGelithothi duzane leJodani eceleni lako-Israyeli, **12** umphakathi wonke wako-Israyeli wabuthana eShilo ukulungiselela ukulwa labo empini. **13** Ngakho abako-Israyeli bathuma uFinehasi indodana ka-Eliyazari, umphristi elizweni leGiliyadi kuRubheni, uGadi lengxenyane yesizwana sakoManase. **14** Waphelekezelwa zinduna ezilithumi, inye ngayinye ivela phakathi kwezizwe zonke zako-Israyeli njalo iyinhloko yesigaba semuli yensendo zako-Israyeli. **15** Ekuyeni kwabo eGiliyadi, kuRubheni loGadi lengxenyane yesizwana sakoManase bathi kubo: **16** “Umphakathi wonke kaThixo uthi: ‘Kungani lisuke langathembeki kuNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli ngale indlela? Kungani lilahle uNkulunkulu lizakhela i-alithari njengokumhlamukela khathesi. **17** Kambe ukona kukaPheiyori kakwanelanga kithi na? Kuze kube lamhla kasikazihlambululi esonwani leso, lanxa umkhuhlane wake wahlasela isizwe sikaThixo! **18** Selibalekela uThixo na? Nxa lingahlamukela uThixo lamhla, kusasa uzazondela isizwe sonke sako-Israyeli: **19** Nxa umhlaba elilawo ungcolisiwe wozani emhlabeni kaThixo lapho ithabanikeli likaThixo elimi khona beselisabelana umhlaba lathi. Kodwa lingahlamukeli uThixo kumbe thina ngokuzakhela i-alithari lenu, ngaphandle kwe-alithari likaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu. **20** Lapho u-Akhani indodana kaZera aze angathembeki ezintweni ezingcwelisiweyo, isijeziso kasehlehlanga isizwe sonke sako-Israyeli yini? Kayisuye yedwa owafela isono sakhe.” **21** Ngakho uRubheni, uGadi lengxenyane yesizwe sakoManase baphendula abakhokheli bezinsendo zako-Israyeli bathi: **22** “USomanda, uNkulunkulu uThixo! USomanda uNkulunkulu uThixo! Uyazi! Njalo u-Israyeli kabe lolwazi! Nxa lokhu bekuyikuhlamukela kumbe ukuqholozela uThixo, lingasisindisi lamhlanje. **23** Nxa sakhela i-alithari lethu ukwenzela ukubalekela uThixo lokunikela ngeminikelo yokutshiswa leminikelo yamabele, kumbe ukunikela ngeminikelo yokuthula kulo, uThixo ngokwakhe kasijezise. **24** Hatshi! Sakwenza sisesaba ukuthi kwelinye ilanga izizukulwane zenu zingathi kwazethu, ‘Lilani loThixo, uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli? **25** UThixo sewenza iJodani ibe ngumngcele phakathi kwethu lani lina maRubheni lamaGadi! Kalilasabelo kuThixo.’ Ngakho izizukulwane zenu zingenza ukuthi ezethu ziyekele ukwesaba uThixo. **26** Yikho sathi, ‘Kasilungiseni sakhe i-alithari, kodwa hatshi eleminikelo yokutshiswa kumbe imihlatshelo.’ **27** Ngeyinye indlela, kuzakuba yibufakazi phakathi kwethu lani lezizukulwane ezizalandela, ukuthi sizekhonza uThixo endlini yakhe engcwele ngeminikelo yokutshiswa, iminikelo yethu kanye leyokuthula. Ngakho kwelakusasa izizukulwane zenu kazoze zithi kwazethu, ‘Kalilasabelo kuThixo.’ **28** Njalo sathi, ‘Bangavele batsho lokhu kithi kumbe kuzizukulwane zethu, sizaphendula sithi: Khangelani emfanekisweni we-alithari likaThixo, elakhiwa ngobaba, hatshi eleminikelo yokutshiswa lemihlatshe, kodwa njengobufakazi phakathi kwethu lani.’ **29** Kukhatshana kithi ukuthi sihlamukele uThixo simfulathele

lamhla ngokwakha i-alithari leminikelo yokutshiswa, iminikelo yamabele lemihlatshe, ngaphandle kwe-alithari likaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu elimi phambi kwethabanikeli lakhe.” **30** Kwathi uFinehasi umphristi labakhokheli besizwe, abakhokheli bezinsendo zako-Israyeli, sebezwe okwakutshiwo nguRubheni, uGadi loManase bathokoza. **31** UFinehasi indodana ka-Eliyazari, umphristi, wathi kuRubheni, uGadi loManase, “Lamhla siyazi ukuthi uThixo ulathi, ngenxa yokuthi kalizange liyekele ukwethembeka phambi kukaThixo kuloludaba. Khathesi selihlengle abako-Israyeli esandleni sikaThixo.” **32** UFinehasi indodana ka-Eliyazari, umphristi, labakhokheli babuyela eKhenani bevela emhlanganweni wabo labakoRubheni labakoGadi eGiliyadi basebebika kwabako-Israyeli. **33** Bathokoza ukuzwa umbiko basebedumisa uNkulunkulu. Kabasakhulumanga njalo ngokuya empini yokubalwisa ukwenzela ukutshabalalisa ilizwe lapho abakoRubheni labakoGadi ababehlala khona. **34** Njalo abakoRubheni labakoGadi banika i-alithari lelibizo: UBufakazi Phakathi Kwethu ukuthi uThixo unguNkulunkulu.

23 Ngemva kwesikhathi eside njalo uThixo esephumuze abako-Israyeli kuzozonke izitha zabo ezazibagombolozele, uJoshuwa ngalesosikhathi esekhulile eseleminyaka eminengi, **2** wabiza bonke abako-Israyeli, abadala babo, abakhokheli babo, abahluleli babo leziphathamandla zabo wathi kubo: “Sengimdala njalo sengiluphele kakhulu. **3** Lina ngokwenu selikubonile konke lokho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu akwenzileyo kuzozonke lezi izizwe esenzela lina; nguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu owalilwelayo. **4** Khumbulani ukuthi ngalabela njani ukuba kube yilifa lenu lezizwana zenu wonke umhlaba wezizwe ezasalayo, izizwe engazinqobayo, phakathi kweJodani loLwandle Olukhulu entshonalanga. **5** UThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ngokwakhe uzabaxotsha endleleni yenu. Uzabasusa lina lingakafiki, njalo lina lizathatha umhlaba wabo, njengokuthembisa kukaThixo uNkulunkulu. **6** Qinani kakhulu; linanzelele ukuthi lilalele konke okulotshwe eGwalweni lwemiThetho kaMosi, lingaphambukelanga kwesokudla kumbe esenzele. **7** Lingaze lazisondeza ezizweni lezi eziphakathi kwenu; lingaze labiza amagama abonkulunkulu bazo kumbe lifunge ngabo. Akumelanga ukuthi libasebenzele lokubakhothamela. **8** Kodwa kumele libambelele kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu njengalokhu eselikwenze kwaze kwaba khathesi. **9** UThixo usezixotshile phambi kwenu izizwe ezilamandla; kuze kube lamhla kakho owenelisa ukumelana lani. **10** Oyedwa wenu uyanelisa ukwehlula abantu abayinkulungwane eyodwa ngenxa yokuthi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uyalilwela njengokuthembisa kwakhe. **11** Ngakho-ke nanzelelani ukuthi liyamthanda uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **12** Kodwa lingabaleka beselisiba lobungane lalabo abasindileyo phakathi kwezizwe lezi ezizasala phakathi kwenu njalo lingavumelana lokuthathana lokudlelana lazo, **13** lapho lingaba leqiniso lokuthi uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu kazoze azixotshwe izizwe phambi kwenu. Kodwa-ke zizakuba yimijibila lezithiyo kini, zizakuba yiziswebhu emihlani yenu lameva emehlweni enu, lize libhujiswe elizweni leli elihle uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona. **14** Khathesi sengizahamba ngendlela yomhlaba wonke. Liyazi ngezinhliziyo zenu lemiphfumulo ukuthi kasikho isithembiso lasinye esihle phakathi kwalezo

elazinikwa nguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu esehlulekayo. Zonke izithembiso sezagcaliswa; kasikho lesisodwa esehlulekayo. **15** Kodwa njengoba zonke izithembiso ezinhle zikaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu seziphumelele, kunjalo uThixo uzalilethela bonke ububi alethusela ngabo, aze alibhubhise elizweni leli elihle alinike lona. **16** Lingephula isivumelwano sikaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, owalilayayo ngaso lyokhonzwa abanye onkulunkulu libakhothamele, ulaka lukaThixo luzavutha kini, njalo libabhubha ngokuphangisa elizweni elihle alinike lona.”

24 Ngakho uJoshua wabuthanisa zonke izizwana zako-Israyeli eShekhemu. Wamema bonke abadala, abakhokheli, abahluleli leziphathamandla zako-Israyeli, njalo bazethula phambi kukaNkulunkulu. **2** UJoshua wathi ebantwini bonke, “UThixo, uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli uthi: ‘Kudala okhokho benu, okugqela uThera uyise ka-Abrahamama loNahori, babehlala ngaphetsheya koMfula njalo bekhonza abanye onkulunkulu. **3** Kodwa ngathatha uyihlo u-Abrahamama elizweni elingaphetsheya koMfula ngamkhokhelela eKhenani ngamnika izizukulwane ezinengi. Ngamnika u-Isaka, **4** njalo u-Isaka ngamnika uJakhobe lo-Esawu. Nganika ilizwe lonke elilamaqaqa eleSeyiri ku-Esawu, kodwa uJakhobe lamadodana akhe baya eGibhithe. **5** Ngasengithuma uMosi lo-Aroni, njalo ngajezisa amaGibhithe ngalokho engakwenza khonale ngasengilikhupha khona. **6** Ekukhupheni kwami okhokho benu eGibhithe, beza olwandle njalo amaGibhithe axotshana labo ngezinqola lamabhiza baze bayafika eLwandle Olubomvu. **7** Kodwa bakhala kuThixo befuna uncedo yena waseletha umnyama phakathi kwenu lamaGibhithe; waletha ulwandle phezu kwabo wabembesa ngalo. Lazibonela ngamehlo enu lokho engakwenza kumaGibhithe. Laselihlala enkangala okwesikhathi eside. **8** Ngaliletha elizweni lama-Amori ayehlala empumalanga yeJodani. Balwisana lani, kodwa mina ngabanikela ezandleni zenu. Ngababhubhisa phambi kwenu njalo laselithatha ilizwe labo. **9** Lapho uBhalaki indodana kaZiphori inkosi yaseMowabi, alungiselela ukulwisana lo-Israyeli, wathumela uBhalamu indodana kaBheyori ukuthi aliqalekise. **10** Kodwa ngala ukulalela uBhalamu, ngakho walibusisa njalonjalo mina ngasengilihlenga esandleni sakhe. **11** Laselichapha uJodani leza eJericho. Izakhamizi zeJericho zalwisana lani njengalokho okwenziwa ngama-Amori, amaPherizi, amaKhenani, amaHithi, amaGigashi, amaHivi lamaJebusi, kodwa ngabanikela ezandleni zenu. **12** Ngathumela olonyovu phambi kwenu, olwabaxotsha phambi kwenu kanye lamakhosi amabili ama-Amori. Kalizange likwenze ngenkamba yenu langedandili lenu. **13** Ngakho ngalinika ilizwe elingazanga liliginqele lamadolobho elingazange liwakhe; njalo lihlala phakathi kwawo njalo lisidla ezivinini zama-oliva elingazihlanyelanga.’ **14** Ngakho mesabeni uThixo limkhonze ngokuthembeka konke. Lahlani onkulunkulu ababekhonza ngokhokho benu ngaphetsheya koMfula laseGibhithe, likhonze uThixo. **15** Kodwa nxa ukukhonza uThixo kukhanya kungathandeki kini, khethani phakathi kwenu namhlanje lowo elizamkhonza, kumbe ngonkulunkulu okhokho benu ababekhonza ngaphetsheya koMfula kumbe onkulunkulu bama-Amori, lawo elihlala elizweni lawo. Kodwa mina lendlu yami sizakhonza uThixo.” **16** Abantu basebephendula besithi, “Akube khatshana lathi ukuthi silahle uThixo ukuze sikhonze abanye onkulunkulu! **17** KwakunguThixo uNkulunkulu wethu ngokwakhe owasikhuphayo thina kanye

labobaba eGibhithe sisuka elizweni lobugqili, wasesenza izimanga ezinkulu emehlweni ethu. Wasivikela kulolonke uhambo lwethu lakuzo zonke izizwe. **18** Njalo uThixo wazixotsha phambi kwethu zonke izizwe, okugogqela ama-Amori ayehlala elizweni. Lathi sizamkhonza uThixo ngoba unguNkulunkulu wethu.” **19** UJoshua wathi ebantwini, “Kalenelisi ukumkhonza uThixo. UnguNkulunkulu ongcewe; unguNkulunkulu olobukhwele. Kasoze alixolele ekuhlamukeni kwenu lezonweni zenu. **20** Nxa lingatshiya uThixo beselikhonza abanye onkulunkulu bezizweni uzaliphendukela alehlisele umonakalo aliqede du, yena ubelungile.” **21** Kodwa abantu bathi kujoshuwa, “Hatshi! Sizamkhonza uThixo.” **22** UJoshua wathi, “Yini elizifakazelayo ukuthi selikhethe ukukhonza uThixo.” Baphendula bathi, “Yebo singofakazi.” **23** UJoshua wathi kubo, “Ngakho-ke lahlani bonke onkulunkulu bezizweni abaphakathi kwenu beselinikela inhliziyu zenu kuThixo, uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli.” **24** Abantu bathi kujoshuwa, “Sizamkhonza uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu simlalele.” **25** Ngalelolangana uJoshua wenzela abantu isivumelwano, njalo wabenzela imithetho lemilayo khonapho eShekhemu. **26** UJoshua waloba konke lokhu oGwalweni lwemiThetho kaNkulunkulu. Wasethatha ilitshe elikhulu walimisa phansi kwesihlahla somOkhi eduzane lendawo engcewe kaThixo. **27** Wathi ebantwini bonke, “Khangalani! Ilitshe leli lizakuba yibufakazi kithi sonke. Selizwile wonke amazwi akhulunye nguThixo kithi. Lizakuba ngofakazi wokulilahlala nxa lingakhulumi iqiniso kuNkulunkulu.” **28** UJoshua wasethshela abantu ukuba bahambe, yilowo esiya elifeni lakhe. **29** Ngemva kwezinto lezi, uJoshua indodana kaNuni, inceku kaThixo wafa eseleminyaka elikhulu letshumi. **30** Njalo bamngcwaba elizweni alizuzwa njengelifa, eThimnathi-Sera elizweni elilamaqaqa elako-Efrayimi enyakatho yentaba yeGashi. **31** Abako-Israyeli bamkhonza uThixo ngezinsuku zokuphila kukaJoshuwa labadala kulaye ababese bephila njalo bebone zonke izinto uThixo ayezenzele abako-Israyeli. **32** Njalo amathambo kaJosefa, abako-Israyeli ababesuke lawo eGibhithe, angcwatshelwa eShekhemu esiqintini somhlaba leso uJakhobe asithenga ngenhlamvu ezilikhulu zesiliva emadodaneni kaHamori, uyise kaShekhemu. Leli laba yilifa lezizukulwane zikaJosefa. **33** U-Eliyazari indodana ka-Aroni wafa wasengcwatshelwa eGibhiya, eyayabelwe indodana yakhe uFinehasi elizweni lamaqaqa elako-Efrayimi.

Abahluleli

1 Emva kokufa kukaJoshua, abako-Israyeli babuza uThixo bathi, “Pho ngubani ozahamba kuqala ukuba ayesilwela lamaKhenani na?” **2** UThixo waphendula wathi, “Ngujuda ozahamba; ilizwe sengilinikele ezandleni zabo.” **3** Lapho-ke abantu bakoJuda bathi kwabakoSimiyoni abafowabo, “Hambani lathi elizweni esalabelwayo, ukuyakulwa lamaKhenani. Lathi sizakwenanisa ngokuhamba lani kwelenu.” Ngakho abakoSimiyoni ahamba labo. **4** Kwathi uJuda esehlasele, uThixo wanikela amaKhenani lamaPherizi ezandleni zabo, wabulala abantu abazinkulungwane ezilithumi eBhezekhi. **5** Kukhonapho abafika khona u-Adoni-Bhezekhi balwa laye, baqothula amaKhenani kanye lamaPherizi. **6** U-Adoni-Bhezekhi wabaleka, kodwa baxotshana laye baze bambamba, bamquma izithupha zakhe lamazwane amakhulu. **7** U-Adoni-Bhezekhi wasesithi, “Amakhosi angamatshumi ayisikhombisa ayequnywe izithupha zawo lamazwane amakhulu ayedobha imvuthuluka ngaphansi kwetafula yami. Khathezi uNkulunkulu usephindisele kimi ngalokho engakwenza kuwo.” Bamusa eJerusalem lapho afela khona. **8** Abantu bakoJuda bahlasela leJerusalem bayithumba. Bahlasela idolobho ngezinkemba balithungela ngomlilo. **9** Emva kwalokho, abantu bakoJuda bahamba bayakulwa lamaKhenani ayehlala elizweni lezintaba, iNegebi kanye lamawatha ezintaba angasentshonalanga. **10** Baqhubeka bayahlasela amaKhenani ayehlala eHebhroni (kuqala eyayithiwa yiKhiriyathi Aribha) banqoba uSheshayi, u-Ahimani kanye loThalimayi. **11** Besuka lapho baqhubeka bayahlasela abantu ababehlala eDebbiri (kuqala eyayithiwa yiKhiriyathi-Sefa). **12** UKhalebi wathi, “Ngizakwendisele indodakazi yami u-Akhisa endodeni ezahlasela ithumbe iKhiriyathi-Sefa.” **13** U-Othiniyeli, indodana kaKhenazi, umnawakhe kaKhalebi, wayithumba; ngakho uKhalebi wendisela indodakazi yakhe u-Akhisa kuye. **14** Ngelinye ilanga u-Akhisa wafika ku-Othiniyeli wamkhuthaza ukuthi acele insimu kuyise. Lapho esehlile kubabhemi wakhe uKhalebi wambuzwa wathi, “Kuyini engingakwenzela khona?” **15** Waphendula wathi, “Ngicela ungenzele umusa obalulekileyo. Njengoba unginike umhlaba eNegebi, ngicela unginike lemithombo yamanzi.” Ngakho uKhalebi wamnika imithombo eyayingaphezulu leyayingaphansi. **16** Abayanzalo kayisezela kaMosi, amaKheni, bahamba labantu bakoJuda besuka edolobheni laMalala besiyahlala phakathi kwabantu basenkangala yakoJuda eNegebi eduze le-Aradi. **17** Emva kwalokho abantu bakoJuda bahamba labakoSimiyoni abafowabo bahlasela amaKhenani ayehlala eZefathi, idolobho basebelichitha ngokupheleleyo. Ngakho lathiwa yiHoma. **18** Abantu bakoJuda bathumba njalo iGaza, i-Ashikheloni kanye le-Ekroni, idolobho linye ngalinye kanye lelizwe lalo. **19** UThixo wayelabantu bakoJuda. Bathumba ilizwe lezintaba, kodwa behluleka ukuxotsha abantu ababesemagcekeni ngoba babeleziqola zempi ezenzwe ngensimbi. **20** Njengokuthembisa kumaMosi, iHebhroni yaphiwa uKhalebi, owaxotsha kuyo amadodana amathathu ka-Anakhi. **21** Kodwa abakoBhenjamini behluleka ukususa amaJebusi ayehlala eJerusalem; lalamhlanje amaJebusi ahlala khona labakoBhenjamini. **22** Ngalesosikhathe abendlu kaJosefa bahlasela iBetheli, njalo uThixo wayelabo. **23** Ekuthumeni kwabo abantu ukuba bayehlola iBetheli (kuqala

idolobho lelo lalithiwa yiLuzi), **24** inhlozi zabona umuntu ephuma edolobheni zasezisithi kuye, “Sitshengise ukuthi singangena njani edolobheni, thina-ke sizabona ukuthi uphatheka kuhle.” **25** Ngakho wazitshengisa, zasezihlasela idolobho ngenkamba kodwa umuntu lowo zamyekela kanye labendlu yakhe bonke. **26** Ngakho-ke waya elizweni lamaHithi, lapho akha khona idolobho alibiza ngokuthi yiLuzi, okulokhe kuyilo ibizo lalo lalamhlanje. **27** Kodwa uManase kabaxotshanga abantu baseBethethi-Shani loba eThanakhi kumbe eDori loba e-Ibhilyami kumbe eMegido kanye lasemizaneni yabo eseduzane, ngoba amaKhenani ayezimisele ukuhlala kulelolizwe. **28** Kwathi abako-Israyeli sebelamandla bawabamba ngamandla amaKhenani ukuba abasebenzele kodwa kabazange bawaxotshe wonke. **29** Labako-Efrayimi kabawaxotshanga amaKhenani ayehlala eGezeri, kodwa amaKhenani aqhubeka ehlala khona labo. **30** LabakoZebulunini kabawaxotshanga amaKhenani ayehlala eKithironi kanye laseNahaloli, asala ephekathi kwabo; kodwa bawabamba ngamandla ukuba abasebenzele. **31** Labako-Asheri kababaxotshanga labo ababehlala e-Akko, kumbe eSidoni, kumbe e-Ahlabi loba e-Akhizibhi kumbe eHelibha loba e-Afekhi kumbe eRehobhi, **32** njalo ngenxa yalokhu abantu bako-Asheri bahlala lamaKhenani ayeyakhe elizweni. **33** LabakoNafithali kababaxotshanga labo ababehlala eBethethi-Shemeshi kumbe eBethethi-Anathi; kodwa abakoNafithali labo bahlala lamaKhenani ayeyakhe elizweni, kwathi lawo ayehlala eBethethi-Shemeshi kanye leBethethi-Anathi abanjwa ngamandla ukuba abe yizisebenzi zabo. **34** Ama-Amori acindezela abakoDani ukuba bahlale elizweni lezintaba, angabavumeli ukuba behlele phansi emagcekeni. **35** Njalo ama-Amori ayezimisele ukuhlala kokuphela eNtabeni iHeresi, le-Ayijaloni kanye leShalibhimi, kodwa kwathi amandla abendlu kaJosefa esemakhulu, lawo abanjwa ngamandla ukuba abe yizisebenzi. **36** Umngcele wama-Amori wawusekela uMkhandlu weNkume usiya eSela kanye langaphetsheya.

2 Ingilosi kaThixo yahamba isuka eGiligali isiya eBhokhimi yathi, “Ngalikhupha eGibhithe ngaliholela elizweni engafunga ukulinika okhokho benu. Ngathi, ‘Angiyikusephula isivumelwano sami lani, njalo kaliyikwenza isivumelwano labantu balelilizwe, kodwa libabhidliza ama-alithare abo.’ Kodwa lina kalingilalelanga. Likwenzeleni lokhu na? **3** Ngakho khathezi-ke ngiyalitshela ukuthi angiyikubaxotsha phambi kwenu, bazakuba yizifu kini njalo onkulunkulu baba bazakuba yimijibila kini.” **4** Kwathi ingilosi kaThixo isizikhulumile zonke lezintaba kubo bonke abako-Israyeli, abantu bakhala kakhulu, **5** indawo leyo bayibiza ngokuthi yiBhokhimi. Banikela imihlatshelo kuThixo khonapho. **6** Emva kokuba uJoshua esebadele abako-Israyeli, bahamba bayalithatha ilizwe, lowo lawo endaweni eyilifa lakhe. **7** Abantu bamkhonza uThixo ngezinsuku zokuphila kukaJoshua labadala kulaye ababesele bephila njalo beyibonile imisebenzi emikhulu uThixo ayeenzele abako-Israyeli. **8** UJoshua indodana kaNuni, inceku kaThixo, wafa eseleminyaka elikhulu letshumi. **9** Bamngcwaba emhlabeni oyilifa lakhe, eThimnathi-Heresi, elizweni lezintaba lako-Efrayimi, enyakatho kwentaba iGashi. **10** Kwathi emva kokuba sonke isizukulwane lesa sesiphelile, kwavela esinye isizukulwane esasingamazisi uThixo kanye lalokho ayekwenzele abako-Israyeli. **11** Lapho-ke abako-Israyeli benza okubi emehlweni kaThixo, bakhonza uBhali. **12** Bamdela

uThixo, uNkulunkulu waboyise, owayebakhphe eGibhithe. Balandela njalo bakhonza onkulunkulu abehlukeneyo babantu ababehlala phakathi kwabo. Bamthukuthelisa uThixo **13** ngoba bamdela bakhonza uBhali labo-Ashithorethi. **14** Ekubathukutheleleni kwakhe uThixo wabanikela ezandleni zababahlaseleyo lababaphangayo. Wabanikela ezitheni zabo ezazibhanqile, ababengaselenisi ukumelana lazo. **15** Zonke izikhathi lapho abako-Israyeli bephuma ukuyakulwa, isandla sikaThixo samelana labo ukuba behlulwe, njengokufunga kwakhe kubo. Basebephakathi kohlupho olukhulu. **16** Kulapho-ke uThixo abeka khona abahluleli ababahlengayo ezandleni zabaphangi laba. **17** Belo kababalalanga abahluleli babo kodwa baqhubeka bekhonza abanye onkulunkulu. Kabenzanga njengabokhokho babo, kodwa bona baphanga baphuma endleleni oyise ababehambe ngayo, indlela yokulalela imilayo kaThixo. **18** Ngasonke isikhathi lapho uThixo ebabekela khona umahluleli, wayemthungamela umahluleli abahlele ezandleni zezitha zabo lapho esaphila; ngoba uThixo waba lesihawu kubo lapho bebubula ngaphansi kwalabo ababebancindezele lababebahlukuluza. **19** Kodwa lapho umahluleli esefile, abantu babuyela ezindleleni zokuxhwala okwedlula ezaboyise, belandela abanye onkulunkulu, bebesebenze njalo bekhonza, besala ukudela izenzo zabo ezimbi lezindlela zobuqholo. **20** Ngakho uThixo wamthukuthelela kakhulu u-Israyeli wathi, “Njengoba isizwe lesi sesephule isivumelwano engasimisela okhokho baso njalo kasingilalanga, **21** kangisayikuxotsha phambi kwaso iloba yisiphi isizwe phakathi kwezatshiywa nguJoshua ekufeni kwakhe. **22** Ngizasebenzisa zona ukhulola abako-Israyeli ngibone ukuthi bazayigcina yini indlela kaThixo, bahambe kuyo njengokwenziwa ngokhokho babo.” **23** UThixo wayevumele ukuthi lezoizwe zisale; kazixotshanga masinyane ngokuzinikela ezandleni zikaJoshua.

3 Nanzi izizwe ezatshiywa nguThixo ukuze abahlule bonke abako-Israyeli ababengazibonanga izimpi eKhenani **2** (wenza lokhu ukuba azifundise izizukulwane zako-Israyeli ukulwiwa kwezimpi lezo ezazingazange zikubone ukulwa ngaphambilini): **3** ababusi abahlanu bamaFilistiya, amaKhenani wonke, amaSidoni, lamaHivi ahlala ezintabeni zaseLebhanoni kusukela eNtabeni iBhali-Hemoni kusiya eLebho Hamathi. **4** Babetshiyelwe ukhulola abako-Israyeli ukuba kubonakale ukuthi bayayilalela na imilayo kaThixo, ayeyinike okhokho babo ngoMosi. **5** Abako-Israyeli babehlala phakathi kwamaKhenani, lamaHithi, lama-Amori, lamaPherizi, lamaHivi kanye lamajebusi. **6** Bathatha amadodakazi awo aba ngomkabo njalo bendisela amadodakazi abo emadodaneni awo, bakhonza labonkulunkulu bawo. **7** Abako-Israyeli benza okubi emehlweni kaThixo; bamkohlwa uThixo uNkulunkulu wabo bakhonza oBhali labo-Ashera. **8** Ulaka lukaThixo lwavuthela abako-Israyeli waze wabanikela ezandleni zikaKhushani-Rishathayimi inkosi yase-Aramu Naharayimu, lapho abantu bako-Israyeli ababangaphansi kombuso wayo iminyaka eyisificaminwembali. **9** Kodwa ekukhaleni kwabo kuThixo, wabalethela umhlengi, u-Othiniyeli indodana kaKhenazi, umnawakhe kaKhalebi, owabakhlululayo. **10** Umoya kaThixo wehlela kuye, wasesiba ngumahluleli wako-Israyeli waya empini. UThixo wanikela uKhushani-Rishathayimi inkosi ye-Aramu ezandleni zika-Othiniyeli, wamnqoba. **11** Ngakho ilizwe laba lokuthula iminyaka engamatshumi amane, u-Othiniyeli indodana kaKhenazi waze wafa. **12** Abako-Israyeli

baphinda benza okubi emehlweni kaThixo, kwathi ngenxa yokuthi babenze lobububi uThixo wanika u-Egiloni inkosi yaseMowabi amandla phezu kuka-Israyeli. **13** Esenze ama-Amoni lama-Amaleki amanyana laye, u-Egiloni wayahlaselela u-Israyeli, basebethumba idolobho laMalala. **14** Abako-Israyeli babangaphansi kombuso ka-Egiloni inkosi yaseMowabi iminyaka elitshumi layisificaminwembali. **15** Abako-Israyeli bakhala futhi kuThixo, wasebapha umhlengi u-Ehudi, indoda eyayilixele indodana kaGera owakoBhenjamini. Abako-Israyeli bamthuma lesipho ku-Egiloni inkosi yaseMowabi. **16** U-Ehudi wayenze inkemba esika inxa zombili eyayingaba lwegalo lengxenyane ubude bayo, ayibophela ethangazini lakhe lwasokudla ngaphansi kwezizigqoko zakhe. **17** Wasethula isipho ku-Egiloni inkosi yaseMowabi, owayengumuntu oqatha kakhulu. **18** Emva kokuba u-Ehudi esesethule isipho, walaya abantu ababesithwele ukuba bazihambe. **19** Ezithombeni eduze leGiligi yena uqobo wabuyela emuva, wathi, “Oh nkosi, ngilelizwi lakho eliyimfihlo.” Inkosi yathi, “Thula!” Zonke izikhonzi zayo zasuka kuyo. **20** U-Ehudi wayilanda isihlezi yodwa ekamelweni langaphezulu elipholileyo endlini yayo yobukhosi wathi, “Ngilelizwi lakho elivela kuNkulunkulu.” Kwathi inkosi isukuma esihlalweni sayo, **21** u-Ehudi wafinyelela ngesandla sakhe senxele, wahwatha inkemba ethangazini lakhe kwesokudla wayithela esiswini senkosi. **22** Inkemba yatshona yasala ngesilanda, amathumbu akhe agcwala phansi. U-Ehudi kayingcothulanga inkemba, idanga layemboza. **23** U-Ehudi waphuma phandle, wavala iminyango yekamelo langaphezulu wayihluthulela. **24** Esehambile kweza zinceku zathola iminyango yekamelo langaphezulu ihluthulelwe. Zathi, “Kutsho ukuthi iye ngaphandle ekamelweni elingaphakathi kwendlu.” **25** Zalinda zaze zakhathazeka, kodwa ngoba ingasavulanga iminyango yekamelo lelo, zathatha ikhiye zayivula. Lapho-ke zabona inkosi yazo iwele phansi, isifile. **26** Zisalindle, u-Ehudi wasuka wahamba. Wedlula eduzane lezithombe wabalekela eSeyira. **27** Esefike lapho wakhalisa icilongo elizweni lezintaba lako-Efrayimi, abako-Israyeli basebesehla laye ezintabeni, yena ebakhokhele. **28** Wabalaya wathi, “Ngilandelani, ngoba uThixo usenikele uMowabi, isitha senu, ezandleni zenu.” Ngakho behlela laye phansi bemlandela, kwathi sebethumbe amazibuko eJodani ayewelela eMowabi, kabaze bavumela muntu ukuba achaphele ngaphetsheya. **29** Ngalesosikhathi babulala amaMowabi ayengaba zinkulungwane ezilithumi, wonke ayeqinile elamandla; akukho muntu owaphunyukayo. **30** Ngalolosuku iMowabi yanqotshwa yi-Israyeli, ilizwe laselisiba lokuthula iminyaka engamatshumi ayisificaminwembali. **31** Emva kuka-Ehudi kwaba loShamigari indodana ka-Anathi owabulala amaFilistiya angamakhulu ayisithupha ngesijulo senkabi. Laye wamkhulula u-Israyeli.

4 Abako-Israyeli baphinda benza okubi phambi kukaThixo, emva kokuba u-Ehudi esefile. **2** Ngakho uThixo wabanikela ezandleni zikaJabhini, inkosi yaseKhenani, owayebusa eHazoni. Umlawuli webutho lakhe wayenguSisera, owayehlala eHaroshethi-Hagoyimi. **3** Ngoba wayelezinqola zempi ezensimbi ezingamakhulu ayisificaminwemunye munye njalo encindezele abako-Israyeli kabuhlungu okweminyaka engamatshumi amabili, bacela usizo kuThixo. **4** Ngalesosikhathi u-Israyeli wayekhokhelwa nguDibhora umphrofethikazi, umkaLaphidothi. **5** Wayethonisela amacala ngaphansi kwesihlahla seLala likaDibhora phakathi kweRama

leBhetheli elizweni lezintaba lako-Efrayimi, njalo abantu bako-Israyeli baya kuye ukuba kwenziwe izinqumo ngemibono yabo. **6** Wabiza uBharakhi indodana ka-Abhinowami waseKhedeshi koNafithali wathi kuye, “UTHixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uyakulaya uthi: ‘Suka, uhambe labantu bakoNafithali labakoZebhuluni abazinkulungwane ezilithshumi ubakhokhelele eNtabeni iThabhoi. **7** Ngizahugela uSisera, umlawuli webutho likaJabhini, lezinqola zakhe zempi kanye lamabutho emfuleni uKhishoni ngimnikele ezandleni zakho.” **8** UBharakhi wathi kuye, “Nxa uhamba lami, ngizahamba; kodwa nxa ungahambi lami, kangiyikuhamba.” **9** UDibhora wathi, “Kulungile, ngizahamba lawe. Kodwa ngenxa yendlela oqhuba ngayo lokhu udumo kaluyikuba ngolwakho, ngoba uThixo uzanikela uSisera kowesifazane.” Ngakho uDibhora wahamba loBharakhi eKhedeshi **10** lapho abizela khona uZebhuluni loNafithali. Abantu abazinkulungwane ezilithshumi bamlandela. UDibhora laye wahamba labo. **11** Ngalesosikhathi uHebheri umKheni wayetshiye amanye amaKheni, izizukulwane zikaHobhabhi, uyisezala kaMosi, wamisa ithente lakhe phansi kwesihlahla som’Okhi eZananimi eduze leKhedeshi. **12** Kwathi uSisera sebemshelile ukuthi uBharakhi indodana ka-Abhinowami wayeseye eNtabeni iThabhoi, **13** uSisera waqoqela ndawonye izinqola zakhe zempi ezenzimbi ezingamakhulu ayisificamunwemunye munye lawo wonke amadoda ayelaye, kusukela eHaroshethi-Hagoyimi kusiya emfuleni uKhishoni. **14** UDibhora wasesithi kuBharakhi, “Hamba! Lolu yilo usuku uThixo anikele ngalo uSisera ezandleni zakho. Kanti uThixo kahambanga phambi kwakho na?” Ngakho uBharakhi wehlela eNtabeni iThabhoi elandelwa ngabantu abazinkulungwane ezilithshumi. **15** UBharakhi wathi esesondela uThixo wamhlasele uSisera lezinqola zakhe zonke zempi kanye lebutho ngenkamba, njalo uSisera watshiya izinqola zakhe zempi wabaleka ngezinyawo. **16** Kodwa uBharakhi waxotshana lezinqola zempi lebutho waze wafika eHaroshethi-Hagoyimi. Wonke amabutho kaSisera abulawa ngenkamba, akukho muntu owasilayo. **17** Kodwa uSisera wabaleka ngezinyawo waze wayafika ethenteni likaJayeli, umkaHebheri umKheni, ngoba kwakulobudlelwano obuhle phakathi kukaJabhini inkosi yaseHazoni lomdeni kaHebheri umKheni. **18** UJayeli waphuma wahlangabeza uSisera wasesithi kuye, “Woza nkosi yami, ngena phakathi sibili. Ungesabi.” Ngakho uSisera wangena ethenteni likaJayeli, wasemembesa ngengubo. **19** Wasesithi, “Ngomile. Ake unginathise.” Wavula umxhaka wesikhumba sochago, wamnathisa, wasemembesa. **20** USisera wasesithi, “Mana emnyango wethente. Kungaba lomuntu ofika akubuze athi, ‘Kulomuntu lapha na?’ wena kumele uthi ‘Hatshi.’” **21** Kodwa uJayeli, umkaHebheri, wathatha isikhonkwane sethente lesando, wamnyenyela ephakathi kobuthongo obukhulu, ngoba wayediniwe. Wabethela isikhonkwane enhlafunweni sangena saze sayafika emhlabathini, wafa. **22** UBharakhi wafika exotshana loSisera, uJayeli waphuma wayamhlangebeza. Wathi, “Woza, ngizakutshengisa umuntu omdingayo.” Ngakho wangena laye khonapho, uSisera wayelele isikhonkwane sethente singene satshona enhlafunweni yakhe esefile. **23** Ngalolosuku uNkulunkulu wamnqoba uJabhini, inkosi yamaKhenani, phambi kwabako-Israyeli. **24** Amandla abako-Israyeli okumelana loJabhini inkosi yamaKhenani akhula, aze amchitha.

5 Ngalolosuku uDibhora loBharakhi indodana ka-Abhinowami bahlabela ingoma le: **2** “Lapho amakhosana ko-Israyeli esekhokhela, lapho abantu bezinikela ngokuzithandela, dumisani uThixo! **3** Zwanini lokhu lina makhosi! Lalelani lina babusi! Ngizahlabelela kuThixo, ngizahlabelela; ngizahubela ihubo, kuThixo uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. **4** Awu Thixo, ekuqhamukeni kwakho eSeyiri, lapho usuka elizweni lase-Edomi, umhlaba wanyikinyeka, amazulu athululeka, amayezi athululela amanzi phansi. **5** Izintaba zazamazama phambi kukaThixo, yena owaseSinayi, phambi kukaThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. **6** Ensukwini zikaShamigari indodana ka-Anathi, ensukwini zikaJayeli, imigwaqo yayideliwe; izihambi zithatha izindledlana ezimazombe. **7** Izakhamizi zako-Israyeli kazizange zilwe, zahlehlale emuva kwaze kwavela mina Dibhora, kwavela umama ko-Israyeli. **8** UNkulunkulu wakhetha abakhokheli abatsha lapho impi isifike emasengweni edolobho, kodwa akulahawu kumbe umkhonto owabonakalayo phakathi kwezinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane ko-Israyeli. **9** Inhliziyo yami ikanye lamakhosana ako-Israyeli, kanye labazinikela ngokuzithandela phakathi kwabantu. Dumisani uThixo! **10** Lina eligada obabhemi abamhlophe, lihlezi ezihlalweni zenu zengubo, lani elihamba emgwaqweni cabangani **11** ilizwi labahlabeleli ezindaweni zamanzi okunathisa. Bahuba ngokulunga kukaThixo, ukunqoba kwezakhamizi zako-Israyeli. Lapho-ke abantu bakaThixo behlela emasengweni edolobho. **12** ‘Vuka, vuka, Dibhora! Vuka, vuka, uhlabele ingoma! Vuka weBharakhi! Uthumbe abathunjweyo bakho, wena ndodana ka-Abhinowami.’ **13** Ngakho abantu ababesele bafika ezikhulwini; abantu bakaThixo beza kimi labalamandla. **14** Abanye bavela ko-Efrayimi, abamdabuko wabo use-Amaleki; uBhenjamini wayelabantu abakulandelayo. Izinduna zamabutho zavela eMakhiri, koZebhuluni lapho abaphatha intonga yomlawuli webutho. **15** Amakhosana ako-Isakhari ayeloDibhora; yebo, u-Isakhari wayeloBharakhi emxhuma ngesiqubu ezigodini. Eziqintini zakoRubheni kwaba lokuhlolwa okukhulu kwezinhlizyo. **16** Lahlalelani ezibayeni ukuzwa amakhwelo enqanda izimvu na? Eziqintini zakoRubheni, kwaba lokuhlolwa okukhulu kwezinhlizyo. **17** UGilyadi wahlala ngaphetsheya kweJodani. LoDani wasalelani ngasemikhunjini na? U-Asheri wasala ngasokhunjini wahlala emathekwini akhe olwandle. **18** Abantu bakoZebhuluni bafaka impilo yabo uqobo engozini; wenza njalo loNafithali emiqolweni yeganga. **19** Amakhosi afika, alwa; amakhosi aseKhenani alwa, eThanakhi ngasemachibini aseMegido, kodwa kawazathwala isiliva, lempango. **20** Izinkanyezi zalwa zisemazulwini, zalwa loSisera zisezindleleni zazo. **21** Umfula uKhishoni wabakhukhula, umfula wendulo, umfula uKhishoni. Phambili, mphefumulo wami; Qina! **22** Kwaduma amasondo amabhiza ematha, ematha ehamba amabhiza akhe alamandla. **23** ‘Iqalekiseni iMerozi,’ kwatsho ingilos kaThixo, ‘Baqalekiseni kabuhlungu abantu bayo, ngoba kabezanga ukuzencedisa uThixo, ukuzasiza uThixo emelane labalamandla.’ **24** Kabe ngobusiswe kakhulu kwabesifazane uJayeli, umkaHebheri umKheni, obusiswe kakhulu kwabesifazane abahlala emathenteni. **25** Wacela amanzi, yena wamnika uchago, wamlethela amasi ngomganu ofanele izikhulu. **26** Wathatha isikhonkwane sethente ngesandla sakhe, isandla sakhe sokudla sathatha isando somkhandi. Watshaya uSisera,

wachoboza ikhanda lakhe, waphahaza wabhoboza inhlafuno yakhe. **27** Wawohlokela ezinyaweni zakhe, wawa; wabhazalala khonapho. Wawohlokela ezinyaweni zakhe wawa; lapho awohlokela khona, wawela khonapho esefile. **28** UnakaSisera walunguza ngefasitela; ngemva kwewindi wanqolonga wathi, 'Kungani inqola yakhe yempi iphuzo kangaka ukufika? Kungani ukugodlozela kwezinqola zakhe zempi kuphuzile?' **29** Ohlakaniphe kakhulu kumakhosazana akhe wamphendula; impela yena uhlezi ezitshela esithi, **30** 'Kanti kabafumani mpango bayabelane na; intombazana loba amabili indoda nganye, izigqoko ezimibalabala ziyimpango kaSisera, izigqoko ezimibalabala ezecisiseyiwo, izigqoko ezecisisewe kakhulu zentamo yami, konke lokhu kuyimpango?' **31** Ngakho sengathi zingabhubha zonke izitha zakho, Oh Thixo! Kodwa sengathi labo abakuthandayo bangaba njengelanga lapho liphuma ngamandla alo." Kwasekusiba lokuthula elizweni iminyaka engamatshumi amane.

6 Abako-Israyeli benza okubi futhi emehlweni kaThixo, wabanikela ezandleni zamaMidiyani iminyaka eyisikhombisa. **2** Ngenxa yokuthi umbuso wamaMidiyani wawuncindezela kakhulu, abako-Israyeli bazakhela amadumba ezingoxweni zezintaba, lasezimbawini kanye lasezingqabeni. **3** Kwakusithi abako-Israyeli bangalima izilimo zabo, amaMidiyani lama-Amaleki kanye labanye abantu basempumalanga bahlasele ilizwe labo. **4** Bahlala elizweni bachitha izilimo umango wonke kusiya eGaza kabaze bamtshiyela lutho oluphilayo u-Israyeli, loba izimvu kumbe inkomo loba obabhemi. **5** Beza lezifuyo zabo lamathente abo benjengemitshitshi yezintethe ngobunengi. Ubunengi babantu lamakamela abo kwakungabaleki; bahlasela ilizwe balichithiza. **6** AmaMidiyani abaphundla abako-Israyeli baze bakhala kuThixo ukuba abasize. **7** Kwathi abako-Israyeli sebekhalile kuThixo ngenxa yamaMidiyani, **8** wabathumela umphrofethi, owathi, "Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli: Ngalikhupha eGibhithe, ngalikhupha elizweni lobugqili. **9** Ngaliluthuna emandleni eGibhithe lasezandleni zabancindezeli benu bonke. Ngabaxotsha phambi kwenu ngalipha ilizwe labo. **10** Ngathi kini, 'Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, lingabakhonzi onkulunkulu bama-Amori, elihlala elizweni lawo.' Kodwa kalingalalelanga." **11** Ingilosi kaThixo yafika yahlala ngaphansi kwesihlahla som'Okhi e-Ofira esasingesikaJowashi um'Abhiyezeri lapho indodana yakhe uGidiyoni eyayibhula khona amabele esikhangelweni se wayini ukuze iwafihlele amaMidiyani. **12** Ingilosi kaThixo isibonakele kuGidiyoni yathi kuye, "UTHixo ulawe, butho elilamandla." **13** UGidiyoni waphendula wathi, "Kodwa nkosi, nxa uThixo elathi, pho kungani konke lokhu kwenzakele kithi? Zingaphi izimanga zakhe zonke obaba abasitshela ngazo besithi, 'UTHixo kasikhuphanga eGibhithe na?' Kodwa khathesi uThixo usesidelile wasinikela ezandleni zamaMidiyani." **14** UThixo waphendukela kuye wathi, "Hamba ngamandla olawo uhlenge u-Israyeli ezandleni zamaMidiyani. Kanti kangikuthumi na?" **15** UGidiyoni wabuza wathi, "Kodwa nkosi yami, u-Israyeli ngingamhlenga kanjani na? Usendo lwakwethu koManase kalulamandla, njalo mina ngingomncinyane emulini yakwethu." **16** UThixo waphendula wathi, "Ngizakuba lawe, njalo uzawacakazela phansi wonke amaMidiyani, ungatshiyi lamunye wabo." **17** UGidiyoni waphendula wathi, "Nxa khathesi sengithole umusa emehlweni akho, nginika isibonakaliso sokuthi impela nguwe

sibili okhuluma lami. **18** Ngiyakucela ukuba ungahambi ngize ngiphenduke ngilthe umnikelo wami ngiwubeke phambi kwakho." UThixo wathi, "Ngizahlala uze uphenduke." **19** UGidiyoni wangena phakathi wahlaba izinyane lembuzi, wasesenza isinkwa esingelamvubelo ngehefa yefulawa. Esebeke inyama esitsheni lomhluzi wayo embizeni, waphuma lakho wayakunikela kuye ngaphansi kom'Okhi. **20** Ingilosi kaNkulunkulu yathi kuye, "Thatha inyama lesinkwa esingelamvubelo ukubeke phezu kwedwala leli, uthele umhluzi." UGidiyoni wenza njalo. **21** Ngesihloko somgwayi eyayiwuphethe ingilosi kaThixo yathinta inyama lesinkwa esingelamvubelo. Umhlo walawuka edwaleni wathshisa inyama lesinkwa. Ingilosi kaThixo yasinyamalala. **22** Kwathi uGidiyoni esenanzelele ukuthi kwakuyingilosi kaThixo, wamemeza wathi, "Awu, Thixo Wobukhosi! Ngibone ingilosi kaThixo ubuso ngobuso!" **23** Kodwa uThixo wathi kuye, "Ukuthula! Ungesabi. Kwanyikufa." **24** Ngakho uGidiyoni wakhela uThixo i-alithari khonapho walibiza ngokuthi uThixo uyikuthula. Kuze kube lamhla likhona e-Ofira lama-Abhiyezeri. **25** Ngalobobusuku uThixo wathi kuye, "Thatha inkunzi yesibili emhlambini kayihlo, eleminyaka eyisikhombisa ubudala. Udilize i-alithari likayihlo alakhela uBhali, ugumule lezinsika zika-Ashera eziphansi kwalo. **26** Emva kwalokho wakhele uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho umhlobo we-alithari oluyilo engqongeni yalinqaba. Unikele inkunzi yesibili njengomnikelo wokutshiswa usebenzisa inkuni zensika zika-Ashera ozigamuleyo." **27** Ngakho uGidiyoni wathatha izinceku zakhe ezilitshumi wenza njengokutshelwa kwakhe nguThixo. Kodwa ngenxa yokuthi wayesaba abemuli yakwabo labantu basedolobheni, wakwenza ebusuku kulokuba kube semini. **28** Ekuseni kwathi abantu bedolobho lelo bevuka babona i-alithari likaBhali lidilizwe, lezinsika zika-Ashera emaceleni alo ziganyulwe lenkunzi yesibili nikelwe phezu kwe-alithari elalisanda kwakhiwa! **29** Babuzana besithi, "Ngubani owenze lokhu?" Kwathi sebezuzise kakuhle babatshela ukuthi, "Kwenziwe nguGidiyoni indodana kaJowashi." **30** Abantu bakulelolobho bathonisa uJowashi bathi, "Ikhuphe indodana yakho. Kumele ife, ngoba idilize i-alithari likaBhali yagamula lezinsika zika-Ashera emaceleni alo." **31** Kodwa uJowashi waphendula ixuku lelo elalifuthelene limhanqile wathi, "Lizakhulumela uBhali na? Lizama ukumhlenga na? Loba ngubani omlwelayo uzabulawa ekuseni! Nxa uBhali engunkulunkulu sibili, angazivikela nxa umuntu ediliza i-alithari lakhe." **32** Ngakho ngalelolanga uGidiyoni bambiza ngokuthi "Jerubhi-Bhali," besithi, "UBhali kalwe laye," ngoba wadiliza i-alithari likaBhali. **33** Ngalesosikhathi wonke amaMidiyani, lama-Amaleki kanye labanye abantu basempumalanga bamanyana bachapha iJodani, bamisa eSogodini saseJezeri. **34** Umoya kaThixo wafika kuGidiyoni, wasetshaya icilongo emema ama-Abhiyezeri ukuba amlandele. **35** Wathuma izithunywa kulolonke elakoManase, ebatshela ukuba bahlome, lako-Asheri, koZebbuluni kanye lakoNafithali, ukuze labo bayebahlangabeza. **36** UGidiyoni wathi kuNkulunkulu, "Nxa uzasindisa u-Israyeli ngesandla sami njengoba uthembisile, **37** khangelana ngizabeka uboya bewulu esizeni. Kungaba lamazolo eboyeni bewulu kuphela iphansi lomile, ngizakwazi ukuthi uzamsindisa u-Israyeli ngesandla sami njengoba utshilo." **38** Lokho yikho okwenzakalayo. Kusisa uGidiyoni wavuka ekuseni wakhama uboya wahluzama amazolo, umganu wagcwala amanzi. **39**

UGidiyoni wasesithi kuNkulunkulu, “Ungangthukutheli. Ngivumela ngenze esinye isicelo esisodwa. Ngivumela ukuhlola kanye futhi ngoboya. Khathezi yomisa uboya kuthi iphansi ligcwele amazolo.” **40** Ngalobobusuku uNkulunkulu wenza njalo. Uboya kuphela yibo obabomile; iphansi lonke ligcwele amazolo.

7 Ekuseni kakhulu uJerubhi-Bhali (lowo nguGidiyoni) labantu bakhe bonke bamisa emthonjeni waseHarodi. Izihonqo zamaMidiyani zazingasenyakatho kwabo esigodini eduzane lentaba yaseMore. **2** UThixo wathi kuGidiyoni, “Abantu olabo banengi kakhulu ukuba nginikele amaMidiyani ezandleni zabo. Ukuze u-Israyeli angazincomi kimi esithi amandla akhe amsindisile, **3** memezela ebantwini khathesi nje uthi, ‘Lowo othuthumelayo ngenxa yokwesaba angabuyela emuva asuke eNtabeni iGiliyadi.’” Ngakho abantu abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lambili babuyela, kwathi abazinkulungwane ezilishumi basala. **4** Kodwa uThixo wathi kuGidiyoni, “Abantu balokhu bebanengi kakhulu. Behlisele emanzini, ngizakuhlola bona khonale. Ngingathi, ‘Lo uzahamba lawe,’ uzahamba; kodwa ngingathi, ‘Lo kazukuhamba lawe,’ akayikuhamba.” **5** Ngakho uGidiyoni wabathatha abantu wabasa ngasemanzini. Khonapho uThixo wathi kuGidiyoni, “Yehlukanisa labo abaxhapha amanzi ngolimi lwabo njengenja kulabo abaguqa phansi ukuba banathe.” **6** Abantu abangamakhulu amathathu bakhaphazela amanzi emilonyeni yabo ngezandla zabo. Abanye bonke baguqa phansi ngamadolo abo ukuba banathe. **7** UThixo wasesithi kuGidiyoni, “Ngamadoda angamakhulu amathathu anathe equthile ngizakusindisa nginikele amaMidiyani ezandleni zakho. Amanye wonke adelele aye emizini yabo.” **8** Ngakho uGidiyoni wabuyisela inengi labako-Israyeli emathenteni abo wasala labangamakhulu amathathu, abayibo abathatha ukudla lamacilongo abanye. Izihonqo zamaMidiyani zazingaphansi kwakhe esigodini. **9** Ngalobobusuku uThixo wathi kuGidiyoni, “Vuka, yehla uyehlasela izihonqo ngoba ngizazinikela ezandleni zakho. **10** Nxa usesaba ukuhlasela, yehlela ezihonqweni lenceku yakho uPhura **11** ulalele abakutshoyo. Emva kwalokho uzakuba lesibindi sokuhlasela izihonqo.” Ngakho yena loPhura inceku yakhe behlela emaphethelweni ezihonqo. **12** AmaMidiyani lama-Amaleki kanye labanye bonke abasempumalanga babemise esigodini, bebanengi njengentethe. Amakamela abo ayengeke abalwe njengeshehetshebe okhunjini lolwandle. **13** UGidiyoni wafika omunye umuntu esatshela umngane wakhe iphupho lakhe. Wathi, “Ngiphuphe iphupho. Isinkwa sebhali esiyindilinga size sigiqikela ezihonqweni zamaMidiyani. Sitshaye ithente ngamandla amakhulu ithente lagenquka lawohlakela phansi.” **14** Umngane wakhe waphendula wathi, “Lokhu akungeke kube ngolunye ulutho ngaphandle kwenkemba kaGidiyoni indodana kaJowashi, um-Israyeli. UNkulunkulu usenikele amaMidiyani lezihonqo zonke ezandleni zakhe.” **15** Kwathi uGidiyoni esezwe iphupho lelo lengcazelo yalo, wakhonza. Wabuyela ezihonqweni zako-Israyeli wamezeza esithi, “Vukani! UThixo usenikele izihonqo zamaMidiyani ezandleni zenu!” **16** Eshlukanise abantu abangamakhulu amathathu baba ngamaviyo amathathu, bonke wabanika amacilongo lezimbizanyana ezingelalutho, zilezibane phakathi. **17** Wathi kubo, “Ngikhangelani. Lingilandele. Lapho sengifike emaphethelweni ezihonqo, lenze engizabe ngikwenza. **18** Nxa mina labo bonke abalami sesitshaya amacilongo

ethu, lina ezindaweni zonke zezihonqo likhalise awenu limemeza lisithi, ‘NgekaThixo lekaGidiyoni.’” **19** UGidiyoni lamadoda alikhulu ayelaye bafika emaphethelweni ezihonqo ekuqaliseni komlindo waphakathi, besanda kuntshintsha abalindi. Bakhalisa amacilongo abo babulala lenkonxa ababeziphethe. **20** Amaviyo amathathu akhalisa amacilongo abulala inkonxa. Bepethe izibane ngezandla zabo zenxele, ezandleni zokudla bepethe amacilongo ababezawakhalisa, bamemeza bathi, “Inkemba kaThixo lekaGidiyoni!” **21** Umuntu munye ngamunye wayemi endaweni yakhe behanqe izihonqo, amaMidiyani wonke agijima, ehlabo umkhosi ebaleka. **22** Kwathi amacilongo angamakhulu amathathu esekhala, uThixo wenza ukuthi abantu ababezindaweni zonke ezihonqweni bahlaselane ngezinkemba zabo. Ibutho labalekela eBethi-Shitha ngokuya eZerera kusiyafika emngceleni we-Abheli-Mehola eduzane leThabathi. **23** Abako-Israyeli labakoNafithali, labako-Asheri labo bonke abakoManase babizwa, baxotshana lamaMidiyani. **24** UGidiyoni wathuma izithunywa kulolonke ilizwe lamaqaqa elako-Efrayimi, esithi, “Yehlani lihlasela amaMidiyani lithumbe iziziba zaseJodani phambi kwawo kusiyafika eBethi-Bhara.” Ngakho bonke abantu bako-Efrayimi babizwa bazithumba iziziba zaseJodani kusiyafika eBethi-Bhara. **25** Bathumba labakhokheli bamaMidiyani ababili, u-Orebhi loZebhi. U-Orebhi bambulalela edwaleni lika-Orebhi, uZebhi esikhanelweni sewayini sikaZebhi. Baxotshana lamaMidiyani, amakhanda ka-Orebhi loZebhi bawasa kuGidiyoni owayeseJodani.

8 Abako-Efrayimi babuza uGidiyoni bathi, “Kungani usiphathe kanje na? Kungani ungasibizanga lapho ususiyakulwa lamaMidiyani?” Bamsola kakhulu. **2** Kodwa yena wabaphendula wathi, “Kuyini mina engikufezileyo okulingana lokwenu na? Amagrebisi ako-Efrayimi aseleyo ekuvuneni kawangcono kulamagrebisi esivuno esipheleleyo sako-Abhiyezeri na? **3** UNkulunkulu unikele u-Orebhi loZebhi, abakhokheli bamaMidiyani, ezandleni zenu. Kuyini lokho engikwenzileyo lapho ngiqathaniswa lani?” Ngalokhu ukuthukuthela kwabo kwadeba. **4** UGidiyoni labantu bakhe abangamakhulu amathathu sebediniwe kodwa belokhu bexotshana lawo, bafika eJodani bayichapha. **5** Wasesithi ebantwini baseSukhothi, “Phanini amabutho ami izinkwa; akhathele, njalo ngisaxotshana loZebha kanye loZalimuna, amakhosi aseMidiyani.” **6** Kodwa izikhulu zaseSukhothi zathi, “Usulazo mathupha yini izandla zikaZebha loZalimuna? Kungani amabutho akho kumele siwanike izinkwa?” **7** UGidiyoni waphendula wathi, “Ngenxa yalokho, lapho uThixo esenikele uZebha loZalimuna esandleni sami, ngizaklaya imizimba yenu ngameva asenkangala.” **8** Esuka lapho waya ePheniweli, wenza isicelo esifanayo kubo, kodwa baphendula njengabantu beSukhothi. **9** Ngakho wathi ebantwini basePheniweli, “Ekuphendukeni kwami senginqobile, ngizawulidiza umphotshongo lo.” **10** Ngalesosikhathi uZebha loZalimuna babeseKhakhori lebutu labantu ababephosa babe zinkulungwane ezilishumi lanhlano, ababesele emabuthweni asempumalanga; izinkulungwane ezilikhulu lamatshumi amabili zababesilwa ngenkemba zasezifile. **11** UGidiyoni wahamba ngendlela yamasili empumalanga kweNobha leJogibheha wahlasela ibutho elalilibe. **12** UZebha loZalimuna, amakhosi womabili aseMidiyani, babaleka, kodwa waxotshana labo wababamba, wawachitha wonke amabutho abo. **13** Emva kwalokho

uGidiyoni indodana kaJowashi wabuyela evela empini ngoKhalo lwaseHeresi. **14** Wabamba ijaha laseSukhothi walibuzabuza, ijaha lelo lamlobela amabizo eziphathamandla zaseSukhothi ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa, abadala bomuzi. **15** UGidiyoni wafika wathi ebantwini baseSukhothi, “Nangu uZebha loZalimuna elalingichothoza ngabo lisithi, ‘Usulazo yini izandla zikaZebha loZalimuna? Kungani amabutho akho akhatheleyo kumele siwanike izinkwa na?’” **16** Wathatha abadala bomuzi wasefundisa amadoda aseSukhothi isifundo ngokubajezisa ngameva asenkangala. **17** Wadiliza lomphotshongo wasePheniweli wabulala amadoda akulowomuzi. **18** Wabuzo uZebha loZalimuna wathi, “Ngabantu abanjani labo elabulalayo eThabhothi?” Baphendula bathi, “Ngabantu abanjengawe, lowo lalowo efana lenkosana.” **19** UGidiyoni waphendula wathi, “Labantu babengabafowethu, amadodana kamama. Ngeqiniso njengoba uThixo ephila, aluba labayekela bephila, kade bingengeyikulubulala.” **20** Wasephendukela kuJetha, indodana yakhe endala, wathi, “Babulale!” Kodwa uJetha kayihwatshanga inkemba yakhe, ngoba wayengumfanyana esesaba. **21** UZebha loZalimuna bathi, “Woza, usibulale wena ngokwakho. ‘Njengoba indoda injalo, anjalo lamandla ayo.’” Ngakho uGidiyoni wasondela phambili wababulala, wasethatha imiciciso entanyeni zamakamela abo. **22** Abako-Israyeli bathi kuGidiyoni, “Sibuse wena, lendodana yakho kanye lendodana yendodana yakho ngoba usisindisile ezandleni zamaMidiyani.” **23** Kodwa uGidiyoni wathi kubo, “Mina kangiyikulubusa, lendodana yami kayiyikulubusa. UThixo uzalubusa.” **24** Wabuya wathi, “Ngilesicelo esisodwa, ukuthi omunye lomunye wenu angiphe icici esabelweni sempango yenu.” (Ukufaka amacici egolide kwakungumkhuba wama-Ishumayeli.) **25** Baphendula bathi, “Sizathaba ukukunika wona.” Ngakho bendlala ingubo, kwathi umuntu ngamunye waphosela kuyo icici lempango yakhe. **26** Isisindo samacici egolide ayewacelile saba ngamashekeli angamakhulu alitshumi lesikhombisa, kungabalwa izigqizo lemigaxo lezembatho eziyibubende ezigqokwa ngamakhozi aseMidiyani loba amaketane ayesezintanjeni zamakamela awo. **27** UGidiyoni wenza isithombe ngegolide lelo, wasibeka e-Ofira, umuzi wakibo. Bonke abako-Israyeli bazingcolisa ngokusikhonza khonapho, njalo saba ngumjibila kuGidiyoni labendlu yakhe. **28** IMidiyani yanqotshwa kanjalo ngabako-Israyeli njalo kayizange ivuse ikhanda futhi. Ngezinsuku zokuphila kukaGidiyoni ilizwe laba lokuthula iminyaka engamatshumi amane. **29** UJerubhi-Bhali indodana kaJowashi wabuyela ekhaya ukuyahlala khona. **30** Wayelamadodana angamatshumi ayisikhombisa angawakhe ngoba wayelabafazi abanengi. **31** Umkakhe weceleni, owayehlala eShekhemu, laye wamazalela indodana ayithi ngu-Abhimelekh. **32** UGidiyoni indodana kaJowashi wafa eseluphele kakhulu wangcwatshwa ethuneni likayise uJowashi e-Ofira yama-Abhiyezeri. **33** Masinyane nje uGidiyoni esanda kufa abako-Israyeli bazingcolisa njalo ngokukhonza oBhali. Bamisa uBhali-Bherithi njengonkulunkulu wabo **34** kabaze bamkhumbula uThixo unkulunkulu wabo owayebahlenge ezandleni zezitha zabo ezinhlangothini zonke. **35** Njalo kababanga lomusa kwabendlu kaJerubhi-Bhali (uGidiyoni) ngezinto zonke ezinhlale ayebenzele zona.

9 U-Abhimelekh indodana kaJerubhi-Bhali waya kubomalumakhe eShekhemu lakubo bonke abosendo

lukanina wathi kubo, **2** “Buzani bonke abantu baseShekhemu ukuthi, ‘Yikuphi okungcono kini: ukubuswa yiwo wonke amadodana kaJerubhi-Bhali angamatshumi ayisikhombisa kumbe indoda eyodwa?’” Likhumbule ukuthi mina ngingumzimba legazi lenu.” **3** Kwathi abanewabo bakanina sebekutshilo konke lokhu ebantwini baseShekhemu, bafuna ukumlandela u-Abhimelekh, ngoba bathi, “Ungumfowethu.” **4** Bamnika amashekeli esiliva angamatshumi ayisikhombisa, athathwa ethempelini likaBhali-Bherithi, u-Abhimelekh aqhatsha ngawo izegebenga ezingakhathaliyo, ezaba ngabalandeli bakhe. **5** Waya emzini kayise e-Ofira kwathi abafowabo abangamatshumi ayisikhombisa, amadodana kaJerubhi-Bhali, wababulalela phezu kwedwala linye. Kodwa uJothamu, indodana encane kaJerubhi-Bhali waphepha ngokucatsha. **6** Emva kwalokho bonke abantu baseShekhemu labeBhethi Milo babuthana ngaphansi kwesihlahla som’Okhi ensikeni eShekhemu ukuba u-Abhimelekh bamfake abe yinkosi. **7** Kwathi uJothamu esetshelwe lokhu wakhwela waya esiqongweni seNtaba iGerizimu wanqolonga esithi kubo, “Ngilalelani, bantu baseShekhemu, ukuze uNkulunkulu alilalele. **8** Ngeliyeye ilanga izihlahla zasuka zayazigcoba inkosi yazo. Zathi esihlahleni se-oliva, ‘Woba yinkosi yethu.’” **9** Kodwa isihlahla se-oliva saphendula sathi, ‘Kambe ngingadela amafutha ami, okudunyiswa ngawo onkulunkulu labantu, ukuba ngibuse izihlahla na?’ **10** Izihlahla zasezisithi esihlahleni somkhiwa, ‘Woza ube yinkosi yethu.’ **11** Kodwa isihlahla somkhiwa saphendula sathi, ‘Kambe ngingadela izithelo zami ezinhlale kangaka njalo zimnandi, ukuba ngibuse izihlahla na?’ **12** Lapho-ke izihlahla zathi esihlahleni seveni, ‘Woza ube yinkosi yethu.’ **13** Kodwa isihlahla seveni saphendula sathi, ‘Kambe ngingadela iwayini lami elithokozisa onkulunkulu labantu, ukuba ngibuse izihlahla na?’ **14** Ekucineni zonke izihlahla zathi esihlahleni sameva, ‘Woza ube yinkosi yethu.’ **15** Isihlahla sameva sathi ezihlahleni, ‘Nxa lifuna ngempela ukuthi lingigcobe ukuba ngibe yinkosi yenu, wozani lizecatsha emthunzini wami, kodwa nxa kungenjalo, akuphume umlilo esihlahleni sameva uqothule imsedari yaseLebhanoni!’ **16** Nxa lenze okubongekayo njalo ngobuqotho ekubekeni kwenu u-Abhimelekh ukuba abe yinkosi, njalo nxa lenze okulungileyo kuJerubhi-Bhali labendlu yakhe, njalo nxa limphathe ngendlela emfaneleyo, **17** ngoba ubaba walilwela, wabeka impilo yakhe engozini ukuba alihlenge ezandleni zamaMidiyani **18** kodwa lamuhla selivuke abendlu kababa, kwathi amadodana akhe angamatshumi ayisikhombisa lawabulalela phezu kwedwala linye, kwathi u-Abhimelekh, indodana yesigqilikazi sakhe, lamenza waba yinkosi yabantu baseShekhemu ngoba engumfowenu, **19** ngakho nxa lenzenjalo ngobuqotho kuJerubhi-Bhali labendlu yakhe lamuhla, thokozani ngo-Abhimelekh, kube njalo laye ngani futhi! **20** Kodwa nxa lingenzanga njalo, akuphume umlilo ku-Abhimelekh uliqothule, bantu baseShekhemu labaseBhethi Milo, njalo kuphume umlilo kini bantu baseShekhemu labaseBhethi Milo, uqothule u-Abhimelekh!” **21** Emva kwalokhu uJothamu wabaleka, waya eBheri, wahlala khona ngoba wayesesaba umfowabo u-Abhimelekh. **22** Kwathi u-Abhimelekh esebuse abako-Israyeli iminyaka emithathu **23** uNkulunkulu wathumela umoya omubi phakathi kuka-Abhimelekh labantu baseShekhemu bamhlamukela u-Abhimelekh. **24** UNkulunkulu wenza lokhu ukuze ububi

obenziwa emadodaneni kajerubhi-Bhali angamatshumi ayisikhombisa, ukuchithwa kwegazi lawo, buphindiselwe kumfowabo u-Abhimelekhilasebantwini baseShekhemu, ababemsi zile ekubulaleni kwakhe abafowabo. **25** Ekumelaneni kwabo laye abantu baseShekhemu laba babeka abantu ezingqongeni zezintaba ukuba bacathamele bonke abadlula lapho babaphange, njalo lokhu kwabikwa ku-Abhimelekhil. **26** UGali indodana ka-Ebhedi wathuthela eShekhemu labafowabo, njalo abantu bakhona bamethemba. **27** Kwathi sebeye emasimini babutha amagrebisi bawagxoba, baba ledili ethempelini likankulunkulu wabo. Kwathi besidla njalo benatha, bamthuka u-Abhimelekhil. **28** Lapho-ke uGali indodana ka-Ebhedi, wathi, “Ungubani u-Abhimelekhil, loShekhemu ungubani, ukuba asibuse na? Akasindodana kajerubhi-Bhali yini, njalo uZebhuli kasimsekeli wakhe na? Khonzani abantu baseHamori, yise kaShekhemu! Kungani kumele sikhonze u-Abhimelekhil na? **29** Sengathi ngabe abantu laba balawulwa yimi! Kade ngizamusa. Kade ngizakuthi ku-Abhimelekhil, ‘Libize lonke ibutho lakho.’” **30** Kwathi uZebhuli umbusi wedolobho esizwa okwatshiwo nguGali indodana ka-Ebhedi, wathukuthela kakhulu. **31** Wathuma izithunywa ngasese ku-Abhimelekhil, esithi, “UGali indodana ka-Ebhedi kanye labafowabo sebeze eShekhemu njalo badunga idolobho ukuba likuvukele. **32** Ngakho wena labantu bakho kumele lize phakathi kobusuku limcathamele egangeni. **33** Ekuseni ekuphumeni kwelanga, lisondele ukuba lilihlasele idolobho. Lapho uGali labantu bakhe bephuma ukuba balihlasele, lenze loba yini isandla senu esanelisa ukukwenza.” **34** Ngakho-ke u-Abhimelekhil lamabutho akhe wonke basuka ebusuku bacathama ezindaweni ezifihlakeleyo eduze leShekhemu bengamaviyo amane. **35** UGali indodana ka-Ebhedi wayephumile emi ekungeneni kwesango ledolobho kwathi u-Abhimelekhil lamabutho akhe baphuma lapho ababecatshona khona. **36** Kwathi uGali ebabona wathi kuZebhuli, “Khangela nampayana abantu bayehla besuka ezingqongeni zezintaba!” UZebhuli waphendula wathi, “Ubona amathunzi ezintaba kube angathi ngabantu.” **37** Kodwa uGali wakhuluma futhi wathi, “Khangela, nampayana abantu bayehla besuka phakathi kwelizwe, njalo leviyo lamabutho liyeza livelela ngokuya esihlahleni sezangoma.” **38** UZebhuli wasesithi kuye, “Kungaphi ukukloloda kwakho manje, wena owathi, ‘Ungubani u-Abhimelekhil ukuba asibuse na?’ Laba kabasibo yini abantu owawubahleka? Phuma uyekulwa labo!” **39** Ngakho uGali waphuma labantu baseShekhemu walwa lo-Abhimelekhil. **40** U-Abhimelekhil wamxotsha, kwathi abanengi bafa belimele ekubalekeni, ibanga lonke kusiya ekungeneni kwesango. **41** U-Abhimelekhil wahlala e-Aruma, kwathi uZebhuli wamdundula uGali labafowabo eShekhemu. **42** Ngelanga elalandelayo abantu baseShekhemu basuka baya egangeni, njalo lokhu kwabikwa ku-Abhimelekhil. **43** Ngakho wathatha abantu bakhe, wabehlukanisa baba ngamaviyo amathathu wathi kabacathanyelwe egangeni. Kwathi ebona abantu bephuma edolobheni wavuka ukuba abahlasele. **44** U-Abhimelekhil lamaviyo ayelaye bagijimela phambili endaweni esekungeneni kwesango ledolobho. Amaviyo amabili agijimela kulabo ababesegangeni ababulala. **45** Ngalo lonke lolosuku u-Abhimelekhil waqinisa ukulihlasele kwakhe idolobho lelo waze walithumba wabulala labantu balo. Idolobho walidiliza wasehaza itswayi phezu kwalo. **46** Besizwa lokhu, abantu abasemphotshongweni weShekhemu

bayangena enqabeni yethempeli lase-Eli-Bherithi. **47** Kwathi u-Abhimelekhil esizwa ukuthi basebebuthele lapho, **48** yena labantu bakhe bakhwela intaba iZalimoni. Wathatha ihloka wagamula amahlala, wawetshata emahlombe akhe. Walaya abantu ababelaye wathi, “Phangisani! Yenzani lokhu elibone ngikwenza!” **49** Ngakho abantu bagamula amahlala bamlandela u-Abhimelekhil. Bawabuthela enqabeni leyo bayithungela ngomlilo abantu bephakathi. Ngakho bonke abantu ababephakathi komphotshongo waseShekhemu, amadoda labesifazane ababengaba yinkulungwane bafa. **50** Emva kwalokho u-Abhimelekhil waya eThebhezi wayivimbezela wayithunga. **51** Kodwa phakathi kwedolobho lelo kwakulomphotshongo oqinileyo lapho wonke amadoda labesifazane, abantu bakulelolobho ababebalekele khona. Bazikhiyela phakathi bakhwela phezu kophahla lomphotshongo. **52** U-Abhimelekhil waya emphotshongweni lowo wawuhlasela. Kodwa wathi esebanga emnyango womphotshongo ukuba awuthungele ngomlilo, **53** owesifazane othile wawisela imbokodo phezu kwekhanda lakhe yadabula ukhakhayi lwakhe. **54** Waphanga wabiza umthwali wezikhali zakhe wathi, “Hwatsha inkemba yakho ungunbulale, ukuze bangathi, ‘Wabulawa ngowesifazane.’” Ngakho inceku yakhe yamgwaza, wafa. **55** Kwathi abako-Israyeli bebona ukuthi u-Abhimelekhil wayesefile, babuyela ekhaya. **56** UNkulunkulu wabuphindisela kanje ububi u-Abhimelekhil ayebenze kuyise ngokubulala abafowabo abangamatshumi ayisikhombisa. **57** UNkulunkulu wenza ukuthi labantu baseShekhemu babuhlawulele ububi babo. Isiqalekiso sikaJotham indodana kajerubhi-Bhali sehlela phezu kwabo.

10 Ngemva kwensuku zika-Abhimelekhil kwavela umuntu wako-Isakhari, uThola indodana kaPhuwa, indodana kaDodo ukuba ahlenge u-Israyeli. Wayehlala eShamiri, elizweni lezintaba elako-Efrayimi. **2** Wakhokhela u-Israyeli iminyaka engamatshumi amabili lantathu; wasesifa, wangcwatshwa eShamiri. **3** Walandelwa nguJayiri owaseGilyadi, owakhokhela u-Israyeli iminyaka engamatshumi amabili lambili. **4** Wayelamadodana angamatshumi amathathu, ayegada obabhemi abangamatshumi amathathu. Ayephethe amadolobho angamatshumi amathathu eGilyadi, lalamlanje abizwa ngokuthi Havothi Jayiri. **5** Ekufeni kwakhe uJayiri wangcwatshwa eKhamoni. **6** Abako-Israyeli benza okubi futhi emehlweni kaThixo. Bakhonza oBhali labo-Ashithorethi, labonkulunkulu base-Aramu, labonkulunkulu baseSidoni, labonkulunkulu baseMowabi, labonkulunkulu bama-Amoni, kanye labonkulunkulu bamaFilistiya. Ngenxa yokuthi abako-Israyeli bamdela uThixo kabaze babe besamkhonza, **7** wabathukuthela kakhulu. Wabanikela ezandleni zamaFilistiya lama-Amoni, **8** okwathi ngalwomnyaka abachitha abanqoba. Ancinzela abako-Israyeli bonke okweminyaka elitshumi lasificaminwembili ngasempumalanga kweJodani eGilyadi, ilizwe lama-Amori. **9** Ama-Amoni futhi achapha iJodani ukuba alwe loJuda, loBhenjamini kanye lendlu ka-Efrayimi; u-Israyeli wayephakathi kohlupho olukhulu. **10** Lapho-ke abako-Israyeli bakhala kuThixo bathi, “Senze isono kuwe, sadela uNkulunkulu wethu sakhonza oBhali.” **11** UThixo waphendula wathi, “Lapho amaGibhithe, lama-Amori, lama-Amoni,

lamaFilistiya, 12 lamaSidoni, lama-Amaleki kanye lamaMawoni alincindezela lakhulekela usizo kimi, kangilihlenganga ezandleni zawo na? 13 Kodwa selingidelile lakhonza abanye onkulunkulu, ngakho angisayikulisindisa. 14 Hambani liyekhala kubonkulunkulu elibathembileyo. Kabalisindise nxa seliphakathi kokuhlupheka!” 15 Kodwa abako-Israyeli bathi kuThixo, “Senze isono. Yenza kithi lokho okubona kulungile kuwe, kodwa ake usihlenge khathesi nje.” 16 Ngakho basusa onkulunkulu bezizweni phakathi kwabo bakhonza uThixo. Wayengeke alumele futhi usizi luka-Israyeli. 17 Kwathi ama-Amoni esebizelwe empi njalo emise eGilyadi, abako-Israyeli abuthana amisa eMizipha. 18 Abakhokheli babantu baseGilyadi bathi omunye komunye, “Lowo ozaqalisa ukuhlasele ama-Amoni uzakuba yinduna yabo bonke abahlala eGilyadi.”

11 UJeftha umGilyadi wayelibutho elilamandla. Uyise wayenguGilyadi; unina wayeyisifebe. 2 UmkaGilyadi wamazalela amadodana, okwathi esekhulile asexotsha uJeftha. Athi kuye, “Wena akulalifa ozalithola emulini yakwethu ngoba uyindodana yomunye umfazi.” 3 Ngakho uJeftha wabaleka kubafowabo wayahlala elizweni laseThobhi, lapho abuthanelwa khona lixuku lezigebeza zamlandela. 4 Emva kwalokho, kwathi ama-Amoni esesilwa labako-Israyeli, 5 abadala baseGilyadi bahamba bayathatha uJeftha elizweni laseThobhi. 6 Bathi kuye, “Woza ube ngumlawuli wamabutho ethu ukuze silwe lama-Amoni.” 7 UJeftha wathi kubo, “Kalingizondanga yini langixotsha endlini kababa na? Kungani lisiza kimi khathesi seliphakathi kohlupho?” 8 Abadala baseGilyadi bathi kuye, “Lanxa kunjalo, khathesi sesiphendukela kuwe; hamba lathi ekulweni lama-Amoni, njalo uzakuba yinduna yabo bonke abahlala eGilyadi.” 9 UJeftha waphendula wathi, “Nxa lingabuyela lami ukuyakulwa lama-Amoni uThixo awanikele kimi, ngizakuba yinduna yenu sibili na?” 10 Abadala baseGilyadi baphendula bathi, “UThixo ungufakazi wethu; sizakwenza njengoba usitsho impela.” 11 Ngakho uJeftha wahamba labadala baseGilyadi, abantu bamenza waba yinduna lomlawuli wabo. Wawaphinda wonke amazwi akhe phambi kukaThixo eMizipha. 12 Emva kwalokho uJeftha wathuma izithunywa enkosini yama-Amoni lombuzo othi: “Kuyini osibangisa khona uze uhlasele ilizwe lethu na?” 13 Inkosi yama-Amoni yaphendula izithunywa zikaJeftha yathi, “Abako-Israyeli sebesukile eGibhithi bathatha ilizwe lami kusukela e-Arinoni kusiya eJabhoki, umango wonke kusiya eJodani. Khathesi libuyiseleni ngokuthula.” 14 UJeftha wazibuyisela izithunywa enkosini yama-Amoni 15 esithi, “Nanku okutshiwo nguJeftha: U-Israyeli kazange athathe ilizwe laseMowabi loba ilizwe lama-Amoni. 16 Kodwa ekusukeni kwake eGibhithi, u-Israyeli wadabula enkangala esiya oLwandle oluBomvu eqonda eKhadeshi. 17 U-Israyeli wathuma izithunywa enkosini yase-Edomi esithi, ‘Ake usinike invumo yokudabula phakathi kwelizwe lakho,’ kodwa inkosi yase-Edomi kayilalelanga. Bathumela lasenkosini yaseMowabi, layo lala. Ngakho u-Israyeli wahlala eKhadeshi. 18 Emva kwalokho bahamba bedabula phakathi kwenkangala, beceza ilizwe lase-Edomi lelaseMowabi, badlula besecceleni elingasempumalanga kwelizwe laseMowabi, bamisa ngakwelinye icele le-Arinoni. Kabangenanga elizweni laseMowabi, ngoba i-Arinoni yayingumngcele walo. 19 U-Israyeli wasethuma izithunywa kuSihoni inkosi yama-Amori,

owayebusa eHeshibhoni, wathi kuye, ‘Akusivumele sidlule phakathi kwelizwe lakho sisiya endaweni yethu.’ 20 Kodwa uSihoni kamthembanga u-Israyeli ukuba adlule phakathi kwelizwe lakhe. Wabutha abantu bakhe bonke wamisa eJahazi walwa lo-Israyeli. 21 Ngakho uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, wanikela uSihoni labantu bakhe bonke ezandleni zika-Israyeli, wabehlula. U-Israyeli walithatha lonke ilizwe lama-Amori ayehlala kulelolizwe, 22 walithumba lonke elama-Amori kusukela e-Arinoni kusiya eJabhoki lokusuka enkangala kusiya eJodani. 23 Njengoba uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, ewaxotshile ama-Amori phambi kwabantu bakhe u-Israyeli, wena ulungelo bani lokulithatha na? 24 Kawuyikuthatha lokho okuphiwa ngukulunkulu wakho uKhemoshi na? Ngokunjalo, yiloba yikuphi uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu asiphe khona, sizakuthatha. 25 Wena ungcono yini kuloBhalaki indodana kaZiphori, inkosi yaseMowabi? Wake waxabana lo-Israyeli loba walwa laye na? 26 U-Israyeli wahlala eHeshibhoni iminyaka engamakhulu amathathu, e-Aroweri, lasemizaneni eseduzane kanye lakuyo yonke imizi elinganisane le-Arinoni. Kungani ungazihlangulanga lezondawo ngalesosikhathi? 27 Kangikonelanga, kodwa wena wenza okubi kimi ngokungihlasela ngempi. Akuthi uThixo, uMahluleli, ahluhlele umbango ngalolosuku phakathi kwabako-Israyeli lama-Amoni.” 28 Kodwa inkosi yama-Amori kayilinalanga ilizwi eyayilithunyelwe nguJeftha. 29 Lapho-ke uMoya kaThixo wehlela kuJeftha. Wadabula eGilyadi kanye lakoManase, wedlula eMizipha yaseGilyadi, kuthe esuka lapho waqhubekela kuma-Amoni. 30 Njalo uJeftha wafunga isifungo kuThixo wathi, “Unganikela ama-Amoni ezandleni zami, 31 loba kuyini okuphuma emnyango wendlu yami ukuba kungihlangabeze lapho ngibuya ngingqobile ngivela kuma-Amoni kuzakuba ngokukaThixo, njalo ngizakunikela njengomnikelo wokutshiswa.” 32 UJeftha waya ngaphetsheya ukuyakulwa lama-Amoni, njalo uThixo wawanikela ezandleni zakhe. 33 Watshabalalisa imizi engamatshumi amabili kusukela e-Aroweri kusiya eduze leMinithi, kusiya fika e-Abheli-Kheramimi. U-Israyeli wayinqoba kanjalo i-Amori. 34 UJeftha esebuyele emzini wakhe eMizipha, ngubani owaphuma wamhlangabeza ngaphandle kwendodakazi yakhe, igida kukhala amagedla! Yayiyiyo yodwa umntanake. Ngaphandle kwakhe wayengelandodana loba indodakazi. 35 Kwathi eyibona wadabula izigqoko zakhe wakhala esithi, “Oh! Ndodakazi yami! Usungidabule wangenza ngaba lusizi, ngoba ngifunge isifungo kuThixo engingekhe ngisephule.” 36 Yona yaphendula yathi, “Baba, wethule ilizwi lakho kuThixo. Kimi yenza njengoba uthembisile, njengoba uThixo esephindisele ezitheni zakho, ama-Amoni.” 37 Wasesithi, “Kodwa ngicela ungivumele kulokho okukodwa nje. Nginika izinyanga ezimbili ukuba ngizaluzule ezintabeni ngilile labangane bami, ngoba angiyikwenda.” 38 Yena wathi, “Ungahamba.” Wayivumela ukuba ihambe okwezinyanga ezimbili. Yona lamantombazana lawo baya ezintabeni balila ngoba yayingasoze yende. 39 Emva kwezinyanga ezimbili yabuyela kuyise wasesenza lokho ayekufungile ngayo. Yayiyintombi egcweleyo. Kulokho yikho okuvela khona umkhuba wama-Israyeli 40 wokuthi minyaka yonke izintombi zako-Israyeli ziyaphuma okwensuku ezine ukuba zikhumbule indodakazi kaJeftha umGilyadi.

12 Abantu bako-Efrayimi babiza amabutho abo, bachaphela eZafoni basebesithi kuJeftha, “Kungani wena wayakulwa

lama-Amoni ungasibizanga ukuba sihambe lawe na? Sizakutshisela endlini yakho.” 2 UJeftha waphendula wathi, “Mina labantu bami sasilengxabano enkulu lama-Amoni njalo, lanxa nje ngalibiza, kalingihlenganga ezandleni zawo. 3 Kwathi sengibona ukuthi lalingeke lingisize, ngabeka impilo yami engozini ngachaphela ngaphetsheya ukuyakulwa lama-Amoni, uThixo wawanikela esandleni sami. Pho kungani lina lamhla selizekulwa lami?” 4 UJeftha wabuthanisa amadoda aseGiliyadi balwa lo-Efrayimi. AbaseGiliyadi babacakazela phansi ngoba abako-Efrayimi babethe, “Lina maGiliyadi labhazuka ko-Efrayimi lakoManase.” 5 AbaseGiliyadi bathumba amazibuko asejodani awokuya ko-Efrayimi, njalo kwakusithi owako-Efrayimi osindileyo angathi, “Ngivumelani ngichaphele ngaphetsheya,” abantu baseGiliyadi babembuza bathi, “Ungowako-Efrayimi na?” Angaphendula athi, “Hayi,” 6 bathi, “Kulungile, wothi, ‘Shibholethi.’” Nxa angathi, “Sibholethi,” ngoba engeke alitsho kuhle, babemphuthuma bambulalele emazibukweni asejodani. Abako-Efrayimi abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane lambili babulawa ngalesosikhathi. 7 UJeftha wakhokhela u-Israyeli iminyaka eyisithupha. UJeftha wafa, wangcwatshwa emzini waseGiliyadi. 8 Ngemva kwakhe, u-Ibhizani waseBethlehemama wakhokhela abako-Israyeli. 9 Wayelamadodana angamatshumi amathathu lamadodakazi angamatshumi amathathu. Amadodakazi akhe wawendisela kwabangaphandle komhlobo wakibo kwathi amadodana akhe wawalethela izintombi ezingamatshumi amathathu ezingasizo zomhlobo wakibo ukuba zibe ngomkawo. U-Ibhizani wakhokhela abako-Israyeli iminyaka eyisikhombisa. 10 U-Ibhizani wafa, wangcwatshwa eBethlehemama. 11 Ngemva kwakhe, u-Eloni umZebhulunani wakhokhela abako-Israyeli iminyaka elitshumi. 12 U-Eloni wafa, wangcwatshwa e-Ayijaloni elizweni lakoZebhulunani. 13 Ngemva kwakhe, u-Abhidoni indodana kaHileli, owasePhirathoni, wakhokhela abako-Israyeli. 14 Wayelamadodana angamatshumi amane labazukulule besilisa abangamatshumi amathathu, ayegada obabhemi abangamatshumi ayisikhombisa. Wakhokhela abako-Israyeli iminyaka eyisithiyagalombili. 15 U-Abhidoni indodana kaHileli wafa, wangcwatshwa ePhirathoni ko-Efrayimi, elizweni lezintaba elama-Amaleki.

13 Abako-Israyeli benza okubi njalo emehlweni kaThixo, ngakho uThixo wabanikela ezandleni zamaFilistiya okweminyaka engamatshumi amane. 2 Umuntu othile waseZora, owayethiwa nguManowa, owosendo lwakoDani, wayelomfazi owayeyinyumba engelamntwana. 3 Ingilosi kaThixo yabonakala kuye yathi, “Uyinyumba kawulamntwana, kodwa uzathatha isisu ube lendodana. 4 Ngakho nanzelela ukuthi kawunathi wayini loba okunye okunathwayo okulemvubelo kanye lokuthi ungadli ukudla okungcolileyo, 5 ngoba uzathatha isisu uzale indodana. Akungabi lempuco ezasetshenziswa ekhanda layo, ngoba umfana uzakuba ngumNaziri, owahlukaniselwe uNkulunkulu kusukela ekuzalweni, njalo uzakukhulula abako-Israyeli ezandleni zamaFilistiya.” 6 Emva kwalokho owesifazane lowo waya kumkakhe wamtshela wathi, “Kufike umuntu kaNkulunkulu kimi. Ubefana lengilosi kaNkulunkulu, esesabeka kakhulu. Angimbuzanga ukuthi ubevela ngaphi, njalo laye kangitshelanga ibizo lakhe. 7 Kodwa uthe kimi, ‘Uzathatha isisu uzale indodana. Ngakho-ke unganathi iwayini loba okunye okunathwayo okulemvubelo, njalo ungadli lutho olungcolileyo, ngoba umfana uzakuba ngumNaziri

kaNkulunkulu kusukela ekuzalweni kuze kube lusuku lokufa kwakhe.” 8 UManowa wasekhuleka kuThixo esithi, “Awu Nkosi, ngiyakucela, umuntu kaNkulunkulu omthumileyo kabuye futhi azesifundisa ukuthi umfana ozalwa wondliwa njani.” 9 UNkulunkulu wamuzwa uManowa, ingilosi kaNkulunkulu yafika njalo kowesifazane lowo esegangeni; kodwa umkakhe uManowa wayengekho. 10 Owesifazane lowo wagijima wayatshela umkakhe wathi, “Ukhona lapha! Umuntu engimbone mhlalokhuyana!” 11 UManowa wasuka walandela umkakhe. Esefikile kulowomuntu, wathi, “Unguwe yini lowo owakhuluma lomkami?” Yena wathi, “Nginguye.” 12 Ngakho uManowa wambuza wathi, “Lapho amazwi akho esegcalisekile, umfana kuzamele aphile njani njalo lomsebenzi wakhe uzakuba ngowani?” 13 Ingilosi kaThixo yaphendula yathi, “Umkakho kumele enze konke engimtshele khona. 14 Kangadli lutho oluvela evinini, loba anathe iwayini loba okunye okunathwayo okulemvubelo loba adle ukudla okungcolileyo. Kumele enze konke engimlaye khona.” 15 UManowa wathi engilosini kaThixo, “Sifuna ukuba uhlale size sikuhlebele izinyane lembuzi.” 16 Ingilosi kaThixo yaphendula yathi, “Loba lingangibamba ngamandla ukuba ngihlale, angiyikukudla ukudla kwenu. Kodwa nxa lilungisa umnikelo wokutshiswa, unikeleni kuThixo.” (UManowa kananzelelanga ukuthi kwakuyingilosi kaThixo.) 17 UManowa waseyibuzisa ingilosi kaThixo esithi, “Ungubani ibizo lakho, ukuze sikubonge lapho ilizwi lakho seligcwalisekile?” 18 Yaphendula yathi, “Kungani ungibuza ibizo lami? Kaliqedisiseki.” 19 Lapho-ke uManowa wathatha izinyane lembuzi, ndawonye lomnikelo wamabele wakunikela kuThixo phezu kwedwala. Njalo uThixo wenza into emangalisayo uManowa lomkakhe bekhangele: 20 Kwathi ilangabi libhebha lisuka e-alithareni lisiya ezulwini, ingilosi kaThixo yenyukela phezu liphakathi kwelangabi. Bebona lokhu uManowa lomkakhe bathi mbo phansi ngobuso. 21 Kwathi ingilosi kaThixo ingasazibonakalisanga futhi kuManowa lomkakhe, uManowa wananzelelanga ukuthi kwakuyingilosi kaThixo. 22 Wasesithi kumkakhe, “Silahlwe, sizakufa. Sibone uNkulunkulu!” 23 Kodwa umkakhe waphendula wathi, “Aluba uThixo ubeqonde ukusibulala, ubengasoze amukele umnikelo wokutshiswa lomnikelo wamabele ezandleni zethu, loba asitshengise zonke lezizinto kumbe asitshela lokhu asitshela khona.” 24 Owesifazane wazala umfana wamuthi nguSamsoni. Wakhula loThixo wambusisa, 25 loMoya kaThixo waqala ukuqubuka phakathi kwakhe eseseMahane Dani, phakathi kweZora le-Eshithawoli.

14 USamsoni waya eThimina wabona intombi engumFilistiya. 2 Esebuyele, wathi kuyise lonina, “Ngibone intombi engumFilistiya eThimina; ake liyengithathela yona ukuba ibe ngumkami.” 3 Uyise lonina baphendula bathi, “Kanti akulantombi eyamukelekayo yini phakathi kwezihlobo zakho loba phakathi kwabantu bonke bakithi? Usungaze uye kumaFilistiya angasokanga ukuba uthathe umfazi na?” Kodwa uSamsoni wathi kuyise, “Ngithathela yena. Nguye ongifaneleyo.” 4 (Uyise lonina babengazi ukuthi lokhu kwakuvela kuThixo, owayefuna ithuba lokumelana lamaFilistiya; ngoba ngalesosikhathi ayebusa abako-Israyeli.) 5 USamsoni waya eThimina eloyise lonina. Bathe sebebanga ezivinini zeThimina kwathutsha ibhuklwana lesilwane libhonga liqonde yena. 6 Umoya kaThixo wafika kuye ngamandla wasidabula nezandla zakhe njengayengakwenza edabula izinyane lembuzi. Kodwa uyise

lonina kabatshelanga ayekwenzile. 7 Emva kwalokho wahamba wayakhuluma lowesifazane lowo, wezwa emthanda. 8 Emva kwesikhathi esithile, esebuyele ukuba ayemthatha, waphambuka ukuba abone isidumbu sesilwane. Phakathi kwaso kwasekulomtshitshi wezinyosi ziloluju, 9 waluthapha ngezandla zakhe, wahamba eludla. Esefike ebazalini bakhe, wabapha olunye kodwa kabatshelanga ukuthi wayeluthaphe esidunjini sesilwane. 10 Uyise wahamba ukuyabona owesifazane lowo. USamsoni wenza idili khona, njengokwakungumkhuba wezinsizwa ezithathayo. 11 Ekufikeni kwakhe waphiwa abakhaphi abangamatshumi amathathu. 12 USamsoni wasesithi kubo, “Lalelani ngilitshele ilibho. Lingangitshela ukuthi litshoni phakathi kwensuku eziyisikhombisa zedili, ngizalnika izembatho zelineni ezingamatshumi amathathu lezigqoko ezingamatshumi amathathu. 13 Nxa lingehluleka ukungitshela ukuthi litshoni, kumele linginike izembatho zelineni ezingamatshumi amathathu lezigqoko ezingamatshumi amathathu.” Bona bathi, “Sitshela ilibho lakho. Litsho silizwe.” 14 Waphendula wathi, “Kokudlayo, kwaphuma okudliwayo; kokulamandla kwaphuma okummandi.” Behluleka ukuyitsho impendulo okwensuku ezintathu. 15 Ngosuku lwesine bathi kumkaSamsoni, “Ncenga umkakho asichazele ilibho, hlezi sikuthise wena labendlu yakwenu life. Kanti usinxusele ukuzasiphanga lapha na?” 16 Lapho-ke umkaSamsoni waziphosela phezu kwakhe, ebubula esithi, “Uyangizonda. Kawungithandi ngeqiniso. Unike abantu bakithi ilibho; kodwa mina kawungitshelanga ukuthi litshoni.” Yena waphendula wathi, “Angilichazanga lakubaba lomama, pho ngingalichazalani kuwe na?” 17 Owesifazane lowo wakhala zonke lezinsuku eziyisikhombisa zedili. Ngakho ngosuku lwesikhombisa wantshela, ngoba wayelokhu emphikelela. Laye-ke walichaza ilibho ebantwini bakibo. 18 Kwathi ilanga lingakatshoni ngosuku lwesikhombisa abantu bakulowomuzi bathi kuye, “Kuyini okumnandi kuloluju na? Kuyini okulamandla kulesilwane na?” USamsoni wathi kubo, “Aluba kalilimanga ngethokazi lami, belingeke lilichaze ilibho lami.” 19 UMoya kaThixo wasusehlela phezu kwakhe ngamandla. Waya e-Ashikheloni, wabulala abantu bakhona abangamatshumi amathathu, wabemuka konke ababelakho kwathi izigqoko zabo wazinika labo ababechaze ilibho lakhe. Waya endlini kayise evutha ulaka. 20 UmkaSamsoni wasesendiselwa komunye wabakhaphi bakhe owayekhona edilini.

15 Emva kwalokho, ngesikhathi sokuvuna ingqoloyi, uSamsoni wathatha izinyane lembuzi wethেকেlela umkakhe. Wathi, “Ngiya endlini yomkami.” Kodwa uyisezala wamalela ukuba angene. 2 Wathi, “Ngangileqiniso lokuthi wawusumzonda kakhulu, ngasengimendisela kumkhaphi wakho. Umnawakhe kamuhle kulaye na? Thatha yena.” 3 USamsoni wathi kubo, “Khathesi sengilelungelo lokuphindisela okubi kumaFilitiya. Ngizawalimaza impela.” 4 Ngakho wasuka wabamba amakhanka angamakhulu amathathu wawabophanisa imisila ngambilimbili. Wasebophela uluthi lomlilo emisileni yonke ayeyibophanisile, 5 walumathisa izinti zomlilo wawayekela amakhanka angena emabeleni amiyo amaFilitiya. Watshisa ayesezizeni lamabele amiyo, lezivini kanye lezivande zama-oliva. 6 Kwathi amaFilitiya ebuza ukuthi, “Ngubani owenze lokhu na?” atshelwa ukuthi, “NguSamsoni, umkhwenyana womThimina ngoba umkakhe

wendiselwa kumkhaphi wakhe.” Ngakho amaFilitiya ahamba ayatshisa umkaSamsoni kanye loyise, bafa. 7 USamsoni wathi kubo, “Njengoba selenze lokhu, angiyikukhawula engikwenzayo ngize ngiphindisele kini.” 8 Wabahlasela kakubi wabulala abanengi babo. Emva kwalokho wahamba wayahlala ebhalwini edwaleni lase-Ethamu. 9 AmaFilitiya ahamba ayamisa kojuda, asabalala eduze leLehi. 10 Abantu bakoJuda babuza bathi, “Lizesihlaselelani na?” Bona baphendula bathi, “Silande ukuzabopha uSamsoni, senze kuye lokhu akwenzayo kithi.” 11 Abantu bakoJuda abazinkulungwane ezintathu baya ebhalwini edwaleni lase-Ethamu bathi kuSamsoni, “Kawazi yini ukuthi amaFilitiya ayasibusa? Kuyini osusenzele khona ngempela?” Waphendula wathi, “Ngimane ngenza kuwo lokho akwenza kimi.” 12 Bathi kuye, “Thina silande ukuzabopha sikunikele kuwo.” USamsoni wathi, “Fungani kimi ukuthi kaliyikungibulala lina ngokwenu.” 13 Baphendula bathi, “Siyavuma. Thina sizabopha nje kuphela besesikunikele kuwo. Kasiyikungibulala.” Ngakho bambopha ngemichilo emibili emitsha, basebesuka laye edwaleni. 14 Esebanga eLehi, amaFilitiya amhlangabeza eklabalala. UMoya kaThixo wehlela phezu kwakhe ngamandla. Imichilo ezingalweni zakhe yaba njengesikusha esitshileyo, izibopho zawa ezandleni zakhe. 15 Esethole ithambo lomhlathi kababhemini elitsha, walithatha wabulala ngalo abantu abayinkulungwane. 16 USamsoni wasesithi, “Ngethambo lomhlathi kababhemini, ngibenze baba ngobabhemini. Ngethambo lomhlathi kababhemini ngibulele amadoda ayinkulungwane.” 17 Eseqedile ukukhuluma walilahla ithambo lomhlathi; indawo leyo yasithiwa yiRamathi-Lehi. 18 Ngenxa yokuthi wayesome kakhulu, wakhala kuThixo wathi, “Uyiphile inceku yakho ukunqoba okukhulu. Pho sekumele ngibulawe yikoma yini njalo ngiwele ezandleni zabangasokanga na?” 19 UNkulunkulu wasevula umthonjana eLehi, kwaphuma amanzi kuwo. USamsoni esenathile, amandla akhe aphenduka, wavuseleleka. Ngakho umthombo lowo wathiwa yi-Eni Hakhore, njalo ulokhu ukhona eLehi. 20 USamsoni wakhokhela abako-Israyeli iminyaka engamatshumi amabili ngesikhathi samaFilitiya.

16 Ngelinye ilanga uSamsoni waya eGaza, lapho abona khona isifebe. Walala lalo ngalobobusuku. 2 Abantu beGaza batshelwa ukuthi, “USamsoni ulapha!” Ngakho indawo leyo bayihonqolozela bamcathamela ubusuku bonke esangweni ledolobho. Kabenzanga lutho ebusuku, besithi, “Sizambulala emadabukakusa.” 3 Kodwa uSamsoni walala lapho kwaze kwaba phakathi kwamabili kuphela. Lapho-ke wavuka wabamba izivalo zesango ledolobho, ndawonye lezinsika ezimbili, wakusiphula, umgoqo lakho konke. Wakwethata emahlombe akhe, wakuthwalela phezu kwentaba ekhangele iHebhroni. 4 Ngemva kwesikhathi, wathandana lowesifazane esiGodini saseSoreki owayethiwa nguDelila. 5 Ababusi bamaFilitiya baya kuye bathi, “Mncenge ukuthi akutshengise imifihlo yamandla akhe amakhulu kanye lokuthi singamehlula njani ukuze simbophe simnqobe. Omunye lomunye wethu uzakupha amashekeli esiliva angamakhulu alitshumi lanye.” 6 Ngakho uDelila wathi kuSamsoni, “Ngitshela imifihlo yamandla akho amakhulu kanye lokuthi ungabotshwa unqotshwe njani.” 7 USamsoni waphendula wathi, “Nxa umuntu angangibopha ngemichilo eyisikhombisa engonyiswanga, ngizakuba buthakathaka njengomuntu wonke.” 8 Ababusi bamaFilitiya basebemlethela imichilo eyisikhombisa emitsha

eyayingonyiswanga, wambopha ngayo. **9** Kwakulabantu ababecatshile endlini, wasembiza wathi kuye, “Samsoni, amaFilistiya asephezu kwakho!” Kodwa yena waqamula imichilo kalula njengesiqo sentambo lapho sisondele eduzane lelangabi. Ngakho imfihlo yamandla akhe ayazakalanga. **10** UDelila wasesithi kuSamsoni, “Udlale ngami; ungiqambele amanga. Khathesi-ke ngitshela ukuthi ungangobthwa njani.” **11** Yena wathi, “Umuntu angangibopha aqinise ngamagoda amatsha angakaze asetshenziswe, ngizakuba buthakathaka njengomuntu wonke.” **12** Ngakho uDelila wathatha amagoda amatsha wambopha ngawo. Eselabantu ababecatshile endlini, wambiza wathi kuye, “Samsoni, amaFilistiya asephezu kwakho!” Kodwa yena waqamula amagoda ezingalweni zakhe kungathi ayeluhali nje. **13** UDelila wasesithi kuSamsoni, “Kuze kube khathesi ulokhu udlala ngami njalo ungiqambela amanga. Ngitshela ukuthi ungangobthwa njani.” Yena waphendula wathi, “Ungelukela izixha zenwele zami eziyisikhombisa elenjini ngosungulo zibe yisibhebhedu, ngizakuba buthakathaka njengomuntu wonke.” Ngakho kwathi eselele, uDelila wathatha izixha eziyisikhombisa ekhanda lakhe, **14** wazelukela elenjini ngosungulo. Wambiza njalo wathi kuye, “Samsoni, amaFilistiya asephezu kwakho!” Wavuka ebuthongweni wadonisa isibhebhedu losungulo kanye lelembu. **15** UDelila wasesithi, kuye, “Ungatsho njani uthi, ‘Ngiyakuthanda,’ wena ungangithembi na? Lokhu ngokwesithathu udlala ngami njalo kawungitshelanga imfihlo yamandla akho amakhulu.” **16** Ngokubelelela okunje wamncenga insuku zonke waze wacina esenengeka kakhulu. **17** Ngakho wamthshela konke wathi, “Akulampuco eseyake yasetshenziswa ekhanda lami ngoba ngingumNaziri owahlukaniselwa uNkulunkulu kusukela ekuzalweni. Nxa ikhanda lami lingaphucwa, amandla ami angasuka kimi, njalo ngingaba buthakathaka njengomuntu wonke.” **18** Kwathi uDelila ebona ukuthi wayesemtshela konke, wathumela ilizwi kubabusi bamaFilistiya elithi, “Wozani futhi; usengitshela konke.” Ngakho ababusi bamaFilistiya babuyela bephethe isiliva ngezandla zabo. **19** Kwathi esemlalilise ethangazini lakhe, wabiza umuntu ukuba aphuce izixha eziyisikhombisa zezinwele zakhe, ngakho waqalisa ukumnqoba. Amandla akhe aphela kuye. **20** Wasememeza wathi, “Samsoni, amaFilistiya asephezu kwakho!” Wavuka ebuthongweni bakhe wacabanga wathi, “Ngizaphuma njengakuqala ngizikhulule.” Kodwa wayengazi ukuthi uThixo wayesemtshiyile. **21** AmaFilistiya ambamba, amkopola amehlo asehamba laye eGaza. Esembophe ngamaketane ethusi, amupha umsebenzi wokuchola entolongweni. **22** Kodwa inwele ekhanda lakhe zaqalisa ukukhula futhi emva kokuphucwa. **23** Ababusi bamaFilistiya babuthana ukuba banikele umhlathshelo omkhulu kuDagoni uNkulunkulu wabo njalo bathokoze besithi, “Unkulunkulu wethu unikele uSamsoni, isitha sethu, ezandleni zethu.” **24** Kwathi abantu bembona, badumisa unkulunkulu wabo besithi, “Unkulunkulu wethu unikele isitha sethu ezandleni zethu, sona esachitha ilizwe lethu sabulala abanengi bethu.” **25** Bephakathi kokuthokoza, baklabalala bathi, “Lethani uSamsoni azesilibazisa.” Ngakho uSamsoni bayambiza entolongweni, wazabadlalela. Kwathi sebemise phakathi kwezinsika, **26** uSamsoni wathi encekwini eyayimbambe isandla, “Ngibeka lapho engizathinta khona izinsika ezisekele ithempeli, ukuze ngeyame kuzo.” **27** Ithempeli laligcwele abesilisa labesifazane; bonke ababusi bamaFilistiya babekhonapho, njalo phezu

kophahla kwakulabesilisa labesifazane ababephose babe zinkulungwane ezintathu bebukele uSamsoni egida. **28** USamsoni wasekhuleka kuThixo esithi, “Oh Thixo Wobukhosi, ake ungikhumbule. Oh Nkulunkulu, ake ungiqinise kanye nje futhi, kuthi ngokugalela okukodwa ngiphindisele kumaFilistiya amehlo ami amabili.” **29** USamsoni wasebamba izinsika ezimbili eziphakathi, ithempeli elalixigile kuzo. Waziqinisa ngokweyama kuzo, isandla sakhe sokudla sikwenye lesenxele sikwenye, **30** uSamsoni wathi, “Kangife lamaFilistiya!” Wafuqa ngamandla akhe wonke, ithempeli lawela phezu kwababusi labantu bonke ababephakathi kwalo. Ngalokho wabulala abantu abanengi ekufeni kwakhe kulapho esaphila. **31** Emva kwalokho abafawobo labo bonke abendlu kayise bamlanda. Babuya laye bamngcwaba phakathi kweZora le-Eshithawoli ethuneni likaManowa uyise. Wayekhokhele abako-Israyeli iminyaka engamatshumi amabili.

17 Indoda eyayithwa nguMikha eyayivela elizweni lamaqaqa ako-Efrayimi **2** yathi kunina, “Amashekeli esiliva angamakhulu alitshumi lanye athathwa kuwe njalo engakuzwa uwaqalekisa, sikimi lesosiliva; yimi engasithathayo.” Unina wathi, “UTHixo kakubusise, ndodana yami!” **3** Eswabuyisele kunina amashekeli esiliva angamakhulu alitshumi lanye, unina wathi, “Isiliva sami ngisahlukanisela uThixo ngokuqinisekileyo ukuba indodana yami yenze isithombe esibaziweyo, sahuqwa ngesiliva. Ngizabisela kuwe.” **4** Ngakho esesibisele kunina isiliva, unina wasethatha amashekeli angamakhulu amabili esiliva wawanika umkhandi wesiliva, wenza isithombe ngaso. Sabekwa endlini kaMikha. **5** UMikha lo wayelendawo yokukhonzela, njalo wenza isembatho semahlombe kanye lezithombe, wasebeka enye yamadodana akhe ukuba ngumphristi wakhe. **6** Ngalezonsuku u-Israyeli wayengelankosi; umuntu wonke ezenzela ayekubona kulungile kuye. **7** Ijaha laseBethlehemama kojuda elalingumLevi, elalihlala phakathi kwabosendo lukaJuda, **8** lasuka kulowomuzi lidinga enye indawo yokuhlala. Ekuhambeni kwalo lafika endlini kaMikha elizweni lezintaba elako-Efrayimi. **9** UMikha walibuza wathi, “Uvela ngaphi na?” Lona lathi, “NgingumLevi ovela eBethlehemama kojuda, ngidinga indawo yokuhlala.” **10** UMikha wasesithi kulo, “Hlala lami ube ngubaba lomphristi wami, njalo ngizakupha amashekeli esiliva alitshumi ngomnyaka, izigqoko zakho kanye lokudla kwakho.” **11** Ngakho umLevi wavuma ukuhlala laye, njalo ijaha lelo lalinjengenye yamadodana akhe. **12** UMikha wabeka umLevi ukuba ngumphristi wakhe, njalo ijaha lelo lahlala endlini yakhe. **13** UMikha wasesithi, “Khathesi sengisazi ukuthi uThixo uzakwenza okulungileyo kimi, njengoba umLevi lo esebe ngumphristi wami.”

18 Ngalezonsuku u-Israyeli wayengelankosi. Njalo ngalezonsuku abosendo lukaDani babedinga indawo engeyabo, lapho ababengahlala khona, ngoba babengakabi sendaweni eyilifa labo phakathi kwezizwana zako-Israyeli. **2** Ngakho abakoDani bathuma amabutho amahlanu avela eZora lase-Eshithawoli ukuyahlala ilizwe lokulibona. Amadoda la ayemele zonke insendo zakibo. Zathi kubo, “Hambani liyehlala ilizwe.” Amadoda lawo angena elizweni lezintaba elako-Efrayimi ayafika endlini kaMikha, lapho alala khona. **3** Kwathi eseseduze lendlu kaMikha alazi ilizwi lejaha elingumLevi; ngakho aphendukela khona alibuza athi, “Ngubani owakuletha lapha? Wenzani kule indawo? Ufunani lapha?” **4**

Lawatshela elalikiwenziwe nguMikha, laselisithi, “Ungiqatshile njalo ngingumphristi wakhe.” **5** Aselethi kulo, “Ake usibuzele kuNkulunkulu ukuthi uhambo lwethu luzaphumelela na.” **6** Umphristi wawaphendula wathi, “Hambani ngokuthula. Uhambo lwenu luvunyelwe nguThixo.” **7** Ngakho amadoda amahlanu lawo asuka aya eLayishi, lapho abona ukuthi abantu bakhona babezihlale bevikelekile njengamaSidoni, belokuthula njalo bevikelekile. Njalo babehlezi khatshana lamaSidoni njalo bengelabuhlobo lomunye umuntu. **8** Esebuyele eZora lase-Eshithawoli, abafowabo bawabuza bathi, “Libone kunjani?” **9** Apendula athi, “Phangisani, kasibahlaseleli! Sibonile ukuthi ilizwe lelo lihle kakhulu. Kaliyikwenza lutho na? Lingazilazili ukuya khonale lilithathe. **10** Ekufikeni khonale lizathola abantu abanganqinekele lutho lelizwe elibanzi uNkulunkulu aselifake ezandleni zenu, ilizwe elingasweli lutho.” **11** Lapho-ke amadoda osendo lwakoDani angamakhulu ayisithupha ahlomela ukulwa, asesuka eZora kanye le-Eshithawoli. **12** Ekuhambeni kwawo amisa izihonqo eduze leKhiriyathi-Jeyarimi koJuda. Yikho-nje indawo esentshonalanga kweKhiriyathi-Jeyarimi ithiwa yiMahane Dani kuze kube lamhla. **13** Esuka lapho aya elizweni lezintaba elako-Efrayimi afika endlini kaMikha. **14** Amadoda amahlanu ayehambe ukuyahlola ilizwe leLayishi athi kubafowabo bakodani, “Liyakwazi yini ukuthi enye yalezizindlu ilesembatho semahlombe, labanye onkulunkulu basendlini, lesithombe esihquwe ngesiliva? Khathesi selikwazi okumele likwenze.” **15** Ngakho-ke aphambukela khona aya endlini yejaha elingumLevi koMikha, alibengelela. **16** AbakoDani abangamakhulu ayisithupha, ababehlolele ukulwa, bema entubeni yesango. **17** Abahlanu ababeyehlola ilizwe bangena phakathi bathatha isithombe esibaziweyo, lesembatho semahlombe, labanye onkulunkulu basendlini, umphristi lamadoda ahlomileyo angamakhulu ayisithupha bemi entubeni yesango. **18** Kwathi amadoda la esengene endlini kaMikha athatha isithombe esibaziweyo, lesembatho semahlombe, labanye onkulunkulu basendlini kanye lesithombe esibunjiweyo, umphristi wathi kubo, “Lenzani na?” **19** Amphendula athi, “Thula! Ungatsho lutho. Woza uhambe lathi, ube ngubaba lomphristi wethu. Akungcono yini ukuthi usebenzele isizwana losendo lwako-Israyeli njengomphristi kulabendlu yomuntu oyedwa?” **20** Umphristi wathokoza. Wathatha isembatho semahlombe, labanye onkulunkulu basendlini kanye lesithombe esibaziweyo wahamba labantu. **21** Sebefake abantwababo abancane, lezifuyo zabo kanye lempahla zabo phambi kwabo, baphenduka bahamba. **22** Sebehambe isibanga esithize besuka endlini kaMikha, abantu ababehlala eduzane lendlu kaMikha babizelwa ndawonye baxhuma abakoDani. **23** Kwathi bebamezeza, abakoDani baphendula bathi kuMikha, “Kungani ubize abantu bakho ukuba balwe?” **24** Yena waphendula wathi, “Lithethe onkulunkulu engabenzayo lomphristi wami, lahamba. Kuyini okunye engilakho? Lingangibuza kanjani lisithi, ‘Uhlutshwa yini na?’” **25** AbakoDani baphendula bathi, “Ungaphikisani lathi, hlezi abanye abantu abalolaka bakuhlasele, kuthi wena labendlu yakho lilahlekelwe yikuphila kwenu.” **26** Ngakho abakoDani bazihambela, kwathi uMikha ebona ukuthi babelamandla kakhulu kulaye, waphenduka wabuyela emzini wakhe. **27** Bathatha okwakwenziwe nguMikha, lomphristi wakhe, baya eLayishi, ebantwini ababelokuthula njalo bengethuki lutho.

Babahlaselela ngenkomba batshisa ledolobho labo. **28** Kakho owayengabahlenga ngoba babehlezi khatshana kakhulu leSidoni bengelabuhlobo lamuntu. Idolobho lalisesigodini eduze leBethethi-Rehobhi. AbakoDani balakha kutsha idolobho lelo bahlala kulo. **29** Balibiza ngokuthi yiDani ibizo likakhokho wabo uDani, owayezalwa ngu-Israyeli, lanxa idolobho lalikade lithiwa yiLayishi. **30** AbakoDani bazimisela izithombe khona, njalo uJonathani indodana kaGeshomu, indodana kaMosi, lamadodana akhe babengabaphristi besizwana sikaDani kwaze kwaba yisikhathi sokuthunjwa kwelizwe. **31** Baqhubeka basebenzisa izithombe ezazenziwe nguMikha, ngasosonke isikhathi indlu kaNkulunkulu iseShilo.

19 Ngalezonsuku abako-Israyeli babengelankosi. UmLevi othile owayehlala esiqintini esikhatskana, elizweni lamaqaqa elako-Efrayimi wathatha umfazi weceleni eBethethilehema koJuda. **2** Kodwa wayengathembekanga kuye. Wamtsiwa wabuyela endlini kayise eBethethilehema, koJuda. Eshlale khona okwezinyanga ezine, **3** indoda yamlandela ukuyamncenga ukuba abuye. Indoda yayilenceku yayo labobabemi ababili. Umfazi wamngenisela endlini kayise, njalo kwathi uyise embona wamamukela ngokuthokoza. **4** Uyisezala, uyise wentombi, wamncenga ukuba ahla; ngakho wahlala laye insuku ezintathu, esidla enatha, njalo elala khona. **5** Ngelanga lesine bavuka ekuseni, walungiselela ukusuka, kodwa uyise wentombi wathi kumkhwenyana wakhe, “Qinisa umzimba wakho ngongakudla; ubusuhamba.” **6** Ngakho bobabili bahlala phansi badla banatha. Emva kwalokho uyise wentombi wathi, “Ake ulale ubusuku balamuhla uzithokoze.” **7** Kwathi umuntu lowo evuka ukuba ahambe, uyisezala wamncenga, ngakho walala khona ngalobobusuku. **8** Ekuseni ngosuku lwesihlanu, wathi evuka ukuba ahambe, uyise wentombi wathi, “Phumula. Hlala kuze kube ngemva kwemini.” Ngakho bobabili badla ndawonye. **9** Kwathi lapho umuntu lowo, lomkakhe weceleni kanye lenceku yakhe belungiselela ukusuka, uyisezala, uyise wentombi wathi, “Khangela, sekuzakuhlwa. Lala lapha; ilanga selizatshona. Hlala uzithokoze. Kusasa ekuseni kakhulu uzavuka uthathe indlela yakho yokuya ekhaya.” **10** Kodwa umuntu lowo engasafuni ukulala obunye ubusuku lapho, wasuka waqonda eJebusi (leyo yijerusalem), labobabemi bakhe ababili ababebotshelwe izihlalo kanye lomkakhe weceleni. **11** Kwathi sebebanga eJebusi ilanga laselishona, inceku yathi enkosini yayo, “Uyabona, kasime kulelidolobho lamaJebusi silale.” **12** Inkosi yayo yathi, “Hayi. Kasiyikungena edolobheni elilabantu abangasibako-Israyeli. Sizaqhubeka siye eGibhiya.” **13** Wengeza wathi, “Kasambeni, sizame ukuyafika eGibhiya loba eRama, silale kwenye yalezizindawo.” **14** Ngakho baqhubeka, ilanga latshona sebebanga eGibhiya koBhenjamini. **15** Bema lapho ukuba balale khona. Bahamba bayahlala egcekeni ledolobho, kodwa kakho owabangenisela endlini yakhe ukuba balale khona. **16** Ngalokhokuhlwa ixhegu laselizweni lamaqaqa ko-Efrayimi, elalihlala eGibhiya (abantu bakuleyondawo babengabakoBhenjamini), lafika livela emsebenzini lawo emasimini. **17** Selikhangele labona isihambi egcekeni ledolobho, ixhegu labuza lathi, “Liya ngaphi? Livala ngaphi?” **18** Yena waphendula wathi, “Siphakathi kohambo lwethu sivela eBethethilehema koJuda siya esiqintini esikhatskana elizweni lamaqaqa ko-Efrayimi lapho engihlala khona. Kade ngiseBethethilehema koJuda kodwa khathesi sengisiya endlini kaThixo. Akulamuntu ongingenise

endlini yakhe. **19** Silotshani lokudla kwabobabhemu bethu lesinkwa kanye lewayini lethu thina zincuku zakho, mina lencekukazi yakho kanye lejaha esilalo. Kasisweli lutho.” **20** Ixhegu lathi, “Lamukeyele endlini yami. Ngizalnika konke elikuswelayo. Kodwa lingalali egekeni.” **21** Ngakho lamngenisa endlini yalo, lanika labobabhemu bakhe ukudla. Sebegeze inyawo zabo, badla banatha. **22** Besazitika, abanye babantu abaxhwalileyo bakulelodelobho bahanqa indlu leyo. Batshaya isivalo, bamemeza ixhegu elalingumnikazi wendlu besithi, “Mkhuphele phandle umuntu ongene endlini ukuze siye emacansini laye.” **23** Umnikazi wendlu waya phandle wathi kubo, “Hayi, bangane bami, lingenzi okubi kangaka. Njengoba umuntu eyisethekeli sami, lingenzi into elihlazo kanje. **24** Khangelani, nansi indodakazi yami eyintombi egcweleyo, kanye lomfazi weceleni walindoda. Ngizabaletsa phandle kini, lingabasebenzisa lenze kubo konke elikufisayo. Kodwa lingenzi ihlazo elinjalo kule indoda.” **25** Kodwa abantu labo kabamlalelanga. Ngakho indoda leyo yathatha umkayo weceleni yamusa phandle kubo, bamdlova njalo bamphatha kubi ubusuku bonke, kwathi emadabukakusa bamyekela wahamba. **26** Ekuseni owesifazane lowo waya endlini lapho umkakhe ayehlezi khona, wawela emnyango, walala khonapho kwaze kwakhanya. **27** Esevukile umkakhe ekuseni, wavula umnyango wendlu waphuma ukuba aqhubeke ngohambo lwakhe, wabona umkakhe weceleni ewele emnyango wendlu, izandla zakhe zisentubeni yomnyango. **28** Wathi kuye, “Vuka; kasihambe.” Kodwa kamphendulanga. Ngakho umuntu lowo wambeka phezu kukababhemu wakhe wasuka waya emzini wakhe. **29** Esefikile ekhaya wathatha ingqamu waquma umkakhe weceleni iziqayiqqa ezilutshumi lambili wazithumela kuzozonke izigaba zako-Israyeli. **30** Umuntu wonke owakubonayo lokho wathi, “Into enje kayikaze ibonakale loba yenziwe, selokhu u-Israyeli waphuma eGibhithi. Cabangani ngakho! Likuhlale! Litsho okungenziwa!”

20 Ngalesisikhathi bonke abako-Israyeli baphuma njengomuntu munye ukusela eDani kusiya eBherisheba kanye laselizweni leGilyadi, babuthana phambi kukaThixo eMizipha. **2** Abakhokheli babantu bonke bezizwana zako-Israyeli bathatha izindawo zabo ebandleni labantu bakaNkulunkulu, amabutho azinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amane ehlole ngezinkemba. **3** (AbakoBhenjamini bezwa ukuthi abako-Israyeli babeye eMizipha.) Abako-Israyeli basebesithi, “Sitsheleni ukuthi into le embi yenzakale njani.” **4** Ngakho umLevi, indoda yowesifazane lowo owayebulewe, wathi, “Mina lomkami weceleni safika eGibhiya koBhenjamini ukuba silale khona. **5** Ebusuku abantu beGibhiya bangivukela bahanqa indlu, behlose ukungibulala. Badlova umkami weceleni waze wafa. **6** Ngathatha umkami weceleni, ngamquma waba yiziqayiqqa, ngathumela isiqqa esisodwa esigabeni ngasinye selifa lako-Israyeli, ngoba amanyala lalasesenzo sokuxhwala basenzela ko-Israyeli. **7** Khathesi lonke lina abako-Israyeli, khulumani litsho isinqumo senu.” **8** Abantu bonke basukuma njengomuntu munye, besithi, “Akakho kithi ozakuya ekhaya. Hathi, akakho kithi ozabuyela endlini yakhe. **9** Kodwa khathesi esizakwenza eGibhiya yilokhu: Sizakuyayihlasela ngokwenza inketho. **10** Sizathatha abantu abalutshumi phakathi kwabalikhulu kuzozonke izizwana zako-Israyeli, labalikhulu kwabayinkulungwane, labayinkulungwane kwaba zinkulungwane ezilutshumi ukuba badingele ibutho ukudla.

Ekufikeni kwalo ibutho eGibhiya koBhenjamini, lizabanika ekubafaneleyo ngamanyala lokuxhwala abakwenze ko-Israyeli.” **11** Ngakho bonke abantu bako-Israyeli bahlanguka, bamanyana njengomuntu munye bamelana ledolobho. **12** Izizwana zako-Israyeli zathumela abantu kusosonke izizwana sakoBhenjamini, zisithi, “Yibudlova bani lobu obenziwayo phakathi kwenu na? **13** Khathesi-ke, banikeleni lababantu baseGibhiya abangangileyo ukuze sibabulale siqede ububi ko-Israyeli.” Kodwa abakoBhenjamini kababalalalanga abafowabo bako-Israyeli. **14** Baqoqana eGibhiya bevela emadolobheni akibo ukuba balwe labako-Israyeli. **15** Ngasikhathi sinye abakoBhenjamini babutha izinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lesithupha zabahlome ngezinkemba emadolobheni akibo, phezu kwabantu abangamakhulu ayisikhombisa abakhethwa kulabo abahlala eGibhiya. **16** Phakathi kwamabutho la kwakulabantu abakhethiweyo abangamakhulu ayisikhombisa ababangamane, bonke bengakhuthi abakunxwameleyo ngesavutha. **17** Abako-Israyeli, ngaphandle kwabakoBhenjamini, babutha abantu abalwa ngezinkemba abazinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amane, bonke bengabantu bemp. **18** Abako-Israyeli baya eBhetheli babuza uNkulunkulu. Bathi, “Ngubani wethu ozahamba kuqala ukuyakulwa labakoBhenjamini?” UThixo wathi, “NguJuda ozahamba kuqala.” **19** Kusisa ekuseni, abako-Israyeli bavuka bamisa izihonqo eduzane leGibhiya. **20** Abantu bako-Israyeli baphuma ukuyakulwa labakoBhenjamini bema ezindaweni ezilungele ukubahlasela eGibhiya. **21** AbakoBhenjamini baphuma eGibhiya babulala abako-Israyeli abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lambili endaweni yokulwela mhlalokho. **22** Kodwa abantu bako-Israyeli banikana isibindi babuyela njalo ezindaweni zabo lapho ababekhona ngelanga lakuqala. **23** Abako-Israyeli bahamba bayakhala phambi kukaThixo kwaze kwaba kusihlwa, njalo babuza uThixo bathi, “Singahamba njalo yini siyekulwa labakoBhenjamini, abafowethu na?” UThixo waphendula yathi, “Hambani liyebahlasela.” **24** Abako-Israyeli basondela koBhenjamini ngosuku lwesibili. **25** Ngalesisikhathi, kwathi abakoBhenjamini sebebhumile eGibhiya ukuba bamelane labo, babulala abanye njalo abazinkulungwane ezilutshumi lasificaminwembili, bonke behlole ngezinkemba. **26** Lapho-ke, abako-Israyeli bonke lebutho lonke baya eBhetheli, bahlala khona bekhala phambi kukaThixo. Ngalelola bazila kwaze kwaba kusihlwa, banikela leminikelo yokutshiswa kanye leminikelo yobudlelwano kuThixo. **27** Abako-Israyeli basebebuza uThixo. (Ngalezonsuku umtshokotsho wesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu wawukhonapho, **28** uloFinehasi indodana ka-Eliyazari, indodana ka-Aroni, ekhonza phambi kwawo.) Babuza bathi, “Singahamba njalo yini siyekulwa loBhenjamini umfowethu loba hatshi na?” UThixo waphendula wathi, “Hambani, ngoba kusasa ngizabanikela ezandleni zenu.” **29** Ngakho abako-Israyeli bacathama bezugeze iGibhiya. **30** Bahamba bayahlasela abakoBhenjamini ngosuku lwesithathu, balungela ukuhlasela iGibhiya njengebabekwenze kuqala. **31** AbakoBhenjamini baphuma babahlanguka baholelwa kude ledolobho. Baqalisa ukubabulala abako-Israyeli njengakuqala, kwathi ababephosa babengamatshumi amathathu bafela egekeni emgwaqweni oya eBhetheli lomunye oya eGibhiya. **32** Kwathi abakoBhenjamini besithi, “Siyabehlula njengakuqala,” abako-Israyeli bona besithi, “Kasihlehleli emuva sibaholele kude

ledolobho emigwaqweni.” **33** Bonke abantu bako-Israyeli basuka ezindaweni zabo baya eBhali-Thamari, kwathi abako-Israyeli ababecatheme bahlasela bephuma endaweni yabo ngasentshonalanga kweGibhiya. **34** Izinkulungwane ezilithshumi zabantu bako-Israyeli abakhethiweyo bahlasela iGibhiya mathupha. Ukulwa kwakunzima kakhulu ngakho kwenza abakoBhenjamini bangananzeleli ukuthi ingozi yayisondele. **35** UThixo wamqoba uBhenjamini phambi kuka-Israyeli, njalo ngalelologa abako-Israyeli babulala abakoBhenjamini abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlano lekhulu, bonke behlome ngezinkemba. **36** Lapho-ke abakoBhenjamini babona ukuthi babenqotshiwe. Khonapho abako-Israyeli basebevulele abakoBhenjamini isikhala, ngoba babethembe ababecatheme eduze leGibhiya. **37** Abantu ababecatheme bagijimela eGibhiya ngokuphangisa, basabalala idolobho lonke balihlasele ngenkemba. **38** Abantu bako-Israyeli babehlele labacathamayo ukuthi benze iyezi elikhulu lentuthu phakathi kwedolobho, **39** lapho-ke abantu bako-Israyeli babezaphendukela ekulweni empini. AbakoBhenjamini basebeqalisile ukubulala abako-Israyeli (babephosa babengamatshumi amathathu), njalo bathi, “Siyabehlula njengempini yakuqala.” **40** Kodwa kwathi izikhatha zentuthu seziqalise ukuphakama edolobheni, abakoBhenjamini baphenduka babona intuthu yedolobho lonke iqonga isiya phezulu emkhathini. **41** Lapho-ke abako-Israyeli babaphendukela, abantu bakoBhenjamini batshaywa luvalo, ngoba babona ukuthi ingozi yayisibehlele. **42** Ngakho babaleka phambi kwabako-Israyeli beqonda enkangala kodwa behluleka ukuyibalekela impi. Abako-Israyeli abaphuma emizini bababulalela khonapho. **43** Babahanqa abakoBhenjamini, baxotshana labo, bababhuqela eduze leGibhiya kalula ngasempumalanga. **44** Kwafa abakoBhenjamini abazinkulungwane ezilithshumi lasificaminwebili, bonke bengamaqhawe. **45** Sebephenduke babaleka beqonda enkangala edwaleni laseRimoni, abako-Israyeli babulala abantu abazinkulungwane ezinhlanu kulandela imigwaqo. Baqhubeka bexotshana labakoBhenjamini baze bayafika eGidomu babulala abanye njalo abazinkulungwane ezimbili. **46** Ngalelologa kwafa abakoBhenjamini abalwa ngenkemba abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlano, bonke bengamaqhawe. **47** Kodwa abantu abangamakhulu ayisithupha baphenduka babalekela enkangala edwaleni laseRimoni, lapho abahlala khona izinyanga ezine. **48** Abantu bako-Israyeli babuyela koBhenjamini bahlasela imizi yonke ngenkemba, kubalwa izifuyo lakho konke okunye abakutholayo. Yonke imizi abafika kuyo bayithungela ngomlilo.

21 Abantu bako-Israyeli babefunge isifungo eMizipha bathi, “Akukho lamunye wethu ozakwendisela indodakazi yakhe emuntwini wakoBhenjamini.” **2** Abantu baya eBetheli, lapho abahlala khona phambi kukaNkulunkulu kwaze kwaba kusihlwa, bephakamise amazwi abo bekhala kabuhlungu besithi, **3** “Oh Thixo, Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, kungani lokhu kwenzakale ku-Israyeli na? Kungani esinye isizwana singekho ko-Israyeli lamhla na?” **4** Ngakusasa ekuseni abantu bakha i-alithari banikela iminikelo yokutshiswa leminikelo yobudlelwano. **5** Basebebuza abako-Israyeli besithi, “Yisiphi kuzozonke izizwana zako-Israyeli esingabuthananga phambi kukaThixo na?” Ngoba babefunge isifungo esiqinileyo

bathi lowo owayengayikuba khona ekubuthaneni phambi kukaThixo eMizipha kwakuzamele abulawe. **6** Abako-Israyeli bezwa ubuhlungu ngabafowabo bakoBhenjamini. Bathi, “Lamuhla esinye isizwana kasisekho ko-Israyeli. **7** Labo abaseleyo singabanika njani abafazi, njengoba thina sifunge isifungo ngoThixo ukuba kasiyi kubendisele amadodakazi ethu?” **8** Babuye babuza bathi, “Yisiphi sezizwana zako-Israyeli esingabuthananga phambi kukaThixo eMizipha na?” Bafumana ukuthi akulamuntu waseJabheshi Giliyadi owayefikile ezihonqweni elande umbuthano lowo. **9** Ngoba bathi bebala abantu, bathola ukuthi kwakungelamuntu waseJabheshi Giliyadi owayekhona. **10** Ngakho ibandla lathuma abantu bemi abazinkulungwane ezilithshumi lambili belaywa ukuthi baye eJabheshi Giliyadi babahlasele ngenkemba labo abahlala khona, kubalwa abesifazane labantwana. **11** Bathi, “Kumele libulale wonke owesilisa lowesifazane ongasintombi egcweleyo.” **12** Phakathi kwabantu ababehlala eJabheshi Giliyadi bathola izintombi zigcweleyo ezingamakhulu amane, bazisa ezihonqweni eShilo kweleKhenani. **13** Ibandla lonke lathumela ilizwi lokuthula kwabakoBhenjamini edwaleni laseRimoni. **14** Ngakho abakoBhenjamini babuyela ngalesosikhathi sebephiwe abesifazane baseJabheshi Giliyadi ababephephiwe. Kodwa kabawanelanga amadoda wonke. **15** Abantu bezwa ubuhlungu ngabakoBhenjamini, ngoba uThixo wayesenze isikhete phakathi kwezizwana zako-Israyeli. **16** Abadala bebandla bathi, “Njengoba abesifazane bakoBhenjamini beqothuliwe, amadoda aseleyo siwazuzela njani abafazi na? **17** AbakoBhenjamini abasindayo kumele babe lezindlalifa, ukuze isizwana sako-Israyeli singatshabalali. **18** Asingekho sibendisele amadodakazi ethu ngoba thina abako-Israyeli safunga isifungo lesi sathi: ‘Kaqaqalekise lowo owendisela umBhenjamini umfazi.’ **19** Kodwa khangelani, kulomkhosi weminyaka yonke kaThixo eShilo, enyakatho kweBetheli, ngasempumalanga komgwaqo osuka eBetheli usiya eShekhemu, ngeningizimu kweLebhona.” **20** Ngakho balaya abakoBhenjamini bathi, “Hambani liyecatsha ezivinini **21** lilinde. Lapho izintombi zaseShilo ziphuma ukuba zingene ekugideni, sukani ezivinini ligijima kuthi lowo lalowo wenu azibambe umfazi ezintombini zaseShilo libe selisiya elizweni lakoBhenjamini. **22** Oyise labanewabo bangakhonona kithi, thina sizakuthi kubo, ‘Ake lisenzele umusa ngokubasiza, ngoba kasibatholelana abafazi ngesikhathi semp. Kaliyikuba lacala ngokwephula isifungo, ngoba amadodakazi enu kaliwendiselanga kubo.’” **23** Ngakho lokho yikho okwenziwa ngabakoBhenjamini. Kwathi izintombi zigida, indoda yabamba intombi yahamba layo ukuba ibe ngumkayo. Babuyelake elifeni labo bayakha kutsha imizi, bahlala kuyo. **24** Ngalesisikhathi abako-Israyeli basuka kuleyondawo babuyela emakhaya ezizwaneni lasezinsendweni zabo, ngulowo lalowo elifeni lakhe. **25** Ngalezonsuku abako-Israyeli babengelangosi; umuntu wonke ezizela ayekubona kulungile kuye.

URuthe

1 Ngezinsuku kubusa abahluleli, kwaba lendlala elizweni. Ngakho indoda ethile yaseBhethilehema koJuda kanye lomkayo lamadodana abo amabili, basuka bayahlala elizweni lamaMowabi okwesikhathshana. **2** Ibizo lalindoda lalingu-Elimeleki, elomkakhe linguNawomi, amadodana akhe amabili ayengoMaheloni loKhiliyoni. Babengama-Efrathi aseBhethilehema koJuda. Baya eMowabi bayahlala khona. **3** U-Elimeleki, umkaNawomi wafa, wasesala lamadodana akhe womabili. **4** Athatha abafazi baseMowabi, omunye wayethiwa ngu-Opha omunye ethiwa nguRuthe. Sebehlale lapho okweminyaka elitshumi, **5** bobabili uMaheloni loKhiliyoni labo bafa, uNawomi wasesala engaselamadodana kanye lomkakhe. **6** Wathi esizwa eseMowabi ukuthi uThixo wayesize abantu bakhe ngokubapha ukudla, uNawomi kanye labomalukazana bakhe balungisela ukubuyela kibo. **7** Wasuka endaweni ayekade ehlala kuyo, labomalukazana bakhe bobabili, wangena indlela eyayizabasa emuva elizweni lamaJuda. **8** UNawomi wasesithi kubomalukazana bakhe bobabili, “Buyelani emuva, ngulowo lowo aye emzini kanina. Engani uThixo angalenzela umusa onjengalowo elingitshengise wona kanye labomkenu asebedlule. **9** Sengathi uThixo angenza ukuba ngulowo lalowo athole inhlobo enhle nxa esendele kwenye indoda.” Wasebanga, basebekhala kakhulu **10** bathi kuye, “Sizahamba lawe ebantwini bakini.” **11** Kodwa uNawomi wathi, “Buyelani ngekhaya madodakazi ami. Kambe lingabe lihambelani lami? Ngingazala amanye amadodana na angaba ngomkenu? **12** Buyelani ngekhaya madodakazi ami. Sengigugile, angingeke ngibe ngisazuka enye indoda. Loba bekungaba kulethemba lokuthi ngende loba bengingaba lendoda ngabona lobubusuku ngizale amadodana, **13** lingawamelela aze akhule na? Lingahlala lingendana lilindele wona na? Hatshi, madodakazi ami. Kubuhlungu kakhulu lokho kimi okwedlula kini ngoba ingalo kaThixo isingihlanekelile!” **14** Bekuzwa lokho bakhala njalo. U-Opha wasesanga uninazala wamvalelisa, kodwa uRuthe wabambelela kuye. **15** UNawomi wathi, “Khangela, unyanewenu usebuyela kwabakibo kanye labonkulunkulu bakhe. Buyela laye.” **16** URuthe waphendula wathi, “Ungangincengi ukuba ngikutshiyi loba ukuba ngikufulathele. Lapho oya khona ngizakuya khona, lalapho ozahlala khona ngizahlala khona. Abantu bakini bazakuba ngabakithi loNkulunkulu wakho uzakuba nguNkulunkulu wami. **17** Lapho ozafela khona lami ngizafela khona njalo ngizangcwatshelwa khona. Sengathi uThixo angangihlanekela nxa ngingehlukana lawe ngenxa yolunye ulutho olungesikufa.” **18** Kwathi uNawomi esebonile ukuthi uRuthe uzimisele ukuhamba laye, waseyekela ukumcindezela. **19** Basebehamba bobabili baze bayafika eBhethilehema. Bathi befika eBhethilehema, umuzi wonke waba lokuxokozela ngabo, kwathi abesifazane bababaza besithi, “Angabe enguNawomi lo na?” **20** Yena wathi kubo, “Lingangibizi ngokuthi nginguNawomi. Wothani nginguMara, ngoba uSomandla wenze impilo yami yaba munyane. **21** Ngasuka lapha ngicwele, kodwa uThixo usengibuyise ngingelalutho. Lingangibizelani ngokuthi nginguNawomi? UThixo ungehlisele uhlupho; uSomandla ungehlisele okubi.” **22** Ngakho uNawomi wabuyela ngokunjalo eBhethilehema evela eMowabi. Wafika

ephelekezela nguRuthe umalukazana wakhe waseMowabi. Bafika ngesikhathi sokuqalisa ukuvuna ibhali.

2 UNawomi wayelesihlobo sakwabozala, indoda eyayinothile osendweni luka-Elimeleki, ibizo layo linguBhowazi. **2** URuthe um'Mowabi wathi kuNawomi, “Yekela ngiye emasimini ngiyedobha inhlamvu zamabele asala emuva kulowo ozakuba lomusa kimi.” UNawomi wathi, “Kulungile, hamba ndodakazi yami.” **3** Wasehamba, wafika wadobha amabele asala ngemuva kwabavunayo. Kwenzakala ukuthi wafika wasebenza ensimini kaBhowazi, owayengowosendo luka-Elimeleki. **4** Kwasekufika uBhowazi evela eBhethilehema, wabingelela abavuni wathi, “UTHixo kabe lani!” Baphendula bathi, “UTHixo akubusise!” **5** UBhowazi wabuza inceku yakhe eyayikhangele abavunayo wathi, “Intombi le ngekabani?” **6** Yena wathi, “NgeyaseMowabi eyabuya loNawomi. **7** Uthe, “Ngicela ukudobha okusalayo phakathi kwezithungo ngemva kwabavunayo.” Ulokhu efike emasimini ekuseni lokhu esebenza kuze kube khathesi, ngaphandle kokuphumula kancinyane nje emthunzini.” **8** UBhowazi wasesithi kuRuthe, “Lalela lapha-ke ndodakazi yami. Ungaze wayadobha kwenye insimu, ungasuki lapha. Hlala lapha lamantombazana azincekukazi zami. **9** Nanzelela leyonsimu lapho amadoda avuna khona, wena ulandele amantombazana. Ngivalayile amadoda ukuba angakuhluphi. Ungezwa usuwomile, uhambe uyenatha ezimbizeni ezikhelelwe zagcwaliswa ngamadoda.” **10** Ekuzwa lokhu uRuthe wathi mbo phansi ngobuso, wambuza wathi, “Kungani ngifumane umusa ongaka kuwe uze ungizwele mina ngingowezizweni?” **11** UBhowazi wathi, “Sengitsheliwe ngakho konke owakwenzela unyokozala kusukela ekufeni komkakho lokuthi watshiya uyihlo lonyoko lelizwe lakini weza ukuzahlala labantu owawungabazi ngaphambili. **12** Sengathi uThixo angakupha umvuzo ngalokhu okwenzileyo. Sengathi uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, oze ukuphephela ngaphansi kwamaphiko akhe angakupha umvuzo omkhulu.” **13** URuthe wathi, “Sengathi ngingaqhubeka ngithola umusa kuwe, nkosi yami. Usungiphe ukududuzeka njalo ukhulume ngomusa encekukazini yakho loba ngingafanele ukuba ngomunye wamantombazana azincekukazi zakho.” **14** Ngesikhathi sokudla, uBhowazi wathi kuye, “Woza lapha. Nansi isinkwa, dlana utshebe ngewayini elileviniga.” Wahlala phansi labavunayo, uBhowazi wasemupha amabele akhazangiweyo. Wadla wasutha waze watshiya. **15** Esesukuma ukuthi ayebutha, uBhowazi walaya amadoda wathi, “Loba angaze adobhe phakathi kwezithungo, lingaze lamhlupha. **16** Kodwa, hwatshani amanye amahlanga ezithungweni limtshiyele ukuze adobhe kuwo, lingaze lamkhuza.” **17** Ngakho uRuthe wadobha ensimini kwaze kwahwalala. Wasebhula ibhali ayeyidobhile, yagcwala phamu amagokoko amabili. **18** Wayithwala waya layo ngekhaya, uninazala wabona lokho ayekuvunile. URuthe wakhupha ayekutshiyile esedle wasutha, weza lakho wamupha. **19** Uninazala wabuza wathi, “Udobhe ngaphi lamhlanje? Usebenze ngaphi? Ubusisiwe lowomuntu okunanzeleleyo!” URuthe wasemtshela uninazala ngalowo lapho ayekade esebenza khona wathi, “Ibizo lendoda engisebenze kuyo lamhla nguBhowazi.” **20** UNawomi wathi kumalukazana wakhe, “UTHixo kambusise! Kayekelanga ukutshengisa umusa wakhe kwabaphilayo lakwasebafayo.” Wengeza njalo wathi, “Indoda leyo iyisihlobo sethu esiseduze; ingomunye wezihlobo zethu ezingabahlengi.” **21** URuthe um'Mowabi wasesithi,

“Uze wathi kimi, ‘Ubohla ulandela izisebenzi zami zize ziqede ukuvuna amabele ami.’” **22** UNawomi wathi kuRuthe umalukazana wakhe, “Kuzakuba kuhle, ndodakazi yami, ukuthi uhambe lamantombazana akhe, ngoba unghalutshwa ensimini yomunye.” **23** Ngakho uRuthe waba seduze lamantombazana azincekuzi zikaBhowazi ekudobheni kwaze kwaphela ukuvuna ibhali lengqoloyi. Njalo wahlala loninazala.

3 Ngelinye ilanga uNawomi, uninazala wathi kuye, “Ndodakazi yami, akungcono ngikudingele umuzi lapho ozagcineka khona kuhle na?” **2** UBhowazi lo obusebenza lamantombazana akhe, yisihlobo sethu. Ngobusuku balamhlanje uzabe esela ibhali esizeni. **3** Geza, uziqhole ngamakha, ugqoke izigqoko zakho zokuceca. Ubususiya esizeni, kodwa ungaze waziveza kuye aze aqede ukudla lokunatha. **4** Nxa eselala, uqaphelise indawo alala kuyo, ubusufika wambule ezinyaweni zakhe ulale lapho. Uzakutshela ukuthi wenzeni.” **5** URuthe wathi, “Ngizakwenza lokho ongitshela khona.” **6** Wasesuka waya esizeni, wenza konke ayekutshelwe nguinazala. **7** Kwathi uBhowazi esethabe kakhulu ngemva kokudla lokunatha, wasuka wayalala ekucineni kwenzumbi yamabele. URuthe wasondela ngokuthula, wembula inyawo zakhe, waselala lapho. **8** Kwathi phakathi kobusuku indoda yethuswa ngokuthile, yasiphenduka yathola owesifazane elele ezinyaweni zayo. **9** Yabuza yathi, “Ungubani wena?” Yena waphendula wathi, “NginguRuthe, incekekazi yakho. Ngembathisa ngesembatho sakho, njengoba uyisihlobo sethu esingumhlengi.” **10** Yena wathi, “UThixo akubusise, ndodakazi yami. Umusa wakho lo mkhulu ukwedlula lokho okwenze kuqala. Awuzange ukhethe ukulandelana lamajaha, ingabe nganothileyo loba angabayanga. **11** Ngakho-ke, ungesabi ndodakazi yami. Ngizakwenza konke okucelayo. Bonke abantu bakulo umuzi bayakwazi ukuthi wena ungowesifazane oqotho. **12** Lanxa kuliqiniso ukuthi mina ngiyisihlobo esihlangayo, kodwa ukhona oyisihlobo esiseduze okwedlula mina. **13** Hlala lapha lobubusuku, kuthi ekuseni nxa efuna ukukuhlenga; uzakwenza njalo. Kodwa nxa engakavumi lokho, mina ngizakwenza lokho njengoba uThixo ephila. Lala lapha kuze kuse.” **14** Ngakho walala kwaze kwasa, wasevuka engakananzelelwa muntu; uBhowazi wathi kuye, “Ungaze watshela muntu ukuthi ukhona owesifazane oke weza esizeni.” **15** Wengeza wathi, “Letha kimi isembatho leso osembethayo usivule.” Kwathi esenzajalo, wathela kuso ibhali eyizilinganiso eziyisithupha wamethesa. Wasesuka wabuyela ngekhyaya. **16** URuthe wathi efika kuninazala, uNawomi wabaza wathi, “Kuhambe njani ndodakazi yami?” Yena wamtshela konke ayekwenzelwe nguBhowazi, **17** wengeza esithi, “Ungiphe izilinganiso eziyisithupha zebhali wathi, ‘Ungaze wabuyela kunyokozala ungelalutho.’” **18** UNawomi wasesithi, “Mana ndodakazi yami, uze ubone okuzakwazakala. Umuntu lo kasoke aphumule indaba le ize ilungiswe lamhlanje.”

4 Kusenjalo uBhowazi waya esangweni ledolobho wahlala lapho. Kwathi isihlobo esihlangayo ayekhulume ngaso sisedlula lapho, uBhowazi wathi, “Woza lapha mngane wami, uhlale phansi.” Waya kuye wahlala phansi. **2** UBhowazi wabiza abadala bakulelolobho abalitshumi wathi, “Hlalani lapha,” benza njalo. **3** Wasesithi esihlotsheni esihlangayo, “UNawomi osebuyile evela eMowabi uthengisa isiqinti esasingesomnewethu u-Elimeleki. **4** Ngibone kufanele ukuthi ngilethe loludaba kuwe njalo ngicebise ukuthi usithenge

phambi kwabo laba abahlezi lapha laphambi kwabadala bakithi. Nxa usihlenga, yenza njalo. Kodwa nxa ungasihlengi ungazise. Phela kakho olelungelo lokwenza lokho ngaphandle kwakho, besekulandela mina.” Yena wathi, “Ngizasihlenga.” **5** UBhowazi wasesithi, “Mhla uthenga umhlabathi kuNawomi loRuthe um’Mowabi, kuzayela lomfelokazi womufi, ukuze umise ibizo lomufi kanye lempahla yakhe.” **6** Sikuzwa lokho, isihlobo esingumhlengi sathi, “Angingeke-ke ngisihlenga ngoba sekungonakala okwelifa lami. Sihlenga wena ngokwakho. Mina anganelisi.” **7** (Ngalezonsuku zakuqala ko-Israyeli, ukuze umkhuba wokuhlanga impahla zisuka komunye zisiya komunye uphelele, oyedwa wayekhupha inyathela lakhe aliphe omunye. Le yayiyindlela yokuqinisa isivumelwano ko-Israyeli.) **8** Ngakho isihlobo esihlangayo sakhupha inyathela laso sathi kuBhowazi, “Sithenge wena.” **9** UBhowazi wasebika ebadaleni lakubo bonke abantu wathi, “Lamhlanje lingofakazi bokuthi sengithengile kuNawomi yonke impahla ka-Elimeleki, loKhiliyoni loMaheloni. **10** LoRuthe um’Mowabi, umfelokazi kaMaheloni sengimzuzile ukuba abe ngumkami, ukuze kugcinakale ibizo lomufi kanye lempahla yakhe, lokuze ibizo lakhe linganyamalali emulini loba embalini yomuzi. Lingofakazi lamhlanje!” **11** Abadala kanye labo bonke ababesangweni bathi, “Singofakazi. Sengathi uThixo angenza owesifazane ozayo emzini wakho abe njengoRasheli loLeya, abayakhayo indlu ka-Israyeli bendawonye. Sengathi unghlonitshwa e-Efrathi ube lodumo eBethlehem. **12** Ngenzalo uThixo azakunika yona ngalo owesifazane, sengathi imuli yakho ingaba njengekaPherazi, uThamari ayizalela ujuda.” **13** UBhowazi wamthatha uRuthe waba ngumkakhe. Wembatha laye, uThixo wenza wakhulelwa, wasezala indodana. **14** Abesifazane bathi kuNawomi, “Kadunyiswe uThixo, yena ongakutshiyanga wasala ungelasihlobo esihlangayo. Sengathi angaba lodumo kulolonke elako-Israyeli! **15** Uzakwenza impilo yakho ibentsha, akulondoloze ebadaleni bakho. Ngoba umalukazana wakho, yena okuthandayo njalo ongono kulamadodana ayisikhombisa, usemuphe inzalo.” **16** UNawomi wasethatha umntwana, wamanga, wamondla. **17** Abesifazane ababehlala lapho bathi, “UNawomi uselendodana.” Bamutha ibizo bathi ngu-Obhedi. Nguye owaba nguyise kaJese, uyise kaDavida. **18** Lesi yiso isizukulwane sikaPherazi: uPherazi wayenguyise kaHezironi, **19** uHezironi enguyise kaRamu, uRamu enguyise ka-Aminadabi, **20** u-Aminadabi enguyise kaNahashoni, uNahashoni enguyise kaSalimoni, **21** uSalimoni enguyise kaBhowazi, uBhowazi enguyise ka-Obhedi, **22** u-Obhedi enguyise kaJese, uJese enguyise kaDavida.

1 USamuyeli

1 Kwakulendoda ethile yaseRamathayimi, umZufi wayevela elizweni lamaqaqa elako-Efrayimi, ibizo layo lalingu-Elikhona indodana kaJerohamu, indodana ka-Elihu, indodana kaThohu, indodana kaZufi, um'Efrayimi. **2** Wayelabafazi ababili; omunye wayethiwa nguHana omunye enguPhenina. UPhenina wayelabantwana kodwa uHana engelabo. **3** Ngeminyaka yonke indoda le yayisuka emzini wakibo isigayikhonza, inikela lomhlatsheho kuThixo uSomandla eShilo, lapho uHofini loFinehasi, amadodana amabili ka-Eli, ababengabaphristi bakaThixo khona. **4** Kwakusithi kungafika isikhathi sokuthi u-Elikhona anikele umhlatsheho, wayenika umkakhe uPhenina lawo wonke amadodana lamadodakazi akhe izabelo zenyama. **5** Kodwa uHana wayemnika isabelo esiphindwe kabili ngoba wayemthanda, kodwa uThixo wayesivalile isibeletho sakhe. **6** Njalo ngenxa yokuthi uThixo wayesivalile isibeletho sakhe, unyanewabo wayehlala engolomba ukuze amcaphule. **7** Lokhu kwaqhubeka iminyaka yonke. Ngezikhathi zonke lapho uHana eye endlini kaThixo, unyanewabo wayemgolomba aze akhale njalo ehluke lokudla. **8** U-Elikhona umkakhe, wayesithi kuye, "Hana, ukhalelani na? Kungani ungadli na? Kungani udanile? Kuwe angiqakathekanga ukwedlula amadodana alitshumi na?" **9** Kwake kwathi sebeqede ukudla lokunatha eShilo, uHana wasukuma. Ngalesosikhathi u-Eli umphristi wayehlala isihlalweni phansi kwensika yomyango wethempeli likaThixo. **10** Ngobuhlungu bomoya uHana wakhala kakhulu njalo wakhuleka kuThixo. **11** Wafunga esithi, "Awu, Thixo Somandla, nxa ungakhangele nje usizi lwencekukazi yakho ungikhumbule, njalo ungayikhohlwa incekekazi yakho kodwa uyiphe indodana, lapho-ke ngizayinika uThixo okwensuku zonke zokuphila kwayo, njalo akulampuco ezasetshenziswe ekhanda layo." **12** Ekuqhubekeni kwakhe uHana ekhuleka kuThixo, u-Eli wananzelela umlomo wakhe. **13** UHana wayekhulekela enhliziyweni yakhe, izindebe zakhe zinyikinyeka kodwa ilizwi lakhe lingezwakali. U-Eli wacabanga ukuthi wayedakiwe, **14** ngakho wathi kuye, "Koze kube nini ulokhu udakwa na? Yekela iwayini lakho." **15** "Akunjalo nkosi yami," uHana waphendula. "Ngingowesifazane ohlupheke kakhulu. Kangazange nginathe iwayini kumbe utshwala. Kade ngisethula umphefumulo wami kuThixo. **16** Ungathathi incekekazi yakho njengowesifazane ogangileyo; kade ngikhuleka lapha ngenxa yosizi lwami olukhulu kanye lobuhlungu." **17** U-Eli waphendula wathi, "Hamba ngokuthula, sengathi uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli angakupha lokho okucele kuye." **18** UHana wathi, "Sengathi incekekazi yakho ingathola umusa emehlweni akho." Lapho-ke wasuka wahamba, wadla, njalo ubuso bakhe babungasadananga. **19** Ekuseni okwalandelayo bavuka bayakhonza phambi kukaThixo basebebuyela emzini wabo eRama. U-Elikhona walala loHana umkakhe, uThixo wamkhumbula. **20** Ngakho ngokuhamba kwesikhathi uHana wathatha isisu wazala indodana. Wayetha ibizo wathi nguSamuyeli, esithi, "Ngoba ngamcela kuThixo." **21** Kwathi lapho u-Elikhona ehamba labendlu yakhe bonke ukuyanikela umhlatsheho weminyaka yonke kuThixo lokugcwalisa isifungo sakhe, **22** uHana kahambanga. Wathi kumkakhe, "Emva kokuba umfana eselunywulwe, ngizamthatha ngiyemethula phambi kukaThixo, njalo uzahlala khona kokuphela." **23**

U-Elikhona umkakhe wathi kuye, "Yenza lokho okukhanya kukuhle kuwe. Hlala khonapho uze umkhuphe ebeleni; kuphela nje sengathi uThixo angagcwalisa ilizwi lakhe." Ngakho owesifazane wahlala ekhaya wondla indodana yakhe waze wayilumula. **24** Emva kokuba esekhutshiwe ebeleni, wahamba lomfana, emncane enjalo kanye lenkunzi eyayileminyaka emithathu ubudala, lehefa lempuhlo yengqoloyi kanye lembodlela yewayini, wamusa endlini kaThixo eShilo. **25** Kwathi inkunzi sebeyihlabile, bamhambisa umfana ku-Eli, **26** uHana wasesithi kuye, "Ngeqiniso elinjengoba ukhona, nkosi yami, mina ningulawana umfazi owema phansi kwakho ekhuleka kuThixo. **27** Ngakhuleka umntwana lo, njalo uThixo usengiphile engakucelayo. **28** Ngakho khathe si sengemnika uThixo. Uzanikwa uThixo impilo yakhe yonke." Wakhonza uThixo khonapho.

2 UHana wasekhuleka esithi: "Inhliziyo yami iyathokoza kuThixo; kuThixo uphondo lwami luphakeme. Umlomo wami uyaziklolodela izitha zami, ngoba ngiyathokoza ekusindiseni kwakho. **2** Kakho ongcewele njengoThixo; kakho omunye ngaphandle kwakho; akulaDwala elinjengo-Nkulunkulu wethu. **3** Lingabe lisakhuluma ngokuziqajqa kanje loba uyekele umlomo wakho ukhuluma ukuzikhukhumeza okunje, ngoba uThixo unguNkulunkulu owaziyo, njalo izenzo zilinganiswa nguye. **4** Amadandili amabutho ephukile, kodwa labo abakhubekayo bahlonyiswe ngamandla. **5** Labo ababesuthi baziqhatshisa ngokudla, kodwa labo ababelambile kabalambi futhi. Lowo owayeyinyumbakazi usezele abantwana abayisikhombisa, kodwa lowo owayelamadodana amanengi uyacikizeka. **6** Uthixo uletha ukufa njalo enze ukuphila, wehlisela phansi engcwabeni njalo avuse. (Sheol h7585) **7** Uthixo uthumela ubuyanga kanye lentho; uyathobekisa njalo uyaphakamisa. **8** Uvusa abayanga ethulini aphakamise abaswelayo esilotheni; abahlalise lamakhosana. Enze bathole isihlalo sodumo sibe yilifa labo. Ngoba izisekelo zomhlaba ngezikaThixo; umise umhlaba phezu kwazo. **9** Uzalondoloza inyawo bazathembekileyo bakhe, kodwa ababi bazathuliselwa emnyameni. Akusikho ngamandla ukuthi umuntu ehluke; **10** labo abaphikisa uThixo bazaphahlazwa. OPhezukonke uzaduma amelane labo esezulwini; uThixo uzakwahlulela imikhawulo yomhlaba. Uzayinika amandla inkosi yakhe aphakamise lophondo logcotshiwewo wakhe." **11** Emva kwalokho u-Elikhona wabuyela ekhaya eRama, kodwa umfana wakhonza phambi kukaThixo ngaphansi kuka-Eli umphristi. **12** Amadodana ka-Eli ayengabantu abaxhwalileyo, ayengamnanzi uThixo. **13** Kwakungumkhuba wabaphristi labantu ukuthi kokuphela nxa loba ngubani enikele umhlatsheho, njalo lapho inyama isaphekwa, inceku yomphristi yayisiza iphethe ifologwe elenjengo ezintathu. **14** Yayihlaba ngayo epaneni loba egedleleni loba ebhodweni kumbe embizeni, umphristi abe esezithathela loba kuyini okuphume lefologwe. Le yiyo indlela abaphatha ngayo bonke abako-Israyeli abafika eShilo. **15** Kodwa lalapho amahwahwa engakatshi, inceku yomphristi yayisiya emuntwini onikelawo ithi, "Nika umphristi inyama yokosa; kasoze ayamukele kuwe inyama ephekiweyo, kodwa eluhlaza kuphela." **16** Lapho umuntu ethe kuyo, "Yekela amahwahwa aqale atshe, ube usuthathake lokho okufunayo," inceku yayiphendula ithi, "Hatshi, ngiqhubela yona khathe si; nxa ungenzi njalo, ngizayihluthuna ngamandla." **17** Lesisono samajaha sasisikhulu kakhulu emehlweni kaThixo, ngoba

babephatha umnikelo kaThixo ngokwedelela. **18** Kodwa uSamuyeli wayekhonzha phambi kukaThixo engumfana egqoka isembatho samahlombe selineni. **19** Minyaka yonke unina wayemenzela ingubo encane ayise kuye lapho esiya khonale lomkakhe ukuyanikela umhlathshelo weminyaka yonke. **20** U-Eli wayebusisa u-Elikhona lomkakhe, esithi, “Sengathi uThixo angalipha abantwana ngalo owesifazane ukuba bathathe isikhundla salowo amkhulekelayo wasemnika uThixo.” Emva kwalokho babebuyela ekhaya. **21** Uthixo waba lomusa kuHana; wakhulelwa wazala amadodana amathathu lamadodakazi amabili. Kusenjalo, umfana uSamuyeli wakhula phambi kukaThixo. **22** Ngalesosikhathi u-Eli, owayesmdala kakhulu, wezwa ngakho konke okwakuseziwana ngamadodana akhe ku-Israyeli wonke kanye lokuthi ayelala njani labesifazane ababesebenza esangweni lethente lokuhlangana. **23** Ngakho wathi kuwo, “Kungani lisenza izinto ezinje na? Ngizizwa ngabantu bonke lezizenzo zenu ezimbi. **24** Hatshi, madodana ami; akusimbiko omuhle enguwizwa usanda phakathi kwabantu bakaThixo. **25** Nxa umuntu esona komunye umuntu, uNkulunkulu angaba ngumeli wakhe kodwa nxa umuntu esona kuThixo, ngubani ongamkhulumela na?” Kodwa amadodana akhe kawakulalelanga ukukhuzwa kukayise, ngoba kwakuyisifiso sikaThixo ukuba awubalale. **26** Umfana uSamuyeli waqhubeka ekhula ngomzimba langokuthandeka kuThixo lasebantwini. **27** Ngalesosikhathi umuntu kaNkulunkulu wafika ku-Eli wathi kuye, “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo ukuthi: ‘Kangizibonakalisanga ngokubalulekileyo endlini kayihlo lapho babeseGibhithhe ngaphansi kukaFaro na? **28** Ngakhetha uyihlo phakathi kwezizwana zonke zaku-Israyeli ukuba abe ngumphristi wami, ukuba aye e-alithareni lami, ukuba atshise impepha, lokuba agqoke isembatho samahlombe phambi kwami. Njalo nganika indlu kayihlo yonke iminikelo eyenziwa ngomlilo ngabako-Israyeli. **29** Pho kungani useyiya imihlatshelo yami kanye leminikelo engayiphawulela indlu yami yokuhlala na? Kungani uhlonipha amadodana akho okudlula mina ngokuzikhuluphalisa lina ngokwenu ngezingxenywe zekhethelo zeminikele yonke eyenziwa ngabantu bako-Israyeli na?’ **30** Ngakho-ke uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi, ‘Ngathembisa ukuthi indlu yakho lendlu kayihlo zizakhonza phambi kwami nini lanini.’ Kodwa khathesi uThixo uthi, ‘Akusenjalo kimi!’ Labo abangihloniphayo ngizabahlonipha, kodwa labo abangeyisayo bazakweyiswa. **31** Isikhathi siyeza lapho engizaphungula khona amandla akho lamandla endlu kayihlo, ukuze kungabi lomuntu omdala kusendo lwakwenu **32** njalo uzabona usizi lapho engihlala khona. Lanxa okuhle kuzakwenziwa ku-Israyeli, kwabosendo lwakho akuyikuba lomuntu omdala. **33** Lowo lalowo wakhini engingayikumsusa e-alithareni lami uzayekelwa nje ukuba amehlo akhe afiphale lokuba azwise inhliziyona yakho ubuhlungu, njalo yonke inzalo yakho izakufa kuyikhona isephakathi kwempilo. **34** Njalo okwenzakala emadodaneni akho amabili, uHofini loFinehasi, kuzakuba yisiboniso kuwe, bobabili bazakufa langa linye. **35** Ngizakuzimisela umphristi othembekileyo ozakwenza mayelana lokusenhliziyweni yami lengqondweni yami. Ngizamisa indlu yakhe iqine, njalo uzakhonza phambi kogcotshiwewo wami kokuphela. **36** Lapho-ke bonke abosendo lwakho abaseleyo bazakuba bakhothame kuye becela uhlamvu lwesiliva loqweqwe lwesinkwa njalo bakhalaze besithi, “Ake ungibeke kwesinye isikhundla sobuphristi ukuze ngithole ukudla ngidle.””

3 Umfana uSamuyeli wakhonza phambi kukaThixo engaphansi kuka-Eli. Ngalezonsuku ilizwi likaThixo lalingandanga; kwakungelamibono emineni. **2** Ngobunye ubusuku u-Eli, amehlo akhe ayesefiphala esebona kaluffifi, wayelele endaweni yakhe yansuku zonke. **3** Isibane sikaNkulunkulu sasingakacitshi, njalo uSamuyeli wayelele phansi ethempeleni likaThixo, lapho okwakulebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu khona. **4** Uthixo wasembiza uSamuyeli. USamuyeli wasabela wathi, “Ngilapha.” **5** Wagijimela ku-Eli wathi, “Ngilapha; ungibizile.” Kodwa u-Eli wathi, “Angikubizanga; buyela uyelala.” Ngakho wabuyela wayalala. **6** Uthixo wambiza futhi wathi, “Samuyeli!” USamuyeli wavuka waya ku-Eli wathi, “Ngilapha; ungibizile.” U-Eli wathi, “Ndodana yami, Angikubizanga; buyela uyelala.” **7** Ngalesosikhathi uSamuyeli wayengakamazi uThixo: ilizwi likaThixo lalingakavezwa kuye. **8** Uthixo wambiza uSamuyeli okwesithathu, njalo uSamuyeli wavuka waya ku-Eli wathi, “Ngilapha; ungibizile.” Lapho-ke u-Eli wabona ukuthi nguThixo owayebiza umfana. **9** Ngakho u-Eli watshela uSamuyeli wathi, “Hamba uyelala, njalo nxa ekubiza wena uthi, ‘Khuluma Thixo, ngoba inceku yakho ilalele.’” Ngakho uSamuyeli wahamba wayalala endaweni yakhe. **10** Uthixo weza wema khonapho, ebiza njengakuqala esithi, “Samuyeli! Samuyeli!” USamuyeli wathi, “Khuluma, ngoba inceku yakho ilalele.” **11** Uthixo wasesithi kuSamuyeli, “Khangela, sekuseduze ukuba ku-Israyeli ngenze into ezakwenza indlebe zomuntu wonke okuzwayo lokho zincethe. **12** Ngalesosikhathi ngizamelana lo-Eli, ngenze konke engakuhlumana mayelana lendlu yakhe kusukela ekuqaleni kusiya ekucineni. **13** Ngoba ngamshela ukuthi ngizakwahlulela indlu yakhe okulaphakade ngenxa yesono ayesazi; amadodana akhe ayehlambaza uNkulunkulu, yena wehluleka ukuwakhuzwa. **14** Ngakho, ngayifungela indlu ka-Eli ngathi, ‘Icala lendlu ka-Eli kaliyikuhlululwa ngomhlathshelo loba ngomnikelo.’” **15** USamuyeli walala phansi kwaze kwaba sekuseni wasevula iminyango yendlu kaThixo. Wayesesaba ukutshela u-Eli umbono, **16** kodwa u-Eli wambiza wathi, “Samuyeli, ndodana yami.” USamuyeli wasabela wathi, “Ngilapha.” **17** U-Eli wabuza wathi, “Kuyini akutshiloyi kuwe na? Ungangifihleli. Sengathi uNkulunkulu angakujezisa, kube buhlungu kakhulu, nxa uzangifihlela loba kuyini akutshela khona.” **18** Ngakho uSamuyeli wamtshela konke, engamfihlelanga lutho. U-Eli wasesithi, “UnguThixo; kenze lokho akubona kukuhle emehlweni akhe.” **19** Uthixo wayeloSamuyeli ekukhuleni kwakhe, njalo kayekelanga lalinye lamazwi akhe liwela phansi. **20** Njalo u-Israyeli wonke kusukela eDani kusiya eBherisheba wakwazi ukuthi uSamuyeli wayebekwe ukuba ngumphrofethi kaThixo. **21** Uthixo waqhubeka ebonakala eShilo, njalo khonapho waziveza kuSamuyeli ngelizwi lakhe.

4 Ilizwi likaSamuyeli lafika ku-Israyeli wonke. Ngalesosikhathi abako-Israyeli baphuma ukuyakulwa lamaFilistiya. Abako-Israyeli bamisa e-Ebhenezeri, amaFilistiya e-Afekhi. **2** AmaFilistiya ahlela amabutho awo ukuba ayohlangana labako-Israyeli, kwathi ekumethekeni kwempi, u-Israyeli wehlulwa ngamaFilistiya, abulala abaphosa babe zinkulungwane ezine enkundleni yokulwela. **3** Kwathi esebuyele ezihonqweni, abadala bako-Israyeli bathi, “Kungani uThixo esilthele ukwehlulwa lamhla phambi kwamaFilistiya na? Kasiyenithatha ibhokisi lesivumelwano sika Thixo eShilo, ukuze lihambe lathi lisisindise esandleni sezitha zethu.” **4**

Ngakho abantu bathuma amadoda eShilo, abuya lebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo uSomandla, ehlezi ebukhosini phakathi kwamakherubhi. Lamadodana ka-Eli amabili, uHofini loFinehasi, ayekhona lebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu. **5** Kwathi lapho ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo lifika ezihonqeni, wonke u-Israyeli wenza umsindo omkhulu iphansi laze lanyikinyeka. **6** Esizwa ukuxokozela amaFilistiya abuza athi, “Utshoni umsindo wonke lo ezihonqeni zamaHebheru na?” Kwathi esezwile ukuthi ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo laselikhona ezihonqeni, **7** amaFilistiya esaba. Athi, “Unkulunkulu usefikile ezihonqeni. Siphakathi kohlupho. Akulanto enje eseyake yenzakala ngaphambili. **8** Maye kithi! Ngubani ozasikhulula esandleni sabonkulunkulu laba abalamandla abatshaya amaGibhithe ngenhlobo zonke zezifo enkangala? **9** Qinani, maFilistiya! Wobani ngamadoda hlezi libe yizichaka zamaHebheru, njengalokhu ababeyikho kini. Wobani ngamadoda, li!we!” **10** Ngakho amaFilistiya alwa, abako-Israyeli behlulwa njalo amadoda wonke abalekela emathenteni awo. Ababulawayo babebanengi kakhulu; u-Israyeli walahlekela ngamabutho ezinyawo azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu. **11** Ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu lathunjwa, lamadodana amabili ka-Eli, Hofini loFinehasi, afa. **12** Ngalelola umuntu wakoBhenjamini wagijima esuka empini waya eShilo, izigqoko zakhe zazidabukile elothuli ekhanda. **13** Ekufikeni kwakhe, kwakulo-Eli ehlezi esihlalweni eceleni komgwaqo, elindle, ngoba inhlizyo yakhe yayisesabela ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu. Kwathi umuntu lowo esengenile emzini wabika okwasekwenzakele, umuzi wonke waqhinqa isililo. **14** U-Eli wezwa umsindo wokukhala wabuza wathi, “Ukuxokozela lokhu kutshoni na?” Umuntu lowo watshitshele ku-Eli, **15** owayeleminyaka engamatshumi ayisifcamunwemunyene lasifcamunwembili mibili ubudala, njalo amehlo akhe ayeseqhele, engasaboni. **16** Wathela u-Eli wathi, “Ngisanda kufika ngivela empini; ngibalekile kuyo ngalonaleli ilanga.” U-Eli wabuza wathi, “Kutheni ndodana yami?” **17** Umuntu owaletsa umbiko waphendula wathi, “U-Israyeli ubalekile phambi kwamaFilistiya njalo ibutho lilahlekelle kakhulu. Njalo lamadodana akho amabili, uHofini loFinehasi, afile njalo lebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu lithunjwe.” **18** Kwathi esethinte ngebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu, u-Eli wawa ngesiphundu esihlalweni sakhe eceleni kwesango. Intamo yakhe yephuka, wafa, ngoba wayesengumuntu omdala njalo emkhulu. Wayekhokhele u-Israyeli iminyaka engamatshumi amane. **19** Umalukazana wakhe, umkaFinehasi, wayekhulelwe njalo esezabeletha. Kwathi esizwa izindaba zokuthi ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu lalithunjwe lokuthi uyisezala lomkakhe basebefile, wahlelwa wabeletha, kodwa wakhulelwa yibuhlungu bomhelo wakhe. **20** Esesifa, abesifazane ababembelethisa bathi kuye, “Ungalahlithemba; uzele indodana.” Kodwa yena kaphendulanga loba anake. **21** Wametha ibizo umfana wathi ngu-Ikhabhodi, esithi, “Udumo lusukile ko-Israyeli” ngenxa yokuthunjwa kwebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu lokufa kukayisezala kanye lomkakhe. **22** Wathi, “Udumo lusukile ko-Israyeli, ngoba ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu lithunjwe.”

5 Emva kokuba amaFilistiya esethumbe ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu, alithatha e-Ebhenezeri

alisa e-Ashidodi. **2** Aphinda alithwala alisa ethempelini likaDagoni. **3** Kwathi abantu base-Ashidodi bevuka ekuseni kakhulu okwalandelayo, nango uDagoni, ewele phansi ngobuso phambi kwebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo! Bamthatha uDagoni bambeka endaweni yakhe. **4** Kodwa ngakusasa ekuseni bathi bevuka, nango uDagoni, ewele phansi ngobuso phambi kwebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo! Ikhanda lakhe lezandla kwakugumukile kuthe qecele eduze lomnyango; kwakusele umzimba wakhe kuphela. **5** Ngalokho-ke kuze kube lamhla abaphristi bakaDagoni labanye nje abangena ethempelini likaDagoni kabanyatheli ekuqaliseni komnyango. **6** Isandla sikaThixo sasinzima phezu kwabantu base-Ashidodi laseduze kwayo; wehlisela incithakalo phezu kwabo yabahlupha langamathumba. **7** Kwathi abantu base-Ashidodi bebona okwakusenzakala, bathi, “Ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikankulunkulu ka-Israyeli akumelanga lihlale lathi lapha, ngoba isandla sakhe sinzima phezu kwethu laphedu kukaDagoni unkulunkulu wethu.” **8** Ngakho babiza bonke ababusi bamaFilistiya bababuza bathi, “Sizakwenzani ngebhokisi lesivumelwano sikankulunkulu ka-Israyeli na?” Baphendula bathi, “Ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikankulunkulu ka-Israyeli liseni eGathi.” Ngakho ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu balisa eGathi. **9** Kodwa kwathi sebelihambisile, isandla sikaThixo samelana lalodolobho, okwenza kwaba lokuthuthumela okukhulu kulo. Wahlupha abantu bedolobho lelo, abatsha labadala, ngokuphihlaka kwamathumba. **10** Ngakho ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu lasiwa e-Ekroni. Kwathi ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu lifika e-Ekroni, abantu base-Ekroni bakhala besithi, “Sebelethe ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikankulunkulu ka-Israyeli kithi lapha ukuzasibulala kanye labantu bakithi.” **11** Ngakho babiza bonke ababusi bamaFilistiya, bathi, “Susani ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikankulunkulu ka-Israyeli; kalibuyele emuva endaweni yalo, hlezi lisibulale thina kanye labantu bakithi.” Ngoba ukufa kwakwenze kwaba lokuthuthumela edolobheni; isandla sikaNkulunkulu sasinzima kakhulu phezu kwalo. **12** Labo abangafanga baphunywa ngamathumba, njalo umkhosi wedolobho waya phezulu ezulwini.

6 Kwathi ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo selihlale elizweni lamaFilistiya izinyanga eziyisikhombisa, **2** amaFilistiya abiza abaphristi labahlulali athi, “Sizakwenzani ngebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo na? Sitsheleni ukuthi singalibuyisela njani emuva endaweni yalo.” **3** Baphendula bathi, “Nxa libuyisela ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikankulunkulu ka-Israyeli, lingalibuyiseli lingelalutho, kodwa impela thumelani umnikelo wecala kuye. Ngalokho lizalisa, njalo lizakwazi ukuthi kungani isandla sakhe singasuswanga kini.” **4** AmaFilistiya abuza athi, “Ngumnikelo bani wecala okumele siwuthumele kuye na?” Baphendula bathi, “Amathumba egolide amahlanu lamagundwane egolide amahlanu, kusiya ngenani lababusi bamaFilistiya, ngoba isifo sinye sihlasele lina kanye lababusi benu.” **5** Yenzani izifanekiso zamathumba lamagundwane achitha ilizwe, lidumise unkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. Mhlawumbe uzasusa isandla sakhe kini lakubonkulunkulu benu kanye laselizweni lenu. **6** Kungani lisenza inhlizyo zenu zibe lukhuni njengalokhu okwenziwa ngamaGibhithe loFaro na? Lapho unkulunkulu wama-Israyeli esebapethe kalukhuni kabawumelanga ama-Israyeli ukuba ahambe na? **7** “Ngakho-ke khathesi, lungisani inqola entsha lamankomokazi

amabili azeleyo njalo angakaze afakwe ijogwe. Bophelani amankomokazi enqoleni, kodwa lisuse amankonyane awo liwavalele esibayeni. **8** Thathani ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo lilibeke enqoleni, kuthi emxhakeni oseceleni kwalo lifake izinto zegolide elizithumela kuye njengomnikelo wecala. Ikhupheni izihambeke ngendlela yayo, **9** kodwa liyiqaphelisisi. Ingaya elizweni lakibo, iqonde eBhethi-Shemeshi, kuyabe kunguThixo olette incithakalo le enkulu phezu kwethu. Kodwa nxa ingenzi njalo, sizakwazi ukuthi kade kungasisosandla sakhe esisitshayileyo kanye lokuthi kuzenzakalele kodwa nje kithi.” **10** Ngakho-ke bakwenza lokhu. Bathatha amankomokazi amabili anjalo bawabophela enqoleni kwathi amankonyane awo bawavalele esibayeni. **11** Babeka ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo enqoleni ndawonye lomxhaka owawulamagundwane egolide lezifanekiso zamathumba. **12** Emva kwalokho amankomokazi ahamba eqonde eBhethi-Shemeshi, elokhu esemgawqeni njalo ebhonsa indlela yonke; kawazange aphambukele kwesokudla kumbe kwesenxele. Ababusi bamaFilistiya bawalandela baze bayafika emngceleni weBhethi-Shemeshi. **13** Ngalesosikhathi abantu beBhethi-Shemeshi babevuna ingqoloyi yabo esigodini, njalo bathi lapho bekhangelela babona ibhokisi lesivumelwano, bathokoza ukulibona. **14** Inqola yafika ensimini kaJoshuwa waseBhethi-Shemeshi, yasisima khonapho phansi kwedwala elikhulu. Abantu babanda inqola yaba zinkuni basebelhlabo amankomokazi ukuba ngumnikelo wokutshiswa kuThixo. **15** AbaLevi bethula ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo, kanye lomxhaka owawulezinto zegolide, bakubeka phezu kwedwala elikhulu. Ngalelola abantu baseBhethi-Shemeshi banikela iminikelo yokutshiswa benza lemihlatshelo kuThixo. **16** Ababusi abahlanu bamaFilistiya bakubona konke lokhu basebebuyela e-Ekroni ngalelola. **17** Amathumba egolide amaFilistiya awathumela kuThixo njengomnikelo wecala yila, elilodwa ele-Ashidodi, leleGaza, lele-Ashikheloni, leleGathi kanye lele-Ekroni. **18** Lenani lamagundwane egolide lalisiza ngenani lamadolobho amaFilistiya ayengawababusi abahlanu, amadolobho ayevikelwe alemizi yawo yasemaphandleni. Idwala elikhulu ababebeke ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo phezu kwalo, liyibufakazi lalamhlanje ensimini kaJoshuwa waseBhethi-Shemeshi. **19** Kodwa uNkulunkulu watshaya abanye babantu baseBhethi-Shemeshi, wabulala abangamatshumi ayisikhombisa babo ngoba babelunguze phakathi kwebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu. Abantu balila ngenxa yokugadla okunzima uThixo ayekwenze kubo, **20** njalo abantu baseBhethi-Shemeshi babuza bathi, “Pho ngubani ongema phambi kukaThixo, uNkulunkulu lo ongcwele na?” **21** Emva kwalokho bathumela izithunywa ebantwini baseKhiriyaathi-Jeyarimi, besithi, “AmaFilistiya aselibuyisile ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo. Wozani lizolithatha lilise endaweni yenu.”

7 Ngakho abantu baseKhiriyaathi-Jeyarimi beza balithatha ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo. Balisa endlini ka-Abhinadabi eqaqeni bangcwelisa u-Eliyazari indodana yakhe ukuba agcine ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo. **2** Kwakuyisikhathi eside, iminyaka engamatshumi amabili isiyonke, ibhokisi lesivumelwano liseKhiriyaathi-Jeyarimi. Njalo bonke abantu bako-Israyeli bakhala befuna uThixo. **3** USamuyeli wasesithi kuyo yonke indlu ka-Israyeli, “Nxa libuyela kuThixo ngezinhliziyi zenu zonke zehlukaniseni labonkulunkulu bezizweni labo-Ashithorethi lizinikele

kuThixo njalo likhonze yena kuphela, uzalikhulula esandleni samaFilistiya.” **4** Ngakho abako-Israyeli babalahla oBhali babo labo-Ashithorethi, bakhonza uThixo kuphela. **5** USamuyeli wasesithi, “Buthanisani u-Israyeli wonke eMizipha mina ngizalikhulekela kuThixo.” **6** Kwathi sebebuthene eMizipha, bakha amanzi bawathela phambi kukaThixo. Ngalolosuku bazila njalo bavuma izono zabo khonapho besithi, “Sonile.” Njalo uSamuyeli wahlulela abantu bako-Israyeli eMizipha. **7** Kwathi amaFilistiya esizwa ukuthi u-Israyeli wayebuthene eMizipha, ababusi bamaFilistiya baya khona ukuyabahlasela. Kwathi abako-Israyeli bekuzwa, besaba ngenxa yamaFilistiya. **8** Bathi kuSamuyeli, “Ungayekeli ukusikhalela kuThixo uNkulunkulu wethu ukuba asihlunge esandleni samaFilistiya.” **9** USamuyeli wathatha iwundlu elimunyayo walinikele kuThixo njengomnikelo opeheleleyo wokutshiswa. Wamkhulekela kuThixo u-Israyeli, uThixo wamphendula. **10** Kwathi uSamuyeli enikela umnikelo wokutshiswa, amaFilistiya asondela eduze ukuba alwe lo-Israyeli. Kodwa mhla lokho uThixo waduma ngomdumo omkhulu emelane lamaFilistiya wawenza athuthumela kangangoba aze achithwachithwa phambi kwabako-Israyeli. **11** Abantu bako-Israyeli bagjijima bephuma eMizipha baxotshana lamaFilistiya bewabulala endleleni baze bayafika endaweni engaphansi kweBhethi-Khari. **12** USamuyeli wasethatha ilitshe walimisa phakathi kweMizipha leSheni. Walibiza ngokuthi yi-Ebhenezeri, esithi, “Kuze kube khathesi uThixo usisizile.” **13** Ngakho amaFilistiya anqotshwa njalo kawazange ahlasele ilizwe lako-Israyeli futhi. Kuyo yonke impilo kaSamuyeli, isandla sikaThixo sasimelane lamaFilistiya. **14** Amadolobho kusukela e-Ekroni kusiyi eGathi ayethunjwe ngamaFilistiya ku-Israyeli abuyiselwa kuye, njalo u-Israyeli wakhulula ilizwe eliseduze emandleni amaFilistiya. Njalo kwaba lokuthula phakathi kuka-Israyeli lama-Amori. **15** USamuyeli waqhubeka engumahluleli ka-Israyeli kuzozonke insuku zokuphila kwakhe. **16** Iminyaka ngeminyaka wayenquma esuka eBhetheli aye eGiligali leMizipha, esahlulela u-Israyeli kuzozonke lezindawo. **17** Kodwa wayehlezi ebuyela eRama lapho okwakulomuzi wakhe khona, lakhona wahlulela u-Israyeli. Njalo wakhela uThixo ilithari.

8 USamuyeli eseluphele wabeka amadolobho akhe ukuba ngabahluleli bako-Israyeli. **2** Ibizo lezibulo lakhe lalinguJoweli, ibizo leyesibili lingu-Abhija, njalo ayesebenza eBherisheba. **3** Kodwa amadolobho akhe kawahambanga ezindleleni zakhe. Aphambukela eceleni emva kokuthola inzuzo yenkohliso amukela lemfumbathiso, onakalisa lokwahlulela ngemfanelo. **4** Ngakho bonke abadala bako-Israyeli babuthana ndawonye basebesiya kuSamuyeli eRama. **5** Bathi kuye, “Usuluphele, njalo amadolobho akho kawahambi ezindleleni zakho, ngakho sibekele inkosi ezasikhokhela, njengezinye izzwe zonke ezilayo.” **6** Kodwa kwathi besithi, “Sinike inkosi ezasikhokhela,” lokhu kwamcunula uSamuyeli; ngakho wakhuleka kuThixo. **7** Njalo uThixo wathi kuye: “Lalela konke lokho abantu abakutshoyo kuwe; akuswe abamalayo, kodwa bale mina njengeNkosi yabo. **8** Njengalokho abakwenzayo kusukela ngosuku engabakhupha ngalo eGibhithe kuze kube lamhlanje, bangala bakhonza abanye onkulunkulu, lokhu yikho abakwenzayo kuwe. **9** Ngakho balalele; kodwa ubaxwayise kakhulu njalo ubazise okuzakwenziwa kubo yinkosi ezababusa.” **10** USamuyeli wabatshela wonke amazwi kaThixo abantu ababecela inkosi

kuye. **11** Wathi, “Nanku okuzakwenziwa yinkosi ezalibusa: Izathatha amadodana enu iwasebenzise lezinqola zayo zempi lamabhiza, njalo azagijima phambi kwezinqola zayo zempi. **12** Amanye uzawenza abe ngabalawuli bezinkulungwane labalawuli bamatshumi amahlanu; njalo amanye azalima amasimu ayo avune kanye lamabele ayo, amanye njalo azakwenza izikhali zayo zempi kanye lempahla zezinqola zayo zempi. **13** Izathatha amadodakazi enu ukuba abe ngabenzi bamakha labapheki kanye labapheki bezinkwa. **14** Izathatha amasimu enu avundileyo lezivini kanye lezivande zama-oliva ikunike izinceku zayo. **15** Izathatha okwetshumi emabeleni enu lokwesivuno samavini ikunike izikhulu zayo. **16** Izisebenzi zenu ezesilisa lezesifazane lenkomo zenu ezinhle kanye labobabhemi izakuthatha ikusebenzise. **17** Izathatha okwetshumi emihlambini yenu njalo lina ngokwenu lizakuba yizigqili zayo. **18** Nxa lolosuku selufikile lizakhalela ukukhululwa enkosini eliyikhethileyo, kodwa uThixo kayikuliphendula ngalolosuku.” **19** Kodwa abantu bala ukumlalela uSamuyeli. Bathi, “Hatshi! Sifuna inkosi ezasibusa. **20** Lapho-ke sizakuba njengezinye izizwe zonke, silenkosi esikhokhelayo njalo ihambe phambi kwethu ilwe izimpi zethu.” **21** Kwathi uSamuyeli esekuzwile konke okwakutshiwo ngabantu, wakubika kuThixo. **22** Uthixo waphendula wathi, “Lalela ilizwi labo ubaphe inkosi.” USamuyeli wasesithi ebantwini bako-Israyeli, “Umuntu wonke kabuyele emzini wakibo.”

9 Kwakulomuntu wakoBhenjamini, indoda elesithunzi, ibizo layo lalinguKhishi indodana ka-Abhiyeli, indodana kaZerori, indodana kaBhekkhorathi, indodana ka-Afiya owakoBhenjamini. **2** Wayelendodana ethiwa nguSawuli, ijaha elisesithunzi kungekho ongalinganiswa lalo phakathi kwama-Israyeli, edlula abantu bonke ngobude kusukela emahlombe kusiya ekhanda. **3** Ngalesikhathi obabhemi bakaKhishi uyise kaSawuli balahleka, uKhishi wasesithi kuSawuli indodana yakhe, “Thatha enye yezinceku uhambe layo ukuyadinga obabhemi.” **4** Ngakho wadabula elizweni lamaqaqa elako-Efrayimi lasemangweni ozungeze iShalisha, kodwa kababatholanga. Baqhubeka baya esifundeni saseShalimi, kodwa obabhemi babengekho. Wadabula phakathi kwelizwe lakoBhenjamini, kodwa kabawatholanga. **5** Kwathi sebefikile esifundeni saseZufi, uSawuli wathi encekwini eyayilaye, “Woza, kasibuyele, hlezi ubaba ekele ukucabanga ngabobabhemi aqalise ukukhathazeka ngathi.” **6** Kodwa inceku yaphendula yathi, “Khangela, kulumuzi kulomuntu kaNkulunkulu; uyahlonitshwa kakhulu, njalo konke akutshoyo kuyenzakala. Kasiye khona khathesi nje. Mhlawumbe angasitshela ukuthi siqonde ngaphi.” **7** USawuli wasesithi encekwini, “Singaya kuye, sizamnikani umuntu lowo na? Ukudla kakusekho emigodleni yethu. Kasilasipho esingahamba laso emuntwini kaNkulunkulu. Kuyini esilakho na?” **8** Inceku yaphendula njalo yathi, “Khangela, ngilokwesine kweshekeli elesiliva. Ngizakunika umuntu kaNkulunkulu ukuze asitshela ukuthi siqonde ngaphi.” **9** (Ngaphambilini ko-Israyeli, lapho umuntu esiyabuza uNkulunkulu, wayesithi, “Woza, kasiye kumboni,” ngoba umphrofethi wakhathezi wayethiwa ngumboni.) **10** USawuli wasesithi encekwini yakhe, “Kuhle. Woza kasihambe.” Ngakho basuka baya emzini okwakhulala khona umuntu kaNkulunkulu. **11** Besaqaqsa uqaqa besiya kulowomuzi bahlangana lamantombazana ayephume

ukuyakukha amanzi basebewabuza besithi, “Kulomboni lapha na?” **12** Aphendula athi, “Ukhona. Uphambidlana kwenu. Phangisani khathesi; usanda kufika emzini wethu lamhla, ngoba abantu balomhlatshelo endaweni ephakemeyo. **13** Khonokho nje lingena umuzi, lizamfica engakaqanseli phezulu endaweni ephakemeyo ukuyakudla. Abantu kabayikuqalisa ukudla aze afike, ngoba kumele abusise umhlathshelo; emva kwalokho bazakudla-ke labo abanxusiweyo. Hambani-ke, lizamthola khathesi nje.” **14** Baya kulowomuzi, kwathi lapho bengena kuwo, babona uSamuyeli esiza kubo eqansela endaweni ephakemeyo. **15** Ngosuku uSawuli engakafiki, uThixo wayeveze lokhu kuSamuyeli wathi, **16** “Ngesikhathi esingaba yisonalesi kusasa ngizaetha kuwe umuntu ovela elizweni lakoBhenjamini. Mgcobe ukuba ngumkhokheli wabantu bami u-Israyeli; uzakuhlula abantu bami esandleni samaFilistiya. Ngibakhangele abantu bami, ngoba ukukhala kwabo sekufikile kimi.” **17** Kwathi uSamuyeli ebona uSawuli, uThixo wathi kuye, “Lo nguye umuntu engikhulume kuwe ngaye; uzabusa abantu bami.” **18** USawuli wasondela kuSamuyeli wabuza wathi, “Ake ungitshele ukuthi indlu yomboni ingaphi.” **19** USamuyeli waphendula wathi, “Umboni yimi. Hamba phambi kwami uye endaweni ephakemeyo, ngoba lamhla uzakudla lami, okuseni ngizakuyekela uhambe njalo ngizakutshela konke okusenhliziyweni yakho. **20** Obabhemi abalahlekileyo ensukwini ezintathu ezedluleyo, ungakhathazeki ngabo; sebebona-kele. Njalo kungubani izifiso zonke zika-Israyeli ezikhangele kuye nxa kungasawe lendlu yonke kayihlo na?” **21** USawuli waphendula wathi, “Kodwa mina kangisuye yini wakoBhenjamini, isizwana esincinyane kulazo zonke ko-Israyeli, njalo lendlu yakwethu kayincinyane kulazo zonke izindlu zesizwe sakoBhenjamini na?” **22** USamuyeli wasengenisa uSawuli lenceku yakhe endlini enkulu wabahlalisa phambi kwalabo ababaxusiwe babangaba ngamatshumi amathathu ubunengi babo. **23** USamuyeli wasesithi kumpheki wakhe, “Letha iqatha lenyama engikuphe lona, leliyana engithe uligcine.” **24** Ngakho umpheki wathatha umlenze lalokho okwakuphezu kwawo, wakubeka phambi kukaSawuli. USamuyeli wasesithi, “Nanku okube kugcinelwe wena. Dlana, ngoba kade kubekelwe wena kulolithuba, kusukela ngesikhathi ngisithi, ‘Ngilabemzini abanxusiweyo.’” USawuli wadla loSamuyeli ngalolosuku. **25** Sebehlile endaweni ephakemeyo ukuya emzini, uSamuyeli wakhuluma loSawuli bephezu kophahla lwendlu yakhe. **26** Bavuka ngezikhathi zemadabukakusa, uSamuyeli wabiza uSawuli phezulu kophahla wathi, “Lunga ngikuqhuba ohanjweni lwakho.” USawuli eselungile, yena loSamuyeli baphuma bonke. **27** Ekuhambeni kwabo besehlela emaphethelweni omuzi, uSamuyeli wathi kuSawuli, “Tshela inceku yakho iqhubekela phambi kwethu” lakanye inceku yenza njalo “kodwa wena sala lapha okwesikhathshana ukuze ngikutshela ilizwi elivela kuNkulunkulu.”

10 USamuyeli wasethatha umfuma wamafutha wawathela ekhanda likaSawuli wasemanga, esithi, “Uthixo kakugcobanga ukuba ngumbusi welifa lakhe na? **2** Ekusukeni kwakho kimi lamhla, uzahlangana lamadoda amabili eduze kwengcwaba likaRasheli, eliseZeliza esemngceleni wakoBhenjamini. Azakuthi kuwe, ‘Obabhemi obuyebadinga sebetholakele. Khathesi uyihlo kasacabangi ngabo kodwa usekhathazeka ngawe. Uyabuza esithi, ‘Ngizakwenzanjani ngenodana yami na?’” **3** Uzahamba-ke usuka lapho

uze ufike esihlahleni esikhulu saseThabhozi. Amadoda amathathu aya kuNkulunkulu eBetheli azahlangana lawe khonapho. Enye izathwala amazinyane embuzi amathathu, enye izinkwa ezintathu lenye umgodla wewayini. **4** Azakubingelela akuphe izinkwa ezimbili, ozazamukela kuwo. **5** Emva kwalokho, uzakuya eGibhiya kaNkulunkulu lapho okulesilindo sebutho lamaFilistiya khona. Lapho usubanga emzini, uzahlangana lodwendwe lwabaphrofethi besehla bevela endaweni ephakemeyo, phambi kwabo kutshaywa imiqangala lamagedla lemifece kanye lemihubhe, njalo bazakuba bephrofetha. **6** UMoya kaThixo uzakwehlela phezu kwakho ngamandla, lawe uzaphrofetha labo, njalo uzaguqulwa ube ngomunye umuntu. **7** Izibonakaliso lezi zingacwaliseka, yenza loba yini okubona kufanele ukuba ukwenze, ngoba uNkulunkulu ulawe. **8** Hamba ungandulele eGiligali. Ngizakuza kuwe impela ngizenikela umhlathshelo weminikelo yokutshiswa leminikelo yobuzalwane. Kodwa kuzamele ulinde insuku eziyisikhombisa ngize ngifike kuwe ngikutshela okumele ukwenze.” **9** Kwathi uSawuli ephenduka esesuka kuSamuyeli, uNkulunkulu waguqula inhliziyi kaSawuli, njalo zonke izibonakaliso lezi zagcwaliseka mhlalokho. **10** Bathi befika eGibhiya, udwendwe lwabaphrofethi lwabahlangebeza; uMoya kaNkulunkulu wehlela phezu kwakhe ngamandla, laye wahlanganyela ekuphrofetheni kwabo. **11** Kwathi labo ababevele bemazi bembona esephrofetha labaphrofethi, babuzana besithi, “Kuyini kanti lokhu osekwenzakale endodaneni kaKhishi? USawuli laye ungomunye wabaphrofethi na?” **12** Umuntu owayehlala lapho waphendula wathi, “Uyise wabo ngubani na?” Ngakho kwaba yisitho ukuthi: “USawuli laye ungomunye wabaphrofethi na?” **13** Kwathi uSawuli eseyekele ukuphrofetha, wasesiya endaweni ephakemeyo. **14** Ngalesosikhathi uyise omncane kaSawuli wambuzza kanye lenceku yakhe wathi, “Kanti kade lingaphi?” USawuli waphendula wathi, “Kade sidinga obahemi. Kodwa kuthe sibona ukuthi kabatholakali, sasesisiya kuSamuyeli.” **15** Uyise omncane kaSawuli wasesithi, “Ngitshela ukuthi uSamuyeli utheni kuwe.” **16** USawuli waphendula wathi, “Uqinise kithi ukuthi obahemi sebebonakele.” Kodwa kamtshelanga uyise omncane okwakutshiwo nguSamuyeli ngobukhosi. **17** USamuyeli wabizela abantu bako-Israyeli kuThixo eMizipha **18** wathi kubo, “Nanku okutshiwo yiThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli: ‘Ngakuphela u-Israyeli eGibhithe, njalo ngalikhulula esandleni seGibhithe lakuyo yonke imibuso eyayilincindezela.’ **19** Kodwa khathesi selimalile uNkulunkulu wenu, olihlengayo ezingozini zenu zonke lasezinsizini. Njalo selithe, ‘Hatshi, sibekele inkosi ezasibusu.’ Ngakho-ke khathesi zibonakaliseni phambi kukaThixo ngezizwana zenu langezinsendo zenu.” **20** Kwathi uSamuyeli esezilithe eduze zonke izizwana zaku-Israyeli, isizwana sikaBhenjamini sakhethwa. **21** Emva kwalokho walitha isizwana sikaBhenjamini phambili, usendo ngosendo, kwakhethwa usendo lukaMathiri. Ekucineni kwakhethwa uSawuli, indodana kaKhishi. Kodwa kwathi sebemdinga akaze abonakala. **22** Ngakho babuzza njalo kuThixo bathi, “Umuntu lo uke wafika lapha na?” UThixo wathi, “Ye, usezifihle phakathi kwezimpahla.” **23** Bagijima bayamkhipha, njalo kwathi esemi phakathi kwabantu, wayemude kulabo bonke. **24** USamuyeli wasesithi ebantwini bonke, “Liyabona yini umuntu osekhethe nguThixo? Kakho lamunye onjengaye phakathi kwabantu bonke bako-Israyeli.” Abantu baklabalala besithi, “Impilo ende enkosini!” **25** USamuyeli wachaza

ebantwini imithetho yobukhosi. Wayiloba emqulwini wayibeka phambi kukaThixo. Emva kwalokho wabachitha abantu, ngulowo lalowo waya emzini wakhe. **26** USawuli laye waya kibo eGibhiya ephelikezelwa ngabantu abangamaqhawe uNkulunkulu ayethinte inhliziyi zabo. **27** Kodwa ezinye izidlwangudlwangu zathi, “Umuntu lo angasikhulula kanjani na?” Zameyisa kazaze zamlethela zipho. Kodwa uSawuli wazithulela.

11 UNahashi um’Amoni wasuka wayivimbezela iJabeshi Gilyadi. Bonke abantu baseJabeshi bathi kuye, “Yenza isivumelwano lathi, thina sizakuba ngaphansi kwakho.” **2** Kodwa uNahashi um’Amoni waphendula wathi, “Ngizakwenza isivumelwano lani kuphela nxa kuyikuthi ngizakuphela ilihlo lesandla sokunene emuntwini wonke wakini ukuze u-Israyeli wonke ngimlethele ihlazo.” **3** Abadala baseJabeshi bathi kuye, “Sinike insuku eziyisikhombisa ukuze sithume izithunywa kulolonke elako-Israyeli; nxa engekho ozasihlenga sizazinikela kuwe.” **4** Kwathi izithunywa sezifike eGibhiya kaSawuli njalo zabika izimiso lezi ebantwini bonke bakhala kakhulu. **5** Ngalesosikhathi uSawuli wayevela emasimini, engemuva kwenkabi zakhe, wasebuza esithi, “Kuyini okonakeleyo ebantwini? Kungani bekhala?” Bamlandisela okwakutshiwo ngabantu baseJabeshi. **6** Kwathi uSawuli esezwe amazwi abo, uMoya kaNkulunkulu wehlela phezu kwakhe ngamandla, wathukuthela kakhulu. **7** Wathatha inkabi ezimbili, waziquma zaba yiziqayika, wathumela iziqa lezithunywa kulolonke elako-Israyeli, zimemezela zisithi, “Lokhu yikho okuzakwenziwa enkabini zikabani lobani ongalandeli uSawuli loSamuyeli.” Ukwesabeka kukaThixo kwehlela ebantwini, baphuma sebenjengomuntu munye. **8** Kwathi uSawuli esebaqoqile eBhezeki, abantu bako-Israyeli babezinkulungwane ezintathu, abakujoda bezinkulungwane ezingamathumi amathathu. **9** Batshela izithunywa ezazifikile bathi, “Tshelani abantu baseJabeshi Gilyadi ukuthi, ‘Kuzakuthi ilanga selitshisa kusasa, lina lizakuba selihlengawe.’” Kwathi izithunywa sezihambe zayabika lokhu ebantwini baseJabeshi, bathokoza. **10** Basebesithi kuma-Amoni, “Kusasa sizazinikela kini, njalo lingenza kithi loba kuyini okukhanya kukuhle kini.” **11** Ngelanga elalandelayo uSawuli wehlukhanisa abantu bakhe baba ngamaviyo amathathu; kwathi ngomlindo wokucina ebusuku bafohlela ezihonqweni zama-Amoni bawabulala ilanga laze latshisa. Lawo aphephayo ahlakazeka, akwaze kwaba lamabili awo asala endawonye. **12** Abantu basebesithi kuSamuyeli, “Ngubani owabuzza wathi, ‘USawuli uzasibusu na?’ Balethe kithi labobantu sibabulale.” **13** Kodwa uSawuli wathi, “Kakho ozabulawa lamhla, ngoba ngalolusuku uThixo umhlengile u-Israyeli.” **14** USamuyeli wasesithi ebantwini, “Wozani, kasiyeni eGiligali siyeqinisa ubukhosi khona.” **15** Ngakho abantu bonke baya eGiligali bambeka uSawuli ukuba yinkosi phambi kukaThixo. Bahlaba khona imihlatshelo yeminikelo yokuthula, njalo uSawuli labantu bonke bako-Israyeli baba lomkhosi omkhulu wokuthokoza.

12 USamuyeli wathi kubo bonke abako-Israyeli, “Ngikuzwile konke elikukhulumileyo kimi njalo sengilibekele inkosi. **2** Khathesi selilenkosi engumkhokheli wenu. Mina sengiluphele lenwele sezimpunga, lamadodana ami lilawo khonapha. Kade ngingumkhokheli wenu kusukela ebutsheni bami kuze kube lamhla. **3** Ngikhonapha. Fakazani okubi ngami phambi kukaThixo logcotshiweyo wakhe. Ngubani engake ngathatha

inkabi yakhe na? Ngubani engake ngathatha ubabhemi wakhe na? Ngubani engake ngamqilibezela? Ngubani engake ngamncindezela na? Kukwezikabani izandla engake ngamukela isivalamlomo ukuba ngivale amehlo ami na? Nxa ngake ngenza okunye kwalokhu, ngizakubuyisela.” **4** Baphendula bathi, “Kawuzange usiqilibezele loba usincindezele. Kawuthathanga lutho esandleni somuntu.” **5** USamuyeli wasesithi kubo, “Uthixo ungufakazi umelane lani, logcotshiweyo wakhe ungufakazi ngalelilanga, ukuthi kalitholanga lutho esandleni sami.” Bona bathi, “Yena ungufakazi.” **6** USamuyeli wasesithi ebantwini, “NguThixo owakhetha uMosi lo-Aroni wakhupha oyihlomkhulu eGibhithe. **7** Khathesi-ke, manini kuaPhapha, ngoba ngizamelana lani ngobufakazi phambi kukaThixo ngazozonke izezo ezilungileyo uThixo owazenzela lina laboyihlo. **8** Emva kokuba uJakhobe esefikile eGibhithe, bakhalela usizo kuThixo, uThixo wasehuma uMosi lo-Aroni, abakhupha okhokho benu eGibhithe bazabahlalisa kule indawo. **9** Kodwa bamkhohlwa uThixo uNkulunkulu wabo; ngakho wabanikela esandleni sikaSisera, umlawuli webutho laseHazoni, lasezandleni zamaFilistiya kanye lasenkosini yamaMowabi, balwa labo. **10** Bakhala kuThixo bathi, ‘Sonile, simdelile uThixo sakhonza oBhali labo-Ashithorethi. Kodwa khathesi ake usikhulule ezandleni zezitha zethu, sizakukhonza.’ **11** Lapho-ke uThixo wathuma uJerubhi-Bhali, loBhedani, loJeftha kanye loSamuyeli, walikhulula ezandleni zezitha zenu inxa zonke, yikho lahlala livikelekile. **12** Kodwa kwathi lapho libona ukuthi uNahashi inkosi yama-Amoni wayesizalihlasela, lathi kimi, ‘Hatshi, sifuna inkosi yokusibusa,’ lanxa uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu wayeyinkosi yenu. **13** Khathesi nansi inkosi eliyikhethileyo, yona elayicelayo; khangelani, uThixo uselibekele inkosi phezu kwenu. **14** Nxa limesaba uThixo limkhonze njalo limlalele lingahlamukeli imilayo yakhe, njalo nxa lina kanye lenkosi elibusayo lilandela uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, kühle! **15** Kodwa nxa uThixo lingamlaleli, njalo nxa lihlamukela imilayo yakhe, isandla sakhe sizamelana lani, njengoba sasimelane laboyihlo. **16** Khathesi-ke manini lithule libone into enkulu uThixo asezeyenza phambi kwamehlo enu! **17** Kanti khathesi akusikhathi sokuvuna ingqoloyi na? Ngizakhuleka kuThixo ukuba athumele umdumo lezulu. Njalo lizabona ukuthi yinto embi njani elayenzayo emehlweni kaThixo lapho licela inkosi.” **18** Emva kwalokho uSamuyeli wakhuleka kuThixo, njalo khona mhlalokho uThixo wathumela umdumo lezulu. Ngakho abantu bonke bamesaba uThixo loSamuyeli. **19** Bonke abantu bathi kuSamuyeli, “Khulekela izinceku zakhe kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakho ukuze singafi, ngoba sesengeze kwezinye zonke izono zethu ngobubi bokucela inkosi.” **20** USamuyeli waphendula wathi, “Lingesabi. Selibenzile bonke lobububi; kodwa lingamfulatheli uThixo; kodwa khonzani uThixo ngezinhliziyi zenu zonke. **21** Lingaphendukeli ezithombeni ezingasizi lutho. Zingeke zilenzele lutho, kumbe zilihle, ngoba kazilasizo. **22** Ngenxa yebizo lakhe elikhulu uThixo kayikubalahla abantu bakhe, ngoba uThixo wathokoziswa yikulenza libe ngabakhe. **23** Mina-ke kangiyekulwenza ukuthi ngenze isono kuThixo ngokungalikhulekeli. Njalo ngizalifundisa indlela enhle lelungileyo. **24** Kodwa mesabeni ngeqiniso uThixo, limkhonze ngobuqotho ngezinhliziyi zenu zonke. Khumbulani izinto ezinkulu alenzela zona. **25** Kodwa lingaphikelela ukwenza okubi, lina lenkosi yenu lizakhukhulwa.”

13 USawuli waba yinkosi eleminyaka engamatshumi amathathu ubudala bakhe, njalo wabusa u-Israyeli iminyaka engamatshumi amane lambili. **2** USawuli wakhetha abantu abazinkulungwane ezintathu ko-Israyeli; abazinkulungwane ezimbili babelaye eMikhimashi laselizweni lezintaba eleBhetheli, njalo abayinkulungwane babeleJonathani eGibhiya koBhenjamini. Bonke abasalayo wababuyisela emakhaya abo. **3** UJonathani wahlasela inkamba yamabutho amaFilistiya eGebha, njalo amaFilistiya akuzwa lokho. Lapho-ke uSawuli wathi kakukhaliswe icilongo kulolonke ilizwe wathi, “AmaHebheru kawezwel!” **4** Ngakho u-Israyeli wonke wayizwa indaba yokuthi: “USawuli usehlasele inkamba yamabutho amaFilistiya, njalo u-Israyeli khathesi useyisengiso kumaFilistiya.” Njalo abantu babizwa ukuba bayehlanganyela loSawuli eGiligali. **5** AmaFilistiya abuthana ukuthi alwe lo-Israyeli ngezinqola zempi eziyizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu, labatshayeli bazo abazinkulungwane eziyisithupha kanye lamabutho ayemanengi njengetshebetshebe ekhunjini lolwandle. Ahamba ayamisa eMikhimashi, empumalanga kweBhethi-Aveni. **6** Kwathi abantu bako-Israyeli bebona ukuthi umumo wabo wawusumubi lokuthi ibutho labo lalincindezelwe kanzima, bacatsha ezimbalwini lasemajukujukwini, laphakathi kwamadwala, emilindini lasemigodini. **7** Amanye amaHebheru aze achaphela elizweni lakoGadi kanye leGilyadi. USawuli wasala eGiligali, njalo wonke amabutho ayelaye ayeqhuqha ngenxa yokwesaba. **8** Walinda insuku eziyisikhombisa, isikhathi esasimiswe nguSamuyeli; kodwa uSamuyeli kezanga eGiligali; yikho abantu bakaSawuli baqalisa ukuchitha. **9** Ngakho wathi, “Ngilethelani umnikelo wokutshiswa leminikelo yobuzalwane.” USawuli wanikela umnikelo wokutshiswa. **10** Kwathi khonokho nje eqeda ukunikela umnikelo wokutshiswa, uSamuyeli wafika, uSawuli waphuma wayambingelela. **11** USawuli wabuzza wathi, “Kuyini osukwezile na?” USawuli waphendula wathi, “Kuthe ngibona abantu sebecitheka, lokuthi kawufikanga ngesikhathi esimisiweyo, kanye lokuthi amaFilistiya abebuthana eMikhimashi, **12** ngacabanga ngathi, ‘Khathesi amaFilistiya azakuzangihlasela eGiligali, njalo kangelcanga umusa kuThixo.’ Ngakho ngizwe ngincindezeleka ukuba nginikele umnikelo wokutshiswa.” **13** USamuyeli wathi, “Wenze ubuthutha. Kawuwugcinanga umlayo uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho akupha wona; aluba ubukwenzile lokho, ubezamisa umbuso wakho phezu kuka-Israyeli kokuphela. **14** Kodwa umbuso wakho kawuyikuqhubeka; uThixo usedinge indoda emthandayo ngenhliziyi yakhe wambeka ukuba ngumbusi wabantu bakhe, ngoba wena kawuwugcinanga umlayo kaThixo.” **15** Emva kwalokho uSamuyeli wasuka eGiligali waya eGibhiya koBhenjamini, uSawuli wasebala abantu ababelaye. Babengaba ngamakhulu ayisithupha. **16** USawuli lendodana yakhe uJonathani kanye labantu ayelabo babehlala eGibhiya koBhenjamini, amaFilistiya emise izihonqo eMikhimashi. **17** Amaqembu abahlaseli aphuma ezihonqweni zamaFilistiya ngezigaba ezintathu. Elinye laqonda e-Ofira eduze leShuwali, **18** elinye laqonda eBhethi-Haroni, kwathi elisithathu laqonda endaweni esemngceleni ngaphezu kweSigodi saseZebhayimi malungana lenkangala. **19** Akulamkhandi wensimbi owayengatholakala kulolonke elako-Israyeli, ngoba amaFilistiya ayethe, “Mhlawumbe amaHebheru azakwenza izinkemba kumbe imikhonto.” **20** Ngakho u-Israyeli wonke waya kumaFilistiya ukuyalola amakhuba

akhe, lamamatoki, lamahloka kanye amasikela. **21** Imbadalo yokulolisa amakhuba lamamatoki yayingokubili kokuthathu kweshekele, njalo ingokukodwa kokuthathu kweshekele ukulola amafologwe lamahloka kanye lokucijisa izijujo. **22** Ngakho ngosuku lwempi akulabutho elaliloSawuli loJonathani elalilenkamba kumbe umkhonto esandleni salo; uSawuli loJonathani kuphela yibo ababelakho. **23** Ngalesikhathi amaFilistiya ayesehpume aya emkhandlwini waseMikhimashi.

14 Ngelinye ilanga uJonathani indodana kaSawuli wathi ejaheni elalithwala izikhali zakhe, “Woza, kasiye enkambeni yebutho lamaFilistiya ngakwelinye icele.” Kodwa kamtshelanga uyise. **2** USawuli wayehlala emaphethelweni eGibhiya ngaphansi kwesihlahla sephomegranathi eMigironi. Amadoda ayelaye ayengaba ngamakulu ayisithupha, **3** phakathi kwawo kulo-Ahija, owayeqoke isigqoko samahlombe. Wayeyindodana yomfowabo ka-Ikhabhodi u-Ahithubi indodana kaFinehasi, indodana ka-Eli umphristi kaThixo eShilo. Kakho owayesazi ukuthi uJonathani wayehambile. **4** Eceleni ngalinye lomkhandu ayehlose ukuwuchapha ukuze ayefika enkambeni yebutho lamaFilistiya kwakulwazi; elinye lalithwa yiBhozezi elinye liyiSene. **5** Elinye iliwa lalingasenyakatho ngokuya eMikhimashi, elinye lingasezansi ngokuya eGebha. **6** UJonathani wathi ejaheni elalithwala izikhali zakhe, “Woza, siwelele enkambeni yalabayana abantu abangasokanga. Engxenye uThixo uzasimela, ngoba akulalutho olungavimbela uThixo ekukhuleni, loba kungabanengi kumbe abalutshwana.” **7** Umthwali wezikhali zakhe wathi, “Yenza konke olakho engqondweni yakho. Qhubeka, mina ngilawe ngenhliziyo langomphefumulo.” **8** UJonathani wasesithi, “Ngakho-ke, woza sikhuphuke siqonde kulabaya abantu senze ukuba basibone. **9** Bangathi kithi, ‘Manini khonapho size sifike kini,’ sizahlala lapho esikhona singayi kubo. **10** Kodwa bangathi, ‘Wozani kithi,’ sizakhwela siye phezulu ngoba lokho kuzakuba yisibonakaliso sethu sokuthi uThixo usebanikele ezandleni zethu.” **11** Ngakho bobabili bazibonakalisa enkambeni yamabutho amaFilistiya. AmaFilistiya athi, “Khangelani, amaHebheru asehohoba ephuma emilindini abecatshe kuyo.” **12** Amadoda ayesenkambeni yamabutho amemeza uJonathani lomthwali wezikhali zakhe athi, “Wozani kithi sizalifundisa isifundo.” Ngakho uJonathani wathi kumthwali wezikhali zakhe, “Khwela ungilande; uThixo usebanikele esandleni sika-Israyeli.” **13** UJonathani wakhwela, esebenzisa izandla lezinyawo zakhe, lomthwali wezikhali zakhe ekhonapho ngemva kwakhe. AmaFilistiya awa phambi kukajonathani, njalo umthwali wezikhali zakhe walandela ebulala abantu ngemva kwakhe. **14** Ngalokho kwahlasele kokuqala uJonathani lomthwali wezikhali zakhe babulala abantu abangamatshumi amabili endaweni eyayingaba yingxenywe yendima. **15** Emva kwalokho ibutho lonke lathuthumela, ababesezihonqweni lababesezangeni, lalaba ababesezinkambeni zamabutho lamaqembu abahlaseli, iphansi lanyikinyeka. Kwakuyikuthuthumela okwakulethwe nguNkulunkulu. **16** Abalindi bakaSawuli eGibhiya koBhenjamini babona ibutho lisabalele ezinhlangothini zonke. **17** USawuli wasesithi ebantwini ababelaye, “Qoqani amabutho libone ukuthi ngubani ongekho.” Sebekwenzile, ababengekho kwakunguJonathani lomthwali wezikhali zakhe. **18** USawuli wasesithi ku-Ahija, “Letha ibhokisi

lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu.” (Ngalesikhathi lalikhwabako-Israyeli.) **19** Kwathi uSawuli esakhuluma lomphristi, ukuxokozela ezihonqweni zamaFilistiya kwakhula kakhulu kakhulukazi. Ngakho uSawuli wathi kumphristi, “Susa isandla sakho.” **20** Emva kwalokho uSawuli labantu bakhe bonke babuthana basebisiya empini. Bafica amaFilistiya epakathi kwesiyaluyalo esipheleleyo, egalelana ngezinkamba zawo. **21** AmaHebheru ayelamaFilistiya kuqala ehambe lawo ezihonqweni zawo abuyela kwabako-Israyeli ababeloSawuli loJonathani. **22** Kwathi lapho bonke abako-Israyeli ababecatshe elizweni lezintaba elako-Efrayimi sebezilwe ukuthi amaFilistiya ayesebaleka empini bangersa, baxotshana lawo. **23** UThixo wamhlenga kanjalo u-Israyeli ngalolosuku, njalo ukulwa kwaya ngale kweBhethi-Aveni. **24** Ngalolosuku abantu bako-Israyeli babedanile ngoba uSawuli wayebophe abantu ngesifungo esithi, “Uqalekisiwe lowomuntu odla ukudla kungakahlwi, ngingakaphindisele izimvini zami!” Ngakho akukho butho elanambitha ukudla. **25** Ibutho lonke langena ehlathini, lapho okwakuloluju phansi khona. **26** Ekungeneni kwabo ehlathini, babona uluju lululuka, kodwa kakho owaludlayo, ngoba babesesaba isifungo. **27** Kodwa uJonathani wayengezanga ukuthi uyise wayebophe abantu ngesifungo, welula isiduku somqwayi ayewuphethe wawuhloma ohlangeni loluju. Waphakamisela isandla sakhe emlonjeni wakhe, amehlo akhazimula. **28** Lapho-ke omunye wamabutho wamtshela wathi, “Uyihlo ubophe ibutho ngesifungo esinzima, esithi, ‘Uqalekisiwe lowomuntu odla ukudla lamhla!’ Yikho-nje abantu bemdambiyana.” **29** UJonathani wathi, “Ubaba usedalele ilizwe ulupho. Khangela ukuthi amehlo ami athe dlwe ekunambitheni kwami okuncane koluju lolu. **30** Kade kuzakuba ngcono kakhulu aluba lamhla abantu bebedlile enye yempango ayayithethe ezitheni zabo. Ukubulawa kwamaFilistiya kade kungayikuba kukhulu kulalokhu na?” **31** Ngalolosuku, emva kokuba ama-Israyeli esebulele amaFilistiya kusukela eMikhimashi kusiyafika e-Ayijaloni, ayesediniwe. **32** Baphuthuma impango, kwathi sebethe the izimvu lenkomo kanye lamathole, bazibulala khonapho bazidla kanye legazi. **33** Omunye wasesithi kuSawuli, “Khangela abantu benza isono kuThixo ngokudla inyama elegazi.” Yena wathi, “Selephule ukuthenjwa. Gqelani ilitsho elikhulu ngapha khatsheni nje.” **34** Wasesithi, “Yanini phakathi kwabantu libatshelile lithi, ‘Lowo lalowo wenu kangilethele inkomo lezimvu zakhe azibulalele lapha azide. Lingenzi isono kuThixo ngokudla inyama eseselegazi.’” Ngakho ngalobobusuku umuntu wonke waletha inkabi yakhe wayihlabela khonapho. **35** USawuli wasesakhela uThixo i-alithari; wayeqala ukwenza lokhu. **36** USawuli wathi, “Kasehleni silandele amaFilistiya ebusuku siwahlasela kuze kuse, singatshiyi lalinye lawo liphila.” Bathi, “Yenza lokho okubona kulungile kuwe.” Kodwa umphristi wathi, “Kasibuzeni uNkulunkulu lapha.” **37** USawuli wabuzisa uNkulunkulu wathi, “Ngehle ngilande amaFilistiya na? Uzawanikela esandleni sika-Israyeli na?” Kodwa uNkulunkulu kamphendulanga ngalolosuku. **38** Ngakho uSawuli wathi, “Wozani lapha, lonke lina bakhokheli bebutsho, sidinge ukuthi yisono bani esenziwe lamhla. **39** Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ohlanga u-Israyeli ephila, lanxa sisendodaneni yami uJonathani, kumele ife.” Kodwa akukho lamunye wabantu owatsho ilizwi. **40** USawuli wasesithi kubo bonke abako-Israyeli, “Manini laphayana; mina lendodana yami uJonathani sizakuma ngapha.” Abantu baphendula bathi, “Yenza lokho okukhanya kulungile kuwe.”

41 Emva kwalokho uSawuli wakhuleka kuThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli wathi, “Kungani ungayiphendulanga inceku lamuhla? Nxa isono sikimi kumbe kuJonathani indodana yami, inkatho kayibe yi-Urimi; kodwa nxa isono sisebantwini bako-Israyeli, inkatho kayibe yiThumimi.” UJonathani loSawuli badliwa yinkatho, abantu bagezeka. 42 USawuli wasesithi, “Phosani inkatho phakathi kwami loJonathani indodana yami.” UJonathani wabanjwa. 43 USawuli wasesithi kuJonathani, “Ngitshela lokho okwenzileyo.” Ngakho uJonathani wamtshela wathi, “Nginambithe uluju nje kuphela ngesihloko somqwami wami. Khathesi-ke sokumele ngife!” 44 USawuli wathi, “UNkulunkulu kangijezise, kube nzima kakhulu, nxa ungafi, Jonathani.” 45 Kodwa abantu bathi kuSawuli, “UJonathani kumele afe yini, yena olette lokhukuhlelwa okukhulu ko-Israyeli na? Hatshi bo! Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ekhona, akulanwele lwekhanda lakhe oluzawela phansi, ngoba lokhu ukwenze lamhla ngoziso lukaNkulunkulu.” Ngakho abantu bamhlelwa uJonathani, kasabulawanga. 46 USawuli wayekela ukuxotshana lamaFilistiya, njalo amaFilistiya abuyela elizweni lakibo. 47 Kwathi uSawuli esebusa ko-Israyeli, walwa lezitha zabo inxa zonke: iMowabi, ama-Amoni, i-Edomi, amakhosi aseZobha kanye lamaFilistiya. Loba kungaphi lapho aya khona, wababhuqa. 48 Walwa ngesibindi wehlula ama-Amaleki, wakhulula u-Israyeli ezandleni zalabo ababebaphangile. 49 Amadodana kaSawuli ayenguJonathani, lo-Ishivi kanye loMalikhi-Shuwa. Ibizo lendodakazi yakhe endala lalinguMerabi, elomcinyane linguMikhali. 50 Ibizo lomkakhe lalingu-Ahinowama indodakazi ka-Ahimazi. Umlawuli webutho likaSawuli wayengu-Abhineri indodana kaNeri, uNeri wayengumfowabo kayise kaSawuli. 51 UKhishi uyise kaSawuli, loNeri uyise ka-Abhineri babengamadodana ka-Abhiyeli. 52 Kuzozonke insuku zikaSawuli kwakulempi enzima lamaFilistiya, njalo loba kungaphi uSawuli abona khona indoda elamandla kumbe elesibindi, wayingenisa ebuthweni lakhe.

15 USamuyeli wathi kuSawuli, “Mina yimi engathunywa nguThixo ukuthi ngikugcobe ukuba yinkosi yabantu bakhe u-Israyeli; ngakho-ke khathesi lalela ilizwi elivela kuThixo. 2 Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla: ‘Ama-Amaleki ngizawajezisa ngenxa yalokhu akwenzayo ku-Israyeli lapho abacathamela ekuphumeni kwabo eGibhithe. 3 Khathesi hamba uyehlasela ama-Amaleki uqede du konke okungokwawo. Ungawayekeli; bulala amadoda labafazi, abantwana lensane, inkomo lezimvu, amakamela kanye labobabhemi.’” 4 Ngakho uSawuli wabiza abantu wababuthanisa eThelayimi, izinkulungwane ezimbili zebutho lezinyawo kanye lamadoda azinkulungwane ezilithshumi avela koJuda. 5 USawuli waya edolobheni lase-Amaleki bacathama edongeni. 6 Wasesithi kumaKheni, “Sukani, tshiyani ama-Amaleki ukuze ngingaliqothuli kanye lawo; ngoba lina latshengisa umusa kuwo wonke ama-Israyeli ekuphumeni kwawo eGibhithe.” Ngakho amaKheni asuka kuma-Amaleki. 7 Lapho-ke uSawuli wahlasela ama-Amaleki umango wonke kusukela eHavila kusiya eShuri, empumalanga kweGibhithe. 8 Wathumba u-Agagi inkosi yama-Amaleki ephila, kodwa bonke abantu bakhe wabaqothula ngokupheleleyo, ngenkemba. 9 Kodwa uSawuli lebutho kabambulalanga u-Agagi lezimvu ezinhle lenkomo, amathole anonileyo lamawundlu lakho konke okwakukuhle. Lokhu babengafisi ukukuqeda ngokupheleleyo,

konke okwakuseyiseka lokungelasizo bakuqeda du. 10 Ilizwi likaThixo laselifika kuSamuyeli lisithi, 11 “Ngilusizi ngokuthi ngibeke uSawuli waba yinkosi, ngoba usengifulathele njalo kalandelanga imilayo yami.” USamuyeli wakhathazeka, wakhuleka kuThixo bonke lobobusuku. 12 USamuyeli wavuka ekuseni kakhulu ukuba ayebonana loSawuli, kodwa watshelwa ukuthi, “USawuli uye eKhameli. Uzibekele ilitshe lesikhumbuzo sakhe khonale wasephenduka esehlala eGiligali.” 13 Kwathi uSamuyeli esemficile, uSawuli wathi, “Uthixo kakubusise! Sengikwenzile engikulaywe nguThixo.” 14 Kodwa uSamuyeli wathi, “Pho ukukhala kwezimvu ezindlebeni zami lokhu kuyini na? Kuyini ukubhonsa kwezinkomo lokhu engikuzwayo na?” 15 USawuli waphendula wathi, “Amabutho azilthe zivela kuma-Amaleki; agcine izimvu ezinhle lenkomo ukuba azenze umhlatshelelo kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakho, kodwa ezinye sizikhucule.” 16 USamuyeli wathi kuSawuli, “Mana! Wothi ngikutshela okutshiwo nguThixo kimi ebusuku obeduleyo.” USawuli waphendula wathi, “Ngitshela.” 17 USamuyeli wasesithi, “Lanxa wazibona umncane, kawuzange ube yinhloko yezizwana zako-Israyeli na? Uthixo wakugcoba ukuba ube yinkosi ko-Israyeli. 18 Njalo wakuthuma emsebenzini, esithi, ‘Hamba uyeqothula abantu labayana ababi, ama-Amaleki, uvuse impi labo uze ubaqede du.’ 19 Pho kungani ungalalelanga uThixo? Kungani uzithathele impango wenza okubi phambi kukaThixo na?” 20 USawuli wathi, “Kodwa mina ngimlalele uThixo. Ngihambile emsebenzini uThixo anginike wona. Ama-Amaleki ngiwaqede du, ngabuya lo-Agagi inkosi yawo. 21 Amabutho athatha izimvu lenkomo empangweni, ezinhle zalezo ezazahlukaniselwe uNkulunkulu, ukuze zenziwe umhlatshelelo kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakho eGiligali.” 22 Kodwa uSamuyeli waphendula wathi: “Kambe uThixo uthokozela iminikelo yokutshiswa lemhlatshelelo ngokunjengokulalela ilizwi likaThixo na? Ukulalela kungcono kulomhlatshelelo, lokukhathalela kungcono kulamahwaha enqama. 23 Ngoba ukuhlamuka kufana lesono sokuhlalula, lobuqhulo bufana lobubi bokukhonza izithombe. Ngoba ilizwi likaThixo ulalile, usekwalile njengenkosi.” 24 USawuli wasesithi kuSamuyeli, “Ngenzile isono. Ngephule umlayo kaThixo leziqondiso zakho. Ngesabe abantu ngavamela okwabo. 25 Khathesi-ke ngiyakucela, thethelela isono sami ubuyele emuva lami, ukuze ngikhonze uThixo.” 26 Kodwa uSamuyeli wathi kuye, “Angiyikubuyela emuva lawe. Ilizwi likaThixo ulalile, njalo uThixo usekwalile njengombusi wako-Israyeli!” 27 Kwathi uSamuyeli ephenduka ukuba asuke, uSawuli wabamba umphetho wesembotho sakhe, sasesidabuka. 28 USamuyeli wathi kuye, “Uthixo usewudabule kuwe lamhla umbuso wako-Israyeli, njalo usewunike omunye wabomakhelwane bakho, lowo ongono kulawe. 29 Yena oyiNkazimulo ka-Israyeli kaqambi manga kumbe aguqule ingqondo yakhe, ngoba kasumuntu ukuba aguqule ingqondo yakhe.” 30 USawuli waphendula wathi, “Ngenzile isono. Kodwa ake unghloniphe phambi kwabadala babantu bami laphambi kuka-Israyeli; buyela lami, ukuze ngiyekhonza uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho.” 31 Ngakho uSamuyeli wabuyela loSawuli wasekhonza uThixo. 32 USamuyeli wasesithi, “Ngilethelani u-Agagi inkosi yama-Amaleki.” U-Agagi waya kuye ngokwethemba ecabanga esithi, “Impela intukuthelo yokufa isiphelile.” 33 Kodwa uSamuyeli wathi, “Njengoba inkemba yakho yenze abesifazane baswela abantwana, ngokunjalo unyoko kazukuba lomntwana phakathi kwabesifazane.” USamuyeli wambulala u-Agagi

phambi kukaThixo eGiligali. **34** Emva kwalokho uSamuyeli wasuka waya eRama, kodwa uSawuli waya emzini wakhe eGibhiya yakoSawuli. **35** USamuyeli kwaze kwaba lusuku lokufa kwakhe engazange ayembona uSawuli futhi, lanxa uSamuyeli wamlilela uSawuli. Uthixo wakhathazeka ngokuthi wayenze uSawuli waba yinkosi yako-Israyeli.

16 Uthixo wathi kuSamuyeli, “Koze kube nini ulilela uSawuli, lokhu mina ngimalike ekubeni yinkosi yako-Israyeli? Gcwalisa uphondo lwakho ngamafutha uhambe; ngiyakuthuma kuJese eBethlehem. Sengikhethe enye yamadodana akhe ukuba yinkosi.” **2** Kodwa uSamuyeli wathi, “Ngingahamba kanjani na? USawuli uzakuzwa ngakho angibulale.” Uthixo wathi, “Thatha ithokazi uhambe lalo uthi, ‘Ngilande ukuzahlabela uThixo.’” **3** Biza uJese eze emhlatshelweni, mina ngizakutshengisa ozakwenza. Uzangicobela lowo engizamphawula.” **4** USamuyeli wenza lokho okwakutshiwo nguThixo. Kwathi efika eBethlehem abadala bomuzi bamhlangabeza beqhaqhaqazela. Bambuza bathi, “Uza ngokuthula na?” **5** USamuyeli waphendula wathi, “Ye, ngokuthula; ngilande ukuzanikela emhlatshelo kuThixo. Zingcweliseni lihambe lami emhlatshelweni.” Emva kwalokho wangcwelisa uJese lamadodana akhe wasebabizela emhlatshelweni. **6** Ekufikeni kwabo uSamuyeli wabona u-Eliyabi wacabanga wathi, “Impela ogcotshiweyo kaThixo umi lapha phambi kukaThixo.” **7** Kodwa uThixo wathi kuSamuyeli, “Ungakhangele isimo sakhe loba ubude bakhe, ngoba ngimalile. Uthixo kakhangele izinto ezikhangelwa ngabantu. Abantu bakhangele isimo somuntu, kodwa uThixo ukhangele inhliziyoyi.” **8** UJese wabiza u-Abhinadabi wamdlulisa phambi kukaSamuyeli. Kodwa uSamuyeli wathi, “Lalo uThixo kamkethanga.” **9** UJese wedlulisa uShama eduzane, kodwa uSamuyeli wathi, “Layenalo uThixo kamkethanga.” **10** UJese wadlulisa amadodana akhe ayisikhombisa phambi kukaSamuyeli, kodwa uSamuyeli wathi kuye, “Laba uThixo kabakethanga.” **11** Ngakho wabuza uJese wathi, “La yiwo wonke amadodana olawo na?” UJese waphendula wathi, “Kusekhona encinyane, kodwa yelusa izimvu.” USamuyeli wathi, “Thuma omunye ayembiza; kasiyikuhlala phansi aze afike.” **12** Ngakho wathuma omunye wayalethwa. Wayebomvana, ebukeka njalo elesimo esihle. Uthixo wasesithi, “Sukuma umgobe; nguye.” **13** Ngakho uSamuyeli wathatha uphondo lwamafutha wangcoba labanewabo bekhona; njalo kusukela ngalelolanga kusiya phambili, uMoya kaThixo wafika kuDavida ulamandla. Emva kwalokho uSamuyeli waya eRama. **14** Ngalesosikhathi uMoya kaThixo wawususukile kuSawuli, umoya omubi owavela kuThixo usumhlukuluza. **15** Izinceku zikaSawuli zathi kuye, “Khangela, umoya omubi ovela kuNkulunkulu uyakuhlukuluza. **16** Akuthi inkosi yethu ilaye izinceku zayo ezilapha ukuba ziyidingele umuntu okwaziyo ukutshaya ichacho. Uzalithaya lapho umoya omubi ovela kuNkulunkulu ufika kuwe; uzakuzwa ngcono.” **17** Ngakho uSawuli wathi ezincekweni zakhe, “Dingani umuntu otshaya kuhle limlethe kimi.” **18** Enye yezinceku zakhe yaphendula yathi, “Ngibone indodana kaJese waseBethlehem ekwaziyo ukutshaya ichacho. Iyindoda elesibindi elibutho futhi. Ikhuluma kuhle njalo ilijaha elibukekayo. LoThixo uyivikele.” **19** USawuli wathuma izithunywa kuJese wathi, “Thumela kimi indodana yakho uDavida, owelusa izimvu.” **20** Ngakho uJese wathatha ubabhemi ethwele izinkwa, umgodla wewayini lezinyane

lembuzi wakuthumela lendodana yakhe uDavida kuSawuli. **21** UDavida wafika kuSawuli wangena emsebenzini wakhe uSawuli wamthanda kakhulu, njalo uDavida waba ngomunye wabathwali bezikhali zakhe. **22** USawuli wathumela ilizwi kuJese, elithi, “Vumela uDavida ukuba ahlale emsebenzini wami, ngoba ngiyathokoza ngaye.” **23** Kwakusithi umoya omubi ovela kuNkulunkulu ungafika kuSawuli, uDavida athathe ichacho lakhe alitshaye. Lapho-ke uSawuli wayephumula; ezwe ngcono, lomoya omubi usuke kuye.

17 Ngalesosikhathi amaFilistiya aqoqa amabutho awo ukuba alwe impi, asebuthana eSokho koJuda. Enza izihonqo e-Efesi Damimi, phakathi kweSokho le-Azekha. **2** USawuli labako-Israyeli bamisa izihonqo eSigodini sase-Ela, bahlala ukuba balwe impi lamaFilistiya. **3** AmaFilistiya ayemi kolunye uqaqa abako-Israyeli labo bekolunye, kulesigodi phakathi kwabo. **4** Iqhawe elalithiwa nguGoliyathi, owayevela eGathi, waphuma ezihonqweni zamaFilistiya. Ubude bakhe babuzingalo eziyisithupha lesandla. **5** Wayelengwane yethusi ekhanda lakhe, egqoke ibhatshi lokuvikela elethusi elaliyizinkulungwane ezinhlano zamashekeli ubunzima balo, **6** embaleni yakhe wayegqoke imigwamaz yethusi, emhlane egaxe umkhonto wethusi. **7** Uluthi lomkhonto wakhe lwalunjengogodo lomaluki, ubunzima besihloko sawo sensimbi bungamashekeli angamakhulu ayisithupha. Umthwali wehawu lakhe wayehamba phambidlana kwakhe. **8** UGoliyathi wema wamezela emaviyeni ako-Israyeli esithi, “Kungani liphumele ukuzakulwa impi na? KangisumFilistiya yini, njalo lina kalisizo zincedu zikaSawuli na? Khethani umuntu azeqondana lami. **9** Nxa ezakulwa angibulale, sizakuba yizigqili zenu; kodwa ngingamehlula ngimbulale, lizakuba yizigqili zethu lisikhonze.” **10** UmFilistiya wabuya wathi, “Lamhlanje ngiyaweyisa amaviyo ako-Israyeli! Ngiphani umuntu siqondane silwe.” **11** Ekuzweni amazwi omFilistiya, uSawuli labo bonke abako-Israyeli besaba bathuthumela. **12** UDavida wayeyindoda yom’Efrathi owayethiwa nguJese, owayengowase Bethlehem koJuda. UJese wayelamadodana ayisificaminwembali, njalo ngezinsuku zikaSawuli wayesemdala eseluphele kakhulu. **13** Amadodana amathathu amadala kaJese ayelandele uSawuli empini: Izibulo kwakungu-Eliyabi; owesibili kungu-Abhinadabi; owesithathu kunguShama. **14** UDavida wayengomncane wabo. Abathathu abadala balandela uSawuli, **15** kodwa uDavida wasuka kuSawuli wabuyela ukuba ayekwelusa izimvu zikayise eBethlehem. **16** Okwensuku ezingamatshumi amane umFilistiya wayesiya phambili nsuku zonke ekuseni lakusihlwa ajame. **17** UJese wasesithi kuDavida indodana yakhe, “Thathela abanewenu ihefa lomumbu okhanzingweyo kanye lezinkwa lezi ezilitshumi uzise masinyane ezihonqweni zabo. **18** Hamba lalezizinkwa zetshizi ezilitshumi kumlawuli weviyo labo. Bona ukuthi abanewenu banjani, ubuye lesiqinisele esivela kubo. **19** BaloSawuli kanye labantu bonke bako-Israyeli eSigodini sase-Ela, besilwa lamaFilistiya.” **20** Ekuseni kakhulu uDavida watshiya umhlambi wezimvu ulomelusi, wathwala umthwalo wasuka wahamba, njengokulaya kukajese. Wafika ezihonqweni ibutho liphuma ukuba liye ezindaweni zalo zempi, limemeza isaga sempi. **21** U-Israyeli lamaFilistiya babedweba imikhandlu yabo bekhangelene. **22** UDavida watshiya izinto zakhe kumgcini wezimphahla, wagijimela emaviyeni empi wayabingelela abanewabo. **23** Esabakhulumisa, uGoliyathi,

iqhawe lamaFiliistiya elaseGathi, waphuma kuviyo lakhe, wamezela ukweyisa kwakhe kwenjayelo, loDavida wakuzwa. **24** Kwathi abako-Israyeli bebona umuntu lowo, bonke bambalekela ngokwesaba okukhulu. **25** Abako-Israyeli babekade besithi, “Liyambona yini umuntu lo ukuthi uqhubeka njani elokhu ephuma? Uyaphuma ukuba eyise u-Israyeli. Inkosi izamnika inotho enengi umuntu ozambulala. Izamnika lendodakazi yayo ukuba ayithathe, ikhulule labendlu kayise emithelweni ko-Israyeli.” **26** UDavida wabuza indoda eyayimi phansi kwakhe wathi, “Kuyini okuzakwenzelwa umuntu obulala umFiliistiya lo asuse lehlazo leli ku-Israyeli na? Ungabani umFiliistiya lo ongasokanga oweyisa amabutho kaNkulunkulu ophilayo na?” **27** Bakutsho futhi kuye ababekade bemtshela khona bathi, “Nanku okuzakwenzelwa umuntu ombulalayo.” **28** Kwathi lapho u-Eliyabi, umnewabo omdala kaDavida, emuzwa ekhuluma lalawomadoda, wamthukethelela kakhulu wambuza wathi, “Uzefunani lapha na? Njalo izimvu leziyana ezilutshwane uzitshaye lobani enkangala na? Ngiyakwazi ukuthi uzikhukhumeza njani kanye lokuthi inhliziyi yakho imbi kanjani, ulande ukuzabona impi nje kuphela.” **29** UDavida wathi, “Manje sengenzi kanti? Angivunyelwa yini ukukhuluma?” **30** Emva kwalokho waphendukela komunye, watsho lutho lunye, umuntu lowo wamphendula njengakuqala. **31** Okwakutshiwo nguDavida kwazwakala njalo kwabikwa kuSawuli, uSawuli wathi kabizwe. **32** UDavida wathi kuSawuli, “Akungabi lomuntu ophelwa lithemba ngenxa yomFiliistiya lo; inceku yakho izakuyakulwa laye.” **33** USawuli waphendula wathi, “Kawanelisi ukuyamelana lomFiliistiya lo ulwe laye; wena ungumfana nje, yena kade waba ngumuntu wokulwa kusukela ebutsheni bakhe.” **34** Kodwa uDavida wathi kuSawuli, “Inceku yakho yayiselusa izimvu zikayise. Kwathi kufike isilwane kumbe ibhele lajwamula imvu emhlambini, **35** ngalilandela, ngalitshaya ngahlenga imvu emlonyeni walo. Lathi liyangihlasela ngalidumela ngoboya balo, ngalitshaya ngalibulala. **36** Inceku yakho seyabulala kokubili isilwane lebhele; umFiliistiya lo ongasokanga uzakuba njengokunye kwakho, ngoba weyise amabutho kaNkulunkulu ophilayo. **37** Uthixo owangikhululayo enzitsheni zesilwane lasenzitsheni zebhele uzangikhululayo esandleni somFiliistiya lo.” USawuli wathi kuDavida, “Hamba, uThixo kabe laye.” **38** Emva kwalokho uSawuli wagqokisa uDavida ibhatshi lakhe. Wamgqokisa lesivikelo sensimbi kanye lengowane yethusi ekhanda lakhe. **39** UDavida wabophela inkemba yakhe phezu kwesembatho setshunika wazama ukuhambahamba, ngoba wayengazeywayelanga. Wathi kuSawuli, “Angingeke ngihambe ngigqoke lokhu, ngoba angikweywayelanga.” Ngakho wakukhupha. **40** Emva kwalokho wathatha umqwayi wakhe, wakhetha amatshe abutshelazi amahlanu esifuleni. Wawabeka esikhwameni somxhaka wakhe wokwelusa, njalo ephethe isavutha wamlanda umFiliistiya. **41** Ngasikhathi sinye, umFiliistiya, umthwali wehawu lakhe ephambi kwakhe, wayelokhu esondela eduze kukaDavida. **42** Wamkhangela uDavida wabona ukuthi wayengumfana nje, ebomvana emuhle, wameyisa. **43** Wasesithi kuDavida, “Kanti ngiyinja yini, usiza kimi uphethe izinti?” UmFiliistiya waqalekisa uDavida ngabonkulunkulu bakibo. **44** Wathi, “Woza lapha, ngizanika izinyoni zasemoyeni lezinyamazana zeganga inyama yakho!” **45** UDavida wathi kumFiliistiya, “Wena uzemelana lami ngenkamba lomkhonto kanye lomdikadika, kodwa mina ngizemelana lawe ngebizo likaThixo uSomandla,

uNkulunkulu wamabutho ka-Israyeli wena omeysisayo. **46** Lamhla uThixo uzakunikela kimi, ngizakulahlala phansi ngiqume ikhanda lakho. Lamhlanje izinyoni zasemoyeni lezinyamazana zasemhlabeni ngizazinika izidumbu zebutho lamaFiliistiya, njalo umhlaba wonke uzakwazi ukuthi kuloNkulunkulu ko-Israyeli. **47** Bonke labo ababuthene lapha bazakwazi ukuthi uThixo kahlangeni ngenkamba loba ngomkhonto, ngoba impi ngekaThixo, njalo lonke uzalunikela ezandleni zethu.” **48** Kwathi umFiliistiya esondela eduze ukuba amhlasele, uDavida ngokuphangisa wagijimela phambili endaweni yokulwela ukuba amhlangabeze. **49** UDavida wangenisa isandla sakhe emxhakeni wakhe wathatha ilitshe, waliphosa ngesavutha latshaya umFiliistiya ebunzini. Ilitshe latshona ebunzini lakhe, wawela phansi ngobuso. **50** UDavida wamngqoba kanjalo umFiliistiya ngesavutha langelitshe; engelankemba esandleni sakhe wamhlala phansi umFiliistiya wambulala. **51** UDavida wagijima wema phezu kwakhe. Wabamba inkemba yomFiliistiya wayihwatsha esikhwameni sayo. Esembulele, waquma ikhanda lakhe ngenkamba. Kwathi amaFiliistiya ebona ukuthi iqhawe lawo laselifile, aphenduka abaleka. **52** Lapho-ke abantu bako-Israyeli labakojuda balangathela besiya phambili bememeza, baxotshana lamaFiliistiya baze bayafika entubeni lasemasangweni ase-Ekroni. Abafileyo bakibo babegcwele emgwaqweni waseShaharayimu kusiya eGathi lase-Ekroni. **53** Kwathi abako-Israyeli sebephendukile ekuxotsheni amaFiliistiya, baphanga izihonqo zawo. **54** UDavida wathatha ikhanda lomFiliistiya, walisa eJerusalem, wabeka izikhali zomFiliistiya ethenteni lakhe. **55** Kwathi uSawuli ekhangele uDavida esiyahlangana lomFiliistiya, wathi ku-Abhineri, umlawuli webutho, “Abhineri, ijaha leliyana liyindodana kabani na?” U-Abhineri waphendula wathi, “Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uphila, nkosi, angazi.” **56** Inkosi yasisithi, “Buza ukuthi ijaha leli liyindodana kabani.” **57** Kwathi khonokho nje uDavida esevela ekubalaleni umFiliistiya, u-Abhineri wamthatha wamusa kuSawuli, uDavida elokhu ephethe ikhanda lomFiliistiya. **58** USawuli wambuza wathi, “Uyindodana kabani, jaha?” UDavida wathi, “Ngiyindodana yenceku yakho uJese waseBhethilehema.”

18 Emva kokuba uDavida eseqedile ukukhuluma loSawuli, uJonathani waba moya munye loDavida, wamthanda njengoba ezithanda yena ngokwakhe. **2** Kusukela ngalolosuku uSawuli wahlala loDavida akaze amvumela ukubuyela endlini kayise. **3** Njalo uJonathani wenza isivumelwano loDavida ngoba wayemthanda njengoba ezithanda yena ngokwakhe. **4** UJonathani wakhupha isembatho ayesigqokile wasinika uDavida, lebhatshi lakhe, lenkemba yakhe, idandili lakhe kanye lebhatshi lakhe. **5** Loba kuyini uSawuli amthuma ukuba akwenze, uDavida wakwenza ngokuphumelela uSawuli waze wamnika isikhundla esikhulu ebuthweni. Lokhu kwathokoza abantu bonke, kanye lezikhulu zikaSawuli. **6** Kwathi abantu sebebuyela ekhaya emva kokuba uDavida esebulele umFiliistiya, abesifazane baphuma kuyo yonke imizi yak-Israyeli bahlangabeza inkosi uSawuli ngokuhlabela lokugida, ngezingoma zokuthokoza lamagedla kanye lemitshingo. **7** Ekugideni kwabo bahlabela besithi: “USawuli ubulele izinkulungwane zakhe, kodwa uDavida ubulele amatshumi ezinkulungwane zakhe.” **8** USawuli wazonda kakhulu, amazwi la amthukuthelisa. Wacabanga wathi, “Badumisa uDavida ngamatshumi ezinkulungwane, kodwa mina ngezinkulungwane kuphela nje. Kuyini okunye angakuzwa

ngaphandle kombuso na?" **9** Kusukela ngalelolanga kusiya phambili uSawuli wakhangele uDavida ngelihlo elilomhawu. **10** Ngelanga elalandelayo umoya omubi wavela kuNkulunkulu wehlela phezu kukaSawuli ngamandla. Wayephrofetha endlini yakhe, lapho uDavida wayetshaya ichacho njengenjwayelo yakhe. USawuli wayephethe umkhonto ngesandla sakhe, **11** wawuphosa esithi, "UDavida ngizambanisa lomduli." Kodwa uDavida wavika kwaze kwaba kabili. **12** USawuli wayemesaba uDavida ngoba uThixo wayeloDavida kodwa esemdelile uSawuli. **13** Ngakho wamsusa uDavida kuye wamenza umlawuli wabantu abayinkulungwane; njalo uDavida wakhokhela amabutho ekuhlaleni kwawo. **14** Kukho konke akwenzayo waphumelela kakhulu, ngoba uThixo wayelaye. **15** Kwathi uSawuli ebona ukuphumelela kwakhe, wamesaba. **16** Kodwa wonke u-Israyeli lojuda wamthanda uDavida, ngoba wabakhokhela ekuhlaleni kwawo. **17** USawuli wasesithi kuDavida, "Nansi indodakazi yami endala uMerabi; ngizakwendisela yona ukuba ibe ngumkakho; wena ungisebenzele ngesibindi kuphela njalo ulwe izimpi zikaThixo." Ngoba uSawuli wakhuluma yedwa wathi, "Kangiyikumphakamisela isandla. AmaFilistiya kawenze lokho!" **18** Kodwa uDavida wathi kuSawuli, "Ngingubani mina labendlu yakwethu bayini, loba isizwana sikababa ko-Israyeli, ukuba ngibe ngumkhwenyana wenkosi na?" **19** Kodwa kwathi isikhathi sesifikile esokuba uMerabi, indodakazi kaSawuli, aphiwe uDavida, waphiwa u-Adiriyeli waseMehola ukuba abe ngumkakhe. **20** Ngalesosikhathi uMikhali, indodakazi kaSawuli, wayemthanda uDavida, njalo kwathi uSawuli bemtshela ngakho, wathaba. **21** Wacabanga wathi, "Ngizamnika yena ukuba abe ngumjibila kuye lokuze isandla samaFilistiya simelane laye." Ngakho uSawuli wathi kuDavida, "Khathezi usulethuba lesibili lokuba ngumkhwenyana wami." **22** USawuli walaya inceku zakhe wathi, "Khulumani loDavida ngasese lithi, 'Khangela, inkosi iyathokoza ngawe, lenceku zayo zonke ziyakuthanda; ngakho woba ngumkhwenyana wayo.'" **23** Zawatsho amazwi la kuDavida kodwa uDavida wathi, "Licabanga ukuthi kuyinto encane ukuba ngumkhwenyana wenkosi na? Mina ngingumuntukazana njalo ongeladumo." **24** Kwathi izinceku zikaSawuli sezimtshelile okwakutshiwo nguDavida, **25** uSawuli waphendula wathi, "Alibokuthi kuDavida, 'Inkosi kayifuni enye inhlawulo yamalobolo ngaphandle kwamajwabu ezitho zangaphambili zamaFilistiya alikhulu, ukuba iphindisele ezitheni zayo.'" Icebo likaSawuli lalingelokuthi uDavida afe ebulawa ngamaFilistiya. **26** Kwathi inceku sezimtshelile uDavida izinto lezi, wathokoza ukuba ngumkhwenyana wenkosi. Ngakho kwathi isikhathi esasibekiwe singakedluli, **27** uDavida labantu bakhe basuka bayabulala amaFilistiya angamakhulu amabili. Weza lamajwabu emiphambili yawo waqhubela inkosi inani elipheleleyo ukuze abe ngumkhwenyana wenkosi. USawuli wamendisela-ke indodakazi yakhe uMikhali ukuba ngumkakhe. **28** Kwathi uSawuli ebona ukuthi uThixo wayeloDavida kanye lokuthi indodakazi yakhe, uMikhali, yayimthanda uDavida, **29** uSawuli wabuye wamesaba kakhulu, njalo waba yisitha sakhe impilo yakhe yonke. **30** Abalawuli bamaFilistiya baqhubeka besiyakulwa izimpi, njalo izikhathi zonke bephuma, uDavida waba lokuphumelela okwedlula ezinye izikhulu zikaSawuli, lebizo lakhe laba lodumo.

19 USawuli watshelela indodana yakhe uJonathani kanye lezinceku zonke ukuba babulale uDavida. Kodwa uJonathani wayemthanda uDavida **2** ngakho wamxwayisa wathi, "Ubaba uSawuli udinga ithuba lokukubulala. Qaphela kusasa ekuseni; hamba uyecatsha uhlale khona. **3** Mina ngizaphuma ngiyekuma lobaba engangeni lapho okhona. Ngizakhuluma laye ngawe njalo ngizakutshela lokho engizakuthola." **4** UJonathani wakhuluma kuhle ngoDavida kuSawuli uyise wathi kuye, "Inkosi kayingenzi okubi encekwini yayo uDavida, konanga lutho kuwe, njalo akwenzileyo kukuzise kakhulu. **5** Wadela impilo yakhe ekubalaleni kwakhe umFilistiya. Uthixo wazuzela u-Israyeli ukunqoba okukhulu, lawe wakubona njalo wathaba. Pho kungani ungenza okubi emuntwini omsulwa njengoDavida ngokubulala kungelasizatho na?" **6** USawuli wamlalela uJonathani wasefunga isifungo lesi esithi, "Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ekhona, uDavida kayikubulawa." **7** Ngakho uJonathani wabiza uDavida wamthela inkulumo yonke. Wamusa kuSawuli, uDavida wahlala loSawuli njengakuqala. **8** Kwabuya kwaba lempi futhi, uDavida waphuma ukuyakulwa lamaFilistiya. Wawatshaya ngamandla amakhulu aze abaleka. **9** Kodwa umoya omubi owavela kuThixo wafika kuSawuli ehlezi endlini yakhe ephethe umkhonto wakhe ngesandla. Kwathi uDavida etshaya ichacho, **10** uSawuli wazama ukunnamathisela emdulini ngomkhonto wakhe, kodwa uDavida wavika uSawuli wagwaza umduli ngomkhonto. Ngalobobusuku uDavida waphunyuka wabaleka. **11** USawuli wathuma izithunywa endlini kaDavida ukuba bayilinde njalo bambulale ekuseni. Kodwa uMikhali, umkaDavida, wamxwayisa wathi, "Nxa ungabaleki ngalobobusuku ukuba uvikele impilo yakho kusasa uzabulawa." **12** Ngakho uMikhali wehlisela uDavida phansi emkhuphe ngefasisela, wabaleka-ke waphhepha. **13** Emva kwalokho uMikhali wathatha isithombe wasilalisa embhedeni, wasembesa ngengubo ebeke uboya bembuzi ekhanda. **14** USawuli esethume abantu ukuba bayethumba uDavida, uMikhali wathi, "Uyagula." **15** USawuli wababuyisela abantu labo ukuba bayebona uDavida esithi kubo, "Mletheni kimi ngombheda wakhe ukuze ngimbulale." **16** Kodwa kwathi amadoda lawo engena, embhedeni kwakulesithombe, ekhanda kuloboya bembuzi. **17** USawuli wathi kuMikhali, "Kungani ungikhohlise kanje wabalekisa isitha sami ukuze siphephe?" UMikhali wathi kuye, "Uthe kimi, 'Yekela ngibaleke. Ngingakubulalelani na?" **18** UDavida esebaleke waphhepha, waya kuSamuyeli eRama wamthshela konke okwakwenziwe nguSawuli kuye. Ngakho yena loSamuyeli baya eNayothi bahlala khona. **19** Ilizwi lafika kuSawuli lisithi: "UDavida useNayothi eRama." **20** Ngakho wathuma abantu ukuba bayemthumba. Kodwa bathi bebona ixuku labaphrofethi liphrofitha, loSamuyeli emi khonapho njengomkhokheli wabo, uMoya kaNkulunkulu wehlela ebantwini bakaSawuli labo baphrofetha. **21** USawuli waktshelwa lokho wathuma abanye abantu, labo baphrofetha. USawuli wathuma abantu okwesithathu, labo futhi baphrofetha. **22** Ekucineni, yena ngokwakhe wasuka waya eRama, wasesiya emgodini omkhulu eSekhu. Wabuya wathi, "USamuyeli loDavida bangaphi?" Bathi, "Le eNayothi eRama." **23** Ngakho uSawuli waya eNayothi eRama. Kodwa uMoya kaNkulunkulu wehlela lakuye, wahamba ephrofitha waze wayafika eNayothi. **24** Wakhulula izigqoko zakhe laye waphrofitha uSamuyeli ekhona. Walala enjalo

ilanga lonke lobusuku bonke. Yikho-nje abantu besithi, “Kanti uSawuli laye uphakathi kwabaphrofethi na?”

20 UDavida wabaleka eNayothi eRama waya kuJonathani wabuza wathi, “Kanti ngenzeni na? Icala lami ngelani na? Uyihlo ngimone kanjani, okwenza afune ukungibulala?” **2** UJonathani waphendula wathi, “Hatshi bo! Kawuyikufa! Khangela, ubaba kenzi lutho, olukhulu loba oluncane, engangitshelanga. Kungani engangifihlela lokhu na? Akunjalol!” **3** Kodwa uDavida wenza isifungo wathi, “Uyihlo ukwazi kakuhle ukuthi mina sengithelo umusa kuwe njalo uzezitshelwa wathi, ‘UJonathani akumelanga akwazi lokhu hlezi ezwe ubuhlungu.’ Ikanti ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ekhona lanjengoba lawe ukhona, kulenyathelo elilodwa nje phakathi kwami lokufa.” **4** UJonathani wathi kuDavida, “Loba kuyini ofuna ukuthi ngikwenze, ngizakwenzela khona.” **5** Ngakho uDavida wathi, “Khangela, kusasa kuledili lokuThwasa kweNyanga, njalo kumele ngidle lenkosi; kodwa yekela ngiyecatsha egangeni kuze kube kusihlwa phambi kwakusasa. **6** Nxa uyihlo ezangiswela, mtshele uthi, ‘UDavida ucele imvumo kimi ngokutshiseka ukuba ake agijimele eBethlehem, idolobho lakibo, ngoba umhlatshele wesizwana sonke sakibo uyenziwa khona.’ **7** Angathi, ‘Kulungile,’ inceku yakho kayiyikuba sengozini. Kodwa angavuka ulaka woba leqiniso ukuthi uzimisele ukwenza okubi kimi. **8** Kodwa wena, bonakalisa isisa encekwini yakho ngoba uyenzise isivumelwano lawe phambi kukaThixo. Nxa ngilecala, ngibulala wena ngokwakho! Kungani ungiqhubela kuyihlo na?” **9** UJonathani wathi, “Hatshi bo! Kambe aluba bengilolwazi oluncane ukuthi ubaba uzimisele ukwenza okubi kuwe, kade ngingasozwe ngikutshele na?” **10** UDavida wabuza wathi, “Ngubani ozangitshela nxa uyihlo ekuphendula kubi na?” **11** UJonathani wathi, “Woza, kasiye egangeni.” Ngakho baya khonale bobabili. **12** UJonathani wasesithi kuDavida, “Ngifunga ngoThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, ngempela ubaba ngizakuba sengimzwile ngalesisikhathi ngomhlomunye! Nxa elomusa kuwe, kambe kangiyikuthumela ilizwi ngikwazise na? **13** Kodwa nxa ubaba ehlose ukwenza okubi kuwe, uThixo kangijezise, kube nzima kakhulu, nxa ngingakwazisi njalo ngikususe kungekho ngozi. Sengathi uThixo angaba lawe njengoba kade elobaba. **14** Kodwa ngibonise umusa ongapheliyo onjengokaThixo isikhathi sonke ngisaphila, ukuze ngingabulawa, **15** njalo ungasusi umusa wakho kwabendlu yakwethu lanxa uThixo eseziqede du zonke izitha zikaDavida ebusweni bomhlaba.” **16** Ngakho uJonathani wenza isivumelwano labendlu kaDavida, esithi, “Sengathi uThixo angazethesa amacala izitha zikaDavida.” **17** UJonathani wabuya wamfungisa futhi uDavida isifungo sakhe ngenxa yothando lwakhe kuye, ngoba wayemthanda njengokuzithanda kwakhe. **18** UJonathani wasesithi kuDavida, “Kusasa kuledili lokuThwasa kweNyanga. Uzawelakala ngoba isihlalo sakho sizabe singelamuntu. **19** Phambi kwakusasa, sekuzakuhlwa, yana lapho owacatsha khona ekuqaliseni kwaloluhlupho, ulinde elitsheni e-Ezeli. **20** Mina ngizatshokela imitshoko emithathu eceleni kwalo angathi ngitshokela kwengihlose kukho. **21** Emva kwalokho ngizathuma umfana ngithi, ‘Hamba uyedinga imitshoko.’ Ngingathi kuye, ‘Khangela, imitshoko ingakuleli icele lakho, ilethe lapha,’ lapho-ke woza, ngoba ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ekhona, uphephile, akulangozi. **22** Kodwa ngingathi emfaneni, ‘Khangela, imitshoko ingale

kwakho,’ lapho-ke kumele uhambe, ngoba uThixo uthe suka uhambe. **23** Njalo mayelana lalindaba esiyikhulumileyo mina lawe, khumbula ukuthi uThixo ungufakazi phakathi kwakho lami nini lanini.” **24** Ngakho uDavida wacatsha egangeni, njalo kwathi idili lokuThwasa kweNyanga selifikile, inkosi yahlala phansi yadla. **25** Yayihlezi endaweni yayo yezikhathi zonke phansi komduli, maqondana loJonathani, u-Abhineri ehlezi eduze loSawuli, kodwa indawo kaDavida yayingelamuntu. **26** USawuli katshongo lutho mhlalokho, ngoba wacabanga wathi, “Mhlawumbe kulento ethile eyehlele kuDavida yamenza waba ngongahlambulukanga ngokomkhuba, ngeqiniso kahlambulukanga.” **27** Kodwa ngelanga elilandelayo, ilanga lesibili lenyanga, indawo kaDavida yayingelamuntu futhi. Lapho-ke uSawuli wathi endodaneni yakhe uJonathani, “Kungani indodana kajese ingezanga ekudleni, izolo kumbe lamuhla na?” **28** UJonathani waphendula wathi, “UDavida ucele imvumo kimi ngokutshiseka ukuba aye eBethlehem. **29** Uthe, ‘Ngivumela ngihambe ngoba abendlu yakwethu balomkhosi womhlatshele edolobheni njalo umnewethu ungilaye ukuba ngibe khona. Nxa ngithole umusa kuwe, ngivumela ngihambe ngiyebona abafowethu.’ Yikho-nje engezanga ukuzakudla lenkosi.” **30** Ulaka lukaSawuli lwavutha kuJonathani wathi kuye, “Wena ndodana yomfazi olihlongandlebe lolenkani! Uthi kangazi yini ukuthi wena ususekelane lendodana kaJese okulihlazo kuwe njalo okulihlazo lakunyoko owakuzalayo na? **31** Nxa indodana kaJese isekhona kulo umhlaba, wena kawuyikuma kumbe umbuso wakho. Ngakho thumela ilizwi umlethe kimi, ngoba umele afe!” **32** UJonathani wabuza uyise wathi, “Kungani kumele abulawe? Wenzeni na?” **33** Kodwa uSawuli waphosa umkhonto wakhe kuye ukuba ambulale. Ngakho uJonathani wakwazi ukuthi uyise wayehlase ukubulala uDavida. **34** UJonathani wasuka etafuleni ethukuthele kakhulu; ngosuku lwesibili lwedili kazange adle, ngoba wayebuhlungu ngehlaho uyise ayephatha ngalo uDavida. **35** Ekuseni uJonathani waphuma waya egangeni ukuyahlangana loDavida. Wayelomfana omncinyane, **36** njalo wathi emfaneni, “Gijima uyedobha imitshoko engiyitshokayo.” Umfana esagijima, watshokela umtshoko ngale kwakhe. **37** Kwathi umfana esefike lapho umtshoko kaJonathani owawuwele khona, uJonathani wamemeza wathi, “Umtshoko kawukho ngale kwakho na?” **38** Wabuyela wamemeza wathi, “Phangisa! Ukhawuleze! Ungemi!” Umfana wadobha umtshoko wabuyela enkosini yakhe. **39** (Umfana wayengazi lutho ngakho konke lokhu; kusazi uJonathani loDavida kuphela.) **40** Emva kwalokho uJonathani wanika umfana izikhali zakhe wathi, “Hamba, zithwale ubuyele lazo edolobheni.” **41** Umfana esehambile uDavida wasukuma eceleni langaseningizimu kwelitshe, wakhothama kathathu phambi kukaJonathani, ubuso bakhe bukhangele phansi. Emva kwalokho bangana, bakhala bendawonye kodwa uDavida wakhala kakhulu. **42** UJonathani wasesithi kuDavida, “Hamba ngokuthula, ngoba sifungelane ubungane omunye komunye ebizweni likaThixo sisithi, ‘Uthixo ungufakazi phakathi kwami lawe, laphakathi kwenzalo yakho leyami nini lanini.’” UDavida wasesuka, loJonathani wasebuyela edolobheni.

21 UDavida waya eNobhi ku-Ahimeleki umphristi. U-Ahimeleki wathuthumela ekhulanganeni kwakhe laye, wasebuza esithi, “Kungani uwedwa na? Kungani kungekho olawe na?” **2** UDavida waphendula u-Ahimeleki umphristi wathi, “Inkosi ingiphathise udaba oluthize, wathi kimi,

'Akungabikhona ozakwazi ngenjongo yakho langalokho okuthunyiweyo.' Abantu bami ngibatshele ukuba bahlangane lami endaweni ethize. **3** Manje-ke, kuyini olakho? Ngipha izinkwa ezinhlanu, loba kuyini ongakuthola." **4** Kodwa umphristi waphendula uDavida wathi, "Kangilasinkwa esejwayelekileyo; kodwa-ke kulesinkwa esingcwelisiweyo lapha kodwa kuya ngokuthi amadoda abezicnile esifazani na." **5** UDavida waphendula wathi, "Impela abesifazane babevinjelwe kithi, njengenjwayelo lapho ngiphuma. Imizimba yamadoda ingcwele lasemikhankasweni engengcwele. Pho ingaba njalo okungakanani lamhla!" **6** Ngakho umphristi wamnika isinkwa esingcwelisiweyo ngoba kwakungelasinkwa lapho ngaphandle kwesinkwa esiNgcwele sikaThixo esasibuswe phambi kukaThixo kwasekubekwa esitshisayo endaweni yaso ngosuku esasuswa ngalo. **7** Ngalolosuku omunye wezinceku zikaSawuli wayekhonnapho, ekhonza phambi kukaThixo; wayenguDoyegi um'Edomi, induna yabelusi bakaSawuli. **8** UDavida wabuzisa u-Ahimeleki wathi, "Kawulamkhonto kumbe inkemba lapha na? Kangizanga lenkemba yami loba nje esinye isikhali, ngoba umsebenzi wenkosi ubungophuthumayo." **9** Umphristi waphendula wathi, "Inkemba kaGoliyathi umFilistiya owambulalayo eSigidini sase-Ela, ilapha; igoqelwe ngenombu ngemva kwesembatho semahlombe. Nxa uyifuna, ithathe; kakukho enye inkemba lapha ngaphandle kwaleyo." UDavida wasesithi, "Kayikho enjengayo; ngipha yona." **10** Ngalolosuku uDavida wabalekela uSawuli waya ku-Akhishi inkosi yaseGathi. **11** Kodwa izinceku zika-Akhishi zathi kuye, "Lo kasuDavida inkosi yelizwe na? Kasuye yini abahlabela ngaye emigidweni yabo besithi: 'USawuli ubulele izinkulungwane zakhe, kodwa uDavida ubulele amatshumi ezinkulungwane zakhe?'" **12** UDavida wawagcina amazwi la ehliziyweni yakhe wamesaba kakhulu u-Akhishi inkosi yaseGathi. **13** Ngakho wazenza ophambeneyo kubo; njalo kwathi lapho ekubo wenza njengomuntu ohlanyayo, edwebadweba ezivalweni zesango njalo wayekela lendenda zehlela endaweni zakhe. **14** U-Akhishi wasesithi ezincekwini zakhe, "Khangalani umuntu lo! Uphambene! Kungani limletha kimi na? **15** Lithi ngiziswele yini inhlanya lize lilethe umuntu lo lapha ukuba aqhubeke kanje phambi kwami na? Umuntu lo kumele angene endlini yami na?"

22 UDavida wasuka eGathi wabalekela ebalwini lwase-Adulami. Kwathi abafowabo labendlu kayise sebekuzwile, baya kuye khonale. **2** Bonke labo ababelosizi loba ababelemilandu kumbe ababelensolo babuthana kuye, wasesiba ngumkhokheli wabo. Abantu ababelaye babengaba zinkulungwane ezine. **3** Esuka lapho uDavida waya eMizipha kwelaseMowabi wathi enkosini ye-Mowabi, "Ungabavumela yini ubaba lomama ukuba bazehlala lize ngize ngazi uNkulunkulu azangenzela khona na?" **4** Ngakho wabatshiya enkosini yaseMowabi njalo bahlala layo sonke isikhathi uDavida esenqabeni. **5** Kodwa umphrofethi uGadi wathi kuDavida, "Ungahlali enqabeni. Yana elizweni lakojuda." Ngakho uDavida wasuka waya ehlathini laseHerethi. **6** Ngalesosikhathi uSawuli wezwa ukuthi uDavida labantu bakhe babebonakele. Njalo uSawuli, ephethe umkhonto ngesandla, wayehlezi ngaphansi kwesihlahla somthammarisiki phezu koqaqa eGibhiya, lazozonke izikhulu zakhe zimi zimhanqile. **7** USawuli wathi kuzo, "Lalalani bantu bakoBhenjamin! Kambe indodana kajese izalipha lonke amasimu lezivini na? Kambe lonke izalenza libe ngabalawuli bezinkulungwane labalawuli

bamakhulu na? **8** Kungenxa yalokho lonke selicebe okubi ngami na? Kakho ongitshelelo nxa indodana yami isenza isivumelwano lendodana kaJese. Kakho owenu okhathazekayo ngami loba angitshele ukuthi indodana yami itshotshozela izinceku zami ukuba zingcathamele, njengalokhu ekwenzayo lamhla." **9** Kodwa uDoyegi, um'Edomi, owayemi lezikhulu zikaSawuli wathi, "Mina ngibone indodana kaJese isiya ku-Ahimeleki indodana ka-Ahithubi eNobhi. **10** U-Ahimeleki umbuzele kuThixo; waphinda wamnika ukudla lenkemba kaGoliyathi umFilistiya." **11** Lapho-ke inkosi yathumela ilizwi lokubiza umphristi u-Ahimeleki indodana ka-Ahithubi labo bonke abendlu kayise, ababengabaphristi eNobhi, yikho bonke baya enkosini. **12** USawuli wasesithi, "Khatheke-ke lalela, ndodana ka-Ahithubi." Waphendula wathi, "Yebo, nkosi yami." **13** USawuli wasesithi kuye, "Kungani licebe okubi ngami, wena lendodana kaJese, wayinika isinkwa lenkemba njalo wayibuzela kuNkulunkulu, okwenze yangihlamukela njalo yangcathamele, njengalokhu ekwenzayo lamhla na?" **14** U-Ahimeleki waphendula wathi, "Ngubani kuzozonke izinceku zakho othembeke njengoDavida, umkhwenyana wenkosi, induna yabakulindayo njalo lohlonitshwa kakhulu endlini yakho na? **15** Ngalelolanga ngangiqala ukumbuzela kuNkulunkulu na? Hatshi impela! Inkosi kayingethesi inceku yakho icala loba omunye wabendlu kayise, ngoba inceku yakho kayazi lutho lakancane ngodaba lonke lolu." **16** Kodwa inkosi yathi, "Ngeqiniso uzakufa, Ahimeleki, wena labo bonke abendlu kayihlo." **17** Inkosi yasilaya abalindi ababephansi kwayo yathi, "Phendukani libulale abaphristi bakaThixo ngoba labo basekele uDavida. Babekwazi ukuthi uyabaleka, kodwa kabangitshelanga." Kodwa izikhulu zenkosi zazingafuni ukuphakamisa izandla ukuba zigalele abaphristi bakaThixo. **18** Ngakho inkosi yalaya uDoyegi yathi, "Phenduka uGalele abaphristi!" UDoyegi um'Edomi waphenduka wabagongoda. Mhlalokho wabalaba abantu abangamakhulu ayisificaminwembili lanlanu ababegqoka izembatho zemahlombe ezelineni. **19** Wabuye wahlasela iNobhi ngenkemba, umuzi wabaphristi, lamadoda ayo kanye labesifazane, abantwana bayo lensena, lenkomo zayo, ababhemi kanye lezimvu. **20** Kodwa u-Abhiyathari, indodana ka-Ahimeleki indodana ka-Ahithubi, waphunyuka wabaleka wayamanyana loDavida. **21** Watshela uDavida ukuthi uSawuli wayebulele abaphristi bakaThixo. **22** UDavida wasesithi ku-Abhiyathari, "Ngaloluyana usuku, lapho uDoyegi um'Edomi wayekhona, ngakwazi ukuthi uzamtshela ngempela uSawuli. Ngilecala lokufa kwabendlu kayihlo bonke. **23** Hlala lami; ungesabi; umuntu ofuna ukukubulala lami futhi ufuna ukungibulala. Uvikelelele nxa ulami."

23 Kwathi uDavida esetsheliwe ukuthi, "Khangela, amaFilistiya ahlasele iKheyila njalo aphanga leziza," **2** wabuzisa uThixo, esithi, "Ngingahamba ukuyahlasele amaFilistiya la na?" Uthixo wamphendula wathi, "Hamba uyehlasele amaFilistiya uhlenge iKheyila." **3** Kodwa abantu bakaDavida bathi kuye, "Lapha koJuda thina siyesaba. Pho kuzakuba kukhulu kangakanani nxa sizakuyamelana lamabutho amaFilistiya eKheyila!" **4** UDavida waphinda wabuzisa futhi uThixo, njalo uThixo wamphendula wathi, "Hamba eKheyila, ngoba amaFilistiya ngizawanikela ezandleni zakho." **5** Ngakho uDavida labantu bakhe baya eKheyila, walwa lamaFilistiya wathumba izifuyo zawo. Wabalala amaFilistiya

amanengi kakhulu wahlenga abantu baseKheyila. **6** (U-Abhiyathari indodana ka-Ahimeleki wayenze lesembatho semahlombe ekubalekeleni kwakhe kuDavida eKheyila.) **7** USawuli watshelewa ukuthi uDavida wayeseyo eKheyila, ngakho wathi, “UNkulunkulu usemnikela kimi, ngoba uDavida usezifake entolongweni ngokungena edolobheni elilamasango lemigoqo.” **8** USawuli wameza amabutho akhe wonke empini ukuba aye eKheyila ukuyavimbezela uDavida labantu bakhe. **9** Kwathi uDavida esizwa ukuthi uSawuli wayeceba okubi ngaye, wathi ku-Abhiyathari umphristi, “Letha isembatho samahlombe.” **10** UDavida wasesithi, “Awu Thixo, Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, inceku yakho isizwile impela ukuthi uSawuli uceba ukuya eKheyila achithe idolobho ngenxa yami. **11** Abantu baseKheyila banganginikela kuye na? USawuli uzakuba na njengalokhu inceku yakho ekuzwileyo? Awu Thixo Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, itshele inceku yakho.” UThixo wathi, “UZakuba.” **12** UDavida wabuza njalo wathi, “Abantu baseKheyila bazanginikela labantu bami kuSawuli na?” UThixo wathi, “Bazakunikela.” **13** Ngakho uDavida labantu bakhe, ababengaba ngamakhulu ayisithupha ubunengi babo, basuka eKheyila baqhubeka behamba besuka kwenye indawo baye kwenye. USawuli esezwile ukuthi uDavida wayesebalekile eKheyila kasayanga khona. **14** UDavida wahlala ezingqabeni zasenkangala lasezintabeni zeNkangala yaseZifi. Nsuku zonke uSawuli wamdinga, kodwa uNkulunkulu kamnikelanga uDavida ezandleni zakhe. **15** Kwathi uDavida eseHoreshi eNkangala yaseZifi, wezwa ukuthi uSawuli wayephumele ukuyambulala. **16** Njalo indodana kaSawuli uJonathani waya kuDavida eHoreshi wamsiza ukuba athole amandla kuNkulunkulu. **17** Wathi kuye, “Ungesabi. Ubaba uSawuli kasoze abeke isandla phezu kwakho. Wena uzakuba yinkosi yako-Israyeli, njalo mina ngizakuba ngumsekeli wakho. Lobaba uSawuli uyakwazi lokhu.” **18** Bobabili benza isivumelwano phambi kukaThixo. Emva kwalokho uJonathani waya ekhaya, kodwa uDavida wasala eHoreshi. **19** Abantu baseZifi baya kuSawuli eGibhiya bathi kuye, “Kanti uDavida kacatshanga phakathi kwethu ezingqabeni eHoreshi, entabeni yaseHakhila, eningizimu kweJeshimoni na? **20** Ngakho-ke woza Nkosi nxa kukuthokozisa ukwenzanjalo, thina sizakuba yithi esizamnikela enkosini.” **21** USawuli waphendula wathi, “Uthixo alibusise ngokungikhathalela kwenu. **22** Hambani liyekwenza amanye amalungiselelo. Dingani ukwazi lapho uDavida ajayele ukuya khona lokuthi ngubani owambonayo khonapho. Bangitshela ukuthi uliqili kakhulu. **23** Fumani ukwazi ngazozonke izindawo zokucatsha azisebenzisayo beselibuya kimi lilolwazi oluqinisekileyo. Emva kwalokho ngizahamba lani; nxa ekhona esigabeni, ngizamdinga phakathi kwezizwana zonke zakojuda.” **24** Ngakho-ke basuka baya eZifi besandukela uSawuli. Ngalesosikhathi uDavida labantu bakhe babeseNkangala yaseMawoni, e-Arabha eningizimu kweJeshimoni. **25** USawuli labantu bakhe baqalisa ukudinga, njalo kwathi uDavida esetsheliwe ngakho wehlela edwaleni wahlala eNkangala yaseMawoni. Kwathi uSawuli esekuzwile lokhu, waya eNkangala yaseMawoni elandela uDavida. **26** USawuli wayehamba ngakwelinye icele lentaba, uDavida labantu bakhe bengakwelinye icele bephangisa ukuba babalekele uSawuli. Kwathi uSawuli lamabutho akhe sebezamfika uDavida labantu bakhe ukuba babathumbe, **27** kwafika isithunywa kuSawuli, sisithi, “Woza ngokuphangisa! AmaFilistiya ahlasele ilizwe.” **28** Lapho-ke uSawuli wayekela

ukulandela uDavida wasesiyakulwa lamaFilistiya. Yikho-nje indawo le beyibiza ngokuthi Sela Hamalekhoti. **29** UDavida wahamba esuka lapho wayahlala ezingqabeni zase-Eni-Gedi.

24 Kwathi uSawuli esebuyile ekuxotsheni amaFilistiya watshelewa ukuthi, “UDavida useNkangala yase-Eni-Gedi.” **2** Ngakho uSawuli wathatha abantu abazinkulungwane ezintantu abakhethwa ko-Israyeli waphuma ukuyadinga uDavida labantu bakhe eduze kwamadwala amaGogo. **3** Wafika ezibayeni zezimvu endleleni; kwakulobhalu khonapho, yikho uSawuli wasengena phakathi ukuba aye ngaphandle. UDavida labantu bakhe babekhathshana emva phakathi kobhalu. **4** Abantu bathi, “Leli yilo ilanga uThixo akhuluma ngalo lapho wathi kuwe, ‘Ngizanikela izitha zakho ezandleni zakho ukuba uziphathe njengokufisa kwakho.’” UDavida wanyenya egaqa waquma umphetho wesembatho sikaSawuli. **5** Muva uDavida wakhathazeka ngokuquma umphetho wesembatho sikaSawuli. **6** Wathi ebantwini bakhe, “Uthixo kakwenqabele ukwenza into enje enkosini yami, ogcotshiweyo kaThixo.” **7** Ngala amazwi uDavida wabakhuza abantu bakhe akaze wabavumela ukuthi bahlasele uSawuli. USawuli waphuma ebhalwini wazihambela. **8** Lapho-ke uDavida waphuma ebhalwini wameza uSawuli esithi, “nkosi, nkosi yami!” Kwathi lapho uSawuli ekhangela emuva kwakhe, uDavida wakhothama waselala phansi ethe mbo phansi ngobuso. **9** Wathi kuSawuli, “Kungani ulalela nxa abantu besithi, ‘UDavida ujonge ukwenza okubi kuwe?’ **10** Lamhla uzibonele ngamehlo akho ukuthi uThixo ukunikele ezandleni zami ebhalwini. Abanye bangikhuthaze ukuthi ngikubulale, kodwa ngikuphephisile, ngithe, ‘Angiyikuphakamisa isandla sami ngimelana lenkosi yami, ngoba ingogcotshiweyo kaThixo.’ **11** Khangela, baba, khangela isiqo sesembatho sakho lesi esisesandleni sami! Ngisiqume emphethweni wesembatho sakho, kodwa kangikubulalanga. Ngakho zwisisa ubone ukuthi kangilacala lokwenza okubi loba ukuhlamuka. Kangonanga lutho kuwe, kodwa wena uyalingizela ufuna ukungibulala. **12** Sengathi uThixo angahlulela phakathi kwami lawe. Njalo sengathi uThixo angaphindisela ububi obenze kimi, kodwa esami isandla kasiyikukuthinta. **13** Njengoba isitsho sendulo sisitsho ukuthi, ‘Kwabenza okubi kuvela izenzo ezimbi,’ ngakho esami isandla kasiyikukuthinta. **14** Inkosi yako-Israyeli iphume ukuyamelana lobani na? Ngubani oxotshana laye? Yinja efileyo na? Yindwebundwebu na? **15** Sengathi uThixo angaba ngumahluleli wethu ahluhlele phakathi kwethu. Sengathi angahlola injongo yami ayisekele; sengathi angangikhulula ngokungisindisa esandleni sakho.” **16** Kwathi uDavida eseqedile ukutsho lokhu, uSawuli wabuza wathi, “Lelo yilizwi lakho, Davida ndodana yami na?” Wasekhala kakhulu. **17** Wasesithi, “Wena ulungile kakhulu kulami. Ungiphathe kuhle, kodwa mina ngikuphathe kubi. **18** Usungitshelile khathesi nje okuhle okwenze kimi; uThixo unginikele ezandleni zakho, kodwa kawungibulalanga. **19** Kanje nxa umuntu efica isitha sakhe, uyasiyekela sihambe singenziwanga lutho olubi na? Sengathi uThixo angakunika umvuzo omuhle ngenxa yendlela ongiphathe ngayo lamhla. **20** Ngiyakwazi ukuthi uzakuba yinkosi impela kanye lokuthi umbuso wako-Israyeli uzamiswa ezandleni zakho. **21** Khathesi-ke funga kimi ngo Thixo ukuthi kawuyikubulala inzalo yami loba wesule ibizo lami kwabendlu kababa.” **22** UDavida wafunga kuSawuli. Emva kwalokho

uSawuli wabuyela ekhaya, kodwa uDavida labantu bakhe baya enqabeni.

25 Ngalesosikhathi uSamuyeli wafa, kwathi u-Israyeli wonke wabuthana wamlilela; njalo bamngcwaba emzini wakhe eRama. Lapho-ke uDavida wehlela eNkangala yasePharani. **2** Umuntu othile waseMawoni, owayelempahla khonale eKhameli, wayenotho kakhulu. Wayelenkulungwane yembuzi lezinkulungwane ezintathu zezimvu ayezigunda eKhameli. **3** Ibizo lakhe lalinguNabhali lebizu lomkakhe lingu-Abhigeli. Wayengumfazi okhaliphileyo njalo emuhle, kodwa umkakhe, uMkhalebi, wayelenhliziyo embi kwabanye abantu. **4** UDavida esenkangala wezwa ukuthi uNabhali wayegunda izimvu. **5** Ngakho wathuma amajaha alitshumi wathi kuwo, “Hambani kuNabhali eKhameli limbingelele ngebizo lami. **6** Lithi kuye, ‘Impilo ende kuwe! Impilo enhle kanye labendlu yakho! Impilo enhle kukho konke okungokwakho!’ **7** Khathezi ngizwa kuthiwa yisikhathi sokugunda izimvu. Lapho abelusi bakho babelathi, kasibaphathanga kubi, njalo isikhathi sonke beseKhameli akukho lutho olwacatshayo. **8** Buza izinceku zakho zizakutshela. Ngakho ake ube lomusa ezinsizweni zami, njengoba size ngesikhathi somkhosi. Ake unike izinceku zakho lendodana yakho uDavida loba kuyini ongabatholela khona.” **9** Kwathi abantu bakaDavida sebefikile, bamnika uNabhali umbiko lo ngebizo likaDavida. Emva kwalokho balinda. **10** UNabhali waphendula izinceku zikaDavida wathi, “Ungubani uDavida lowo? Ingubani indodana kaJese leyo na? Ngalezizinsuku izinceku ezinengi ziyawabalekela amakhosi azo. **11** Kungani kumele ngithathe isinkwa sami lamanzi, lenyama engiyihlebele abagundi bami, nginike abantu abavela lapho engingazi khona na?” **12** Abantu bakaDavida baphenduka babuyela emuva. Sebefikile babika amazwi wonke. **13** UDavida wasesithi ebantwini bakhe, “Hlomani ngezinkemba zenu!” Ngakho bahloma ngezinkemba zabo, loDavida wahloma ngeyakhe. Abantu ababengaba ngamakhulu amane bahamba loDavida, kwathi abangamakhulu amabili basala lempahla. **14** Omunye wezinceku watshela umkaNabhali u-Abhigeli wathi, “UDavida wathuma izithunywa esenkangala ukuzabingelela inkosi yethu, kodwa yona yazithethisa. **15** Ikanti abantu laba thina basiphatha kühle. Kabazange basiphathe kubi, njalo isikhathi sonke sisegangeni phansi kwabo akulalutho olwacatshayo. **16** Eminibebusuku babengumdlu osihonqolozelayo isikhathi sonke siselusela izimvu zethu phansi kwabo. **17** Kucabange ubone ongakwenza ngoba ingozi iyalenga ngaphezu kwenkosi yethu labendlu yayo bonke. Ingumuntu omubi kangaka okungelamuntu ongakhuluma layo.” **18** U-Abhigeli kasachithanga sikhathi. Wathatha izinkwa ezingamakhulu amabili, izikhumba ezimbili zewayini, izimvu ezinhlano ezihlinziweyo, amagokoko amahlanu amabele akhazngiweyo, amakhekhe alikhulu amagrebisi awonyisiweyo, lamakhulu amabili amakhekhe omkhiwa okhanyiweyo, wakuthwalisa obabhemi. **19** Wasesithi ezincekweni zakhe, “Hambani phambili; ngizalilandela.” Kodwa umkakhe uNabhali kamtshelanga. **20** Wathi esiza egade ubabhemi wakhe phakathi kodonga lwentaba, wabona uDavida labantu bakhe besehla beqonde kuye, wasebahlangebeza. **21** UDavida wayesanda kuthi, “Kakusizanga lutho konke ukugcina kwami impahla yomuntu lo enkangala ukuze kungabi lalutho lwakhe olulahlekayo. Ungibhadale okuhle ngokubi. **22** Sengathi uNkulunkulu angaphatha uDavida kabuhlungu nxa ekuseni

ngitshiya indoda eyodwa iphila kubo bonke abangabakhe!” **23** U-Abhigeli esebone uDavida, wehla ngokuphangisa kubabhemi wakhe wakhothamela phansi phambi kukaDavida ubuso bakhe buthe mbo emhlabathini. **24** Wawela ezinyaweni zakhe wathi, “Nkosi yami, insolo kayibe phezu kwami ngedwa. Ake uyivumele inceku zakho ikhulume lawe; zwana lokho inceku zakho efuna ukuthusho. **25** Sengathi inkosi yami ingayekela ukumnaka umuntu omubi lowana uNabhali. Ufuze ibizo lakhe, ibizo lakhe lithi Sithutha, njalo ubuwula buhamba laye. Kodwa-ke mina, inceku zakho yakho, angizibonanga insizwa inkosi yami ezithumileyo. **26** Khathezi njengoba uThixo ekugcinile, nkosi yami, ekuchithekeni kwegazi lasekuphindiseleni ngezandla zakho, ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho ekhona lanjengoba lawe uphila, sengathi izitha zakho labo bonke abafuna ukwenza okubi kuwe nkosi yami bangaba njengoNabhali. **27** Njalo isipho lesi, inceku zakho esilethe enkosini yami, kasiphume insizwa ezikulandelayo. **28** Ake uthethelele ukona kwencekukazi yakho, ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu impela uzakwenzela inkosi yami inzalo yamakhosi engapheliyo, ngoba ilwela izimpi zikaThixo. Akungabi lokona okutholwa kuwe kukho konke ukuphila kwakho. **29** Lanxa omunye exotshana lawe ukuba akubulale, ukuphila kwenkosi yami, uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho uzakubophela kuqine elixheni labaphilayo. Kodwa ukuphila kwezitha zakho uzakuphosela khatshana kungathi kuphuma esikhwameni sesavutha. **30** Lapho uThixo eseyenzele inkosi yami zonke izinto ezinhle azithembisayo mayelana layo, njalo eseyibekile ukuba ngumkhokheli wako-Israyeli, **31** inkosi yami kayiyikuba lesazela somthwalo ohloniphisayo sokuchithwa kwegazi esingaswelekiyo loba esokuphindisela. Njalo lapho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu eselethele inkosi yami ukuphumelela, uyikhumbule inceku zakho.” **32** UDavida wasesithi ku-Abhigeli, “Kadunyiswe uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, okuthumileyo lamhla ukuzabonana lami. **33** Sengathi ungabusiswa ngenxa yokwahlulela kwakho okuhle lokuvimbela kwakho ekuchitheni igazi lamhla kanye lasekuphindiseleni kwami ngezandla zami. **34** Ngoba, ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, ekhona, yena ongivimbele ekwenzeni okubi kuwe, aluba kawufikanga masinyane ukuzabonana lami, akukho lamunye owesilisa ongokaNabhali obezasala ephila ekudabukeni kokusa.” **35** Emva kwalokho uDavida wamukela esandleni sika-Abhigeli lokho ayemlethele khona wasesithi, “Buyela ekhaya ngokuthula. Ngivawzile amazwi akho ngasivuma isicelo sakho.” **36** U-Abhigeli esebuyele kuNabhali, wayesendlini eledili elinjengelenkosi. Wayejabula njalo edakwe kakhulu. Ngakho u-Abhigeli kamtshelanga lutho kwaze kwasa. **37** Kwathi ekuseni, uNabhali engasadakwanga, umkakhe wamtshela zonke lezizinto, watshaywa luvalo woma qha. **38** Emva kwensuku ezingangaba litshumi, uThixo wamtshaya uNabhali wafa. **39** Kwathi uDavida esizwa ukuthi uNabhali wayefile, wathi, “Kabongwe uThixo, yena osekele injongo yami yokumelana loNabhali ngenxa yokungeyisa. Uvimbele inceku yakhe ekwenzeni okubi njalo wehlisela uNabhali izenzo zakhe ezimbi phezu kwelakhe ikhanda.” Emva kwalokho uDavida wathumela ilizwi ku-Abhigeli emcela ukuba abe ngumkakhe. **40** Izinceku zakhe zaya eKhameli zathi ku-Abhigeli, “UDavida usithume kuwe ukuba sizekuthatha ukuze ube ngumkakhe.” **41** U-Abhigeli wathi mbo phansi ngobuso, wathi, “Nansi inceku zakho, ilungele ukukusebenzela lokugezisa inyawo zezinceku

zenkosi yami.” **42** U-Abhigeli waphanga wagada ubabhemi, ephelekezela yizisebenzikazi zakhe ezinhlano, wahamba lezithunywa zikaDavida wasesiba ngumkakhe. **43** UDavida wayethehe njalo u-Ahinowama waseJezerili, bobabili-ke baba ngomkakhe. **44** Kodwa uSawuli, indodakazi yakhe uMikhali, umkaDavida, wayeseyinike uPhalithiyeli indodana kaLayishi, wayengowaseGalimi.

26 AmaZifi aya kuSawuli eGibhiya athi kuye, “UDavida kacatshanga entabeni yaseHakhila, ekhangele ejeshimoni na?” **2** Ngakho uSawuli waya eNkangala yaseZifi, elezinkulungwane ezintathu zabantu bakhe abakhethiweyo bako-Israyeli, ukuyadinga uDavida khona. **3** USawuli wenza isihonqo phansi komgwaqo entabeni yaseHakhila ekhangele ejeshimoni, kodwa uDavida wahlala enkangala. Kwathi ebona ukuthi uSawuli wayesemlandele khonale, **4** wathuma inhlozi wasekwazi ukuthi uSawuli wayefikile impela. **5** Ngakho uDavida wasuka waya lapho uSawuli ayemise khona wabona lapho okwakulele khona uSawuli lo-Abhineri indodana kaNeri, umlawuli webutho. USawuli wayelele phakathi kwesihonqo, ibutho lisezihonqweni limhanqile. **6** UDavida wasebuzisa u-Ahimeleki umHithi lo-Abhishayi indodana kaZeruya, umfowabo kaJowabi, wathi, “Ngubani ozahamba lami phakathi kwesihonqo kuSawuli na?” U-Abhishayi wathi, “Ngizahamba lawe.” **7** Ngakho uDavida lo-Abhishayi baya ebuthweni ebusuku babona uSawuli elele ubuthongo phakathi kwesihonqo umkhonto wakhe ugwaze phansi eduzane lekhandla lakhe. U-Abhineri lamabutho babelele bemhanqile. **8** U-Abhishayi wasesithi kuDavida, “Lamhla uNkulunkulu unikele isitha sakho ezandleni zakho. Khathesi-ke kahle ngimgwazele phansi kanye nje ngomkhonto wami; kangiyi kugalela kabili.” **9** Kodwa uDavida wathi ku-Abhishayi, “Ungambulali. Ngubani ongabeka isandla kogcotshiweyo kaThixo angabi lecala na?” **10** Wasesithi, “Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ekhona, uThixo yena ngokwakhe uzamtshaya; mhlawumbe isikhathi sakhe sizafika afe, loba aye empini abhubhe. **11** Kodwa uThixo kanqabele ukuba ngibeke isandla kogcotshiweyo kaThixo. Thatha umkhonto lesigxingi samanzi okuphansi kwekhanda lakhe, sihambe.” **12** Ngakho uDavida wathatha umkhonto lesigxingi samanzi okwakuphansi kwekhanda likaSawuli, basebehamba. Bonke babelele ngoba uThixo wayebhilesele ubuthongo obukhulu. **13** UDavida wachaphela ngakwelinye icele wema phezu kwentatshana khatshana; kwakulebanga elibanzi phakathi kwabo. **14** Wamemezisa ibutho lo-Abhineri indodana kaNeri, wathi, “Kanti kawungiphenduli, Abhineri na?” U-Abhineri waphendula wathi, “Ungubani wena omemeza inkosi na?” **15** UDavida wathi, “Uyindoda, kawusiyo na? Njalo ngubani onjengawe ko-Israyeli na? Kungani ungayilindanga inkosi yakho na? Umuntu othile ufikile ukuba abulale inkosi yakho. **16** Okwenzileyo kakukuhle. Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ephila, wena labantu bakho lifanele ukufa, ngoba kaliyilindanga inkosi yenu, ogcotshiweyo kaThixo. Khandelani emaceleni enu. Ungaphi umkhonto wenkosi lesigxingi samanzi okube kuphansi kwekhanda layo na?” **17** USawuli walazi ilizwi likaDavida, wasesithi, “Yilizwi lakho lelo yini, Davida ndodana yami?” UDavida waphendula wathi, “Yebo yilo, nkosi, nkosi yami.” **18** Wengeza wathi, “Kanti kungani inkosi yami ixotshana lenceku yayo na? Kuyini engikwenzileyo, njalo licala bani engilalo na? **19** Khathesi-ke

nkosi, nkosi yami, lalela amazwi enceku yakho. Nxa uThixo ekuqubule ukuba umelane lami, kamkele umhlatshele. Kodwa nxa kwenziwe ngabantu, kabathukwe phambi kukaThixo! Khathesi sebgixotshile esabelweni sami elifeni likaThixo njalo bathi, ‘Hamba uyekhonza abanye onkulunkulu.’ **20** Ugenzi igazi lami lichithekele phansi khatshana lobukhona bukaThixo. Inkosi yako-Israyeli iphumile ukuzadinga isinkizi njengomuntu ozingela isikhwehle ezintabeni.” **21** Lapho-ke uSawuli wathi, “Ngenze isono. Buya Davida, ndodana yami. Ngenxa yokuthi ukhangele impilo yami njengegugu lamhla, kangiyikuzama futhi ukwenza okubi kuwe. Ngempela ngenze ubuwula njalo ngiphambanise kakhulu.” **22** UDavida waphendula wathi, “Nanku umkhonto wenkosi. Wothi omunye wezinsizwa zakho keze ngapha azewuthatha. **23** UThixo uyamnika umvuzo umuntu wonke ngenxa yokulunga kwakhe lokuthembeka kwakhe. UThixo ukunikele ezandleni zami lamhla, kodwa kade ngingeke ngibeke isandla kogcotshiweyo kaThixo. **24** Ngeqiniso njengoba ngiqakathekise ukuphila kwakho lamhla, sengathi kanjalo-ke uThixo angaqakathekisa ukuphila kwami angisindise kukho konke ukuhlupheka.” **25** Lapho-ke uSawuli wathi kuDavida, “Sengathi ungabusiseka, ndodana yami Davida; uzakwenza izinto ezinkulu njalo unqobe.” UDavida wasuka wazihambela, uSawuli wasebuyela ekhaya.

27 Kodwa uDavida wacabanga wathi, “Ngolunye lwalenzi insuku uSawuli uzangibulala. Into engcono engingayenza yikubalekela elizweni lamaFilistiya. Lapho-ke uSawuli uzadela ukungidinga loba kungaphi ko-Israyeli, njalo ngizaphunyuka esandleni sakhe.” **2** Ngakho uDavida labantu abangamakhulu ayisithupha basuka laye baya ku-Akhishi indodana kaMawokhi inkosi yaseGathi. **3** UDavida labantu bakhe bahlala eGathi lo-Akhishi. Umuntu ngamunye wayelabendlu yakhe, uDavida elabomkakhe ababili: u-Ahinowama waseJezerili lo-Abhigeli waseKhameli, umfelokazi kaNabhali. **4** Kwathi uSawuli esetsheliwe ukuthi uDavida wayebalekele eGathi kasamdinganga futhi. **5** UDavida wasesithi ku-Akhishi, “Nxa ngithole umusa emehlweni akho ngabela indawo komunye wemizi yaseamphandleni, ukuze ngiyehlala khona. Inceku yakho ingahlalalani lawe edolobheni lobukhosi na?” **6** Ngakho ngalelolangi u-Akhishi wamnika iZikhilagi, njalo seyaba ngeyamakhosi akoJuda kusukela lapho. **7** UDavida wahlala elizweni lamaFilistiya umnyaka lezinyanga ezine. **8** UDavida labantu bakhe basuka bayahlasela amaGeshuri, amaGirizi kanye lama-Amaleki. (Kusukela ezikhathini zendulo abantu laba babehlale elizweni elalifika eShuri kanye laseGibhithe.) **9** Lapho uDavida ehlasele indawo, wayengatshiyi ndoda kumbe umfazi ephila, kodwa wayethatha izimvu lenkomo, obabhemi lamakamela, kanye lezigqoko. Wabuyela ku-Akhishi. **10** Lapho u-Akhishi embuzisa esithi, “Lamhla ubuyehlasela ngaphi na?” UDavida wayesithi, “Besimelane leNegebi yakoJuda,” loba athi, “Besimelane leNegebi yaseJerameli,” loba athi, “Besimelane leNegebi yama-Kheni.” **11** Katshiyanga ndoda kumbe umfazi ephila ukuba asiwe eGathi ngoba wacabanga wathi, “Bangasiceba bathi, ‘Lokhu yikho okwenzile nguDavida.’” Lokhu yikho ayekwenza sonke isikhathi sokuhlala kwakhe elizweni lamaFilistiya. **12** U-Akhishi wayemthemba uDavida njalo wazitshela wathi, “Usezondakala kangaka ebantwini bakibo, ama-Israyeli, usezakuba yinceku yami kuze kube nininini.”

28 Ngalezonsuku amaFilitiya aqoqa amabutho awo ukuba alwe lo-Israyeli. U-Akhishi wathi kuDavida, “Kumele uzwisise ukuthi wena labantu bakho lizahamba lami empini.” **2** UDavida wathi, “Lapho-ke uzazibonela okungenziwa yinceku yakho.” U-Akhishi wathi, “Kulungile, ngizakwenza ube ngumlinde wami impilo yakho yonke.” **3** Ngalesikhathi uSamuyeli wayesewafa, njalo u-Israyeli wonke wayemlilele wamgcwaba emzini wakibo eRama. USawuli wayesewaxotsha zonke izanuse labemimoya elizweni. **4** AmaFilitiya abuthana eza amisa izihonqo zawo eShunemi, lapho uSawuli wabutha ama-Israyeli wonke wamisa izihonqo eGilibhowa. **5** USawuli ebona ibutho lamaFilitiya wesaba, inhlizyo yakhe yaba lokuthuthumela. **6** Wabuza uThixo, kodwa uThixo kamphendulanga ngamaphupho loba nge-Urim kumbe ngabaphrofethi. **7** USawuli wasesithi encekwini zakhe, “Ngidingelani owesifazane oyisanuse ukuze ngiyebuzakhe.” Bona bathi, “Kulomunye e-Endo.” **8** Ngakho uSawuli waziguqula, wafaka ezinye izigqoko, kwathi ebusuku yena labantu ababili baya kulowomfazi. Wathi kuye, “Ngibuzela umoya, njalo ungilethele lowo engizamutsho.” **9** Kodwa owesifazane wathi kuye, “Impela uyakwazi ukuthi uSawuli wenzeni. Useziquedile izanuse labemimoya elizweni. Kungani uthiya impilo yami ngomjibila ukuba ngibulawe na?” **10** USawuli wafunga kuye ngoThixo wathi, “Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ekhona, kawuyikujeziselwa lokhu.” **11** Owesifazane lowo wasesithi, “Ngikuvusele bani na?” Yena wathi, “Ngilethela uSamuyeli.” **12** Kwathi owesifazane lowo ebona uSamuyeli, wakhala ngelizwi eliphezulu wasesithi kuSawuli, “Kungani ungikhohlisile na? Wena unguSawuli.” **13** Inkosi yasisithi, “Ungesabi. Kuyini okubonayo?” Owesifazane wathi, “Ngibona umoya ophuma phansi.” **14** USawuli wathi, “Ukhangeleka njani?” Owesifazane wathi, “Kuphuma ixhegu eligqoke ingubo.” Lapho-ke uSawuli wakwazi ukuthi kwakunguSamuyeli, wakhohama wasesithi mbo phansi ngobuso. **15** USamuyeli wasesithi kuSawuli, “Ungikhathazelani ngokungivusa na?” USawuli wathi, “Mina ngiphakathi kohlupho olukhulu. AmaFilitiya alwa lami, njalo uNkulunkulu usengifulathele. Kasangiphenduli, ngabaphrofethi loba ngamaphupho. Ngakho ngibize wena ukuba ungitshele ukuthi ngenzeni.” **16** USamuyeli wathi, “Ungibizelani, njengoba uThixo esekufulathele njalo esebe yisitha sakho na? **17** Uthixo usekwenzile lokhu akutsho ngaphambili ngami. Uthixo usewuhluthunile umbuso ezandleni zakho wawunika omunye wabomakhelwane bakho, uDavida. **18** Ngenxa yokuthi uThixo kawumlalalanga kumbe wafaza ulwake olwesabekayo kuma-Amaleki, uThixo wenze lokhu kuwe lamhla. **19** Uthixo uzanikela u-Israyeli kanye lawe kumaFilitiya, njalo kusasa wena lamadodana akho lizakuba lami. Uthixo uzanikela lebutsho lako-Israyeli kumaFilitiya.” **20** Khonokho nje uSawuli wawela phansi wathi daca emhlabathini, esegcwele ukwesaba ngenxa yamazwi kaSamuyeli. Wayengaselamandla, ngoba wayengadlala lutho ilanga lonke mhlalokho lobusuku bonke. **21** Kwathi owesifazane esondele kuSawuli wabona ukuthi wayethuthumele kakhulu, wathi kuye, “Khangela, incekekazi yakho ikulalele. Ngibeke ukuphila kwami engozini ngenxa lokho othe ngikwenze. **22** Khathesi-ke ake ulalele incekekazi yakho uvume ukuba ngikuphele ukudla ukuze udle ube lamandla uzihambe.” **23** Yena wala wathi, “Kangiyikudla.” Kodwa abantu bakhe baphathisana lowesifazane ukumncenga, waze wabalalela. Wavuka phansi wahlala esihlalweni. **24** Owesifazane

wayelethole elinonisiweyo endlini, alihlaba khonokho nje. Wathatha impuphu yengqoloyi, wayivuba wenza isinkwa esingelamvubelo. **25** Wasibeka phambi kukaSawuli labantu bakhe, badla. Ngalobobusuku bavuka bahamba.

29 AmaFilitiya aqoqela wonke amabutho awo e-Afekhi, kwathi u-Israyeli wamisa emthonjeni weJezerili. **2** Kwathi ababusi bamaFilitiya befola lamabutho abo angamakhulu lazinkulungwane, uDavida labantu bakhe babefola emuva lo-Akhishi. **3** Umlawuli wamaFilitiya wabuza wathi, “AmaHebheru la-ke?” U-Akhishi waphendula wathi, “Kanti lo kasuDavida yini owayeyisikhulu sikaSawuli inkosi yako-Israyeli na? Usebe lami okudlula umnyaka, njalo kusukela mhla etshiya uSawuli kuze kube khathesi, angikaboni sici kuye.” **4** Kodwa abalawuli bamaFilitiya bamthukuthelela bathi kuye, “Buyisela umuntu lo emuva, ukuze abuyele endaweni owamabela yona. Akumelanga aye empini lathi, hlezi asiphendukele lapho sekulwiwa. Angawuthola ngcono kanjani futhi umusa wenkosi yakhe kulokuthatha amakhanda abantu bakithi na? **5** Kasuyenalo yini uDavida abahlabela ngaye emigidweni yabo besithi: ‘USawuli ubulele izinkulungwane zakhe, kodwa uDavida ubulele amatshumi ezinkulungwane zakhe?’” **6** Ngakho u-Akhishi wabuza uDavida wathi kuye, “Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ekhona, ubuthembekile, njalo kade ngingathokoza ukuba lawe usebenze lami empini. Kusukela ngelanga owafika ngalo kimi kuze kube khathesi, angibonanga sici kuwe, kodwa ababusi kabakufuni. **7** Ngakho phenduka uhambe ngokuthula; ungenzi lutho oluzacunula ababusi bamaFilitiya.” **8** UDavida wabuza wathi, “Kanti ngenzeni na? Kuyini okubi okubone encekwini yakho kusukela ngelanga engafika ngalo kuwe kuze kube khathesi na? Kungani ngingeze ngayakulwa lezitha zenkosi yami na?” **9** U-Akhishi waphendula wathi, “Ngiyakwazi ukuthi ube uthokozisa emehlweni ami njengengilosi kaNkulunkulu; kodwa-ke abalawuli bamaFilitiya sebethe, ‘Kafanelanga ukuhamba lathi empini.’” **10** Ngakho vuka ekuseni, kanye lezinceku zenkosi yakho ezeza lawe, lisuke ekuseni lapho kuqalisa ukukhanya.” **11** Ngakho uDavida labantu bakhe bavuka ekuseni kakhulu ukuba babuyele elizweni lamaFilitiya, kwathi amaFilitiya aya eJezerili.

30 UDavida labantu bakhe bafika eZikhilagi ngelanga lesithathu. Ama-Amaleki ayehlasele iNegebi leZikhilagi. Ayehlasele iZikhilagi ayitshisa, **2** njalo ayethumbe abesifazane labo bonke ababekuyo, abatsha labadala. Kawabulalanga lamunye wabo, kodwa ahamba labo ekuhambeni kwawo. **3** Kwathi uDavida labantu bakhe befika eZikhilagi, bayifika iqothulwe ngomlilo njalo omkabo lamadodana kanye lamadodakazi abo bethunjiwe. **4** Ngakho uDavida labantu bakhe bakhala kakhulu baze baphela amandla okukhala. **5** Abafazi bakaDavida bobabili babethunjiwe, u-Ahinowama waseJezerili lo-Abhigeli, umfelokazi kaNabhali waseKhameli. **6** UDavida wayesekhathazeke kakhulu ngoba abantu babekhuluma ngokumkhanda ngamatshe, lowo lalowo efuthelene emoyeni ngenxa yamadodana akhe lamadodakazi. Kodwa uDavida wathola amandla kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe. **7** UDavida wasesithi ku-Abhiyatha umphristi, indodana ka-Ahimeleki, “Ngilethela isembatho samahlombe.” U-Abhiyathari wasilethela kuye, **8** uDavida wasebuza kuThixo esithi, “Ngililandlele yini lelixuku elihlaselayo? Ngizalifika na?” Waphendula wathi, “Lilandlele. Uzalifika impela

njalo uzaphumelela ekuhlangeni.” **9** UDavidaba labantu abangamakhulu ayisithupha ababelaye bafika eDongeni lwaseBhesori, lapho abanye abasala khona, **10** ngoba abangamakhulu amabili basebedinwe kakhulu ukuba bachaphe udonga. Kodwa uDavidaba labantu abangamakhulu amane baqhubeka belandela. **11** Bafica umGibhithe egangeni bamusa kuDavidaba. Bamnika amanzi okunatha lokudla ukuba adle, **12** ingxenye yekhekhe lemikihiwa ekhanyisweyo lekhekhe lamavini awonyisiweyo. Wadla wathola amandla, ngoba wayengadlanga lutho njalo enganathanga manzi insuku ezintathu lobusuku obuthathu. **13** UDavidaba wambuza wathi, “Ungokabani wena, njalo uvela ngaphi na?” Yena wathi, “NgingumGibhithe, isigqili som’Amaleki. Inkosi yami ingitshiyele sengigula ensukwini ezintathu ezedluleyo. **14** Sihlasele iNegebi yamaKherethi leliwze likajuda kanye leNegebi yamaKhalebi. Njalo iZikhilagi siyitshisile.” **15** UDavidaba wambuza wathi, “Ungangisa kulelixuku elihlaselayo na?” Waphendula wathi, “Funga kimi phambi kukaNkulunkulu ukuthi kawuyikungibulala kumbe unginikele enkosini yami, besengikusa-ke kubo.” **16** Wakhokhela uDavidaba, bababona begcwele indawana yonke, besidla, benatha njalo bejabula ngenxa yobunengi bempango ababeyithumbile elizweni lamaFilistiya kanye laJoJuda. **17** UDavidaba walwa labo kusukela ekuseni kwaze kwahlwa ngelanga elilandelayo, njalo kakho owabo owaphunyukayo ngaphandle kwamajaha angamakhulu amane agada amakamela abaleka. **18** UDavidaba wakuthatha njalo konke okwakuthunjwe ngama-Amaleki kanye labomkakhe ababili. **19** Akukho lutho olwaswelakalayo: omutsha kumbe omdala, umfana kumbe inkazana, impango kumbe olunye nje ulutho ababeluthethe. UDavidaba wabuyisa konke. **20** Wathatha izimvu zonke lenkomo, abantu bakhe baziqhuba ziphambi kwezinye izifuyo, besithi, “Le yimpango kaDavidaba.” **21** Emva kwalokho uDavidaba wafika ebantwini abangamakhulu amabili ababedinwe kakhulu baze behluleka ukumlandela ababesele emuva eDongeni lwaseBhesori. Baphuma bahlangabeza uDavidaba kanye labantu ababelaye. Kwathi uDavidaba esesondela labantu bakhe, wababingelela. **22** Kodwa konke abantu ababi labahlokozi bohlu pho abaphakathi kwabalandeli bakaDavidaba, bathi, “Ngenxa yokuthi kabahambanga lathi kasiyikwabelana labo impango esiyithumbileyo. Kodwa yileyo laleyo indoda ingathatha umkayo labantwabayo ihambe.” **23** UDavidaba waphendula wathi, “Hatshi, bafowethu, akumelanga lenzenjalo ngalokho uThixo asiphe khona. Usivikele wawanikela kithi amabutho abesihlasela. **24** Pho ngubani ozalalela lokhu elikutshoyo na? Isabelo somuntu osele lempahla sizafana lesalowo ohambileyo ekulweni impi. Bonke bazakwabelwa ngokufanayo.” **25** UDavidaba wenza lokhu kwaba yisimiso lomthetho ko-Israyeli kusukela ngalelolanganga kuze kube yileli. **26** UDavidaba esefikile eZikhilagi, wathumela enye impango ebadaleni bakoJuda, ababengabangane bakhe, esithi, “Nansi isipho senu esivela empangweni yezitha zikaThixo.” **27** Wayithumela kulabo ababeseBhetheli, leRamothe Negebi leJathiri, **28** lakulabo abase-Aroweri, eSifimothi, e-Eshithemowa **29** leRakhali; kulabo ababesemizini yamaJerameli lamaKheni. **30** Kulabo ababeseHoma, eBhori-Ashani, e-Athakhi **31** laseHebhroni; lakubo ababekuzo zonke ezinye izindawo lapho uDavidaba labantu bakhe ababeke bazulazula kuzo.

31 AmaFilistiya alwa lo-Israyeli; abako-Israyeli babaleka, njalo abanengi bafela eNtabeni yase Gilibhowa. **2** AmaFilistiya axotshana kanzima loSawuli kanye lamadodana akhe, abulala amadodana akhe uJonathani, lo-Abhinadabi kanye loMalikhi-Shuwa. **3** Impi yatshosa macele wonke kuSawuli, njalo kwathi abatshoki bemitshoko sememxhumile, bamlimaza kubi. **4** USawuli wathi kumthwali wezikhali zakhe, “Hwatsha inkemba yakho ungewaze, hlezi abantu laba abangasokanga bafike bangigwaze bangenze ihlazo.” Kodwa umphathi wezikhali zakhe wesaba, akaze akwenza lokho; ngakho uSawuli wathatha inkemba yakhe waziwisa phezu kwayo. **5** Kwathi umphathi wezikhali ebona ukuthi uSawuli wayesefile, laye waziwisa phezu kwenkemba yakhe wafa kanye laye. **6** Ngakho uSawuli lamadodana akhe amathathu lomphathi wezikhali zakhe kanye labantu bakhe bonke bafa ndawonye ngalo lolosuku. **7** Kwathi abako-Israyeli ababesekele isigodi lalabo ababengaphetsheya kweJodani bebona ukuthi ibutho lako-Israyeli lalibalekile lokuthi uSawuli kanye lamadodana akhe basebefile, batshiya imizi yabo babaleka. AmaFilistiya afika ahlala kuyo. **8** Ngelanga elalandelayo, amaFilistiya esefikile ukuba akhuthuze abafileyo, afica uSawuli lamadodana akhe amathathu befile eNtabeni yase Gilibhowa. **9** Amquma ikhanda lakhe athatha lezikhali zakhe, basebethuma izithunywa kulolonke ilizwe lamaFilistiya ukuthi zimemezele lindaba ethempelini lezithombe zawo lasebantwini bakibo. **10** Abeka izikhali zakhe ethempelini lama-Ashithorethi. Kwathi isidumbu sakhe asibethela emdulini weBhethi-Shani. **11** Kwathi abantu baseJabheshi Giliyadi sebezile ngokwakwenziwe ngamaFilistiya kuSawuli, **12** wonke amaqhawe abo alezibindi ahamba ubusuku bonke esiya eBhethi-Shani. Ethula isidumbu sikaSawuli lezamadodana akhe emdulini weBhethi-Shani aya eJabheshi, lapho azitshisela khona. **13** Athatha amathambo abo awembela ngaphansi kwesihlahla somthamarisiki eJabheshi, asezila insuku eziyisikhombisa.

2 USamuyeli

1 Emva kokufa kukaSawuli, uDavida wabuya evela ekunqobeni ama-Amaleki wahlala eZikhilagi insuku ezimbili. **2** Ngosuku lwesithathu kwafika umuntu evela ezihonqweni zikaSawuli, izigqoko zakhe zidabukile njalo egcwele uthuli ekhanda lakhe. Kwathi esefikile kuDavida waziwisela phansi emhlonipha. **3** UDavida wambuzwa wathi, “Uvela ngaphi?” Yena waphendula wathi, “Ngibalekile ezihonqweni zabako-Israyeli.” **4** UDavida wabuzwa wathi, “Kutheni? Ngitshele.” Yena wathi, “Abantu babalekile empini. Inengi labo lifile. USawuli lendodana yakhe uJonathani labo bafile?” **5** UDavida wasesithi kulelojaha elamlethela umbiko, “Wazi njani ukuthi uSawuli lendodana yakhe uJonathani bafile?” **6** Ijaha lelo lathi, “Kwenzakele ukuthi mina kade ngiphezu kweNtaba iGilibhowa ngabona uSawuli eyane umkhonto wakhe, izinqola zempi labagadi bamabhiza sebebanga kuye. **7** Uthe etshibilika wangibona, wasengibiza, mina ngathi, ‘Kuyini engingakwenza?’ **8** Ungibuzile wathi, ‘Ungubani wena na?’ Ngiphendule ngathi, ‘Ngingum’Amaleki.’ **9** Wasesithi kimi, ‘Sondela eduze ungibulale! Sengiseduze lokufa, kodwa ngisaphila.’ **10** Ngakho ngisondele kuye ngambulala, ngoba ngaphile ukuthi emva kwalokho ubengeke aphile. Njalo ngithethe umqhele obusekhanda lakhe lesongo ebelisengalweni yakhe okuyikho engikulethe lapha enkosini yami.” **11** Lapho-ke uDavida labantu bonke ababelayela babamba izigqoko zabo bazidabula. **12** Babakhalela, babalilela, babazilela kwaze kwahlwa uSawuli lendodana yakhe uJonathani kanye lebutsho likaThixo lendlu ka-Israyeli, ngoba babebulewe ngenkamba. **13** UDavida wasesithi ejaheni elalimlethele umbiko, “Wena ungowangaphi na?” Lona laphendula lathi, “Ngiyindodana yezizweni, um’Amaleki.” **14** UDavida waselibuzisa esithi, “Kungani ungesabanga ukuphakamisa isandla sakho ukuba ubulale ogcotshiweyo kaThixo na?” **15** UDavida wabiza omunye wabantu bakhe wathi, “Sondela umgongodle!” Ngakho wangongoda wafa. **16** Ngoba uDavida wayethe kuye, “Igazi lakho kalibe phezu kwekhanda lakho. Umlomo wakho ufakaze okubi ngawe lapho wena uthethe, ‘Ngimbulele ogcotshiweyo kaThixo.’” **17** UDavida walila isililo lesi ngoSawuli lendodana yakhe uJonathani, **18** walaya ukuthi abantu bakoJuda basifundiswe isililo sedandili lesi (silotshiwe eNcwadini kaJashari): **19** “Udumo lwakho, We Israyeli, lubulewe ezingqongweni zakho. Yeka ukufa kwamaqhawe! **20** Lingabokutsho eGathi, lingakumemezeli ezindleleni zase-Ashikeloni, hlezi amadodakazi amaFilistiya athabe, hlezi amadodakazi abangasokanga athokoze. **21** We zintaba zaseGilibhowa, kalingabi lamazolo loba izulu, kumbe amasimu athela amabele eminikelo. Ngoba khonapho ihawu leqhawe langcoliswa, ihawu likaSawuli, lingasagcotshwa ngamafutha. **22** Egazini lababuleweyo, enyameni yamaqhawe umtshoko kaJonathani kawuphendukanga, umtshoko kaSawuli kawuphendukanga ungasuthanga. **23** USawuli loJonathani, ekuphileni babethandeka bengababukekayo, lekufeni kabehlukaniswanga. Babelisiqubu kulengqungqu, belamandla kulezilwane. **24** Awu madodakazi ako-Israyeli, mlileleni uSawuli, owaligqokisa okubomvu lokuhle kakhulu, owacecisa izembatho zenu ngemiceciso yegolide. **25** Yeka ukufa kwamaqhawe empini! UJonathani ulele efife ezingqongweni zakho. **26** Ngilusizi ngawe Jonathani, mfowethu; ubuthandeka kakhulu kimi. Ukungithanda kwakho kade kumangalisa,

kumangalisa okudlula okwabesifazane. **27** Yeka ukufa kwamaqhawe! Izikhali zempi zitshabalele!”

2 Ngokuhamba kwesikhathi uDavida wabuzwa uThixo wathi, “Ngingaya yini kwelinye lamadolobho akoJuda na?” UThixo wathi, “Hamba.” UDavida wabuzwa wathi, “Ngiye ngaphi na?” UThixo waphendula wathi, “EHebhroni.” **2** Ngakho uDavida waya khonale labafazi bakhe ababili, u-Ahinowama waseJezerili lo-Abhigeli, umfelokazi kaNabhali waseKhameli. **3** UDavida wathatha amadoda ayelaye, leyo laleyo labendlu yayo, bayahlala eHebhroni lasemizini yakhona. **4** Ngakho abantu bakoJuda bafika eHebhroni bamgocobela khona uDavida ukuba yinkosi yendlu kaJuda. Kwathi uDavida esetsheliwe ukuthi abantu baseJabheshi Giliyadi yibo ababengcwabe uSawuli, **5** wathuma izithunywa ebantwini baseJabheshi Giliyadi ukuba bayekhuthi kubo, “UThixo kalibusise ngokubonakalisa umusa lo kuSawuli inkosi yenu ngokumgcwaba. **6** Sengathi khathezi uThixo angalitshengisa umusa lokwethembeka, njalo lami futhi ngizalitshengisa lona lolothando ngoba lenze lokhu. **7** Khathezi-ke qinani libe lesibindi, ngoba uSawuli inkosi yenu usefile, njalo indlu yakoJuda isigcobe mina ukuba yinkosi yabo.” **8** Ngalesisikhathi, u-Abhineri indodana kaNeri, umlawuli webutho likaSawuli, wayethethe u-Ishi-Bhoshethi indodana kaSawuli wamletha ngaseMahanayimi. **9** Wamenza waba yinkosi yaseGiliyadi, e-Ashuri kanye leJezerili, eyako-Efrayimi, lakoBhenjamini kanye lo-Israyeli wonke. **10** U-Ishi-Bhoshethi indodana kaSawuli waba yinkosi yako-Israyeli eleminyaka engamatshumi amane ubudala bakhe, njalo wabusa iminyaka emibili. Kodwa indlu kaJuda yalandela uDavida. **11** Isikhathi uDavida eyinkosi yendlu yakoJuda eHebhroni saba yiminyaka eyisikhombisa lezinyanga eziyisithupha. **12** U-Abhineri indodana kaNeri, ekanye labantu baka-Ishi-Bhoshethi indodana kaSawuli, basuka eMahanayimi baya eGibhiyoni. **13** UJowabi indodana kaZeruya kanye labantu bakaDavida baphuma bayahlangana labo echibini laseGibhiyoni. Elinye ixuku lahlala phansi ngakwelinye icele lechibi kwathi elinye lalo ixuku lahlala ngakwelinye icele. **14** U-Abhineri wasesithi kuJowabi, “Ezinye zezinziswa kazisukume zilwe mathupha phambi kwethu.” UJowabi wathi, “Kulungile, kazikwenze lokho.” **15** Ngakho zasukuma zabalwa, abantu abalitshumi lambili bakoBhenjamini ngaku-Ishi-Bhoshethi indodana kaSawuli letshumi lambili abakoDavida. **16** Indoda ngayinye yabamba lowo eyayisilwa laye ngekhandla yatshonisa inkemba yayo emhlbulweni walowo eyayisilwa laye, bawela phansi bonke. Ngakho indawo leyo eGibhiyoni yathiwa yiHelikhathi Hazurimi. **17** Impi ngalolosuku yayinzima, njalo u-Abhineri labantu bako-Israyeli behlulwa ngabantu bakaDavida. **18** Amadodana amathathu kaZeruya ayekhona: uJowabi, lo-Abhishayi kanye lo-Asaheli. U-Asaheli wayelejubane njengomziki. **19** Waxotshana lo-Abhineri, engaphambukeli kwesokudla loba kwesenxele lapho emxhuma. **20** U-Abhineri wakhangele emuva kwakhe wabuzwa wathi, “Kanti nguwe, Asaheli?” Yena waphendula wathi, “Yimi.” **21** U-Abhineri wasesithi kuye, “Phambukela eceleni kwesokudla loba kwesenxele; ubambe enye yezinziswa uyithathele izikhali zayo.” Kodwa u-Asaheli kayekelanga ukuxotshana laye. **22** U-Abhineri wamxwayisa futhi wathi, “Yekela ukuxotshana lami. Kungani kumele ngikulahle phansi na? Ngingamkhangele njani ebusweni umfowethu uJowabi na?” **23** Kodwa u-Asaheli wala ukuyekela ukuxotshana laye; ngakho u-Abhineri

wamgwaza esiswini ngomcijo womkhonto wakhe, umkhonto waze wayathutsha emhlangane wakhe. Wawela khonapho, wafela khonapho. Amadoda afika ema nxa efika endaweni lapho u-Asaheli ayewe wafela kuyo. **24** Kodwa uJowabi lo-Abhishayi baxotshana lo-Abhineri, kwathi ilanga selitshona bafika eqaqeni lwase-Ama, eduzane leGiya endleleni yenkangala yaseGibhinyoni. **25** Lapho-ke abantu bakoBhenjamini bema ngemva kuka-Abhineri. Benza ixuku bayajama phezu koqaqa. **26** U-Abhineri wabiza uJowabi wathi, “Kanti inkemba sekumelele idle kokuphela na? Kawuboni ukuthi kuzaphetha kabuhlungu na? Koze kube nini phambi kokuba ulaye abantu bakho ukuba bayekelele ukuxotshana labafowabo na?” **27** UJowabi waphendula wathi, “Ngeqiniso njengoba uNkulunkulu ekhona, aluba kawukhulumanga, amadoda la abezaxotshana labafowabo kuze kube sekuseni.” **28** Ngakho uJowabi watshaya icilongo, bonke abantu bakhe basebesima, kabasaxotshana lo-Israyeli, kumbe babuye balwe futhi. **29** Ngalobobusuku bonke u-Abhineri labantu bakhe bahamba badabula i-Arabha. Bachapha ijodani, baqhubeka bedabula iBhethironi yonke baze bayafika eMahanayimi. **30** UJowabi waphenduka ekuxotshani lo-Abhineri wasebuthanisa abantu bakhe bonke. Ngaphandle kuka-Asaheli abantu bakaDavida abalitshumi lasificamunwemunye batholakala bengokho. **31** Kodwa abantu bakaDavida babebulele abakoBhenjamini ababelo-Abhineri abangamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi ayisithupha. **32** Bathatha u-Asaheli bayamngcwaba ethuneni likayise eBhethilehema. Emva kwalokho uJowabi labantu bakhe bahamba ubusuku bonke bafika eHebhroni emadabukakusa.

3 Impi phakathi kwendlu kaSawuli lendlu kaDavida yathatha isikhathi eside. U-Davida wathuthuka elokhu esiba lamandla, kodwa indlu kaSawuli yaqhubeka ilokhu iphela amandla. **2** U-Davida wazala amadodana la eHebhroni: Izibulo lakhe lalingu-Amnoni indodana ka-Ahinowama owaseJezerili; **3** eyesibili kunguKhileyabi indodana ka-Abhigeli umfelokazi kaNabhali waseKhameli; eyesithathu kungu-Abhisalomu indodana kaMahakha indodakazi kaThalimayi inkosi yaseGeshuri; **4** eyesine kungu-Adonija indodana kaHagithi; eyesihlanu kunguShefathiya indodana ka-Abhithali; **5** eyesithupha kungu-Ithireyamu indodana yomkaDavida u-Egila. La u-Davida wawazalela eHebhroni. **6** Ngesikhathi semphe phakathi kwendlu kaSawuli lendlu kaDavida, u-Abhineri wayeqinisa isikhundla sakhe endlini kaSawuli. **7** Kunjalo-nje uSawuli wayekade elomfazi weceleni owayethiwa nguRizipha indodakazi ka-Ayiya. U-Isi-Bhoshethi wasesithi ku-Abhineri, “Kungani wemathe lomkababa owangaphandle na?” **8** U-Abhineri wazonda kakhulu ngenxa yalokho okwatshiwano ngu-Isi-Bhoshethi, wasephendula esithi, “Kanti ngilikhanda lenja eceleni lakoJuda na? Lanamuhla ngithembekile endlini kayihlo uSawuli lasemulini yakhe lakubangane bakhe. Angikunikelanga kuDavida. Kodwa khathesi usungethesa icala ngowesifazane lo!” **9** UNkulunkulu kamjezise u-Abhineri ngokunzima kakhulu, nxa u-Davida ngingamenzeli lokho uThixo amthembisa khona ngesifungo **10** ngisuse umbuso endlini kaSawuli ngimise isihlalo sobukhosi sikaDavida ko-Israyeli lakoJuda kusukela koDani kusiyafika eBherisheba.” **11** U-Isi-Bhoshethi kasatshongo elinye ilizwi ku-Abhineri, ngoba wayemesaba. **12** Emva kwalokho u-Abhineri wathuma izithunywa zimele yena ukuba ziyekuthi kuDavida, “Kanti ilizwe egelikabani na? Yenza isivumelwano lami, mina ngizakusiza ekuletheni u-Israyeli wonke kuwe.” **13** U-Davida wathi, “Kulungile, ngizakwenza

isivumelwano lawe. Kodwa ngifuna into eyodwa kuwe: Ungezi kimi ngaphandle kokuba uze loMikhali indodakazi kaSawuli lapho usizangibona.” **14** U-Davida wasethuma izithunywa ku-Isi-Bhoshethi indodana kaSawuli ebamba ngamandla esithi, “Ngipha umkami uMikhali, engazendisela yena kimi ngentengo yamajwabu emiphambili yamaFilistiya alikhulu.” **15** Ngakho u-Isi-Bhoshethi wakhupha imilayo uMikhali wahlululwa kumkakhe uPhalithiyeli indodana kaLayishi. **16** Kodwa umkakhe wahamba laye ekhala ngemva kwakhe indlela yonke kusiya eBhahurimi. U-Abhineri wasesithi kuye, “Buyela ekhaya!” Ngakho wabuyela. **17** U-Abhineri wakhuluma labadala bako-Israyeli wathi, “Sekulesikhathi esithile lifuna ukwenza u-Davida abe yinkosi yenu. **18** Khathesi-ke kwenzeni! Ngoba uThixo wathembisa u-Davida wathi, ‘Ngenceku yami u-Davida ngizahlenga abantu bami u-Israyeli esandleni samaFilistiya lasesandleni sezitha zabo zonke.’” **19** U-Abhineri wakhuluma njalo labakoBhenjamini yena ngokwakhe. Emva kwalokho waya eHebhroni ukuyatshela u-Davida konke u-Israyeli kanye lendlu yonke kaBhenjamini ababefuna ukukwenza. **20** Kwathi u-Abhineri, owayelabantu abangamatshumi amabili, efika ku-Davida eHebhroni, u-Davida wamenzela idili kanye labantu bakhe. **21** U-Abhineri wasesithi, “Yekela ngihle ngihambe ngiyebuthanisele inkosi, inkosi yami, u-Israyeli wonke, ukuze benze isivumelwano lawe, lokuthi ungabusa konke okufiswa yinhliziyi yakho.” Ngakho u-Davida wathi u-Abhineri kahambe, wahamba ngokuthula. **22** Khonokho nje abantu bakaDavida loJowabi babuya bevelahlasela njalo beze lempango enengi kakhulu. Kodwa u-Abhineri wayesesukile ku-Davida eHebhroni, ngoba u-Davida wayethi kahambe, njalo wayehambe ngokuthula. **23** Kwathi uJowabi lamabutho wonke ayelaye befika, watshelwa ukuthi u-Abhineri indodana kaNeri wayeze enkosini lokuthi inkosi yayithe kahambe njalo ahambe ngokuthula. **24** Ngakho uJowabi waya enkosini wathi, “Kuyini ukwenzileyo? Khangela, u-Abhineri ufikile kuwe. Kungani umyekele wahamba? Khathesi usehambile!” **25** Uyamazi u-Abhineri indodana kaNeri; ulande ukuzakukhohlisa lokubona ukuhambahamba kwakho kanye lokwazi konke okwenzayo.” **26** UJowabi wasuka ku-Davida wasethuma izithunywa ukuba zilande lo-Abhineri, njalo ziyabuya laye zivela emthonjeni waseSira. Kodwa u-Davida kakwazanga lokho. **27** Khathesi-ke Abhineri, esebuyele eHebhroni, uJowabi wamusa eceleni esangweni, kungani uzakhuluma laye ngasese. Khonapho-ke ukuba aphindisele igazi lomfowabo u-Asaheli, uJowabi wamgwaza esiswini, wafa. **28** Muva, u-Davida esekuzwile lokho, wathi, “Mina lombuso wami kasilacala lanini phambi kukaThixo mayelana legazi lika-Abhineri indodana kaNeri. **29** Sengathi igazi lakhe lingehlela phezu kwekhanda likaJowabi laphedu kwendlu yonke kayise. Sengathi endlini kaJowabi akungasweleki lanininini omunye olenxeba elibhibhidlayo loba ubulephero, loba edondolozela ngodondolo kumbe obulawa ngenkomba loba oswela ukudla.” **30** (UJowabi lomfowabo u-Abhishayi bambulala u-Abhineri ngoba wayebulele umfowabo u-Asaheli empini eGibhinyoni.) **31** U-Davida wasesithi kuJowabi lakubo bonke banti ababelaye, “Dabulani izigqoko zenu ligqoke amasaka lihambe ngokulila phambi kuka-Abhineri.” Inkosi u-Davida yena ngokwakhe wahamba ngemva kwethala lesidumbu. **32** U-Abhineri bamgcwaba eHebhroni, njalo inkosi yakhala yaphumisela ethuneni lika-Abhineri. Abantu bonke labo bakhala. **33** Inkosi yahlabelela u-Abhineri isililo lesi: “U-Abhineri bekumele afe njengokufa kwezixhwali

na? **34** Izandla zakho kade zingabotshwanga, inyawo zakho zingelamaketane. Ufe ngokubulawa ngabantu ababi.” Abantu bonke bamlilela futhi. **35** Emva kwalokho bonke beza bancenga uDavida ukuba adle okunye nje kusesemini; kodwa uDavida wafunga esithi, “UNkulunkulu kangjizeze, kube nzima kakhulu, nxa nginambitha isinkwa loba olunye ulutho ilanga lingakatshoni!” **36** Abantu bonke bakunanzelela njalo bathaba; impela konke okwenziwa yinkosi kwabathokozisa. **37** Ngakho ngalelolang abantu bonke lo-Israyeli wonke bakwazi ukuthi inkosi yayingelasandla ekubulaweni kuka-Abhineri indodana kaNeri. **38** Inkosi yasisithi ebantwini bayo, “Kaliboni yini ukuthi inkosana lomuntu odumileyo ifile ko-Israyeli lamhla na? **39** Njalo lamhla, lanxa ngiyinkosi egcotshiweyo, ngibuthakathaka, njalo amadodana kaZeruya la alamandla kakhulu kulami. Sengathi uThixo angaphindisela umenzi wokubi mayelana lezenzo zakhe ezimbili!”

4 Kwathi u-Ishi-Bhoshethi indodana kaSawuli esezwile ukuthi u-Abhineri wayefile eHebhroni, wahedezela, lo-Israyeli wonke wathithibala. **2** Indodana kaSawuli yayilabantu ababili ababezinduna zamaqembu okuhlaselela. Omunye wayethiwa nguBhana omunye enguRekhabi; babengamadodana kaRimoni umBherothi owesizwana sakoBhenjamini, iBherothi ithathwa njengengxenywe yakoBhenjamini, **3** ngoba abantu baseBherothi babalekela eGithayimi njalo sebahlala khona njengezizwe kuze kube lamhla. **4** (UJonathani indodana kaSawuli wayelendodana eyayiqhula inyawo zombili. Yayileminyaka emihlanu ubudala bayo ekufikeni kombiko ngoSawuli loJonathani uvela eJezerili. Umlizane wayo wayiphakamisa wabaleka, kodwa wathi ephanga ukusuka yawela phansi yagokeka. Ibizayo layo lalinguMefibhoshethi.) **5** Ngalesosikhathi uRekhabi loBhana, amadodana kaRimoni umBherothi, basuka baya endlini ka-Ishi-Bhoshethi, bafika khona emini enkulu ilanga livutha yena ephumula okwemini. **6** Baya phakathi kakhulu kwendlu kungathi bayathatha amabele, basebemgwaza esiswini. Emva kwalokho uRekhabi loBhana bathi nyelele bahamba. **7** Babengene endlini yena elele embhedeni ekamelweni lakhe lokulala. Emva kokuba sebemgwaze bambulala, baquma ikhanda lakhe. Balithatha, bahamba ubusuku bonke ngendlela yase-Arabha. **8** Ikhanda lika-Ishi-Bhoshethi balisa kuDavida eHebhroni bathi enkosini, “Nanti ikhanda lika-Ishi-Bhoshethi indodana kaSawuli, isitha sakho, esazama ukukubulala. Ngalolusuku uThixo umphindiselele umhlelaki wami inkosi kuSawuli lenzalo yakhe.” **9** UDavida waphendula uRekhabi lomfowabo uBhana, amadodana kaRimoni umBherothi wathi, “Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ukhona, yena ongihlenge kuzozonke inhlupheko, **10** kwathi umuntu engitshela ukuthi, ‘USawuli usefile,’ ecabanga ukuthi wayeletha umbiko omuhle ngamxhakalaza ngambulala eZikhilagi. Lowo waba ngumvuzo engamupha wona ngenxa yalowombiko! **11** Pho kudlula ngokungakanani nxa abantu ababi bebulele umuntu omsulwa endlini engeyakhe njalo embhedeni ongowakhe, ngingalithonisi yini khathesi igazi lakhe ezandleni zenu ngilisuze emhlabeni na!” **12** Ngakho uDavida walaya abantu bakhe, bababulala. Baquma izandla zabo lezinyawo, balengisa izidumbu phansi kwechibi eHebhroni. Kodwa bathatha ikhanda lika-Ishi-Bhoshethi bayalingcwaba ethuneni lika-Abhineri eHebhroni.

5 Zonke izizwana zaka-Israyeli zaya kuDavida eHebhroni zathi, “Thina siyinyama yakho legazi lakho. **2** Esikhathini

esedlulayo, uSawuli eseseyinkosi yethu, wena nguwe owawukhokhela u-Israyeli emkhankasweni wakhe wezimpi. LoThixo wathi kuwe, ‘Wena uzakuba ngumelusi wabantu bami u-Israyeli, njalo uzakuba ngumbusi wabo.’” **3** Kwathi abadala bonke bako-Israyeli sebefikile enkosini uDavida eHebhroni, inkosi yenza isivumelwano labo eHebhroni phambi kukaThixo, basebegcoba uDavida ukuba abe yinkosi ko-Israyeli. **4** UDavida waba yinkosi eleminyaka engamatshumi amathathu, wabusa iminyaka engamatshumi amane. **5** EHebhroni wabusa uJuda iminyaka eyisikhombisa lezinyanga eziyisithupha, kwathi eJerusalem wabusa u-Israyeli wonke lojuda iminyaka engamatshumi amathathu lantathu. **6** Inkosi labantu bayo baya eJerusalema ukuyahlasela amaJebusi ayehlala khona. AmaJebusi athi kuDavida, “Kawuyikungena lapha; leziphofu labaqlulayo bangakuvimba.” Acabanga athi, “UDavida angeke angene lapha.” **7** Kodwa uDavida wayithumba inqaba yaseZiyoni, uMuzi kaDavida. **8** Ngalolusuku uDavida wathi, “Lowo onqoba amaJebusi kuzamele asenzenise umgelo wamanzi ukuba afinyelele ‘abaqlulayo leziphofu’ labo abayizitha zikaDavida.” Yikho-nje besithi, “Iziphofu labaqlulayo” kabayikungena esigodlweni. **9** UDavida wasehlala enqabeni waseyibiza ngokuthi nguMuzi kaDavida. Wakha enhlangothini zonke zayo kusukela emandulwini ayelapho kusiya phakathi. **10** Waqhubeka njalo esiba lamandla ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu uSomandla wayelaye. **11** Ngalesosikhathi uHiramu inkosi yaseThire wathuma izithunywa kuDavida zilezigodo zemisedari lababazi bamapulanka kanye lababazi bamatshe, bakhela uDavida isigodlo. **12** UDavida wakwazi ukuthi uThixo wayembekile ukuba abe yinkosi yako-Israyeli wawuphakamisa lombuso wakhe ngenxa yabantu bakhe u-Israyeli. **13** Esesukile eHebhroni uDavida wathatha abanye abafazi beceleni kanye labafazi eJerusalem, kwazalwa amanye amadodana lamadodakazi futhi. **14** Nanka amabizo abantwana abazalelwa khona: uShamuwa, uShobabi, uNathani, uSolomoni, **15** u-Ibhari, u-Elishuwa, uNefegi, uJafiya, **16** u-Elishama, u-Eliyada kanye lo-Elifelethi. **17** Kwathi amaFiliistiya esezwe ukuthi uDavida wayegcotshwe ukuba yinkosi yako-Israyeli wonke aphuma ehlome ephelele esiyamdinga, kodwa uDavida wakuzwa lokho waseshelela enqabeni. **18** AmaFiliistiya ayeseffikile njalo esegcele eSigodini saseRefayi, **19** ngakho uDavida wabuza uThixo wathi, “Ngingayawahlasele amaFiliistiya na? Uzawanelela kimi na?” UThixo wamphendula wathi, “Hamba, ngoba impela amaFiliistiya ngizawanelela kuwe.” **20** Ngakho uDavida waya eBhali Pherazimi, lapho awhlula khona. Wathi, “Njengamanzi efohla, uThixo ufohlele ezitheni zami phambi kwami.” Ngakho leyondawo yasibizwa ngokuthi yiBhali Pherazimi. **21** AmaFiliistiya abaleka atshiya izithombe zawo khonapho, uDavida labantu bakhe bazithatha bahamba lazo. **22** AmaFiliistiya aphinda njalo abuya, agcwala eSigodini saseRefayi; **23** ngakho uDavida wabuza uThixo, yena waphendula wathi, “Ungayi uqondile, kodwa bhoda ngemva kwawo uwahlasele maqondana lezihlahla zebhalisamu. **24** Kuzakuthi lapho usizwa izisinde zabahambayo ezihlahleni zebhalisamu, uqhubeke ngokuphangisa, ngoba lokho kuzakutho ukuthi uThixo usehambe phambi kwakho ukuyahlasele amabutho amaFiliistiya.” **25** Ngakho uDavida wenza njengokulaywa kwakhe nguThixo, njalo amaFiliistiya wawacakazela phansi umango wonke kusukela eGibhiyoni kusiya eGezeri.

6 UDavida wabuya wabuthanisa abantu bako-Israyeli abakhethiweyo, sebebonke babezinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu. **2** Yena labantu bakhe bonke baya eBhala yakoJuda ukuthi bayethatha ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu khonale elibizwa ngeBizo, ibizo likaThixo uSomandla, ohleziyo esihlalweni sobukhosi epahlwe ngamakherubhi aphezu kwebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu. **3** Ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu balifaka phezu kwenqola entsha balisusa endlini ka-Abhinadabi eyayiseqaqeni. U-Uza lo-Ahiyo amadodana ka-Abhinadabi, babetshayela inqola entsha **4** eyayithwele ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu, u-Ahiyo ehamba phambi kwayo. **5** UDavida lendlu yonke ka-Israyeli benza umkhosi omkhulu wokuthokoza ngamandla abo wonke phambi kukaThixo ngokuhlabela izingoma lokutshaya amachacho, lemhuhbe, lamagedla kanye lamasimbali. **6** Bathi befika esizeni sikaNakhoni, u-Uza welulela isandla sakhe ebhokisini lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu walibamba ngoba inkabi zazikhubeka. **7** Ulaka lukaThixo lwavutha ngo-Uza ngenxa yesenzo sakhe sokungahloniphi, ngakho uNkulunkulu wamtshaya njalo wahle wafela khonapho phansi kwebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu. **8** Ngakho uDavida wathukuthela ngoba ulaka lukaThixo lwavutha ku-Uza, njalo kube lalamuhla indawo leyo ibizwa ngokuthi yiPherezi Uza. **9** UDavida wamesaba uThixo ngalolosuku, wathi, “Pho ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo lingeza njani kimi?” **10** Wayengasafuni ukuthatha ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo, ukuba libe kuye eDolobheni likaDavida. Esikhundleni salokho, waliphambulela endlini ka-Obhedi-Edomi umGithi. **11** Ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo lahlala endlini ka-Obhedi-Edomi umGithi okwezinyanga ezintathu, uThixo wambusisa kanye lendlu yakhe yonke. **12** Inkosi uDavida watshelwa kwathiwa, “UThixo useyibusise indlu ka-Obhedi-Edomi lakho konke alakho ngenxa yebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu.” Ngakho uDavida wahamba wayathatha ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu endlini ka-Obhedi-Edomi walisa eDolobheni likaDavida ngokuthokoza. **13** Kwakusithi labo abathwele ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo bangahamba izinyathelo eziyisithupha, anikele umhlatshelo wenkunzi lethole elinonisiweyo. **14** UDavida wayegqoke isigqoko samahlombe selineni, wagida phambi kukaThixo ngamandla akhe wonke, **15** lapho yena kanye lendlu yonke ka-Israyeli beletha ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo ngokumemeza langokukhala kwamacilongo. **16** Kwathi lapho ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo selingena eDolobheni likaDavida, uMikhali indodakazi kaSawuli wayebukele elunguze ngefasitela. Wathi ebona inkosi uDavida eseqa egida phambi kukaThixo, wameyisa enhliziyweni yakhe. **17** Baliletha ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo balibeka endaweni yalo phakathi kwethente uDavida ayelimisele lona, njalo uDavida wenza umhlatshelo weminikelo yokutshiswa leminikelo yobudlelwano phambi kukaThixo. **18** Eseqedile umhlatshelo weminikelo yokutshiswa leminikelo yobudlelwano wabusisa abantu ngebizo likaThixo uSomandla. **19** Umuntu ngamunye phakathi kwexuku lonke lako-Israyeli, abesilisa labesifazane, wamnika isinkwa, lekhekhe lezithelo kanye lekhekhe lamavini awonyisiweyo. Abantu bonke baya emizini yabo. **20** Kwathi uDavida esebuyele ekhaya ukuba abusise abendlu yakhe, uMikhali indodakazi kaSawuli waphuma wamhlangabeza, wasesithi, “Yeka ukuzibonakalisa

inkosi yako-Israyeli ekwenzileyo lamhla ihlubula phambi kwezizigqilakazi zezinceku zayo njengokungenziwa lilema!” **21** UDavida wathi kuMikhali, “Kade kuphambi kukaThixo, owangikhetha phambi kukayihlo laphambi kwendlu yakhe yonke, wangimisa ukuba ngibe ngumbusi ko-Israyeli bantu bakaThixo, isibili ngizathokoza phambi kukaThixo. **22** Ngizakweyiseka kakhulu kulokhu, njalo ngehliselwe phansi emehlweni ami. Kodwa izigqilakazi lezi okhulume ngazo zizangihlonipha.” **23** UMikhali indodakazi kaSawuli kabanga lomntwana waze wafa.

7 Kwathi inkosi isihlala esigodlweni sayo uThixo eseyiphumuzile kuzozonke izitha zayo enhlangothini zonke, **2** yathi kuNathani umphrofethi, “Mina ngilapha, isihlala esigodlweni semsedari, kodwa ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu lilokhu lihlala ethenteni.” **3** UNathani waphendula inkosi wathi, “Loba kuyini okusengqondweni yakho, qhubeka ukwenze, ngoba uThixo ulawe.” **4** Ngalobobusuku ilizwi likaThixo lafika kuNathani, lisithi: **5** “Hamba uyetshele inceku yami uDavida uthi, ‘Nanku okutshwo nguThixo: Nguwe yini omele ungakhele indlu yokuhlala kuyo?’ **6** Mina angikaze ngihlale endlini kusukela ngosuku engabakhulula ngalo ama-Israyeli eGibhithe kuze kube lamuhla. Ngibe ngihamba ngisuka kwenye indawo ngisiya kwenye ithente liyindawo yami yokuhlala. **7** Loba kungaphi engahamba khona labako-Israyeli bonke, ngake ngatsho yini komunye wababusi babo engangibalaye ukuthi beluse abantu bami u-Israyeli ngathi, ‘Kungani lingangakhelanga indlu yemisedari na?’” **8** Ngakho-ke, tshela inceku yami uDavida uthi, ‘Nanku okutshwo nguThixo uSomandla: Ngakuthatha emadlelweni ekweluseni izimvu, ukuba ube ngumbusi wabantu bami u-Israyeli. **9** Ngibe lawe loba kungaphi lapho oya khona, njalo ngizingobile zonke izitha zakho phambi kwakho. Khateshi ngizakwenza ibizo lakho libe likhulu, njengamabizo amadoda adumileyo asemhlabeni. **10** Njalo ngizabanika indawo abantu bami u-Israyeli ngibagxumeke ukuze babe lekhaya elingelabo bangabe besakhathazwa futhi. Abantu ababi kabasayikubancindezela futhi njengalokhu abakwenza ekuqaliseni, **11** bakwenza futhi kusukela ngesikhathi engamisela ngaso abantu bami u-Israyeli abakhokheli. Njalo ngizakuphuma kuzozonke izitha zakho. UThixo wafunga kuwe ukuthi uThixo yena ngokwakhe uzakumisela indlu: **12** Nxa insuku zakho seziphelile usuphumula labokhokho bakho, ngizakwenza inzalo yakho ithathe isikhundla sakho, ozaphuma emzimbeni wakho, ngizawuqinisa umbuso wakhe. **13** Lowo nguye ozakwakhela iBizo lami indlu, njalo ngizaqinisa isihlalo sobukhosi sombuso wakhe kuze kube nininini. **14** Ngizakuba nguyise, yena abe yindodana yami. Angenza okubi ngizamjezisa ngomqwayi wabantu, ukuklebhula okwenziwa ngabantu. **15** Kodwa uthando lwami kaluyikususwa kuye lanini, njengokulususa kwami kuSawuli, engamsusayo phambi kwakho. **16** Indlu yakho lombuso wakho kuzaqina nini lanini phambi kwami; isihlalo sakho sobukhosi sizakuma kuze kube nininini.” **17** UNathani wambikela uDavida wonke amazwi alesiambulelo. **18** Ngakho inkosi uDavida wangena wahlala phambi kukaThixo wasesithi: “Ngingubani, awu Thixo Wobukhosi, bayini abendlu yami, ukuba ungifikise lapha na? **19** Njalo sekungathi lokhu akwanelanga emehlweni akho, awu Thixo Wobukhosi, usukhulumile futhi ngesikhathi esizayo ngendlu yenceku yakho. Le yiyo yini indlela yakho ejayelekileyo yokuphatha abantu, awu Thixo Wobukhosi?”

20 Kambe kuyini okunye uDavida angakutsho kuwe? Ngoba wena uyayazi inceku yakho, awu Thixo Wobukhosi. **21** Ngoba ngenxa yelizwi lakho langentando yakho, uyenzile into le enkulu njalo wayenza yazakala encekwini yakho. **22** Yeka ubukhulu bakho, awu Thixo Wobukhosi! Kakho ofanana lawe, njalo kakho uNkulunkulu ngaphandle kwakho, njengoba sizizwele ngezindlebe zethu. **23** Njalo ngubani ongafanana labantu bakho bako-Israyeli esiyiso sodwa isizwe emhlabeni uNkulunkulu ayazihlengela sona ukuba sibe ngabantu bakhe, lokuze azenzele udumo kanye lokwenza izimangaliso ezinkulu lezesabekayo ngokuxotsha izizwe labonkulunkulu bazo phambi kwabantu bakho owabahlenga eGibhithhe na? **24** Ubeke abantu bakho u-Israyeli njengabantu bakho kuze kube nini lanini, njalo wena, Thixo, usunguNkulunkulu wabo. **25** Khathesi-ke, Thixo Nkulunkulu, sigcine kuze kube phakade isithembiso osenzileyo mayelana lenceku yakho lendlu yayo. Yenza njengokuthembisa kwakho, **26** ukuze ibizo lakho libe likhulu kuze kube nininini. Ngakho abantu bazakuthi, "UTHixo uSomandla unguNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli!" Lendlu yenceku yakho uDavida izamiswa phambi kwakho. **27** Awu Thixo Somandla, Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, ukuvezile lokhu encekwini yakho usithi, 'Ngizakwakhela indlu.' Ngakho inceku yakho ibe lesibindi sokuhuleka amkhuleko lo kuwe. **28** Thixo Wobukhosi, unguNkulunkulu! Umzazi akho athembekile, njalo usuthembise lezizinto ezinhle encekwini yakho. **29** Khathesi-ke ake uthokoziswe yikubusisa indlu yenceku yakho, ukuze ihlale isemehlweni akho kuze kube nininini; ngoba wena, awu Thixo Wobukhosi, usukhulumile, njalo ngokubusiswa nguwe indlu yenceku yakho izabusiseka kuze kube nininini."

8 Ngokuqhubeka kwesikhathi uDavida wawehlula amaFilistiya wawanqoba, wathumba iMethegi Ama eyayiphethwe ngamaFilistiya. **2** UDavida njalo wehlula amaMowabi. Wawalalisa phansi emhlabathini wawalinganisa ngobude bentambo. Zonke izilinganiso ezimbili zawo zabalawa, kwathi isilinganiso sesithathu sayekelwa siphila. Ngakho amaMowabi abuswa nguDavida athela imithelo kuye. **3** UDavida wabuya wahlasela wanqoba uHadadezeri indodana kaRehobhi, inkosi yaseZobha, lapho aya khona ukuyavuselela umbuso wakhe ngaseMfuleni i'Uufrathe. **4** UDavida wathumba izinqola zakhe zokulwa eziyinkulungwane, labatshayeli bazo abazinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa, lezinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili zamabutho ahamba ngenyawo. Waquma imisipha yamabhiza wonke adonsa izinqola zokulwa ngaphandle kwalikhulu. **5** Kwathi ama-Aramu aseDamaseko efika ukuzoncedisa uHadadezeri inkosi yaseZobha, uDavida wabulala azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lambili zawo. **6** Wabeka inkamba zamabutho okulinda elizweni lama-Aramu eDamaseko, kwathi ama-Aramu aba ngaphansi kombuso wakhe aletha imithelo. UThixo wamnika ukunqoba uDavida loba kungaphi lapho aya khona. **7** UDavida wathatha amahawu egolide eziphathamandla zikaHadadezeri wawasa eJerusalem. **8** Kuskukela eThebha kanye laseBherothayi, imizi eyayingekaHadadezeri, inkosi uDavida yathatha khona ithusi elinyengeni kakhulu. **9** Lapho uTowu inkosi yaseHamathi isizwe ukuthi uDavida wayelehlule lonke ibutho likaHadadezeri, **10** wathumela indodana yakhe uJoram enkosini uDavida ukuyambingelela lokuyamenzela amhlophe ngokunqoba kwakhe uHadadezeri empini, owayesilwa impi loTowu. UJoram wamlethela izitsha zesiliva lezegolide kanye

lezethusi. **11** Inkosi uDavida yazahlukanisela uThixo lezo zinto njengalokhu ayekwenze ngesiliva legolide okwavela kuzozonke izizwe ayezehlule: **12** I-Edomi leMowabi, ama-Amoni lamaFilistiya kanye lama-Amaleki. Wanikela lempango eyathathwa kuHadadezeri indodana kaRehobhi, inkosi yaseZobha. **13** UDavida waba lodumo emva kokubuya kwakhe evela kulwa lama-Edomi azinkulungwane ezilitshumi lasificaminwembili eSigodini seTswayi. **14** Wabeka inkamba zamabutho okulinda kulolonke elase-Edomi, njalo wonke ama-Edomi abuswa nguDavida. UThixo wamnika ukunqoba uDavida loba kungaphi lapho aya khona. **15** UDavida wabusa kulolonke elako-Israyeli, esenza okuqondileyo lokulungele abantu bakhe bonke. **16** UJowabi indodana kaZeruya wayephethe amabutho; uJehoshafathi indodana ka-Ahiludi wayengumabhalane; **17** uZadokhi indodana ka-Ahithubi lo-Ahimeleki indodana ka-Abhiyathari babengabaphristi; uSeraya wayengumabhalane; **18** uBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada wayephethe amaKherethi lamaPhelethi; amadodana kaDavida ayengabaphristi.

9 UDavida wabusa wathi, "Kambe angabe ekhona yini osaseleyo endlini kaSawuli engingabonakalisa umusa wami kuye ngenxa kaJonathani na?" **2** Ngalesikhathi kwakulenceku yendlu kaSawuli eyayithiwa nguZibha. Bambiza ukuba abonane loDavida, inkosi yasisithi kuye, "Wena unguye uZibha na?" Waphendula wathi, "Yimi inceku yakho." **3** Inkosi yabuza yathi, "Kakho yini osaseleyo endlini kaSawuli engingabonakalisa kuye umusa kaNkulunkulu na?" UZibha wayiphendula inkosi wathi, "Isesekhona indodana kaJonathani; igogekile inyawo zombili." **4** Inkosi yabuza yathi, "Ungaphi?" UZibha waphendula wathi, "Usendlini kaMakhiri indodana ka-Amiyeli eLo-Debhari." **5** Ngakho inkosi uDavida wathumela ukuba ayethathwa eLo-Debhari endlini kaMakhiri indodana ka-Amiyeli. **6** Kwathi uMefibhoshethi indodana kaJonathani, indodana kaSawuli, esefikile kuDavida, wakhothamela phansi emhlonipha. UDavida wasesithi, "Mefibhoshethi!" Waphendula wathi, "Yimi inceku yakho." **7** UDavida wathi kuye, "Ungesabi, ngoba impela ngizakutshengisa umusa ngenxa kayihlo uJonathani. Ngizawubuyisela kuwe wonke umhlaba owawungokayihlomkhulu uSawuli, njalo wena uzakudla etafuleni lami kokuphela." **8** UMefibhoshethi wakhothama wathi, "Inceku yakho iyini na, ukuba unakeinja efileyo njengami nje?" **9** UDavida wabiza uZibha, inceku kaSawuli, wathi kuye, "Indodana yendodana yenkosi yakho sengiyinike konke okwakungokuka Sawuli labendlu yakhe. **10** Wena lamadodana akho lezinkeku zakho lizamlimela amasimu lilethe amabele ukuze indodana yendodana yenkosi yakho ibe lokudla. Njalo uMefibhoshethi indodana yendodana yenkosi yakho, izakudla etafuleni lami kokuphela." (UZibha lo wayelamadodana alitshumi lanhlana kanye lezinkeku ezingamatshumi amabili.) **11** UZibha wasesithi enkosini, "Inceku yakho izakwenza loba kuyini umhlekazi wami inkosi elaya inceku yayo ukuba ikwenze." Ngakho uMefibhoshethi wadla etafuleni likaDavida njengomunye wamadodana enkosi. **12** UMefibhoshethi wayelendodana esengumfanyana eyayithiwa nguMikha, njalo bonke abendlu kaZibha babezinkeku zikaMefibhoshethi. **13** Njalo uMefibhoshethi wayehlala eJerusalem, edlela etafuleni lenkosi kokuphela, njalo egogekile inyawo zombili.

10 Kwathi emva kwesikhathi, inkosi yama-Amoni yafa, kwathi uHanuni indodana yayo waba yinkosi esikhundleni sayo. **2** UDavidava wacabanga wathi, “Ngizakuba lomusa kuHanuni indodana kaNahashi, njengoyise owayelomusa kimi.” Ngakho uDavidava wathuma izithunywa ukuyakhalela uHanuni ngoyise. Kwathi abantu bakaDavidava zibefikile elizweni lama-Amoni, **3** izikhulu zama-Amoni zathi kuHanuni inkosi yazo, “Kambe ucabanga ukuthi uDavidava uyamhlonipha uyihlo ngokuthuma izithunywa ukuthi zizokukhalela na? UDavidava kazithumanga ukuba zizekhangela idolobho zilihlole njalo zihluthune umbuso na?” **4** Ngakho uHanuni wabamba izithunywa zikaDavidava, waziphuca ingxenye yezindevu zomunye lomunye wabo, waquma izigqoko zazo phakathi ezinqeni, wasezixotsha. **5** Kwathi uDavidava esekutsheliwe lokhu wathuma izithunywa ukuyahlangabeza abantu labo ngoba babeyangiswe kakhulu. Inkosi yathi, “Hlalani eJeriko indevu zenu zize zikhule beselibuyake.” **6** Kwathi ama-Amoni esebonile ukuthi ayeseliphunga elibi emakheleni kaDavidava, aqhatsha izinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili zamabutho ama-Aramu ahamba ngezinyawo evela eBethi-Rehobhi kanye leZobha, ndawonye lenkosi yaseMahakha labantu abayinkulungwane, labanye abazinkulungwane ezilithumi lambili abavela eThobhi. **7** Uthe ekuzwa lokho, uDavidava wathumela uJowabi kanye lamabutho akhe wonke. **8** Ama-Amoni aphuma amisa impi ekungeneni kwesango ledolobho lawo, lapho ama-Aramu aseZobha kanye leRehobhi labantu beThobhi kanye leMahakha babebodwa engangeni. **9** UJowabi wabona ukuthi kwakulamavijo amabutho phambi kwakhe langemva kwakhe, ngakho wakhetha amanye amaqhawe athenjiweyo ko-Israyeli wabahlala ukuba bamelane lama-Aramu. **10** Amanye amabutho ayesele wathi kawalawulwe ngu-Abhishayi umfowabo, wabahlala ukuthi bamelane lama-Amoni. **11** UJowabi wathi, “Nxa ama-Aramu elamandla kakhulu kulami, uzengihlenga; kodwa nxa ama-Amoni elamandla kakhulu kulawe, ngizakuzahlenga. **12** Qina, kasilwe ngesibindi silwela abantu bakithi lemizi kaNkulunkulu wethu. UThixo uzakwenza lokho okufaneleyo njengokubona kwakhe.” **13** Ngakho uJowabi lamabutho ayelaye baqhubeka ukuba balwe lama-Aramu, asebaleka phambi kwakhe. **14** Kuthe ama-Amoni ebona ukuthi ama-Aramu ayebaleka, ebaleka phambi kuka-Abhishayi aya phakathi kwedolobho. Ngakho uJowabi waphenduka ekulweni lama-Amoni waya eJerusalem. **15** Kwathi ama-Aramu ebona ukuthi ehlulwe ngama-Israyeli, aqoqana futhi. **16** UHadadezeri wabiza ama-Aramu ayengaphetsheya koMfula uYufathe; aya eHelamu loShobhaki umlawuli wamabutho kaHadadezeri lamabutho ewakhokhele. **17** Kwathi uDavidava esekutsheliwe lokhu, waqoqa bonke abako-Israyeli, wachapha uJodani waya eHelamu. Ama-Aramu aviva ukuba ahlalange loDavidava asesilwa laye. **18** Kodwa abaleka phambi kuka-Israyeli, njalo uDavidava wabulala abatsheyeli beziqola zabo zempi abangamakhulu ayisikhombisa lamabutho ahamba ngezinyawo azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane. Wagalela loShobhaki umlawuli webutho lawo, wafela khonapho. **19** Kwathi amakhosi wonke ayezinceku zikaHadadezeri ebona ukuthi ayesehlulwe ngu-Israyeli, enza ukuthula labako-Israyeli aba ngaphansi kombuso wabo. Ngakho ama-Aramu esaba ukusiza ama-Amoni futhi.

11 Kwathi entwasa, ngesikhathi amakhosi ayesiyakulwa ngaso impi, uDavidava wathuma uJowabi elabantu benkosi lebutho lonke lako-Israyeli. Baqothula ama-Amoni basebevimbezela iRabha. Kodwa uDavidava wasala eJerusalem. **2** Ngelinye ilanga kusihlwa uDavidava wavuka embhedeni wakhe wahambahamba phezu kophahla lwesigodlo. Esepahlani wabona owesifazane egeza. Owesifazane lowo wayemuhle kakhulu, **3** uDavidava wasekhuma umuntu ukuyabuza ngaye. Umuntu lowo wathi, “Kanti lo kasuBhathisheba, indodakazi ka-Eliyami umka-Uriya umHithi na?” **4** UDavidava wathuma izithunywa ukuyamthatha. Weza kuye, wembatha laye. (Owesifazane lo wayezihlambulule ekungecoleni kwakhe.) Emva kwalokho wabuyela ekhaya. **5** Owesifazane lowo wathatha isisu, wasekhuma ilizwi kuDavidava, esithi, “Sengilesisu.” **6** Ngakho uDavidava wathumela ilizwi leli kuJowabi elithi: “Ngilethela u-Uriya umHithi.” UJowabi wamthumela kuDavidava. **7** U-Uriya esefikile kuye, uDavidava wambuza ukuthi uJowabi wayenjani, amabutho ayenjani kanye lokuthi impi yayiqhubeka njani. **8** UDavidava wasesithi ku-Uriya, “Yehlela endlini yakho ugeze inyawo zakho.” Ngakho u-Uriya wasuka esigodlweni, walandelwa yisipho esavela enkosini esasala sithunyelwa kuye. **9** Kodwa u-Uriya walala entubeni yesigodlo lezinceku zonke zenkosi yakhe akaze aya endlini yakhe. **10** Kwathi uDavidava esetsheliwe ukuthi, “U-Uriya kayanga ekhaya,” wambuza wathi, “Angithi usanda kufika nje uvela khatshana? Kungani ungayanga ekhaya?” **11** U-Uriya wathi kuDavidava, “Ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo lo-Israyeli loJuda kuhlezi emathenteni, inkosi yami uJowabi kanye labantu benkosi yami bamise engangeni. Pho ngingaya kanjani endlini ukuyakudla, lokunatha ngilale lomkani futhi na? Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uphila, mina angiyikwenza into enjalo!” **12** UDavidava wasesithi kuye, “Hlala lapha elinye ilanga futhi, kusasa ngizakubuyisela emuva.” Ngakho u-Uriya wahlala eJerusalem lolosuku kanye lolwalandelayo. **13** Esecelwe nguDavidava, wadla wanatha laye, uDavidava wasemdakisa. Kodwa kusihlwa u-Uriya waphuma wayalala ecansini lakhe phakathi kwezinceku zenkosi yakhe; akayanga ekhaya. **14** Ekuseni uDavidava walobela uJowabi incwadi wayiphathisa u-Uriya. **15** Kuyo wayelobe ukuthi, “U-Uriya mbeke kuviyo eliphambili lapho impi evutha khona kakhulu. Lapho-ke khumukani kuye ukuze acakazelwe phansi afe.” **16** Ngakho kwathi uJowabi idolobho eselivimbezele, wabeka u-Uriya lapho ayesazi khona ukuthi yikho okwakulabavikeli abalamandla kakhulu. **17** Kwathi abantu bakulelolobho sebhophumele ukuba balwe loJowabi, abanye babantu ebuthweni likaDavidava bafa; u-Uriya umHithi laye futhi wafa. **18** UJowabi wathumela uDavidava umbiko opheleleyo ngempi. **19** Walaya isithunywa wathi: “Lapho usuqedile ukwethulela inkosi umbiko wempi, **20** ulaka lwenkosi lungavutha, ibe isibuza isithi, “Kungani lisondele eduzane kangaka ledolobho ukuba lilwe? Kalazanga yini ukuthi kade bengatshoka imitshoko besemdulini? **21** Ngubani obulele u-Abhimeleki indodana kaJerubhi-Bheshethi na? Owesifazane obephezu komduli kamjikijelanga ngembokodo, wayafela eThebhezi na? Kungani lisondele eduzane kangaka lomduli? Ingakubuzi lokhu, uthi kuyo, ‘Lenceku yakho u-Uriya umHithi ifile.’” **22** Isithunywa sasuka sahamba, kwathi sesifikile samtshela uDavidava konke uJowabi ayesithume ukuba siyekutsho. **23** Isithunywa sathi kuDavidava, “Abantu basikhulele, baphuma bazasihlasela etshatshalazini, kodwa sibadudulele emuva entubeni yedolobho. **24** Lapho-ke abemitshoko

batshoke izinceku zakho besemdulini, kwathi abanye abantu benkosi bafa. Lenceku yakho, u-Uriya umHithi ifile.” 25 UDavida watshela isithunywa wathi, “Yitsho lokhu kuJowabi: ‘Ungakhathazwa yilokhu; inkemba idla omunye njengoba isidla omunye. Qinisa ukuhlasela idolobho, ulichithe.’ Yitsho lokhu ukuba umise isibindi uJowabi.” 26 Kwathi umka-Uriya esezwile ukuthi umkakhe usefile, wamlilela. 27 Kwathi isikhathi sokulila sesiphelile, uDavida wamletha endlini yakhe, wasesiba ngumkakhe wamazalela indodana. Kodwa into eyenziwa nguDavida yathukuthelisa uThixo.

12 UThixo wathuma uNathani kuDavida. Esefikile kuye wathi, “Kwakulabantu ababili emzini othile, omunye enothile omunye engumyanga. 2 Umuntu onothileyo wayezimvu ezininzi kanye lenkomo, 3 kodwa umuntu ongumyanga wayengalutho ngaphandle kwezinyane lemvu elincinyane ayelithengile. Walondla, lakhula laye kanye labantwana bakhe. Ladla ukudla kwakhe, lanatha enkomitshini yakhe laze lalala ezingalweni zakhe. Kuye lalinjengendodakazi yakhe. 4 Kwafika isihambi emuntwini onothileyo, kodwa umuntu onothileyo kafunanga ukuthatha enye yezimvu zakhe loba inkomo ukuba ahlabela isihambi esasifike kuye. Esikhundleni salokho, yena wathatha izinyane lemvu elisikazi elalingelomuntu lowo ongumyanga, walihlabela lowo owayefike kuye.” 5 UDavida wavutha ulaka ngalowomuntu wathi kuNathani, “Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ekhona, umuntu owenze lokhu ufanele ukufa! 6 Izinyane lelo kumele alihlawule ngokuphindwe kane, ngoba enze into enje njalo engabanga lozwelo.” 7 UNathani wasesithi kuDavida, “Unguye lowomuntu! Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: ‘Ngakugcoba ukuba ube yinkosi ko-Israyeli, ngakuhlenga esandleni sikaSawuli. 8 Ngakunika indlu yenkosi yakho, labafazi benkosi yakho ngabanikela ezandleni zakho. Ngakunika indlu ka-Israyeli lekaJuda. Aluba konke lokhu kwakukuncane kakhulu ngangizakunika okunye futhi. 9 Kungani weyise ilizwi likaThixo ngokwenza okubi emehlweni akhe na? Ubulele u-Uriya umHithi ngenkamba wasuthatha umkakhe ukuba abe ngowakho. Umbulele ngenkamba yama-Amoni. 10 Ngakho, khathesi, inkemba kayiyikusuka endlini yakho, ngoba ungeyisile wathatha umka-Uriya umHithi ukuba abe ngowakho.’ 11 Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: ‘Ngizakulethela incithakalo ezavela kwabendlu yakho. Phambi kwamehlo akho uqobo, ngizathatha omkakho ngibaphe omunye oseduzane lawe, embathe labo emini libalele. 12 Wena wakwenza ensitha, kodwa mina into le ngizayenza emini libalele phambi kuka-Israyeli wonke.” 13 UDavida wasesithi kuNathani, “Ngenze isono kuThixo.” UNathani waphendula wathi, “UThixo usesusile isono sakho. Kawuyikufa. 14 Kodwa njengoba ngokwenza lokhu wenze izitha zikaThixo zatshengisela ukweyisa okupheleleyo, umntwana ozamazalelwa uzakufa.” 15 Emva kokuba uNathani esebuyele ekhaya, uThixo wamtshaya umntwana umka-Uriya ayemzalele uDavida, wagula. 16 UDavida wamkhulekela umntwana kunkulunkulu. Wazila ukudla wangena endlini yakhe walala phansi ubusuku ngobusuku. 17 Abadala bendlu yakwabo bema eceleni kwakhe ukuba bamvuse phansi, kodwa wala, njalo kadlanga kudla labo. 18 Ngosuku lwesikhombisa umntwana wafa. Izinceku zikaDavida zesaba ukumtshela ukuthi umntwana wayesefile ngoba zacabanga zathi, “Umntwana esaphila, sikhulumelwe loDavida kodwa kasilalelanga. Pho singamtshela njani ukuthi umntwana usefile? Angenza into eyingozi.” 19 UDavida

wananzelela ukuthi izinceku zakhe zazinyenyazelana wasebona ukuthi umntwana wayesefile. Wabuza wathi, “Umntwana usefile na?” Baphendula bathi, “Ye, usefile.” 20 Lapho-ke uDavida wavuka phansi. Emva kokuba esegezile, wagcoba wamtshintsha iziqongo, waya endlini kaThixo wakhonza. Emva kwalokho waya kweyakhe indlu, kwathi ngokucela kwakhe bamlethela ukudla, wadla. 21 Izinceku zakhe zamбуza zathi, “Kungani uqhuba ngale indlela na? Umntwana esaphila, uzile ukudla wakhala, kodwa khathesi umntwana esefile, uyavuka udle!” 22 Waphendula wathi, “Umntwana esaphila, ngizile ukudla ngakhala. Ngicabange ngathi, ‘Kwazi bani? Mhlawumbe uThixo angaba lomusa kimi eke umntwana aphilile.’ 23 Kodwa khathesi esefile ngingabe ngisazilelani na? Kambe ngingamvusa na? Mina ngizakuya kuye, kodwa yena kazukubuya kimi.” 24 Emva kwalokho uDavida waduduzela umkakhe uBathisheba, waya kuye wembatha laye. Wazala indodana abayithi nguSolomoni. UThixo wayemthanda; 25 njalo ngenxa yokuthi uThixo wayemthanda, wathumela ilizwi ngoNathani umphrofethi ukuba athiwe nguJedidiya. 26 Ngasikhathi sinye uJowabi wahlasela iRabha yama-Amoni wathumba inqaba yenkosi. 27 Emva kwalokho uJowabi wathuma izithunywa kuDavida, esithi, “Ngihlasele iRabha ngathumba mithombo yamanzi. 28 Khathesi-ke qoqa amabutho aseleyo uvimbezele idolobho ulithumbe. Kungenjalo mina ngizalithatha idolobho, libe selibizwa ngami.” 29 Ngakho uDavida waqoqa ibutho lonke waya eRabha, wayihlasela wayithumba. 30 UDavida wathatha umqhele owawusekhanda lenkosi yabo, isisindo sawo sasilithalenta legolide, uceciswe ngamatsho aligugu njalo wafakwa ekhanda lakhe. Wathatha impango enengi kakhulu kulelodalobho 31 njalo abantu ababelapho wabasusa wabasa lapho ababezasebenza khona gadalala ngamasaha, ngamapiki ensimbi kanye lamahlaka, wabasebenzisa ekwenzeni izitina. Lokhu uDavida wakwenza kuyo yonke imizi yama-Amoni. Emva kwalokho uDavida lebutho lakhe lonke babuyela eJerusalem.

13 Ngokuqhubeka kwesikhathi, u-Amnoni indodana kaDavida wathanda uThamari, owayemuhle, engudadewabo ka-Abhisalomu indodana kaDavida. 2 U-Amnoni wabindeka waze wagula ngenxa kadadewabo uThamari, ngoba wayeyintombi egcweleyo, njalo kwakukhanya kungeke kwenzeke ukuthi enze loba yini kuye. 3 U-Amnoni wayelomngane wakhe owayethiwa nguJehonadabi indodana kaShimeya, umfowabo kaDavida. UJehonadabi wayeliqili lendoda. 4 Wabuza u-Amnoni wathi, “Kungani wena, ndodana yenkosi, ukhanya uhlobile nsuku zonke ekuseni? Awungeke ungitshele na?” U-Amnoni wathi kuye, “Ngiyamthanda uThamari, udadewabo ka-Abhisalomu umfowethu.” 5 UJehonadabi wathi, “Hamba uyelala uzenze ogulayo. Lapho uyihlo eze kubona, wothi kuye, ‘Ngifuna udadewethu uThamari azenginika ulutho lokudla. Ukudla lokho kazekulungisela emehlweni ami, ukuze ngimkhangele ngikudle kuvela esandleni sakhe.” 6 Ngakho u-Amnoni walala phansi wazenza ogulayo. Kwathi inkosi isifikile ukuzambona, u-Amnoni wathi kuyo, “Ngicela udadewethu uThamari azengenzela isinkwa khonapha ukuze ngidle ngisamukela esandleni sakhe.” 7 UDavida wathumela ilizwi kuThamari endlini yobukhosi esithi: “Hamba endlini yomnewenu u-Amnoni umlungisele ukudla.” 8 Ngakho uThamari waya endlini kamnewabo u-Amnoni owayelele phansi. Wathatha

inhlama wayivuba, wenza isinkwa khonapho. **9** Wasehathha ipane wamnika isinkwa, kodwa wala ukudla. U-Amnoni wasesithi, “Batshele baphume bonke abalapha.” Ngakho bonke baphuma bamtshiya. **10** U-Amnoni wasesithi kuThamari, “Letha ukudla lapha endlini yami yokulala ukuze ungifunze ngesandla sakho.” UThamari wathatha isinkwa ayasilungisile wasisa kumnwabo u-Amnoni endlini yakhe yokulala. **11** Kodwa esefike laso kuye ukuba adle, wamxhakala wathi, “Woza ulale lami, dadewethu.” **12** Yena wathi kuye, “Ungaqali, mnwethu! Ungangigebengi. Into enje akumelanga yenziwe ko-Israyeli! Ungenzi into le embi. **13** Mina-ke? Ngingalisuselana ngaphi ihlazo lami? Wena-ke? Angithi ungafana lesinye seziphukuphuku ezixhwalileyo ko-Israyeli. Ake ukhulume lenkosi, kayisoze ingalele ukwendela kuwe.” **14** Kodwa u-Amnoni wala ukumlalela, kwathi njengoba wayelamandla kulaye, wamgebenga. **15** Emva kwalokho u-Amnoni wamzonda ngenzondo ebuhlungu kakhulu. Ngeqiniso wamzonda okudlula ukumthanda kwakhe. U-Amnoni wathi kuye, “Vuka uphume!” **16** Yena wathi, “Hatshi! Ukungixotsha kungaba yibubi obudlula lokhu osukwenze kimi.” Kodwa wala ukumlalela. **17** Wabiza inceku eyayiqondane laye wathi, “Susa umfazi lo lapha, ukhiye umnyango ngemva kwakhe.” **18** Ngakho inceku yakhe yamkhiphela phandle yakhiya umnyango. Wayegqoke isigqoko esasiciswe kakuhle, ngoba lolu yilo uhlobo lwesigqoko esasigqokwa ngamadodakazi enkosi ayezintombi ezigcweleyo. **19** UThamari wazithela ngomlotha ekhanda wadabula isigqoko esiciswiweyo ayesisigqokile. Wathwala imikhono ekhanda wasuka, wahamba ekhala kakhulu. **20** Umnwabo u-Abhisalomu wathi kuye, “U-Amnoni lowo, umnweni, kade elawe na? Zithulele dadewethu; ungumnweni. Ungayibeki enhliziyweni yakho into le.” UThamari wahlala endlini kamnwabo u-Abhisalomu, owesifazane ohlulukelweyo. **21** Inkosi uDavida esekuzile konke lokhu wathukuthela kakhulu. **22** U-Abhisalomu kazange atsho izwi ku-Amnoni, elihle loba elibi; wamzonda u-Amnoni ngoba wayehlazise udadewabo uThamari. **23** Emva kweminyaka emibili, lapho abagundi bezimvu zika-Abhisalomu babeseBhali Hazori phansi komgcele wako-Efrayimi, wanxusa wonke amadodana enkosi ukuba aye khonale. **24** U-Abhisalomu waya enkosini wathi, “Inceku yakho abagundi bayo bafikile. Kambe inkosi lezikhulu zayo ingahamba lami na?” **25** Inkosi yaphendula yathi, “Hatshi, ndodana yami. Akumelanga sonke sihambe; singaba ngumthwalo onzima kuwe.” Lanxa u-Abhisalomu wayincenga, yala ukuhamba, kodwa yena yamvumela. **26** U-Abhisalomu wasesithi, “Nxa kungenjalo, ake uvumele umfowethu u-Amnoni ahambe lathi.” Inkosi yambuza yathi, “Kungani kumele ahambe lani?” **27** Kodwa u-Abhisalomu wayincenga, ngakho yavuma ukuba u-Amnoni ahambe laye kanye lamanye amadodana enkosi. **28** U-Abhisalomu walaya abantu bakhe wathi, “Lalelani! Nxa u-Amnoni esethabe kakhulu ngenxa yokunatha iwayini ngingathi kini, ‘Mbulaleni u-Amnoni!’ limbulale. Lingesabi. Kangiliphanga umlayo lo na? Qinani libe lesibindi.” **29** Ngakho abantu baka-Abhisalomu benza ku-Amnoni lokho u-Abhisalomu ayebalaye khona. Lapho-ke wonke amadodana enkosi asuka, agada imbongolo zawo abaleka. **30** Esesendleleni umbiko wafika kuDavida usithi, “U-Abhisalomu usewabulele wonke amadodana enkosi, akukho leyodwa eseleyo.” **31** Inkosi yasukuma, yadabula izigqoko zayo yalala phansi emhlabathini; izinceku zayo zonke zema

khonapho izigqoko zazo sezizidabulile. **32** Kodwa uJehonadabi indodana kaShimeya, umfowabo kaDavidu, wathi, “Inkosi yami kayingacabangi ukuthi babulele wonke amakhosana, ngu-Amnoni kuphela ofileyo. Le yinhloso ka-Abhisalomu ebivele ikhona kusukela mhla u-Amnoni egebenga udadewabo uThamari. **33** Umhlelaki wami inkosi kayinganqineki ngombiko othi wonke amadodana enkosi afile. Ngu-Amnoni kuphela ofileyo.” **34** Ngalesosikhathi u-Abhisalomu wayesebalekile. Kwathi umuntu owayelinda wabona abantu abanengi emgwaqweni ngasentshonalanga, besehla eceleni lentaba. Umlindi lowo wahamba wayabikela inkosi wathi, “Ngibona abantu ngokuya eHoronayimi, eceleni kwentaba.” **35** UJehonadabi wasesithi enkosini, “Khangela, amadodana enkosi asefikile; kwenzakale njengoba inceku yakho itshilo.” **36** Wathi eqeda ukukhuluma, amadodana enkosi angena ekhala kakhulu. Layo inkosi, kanye lezinceku zayo zonke bakhala kabuhlungu. **37** U-Abhisalomu wabaleka waya kuThalimayi indodana ka-Amihudi inkosi yaseGeshuri. Kodwa Inkosi uDavidu walilela indodana yakhe insuku zonke. **38** Emva kokuba u-Abhisalomu esebaleke waya eGeshuri, wahlala khonale iminyaka emithathu. **39** Umoya wenkosi wafisa ukuya ku-Abhisalomu, ngoba yayisiduduzekile ngokufa kuka-Amnoni.

14 UJowabi indodana kaZeruya wakwazi ukuthi inhliziyweni yayimkhumbula u-Abhisalomu. **2** Ngakho uJowabi wathuma umuntu eThekhowa wayabuya khona lowesifazane ohlakaniphileyo. Wathi kuye, “Yenza angathi uyalila. Gqoka izigqoko zokulila. Ungagcobi amagcobo okubukeka. Yenza njengowesifazane oseqede insuku ezinengi elilela ofileyo. **3** Uye enkosini ukhulume amazwi la kuyo.” UJowabi wasemfunza lawamazwi. **4** Kwathi owesifazane owavela eThekhowa esefikile enkosini wathi mbo phansi ngobuso eyihlonipha, wasesithi, “Ake ungisize, awu nkosi!” **5** Inkosi yambuza yathi, “Kuyini okukuhluphayo?” Yena wathi, “Ngingumfelokazi impela, umkami wafa. **6** Mina ncekukazi yakho ngangilamadodana amabili. Alwa engangeni njalo akulamuntu owayelapho ukuba awalamule. Enye yatshaya enye yayibulala. **7** Manje-ke bonke abosendo sebevukele inceku yakho, bathi, ‘Sinike lowo owabulala umfowabo ukuze simbulale ngenxa yempilo yomfowabo ambulalayo; lapho-ke sizasula lendlalifa futhi.’ Bazacitsha ilahle lami elivuthayo eliyilo lodwa engilalo eliseleyo, umkami asale engaselabizo loba inzalo ebusweni bomhlaba.” **8** Inkosi yasisithi kowesifazane lowo, “Buyela ekhaya, ngizakhupha umlayo ngimele wena.” **9** Kodwa owesifazane waseThekhowa wathi kuyo, “Mhlelaki wami, nkosi, umlandu kawube kimi lakwabendlu kababa, kuthi inkosi lesihlalo sayo sobukhosi kungabi lalala.” **10** Inkosi yaphendula yathi, “Nxa loba ngubani esitsho loba yini kuwe, mlethe kimi, njalo kasoze akuhluphe futhi.” **11** Wasesithi, “Inkosi kayincenge uThixo uNkulunkulu wayo ukuba avimbele umphindiseli wegazi ekwengezeleleni incithakalo, ukuze indodana yami ingabujiswa.” Inkosi yathi, “Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ekhona, akukho lalunye unwele lwekhanda lendodana yakho oluzawela phansi.” **12** Lapho-ke owesifazane wasesithi, “Vumela inceku yakho ikhulume ilizwi enkosini yami.” Yathi, “Khuluma.” **13** Owesifazane wasesithi, “Pho kungani ucebe into enje ngabantu bakaNkulunkulu na? Nxa inkosi isitsho lokhu kayizidlisi ngecala na, ngoba inkosi kayiyibuyisanga indodana yayo eyaxotshwayo. **14** Njengamanzi achithekele phansi, angeke

abuthwe, kunjalo kumele sife. Kodwa uNkulunkulu kakusisi ukuphila, esikhundleni salokho yena uceba izindlela zokuthi umuntu oxotshiweyo angehlukaniwisa laye kokuphela. **15** Ngilande ukuzakutsho lokhu kumhlekazi wami inkosi, ngoba abantu sebengethusile. Incekukazi yakho icabange yathi, 'Ngizakhuluma lenkosi, engxenyi izakwenza lokho okucelwa yincekukazi yayo. **16** Engxenyi inkosi izavuma ukuhlenga incekekazi yayo esandleni somuntu ozama ukungisusa mina lendodana yami elifeni esaliphiwa nguNkulunkulu.' **17** Khathesi incekekazi yakho ithi, 'Sengathi izwi lomhlekazi wami, uThixo lingangilethela ukuphumula, ngoba umhlekazi wami, inkosi unjengengilosu kaNkulunkulu ekuphawuleni okuhle lokubi. Sengathi uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho angaba lawe.'" **18** Inkosi yasisithi kowesifazane lowo, "Ungangifihleli impendulo kulokhu engizakubuza khona." Owesifazane wathi "Mhlekazi wami, inkosi kayikhulume." **19** Inkosi yasibuza yathi, "Isandla sikaJowabi kasilawe yini kukho konke lokhu na?" Owesifazane waphendula wathi, "Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uphila, mhlekazi wami, inkosi, kakho ongaphambukela kwesokudla kumbe kwesenxele kwaloba yini umhlekazi wami, inkosi ekutshoyo. Ye, yinceku yakho uJowabi engilaye ukuba ngenze lokhu onguye njalo ofunze amazwi wonke la emlonyeni wencekukazi yakho. **20** Inceku yakho uJowabi yenze lokhu ukuba iguqule umumo okhona khathesi. Inkosi yami ilenhlakanipho efana leyengilosu kaNkulunkulu yazi konke okwenzakalayo elizweni." **21** Inkosi yasisithi kuJowabi, "Kulungile, ngizakwenza lokho. Hamba uyebuya lalo ijaha u-Abhisalomu." **22** UJowabi wathi mbo phansi ngobuso eyihlonipha, waseyibonga inkosi. UJowabi wasesithi, "Lamhla inceku yakho isikwazi ukuthi isithole umusa emehlweni akho, mhlekazi wami, nkosi, ngoba inkosi isivumile isicelo senceku yayo." **23** Emva kwalokho uJowabi waya eGeshuri wayabuya lo-Abhisalomu eJerusalem. **24** Kodwa inkosi yathi, "Kaye endlini yakhe, akumelanga abone ubuso bami." Ngakho u-Abhisalomu waya endlini yakhe akaze abubona ubuso benkosi. **25** Kulolonke elako-Israyeli kakho umuntu owayebatshazwa kakhulu ngobuhle bakhe njengo-Abhisalomu. Kusakela ekhanda lakhe kusiya ephangweni lonyawo lwakhe kwakungekho sici kuye. **26** Kwakusithi lapho egele inwele zekhanda lakhe wayejwayele ukuzigela inwele zakhe kanye ngomnyaka nxa zasezimsinda kakhulu, wayezilinganisa esikalini, isisindo sazo sasingamakhulu amabili amashekeli ngesilinganiso sesikhosini. **27** U-Abhisalomu wazala amadodana amathathu lendodakazi eyodwa. Ibizo lendodakazi lalinguThamari, owayengumfazi omuhle. **28** U-Abhisalomu wahlala iminyaka emibili eJerusalem engabuboni ubuso benkosi. **29** Yikho u-Abhisalomu wabiza uJowabi wamthuma enkosini, kodwa uJowabi wala ukuya kuye. Wathumela okwesibili, kodwa wala uka. **30** Wasesithi ezincekweni zakhe, "Khangelani, insimu kaJowabi iphansi kweyami, njalo kulebhali kiyi. Hambani liyeyithungela ngomlilo." Ngakho izinceku zika-Abhisalomu zayithungela insimu ngomlilo. **31** Lapho-ke uJowabi waya endlini ka-Abhisalomu wathi kuye, "Kungani izinceku zakho zithungele insimu yami ngomlilo?" **32** U-Abhisalomu wathi kuJowabi, "Khangelani, ngithumele ilizwi kuwe ngathi, 'Woza lapha ukuze ngikhulume enkosini ukuyabuza ukuthi, 'Pho ngisukeleni eGeshuri? Kade kuzakuba ngcono kimi aluba ngilokhu ngikhonale!'" Khathesi nje, mina ngifuna ukubona ubuso benkosi, nxa ngilecala laloba yini kangibulale." **33** Ngakho uJowabi waya enkosini wayitshela lokhu. Inkosi

yambiza u-Abhisalomu, wafika wangena wasesithi mbo phansi ngobuso phambi kwenkosi. Inkosi yamanga u-Abhisalomu.

15 Ngokuqhubeka kwesikhathi u-Abhisalomu wazidingela inqola yempi lamabhiza kanye labantu abangamatshumi amahlanu ukuba ngabagijima phambi kwakhe. **2** Wayevuka ekuseni kakhulu ama eceleni komgwaqo oya esangweni ledolobho. Kwakusithi loba ngubani ofikayo ukuyamangala icala enkosini ukuba liqunywe, u-Abhisalomu wayembiza athi, "Wena uvela kuliphi idolobho?" Wayephendula athi, "Inceku yakho ivela kwesinye sezizwana zako-Israyeli." **3** Lapho-ke u-Abhisalomu wayesithi kuye, "Khangelani, okufunayo kuqondile njalo kufanele, kodwa akulammeli wenkosi ukuba akuzwe." **4** U-Abhisalomu wayeqhubeka athi, "Sekuze kungathi ngabe ngabekwa ukuba ngumahluleli elizweni! Loba ngubani olensolo kumbe icala wayezakuba kimi ngibone ukuthi wahlulelwa kuhle." **5** Njalo kwakusithi umuntu angafika kuye akhothamele phansi phambi kwakhe, u-Abhisalomu wayeselula isandla sakhe ambambe amange. **6** U-Abhisalomu waziphatha ngale indlela kubo bonke abako-Israyeli abaya enkosini ukuyacela ukwahlulelwa kuhle, ngalokho kwangang inhlizyo zabantu abanengi ko-Israyeli. **7** Ekupheleni kweminyaka emine, u-Abhisalomu wathi enkosini, "Ngisake ngiye eHebhroni ukuyagcwalisa isifungo engasenzayo kuThixo. **8** Inceku yakho isahlala eGeshuri e-Aramu, yenza isifungo lesi: 'Nxa uThixo engangibuyisela eJerusalem ngizamkhonza uThixo eHebhroni.'" **9** Inkosi yathi kuye, "Hamba ngokuthula." Ngakho waya eHebhroni. **10** Emva kwalokho u-Abhisalomu wathuma izithunywa ezifihlakeleyo kuzozonke izizwana zako-Israyeli ukuba zithi, "Lingezwa nje ukukhala kwecilongo, tshonini lithi, 'U-Abhisalomu uyinkosi eHebhroni!'" **11** Abantu abangamakhulu amabili baseJerusalem babehambe lo-Abhisalomu. Babenxuswe njengezethekeli njalo behambe bekhululekile, begazi lutho ngendaba leyo. **12** U-Abhisalomu esanikela imihlatshelo, wabiza u-Ahithofeli umGiloni, umeluleki kaDavida, ukuba eze evela eGilo, umuzi wakibo. Ngalokho icebo lomvukela laqina, labalandeli baka-Abhisalomu baqhubeka besanda. **13** Kwafika isithunywa kuDavida sathi, "Inhlizyo zabantu bako-Israyeli ziku-Abhisalomu." **14** UDavida wasesithi kuzozonke izikhulu zakhe ezazilaye eJerusalem, "Wozani! Kumele sibaleke, hlezi kungabi lamunye wethu ozaphepha ku-Abhisalomu. Kumele sisuke masinyane hlezi asixhume alethe incithakalo kithi njalo ahlasele idolobho ngenkomba." **15** Izikhulu zenkosi zaphendula zathi, "Izinceku zakho zilungele ukwenza loba yini umhlekazi wethu inkosi akukhethayo." **16** Inkosi yaphuma labendlu yayo bonke beyilandela; kodwa yatshiya abafazi beceleni abalitshumi ukuba bagcine isigodlo. **17** Ngakho inkosi yasuka, labantu bonke beyilandela, basebesima endaweni elibanga elithize. **18** Bonke abantu bayo bayedlula, ndawonye lawo wonke amaKherethi lamaPhelethi, kanye lawo wonke amaGithi angamakhulu ayisithupha ayehambe layo kusukela eGathi ahamba phambi kwenkosi. **19** Inkosi yasisithi ku-Ithayi umGithi, "Kungani uhamba lathi na? Buyela emuva eyehlala lenkosi u-Abhisalomu. Wena ungumuntu wezizweni, owaxotshwayo elizweni lakini. **20** Ufike izolo nje. Kambe sekungathi lamhla lokhu ngikwenze uzulazule lathi, mina ngingakwazi lalapho engingaya khona? Buyela emuva uthathe abantu bakini. Sengathi uThixo angakwenzela umusa lokuhle." **21** Kodwa u-Ithayi wayiphendula inkosi wathi, "Ngeqiniso

elinjengoba uThixo ekhona, njalo njengoba umhlekezazi wami inkosi, ephila, loba kungaphi lapho umhlekezazi wami inkosi ezakuba ikhona, loba kusitsho ukuphila kumbe ukufa, inceku yakho izakuba khonapho.” **22** UDavid wasesithi ku-Ithayi, “Qhubeka, hamba.” Ngakho u-Ithayi umGithi wahamba labantu bakhe bonke kanye lezimuli ezazilaye. **23** Ilizwe lonke lakhala kakhulu lapho abantu bonke besedlula. Inkosi yachapha isiHotsha saseKhidironi, abantu bonke bahamba beqonde enkangala. **24** Uzadokhi laye wayekhona, labaLevi bonke ababelaye babethwele ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu, njalo u-Abhiyathari wanikela imihlatshelo abantu bonke baze baphela ukusuka edolobheni. **25** Inkosi yasisithi kuZadokhi, “Buyisela ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu edolobheni. Ngingathola umusa emehlweni kaThixo, uzangibuyisela emuva enze ukuba ngilibone futhi kanye lendawo yakhe yokuhlala. **26** Kodwa angathi, ‘Kangithokozi ngawe,’ lapho-ke ngizilungisele; kenze kimi laba kuyini okukhanya kulungile kuye.” **27** Inkosi yabuya yathi kuZadokhi umphristi, “Uyazwisisa na? Buyela emuva edolobheni ngokuthula, lendodana yakho u-Ahimazi loJonathani indodana ka-Abhiyathari. Wena lo-Abhiyathari hambani lamadodana enu. **28** Mina ngizakuma emazibukweni enkangala kuze kufike ilizwi elivela kini lingazisa.” **29** Ngakho uZadokhi lo-Abhiyathari balibuyisela eJerusalem ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu lahlala khona. **30** Kodwa uDavid waqhubeka ekhwela iNtaba yama-Oliva, ehamba ekhala; ikhanda lakhe lalimboziwe njalo ebhadula ngezinyawo. Bonke abantu ababelaye labo bamboza amakhanda abo njalo bakhwela bekhala. **31** UDavid wayetshelwe ukuthi, “U-Ahithofeli uphakathi kwabahlamuki lo-Abhisalomu.” Ngakho uDavid wakhuleka wathi, “Oh, Thixo phendula ukululeka kuka-Ahithofeli kube yibuthutha.” **32** Kwathi uDavid esefikile engqongeni, lapho abantu ababeyalele ukukhonzela khona uNkulunkulu, uHushayi um’Arikhi wayekhonapho ukuba amhlangabeze, isembatho sakhe sidabukile njalo elothuli ekhanda. **33** UDavid wathi kuye, “Ungahamba lami, uzakuba ngumthwalo onzima kimi. **34** Kodwa nxa ubuyela edolobheni uyekuthi ku-Abhisalomu, ‘Ngizakuba yinceku yakho, awu nkosi, ngangiyinceku kayihlo kudala, kodwa khathesi ngizakuba yinceku yakho,’ lapho-ke ungangisiza ngokufubisa izeluleko zika-Ahithofeli. **35** Abaphristi uZadokhi lo-Abhiyathari kabayikuba khonale lawe na? Batshela konke okuzwayo esigodlweni senkosi. **36** Amadodana abo amabili, u-Ahimazi indodana kaZadokhi loJonathani indodana ka-Abhiyathari, akhonale kanye labo. Bathumele kimi ngakho konke okuzwayo.” **37** Ngakho umngane kaDavid uHushayi wafika eJerusalem khonapho u-Abhisalomu laye engena edolobheni.

16 Kwathi uDavid esehambe ibanga elifitshane ngale kwenqongo, wabona uZibha, isikhonzi sikaMefibhoshethi, elindele ukumhlangabeza, elodwendwe lwabobabhemi ababotshelwe izihlalo bethwele izinkwa ezingamakhulu amabili, ikhulu lamakhekhe ezithelo ezonyisiweyo, ikhulu lamakhekhe omkhiwa kanye lomgodla wewayini. **2** Inkosi yabuza uZibha yathi, “Ukuletheleni lokhu na?” UZibha waphendula wathi, “Obabhemi ngabendlu yenkosi ukuba bagade, izinkwa lezithelo ngokwabantu ukuba badle, iwayini ngelokuqaqabula labo abaphela amandla enkangala.” **3** Inkosi yasibuza yathi, “Indodana yendodana yenkosi yakho ingaphi na?” UZibha wathi kuyo, “Ihlezi

eJerusalem, ngoba icabanga ithi, ‘Lamhla indlu ka-Israyeli izangibuyisela umbuso kababamkhulu.’” **4** Inkosi yasisithi kuZibha, “Konke okwakungokuka Mefibhoshethi khathesi sekungokwakho.” UZibha wathi, “Ngikhothama ngokuzithoba. Sengathi ngingathola umusa emehlweni akho mhlekazi wami, nkosi.” **5** Kwathi Inkosi uDavid efika eBhahurimi, umuntu wosendo luyele labendlu kaSawuli, waphuma evela lapho. Ibizo lakhe lalinguShimeyi indodana kaGera, njalo waphuma esethuka. **6** Wajikijela uDavid lezikhulu zonke zenkosi ngamatshe, lanxa amabutho wonke labalindi abakhethiweyo babangakwesokudla lakwesokhohlo kukaDavid. **7** Ekuthukeni kwakhe uShimeyi wathi, “Phuma, phuma, wena wegazi, wena sixhwal! **8** UThixo usephindisele kuwe ngenxa yegazi lonke owalichithayo kwabendlu kaSawuli, wena osubusa esikhundleni sakhe. UThixo umbuso usewunike indodana yakho u-Abhisalomu. Wena usudilikile ngoba ungumuntu wegazi!” **9** Lapho-ke u-Abhisayi indodana kaZeruya wathi enkosini, “Kunganiinja efileyo le ithuka inkosi yami? Ngivumelani ngiyequma ikhanda layo.” **10** Kodwa inkosi yathi, “Kuyini okulihlanganisa lami, lina madodana kaZeruya? Nxa ethuka ngenxa yokuthi uThixo uthe kuye, ‘Mthuke uDavid,’ ngubani ongabuza ukuthi, ‘Lokhu ukwenzelani na?’” **11** UDavid wasesithi ku-Abhisayi lakuzo zonke izikhulu zakhe, “Indodana yami, eyinyama yami, izama ukungibulala. Pho umBhenjamini lo-ke! Myekeleni enjalo; yekeleni athuke, ngoba uThixo umtshele ukuba enze njalo. **12** Engxenywe uThixo uzalubona usizi lwami angibuyisele okuhle ngenxa yokuthukwa engikwizwayo lamhla.” **13** Ngakho uDavid labantu bonke waqhubeka elandela umgawo uShimeyi yena ehamba eyame intaba maqondana laye, ehamba elokhu ethuka njalo emjikijela ngamatshe emthela langengekeza. **14** Inkosi labantu bayo bafika lapho ababesiya khona sebediniwe. Kulapho abaphumula khona. **15** Ngalesosikhathi, u-Abhisalomu labantu bonke bako-Israyeli bafika eJerusalem, lo-Ahithofeli wayelaye. **16** Lapho-ke uHushayi um’Arikhi, umngane kaDavid, waya ku-Abhisalomu wathi kuye, “Impilo ende nkosi! Impilo ende nkosi!” **17** U-Abhisalomu wabuza uHushayi wathi, “Lolu yilo uthando olutshengisa umngane wakho na? Kungani ungangahamba lomngane wakho na?” **18** UHushayi wathi ku-Abhisalomu, “Hayi, lowo okhethwe nguThixo, langabantu laba, labantu bonke bako-Israyeli ngizakuba ngowakhe, njalo ngizahlala laye. **19** Phezu kwalokho, ngubani engingamkhonza na? Akumelanga ngikhonze indodana na? Njengoba ngakhonza uyihlo, kanjalo ngizakukhonza.” **20** U-Abhisalomu wasesithi ku-Ahithofeli, “Ake useluleke. Kuyini esingakwenza na?” **21** U-Ahithofeli waphendula wathi, “Lala labafazi bakayihlo abaseceleni abatshiya belinde isigodlo. Lapho-ke u-Israyeli wonke uzakuzwa ukuthi wena usuzenze waba liphunga elibi emakheleni kayihlo, njalo izandla zabantu bonke abalawe zizaqiniswa.” **22** Ngakho u-Abhisalomu bamisela ithente phezu kophahla lwendlu, walala labafazi bakayise beceleni u-Israyeli wonke ekhangele. **23** Ngalezonsuku iseluleko sika-Ahithofeli, sasifana lesalowo obuze uNkulunkulu. Lokho kwaba yiyo indlela uDavid lo-Abhisalomu abakhangela ngayo zonke izeluleko zika-Ahithofeli.

17 U-Ahithofeli wathi ku-Abhisalomu, “Kahle ngikhethe abantu abazinkulungwane ezilithumi lambili ngiphume lamhla ebusuku ngilandela uDavid. **2** Ngingamhlasele esadiniwe engelamandla. Ngingamtshayisa ngovalo, bonke

abantu abalaye bazabaleka. Ngingabulala inkosi kuphela 3 abantu bonke ngibabuyisele kuwe. Ukufa komuntu omdingayo kuzakutsho ukuphenduka kwabo bonke; bonke abantu kabayikwenziwa lutho.” 4 Icebo leli lakhanya lilihle ku-Abhisalomu labu bonke abadala bako-Israyeli. 5 Kodwa u-Abhisalomu wathi, “Bizani loHushayi um’Arikhi, ukuze sizwe angakutsho.” 6 UHushayi esezile kuye, u-Abhisalomu wathi, “U-Ahithofeli usesinike iseluleko lesi. Sikwenze yini lokhu akutshoyo? Nxa kungenjalo, sinike owakho umcabango.” 7 UHushayi waphendula u-Abhisalomu wathi, “Iseluleko osiphume ngu-Ahithofeli kasilunganga ngalesi isikhathi. 8 Uyamazi uyihlo labantu bakhe, bangamaqhawe, njalo bathukuthela okwebhele leganga lithathelwe imidlwane yalo. Langaphandle kwalokho, uyihlo liqhawe eliyaziyo impi, kabuchithi ubusuku elamabutho. 9 Lakhathesi nje, ucatsbile ebhalwini loba enye indawo. Nxa yena engahlasela amabutho akho kuqala, loba ngubani ozakuzwa ngakho uzakuthi, ‘Kube lokuqothulwa phakathi kwamabutho alandela u-Abhisalomu.’ 10 Lapho-ke lebutho elilesibindi kulawo wonke, elinhliziyo yalo ifana lenhliziyo yesilwane, lizahedezela ngokwesaba ngoba u-Israyeli wonke uyakwazi ukuthi uyihlo liqhawe kanye lokuthi labo abalaye balesibindi. 11 Ngakho ngiyakucebisa: Akuthi abako-Israyeli bonke, kusukela koDani kusiya eBherisheba, ngobunengi obunjengetshebetshebe ekhunjini lolwandle, babuthane kuwe, kuthi wena ngokwakho ubakhokhele empini. 12 Lapho-ke sizamhlasele loba kungaphi lapho angaficwa khona, njalo sizakwehlela phezu kwakhe njengamazolo ewela emhlabathini. Loba yena kumbe loba bani wabantu bakhe kakho ozasala ephila. 13 Angabaleka edolobheni u-Israyeli wonke uzakuzwa lezintambo edolobheni, silihudulele phansi esigodini kuze kungabe kusatholalaka lesihletshana salo.” 14 U-Abhisalomu labantu bonke bako-Israyeli bathi, “Iseluleko sikaHushayi um’Arikhi singcono kulesika-Ahithofeli.” Ngoba uThixo wayeqonde ukufubisa iseluleko esilungileyo sika-Ahithofeli ukuze aletehele u-Abhisalomu incithakalo. 15 UHushayi watshela uZadokhi lo-Abhiyathari, abaphristi, wathi, “U-Ahithofeli usecebise u-Abhisalomu labadala bako-Israyeli ukuba benze ukuthi lokuthi, kodwa mina sengibacebise ukuthi benze okunje lokunje. 16 Khathesi-ke thumelani lizwi ngokuphangisa litshelwe uDavida ukuthi, ‘Ngalobubusuku ungalali emazibukweni asenkangala; chaphela ngaphetsheya kungekho kuphutha, hlezi inkosi labantu bonke abalayo baminzwe.’” 17 UJonathani lo-Ahimazi babehlala e-Eni Rogeli. Intombazana eyinceku yayizahamba iyebatshele, labo bezahamba bayatshele inkosi uDavida, ngoba babengeke bazifake engozini yokubonakala bengena edolobheni. 18 Kodwa ijaha elithile lababona laselitshela u-Abhisalomu. Ngakho bobabili basuka masinyane baya endlini yomuntu othile eBhaurimi. Wayelomthombo egumeni lakhe, bangena kuwo. 19 Umakhe wathatha okowembesa wakwendlala phezu komlomo womthombo wasehaza amabele phezu kwakho. Kakho owayesazi ulutho ngakho. 20 Abantu baka-Abhisalomu sebefike kowesifazane lowo endlini, bambuza bathi, “U-Ahimazi loJonathani bangaphi?” Owesifazane wabaphendula wathi, “Bachaphele ngaphetsheya kwesifudlana.” Abantu labo badinga kodwa kabatholanga muntu, ngakho babuyela eJerusalem. 21 Abantu labo sebhambile, ababili labo baphuma emthonjeni basebesiyatshela inkosi uDavida. Bathi kuyo, “Suka uchaphe umfula masinyane; u-Ahithofeli usecebise ukuthi lokuthi okubi ngawe.” 22 Ngakho uDavida labantu

bonke ababelaye basuka bachapha ijodani. Kwathi kusisa, engasekho owayesele engakachaphi ijodani. 23 Kwathi u-Ahithofeli ebona ukuthi iseluleko sakhe sasingalandelwanga, wabophela isihlalo kubabemi wakhe wasuka waya endlini yakhe emzini wakibo. Walungisa indlu yakhe, wasezibophela. Ngakho wafa wangcwatshwa ethuneni likayise. 24 UDavida waya eMahanayimi, kwathi u-Abhisalomu wachapha ijodani labantu bonke bako-Israyeli. 25 U-Abhisalomu wayesebeke u-Amasa ukuba ngumlawuli webutho esikhundleni sikaJowabi. U-Amasa wayeyindodana yomuntu owayethiwa ngujetha, um’Israyeli owayethethe u-Abhigeli indokazi kaNahashi uDadewabo kaZeruya unakaJowabi. 26 Abako-Israyeli lo-Abhisalomu bamisa elizweni laseGilyadi. 27 Kwathi uDavida esefikile eMahanayimi, uShobhi indodana kaNahashi waseRabha yama-Amoni, loMakhiri indodana ka-Amiyeli waseLo-Debhari, loBhazilayi umGilyadi waseRogelimi 28 bamlethela okokwendlala lemiganu lempahla ezenziwe ngembumba. Bamlethela lamabele kanye lebhali, ifulawa lamabele akhazangiweyo, indumba lamalentili, 29 ululu lamasi, izimvu, letshizi evela echagweni lwamankomokazi ukuba uDavida labantu bakhe badle. Ngoba bathi, “Abantu sebelambile njalo badiniwe futhi bomile enkangala.”

18 UDavida wabutha bonke abantu ababelaye wababekela abalawuli bezinkulungwane labalawuli bamakhulu. 2 UDavida wahlukanisa amabutho akhe, ingxenywe eyodwa kokuthathu ilawulwa nguJowabi, ingxenywe eyodwa ingaphansi komfowabo kaJowabi u-Abhishayi indodana kaZeruya, lengxenywe eyodwa kokuthathu ingaphansi kuka-Ithayi umGithi. Inkosi yatshela amabutho yathi, “Mina ngokwami impela ngizaphuma lani.” 3 Kodwa abantu bathi, “Akumelanga uphume; nxa sizancindezeleka ukuba sibaleke, kabayikuzihlupha ngathi. Lanxa kungaze kufe ingxenywe yethu, kabayikuzihlupha; kodwa wena ulingana labethu abazinkulungwane ezilithumi. Kungabangcono khathesi ukuba usisekele usedolobheni.” 4 Inkosi yaphendula yathi, “Ngizakwenza loba kuyini lokho okukhanya kungcono kini.” Ngakho inkosi yema eceleni kwesakho abantu sebhumba ngamaviyo amakhulu lawezinkulungwane. 5 Inkosi yalaya uJowabi, lo-Abhishayi kanye lo-Ithayi yathi, “Libe lesisa ejaheni u-Abhisalomu ngenxa yami.” Amabutho wonke ayizwa inkosi ilaya umlawuli ngamunye ngo-Abhisalomu. 6 Ibutho lahamba lisiya ephangeni ukuyakulwa lo-Israyeli, njalo ukulwa kwenzakala eguswini lako-Efrayimi. 7 Khonapho ibutho lako-Israyeli lehlulwa ngabantu bakaDavida, njalo ukubulalana kwaba kukhulu ngalelolanga, abantu abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili. 8 Impi yaqhela yagcwala ilizwe lonke, njalo igusu laqeda abantu abanengi kulenkemba ngalolosuku. 9 Kwenzakala nje ukuthi u-Abhisalomu ahlangele labantu bakaDavida. Wayegade imbongolo yakhe, kwasekusithi imbongolo idlula ngaphansi kwezingatsha ezenileyo zesihlahla esikhulu som’Okhi, ikhanda lika-Abhisalomu labanjwa esihlahleni. Wasala elenga emoyeni, imbongolo ayeyigadile ilokhu ihamba. 10 Kwathi omunye wabantu esebone lokhu, watshela uJowabi wathi, “Ngibone u-Abhisalomu elenga esihlahleni som’Okhi.” 11 UJowabi wasesithi emuntwini owayemtshele lokhu, “Ini? Umbonile? Pho kungani ungamacazelanga phansi khonapho na? Kade ngizakupha amashekeli esiliva alithumi kanye lebhanti lobuqhawe.” 12 Kodwa umuntu lowo waphendula wathi, “Lanxa amashekeli ayinkulungwane engalinganiselwa

ezandleni zami, ngingeke ngiphakamise isandla sami ngihlasele indodana yenkosi. Sizizwele inkosi ilaya wena lo-Abhishayi kanye lo-Ithayi yathi, 'Vikelani ijaha u-Abhisalomu ngenxa yami.' **13** Aluba ngibeke ukuphila kwami engozini njalo akulanto efihlakeleyo enkosini, ubungayikuba lobuzalwane lami." **14** UJowabi wathi, "Mina angiyikuhlindela wena kanje." Ngakho wathatha imikhonto emithathu wayitikelela enhliziyweni ka-Abhisalomu, u-Abhisalomu elokhu esaphila esesihlahleni som'Okhi. **15** Njalo abathwali bezikhali zikaJowabi bamhanqa u-Abhisalomu, bamthaya bambulala. **16** Emva kwalokho uJowabi wakhalisa icilongo, amabutho aseyekela ukwotshana lo-Israyeli, ngoba uJowabi wawamisa. **17** Bamthatha u-Abhisalomu bamphosela egodini elikhulu eguswini babuthelela inqwaba enkulu yamatshe phezu kwakhe. Ngalesosikhathi wonke lo-Israyeli wabalekela ekhaya lakhe. **18** U-Abhisalomu esaphila wayethehe insika wayimisa eSigidini seNkosi njengesikhumbuzo sakhe, ngoba wacabanga wathi, "Angilandodana yokughuba ukukhunjulwa kwebizo lami." Insika wayibiza ngaye, njalo ithiwa Isikhumbuzo sika-Abhisalomu kuze kube lamhla. **19** Ngalesosikhathi u-Ahimazi indodana kaZadokhi wathi, "Kuhle ngigijime ngihambise umbiko enkosini ukuthi uThixo useyihlengile esandleni sezitha zayo." **20** UJowabi wathi kuye, "Kawusuwe omele ahambise imibiko lamhla. Ungayihambisa imibiko ngesinye isikhathi, kodwa akumelanga wenzenjalo lamhla, ngoba indodana yenkosi ifile." **21** UJowabi wasesithi kumKhushi, "Hamba uyetshelela inkosi lokho okubonileyo." UmKhushi wakhothama phambi kukaJowabi wasesuka egijima. **22** U-Ahimazi indodana kaZadokhi waphinda wathi kuJowabi, "Loba kunjani, ake ungivumele ngigijime ngilandele umKhushi." Kodwa uJowabi waphendula wathi, "Ndodana yami, kungani ufuna ukuhamba? Kawulambiko ozakulethela umvuzo." **23** Yena wathi, "Loba kunjani, mina ngifuna ukugijima." Ngakho uJowabi wathi, "Gijima!" U-Ahimazi wagijima ngendlela yasemagekeni, wamdula umKhushi. **24** Kwathi uDavida ehlezi phakathi kwesango langaphakathi lelangaphandle, umlindi wakhwela waya phezu ephahleni lwesango, phansi komduli. Kwathi lapho ekhangela, wabona umuntu egijima eyedwa. **25** Umlindi wameza inkosi wayibikela lokho. Inkosi yathi, "Nxa eyedwa, uzakuba lezindaba ezinhle." Umuntu waqhubeka elokhu esondela eduze. **26** Umlindi wabona omunye umuntu egijima, wasebiza umlindi wesango ngaphansi, wathi, "Khangela, omunye umuntu ugijima eyedwa!" Inkosi yathi, "Laye uzakuba ngoletha izindaba ezinhle." **27** Umlindi wasesithi, "Ngibona angathi owakuqala ugijima njengo-Ahimazi indodana kaZadokhi." Inkosi yathi, "Ungumuntu olungileyo. Uza lezindaba ezinhle." **28** Lapho-ke u-Ahimazi wameza enkosini wasesithi, "Konke kulungile." Wakhothama phambi kwenkosi wathi mbo phansi ngobuso, wathi, "Kadunyiswe uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho. Usebanikele abantu abaphakamisa izandla zabo ukuhlaselela inkosi yami." **29** Inkosi yasibuza isithi, "Ijaha u-Abhisalomu usindile na?" U-Ahimazi waphendula wathi, "Ngibone ukuphithizela okukhulu uJowabi esezathuma inceku yenkosi lami, inceku yakho, kodwa kangazi ukuthi kade kuyini." **30** Inkosi yasisithi, "Buyela eceleni ume khona." Ngakho wabuyela eceleni wama khona. **31** Lapho-ke umKhushi wafika wathi, "Mhlekezi wami, nkosi, zwana izindaba ezinhle! UThixo lamhla usekukhulule kubo bonke abakuhlamlukelayo." **32** Inkosi yambuza yathi, "Ijaha u-Abhisalomu usindile na?" UmKhushi waphendula

wathi, "Sengathi izitha zomhlekezi inkosi yami labo bonke abayihlamukelayo ukuba bayilimaze bangaba njengejaha leliyana." **33** Inkosi yadabuka kakhulu. Yakhwela yaya ekamelweni elingaphezu kwesango yakhala. Yahamba ikhala isithi, "Oh, ndodana yami Abhisalomu! Ndodana yami, ndodana yami Abhisalomu! Aluba kufe mina esikhundleni sakho, Oh Abhisalomu, ndodana yami, ndodana yami!"

19 UJowabi watshelwa kwathiwa, "Inkosi iyakhala ililela u-Abhisalomu." **2** Njalo kulolonke ibutho ukunqoba kwamhlalokho kwaguqulelwa ekulineni, ngoba ngalolosuku amabutho ezwa kuthiwa, "Inkosi ilusizi ngendodana yayo." **3** Ngalolosuku abantu bangena benyenya edolobheni njengabantu abalenhloni bengena benyenya lapho bebaleka empini. **4** Inkosi yamboza ubuso bayo yakhala kakhulu isithi, "Oh ndodana yami Abhisalomu! Oh Abhisalomu, ndodana yami, ndodana yami!" **5** UJowabi wayangena endlini enkosini wathi, "Lamhla ubayangisile bonke abantu bakho, abasanda kusindisa impilo yakho lempilo yamadodana akho lamadodakazi lempilo yabomkakho kanye labafazi bakho beceleni. **6** Uthanda abakuzondayo uzonde abakuthandayo. Ukwenze kwasasobala lamhla ukuthi abalawuli bebutho labantu babo kabasilutho kuwe. Ngiyabona ukuthi ubuzathokoza aluba u-Abhisalomu ubephila lamhla thina sonke sifile. **7** Khathezi-ke phuma uyequnga abantu bakho isibindi. Ngiyafunga ngoThixo ukuthi nxa ungaphumi akulamuntu ozabe esele lawe kufika ukuhlwa. Lokhu kukakuba kubi kakhulu kuwe kulayo yonke incithakalo eseyake yakwehlela kusukela ebuthsheni bakho kuze kube khathezi." **8** Ngakho inkosi yasukuma yahamba lesihlalo sayo esangweni. Abantu sebezwe kuthiwa, "Inkosi ihlezi esangweni," bonke baya phambi kwayo. Ngalesosikhathi abako-Israyeli basebebalekele emizini yabo. **9** Kuzozonke izizwana zako-Israyeli, abantu bonke babephikisana besithi, "Inkosi isisindisile esandleni sezitha zethu; yiyo eyasihlangayo esandleni samaFilistiya. Kodwa khathezi isibalekile elizweni ngenxa ka-Abhisalomu; **10** njalo u-Abhisalomu, esamgcobayo ukuba asibuse, ufile empini. Ngakho kungani lingatsho lutho ngokubuyisa inkosi na?" **11** Inkosi uDavida wathumela ilizwi kuZadokhi lo-Abhiyathari, abaphristi esithi, "Buzani abadala bakoJuda ukuthi, 'Kungani lisiba ngabokucina ekubuyiseleni inkosi esigodlweni sayo njengoba okukhulunywayo kulolonke elako-Israyeli sekufikile enkosini lapho ehlala khona na?' **12** Lingabafowethu, inyama yami legazi lami. Ngakho kungani lisiba ngabokucina ukubuyisa inkosi?" **13** Njalo lithi ku-Amasa, 'Wena kawusinyama yami legazi lami na? Sengathi uNkulunkulu angangijezisa, kube kanzima kakhulu, nxa ungasuye mlawuli webutho lami esikhundleni sikaJowabi, kusukela khathezi.'" **14** Wazuya ukusekelwa ngabantu bonke bakoJuda kwangathi babengumuntu munye. Bathumela ilizwi enkosini besithi, "Buya, wena kanye labantu bakho bonke." **15** Ngakho inkosi yabuyela yahamba yaze yayafika eJodani. Ngalesosikhathi abantu bakoJuda basebefikile eGilgali ukuze baphume bayehlangabeza inkosi bayilethe ngaphetsheya kweJodani. **16** UShimeyi indodana kaGera, umBhenjamini waseBhahurimi, wehla ngokuphangisa labantu bakoJuda ukuyahlangabeza inkosi uDavida. **17** Wayelabantu bakoBhenjamini abayinkulungwane, kanye loZibha, isikhonzi sabendlu kaSawuli, lamadodana akhe alitshumi lanhlanu kanye lezinceku ezingamatshumi amabili. Baphangisa ukuya eJodani lapho inkosi eyayikhona. **18** Bachapha

ezibukweni ukuze bahambise abendlu yenkosi ngaphetsheya lokwenza loba kuyini ekufunayo. UShimeyi indodana kaGera esechaphe iJodani, waziwisela phansi wathi bhazalala phambi kwenkosi **19** wathi kuyo, “Inkosi kayingangenzi olecala. Ungakhumbuli okubi okwenziwa yinceku yakho mhlekazi wami ngosuku inkosi eyasuka ngalo eJerusalema. Sengathi inkosi ingakwesulula engqondweni yayo. **20** Ngoba mina nceku yakho ngiyakwazi ukuthi ngenza isono, kodwa lamhla ngize lapha njengowakuqala kuyo yonke indlu kaJosefa ukuzahlangabeza umhlekezazi wami, inkosi.” **21** Lapho-ke u-Abhishayi indodana kaZeruya wathi, “UShimeyi akumelanga abulawe ngenxa yalokhu na? Wathuka ogcotshweyo kaThixo.” **22** UDavid waphendula wathi, “Kuyini lina lami esihlanganyela kukho, lina madodana kaZeruya? Ngalelilanga lina selibe yizitha zami! Kufanele kube lomuntu obulawayo ko-Israyeli lamhla na? Kangazi yini ukuthi lamhla ngiyinkosi yako-Israyeli?” **23** Ngakho inkosi yathi kuShimeyi, “Kawuyikufa.” Njalo inkosi yamthembisa ngokufunga. **24** UMezibhoshethi, indodana yendodana kaSawuli, laye wehla ukuyahlangabeza inkosi. Wayengazigezanga inyawo zakhe kumbe agele indevu zakhe loba agezeze izigqoko zakhe kusukela ngelanga inkosi eyasuka ngalo kwaze kwaba lilanga eyabuya ngalo isindile. **25** Esefikile evela eJerusalema ukuzahlangabeza inkosi, inkosi yambuza yathi, “Kungani ungahambanga lami, Mefibhoshethi?” **26** Yena wathi, “Mhlekezazi wami, nkosi, njengoba mina nceku yakho ngiqhula, ngathi, ‘Ngizabophela isihlalo kubabhemi wami ngigade phezu kwaso, ukuze ngihambe lenkosi yami.’ Kodwa uZibha inceku yami wangikhothlisa. **27** Njalo usehlinikeze inceku yakho kuwe mhlekazi nkosi yami. Mhlekezazi wami, inkosi injengengilosi kaNkulunkulu; ngakho yenza lokho okukuthokozisayo. **28** Bonke abenzalo kababamkhulu kabafanelanga lutho kodwa ukubulawa ngumhlekezazi wami inkosi, kodwa inceku yakho uyiphe indawo phakathi kwalabo badla etafuleni lakho. Ngakho ngilelungelo bani lokukhalaza njalo enkosini?” **29** Inkosi yathi kuye, “Usakhulumelani okunye? Ngiyalilaya wena loZibha ukuba lahlukaniselane amasimu.” **30** UMezibhoshethi wathi enkosini, “Kathathe konke, njengoba khathesi umhlekezazi wami usefikile ekhaya kungekho ngozi.” **31** UBhazilayi umGiliyadi laye wehla evela eRogelimi ukuyachapha iJodani elenkosi lokuyayivalisela khona. **32** UBhazilayi wayesengumuntu omdala, eseleminyaka engamatshumi ayisificaminwembili. Wayenike inkosi ukudla ekuhlaleni kwayo eMahanayimi, ngoba wayengumuntu onotho kakhulu. **33** Inkosi yathi kuBhazilayi, “Chaphela ngaphetsheya lami uyehlala lami eJerusalema ngizakupha okuswelayo.” **34** Kodwa uBhazilayi wayiphendula inkosi wathi, “Mingaki eminye iminyaka engisezayiphila, ukuba ngiye eJerusalema lenkosi na? **35** Khathesi ngileminyaka engamatshumi ayisificaminwembili ubudala. Ngingabe ngisawutsho yini umahluko phakathi kokuhle lokungekuhle na? Inceku yakho ingabe isakunambitha ekuclayo lekunathayo na? Ngingabe ngisawezwa amazwi abahlabeleli besilisa labesifazane na? Kungani inceku yakho kumele ibe ngomunye umthwalo njalo kumhlekezazi wami, inkosi na? **36** Inceku yakho izachaphela ngaphetsheya kweJodani lenkosi ummangwana omfithshane, pho kungani inkosi kumele ingiphe umvuzo ongaka na? **37** Yekela inceku yakho ibuyele, ukuze ngiyefela emzini wakithi eduze lengcwaba likababa lomama. Kodwa nansi inceku yakho uKhimihami. Kachaphele ngaphetsheya lomhlekezazi inkosi yami. Menzele lokho okukuthokozisayo.” **38** Inkosi

yasisithi, “UKhimihami uzachaphela ngaphetsheya lami, njalo ngizamenzela okukuthokozisayo. Njalo loba yini oyifuna kimi ngizakwenzela yona.” **39** Ngakho abantu bonke bachapha iJodani, inkosi yasichaphela ngaphetsheya. Inkosi yamanga uBhazilayi yambusisa, uBhazilayi wasebuyela emzini wakhe. **40** Kwathi inkosi ichaphela eGiligali, uKhimihami wachapha layo. Wonke amabutho akujuda lengxenywe yamabutho ako-Israyeli ayeyichaphisile inkosi. **41** Masinyane bonke abantu bako-Israyeli baya enkosini bathi kuyo, “Kungani abafowethu, abantu bakoJuda, bentshontshe inkosi yethu bayisa ngaphetsheya kweJodani yona labendlu yayo kanye labantu bonke na?” **42** Bonke abantu bakoJuda baphendula abantu bako-Israyeli bathi, “Lokhu sikwenzile ngoba inkosi ilobuhlobo obuseduze kakhulu lathi. Kulicaphula ngani lokho? Sike sadla olunye ulutho lwenkosi na? Sike sazithathela enye into na?” **43** Abantu bako-Israyeli basebephendula abantu bakoJuda besithi, “Thina silezabelo ezilithshumi enkosini, njalo ngaphandle kwalokho thina silelungelo elikhulu kulelenu ngoDavid. Pho kungani lisidelela? Kasibanga ngabokuqala na ukukhuluma ngokubuyisa inkosi yethu?” Kodwa abantu bakoJuda baphendula ngamazwi alukhuni kakhulu kulawabantu bako-Israyeli.

20 Ngalesosikhathi kwenzakala ukuthi umxabanisi owayethiwa nguShebha indodana kaBhikhiri umBhenjani abekhona. Wakhalisa icilongo waklabalala esithi, “Kasilasabelo kuDavid, kasilangxenywe endodaneni kaJese! Umuntu wonke ethenteni lakhe, Oh Israyeli!” **2** Ngakho bonke abantu bako-Israyeli bahlubuka kuDavid balandela uShebha indodana kaBhikhiri. Kodwa abantu bakoJuda babambelela enkosini yabo umango wonke kusukela eJodani kusiya eJerusalema. **3** UDavid esebuyele esigodlweni sakhe eJerusalema, wathatha abafazi bakhe beceleni abalithshumi ayebatshiyi begcine isigodlo wababeka endlini elindwayo. Wabanika ababekuswela, kodwa kembathanga labo. Babehlala bevalwe kuze kube lusuku lokufa kwabo, baphila njengabafelokazi. **4** Inkosi yasisithi ku-Amasa, “Biza abantu bakoJuda beze kimi phakathi kwensuku ezintathu, lawe ube lapha wena ngokwakho.” **5** Kodwa u-Amasa eseyebiza uJuda, wathatha isikhathi eside kulaleso inkosi eyayimisele sona. **6** UDavid wasesithi ku-Abhishayi, “Khathesi uShebha indodana kaBhikhiri uzasenzela umonakalo odlula owenziwa ngu-Abhisalomu. Thatha abantu benkosi yakho umlandele, hlezi athole amadolobho avikelweyo aphunyuke kithi.” **7** Ngakho abantu bakoJowabi lamaKherethi lamaPhelethi kanye lamaqhawe wonke alamandla baphuma belawulwa ngu-Abhishayi. Bahamba besuka eJerusalema belandela uShebha indodana kaBhikhiri. **8** Kwathi besesedwaleni elikhulu eGibhiyoni, u-Amasa wayabahlangebeza. UJowabi wayegqoke ibhatshi lakhe lempi, phezu kwalo, ekhalweni lwakhe, kubophe ibhanti lilomhedla esikhwameni sawo. Esahamba esiya phambili, umhedla wawela ngaphandle kwesikhwama sawo. **9** UJowabi wasesithi ku-Amasa, “Unjani, mfowethu?” UJowabi wasebamba u-Amasa ngendevu ngesandla sakhe sokudla wasemanga. **10** U-Amasa kawunanzelelanga umhedla owawuphethwe nguJowabi, uJowabi wasengwaza esiswini sakhe, amathumbu akhe ahutshukela phandle emhlabathini. Lanxa engasagwazwanga futhi, u-Amasa wafa. Emva kwalokho uJowabi lomfowabo u-Abhishayi baxotshana loShebha indodana kaBhikhiri. **11** Omunye wabantu bakoJowabi wema phansi kuka-Amasa

wathi, “Lowo othanda uJowabi, lalowo ongokaDavida, kalandele uJowabi!” **12** U-Amasa walala ezibhixeka egazini lakhe phakathi komgwaqo, umuntu lowo wabona ukuthi amabutho wonke afika ame khonapho. Kwathi esenanzelele ukuthi umuntu wonke owafika ku-Amasa wema, wamhudula emsusa emgwaqweni wamusa egangeni, waphosela isembatho phezu kwakhe. **13** Emva kokuba u-Amasa esesusiwe emgwaqweni, abantu bonke bedlula loJowabi ukuyaxotshana loShebha indodana kaBhikhiri. **14** UShebha wadabula phakathi kwazo zonke izizwana zako-Israyeli kusiya e-Abheli-Bhethi-Mahakha laphakathi kwesabelo sonke samaBikiri, aqoqanayo amlandela. **15** Wonke amabutho ayeloJowabi afika amvimbezela uShebha e-Abheli-Bhethi-Mahakha. Bakha idundulu lokuvimbezela elalifika edolobheni njalo laleyame izinqaba zangaphandle. Besagqula umduli ukuba bawudilize, **16** owesifazane ohlakaniphileyo wamemeza esedolobheni wathi, “Lalelani! Lalelani! Tshelani uJowabi eze lapha ukuze ngikhulume laye.” **17** Wahamba esiya kuye, wasembuza esithi, “Ungujowabi na?” Yena waphendula wathi, “Nginguye.” Wasesithi, “Lalela okuzatshiwo yincekukazi yakho.” Wathi, “Ngilalele.” **18** Owesifazane waqhubeka wathi, “Kudala babejwayele ukuthi, ‘Funani impendulo e-Abheli-Bhethi-Mahakha,’ lokho kwakuyiqeda indaba. **19** Thina singabathuleyo labathembekileyo ko-Israyeli. Wena uzama ukudiliza idolobho elingunina ko-Israyeli. Kungani ufuna ukuginya ilifa likaThixo na?” **20** UJowabi waphendula wathi, “Akusikho lokho! Akusikho lokho ukuginya loba ukudiliza! **21** Akunjalo. Umuntu othiwa nguShebha indodana kaBhikhiri, owaselizweni lezintaba lako-Efrayimi, uphakamisele inkosi isandla sakhe emelana layo, emelana loDavida. Mletheni umuntu lowo, ngisuke edolobheni.” Owesifazane wathi kuJowabi “Ikhandla lakhe lizaphoswa kuwe lisuka emdulini.” **22** Emva kwalokho owesifazane lowo waya ebantwini bonke leseluleko sakhe esikhaliphileyo, baquma ikhandla likaShebha indodana kaBhikhiri baliphosela kuJowabi. Ngakho wakhalisa icilongo, abantu bakhe bachitheka besuka edolobheni, lowo lalowo ebuyela emzini wakhe. UJowabi wabuyela enkosini eJerusalema. **23** UJowabi wayephethe lonke ibutho lako-Israyeli; uBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada ephethe amaKherethi lamaPhelethi; **24** u-Adoniram wayephethe izibhalwa; uJehoshafathi indodana ka-Ahiludi wayengumbhali; **25** uSheva engumabhalane; uZadokhi lo-Abhiyathari bengabaphristi; **26** u-Ira umjayiri engumphristi kaDavida.

21 Ekubuseni kukaDavida kwaba lendlala iminyaka emithathu ilandelana; ngakho uDavida wabuza uThixo. UThixo wathi, “Kungenxa kaSawuli lendlu yakhe enindwe ngegazi; kungenxa yokuthi yena wabulala amaGibhiyoni.” **2** Inkosi yabiza amaGibhiyoni yakhuluma lawo. (AbaseGibhiyoni babengasiyo ngxenye ka-Israyeli kodwa babengabasalayo bama-Amori, abako-Israyeli babefunge ukubayekela, kodwa uSawuli ngenxa yokutshisekela kwakhe u-Israyeli loJuda wafuna ukubaqeda du.) **3** UDavida wabuza amaGibhiyoni wathi, “Kuyini engingalenzela khona na? Ngingakwenza njani ukubuyisana ukuze libusise ilifa likaThixo na?” **4** AmaGibhiyoni amphendula athi, “Kasilalo ilungelo lokufuna isiliva loba igolide kuSawuli kumbe kwabendlu yakhe, lelungelo lokubulala umuntu ko-Israyeli kasilalo.” UDavida wabuza wathi, “Pho lifuna ukuthi ngilenzeleni?” **5** Bayiphendula inkosi bathi, “Umuntu owasichithayo waceba okubi ngathi saze

satshabalala njalo kasaze saba lendawo loba ngaphi ko-Israyeli, **6** kasinikwe abenzalo yakhe besilisa abayisikhombisa ukuba babulawe balengiswe phambi kukaThixo eGibhiya kaSawuli, okhethiweyo kaThixo.” Ngakho inkosi yathi, “Ngizalinika bona.” **7** Kodwa uMefibhoshethi indodana kaJonathani, indodana kaSawuli, inkosi yamtshiya ngenxa yesifungo phambi kukaThixo phakathi kukaDavida loJonathani indodana kaSawuli. **8** Kodwa inkosi yathatha u-Arimoni loMefibhoshethi amadodana amabili endodakazi ka-Ayiya uRizipha, ayemzale loSawuli, kanye lamadodana amahlanu endodakazi kaSawuli uMerabi, ayewazale lo-Adiriyeli indodana kaBhazilayi waseMehola. **9** Yabanikeza kumaGibhiyoni, abubalala abachaya eqaqeni phambi kukaThixo. Bonke beyisikhombisa bafela ndawonye; babulawa ngezinsuku zakuqala zokuvuna, ukuvunwa kwebhali kuqalisa nje. **10** URizipha indodakazi ka-Ayiya wathatha isaka wazendlelela lona edwaleni. Kusukela ekuqaliseni kokuvuna izulu laze lana livela emazulwini linetha izidumbu, kamvelamanga izinyoni zasemoyeni ukuba zizithinte emini loba izinyamazana zeganga ebusuku. **11** Kwathi uDavida esetshelwe ngokwakwenziwe yindodakazi ka-Ayiya uRizipha, umfazi kaSawuli weceleni, **12** wahamba wayathatha amathambo kaSawuli lawendodana yakhe uJonathani ebantwini baseJabheshi Giliyadi. (Babewathathe esintha enkundleni kazulu eBhethi-Shani, lapho amaFilistiya ayewachaye khona emva kokubulala kwawo uSawuli eGilibhowa.) **13** UDavida wawathatha khonapho amathambo kaSawuli lawendodana yakhe uJonathani, lamathambo alabo ababebulawe babuye bachaywa abuthwa. **14** Amathambo kaSawuli lawendodana yakhe uJonathani bawangcwaba ethuneni likasekaSawuli uKhishi, eZela koBhenjamini, benza konke njengokulaya kwenkosi. Emva kwalokho uNkulunkulu wayiphendula imikhuleko eyenzelwa ilizwe. **15** Kwaphinda kwaba lempi futhi phakathi kwamafilistiya lo-Israyeli. UDavida wahamba labantu bakhe ukuyakulwa lamaFilistiya, wasedindwa. **16** U-Ishibhi-Bhenobi, omunye wabenzalo kaRafa, isihloko somkhonto wakhe wethusi esasilobunzima obungamashekeli angamakhulu amathathu, njalo ehlome ngenkomba entsha, wathi uzabulala uDavida. **17** Kodwa u-Abhishayi indodana kaZeruya wamhlenga uDavida; wamcakazela phansi umFilistiya lowo wambulala. Abantu bakaDavida bafunga kuye bathi, “Kawuyikuhamba lathi futhi empini, ukuze isibane sika-Israyeli singacitshwa.” **18** Ngokuqhubeka kwesikhathi kwaba lenye impi futhi lamaFilistiya, eGobi. Ngalesosikhathi uSibhekhaiyi umHushathi wabulala uSafi, omunye wabosendo kaRafa. **19** Kweyinye impi lamaFilistiya njalo eGobi, u-Elihanani indodana kaJayiri umBhethilehema wabulala umfowabo kaGoliyathi umGithi, owayelomkhonto owawuloluthi olunjengogodo lomaluki. **20** Kanti njalo kwenye impi eyalwelwa eGathi, kwakulendoda enkulu kakhulu ileminwe eyisithupha esandleni ngasinye lamazwane ayisithupha enyweni ngalunye, sekubalwa konke ndawonye kungamatshumi amabili lane. Laye wayengowosendo lukaRafa. **21** Kwathi echothoza u-Israyeli, uJonathani indodana kaShimeya, umfowabo kaDavida, wambulala. **22** Abane laba babengabosendo lukaRafa eGathi, bonke babulawa nguDavida lamabutho akhe.

22 UDavida wahlabela uThixo amazwi alelihubo lapho uThixo wamsindisa esandleni sezitha zakhe zonke lasesandleni sikaSawuli. **2** Wathi: “UThixo ulidwala lami, inqaba yami lomzindisi wami; **3** uNkulunkulu wami ulidwala lami, lapho engiphaphela khona, isihlangu sami lophondo

lokusindiswa kwami. Uyingqaba yami, isiphephelo sami lomindisi wami uyangisindisa ebantwini abalodlakela. **4** Ngakhuleka kuThixo ofanele ukudunyiswa, njalo ngikhululwe ezitheni zami. **5** Amagagasi okufa angikhulela; lezikhukhula zokubhubhisa zangikhulela. **6** Izibopho zengcwaba zangathandela; imijibila yokufa yangijamela. (Sheol h7585) **7** Ekukhathazekeni kwami ngakhuleka kuThixo; ngakhala kuNkulunkulu wami. Esethempelini lakhe walizwa ilizwi lami; ukukhala kwami kwafika ezindlebeni zakhe. **8** Umhlaba wagedezela wamazama, izisekelo zamazulu zanyikinyeka; zagedezela ngoba wayethukuthele. **9** Intuthu yalanquka emakhaleni akhe; umlilo ohangulayo waphuma emlonyeni wakhe, amalahle avuthayo alavuka ephuma kuwo. **10** Waqhekeza amazulu wehlela phansi; amayezi amnyama ayengaphansi kwezinyawo zakhe. **11** Wagada amakherubhi waphapha; wantweza phezu kwamaphiko omoya. **12** Wenza umnyama isigubuzelo esimhlangileyo, amayezi ezulu amnyama asemkhathini. **13** Phakathi kokukhazimula kokubhona bakhe, izikhatha zombane zalavuzwa khona. **14** UThixo wakhwaza esezulwini; ilizwi loPhezukonke lanqenqetha. **15** Waciba imitshoko wazihlakaza izitha, ngezikhatha zombane waziqothula. **16** Izigodi zolwandle zambulwa lezisekelo zomhlaba zavezwa obala ekukhuzeni kukaThixo, ngomfutho wokuphefumula kwamakhala akhe. **17** Welula isandla sakho usezulwini wangibamba wangihlenga enzikini yamanzi. **18** Wangihlenga esitheni sami esilamandla, ezitheni zami ezazingigabhela ngamandla. **19** Zangijamela mhla ngisebuzimzeni, kodwa uThixo waba yinsika yami. **20** Wangikhupha wangibeka endaweni ebanzi; wangihlenga ngoba wayethokoza ngami. **21** UThixo ungenzele okulingene ukulunga kwami; wangivuzwa ngokufanele ukuhlazeka kwezandla zami. **22** Ngoba ngizigcinile izindlela zikaThixo; angenzanga okubi ngokufulathela uNkulunkulu wami. **23** Yonke imithetho yakhe iphambi kwami; angizifulathela izimiso zakhe. **24** Ngibe ngilokhu ngimsulwa phambi kwakhe njalo ngisixwayile isono. **25** UThixo ungivuze ngokufanele ukulunga kwami; ngokufanele ukuhlazeka kwami phambi kwakhe. **26** Kwabathembekileyo lawe uthembekile, kwabamsulwa lawe umsulwa, **27** kwabahlanzekileyo uziveza uhlanzekile, kodwa kwabangaqondanga uziveza ukhaliphile. **28** Uyabasindisa abathobekileyo; kodwa amehlo akho akhangele abazigqajayo ukuba ubehlisele phansi. **29** Uyisibane sami, Oh Thixo, uThixo uguqula ubumnyama bami bube yikukhanya. **30** Ngosizo lwakho ngingaphuma ngimelane lebutu lempi, ngoNkulunkulu wami ngingawukhwele umduli. **31** Izindlela zikaNkulunkulu uqobo lwakhe ziphelele; ilizwi likaThixo kalilasi. Ulihawu labo bonke abaphephela kuye. **32** Ngoba ngubani uNkulunkulu ngaphandle kukaThixo? Njalo ngubani oliDwala ngaphandle kukaNkulunkulu wethu na? **33** NguNkulunkulu ongihlomisela amandla enze indlela yami iphelele. **34** Wenza inyawo zami zibe njengezempala; ungenza ngime ezingqongweni. **35** Ufundisa izandla zami ukulwa impi, izingalo zami zingaligobisa idandili lethusi. **36** Uyanginika isihlangu sakho sokunqoba; uyazehlisela phansi ukuze ungenze ngibe mkhulu. **37** Uqhelisa indlela enginyathela kuyo, ukuze inqagala zami zingapheci. **38** Ngaxotshana lezitha zami ngaziqothula; kangibuyanga ngingakazibhubhisi zonke. **39** Ngaziqothula okupheleleyo, njalo zazingeke zisavuka; zawela ngaphansi kwezinyawo zami. **40** Wangihlomisa ngamandla okulwa impi; wenza

abaxabana lami bakhothama ezinyaweni zami. **41** Wenza izitha zami zafulathela zabaleka, njalo ngazibhubhisa izitha zami. **42** Bakhala becela uncedo, kodwa wayengekho owayengabahlenga kuThixo, kodwa kaphendulanga. **43** Ngabats'haya bacholeka njengothuli lomhlabathi; ngabagxoba ngabanyathela njengodaka ezindleleni. **44** Ungikhulule ekuhlaselweni yilababantu; ungigcine ngiyinhloko yeziwe. Abantu engangingabazi sebuswa yimi, **45** abezizweni bayatshotshobala phambi kwami; bathi bengizwa nje ngendaba, bangilalele. **46** Bonke badlele; beza bethuthumela bevela ezingqeni zami zabo. **47** UThixo uyaphila! Alidunyiswe iDwala lami! Kaphakanyiswe uNkulunkulu wami, iDwala, uMsindisi wami! **48** UnguNkulunkulu ongiphindiselelayo, obeka izizwe ngaphansi kwami, **49** ongikhululayo ezitheni zami. Wena wangiphakamisela ngaphezu kwezitha zami; wangihlenga ebantwini bodlakela. **50** Ngakho ngizakudumisa, Oh Thixo, phakathi kwezizwe; ngizahlabelela indumiso yebizo lakho. **51** Unika inkosi yakhe ukunqoba okukhulu; ubonakalisa umusa wakhe ongapheliyo kugcotshiwayo wakhe, kuDavida lenzalo yakhe kuze kube phakade.”

23 La ngamazwi okucina kaDavida: “Umbono kaDavida indodana kaJese, umbono womuntu owaphakanyiswa ngoPhezukonke, umuntu owagcotshwa nguNkulunkulu kaJakhobe, umhlabeleli wezingoma ka-Israyeli: **2** Umoya kaThixo wakhuluma ngami, ilizwi lakhe lalisolimini lwami. **3** UNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli wakhuluma, iDwala lika-Israyeli lathi kimi: ‘Lapho umuntu ebusa abantu ngokulunga, lapho ebusa ngokwesaba uNkulunkulu, **4** unjengokukhanya kwekuseni ekuphumeni kwelanga ekuseni okungelamayazi, njengokukhanya emva kokuna kwezulu okumilisa utshani emhlabathini.’ **5** Indlu yami kayifanelanga kuNkulunkulu na? Kanje kenzanga lami isivumelwano esingapheliyo esalungiswayo saqiniswa izigaba zonke na? Kambe kazukuphumelelisa ukusindiswa kwami angiphe konke engikufisayo na? **6** Kodwa abantu ababi bonke bazaphoselwa eceleni njengameva, angabuthwayo ngesandla. **7** Loba ngubani othinta ameva usebenzisa insimbi loba uluthi lomkhonto; ayatshiswa ngomlilo khonapho akhona.” **8** La ngamazwi amaqhawe kaDavida: UJoshebi-Bhasishebethi umThakemoni wayeyinduna yabaThathu, waphakamisela abantu abangamakhulu ayisificaminwembili umkhonto wakhe, ababulalayo ekuhlaselweni kunye. **9** Yena elandelwa ngu-Eliyazari indodana kaDodo um’Ahohe. Njengomunye wamaqhawe amathathu, wayeloDavida lapho bechothoza amaFilistiya ayebuthanele impi ePhasi Damimi. Lapho-ke abantu bako-Israyeli bahlelele emuva, **10** kodwa yena wajama wawacazela phansi amaFilistiya isandla sakhe saze sadinwa sanamathela enkembeni. Ngalelola ngami uThixo waletha ukunqoba okukhulu. Amabutho abuyela ku-Eleyazari ukuyahlubula abafuleyo kuphela nje. **11** Phansi kwakhe kwakuloShama indodana ka-Ageye umHarari. Kwathi amaFilistiya eseqoqene endaweni eyayilezindumba ezinengi, amabutho ako-Israyeli awabalekela. **12** Kodwa uShama wajama phakathi kwensimu. Wayivikela wawacazela phansi amaFilistiya, uThixo waletha ukunqoba okukhulu. **13** Ngesikhathi sokuvuna, abathathu ezinduneni ezingamatshumi amathathu baya kuDavida ebhalwini lwase-Adulami, lapho ibutho lamaFilistiya lalimise eSigodini saseRefayi. **14** Ngalosesikhathi uDavida wayesenqabeni, iviyo

lamabutho amaFilistiya laliseBhethilehema. **15** UDavidawomela amanzi wasesithi, “Oh, sengathi kungaba lomuntu ongangikhela amanzi okunatha emthonjeni oseduze lesango laseBhethilehema!” **16** Ngakho amaqhawe amathathu adabula phakathi kwamavuyo amaFilistiya, akha amanzi emthonjeni eduze lesango laseBhethilehema ahamba lawo kuDavidawomela. Kodwa wala ukuwanatha, esikhundleni salokho wawathela phambi kukaThixo. **17** Wathi, “Akungenzeki, Oh Thixo, ukuba ngenze lokhu. Akusigazi labantu abahambe befake ukuphila kwabo engozini na?” UDavidawomela kawanathanga. **18** Lezi zaziyizenzo zobuqhawe zalawomabutho womathathu. **19** U-Abhishayi umfowabo kaJowabi indodana kaZeruya wayeyinduna yabaThathu labo. Waphakamisela umkhonto wakhe phezu kwabangamakhulu amathathu, ababulalayo, ngakho waba lodumo njengabaThathu. **20** Kahlonitshwanga kakhulu kulabaThathu na? Waba ngumlawuli wabo, loba engazange abe phakathi kwabo. **21** UBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada wayelinqhawe elisesibindi laseKhabhizeli, elenza izenzo zobuqhawe obukhulu. Wabulala amaqhawe amaMowabi amabili ayezintshantshu ekulweni. Wake wangena emgodini wabulala isilwane mhlalokho kulungqwaqwane. **22** Njalo wabulala umGibhithe owayemkhulu kakhulu. Lanxa umGibhithe lowo wayephelele umkhonto, uBhenaya wamhlasele ngenduku. Wawuhluthuna umkhonto esandleni somGibhithe wambulala ngomkhonto wakhe. **23** Lezi zaziyizenzo zobuqhawe zikaBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada; laye futhi wayedume njengamaqhawe amathathu. **24** Wayehlonitshwa kakhulu ukwedlula bonke abangamaTshumi Amathathu, kodwa wayengabalwa kanye labaThathu. UDavidawomela wambeka ukuba abe ngumphathi wabalindi bakhe. **25** Phakathi kwabangamatshumi amathathu labo kwakuyilaba: U-Asaheli umfowabo kaJowabi, u-Elihanani indodana kaDodo waseBhethilehema, **26** uShama umHarodi, u-Elika umHarodi, **27** uHelezi umPhalithi, u-Ira indodana ka-Ikheshi waseThekhowa, **28** u-Abhiyezeri wase-Anathothi, uSibhekhayi umHushathi, **29** uZalimoni um’Ahoi, uMaharayi umNethofa, **30** uHeledi indodana kaBhana umNethofa, u-Ithayi indodana kaRibhayi owaseGibhiya koBhenjamini, **31** uBhenaya umPhirathoni, uHidayi wazindangeni zaseGashi, **32** u-Abhi-Alibhoni um’Aribhathi, u-Azimavethi umBharhumi, **33** u-Eliyaba umShalibhoni, amadodana kaJasheni, uJonathani **34** indodana kaShama umHarari, u-Ahiyamu indodana kaSharari umHarari, **35** u-Elifelethi indodana ka-Ahasibhayi umMahakhathi, u-Eliyami indodana ka-Ahithofeli umGiloni, **36** uHeziro umKhameli, uPharayi um’Aribhi, **37** u-Igali indodana kaNathani waseZobha, indodana kaHagiri, **38** uZelexhi um’Amoni, uNaharayi umBherothi, owayethwala izikhali zikaJowabi, indodana kaZeruya, **39** u-Ira um’Ithira, uGarebbhi um’Ithiri **40** kanye lo-Uriya umHithi. Bebonke babengamatshumi amathathu lesikhombisa.

24 Ulaka lukaThixo lwabuya lwavutha phezu kuka-Israyeli, wenza uDavidawomela labo, esithi, “Hambani liyebala abantu bako-Israyeli labakojuda.” **2** Ngakho inkosi yathi kuJowabi labalawuli bebutho ababelaye, “Hambani ezizweni zonke zako-Israyeli kusukela koDani kusiya eBherishebha libhale abantu bokulwa, ukuze ngazi ukuthi bangaki.” **3** Kodwa uJowabi waphendula inkosi wathi, “Sengathi uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho angandisa amabutho ngokuphindwe okwedlula ikhulu, njalo sengathi lamehlo kamhlekazi wami inkosi angakubona lokho. Kodwa-ke umhlekazi wami

inkosi ifunelani ukwenza into enje?” **4** Kodwa ilizwi lenkosi lamenqabela uJowabi kanye labalawuli bebutho; ngakho basuka phambi kwenkosi ukuba bayebhala abantu bokulwa ko-Israyeli. **5** Sebechapha iJodani bamisa eduze le-Aroweri, eningizimu komuzi edongeni, basebedabula phakathi kwakoGadi besedlulela eJazeri. **6** Baya eGiliyadi lasesabelweni saseThathimi Hodishi, laphambili eDani Jawani lasezindaweni eziseduze kusiya eSidoni. **7** Emva kwalokho baqonda enqabeni yaseThire lakuyo yonke imizi yamaHivi lamaKhenani. Ekucineni, baya eBherishebha eNegebi yakoJuda. **8** Sebelihambe lonke ilizwe, babuyela eJerusalem emva kwemizungu eziyisificamunwemunye lezinsuku ezingamatshumi amabili. **9** UJowabi wafika wabikela inkosi inani lamadoda ayengalwa empini: Ko-Israyeli kwakulamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amahlanu aqinileyo ayelakho ukuthi angayiphatha inkemba, koJuda. **10** Emva kokubala abantu bokulwa uDavidawomela wakhathazeka enhliziyweni yakhe, wasesithi kuThixo, “Ngonile kakhulu ngalokho engikwenzileyo. Khathesi-ke, awu Thixo, ngiyakuncenga, susa icala lenceku yakho. Ngenze ubuwula obukhulu kakhulu.” **11** UDavidawomela engakavuki ngokusa okwalandelayo, ilizwi likaThixo laselifikile kuGadi umphrofethi, umboni kaDavidawomela, lisithi: **12** “Hamba uyethela uDavidawomela ukuthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: Ngakunika ukuthi ukhethe phakathi kokuthathu. Khetha okukodwa kwakho ukuba ngikwenze kuwe.’” **13** Ngakho uGadi waya kuDavidawomela wathi kuye, “Kungehliselwa kuwe indlala yeminyaka emithathu elizweni lakho na? Loba izinyanga ezintathu ubalekela izitha zakho zixotshana lawe na? Kumba insuku ezintathu zesifo elizweni lakho na? Khathesi-ke cabanga ngakho wenze isinqumo ukuthi ngizamphelela njani lowo ongithumileyo.” **14** UDavidawomela wathi kuGadi, “Ngiphakathi kokukhathazeka okukhulu. Kasiweleni ezandleni zikaThixo, ngoba isihawu sakhe sikhulu, kodwa ungangiyekeli ngiwele ezandleni zabantu.” **15** Ngakho uThixo wathumela isifo ko-Israyeli kusukela ekuseni kwamhlalokho kwaze kwafika isikhathi esasimisiwe, kwafa abantu abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa kusukela koDani kusiya eBherishebha. **16** Kwathi ingilosi isiyulele isandla sayo ukuba itshabalalise iJerusalem, uThixo wayeselusizi ngexa yomonakalo ngakho wathi engilosini eyayiqothula abantu, “Kwanele! Susa isandla sakho.” Ngalesosikhathi ingilosi kaThixo yayisisesizeni sika-Arawuna umJebusi. **17** Kwathi uDavidawomela ebona ingilosi eyayibulala abantu, wathi kuThixo, “Mina yimi engenze isono ngenza okubi. Laba bayizimvu nje. Kuyini abakwenzileyo? Isandla sakho kasiwele phezu kwami labendlu yami.” **18** Ngalolosuku uGadi waya kuDavidawomela wathi kuye, “Hamba uyekwakhela uThixo i-alithari esizeni sika-Arawuna umJebusi.” **19** Ngakho uDavidawomela wahamba njengokulaya kukaThixo ngoGadi. **20** Kwathi u-Arawuna ekhangela njalo ebona inkosi labantu bayo besiza kuye, waphuma wakhothama phambi kwenkosi ubuso bakhe buthe mbo phansi. **21** U-Arawuna wathi, “Umhlekazi wami inkosi ulandeni encekwini yakhe na?” UDavidawomela waphendula wathi, “Ngilande ukuzathenga isiza sakho, ukuze ngakhele uThixo i-alithari, ukuze isifo esisebantwini simiswe.” **22** U-Arawuna wasesithi kuDavidawomela, “Umhlekazi wami inkosi kathathe loba kuyini okumthokozisayo anikele ngakho. Nansi inkabi zomnikelo wokutshiswa, nansi lemibhulo yokubhula kanye lamajogwe enkabi ukuba kube zinkuni. **23** Awu nkosi, u-Arawuna unika inkosi konke lokhu.” U-Arawuna wabuya wathi

kuye, “Sengathi uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho angakwamukela.”
24 Kodwa inkosi yathi ku-Arawuna, “Hayi, ngiyagcizelela ekuthini ngikuthenge kuwe. Kangiyikunikela kuThixo uNkulunkulu wami umnikelo wokutshiswa ongangibizelanga lutho.” Ngakho uDavida wasithenga isiza kanye lenkabi ngamashekeli esiliva angamatshumi amahlanu. **25** UDavida wakhela uThixo i-alithari kuleyondawo wanikela iminikelo yokutshiswa leminikelo yobudlelwano. Lapho-ke uThixo waphendula ukukhulekelwa kwelizwe, isifo saphela ko-Israyeli.

1 Amakhosi

1 Kwathi inkosi uDavida esemdala kakhulu, wayengasafudumali lanxa elele loba bemembathise kakhulu. **2** Izinceku zakhe zathi kuye, “Kasidinge intombazana yokunakekela inkosi iyifudumeze. Izalala eceleni kwayo ukuze inkosi yethu ifudumale.” **3** Ngakho balibhudula lonke elako-Israyeli bedinga intombi enhle baze bafumana u-Abhishagi, umShunami waletwa enkosini. **4** Intombazana ley yayinhle kakhulu; yayinakekela inkosi yayilondolozana, kodwa inkosi kayizanganga umfazi. **5** Kwathi u-Adonija, unina owayenguHagithi, waziveza wathi, “Yimi engizakuba yinkosi.” Waselungisa izingqola lamabhiza kanye lamadoda angamatshumi amahlanu ukumandulela. **6** (Uyise kazange amkhuze ngokumbuza ukuthi, “Ukwenzeleni konke lokhu?” Laye wayemuhle kakhulu, eselama u-Abhisalomu.) **7** U-Adonija wacebisana loJowabi indodana kaZeruya lo-Abhiyathari umphristi, laba bamsekela. **8** Kodwa uZadokhi umphristi, loBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada, loNathani umphrofethi, loShimeyi, loReyi kanye labalindi benkosi abamsekelanga u-Adonija. **9** U-Adonija wasesenza umhlatsshelo ngezimvu, ngenkomo langamathole anonileyo eLitsheni laseZohelathi eduze le-Eni Rogeli. Wanxusa abafowabo, lamadodana enkosi lawo wonke amadoda akoJuda ayengawesikhosini, **10** kodwa kamnxusanga uNathani umphrofethi loba uBhenaya loba abalindi benkosi loba umfowabo uSolomoni. **11** Ngakho uNathani wabuza uBhathishebha, unina kaSolomoni wathi, “Awukezwa yini ukuthi u-Adonija, indodana kaHagithi, useyinkosi, ezibeka inkosi yethu uDavida ingakakwazi lokho?” **12** Khathesi-ke lalala ngikweluleke, ukuze uzisindise wena lokuvikela impilo yendodana yakho uSolomoni. **13** Ngena lapha okulenkosi uDavida khona ufike uthi kuyo, ‘Wena omkhulu nkosi yami, awufunganga na phambi kwami mina sichaka sakho ukuthi: “Ngogotho sibili indodana yakho uSolomoni uzakuba yinkosi ngemva kwakho, uzahlala esihlalweni sami?” Kungani pho u-Adonija esebe yinkosi?’ **14** Uzakuthi usuphakathi ukhuluma layo inkosi, lami ngizangena ngifike ngicwalesele lokho ozabe ukutshilo.” **15** Ngalokho-ke uBhathishebha wayayibona inkosi eyayivele isiluphele isendlini yayo, lapho u-Abhishagi ongumShunami ayelondolozana khona inkosi. **16** UBhathishebha wakhothama wazehlisa waguqa phambi wengkosi. Inkosi yambuza yathi: “Kuyini okufunayo?” **17** Wathi kuyo, “nkosi yami, wena uqobo lwakho wafunga kimi inceku yakho ngoThixo uNkulunkulu wakho wathi: ‘USolomoni indodana yakho uzakuba yinkosi ngemva kwami, njalo uzahlala esihlalweni sami sobukhosi.’” **18** Kodwa khathesi u-Adonija esebe yinkosi, kodwa wena mbusi, nkosi yami awukwazi okwenzakalayo. **19** Usenikele ngenkomo ezinengi, amaguqa anonisiweyo, kanye lezimvu, njalo usenxuse wonke amadodana enkosi, u-Abhiyathari umphristi kanye loJowabi umlawuli webutho, kodwa kamnxusanga uSolomoni inceku yakho. **20** Mbusi wami, nkosi, abako-Israyeli bonke bakukhangele, badinga ukwazi ukuthi ngubani ozahlala esihlalweni sakho sobukhosi ngemva kwakho. **21** Kungenzeka phela ukuthi inkosi yami ingavele iyephumula kubokhokho, mina lendodana yami uSolomoni sizaphathwa njengezigangeni.” **22** Kwathi elokhu esakhuluma lenkosi, kwafika uNathani umphrofethi. **23** Bayibikela inkosi bathi, “UNathani

umphrofethi ulapha.” Waya phambi kwenkosi wakhothama embele ubuso bakhe phansi. **24** UNathani wabuza wathi, “Kambe, nkosi yami, nguwe na othe u-Adonija uzamele athathe ubukhosi bakho ungasekho wena, utshilo na ukuthi uzahlala esihlalweni sakho sobukhosi?” **25** Lamuhla lokhu wehlile wayakwenza umhlatsshelo wenkomo ezinengi, amaguqa anonisiweyo, lezimvu. Unxuse wonke amadodana enkosi, abalawuli bamabutho enkosi kanye lo-Abhiyathari umphristi. Khona khathesi nje bayadla benatha kanye laye besitsho besithi, ‘Mpilonde nkosi Adonija!’ **26** Kodwa mina inceku yakho, loZadokhi umphristi, loBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada, kanye lenceku yakho uSolomoni kasinxusanga. **27** Kambe kungaba yikuthi lokhu inkosi yami ikwenge ingatshelanga izinceku zayo ukuthi ngubani ozahlala esihlalweni sobukhosi benkosi yami ngemva kokuba inkosi ingasekho?” **28** Ngalokho inkosi uDavida yathi, “Mbize, angene uBhathishebha.” Ngakho weza enkosini wema phambi kwayo. **29** Inkosi yayinguqa yathi: “Ngeqiniso lokuthi uThixo wami ngophilayo, lowo owangikhipha ezinhlophekweni zami zonke, **30** ngempela khona lamuhla lokhu ngizagcwalisa lokho engakufunga ngoThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli: uSolomoni indodana yakho uzakuba yinkosi ngemva kwami, njalo uzahlala esihlalweni sami esikhundleni sami.” **31** Ngalokho uBhathishebha wakhothamisa ikhanda ekhangele phansi, kwathi eseguqe phambi kwenkosi, wathi. “Umbusi wami inkosi uDavida kaphile kuze kube nini lanini!” **32** Inkosi uDavida yathi, “Ngibizela uZadokhi umphristi, uNathani umphrofethi kanye loBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada.” Bathesebephambi wengkosi, **33** yathi kubo: “Thathani izinceku zenkosi yenu lihambe lazo liyekhweza uSolomoni indodana yami phezu kwembongolo yami lehle laye liye eGihoni. **34** Khonale uZadokhi umphristi loNathani umphrofethi kuzamele bamcobe ubukhosi phezu kuka-Israyeli wonke. Livuthela icilongo limenze lithi, ‘Kayiphile okulaphakade iNkosi uSolomoni!’ **35** Lizakhwela laye, abuye azohlala esihlalweni sami sobukhosi aze abuse esikhundleni sami. Sengimkhethile ukuthi abuse phezu kuka-Israyeli lajokuda.” **36** UBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada waphendula inkosi wathi, “Akube njalo! Kungathi uThixo, uNkulunkulu wombusi lenkosi yami, angakumisa kube njalo. **37** Njengoba uThixo elondolozela umbusi wami oyinkosi, akube njalo lakuSolomoni ukuze enze ubukhosi bakhe bube ngaphezu kwalobo obenkosi yami iNkosi uDavida!” **38** Ngakho uZadokhi umphristi, loNathani umphrofethi, loBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada lamaKherethi lamaPhelethi behla bafika bakhweza uSolomoni embongolweni yeNkosi uDavida bamqhuba bamusa eGihoni. **39** UZadokhi umphristi wathatha uphondo lwamafutha ethenteni elingcwele wagcoba uSolomoni. Ngakho bahle bavuthela icilongo, abantu bonke bahlaba umkhosi behaya besithi, ‘Mpilonde Nkosi Solomoni!’ **40** Bonke bamlandela, bavuthela imihubhe bejabula kakhulu, kwaze kwanyikinyeka umhlaba. **41** U-Adonija kanye lezethekeli ezazilaye zawuzwa lumkhosi njengoba bona basebeqediswa ukudla. UJowabi wathi esizwa icilongo wabuza wathi, “Utshoni umsindo wonke lo edolobheni?” **42** Kwathi elokhu esakhuluma kwafika uJonathani indodana ka-Abhiyathari umphristi. U-Adonija wathi, “Ngena phakathi. Indoda eqakathekileyo njengawe kufanele ukuthi isiphathele izindaba ezimnandi.” **43** UJonathani waphendula wathi, “Akulalutho. Inkosi uDavida uMbusi wethu usegcobe uSolomoni ubukhosi. **44** Inkosi

isimthumele kanye loZadokhi umphristi, loNathani umphrofethi, loBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada, lamaKherethi lamaPhelethi, njalo sebehle bamkhweza embongolweni yenkosi. **45** Njalo uZadokhi umphristi loNathani umphrofethi sebehle bamgobela ubukhosi eGihoni. Besuka lapho bahle bahaya bambuka, kanti ledolobho lonke lihlokoma ngenjabulo. Yiwo lo umkhosi eliwuzwayo. **46** Kunjalo-nje uSolomoni usehle wahlala esihlalweni sobukhosi. **47** Phezu kwalokho izikhulu zesikhosini sezifikile ukuthi zizokwenzela iNkosi uDavida amhlophe zisithi, ‘Sengathi uNkulunkulu wakho angenza ibizo likaSolomoni lidume kulelakhokuthi lesihlalo sakhe sobukhosi sibe lodume ukwedlula esakho!’ Ngalokho inkosi yakhothama yakhonza isembhedeni wayo **48** yathi, ‘Udumo alube kuye uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, yena ovumele ukuthi ngizibonele ngawami amehlo lowo ozathatha isihlalo sami sobukhosi lamuhla.’” **49** Ngenxa yalokhu, izethekeli zika-Adonija zathi lothu zaphakama ngokwethuka zachitheka. **50** Kodwa u-Adonija, ngokwesaba uSolomoni, wahamba wayabamba impondo ze-alithare. **51** USolomoni wasetshelwa ukuthi, “U-Adonija uyayesaba iNkosi uSolomoni ngakho usegagadlele impondo ze-alithare. Uthi yena, ‘iNkosi uSolomoni kayifunge kimi lamuhla ithi kayiyikubulala isichaka sayo ngenkamba.’” **52** USolomoni waphendula wathi, “Nxa angatshengisela ukuthi uyindoda uqobo lwayo akulanwele lolulodwa lwekhanda lakhe oluzawela emhlabathini; kodwa nxa ebanjwe yikona, uzakufa.” **53** Ngakho iNkosi uSolomoni yathumela amadoda, ayamethula e-alithareni abuya laye. Ngalokho u-Adonija weza wafika wazehlisa wakhothama enkosini uSolomoni, yena uSolomoni wathi. “Hamba, yana emzini wakho.”

2 Kwathi isikhathi sokuthi uDavida afe sesisondele, walaya indodana yakhe uSolomoni. **2** Wathi, “Sengiseduze ukuyiphetha indlela yemhlabeni. Ngakho qina, zitshengisele ubudoda bakho, **3** unanzelele lokho okufunwa nguThixo uNkulunkulu wakho: Ukuhamba endleleni yakhe, ugcine imilayo leziqondiso zakhe, imithetho yakhe kanye lezilayezelo zayo: Hamba ezindleleni zakhe, ugcine izimiso zakhe leziqondiso zakhe, imithetho yakhe lokulotshiweyo ngokoMthetho kaMosi, ukuze uphumelele kukho konke okwenzayo kanye lalapho oya khona, **4** ngalokho uThixo uzacina isithembiso sakhe kimi: ‘Nxa isizukulwane sakho sizananzelela izindlela zokuphila kwaso, njalo sizahamba ngobuqotho phambi kwami ngezinhliziyo zaso lasemoyeni waso, awuyikwehluleka uswele indoda ezahlala esihlalweni sobukhosi ko-Israyeli.’ **5** Wena ngokwakho uyakwazi ukuthi uJowabi indodana kaZeruya wenzani kimi lekubulaweni kwabalawuli bamabutho ako-Israyeli, u-Abhineri indodana kaNeri lo-Amasa indodana kaJetha. Wababulala, wachitha igazi ngesikhathi sokuthula kwangathi kusempini, ngalokho igazi langcolisa uzwezwe okhalweni lwakhe lenyathelo ezinyaweni zakhe. **6** Yenza lokho obona kufanele kuye, kodwa ikhanda lakhe elimpunga ungavumeli lingcwatshe ngokuthula. (Sheol h7585) **7** Kodwa ube lomusa emadodaneni kaBhazilayi weGilyyadi babengabanye balabo abazakudla kanye lawe ethaleni lakho. Bona bema kanye lami nxa ngangibalekela umfowenu u-Abhisalomu. **8** Njalo ukhumbule ukuthi, wena ulendodana kaGera uShimeyi ongowakoBhenjaminini oweBhahurimi owangithuka kabuhlungu mhla ngisiya kuMahanayimi. Wathi lapho ezongihlangabeza eJodani,

ngafunga ngoThixo ngathi: ‘Angiyikubulala ngenkamba.’ **9** Kodwa loba kunjalo ungabonakana ukuthi umsulwa. Uyindoda elengqondo ekhaliphileyo, kumele ukwazi ozakwenza kuye. Yethula ikhanda lakhe elimpunga liye emangcwabeni ligcwele igazi.” (Sheol h7585) **10** Kwaba yikwedlula kukaDavida esesiya kubokhokho bakhe abafayo wayangcwatshewa eMzini kaDavida. **11** Wayesebuse okweminyaka engamatshumi amane ko-Israyeli, iminyaka eyisikhombisa eHebhroni kwathi engamatshumi amathathu lemithathu eJerusalema. **12** Ngakho uSolomoni wahlala esihlalweni sobukhosi sikayise uDavida, umbuso wakhe wagxila waqina. **13** Kwathi u-Adonija, indodana kaHagithi, waya kuBhathisheba, unina kaSolomoni. UBhathisheba wambuza wathi, “Kambe uza ngokuthula na?” Yena waphendula wathi, “Ye, ngokuthula.” **14** Waqhubekela phambili wathi, “Kukhona engifisa ukukutsho kuwe.” Wathi, “Ungatsho lokho oza ngakho.” **15** “Njengoba usazi ukuthi ubukhosi bebungobami. U-Israyeli ubekhangela ukuthi yimi inkosi yabo. Kodwa izinto seziguquile, ubukhosi sebuthethwe ngumfowethu, ngoba yena ubuphiwe nguThixo. **16** Pho khathesi ngilesicelo engiza ngaso kuwe. Ungabokwala.” Waphendula wathi, “Khuluma isikhazazo sakho.” **17** Yena waqhubekela phambili wathi, “Ngicelela inkosi uSolomoni anginike u-Abhishagi umShunami ukuze abe ngumkami, ngiyazi negeke ale kuwe.” **18** UBhathisheba waphendula wathi, “Yebo kambe, ngizakukhulumela ngikubike enkosini.” **19** Kwathi uBhathisheba esiyakhulumela u-Adonija enkosini uSolomoni, inkosi yaphakama yamhlangabeza yamkothamela yasihlala esihlalweni sayo sobukhosi. Yathi kabalethele unina isihlalo sesikhosini, unina wasehlala esandleni sayo sokudla. **20** Unina wathi, “Ungabokwala, ngilesicelo esincane engizasethula kuwe.” Inkosi yaphendula yathi, “Cela mama, angiyikukuncitsha, angikwaleli.” **21** Unina wasesithi, “Yekela u-Abhishagi umShunami abe ngumfazi womfowenu u-Adonija.” **22** Inkosi uSolomoni ephendula unina wathi, “Kungani ucelela u-Adonija u-Abhishagi umShunami? Kuyafanana lokuthi umcelela ubukhosi, kanti njalo yena ngokwakhe umnewethu umdala kulami kanye laku-Abhiyathari umphristi loJowabi indodana kaZeruya!” **23** Ngakho inkosi uSolomoni yasifunga ngoThixo yathi: “Kungani uNkulunkulu angangijezisa mina, loba kabuhlungu kangamani, nxa u-Adonija engasahlawulanga ngokufela lesisicelo esinje! **24** Khathesi-ke, ngeqiniso likaThixo ophilayo, yena kanye ongibeke wangizinzisa esihlalweni sobukhosi bukababa uDavida wangidalela indlu yesikhosini njengokuthembisa kwakhe, u-Adonija uzabalawa lamhlanje!” **25** Ngakho iNkosi uSolomoni yakhipha ilizwi yathuma uBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada, lakanye wamlahla phansi u-Adonija kwahle kwaba yikufa kwakhe. **26** Ku-Abhiyathari umphristi iNkosi yathi, “Buyela emasimini akho e-Anathothi. Kufanele ufe kodwa angiyikubulala khathesi, ngoba wathwala ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo Wobukhosi phambi kukababa uDavida waba kanye lobaba esebunzimeni.” **27** Ngakho uSolomoni wasusa u-Abhiyathari esihlalweni sobuphristi bukaThixo, kwagcwaliseka lelolizwi likaThixo alikhuluma eShilo ekhuluma ngendlu ka-Eli. **28** UJowabi ekuzweni lelilizwi, njengoba yena wayekade ebambene lo-Adonija engazange enze lokho lo-Abhisalomu, wabalekela ethenteni likaThixo wafika wadumela impondo ze-alithare. **29** Inkosi uSolomoni yatshelwa ukuthi uJowabi ubalekele ethenteni likaThixo lapha afike wazisondeza e-alithareni. Ngalokho uSolomoni wathi kuBhenaya indodana

kaJehoyada, “Hamba uyemtsheya umbhuqe.” **30** Lakanye uBhenaya wangena ethenteni likaThixo wathi kuJowabi, “Inkosi ithi, ‘Phuma phandle!’” Kodwa yena waphendula wathi, “Angiphumi, ngizafela khonapha.” UBhenaya wayabika enkosini wathi, “Yiyonale indlela angiphendule ngayo uJowabi.” **31** Ngalokho inkosi yathi kuBhenaya, “Yenza njengokutsho kwakhe. Umshaye umbhuqe, uhle umngcwabe, unge uzigeze mina kanye lendlu kababa kulowomlandu wegazi elingelacala elachithwa nguJowabi. **32** UThixo uzamjezisa ngegazi alichithayo, ngoba wahlasela wabulala amadoda amabili ngenkamba ubaba inkosi uDavida engakwazi. Bobabili u-Abhineri indodana kaNeri, umlawuli wamabutho ako-Israyeli, kanye lo-Amasa indodana kaJetha, umlawuli wamabutho akoJuda, babengamadoda angcono beqotho kulaye. **33** Kungani umlandu waleligazi labo ungahlala phezu kukaJowabi labenzalo yakhe kuze kube nini lanini. Kodwa inkosi uDavida lenzalo yakhe, lendlu yakhe lesihlalo sobukhosi sakhe, angathi ingehlwelela yikuthula okungapheliyo kukaThixo.” **34** UBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada wakhwela wafika wamtshaya uJowabi wambulala wayangcwatshwa esiqintini sakhe enkangala. **35** Inkosi yabeka uBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada ukuba abe ngumlawuli webutho esikhundleni sikaJowabi kwathi esikhundleni sika-Abhiyathari yabeka uZadokhi umphristi. **36** Ngakho inkosi yathi kayibizelwe uShimeyi yasisithi kuye. “Zakhele indlu eJerusalemah uhlale khonale, kodwa ungayi ndawo. **37** Mhla uzake usuke uchaphe uye eziHotsheni zeKhidironi, uhle wazi ngeqiniso ukuthi uzakufa, igazi lakho libizabwa phezu kwakho.” **38** UShimeyi wayiphendula inkosi wathi, “Lokho okutshoyo kuqondile. Inceku yakho izakwenza njengoba inkosi yayo itshilo.” Ngakho uShimeyi wahlala eJerusalemah isikhathi eside. **39** Kodwa kwathi sekwedlule iminyaka emithathu, izigqili zikaShimeyi ezimbili zabalekela ku-Akhishi indodana kaMahakha, inkosi yeGathi, njalo uShimeyi watshelela ukuthi, “Izigqili zakho ziseGathi.” **40** Ekuzwa lokhu, wethesa ubabhemi wakhe waya ku-Akhishi eGathi esiyadinga izigqili zakhe. Ngakho uShimeyi wabuya lazo izigqili zakhe evela eGathi. **41** USolomoni esetsheliwe ukuthi uShimeyi wayesuke eJerusalemah waya eGathi waze waphenduka, **42** inkosi yambiza uShimeyi yathi kuye, “Angizange ngikufungise ngoThixo njalo ngakuqonqonsela ukuthi, ‘Mhla uzake usuke uye kwenye indawo uhle wazi ukuthi ngempela uzakufa na?’ Ngalesosikhathi wathi kimi, ‘Okutshoyo kuqotho. Ngizalalela.’ **43** Pho kungani ungagcinanga isifungo sakho kuThixo ulelele isiqondiso engakunika sona?” **44** Inkosi njalo yathi kuShimeyi, “Uyakwazi enhliziyweni yakho konke ukona owakwenza kubaba uDavida. Khathesi uThixo uzakujezisa ngokona kwakho. **45** Kodwa inkosi uSolomoni izabusiswa, isihlalo sobukhosi sikaDavida sizahlala siqinile ngokuzinza phambi kukaThixo kuze kube nini lanini.” **46** Ngakho yakhupha isiqondiso kuBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada, yena waphuma wafika wamngqonda uShimeyi wamhlala phansi wahle wambulala. Ngalokho ubukhosi basebusezandleni zikaSolomoni ngokugcwelelo.

3 USolomoni waba lobudlelwano loFaro inkosi yeGibhithe waze wathatha indodakazi yayo. Wayingenisa edolobheni likaDavida inkosikazi yakhe esaqedisa umsebenzi wokwakha ithempeli likaThixo, lomduli ohonqolozele iJerusalemah. **2** Kodwa-ke, abantu babelokhu besanikelela ezindaweni eziphakemeyo ngoba ithempeli lalilokhu lilindele ukwakhiwa

lisakhelwa ibizo likaThixo. **3** USolomoni watshengisela uthando lwakhe kuThixo ngokuhamba njengokulaya kukayise uDavida, ngaphandle nje kokuthi wanikela iminikelo watshisa impepha ezindaweni eziphakemeyo. **4** Inkosi yaya eGibhiyoni ukuyanikela iminikelo, ngoba kwakuyiyo indawo eqhamileyo kweziphakemeyo, ngakho-ke uSolomoni wanikela ngeminikelo yokutshiswa eyinkulungwane kulelo-alithare. **5** Khonapho eGibhiyoni uThixo waziveza kuSolomoni ebusuku emaphutsheni lapho uNkulunkulu athi, “Cela loba yini ofuna ukuba ngikunike yona.” **6** USolomoni waphendula ngokuthi, “Utshengisile umusa omkhulu encekwini yakho, ubaba uDavida, ngenxa yokuthi wathembeka njalo elungile ngokuqonda enhliziyweni yakhe. Uqhubekele phambili ngomusa omkhulu kangaka wamnika indodana ehlezi esihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi lamuhla lokhu. **7** Khathesi, Thixo Nkulunkulu wami, uyibekile inceku yakho yaba yinkosi esikhundleni sikababa uDavida. Kodwa ngingumntwana nje ongakwaziyo ukwenza umsebenzi okumele awenze. **8** Inceku yakho ilapha phakathi kwabantu bakho obakhethileyo, abantu abaqakathekileyo, abanengi okungabalwayo noma ukulandisa ngenani labo. **9** Phana inceku yakho inhliziyo elobubelo ukuze ibuse abantu bakho lokuthi yahlukanise phakathi kokuhle lokubi. Ngoba ngubani olamandla okubusa abantu bakho abakhulu kangaka?” **10** UThixo wathokoziswa yilesisicelo sikaSolomoni. **11** Ngakho uNkulunkulu wathi kuye, “Njengoba ucele lokho kodwa ungacelanga impilo ende loba inotho, njalo awucelanga ukuthi ngabe izitha zakho ziyafa kodwa ucele inhliziyo elobubele ekubuseni ngemfanelo, **12** ngizakwenza lokho okucelileyo. Ngizakunika inhliziyo yenhlakanipho kanye lobubele, kube yikuthi akukaze kube khona ofanana lawe, njalo kungelakuthi uzake abekhona. **13** Phezu kwalokho, ngizakunika ongazange ukucele, kokubili inotho lokuhlonitshwa, kube khona ekuphileni kwakho konke njalo kungabi leyodwa inkosi ezalanganawo. **14** Kanti njalo nxa uzathatha inyathelo lami ulelele imilayo lemithetho yami njengalokhu okwenziwa nguyihlo uDavida, ngizakunika impilo ende.” **15** Ngakho uSolomoni wasephaphama, wananzelela ukuthi kwakuliphupho. Wabuyela eJerusalemah, wayakuma phambi kwebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo wanikela ngomnikelo wokutshiswa leminikelo yokuthula. Wenzela izinceku zakhe zonke zasendlini idili. **16** Kwasekusiba lezifebe ezimbili ezaya enkosini zafika zema phambi kwayo. **17** Esinye sathi, “Nkosi yami, umama lo sihlala ndlunye. Ngikhululeke ngazusa umntwana laye ekhona. **18** Kuthe ngosuku lwesithathu ngikhululeke laye umama lo wakhululeka wazusa umntwana. Besiyithi sodwa sobabili, kungelamuntu endlini ngaphandle kwethu sobabili. **19** Ebusuku indodana yalumama ifile ngoba usuke walanda phezu kwayo. **20** Wasevuka ebusuku wangemuka indodana yami mina ncekukazi yakho ngilele ubuthongo. Uthethe umntanami wayamxhuma ebeleni lakhe, wathatha owakhe ofileyo wamfaka kwelami ibele. **21** Ekuseni ngithe ngivuka ukuba ngimunyise indodana yami, ngathola ukuthi isifile! Kodwa ngithe ngiyayikhangelisisa sokusile ngananzelela ukuthi akusiyi indodana yami engayizalayo.” **22** Omunye owesifazane wathi, “Hayi! Indodana le ephilayo ngeyami, efileyo ngeyakho.” Kodwa umama wokususa indaba waphikelele esithi, “Hayi bo! Ofileyo ngowakho, ophilayo ngowami.” Ngakho-ke baphikisana phambi kwenkosi. **23** Inkosi yathi, “Lo uthi, ‘Hayi bo! Indodana yami iyaphila kodwa eyakho ifile!’ kanti belo loyana uthi, ‘Hayi bo! Eyakho indodana

yiyo efileyo kodwa eyami ngephilayo.” 24 Inkosi yasisithi, “Lethani inkemba.” Lakanye inkosi bayiqhubela inkemba. 25 Inkosi yapha isiqondiso yathi, “Dabulani umntwana ophilayo phakathi laphakathi kuthi ingxenye liyiqhubele omunye umama kuthi lomunye laye limnike enye ingxenye.” 26 Owesifazane owayelendodana ephilayo wakhulelwa lusizi ngendodana yakhe ngakho wathi enkosini, “Uxolo, ngiyacela nkosi yami, kungcono umqhubele umntwana ephila, umnike nkosi! Ungambulali umntwana.” Kodwa omunye wathi, “Kakho phakathi kwethu ofanele ukumzuzisa lumntwana, mqume iziqha ezimbili!” 27 Inkosi yaseyiza ukwahlulela kwayo: “Umntwana ophilayo mupheni umama wakuqala. Lingambulali umntwana, lo nguye unina uqobo.” 28 Kwathi abako-Israyeli sebezwele bonke ukwahlulela kwenkosi, bayesaba kakhulu, ngoba babona ukuthi ukhulakaniya kwayo kokwahlulela ngemfanelo kuvela kuNkulunkulu.

4 Ngakho uSolomoni wabusa lonke elako-Israyeli. 2 Njalo ababeyizikhulu embusweni wakhe yilaba: U-Azariya indodana kaZadokhi umphristi; 3 u-Elihorefu lo-Hija, amadodana kaShisha ababengobhala; uJehoshafathi indodana ka-Ahiludi wayemlondolozi wemibhalo; 4 uBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada umlawuli omkhulu; uZadokhi lo-Abhiyathari babengabaphristi; 5 u-Azariya indodana kaNathani wayekhangele izikhulu zeziqinti; uZabhudi indodana kaNathani wayengumphristi njalo engumcebisi osekhwapheni lenkosi; 6 u-Ahishari umlawuli wasesigodlweni, u-Adonirami indodana ka-Abhida wayekhangele izichaka. 7 USolomoni wayelezinye njalo izikhulu zeziqinti ezilithshumi lambili ezazikhangele ngokuqoqwa kokudla kwenkosi lomndlunkulu e-Israyeli. Kwakusithi isikhulu ngasinye silethe ukudla okwenyanga eyodwa ngomnyaka. 8 Nanka amabizo alezozikhulu: uBheni-Huri wayephethe isiqinti samaqqa ezweni lika-Efrayimi; 9 uBheni-Dekheri wayephethe eseMakhazi, leseShalibhimi, leseBhethi-Shemeshi kanye lese-Eloni-Bethihanani; 10 uBheni-Hesedi wayephethe ese-Arubhothi (eSokho lakulo lonke ilizwe leHeferi kungumango wakhe); 11 uBheni-Abhinadabi wayephethe eseNaphothi Dori (yena wayethethe uThafathi indodakazi kaSolomoni); 12 uBhana indodana ka-Ahiludi wayephethe eseThanakhi leMegido, lasezindaweni zonke zeBhethi-Shani phansi kweZarehani ngaphansi kweJezerili, kusuka eBhethi-Shani kusiya e-Abheli-Mehola kusuka lapho kuyengena kuAbheli-Mehola kuquma kuyengena kuJokhimiyamu; 13 uBheni-Gebha eRamothe Gilyadi (imizana kaJayiri indodana kaManase eGilyadi kwakungokwakhe, kanye lesiqinti se-Agobhi eBhashani kuhlanganisa lamadolobho amakhulu angamatshumi ayisithupha alemiduli lamasango avalwa ngezivalo ezenziwe ngemigqala yensimbi yethusi); 14 u-Ahinadabi indodana ka-Ido eMahanayimi; 15 u-Ahimazi eNafithali (wayethethe uBhasemathi indodakazi kaSolomoni); 16 uBhana indodana kaHushayi ko-Asheri lako-Bheyalothi; 17 uJehoshafathi indodana kaPharuya, ko-Isakhari; 18 uShimeyi indodana ka-Ela koBhenjamini; 19 uGebheri indodana ka-Uri eGilyadi (elizweni likaSihoni inkosi yama-Amori kanye lelizwe lika-Ogi inkosi yeBhashani). Kwakunguye kuphela umbusi wesiqinti. 20 Abantu bakoJuda labako-Israyeli babebanengi okwesihlabathi solwandle; babesidla, benatha njalo babejabula. 21 USolomoni wabusa kulonke kusukela ezweni leMifusa kusiya kwelamaFilistiyi, kuze kube semingceleni yeGibhithe. Wonke amazwe la ayethela

njalo abuswa nguSolomoni okwempilo yakhe yonke. 22 Okwakufanele kudliwe esigodlweni sikaSolomoni nsuku zonke kwakubalisa ifulawa elicolekileyo elilingana amakhora angamatshumi amathathu lempuphu elingana amakhora angamatshumi ayisithupha, 23 inkabi ezinonisiweyo ezilithshumi lenkomo ezingamatshumi amabili ezivela emadelweni, izimvu lembuzi ezilikhulu ngaphandle kwempala lemiziki lempunzi lengalukhuni ezinonisiweyo. 24 Ngoba yena wabusa phezu kwemibuso entshonalanga koMfula, kusukela eThiphisa kusiya eGaza, njalo kwakulokuthula kuzozonke lezo zindawo. 25 Ngesikhathi sokubusa kukaSolomoni kuze kufike ekufeni kwakhe elakoJuda lako-Israyeli, kusukela kuDani kusiya kuBherisheba, abantu babehlezi bevikelekile, kungulowo lalowo emthunzini wesihlahla sakhe seveni loba esomkhiwa. 26 USolomoni wayelezibaya zamabhiza enqola zakhe zokulwa eziyinkulungwane ezine, njalo wayelamabhiza azinkulungwane ezilithshumi lambili. 27 Izikhulu zesiqinti, sinye ngasinye ngenyanga yaso, kwakumele zizophisane ukulethela iNkosi uSolomoni ukudla lemfanelo yakhe lababekwethekelela esikhosini. Izikhulu lezi zazinanzelela kakhulu ukuthi akukho lokukodwa okusilelayo esikhosini. 28 Izikhulu zaziletha njalo isabelo sazo sengqoloyi lotshani bamabhiza ezingqola zempi lamanye amabhiza. 29 UNkulunkulu wanika uSolomoni ukhulakaniya lombono womzwangedwa, lokuqedisa okujule njengetshebetshebe lolwandle. 30 Ulwazi lukaSolomoni lwalujule ukwedlula olwezazi zonke zaseMpumalanga, njalo lujule ukwedlula ulwazi lonke lwaseGibhithe. 31 Wayelakaniye ukwedlula wonke amadoda, kubalwa kanye lo-Ethani um’Ezira, ehlakaniye ukwedlula uHemani, loKhalikholi loDada, amadodana kaMaholi. Njalo udumo lwakhe lwazwakala ezizweni zonke ezazakhelene laye. 32 Wabumba izaga ezizinkulungwane ezintathu kanti njalo izingoma zakhe zaba ziyinkulungwane eyodwa lezinlanu. 33 Wachasisa wahaya izihlahla, kusukela isihlahla sosedari waseLebhanoni lomhisophi okhula emidulini. Wafundisa njalo langezinyamazana lezinyoni, langezinanakazana lenhlanzi. 34 Amadoda ayequbuka evela emhlabeni wonke ukuthi azozizwela ukukhaliya kwengqondo kaSolomoni, wonke lamadoda amanye evela khonapho lamanye evela ezizweni, eza ukuzakuzwa lokhukhulakaniya.

5 Kwathi uHiram inkosi yaseThire esizwa ukuthi uSolomoni ugcotshwe ukuba abe yinkosi athathe isihlahlo sikayise, wathumela amaxusa akhe kuSolomoni njengoba wayevele ezwanana loDavida. 2 Yena uSolomoni waphendula uHiram wathi: 3 “Wena uyakwazi ukuthi ubaba uDavida kenenisanga ukwakhela iBizo likaThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe ithempeli ngenxa yezimpi ayezilwa inxa zonke, uThixo waze wamnqobela izitha zakhe. 4 Kodwa khathesi uThixo uNkulunkulu wami ungiphe ukuthula inxa zonke, ngakho akulasitha loba umonakalo. 5 Ngizimisele, ngenxa yalokho, ukwakhela ithempeli leBizo likaThixo uNkulunkulu wami, njengoba watshela ubaba uDavida wathi, ‘Indodana yakho engizayibeka esihlalweni sakhosho sokubhosi izakwakhela iBizo lami ithempeli.’ 6 Khupha-ke iziqondiso zokuthi ngiganyulelwe izihlahla zomsedari waseLebhanoni. Amadoda avela kimi azasebenza kanye lawe, njalo amadoda avela kuwe ngizawahlolisa leholo ozalitsizo wena. Uyakwazi ukuthi asilabo abawaziyo lowomsebenzi ngobuciko obungalingana lobamaSidoni.” 7 UHiram wathi esizwa ilizwi elivela kuSolomoni, wajabula kakhulu wathi, “Udumo kalube kuThixo

lamuhla, ngoba unike uDavida indodana ehlakaniphileyo ezabusa lesisizwe esikhulu.” **8** Ngakho uHiramu wathumela ilizwi kuSolomoni wathi: “Ngilitholile ilizwi ongithumele lona njalo ngizakwenza konke okuzakuzuzisa izigodo zesihlahla somsedari lesohlobo lwephayini. **9** Amadoda ngapha ngakami azagamula ahudule izigodo azifikise elwandle evela eLebhanoni, ngibe sengizehlisa ngemikolo ngize ngiyezifikisa lapha ozakutsho khona. Kulapho engizazehlukanisa khona wena ube usuzithathela khonapho uhambe lazo. Wena uzagcwalisa isifiso sami ngokunginika isiqiniseko sokuthi uzanginika ukudla komdlunkulu wami ukuze ungewelwa yindlala.” **10** Ngalindlela uHiramu walethela uSolomoni izigodo zesihlahla somsedari kanye lesephayini ayezifuna, **11** kanti njalo yena uSolomoni wapha uHiramu ingqoloyi elingana amakhora azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili yomndlunkulu, phezu kwamafutha acengekileyo edira angamatanka azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili iminyaka leminyaka. **12** UThixo wapha uSolomoni ingqondo ekhaliphileyo njengokumethemba kwakhe. Kwaba lokuthula ebudlelaneni bukaHiramu loSolomoni, kwathi bobabili benza isibopho sokuhlalisana ngokuthula. **13** INkosi uSolomoni yabutha izibhalwa zokusebenza elizweni lonke lako-Israyeli, ezazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu. **14** Wayezithumela eLebhanoni lezizibhalwa ngezigaba zabantu abazinkulungwane ezilithumi izopha ngezopha ngenyanga, kuyikuthi lezizibhalwa zazisebenza eLebhanoni inyanga yonke zibe seziphumula ekhaya okwezinyanga ezimbili. U-Adonirami nguye owayephethe labo ababuthwa babayizibhalwa zomsebenzi. **15** USolomoni wayelabantu bokuthwala abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa kanye lababebaza amatshe abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye munye ezintabeni, **16** kanye lababekhangele abasebenzayo abangamakhulu amathathu lantathu lababebona ngokuqhubeka komsebenzi beqondisa izisebenzi. **17** Ngeziqondiso zenkosi bakhupha inkalakatha zamatshe amahle ukuze kube lamatshe amahle okwakhisa ngawo isisekelo sethempeli esilohlonzi. **18** Izingcithsi zokubaza zikaSolomoni lezikaHiramu lamaGebhali babaza balungisa izigodo lamatshe kusakhiwa ithempeli.

6 Ngomnyaka wamakhulu amane lasificaminwembali abako-Israyeli baphuma eGibhithe, ngomnyaka wesine uSolomoni ebusa ko-Israyeli, ngenyanga kaZivi, iyinyanga yesibili, waqalisa ukwakha ithempeli likaThixo. **2** Ithempeli elakhiwa yiNkosi uSolomoni elakhela uThixo lalizingalo ezingamatshumi amabili ububanzi balo, lengalo ezingamatshumi amathathu ukuyaphezulu. **3** Isigaba sekhulisi elingaphambi kwendlu enkulu yethempeli sengezelela ububanzi lokuqhelela kwethempeli, ngezingalo ezingamatshumi amabili njalo sasiphutsha ukwedlula indlu enkulu kusiya phambi kwayo ngezingalo ezilithumi. **4** Amafasitela awenzayo ethempelini ayengamancinyane. **5** Emidulini yendlu enkulu yethempeli lasendlini engcwele ephakathi wakha esinye isimo, kulapho okwaba lezindlwana khona emaceleni. **6** Indawo ephansi kuzozonke yayibanzi okwezingalo ezinhlano, kuthi iguma laphakathi lalizingalo eziyisithupha kanti-ke iguma lesithathu lalingaba ngeziyisikhombisa. Wakha imithangala ngaphandle kwethempeli ukuze kungabi lalutho olwaluzafakwa phakathi kwemiduli yethempeli. **7** Ekwakheni ithempeli, kwasetshenziswa amatshe ayebazwe alolongwa lapho ayevela khona kuphela, ngakho kwakungezwakali

sando, ihloka loba yiphi insimbi yokwakha ethempelini ngesikhathi kusakhiwa. **8** Umnyango weguma laphansi wawungezansi yethempeli; kulamakhwelelo okuya esigcawini saphakathi kuthi kusuka lapho kwedulelele esigcawini sesithathu. **9** Ngakho wakha ithempeli waliqeda, walifulela ngentungo lamapulanka ezigodo zomседari. **10** Wasesakha izindlwana zalandelela imiduli yethempeli. Ubude bokuya phezulu kwendlwana ngayinye babuzingalo ezinhlano, njalo zazibanjaniswe lemiduli yethempeli ngemijabo yezigodo zomседari. **11** Ilizwi likaThixo leza kuSolomoni lathi, **12** “Okwalelithempeli olakhayo, nxa ulandela iziqondiso zami, lemilayo yami ugcine konke engikuluya ngakho ukulandele, ngawe ngizagcwalisa zonke izithembiso engazenza kuyihlo uDavida. **13** Ngizahlala phakathi kwabantu bako-Israyeli njalo angiyikubatshiya abantu bami bako-Israyeli.” **14** Ngakho uSolomoni wakha ithempeli waliqeda. **15** Wacecisa emidulini yangaphakathi ngamapulanka omsedari, wavala ececisa kusukela phansi kusiya ephahleni, walungisa iphansi lethempeli ngamapulanka ezigodo zephayini. **16** Waquma wavala indawo ezingalo ezingamatshumi amabili emsamo wethempeli ngamapulanka omsedari kusukela phansi kusiya ephahleni esakha isiphaphelo sangaphakathi kwethempeli, iNdawo eNgcwelengcwele. **17** Indlu enkulu phambi kwaleyo yona yayizingalo ezingamatshumi amane ubude bayo. **18** Ngaphakathi kwethempeli kwakwakhiwe ngomsedari, ubazwe iziduku lamaluba aqhakazileyo. Konke kwakungumsedari, kungabonakali litshe lezilodwa. **19** Walungisa isiphaphelo ngaphakathi kwethempeli ukubeka ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo khonopho. **20** Isiphaphelo sangaphakathi sasizingalo ezingamatshumi amabili ubude, amatshumi amabili ububanzi njalo kungamatshumi amabili ukuyaphezulu. Wahuqa ingaphakathi ngegolide elicengekileyo, wasehuqa le-alithari lomседari. **21** USolomoni wahuqa ingaphakathi yethempeli ngegolide elicengekileyo, njalo wengezelela amaketane egolide aquma phambi kwesiphaphelo sangaphakathi, sona esasihuwqe ngegolide. **22** Ngakho wahuqa ingaphakathi yonke ngegolide. Wasehuqa njalo ngegolide i-alithari elalingalesiphaphelo sangaphakathi. **23** Phakathi kwesiphaphelo sangaphakathi wenza amakherubhi amabili ngesihlahla som’oliva, ubude bokuya phezulu ngalinye buzingalo ezilithumi. **24** Uphiko olulodwa lwekherubhi lakuqala lwaluzingalo ezinhlano ubude balo, kanye lalolu olunye uphiko lwaluzingalo ezinhlano, ingalo ezilithumi kusukela ekucineni kophiko kusiya ekucineni kophiko. **25** Ikherubhi lesibili lalo lalizingalo ezilithumi, womabili amakherubhi ayelingana njalo efanana isimo. **26** Ubude bokuya phezulu bekherubhi ngalinye babuzingalo ezilithumi. **27** Amakherubhi wawafaka endlini ephakathi kwethempeli, amaphiko awo echayekile. Uphiko lwelinye ikherubhi lwathinta umdlu wangapha kwathi uphiko lwelinye lalo lwathinta umdlu ngale, kwathi phakathi laphakathi kwendlu amaphiko awo athintana. **28** Amakherubhi lawo wawahuqa ngegolide. **29** Emidulini indawana yonke ukubhoda ithempeli, ezindlini zangaphakathi lezangaphandle wabaza amakherubhi, lezihlahla zamalala lamaluba aqhakazileyo. **30** Wahuqa njalo iphansi lezindlu zangaphandle lezangaphakathi kwethempeli ngegolide. **31** Emnyango wesiphaphelo sangaphakathi wenza izivalo zamapulanka om’oliva, imigubazi yakhona ilamacele amahlano. **32** Kwathi ezivalweni zombili zom’oliva wabaza amakherubhi, lezihlahla zamalala lamaluba

aqhakazileyo, wahuqa amakherubhi lezihlahla zamalala ngegolide elikhandiweyo. **33** Ngokufananayo wenza imigubazi elamacele amane ngom'oliva emnyango wokungena endlini enkulu. **34** Wenza njalo izivalo zomphayini ezimbili, ngasinye singesigoqeka kabili. **35** Wabaza amakherubhi lezihlahla zamalala lamaluba aqhakazileyo kuzo wasewahuqa ngegolide likhandwe lalingana phezu kokubaziweyo. **36** Wakhela njalo iguma langaphakathi imizila emithathu ngamatshe abaziweyo lowodwa owemijabo yomsedari. **37** Isisekelo sethempeli likaThixo samiswa ngomnyaka wesine ngenyanga kaZivi. **38** Ngomnyaka wetshumi lanye ngenyanga kaBhuli, inyanga yesificaminwembali, kwaba yikuphela kwethempeli lakhiwe njengokumiswa kwalo langeziqondiso zalo. Wayethethe iminyaka eyisikhombisa elakha.

7 Kwathatha uSolomoni iminyaka elitshumi lantathu ukuqeda ukwakha isigodlo sakhe. **2** Wakha isiGodlo seGusu leLebhanoni saba side okwezingalo ezilikhulu, lamatshumi amahlanu ububanzi lamatshumi amathathu ukuyaphezulu, sakhelwe phezu kwezinsika zemisedari eziyimizila emine, kulamapulanka omsedari phezu kwayo. **3** Sasifulelwe ngamapulanka omsedari ayephezu kwezinsika ezingamatshumi amane lanhlanu, ziyimizila emithathu, umzila ulezinsika ezilitshumi lanhlanu. **4** Kwakulemizila emithathu yamafasitela, ayeqondene. **5** Yonke iminyango yayimiswe yaba magumbi mane; yayimiswe ngaphambili ngamithathu, ikhangeleni. **6** Wasesakha lendlu yezinsika, ubude bayo buzingalo ezingamatshumi amahlanu, ububanzi bayo bungezingamatshumi amathathu. Phambi kwayo kulekhulusi elilezinsika phambili, lophahla. **7** Wasesakha lendlu yesihlalo sobukhosi, iNkundla Yokwahlulela, lapho ayezathonisela khona amacala, wayendlala ngemisedari kusukela phansi kusiya ephahleni. **8** Isigodlo sakhe ayezahlala kuso sasisegumeni elingemuva kwendlu yokuthonisela amacala, yayakhiwe ngokufananayo. USolomoni wakhela indodakazi kaFaro ayeyithethe, isigodlo esifanana lendlu yenkundla. **9** Zonke lezizakhiwo, kusukela ngaphandle kuzo kuyefika egumeni elikhulu phakathi kanye lokusuka esisekelweni kusiya esihlothinini, zazakhiwe ngamatshe aqakathekileyo ayebazwe ngesilinganiso esahiwe kuhle ngaphakathi langaphandle kwawo. **10** Izisekelo zakhiwa ngamatshe amakhulu aqinileyo, amanye ayezingalo ezilitshumi amanye njalo ezingalo eziyisificaminwembali. **11** Ngaphezulu kwakulamatshe aqinileyo, ebazwe ngesilinganiso, kanye lemijabo yomsedari. **12** Iguma elikhulu lalibiyelwe ngomduli wemithando emithathu yamatshe yelekene kanye lalowomsedari obazwe kuhle, kanti kwakunjalo lasegumeni lethempeli likaThixo lekhulusini lakhona. **13** Inkosi uSolomoni yathumela eThire ukuba kulethwe uHuramu. **14** Unina wayengumfelokazi owesizwe sakoNafithali ezalwa yindoda eyayingeyThire njalo eyayingitshi ekubazeni ithusi. UHuramu wayengumuntu ohlakaniphileyo elokuqedisisa njalo wayelobucika leminwe ekubazeni ithusi. Waya enkosini uSolomoni wafika wenza yonke imisebenzi ayeyiphiwe. **15** Wabumba insika ezimbili zethusi ezazizinde okuzingalo eziyisificaminwembali ukuyaphezulu njalo ubundlingilizi bazo zazizingalo ezilitshumi lambili ngomzila. **16** Wabumba njalo iziduku ezimbili zethusi ukuze zifakwe engqongeni yezinsika zona ezazizingalo ezinhlanu ukuyaphezulu inye ngayinye. **17** Amambule amaketane ayephothene acecisa

iziduku ezaziphezu kwezinsika eziyisikhombisa esidukwini sinye ngasinye. **18** Wenza imizila emibili yomceciso wamaphomegranathi, igqagqele amambule ukucecisa iziduku phezu kwezinsika. Wenza okufanayo esidukwini sinye ngasinye. **19** Iziduku ezaziphezu kwezinsika ekhulusini zazibunjwe okwemiduze, ziphakeme okwezingalo ezine. **20** Phezu kweziduku ensikeni zombili, ngaphezu kwezigaba esiyingubhe phansi kwamambule, kungamaphomegranathi angamakhulu amabili emizileni inxa zonke. **21** Wakha lezonsika ekhulusini lethempeli. Insika eseningizimu wayibiza ngokuthi nguJakhini kwathi esenyakatho wayithi nguBhowazi. **22** Iziduku ezaziphezulu zazibunjwe okwemiduze. Wapheleliswa kanjalo umsebenzi wezinsika. **23** Wasesenza uLwandle ngensimbi encibilikisiweyo, luyisigombolozu, luyizingalo ezilitshumi ukusuka emphethweni kusiya emphethweni luphakeme okwezingalo ezinhlanu. Ukulinganisa leyondingilizi kwakuthatha intambo ezingalo ezingamatshumi amathathu ukuyizingelezela. **24** Ngaphansi komphetho, kungamaqhagana agqagqeleyo, elitshumi engalweni eyodwa. Amaqhagana la ayebunjwe aba yimizila emibili ensimbiniye loLwandle. **25** ULwandle lwalumi phezu kwenkunzi ezilitshumi lambili, ezintathu zikhangele enyakatho, ezintathu zikhangele entshonalanga, ezintathu zikhangele eningizimu kuthi ezintathu zikhangele empumalanga. ULwandle lwalugxile phezu kwazo, imilenze yazo igobeke phakathi. **26** Uhlonzi lwalulingana ububanzi besandla, umphetho ufanana lomphetho wenkomitsho, kufanana lokuqhakaza kweluba. Lwalungena izikhelelo ezizinkulungwane ezimbili. **27** Wenza njalo amathala ethusi alitshumi aphakamsekayo ubude bawo buzingalo ezine, lobubanzi buzingalo ezine, ukuphakama kuzingalo ezintathu lilinye. **28** Amathala ayenziwe ngalindlela: Kwakulezisekelo eziya phezu emaceleni zinyanyathiselwe. **29** Kulezisekelo phakathi kwezinsika eziya phezu kubunjwe izilwane, inkunzi lamakherubhi, kuthi kulezonsika eziya phezu kufanane njalo. Ngaphezulu langaphansi kwezilwane lenkunzi kulezinkatha ezikhandiweyo. **30** Inqodlana nganye ilamavili lama-ekseli ethusi, njalo nganye ilomganu phezu kwezinsika zicecise ngemithando ekhandelwe inxa zonke. **31** Ngaphakathi kwenqodlana yinye nganye kuvulekile kuyisigombolozu esitshona okwengalo eyodwa. Isikhala lesi siyisigombolozu ngaphansi kwaso siyingalo elengxenyeni. Emlonyeni kukhona okwabazelwayo kungumceciso. Okubaziweyo emaceleni kulingana inxa zonke zone, kungayisiyo indingilizi. **32** Amavili womane engaphansi kwamapulanka, lama-ekseli amavili ebotschelwe enqodlaneni. Ububanzi bendingilizi yevili ngalinye bulingana ingalo eyodwa elengxenyeni. **33** Amavili akhona enziwe njengawenqola yempi, ama-ekseli, amarimu, lezipokisi zawo lamahabha awo enziwe ngensimbi ezitshisiweyo. **34** Inqodlana nganye yayilezibambo ezine, esisodwa sisegumbini linye, sigxile enqodlaneni. **35** Phezu kwenqodlana kulomthando oyisizingelezi esitshona okwengxenyeni yengalo. Izisekelo lamapulanka kuxhume phezu kwenqodlana. **36** Wabazela khona amakherubhi, izilwane kanye lezihlahla zamalala kuyo yonke indawo ebonakalayo lomceciso inxa zonke. **37** Yiyo-ke le indlela ayenze ngayo izinqodlana ezilitshumi. Zazenziwe ngomkhandu munye zilingana ubukhulu zilesimo sinye. **38** Wasebumba imiganu elitshumi ngethushi, umunye uthatha izikhelelo ezingamatshumi amane ububanzi bayo buzingalo ezine, kusithi umganu owodwa ubekwa phezu

kwenqodlana nganye yezilitshumi. **39** Wasemisa inqodlana ezinhlanu zazo ngeningizimu yethempeli kwathi ezinhlanu zema enyakatho. ULwandle walubeka eningizimu, ejikweni laseningizimu yempumalanga kwethempeli. **40** Wabumba njalo imiganu lamafotsholo lemiganu yesichelo. Ngalokho uHuramu wawuphetha umsebenzi ayewenzela inkosi uSolomoni ethempelini likaThixo: **41** Izinsika ezimbili; iziduku ezimbili ezibunjwe okomganu phezu kwezinsika; amambule amabili ececise iziduku ezimbili eziyingubhe eziphezu kwezinsika; **42** amaphomegranathi angamakhulu amane amambule womabili (imbule linye lilemizila emibili yamaphomegranathi, accese iziduku eziyingubhe eziphezu kwezinsika); **43** izinqodlana ezilitshumi lenkoxa zazo ezilitshumi; **44** uLwandle lenkunzi ezilitshumi lambili ngaphansi kwalo; **45** imbiza, amafotsholo lemiganu yesichelo. Zonke lezizinto ezenzelwa iNkosi uSolomoni nguHuramu ezenzela ithempeli likaThixo zazenziwe ngethisi elikhazimulayo. **46** Inkosi yalungiselela ukuthi zonke zibunjwe ngesithombe somdaka emagecekeni aseJodani phakathi kwaseSukhothi laseZarethani. **47** USolomoni wayekela konke lokhu kungalinganiswanga isisindo sakho, ngenxa yokuthi kwakukunengi kakhulu; ubunzima bensimbi yethisi bungazanga bulinganiswe. **48** USolomoni wenza yonke imiceciso eyayisethempelini likaThixo: i-alithari legolide; itafula eliligolide lilesinkwa esiNgcwele sikaNkulunkulu; **49** izinti zezibane zegolide elicengekileyo (ezinhlanu zazo ngakwesokudla njalo zinhlanu langakwesokhohlo, phambi kwesiphephelo esingaphakathi); okubalazwe ngamaluba, izibane kanye lezindlawu; **50** imiganu yegolide elicengekileyo, izibane, imiganu yokuchelisa, izinditshi leyempepha; kanye lezibambo zezivalo zingezegolide ezazenzelwe indlu engaphakathi, indawo eNgcwelengcwele, kanti-ke kwakunjalo lezivalweni zendlu enkulu phakathi kwethempeli. **51** Kwathi usuphelile wonke umsebenzi owawenziwe yinkosi uSolomoni ekwakheni kwakhe ithempeli likaThixo, waletha lezompahla ezazinikelwe nguyise uDavida, isiliva legolide layo yonke imiceciso, konke lokhu wakufaka endlini yenotho ethempelini likaThixo.

8 Ngakho iNkosi uSolomoni wamema abadala bako-Israyeli ukuthi beze kuye eJerusalem, bonke abazinhloko zezizwana lezinduna zezimuli zako-Israyeli, ukuthi balethe ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo lisuka eZiyoni, uMuzi kaDavida. **2** Amadoda wonke ako-Israyeli eza ndawonye enkosini uSolomoni ngesikhathi somkhosi ngenyanga ebizwa ngokuthi ngu-Ethanimi, inyanga yesikhombisa. **3** Kwathi bonke abadala bako-Israyeli sebefikile, abaphristi bathwala ibhokisi lesivumelwano, **4** njalo basebeletha ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo kanye leThente lokhuLanganela layo yonke imiceciso engcwele iphakathi kwalo. Abaphristi labaLevi bakuthwala lokhu, **5** njalo inkosi uSolomoni kanye lebandla lonke lako-Israyeli babebuthene ndawonye phambi kwebhokisi lesivumelwano, benikela ngezimvu langenkomo ababengeke bakwazi ukuloba inani lazo loba ukuzibala. **6** Abaphristi basebeletha ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo endaweni yalo engcwele engaphakathi kwethempeli, iNdawo eNgcwelengcwele, basebelifaka ngaphansi kwamaphiko amakherubhi. **7** Amakherubhi elula impiko zawo phezu kwendawo yebhokisi lesivumelwano njalo agubuzela ibhokisi lesivumelwano kanye lezibambo zokulithwala. **8** Izigodo lezi zazizande zibonakala nxa useNdaweni eNgcwele phambi

kwesiphephelo esingaphakathi, kodwa hatshi nxa ungaphandle kweNdawo eNgcwele; lezo zilokhu zimi njalo lalamuhla. **9** Kwakungelalutho ebhokisini lesivumelwano ngaphandle kwezibhebhedu ezimbili zamatshe uMosi ayezifake phakathi kwalo eseHorebhi lapho uThixo enza khona isivumelwano labako-Israyeli ngemva kokuphuma kwabo eGibhithe. **10** Kwathi abaphristi sebesukile eNdaweni eNgcwele, iyezi lagcwala lagubuzela ethempelini likaThixo. **11** Abaphristi abenzanga inkonzo yabo ngenxa yeyezi, ngoba inkazimulo kaThixo yayigcwele ethempelini lakhe. **12** Ngakho uSolomoni wathi, “UThixo utshilo ukuba uzahlala eyezini elimnyama; **13** ngempela sengikwakhele ithempeli elibukekayo, indawo ozahlala kiyo kuze kube nini lamini.” **14** Kwathi ibandla lonke lako-Israyeli liseimi khonapho, inkosi yaphenduka yalibusisa. **15** Ngakho yasisithi: “Udumo kuye uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, yena ngesandla sakhe ophelisele ukwenza lokho akuthembisa ngowakhe umlomo ethembisa ubaba uDavida. Ngoba wathi, **16** ‘Kusukela mhla ngikhupha abantu bami abako-Israyeli eGibhithe, bengingakaze ngikhethe idolobho loba kukusiphi isizwana sako-Israyeli ukuthi ngakhelwe ithempeli leBizo lami khona, kodwa ngimkhethele uDavida ukuthi abuse abantu bami bako-Israyeli.’ **17** Ubaba uDavida wayelakho enhliziyweni yakhe ukuthi akhe ithempeli leBizo likaThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. **18** Kodwa uThixo wathi kubaba uDavida, ‘Wenza kuhle ngokuba lesifiso sokungakhela ithempeli leBizo lami enhliziyweni yakho. **19** Lanxa kunjalo, kakusuye ozalakra lelothempeli, kodwa lizakwakhwa yindodana yakho, eyinyama legazi lakho, yiyo ezakwaha ithempeli leBizo lami.’ **20** UThixo usigcinile isithembiso asenzayo: Sengiyinkosi esikhundleni sikababa uDavida njalo khathesi sengihlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi sika-Israyeli njengokuthembisa kukaThixo, njalo sengakhele iBizo likaThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli ithempeli. **21** Ngulungisile indawo khonaphana eyebhokisi lesivumelwano, kulapho okulesivumelwano sikaThixo asenza labokhokho ekubakhupheni kwakhe kwelamaGibhithe.” **22** Ngalokho uSolomoni wema e-alithareni likaThixo phambi kwebandla lonke lako-Israyeli, welula izandla zakhe waziphakamisela ezulwini **23** wasesithi: Oh “Thixo, Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, kakho uNkulunkulu onjengawe ezulwini phezu loba emhlabeni ngaphansi, wena ogcina isivumelwano sakho sothando lezincedu zakho, wena oqhubeka ngenhliziyo yonke endleleni yakho. **24** Usigcinile isithembiso sakho uNkulunkulu yakho uDavida ongubaba; ngomlomo wakho uthembisile njalo ngesandla sakho ukugcwalisile lokho njengoba kunjalo lamuhla. **25** Khathesi Thixo, Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, gcinela inceku yakho uDavida ubaba lezozithembiso owazenzayo lapho wathi, ‘Awuyikwehluleka loba sekutheni ukuzenza indoda ezahlala esihlalweni sami sobukhosi ko-Israyeli, nxa amadodana akho ezanenzelela ukuhamba phambi kwami njengalokhu okwenzileyo wena.’ **26** Ngakho khathesi, Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, kaligcwaliseke ilizwi lesithembiso owalikhuluma kubaba uDavida inceku yakho. **27** Kambe uNkulunkulu uzahlala emhlabeni na? Amazulu, kanye lezulu eliphakemeyo, alikulingani. Pho ithempeli leli engilakhileyo lingabe liyini kuwe na? **28** Kodwa-ke akuzwe umkhuleko wenceku yakho lokucela kwayo umusa, Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu wami. Zwana ukukhala lokukhuleka kwenceku yakho phambi kwakho ngalolusuku. **29** Sengathi amehlo akho angahlala phezu kwalelithempeli ebusuku lemini, yonale indawo

owathi wena, 'iBizo lami lizakuba khonapha,' ukuze uzwe umkhuleko wenceku yakho ngale indawo. **30** Zwana isikhalazo senceku yakho lesabantu bakho bako-Israyeli nxa bekhuleka bekhangele kule indawo. Zwana usezulwini okuyindawo yakho yokuhlala, njalo nxa usizwa, uthethelele. **31** Nxa umuntu angonela umakhelwane wakhe, afungiswe, abesefunga isifungo phambi kwe-alithari lakho kulelithempeli, **32** zwana usezulwini wenze. Yahlulela phakathi kwezinceku zakho, umlahle olecala, wehlisele ekhanda lakhe lokho akwenzileyo. Tshono ukuthi ongonanga kalacala ukuze uveze ukuba msulwa kwakhe. **33** Nxa abantu bakho abako-Israyeli behlulwe yisitha ngenxa yokona kwabo phambi kwakho, kuthi nxa sebhendukela ngakuwe bebiza ibizo lakho, bekhuleka njalo becela intethelelo kuwe kulelithempeli, **34** lapho-ke zwana usezulwini uthethelele izono zabantu bakho bako-Israyeli njalo ubabuyisele elizweni owalinika okhokho babo. **35** Nxa amazulu evaleka njalo kungaselazulu ngenxa yokuthi abantu bakho bonile phambi kwakho, njalo nxa bekhuleka bekhangele kule indawo bavume ibizo lakho batshiye izono zabo ngoba ubatshayile, **36** lapho-ke zwana usezulwini uthethelele izinceku zakho izono zazo, abantu bakho bako-Israyeli. Bafundise indlela yokuphila eqondileyo, uthumele izulu elizweni owalinika abantu bakho ukuba libe yilifa labo. **37** Nxa kufika indlala kumbe isifo elizweni, ukukhunta lengumane, isikhongwane lemihogoyi, loba behanqwa yizitha kwelinye lamadolobho abo, loba yincithakalo enganani loba ngumkhuhlane onjani ongeza, **38** kuthi lanxa kusenziwa umkhuleko kumbe isicelo ngomunye wabantu bakho bako-Israyeli, ngulowo lalowo ezazela inhlupheko ezinhliziyweni yakhe njalo ephakamisele izandla zakhe kulelithempeli, **39** lalala usezulwini, okuyindawo yakho yokuhlala. Thethelela njalo wenzele umuntu munye ngamunye okuhambelana lezenzo zakhe ngoba wena uyazazi inhliziyo zabo (futhi nguwe wedwa owazi inhliziyo zabantu), **40** yikho bezakwesaba imihla yabo yonke yokuphila beselizweni owalinika okhokho bethu. **41** Owezizweni ongasuye omunye wabantu bakho bako-Israyeli kodwa evela kude ngenxa yodumo lwebizo lakho **42** ngoba abantu bazakuzwa ngelakho ibizo eliyakathekileyo lesandla sakho esilamandla lengalo yakho eyalulweyo, nxa esiza akhuleke ekhangele kulelithempeli, **43** lapho-ke zwana usezulwini, indawo elilikhaya lakho, wenze loba yini owezizweni ayicela kuwe, ukuze bonke abantu bomhlaba balazi ibizo lakho njalo bakwesabe, njengoba abantu bakho abako-Israyeli bekwenza, baze bazi ukuthi indlu le engiyakhileyo ithwele iBizo lakho. **44** Nxa abantu bakho bephuma besiya empini ukuyakulwa lezitha zabo, loba kungaphi obathuma khona, njalo kuthi nxa bekhuleka kuThixo bekhangele edolobheni olikhethileyo wena kanye lethempelini engalakhela iBizo lakho, **45** lapho-ke zwana usezulwini umkhuleko wabo lokuncenga kwabo, ubaphathise kulokho. **46** Nxa bonile phambi kwakho, ngoba kakho ongoniyo njalo uze ubathukuthelele ubanikele ezitheni zabo ezibathumba zibase ezizweni zazo, ezikhatshana leziseduze; **47** kuthi nxa bengaguquka ezinhliziyweni zabo besemazweni abayabe bethunjelwe kuwo, baphenduke bakuncenge besemazweni abathunjelwa khona bathi, 'Sonile, senza okungalunganga lokubi,' **48** njalo nxa bebhendukela kuwe ngezinhliziyiyo zabo zonke langemphefumulo yabo elizweni lezitha zabo ezabathumbayo, bakhuleke kuwe bekhangele elizweni owalinika oyise, lasedolobheni owalikhethayo lethempeli engilakhele iBizo lakho, **49** ngakho usezulwini, ikhaya

lakho zwana imikhuleko yabo lokuncenga kwabo, ubenzele khona lokho. **50** Ubathethelele abantu bakho, abakonileyo wena, bathethelele kukho konke ukona kwabo kuwe, wenze izitha zabo zibe lomusa kubo; **51** ngoba bangabantu bakho njalo bayilifa lakho, bona owabakhhipha eGibhithe, esihogweni esivuthayo esincibilikisa insimbi. **(questioned)** **52** Sengathi amehlo akho angaba phezu kwenceku yakho ukukhala kwayo lokuncengela kwabantu bakho bako-Israyeli, sengathi ungalalela ukukhala kwabo bekhazala kuwe. **53** Ngoba wabakhetha phakathi kwezizwe zonke zomhlaba ukuthi babe yilifa lakho, njengoba wakhuluma ngenceku yakho uMosi, lapho wena, Oh Thixo Wobukhosi, wakhhipha okhokho bethu eGibhithe." **54** Kwathi uSolomoni eseqedile imikhuleko le lezikhalazo kuThixo, waphakama wema phambi kwe-alithari likaThixo, lapho ayekade eguqo khona ephakamisele izandla zakhe ezulwini. **55** Waphakama wabusa ibandla labako-Israyeli ngelizwi eliphezulu wathi: **56** "Udumo kalube kuThixo, yena olethele abantu bako-Israyeli ukuphumula njengokwethembisa kwakhe. Akukho lokukodwa okungenzekanga kuzozonke izithembiso ezinhle azenza ngenceku yakhe uMosi. **57** Sengathi uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu angaba lathi njengoba wayelabokhokho bethu; sengathi angaze asitshiya loba asidele. **58** Sengathi angaguqulela inhliziyo zethu kuye, sihambe ezindleleni zakhe sigcine lemilayo yakhe, imithetho lezimiso azipha okhokho. **59** Sengathi amazwi ami la, engikhuleka ngawo kuThixo, angaba seduze kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu emini lebusuku, ukuze aqinise izikhalazo zenkeku yakhe lezikhalazo zabantu bakhe bako-Israyeli kusiya ngeziswelo zabo zemihla ngemihla, **60** ukuze abantu bonke bomhlaba bakwazi ukuthi uThixo unguNkulunkulu lokuthi kakho omunye. **61** Kodwa inhliziyo zenu azigcwalile ukuzinikela kuThixo uNkulunkulu wethu, ukuphila ngezimiso zakhe lokulalela imilayo yakhe, njengakhathesi." **62** Ngalokho inkosi labo bonke abako-Israyeli banikela imihlatshelo yabo phambi kukaThixo. **63** USolomoni wanikela ngomhlatshelo weminikelo yobudlelwano kuThixo; inkomo ezizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lambili, izimvu lembuzi ezizinkulungwane ezilikhulu lamatshumi amabili. Ngokunjalo inkosi labo bonke abako-Israyeli banikela ithempeli likaThixo. **64** Ngalelolanga inkosi yangcwelisa iphakathi leguma phambi kwethempeli likaThixo, njalo kulapho eyanikela khona ngomnikelo wokutshiswa, umnikelo wamabele kanye lamafutha eminikelo yobudlelwano ngoba i-alithari lethusi elaliphambi kukaThixo lalilincinyane kakhulu ukuthi kutshiselwe kilo iminikelo yokutshiswa, leminikelo yamabele leminikelo yamafutha obudlelwano. **65** Ngakho uSolomoni waggcina umkhosi ngalesosikhathi ekanye lo-Israyeli wonke, ibandla elikhulu, abantu abavela eLebho Hamathi kusiya eSihotsheni saseGibhithe. Bawuthakazelela phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu okwensuku eziyisikhombisa lezinye eziyisikhombisa njalo zaba litshumi lane sezizonke. **66** Ngosuku olulandelayo inkosi yabachitha. Bayibusisa inkosi basuka baya emakhaya abo, belentokozo bejabula ezinhliziyweni zabo ngakho konke okuhle uThixo ayekwenzele inceku yakhe uDavida kanye labantu bakhe bako-Israyeli.

9 USolomoni eseqedile ukwakha ithempeli likaThixo lesigodlo sobukhosi, esenelisele konke ayezimisele ukukwenza, **2** UThixo wabonakala kuye ngokwesibili, njengoba wayebonakele kuye eGibhiyoni. **3** UThixo wathi kuye: "Sengiwuzwile umkhuleko wakho lesikhalazo osenzileyo

phambi kwami; sengilenze labangcwele lelithempeli olakhileyo wena ngokufaka iBizo lami kulo laninini. Amehlo ami kanye lenhliziyo yami kuzakuba phezu kwalo ngezikhathi zonke. **4** Wena, ungahamba phambi kwami ngobuqotho behliziyo langokuqonda njengoba uyihlo uDavida akwenza, wenze konke engikulaya ngakho ugcine izimiso zami lemithetho yami, **5** ngizaqinisa isihlalo sakho sobukhosi phezu kuka-Israyeli kuze kube nininini, njengoba ngathembisa uyihlo uDavida lapho ngathi, 'Awuyikwehluleka ukuzuzana indoda esihlalweni sobukhosi ko-Israyeli.' **6** Kodwa nxa wena kanye lamadodana akho lingifulathela lingacini imithetho lezimiso zami engilinkhi khona beselisuka liye kwabanye onkulunkulu libakhonze, **7** ngizamthathela u-Israyeli umhlaba engangimnike wona ngilikhalele leli ithempeli esengilingcwelesile ngeBizo lami. U-Israyeli uzadelelwa abe yinhlekisa ebantwini bonke. **8** Lelithempeli lizakuba yinqumbi yamatshu. Bonke abedlula lapha bazakwenyanya bahlake ulunya bathi, 'Kanti kungani uThixo enze into enje kulelilizwe lakulelithempeli na?' **9** Abantu bazaphendula bathi, 'Kungenxa yokuthi sebedele uThixo uNkulunkulu wabo, owakhipha oyise eGibhithe, ngoba sebesuke banamatshela kwabanye onkulunkulu, babakhonza njalo babasebenzela yikho-nje uThixo esebhilesele incithakalo yonke le.'" **10** Ekupheleni kweminyaka engamatshumi amabili, lapho uSolomoni akha khona lezizindlu ezimbili, ithempeli likaThixo kanye lesigodlo sobukhosi, **11** iNkosi uSolomoni wanikela amadolobho engamatshumi amabili aweGalile kuHiramu inkosi yaseThire, ngoba uHiramu wayemnike zonke izigodo zesihlahla somsedari zephayini legolide ayekufuna. **12** Kodwa uHiramu wathi esesuka eThire esiyabona amadolobho ayewaphiwe nguSolomoni, kazange ajabule ngawo. **13** Wambuzwa wathi, "Ngamadolobho bani la onginike wona, mfowethu?" njalo wayewabiza ngokuthi yilizwe leKhabhuli, okulibizo alokhu ebizwa ngalo lalamuhla. **14** Kunjalo-nje uHiramu wayethumele uSolomoni igolide elingamathalenta alikhulu elilamatshumi amabili. **15** Nansi imbali yokubanjwa ngamandla kwabantu yiNkosi uSolomoni ukwakha ithempeli likaThixo, ukwakhiwa kwesigodlo sakhe, ledundulu elithiwa yiMilo, lomdlu weJerusalema kanye leHazori, iMegido kanye leGezeri. **16** (Ufaro inkosi yaseGibhithe wayehlasele wathumba iGezeri. Wayeyithungele ngomlilo wayitshisa. Wayebulele amaKhenani ayehlala khona, yona wasekhunga ngayo indodakazi yakhe, umkaSolomoni. **17** USolomoni waseyakhakutsha iGezeri.) Wakha iBhethi-Horoni esezansi, **18** leBhalathi, kanye leThamari enkangala, phakathi kwelizwe lakhe, **19** kanye lamadolobho ayeyiziphala lemizi yezinqola zakhe zempi kanye lamabhiza akhe lakho konke nje ayengafisa ukukwakha eJerusalema leLebhanoni kanye lakulo lonke ilizwe ayelibusa. **20** Kubo bonke abantu abasalayo bama-Amori, amaHithi, amaPherizi, amaHivi lamaJebusi (labantu babengasibo ama-Israyeli) **21** okutho ukuthi, izizukulwane zabo ezasalayo ama-Israyeli angazibulalanga aziqeda, laba uSolomoni wababamba isibhalo sokwenza umsebenzi wakhe wobugqili, njengoba kunjalo lalamuhla lokhu. **22** Kodwa uSolomoni kabenzanga izigqili abako-Israyeli; babengamadoda okumhlaba, iziphathamandla zikahulumende, izikhulu zakhe, izinduna, kanye labalawuli bezingqola zakhe zempi labatshayeli bazo. **23** Njalo babeyizikhulu zokukhokhela imisebenzi eqakathekileyo kaSolomoni, izikhulu ezingamakhulu amahlanu lamatshumi amahlanu ezazikhangele amadoda ayesenza umsebenzi.

24 Ngemva kokufika kwendodakazi kaFaro esigodlweni eyayisakhelwe nguSolomoni isuka eMzini kaDavida, wakha njalo idundulu elithiwa yiMilo. **25** Kathathu ngomnyaka uSolomoni wanikela umnikelo wokutshiswa lomnikelo wobudlelwano e-alithareni ayelakhele uThixo, etshisa impepha phambi kukaThixo kanye lemihlatshelo. Ngalokho wagcwalisa imilandu yezimiso zethempeli. **26** INkosi uSolomoni wakha njalo imikhumbi e-Eziyoni-Gebheri, eseduzane le-Elathi ngase-Edomi, ekhunjini loLwandle oluBomvu. **27** Kunjalo-nje uHiramu wathumela abantu bakhe, abagwedli ababelwazi ulwandle ukuba bayesebenza emikhunjini labakaSolomoni. **28** Bagwedla baya e-Ofiri baphenduka legolide elilesisindo samathalenta angamakhulu amane lamatshumi amabili, bayaethula enkosini uSolomoni.

10 Indlovukazi yaseShebha yathi isizwile ngodumo lukaSolomoni lokubambelela kwakhe ebizweni likaThixo, yaya kuye ukuba imlinge ngemibuzo enzima. **2** Ekufikeni kwayo eJerusalema yayiqhuba udwende olukhulu, lamakamela ethwele iziyoliso, igolide elinengi kakhulu lamatshe aligu, yafika kuSolomoni yakhuluma laye ngakho konke lokho okwakusengqondweni yayo. **3** USolomoni wayiphendula yonke imibuzo yayo, akubanga lalutho olwaba nzima enkosini ukuthi iyichasisela lona. **4** Indlovukazi yaseShebha isiyibonile yonke inhlakanipho kaSolomoni lesigodlo ayesakhile, **5** ukudla okwakusetafuleni lakhe, ukuhlaliswa kwezikhulu zakhe, izinceku zakhe lezembatho zazo, abaphathi benkezo bakhe, leminikelo yokutshiswa ayenzela uThixo ethempelini, yaphela amandla. **6** Yathi enkosini, "Imibiko ebifika ezindlebeni zami elizweni lami ngengqubelaphambili langenhlakanipho yakho iqotho. **7** Kodwa angizange ngikukholwe lokho ngaze ngafika mina ngokwami njalo ngazibonela ngawami amehlo. Ngempela, bengingathelwanga ngitsho lengxenye nje; ukuhlakanipha kwakho lokuphumelela kwakho kuyayedlula imibiko engayizwayo. **8** Yeka intokozo abalayo abantu bakho! Ziyathokoza iziphathamandla zakho, zona ezima phambi kwakho zizwe inhlakanipho yakho! **9** Udumo kalube kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakho, yena othokoze ngawe wakubeka esihlalweni sobukhosi bako-Israyeli. Ngenxa yothando olunaphakade lukaThixo ku-Israyeli, ukubekile waba yinkosi, ukuze ugcine ukwahlulela ngemfanelo lokulunga." **10** Yanika inkosi igolide elingamathalenta alikhulu lamatshumi amabili, lenqwabanqwaba zeyiyoliso lamatshe aligu. Akuzange kulethwe iziyoliso ezinengi kangako futhi njengalezo indlovukazi yaseShebha eyazipha iNkosi uSolomoni. **11** (Imikhumbi kaHiramu yaletha igolide livela e-Ofiri; njalo yethula lemithwalo emikhulu yamapulanka amahle lamatshe aligu. **12** Inkosi yasebenzisa amapulanka amahle njengezinsika zethempeli likaThixo kanye lesigodlo sobukhosi, lokwenza imihubhe lemiqangala yabahlabeleli. Akuzange kubuye kube lamapulanka amahle amanengi kangako angeniswayo elizweni loba abonwayo selokhu kwaba yilelolangi.) **13** INkosi uSolomoni yanika indlovukazi yaseShebha yonke into eyayiyifisa leyayicelayo, ngaphandle kwalokho ayinika khona kuphuma esigodlweni. Yasisuka lodwendwe lwayo yabuyela elizweni lakibo. **14** Isisindo segolide elalizuzwa nguSolomoni minyaka yonke lalingamathalenta angamakhulu ayisithupha lamatshumi ayisithupha lesithupha, **15** kungabalwa inzuzo eyayivela emithelweni yabathengisayo labathenga bethengisa kanye leyayivela emakhosini wonke

ama-Arabhu kanye lababusi belizwe. **16** Inkosi uSolomoni yenza amahawu amakhulu angamakhulu amabili ngegolide elikhandiweyo; lilinye langena amashekeli angamakhulu ayisithupha. **17** Wenza njalo amanye amahawu amancinyane angamakhulu amathathu ngegolide elikhandiweyo, lilinye lilegugu lokuthathu kwegolide. Inkosi yawafaka esigodlweni eHlathi laseLebhanoni. **18** Inkosi yasisenza isihlalo sobukhosi esikhulu sisekelwa ngenpondo zendlovu sihuqwe ngegolide elihle. **19** Isihlalo sobukhosi sasilezinyathelo eziyisithupha, ngemva kwaso phezu siyindingilizi. Emaceleni aso womabili sasilezeyamelo zengalo, yilesa laleso kumi isilwane eceleni kaso. **20** Izilwane ezililtshumi lambili zazimi ezinyathelweni eziyisithupha, kusithi esisodwa esinyathelweni ngasinye ngapha langapha emaceleni esinyathelo. Akukho okufanana lalokhu okwake kwenziwa lakuwuphi umbuso. **21** Zonke inkezo zenkosi uSolomoni zazingezegolide, lazozonke izitsha zeSigodlweni saseGuswini laseLebhanoni zazingezegolide elicolekileyo. Akukho okwakwenziwe ngesiliva ngoba ngensuku zikaSolomoni igugu lesiliva lalilincinyane kakhulu. **22** Inkosi yayilemikhumbi yokuthengiselana emineni eyayisolwandle iphathisana lekaHiramu. Yayiphenduka kanye ngemva kweminyaka emithathu ithwele igolide, isiliva kanye lempondo zendlovu, indwangu lenkawu. **23** Inkosi uSolomoni yawedlula wonke amakhosi omhlaba ngenotho langenhlakanipho. **24** Umhlaba wonke weza kuSolomoni ukuzokuzwa inhlanipho uNkulunkulu ayeyifake enhliziyweni yakhe. **25** Minyaka yonke amlethela izipho zesiliva lezegolide, izembatho, izikhali leziyololi, lamabhiza kanye lezimbongolo. **26** USolomoni waqoqa izinqola zokulwa lamabhiza; wayelezinqola zokulwa eziyinkulungwane elamakhulu amane, amabhiza azinkulungwane ezililtshumi lambili ayewagcina emadolobheni awezinqola zempi amanye egcinwe kuye eJerusalem. **27** Inkosi yandisa isiliva kwangani ngamatshe eJerusalem, lezihlahla zomsedari zanda kwangani yizihlahla zomkhwa wesikhamore emawatheni ezintaba. **28** Amabhiza kaSolomoni ayethengwe eGibhithe laseKhuwe, abathengi besikhosini babewathenga eKhuwe. **29** Bathenga inqola yempi eGibhithe ngamashekeli esiliva angamakhulu ayisithupha kanye lebhiza ngamashekeli alikhulu elilamatshumi amahlanu. Babuya bawedlulisa wonke bayawathengiselana amakhosi amaHithi kanye lawama-Aramu.

11 Inkosi uSolomoni yayibathanda kakhulu abafazi bezizweni kanye lendodakazi kaFaro, amaMowabi, ama-Amoni, ama-Edomi, amaSidoni lamaHithi. **2** Babengabezizwe uThixo ayethe kwabako-Israyeli, “Lingathathi labo, ngoba bazaguqulela inhliziyu zenu kubonkulunkulu babo.” Lanxa kunjalo, uSolomoni wabambelela kubo ngothando. **3** Wayelabafazi abangamakhulu ayisikhombisa ababezalwa esikhosini labanye abafazi beceleni abangamakhulu amathathu; lakanye abafazi bakhe baphambukisa inhliziyu yakhe. **4** Ekuluphaleni kwakhe uSolomoni, abafazi bakhe baphambulela ukholo lwakhe kwabanye onkulunkulu, inhliziyu yakhe ayizange ilandele uThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe ngokupheleleyo, njengenhliziyu kaDavida uyise. **5** USolomoni wandelana u-Ashithorethi unkulunkulu wamaSidoni, loMoleki unkulunkulu onengekayo wama-Amoni. **6** Ngalokho uSolomoni wona phambi kukaThixo; kazange alandele uThixo ngokupheleleyo, njengokwakwenziwe nguyise uDavida. **7** Eqaqeni olusempumalanga yeJerusalem, uSolomoni wakhela

unkulunkulu onengekayo wamaMowabi uKhemoshi, loMoleki unkulunkulu onengekayo wama-Amoni indawo yomhlatshe. **8** Wenza okufananayo kubo bonke abafazi bakhe bezizweni, batshisa impepha banikela ngemihlatshe kubonkulunkulu babo. **9** UThixo wamthukuthela uSolomoni ngoba inhliziyu yakhe yayisimfulathele uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, yena ayezibonakalise kuye bakhali. **10** Lanxa wayemlayile uSolomoni ukuba angalandeli abanye onkulunkulu, uSolomoni kazange awulandele umlayo kaThixo. **11** Ngakho uThixo wasesithi kuSolomoni. “Njengoba le kuyiyo injongo yakho njalo awugcinanga isivumelwano sami kanye lezimiso zami, lezo engakulaya ngazo, impela ngizawuhluthuna umbuso wakho kuwe ngiwunike omunye wabantu abangaphansi kwakho. **12** Loba kunjalo, ngenxa kaDavida uyihlo, angiyikwenza lokho wena usaphila. Ngizawuhluthuna esandleni sendodana yakho. **13** Kanti njalo angiyikuwuhluthuna wonke umbuso kuyo, kodwa ngizayinika isizwana esisodwa ngenxa kaDavida inceku yami njalo langenxa yeJerusalem, yona esengiyikhethile.” **14** Ngakho uThixo wasemvuselela isitha uSolomoni, uHadadi um’Edomi owesikhosini sama-Edomi. **15** Mandulo uDavida esalwa lama-Edomi, uJowabi umlawuli webutho, owayengcwaba abafileyo, wayetshaye wabuqa wonke amadoda ama-Edomi. **16** UJowabi lawo wonke ama-Israyeli ahlala khonale okwezinyanga eziyisithupha, baze babhubhisa wonke amadoda e-Edomi. **17** Kodwa uHadadi, esesengumfanyana, wabalekela eGibhithe lezinye izikhulu zama-Edomi ezazisebenzele uyise. **18** Basuka eMidiyani baya ePharani. Bathe sebethatha amadoda ePharani behamba lawo, baya eGibhithe, kuFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe, yena owapha uHadadi indlu kanye lomhlaba waze wamnika kanye lokudla. **19** UHadadi wathandeka kakhulu kuFaro, waze wamendisela udadewabo womkakhe, udadewabo kaThaphenesi iNdlovukazi. **20** Udadewabo kaThaphenesi wamzela indodana eyathika nguGenubathi. UThaphenesi wayondlela esigodlweni, kulapho-ke uGenubathi ahlala khona labantwana bakaFaro. **21** Kwathi uHadadi esezwile eseGibhithe ukuthi uDavida kasekho lokuthi uJowabi induna yempi sewafa, wathi kuFaro: “Ake ungivumele ukuba ngiye elizweni lakithi.” **22** UFaro wathi kuye, “Uswelani lapha okwenza ufune ukubuyela elizweni lakini na?” UHadadi waphendula wathi, “Akulalutho kodwa ngivumela ngihambel!” **23** UNkulunkulu wamvuselela njalo uSolomoni esinye isitha, uRezoni indodana ka-Eliyada owayebalekile enkosini yakhe uHadadezeri inkosi yaseZobha. **24** Waqoqa ixuku labahlamuki waba ngumkhokheli walo ngesikhathi uDavida echitha impi kaZobha; abahlamuki baya eDamaseko lapho bafika bahlala khona bayiphatha leyondawo. **25** URezoni waba yisitha sako-Israyeli ngesikhathi sokuphila kukaSolomoni, wengezelela kuloluhlupho olwasungulwa nguHadadi. Ngakho uRezoni wabusa e-Aramu ehlezi ezonda ilizwe lako-Israyeli. **26** UJerobhowamu indodana kaNebhathi laye wahlamukela inkosi. Wayekade engesinye sezikhulu zikaSolomoni, engowesizwana sika-Efrayimi evela eZereda, unina owayethiwa nguZeruwa wayengumfelokazi. **27** Le yimbali yokuhlumukela kwakhe inkosi: USolomoni wayakhe walungisa amaguma ayizisekelo, njalo wagcwalisa evala isikhala esasisela emdulini wedolobho likayise uDavida. **28** UJerobhowamu wayeyindoda eyaziwayo, uSolomoni uthe ebona ukuthi wayelijaha elenza kuhle kanganani umsebenzi walo, wambeka induna yezisebenzi zonke endlini kaJosefa. **29** Ngalesosikhathi uJerobhowamu

waphuma eJerusalem, wahlangana lomphrofethi weShilo u-Ahija endleleni, egqoke isigqoko esitsha. Bahlangana bebodwa bobabili kuleyondawo, **30** kwathi u-Ahija wathatha isigqoko esitsha ayesigqokile wasidabula iziqha ezililshumi lambili. **31** Wasesithi kuJerobhohamu, “Wena zithathele iziqha ezililshumi kulezi, ngoba uThixo, unkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi, ‘Khangela, ngizahluthuna umbuso esandleni sikaSolomoni ngikunike izizwana ezililshumi. **32** Kodwa ngenxa yenceku yami uDavida ledolobho leJerusalem, lona engilikhethileyo phakathi kwazo zonke izizwana zako-Israyeli, ngizamshiyela isizwana esisodwa. **33** Ngizakwenza lokhu ngoba bangifulathele bakhona u-Ashithorethi unkulunkuluzi wamaSidoni, loKhemoshi unkulunkulu wamaMowabi, kanye loMoleki unkulunkulu wama-Amoni, njalo abahambanga ngezami izindlela, abenzanga ukulunga phambi kwami, abayigcinanga imilayo lemithetho yami njengalokhu okwenziwa nguDavida uyise kaSolomoni. **34** Kodwa angiyikususa umbuso wonke esandleni sikaSolomoni; ngizamenza ukuba abe ngumbusi okwempilo yakhe yonke ngenxa yenceku yami uDavida, yena engamkethayo njalo wayilandela imilayo yami wayigcina lemithetho yami. **35** Ngizathatha umbuso esandleni sendodana yakhe ngikunike isizwana ezililshumi. **36** Ngizanika indodana yakhe isizwana esisodwa ukuze inceku yami uDavida ibe lesibane ngezikhathi zonke phambi kwami eJerusalem, umuzi engakhetha ukufaka iBizo lami. **37** Kodwa-ke, wena ngokwakho, ngizakuthatha, njalo uzabusa phezu kwakho konke njengokufisa kwenhliziyo yakho yonke; uzakuba ngumbusi walo lonke elako-Israyeli. **38** Nxa ungenza engikulaya ngakho uhambe ngezindlela zami wenze okuhle emehlweni ami okunjengokulalela imilayo yami lokulawulwa yimi, njengalokhu okwenziwa yinceku yami uDavida, ungenza njalo ngizakuba lawe. Ngizawuqinisa umbuso wakho njengokaDavida njalo ngizakunika u-Israyeli. **39** Ngizabethula isithunzi abenzalo kaDavida ngenxa yalokhu, kodwa hatsi kuze kube nininini.” **40** USolomoni wazama ukubulala uJerobhohamu kodwa uJerobhohamu wabalekela eGibhithe, enkosini uShishakhhi, njalo wahlala khonale uSolomoni waze wafa. **41** Ezinye izehlakalo ezenzakala ekubuseni kukaSolomoni lakho konke akwenzayo lenhlanganipho yakhe ayitshengiselayo akulotshwanga yini egwalweni lwembali kaSolomoni na? **42** USolomoni wabusa eJerusalem phezu kuka-Israyeli okweminyaka engamatshumi amane. **43** Kwaba yikho ukufa kwakhe eselandela oyise njalo wangcwatshelwa emzini kaDavida uyise. URehobhohami indodana yakhe yathatha ukakhosi ngemva kwakhe.

12 URehobhohami waya eShekhemu, njengoba abako-Israyeli bonke babeye khona ukuyambeka ukuba abe yinkosi. **2** UJerobhohamu indodana kaNebhathi wakuzwa lokhu (elokhu eseGibhithe, lapho ayebalekele khona ebalekela inkosi uSolomoni) wabuya evela eGibhithe. **3** Ngakho bakhupha ilizwi lokunxusa uJerobhohamu; kwathi yena labo bonke abako-Israyeli baya kuRehobhohami bafika bathi kuye: **4** “Uyihlo wasethesa ijogwe elinzima kakhulu, wena phungula lumthwalo olochuku lejogwe elinzima esaletheswa nguyihlo, yikho sizakuhonza.” **5** URehobhohami waphendula wathi: “Sukani lapha okwensuku ezintathu beseliphenduka libuye kimi.” Ngakho abantu bahamba. **6** Inkosi uRehobhohami wabuza abadala besizwe ababahlale njalo basebenza loyise uSolomoni esaphila. Wababuza abadala wathi: “Lingancebisa ukuthi ngibaphendule ngithini

lababantu?” **7** Baphendula bathi, “Nxa lamuhla ungaba yinceku yalabantu, ubasebenzele, ukhulumisane labo kuhle, bazahlala bezinceku zakho.” **8** Kodwa uRehobhohami kazange akwamukele ukucebisa kwabadala wakhethe ukudinga ulwazi kwabayintanga yakhe ababekhule bonke njalo kuyibo abasebezinceku zakhe. **9** Wababuza wathi, “Seluleko bani elilaso? Singabaphendula sithini lababantu abathi kimi, ‘Ake uphungule ubunzima esabetheswa nguyihlo?’” **10** Amajaha ayeyintanga yakhe amphendula athi, “Batshela lababantu abathi kuwe, ‘Uyihlo wasethesa ubunzima, akusiphungulele lobubunzima’ uthi kubo, ‘Ucikalicane wami uqatha kulokho lukabala. **11** Ubaba walethesa ubunzima, mina ngizabungelela. Ubaba walithswa ngezaswebhu, mina ngizalilumisa ngenkume.” **12** Ngemva kwensuku ezintathu uJerobhohamu labo bonke abantu babuyela kuRehobhohami, njengalokho okwaktshishiwo yinkosi ukuthi, “Phendukani lize kimi ngemva kwensuku ezintathu.” **13** Inkosi yaphendula abantu ngolaka. Yalahla izicebiso eyayiziphiwe ngabadala, **14** yalandela ukucebisa kwabatsha, yathi, “Ubaba walethesa ijogwe elinzima, mina ngizalenza libe nzima okuphindiweyo. Ubaba walixathula ngemichilo, mina ngizalintinyela ngenkume.” **15** Ngakho inkosi ayizange ibalalele abantu, ngoba lokhu okwakusenzakala ngokwakwela kuThixo, ukugcwaliswa ilizwi likaThixo elaphiwa uJerobhohamu indodana kaNebhathi ngo-Ahija waseShilo. **16** Kwathi bonke abako-Israyeli sebebonile ukuthi inkosi yalile ukubalalela, bayiphendula inkosi bathi: “Silesabelo bani kuDavida, yingxenyeni bani endodaneni kaJese? Emathenteni enu bako-Israyeli! Gcina indlu yakho, wena kaDavida!” Ngakho abako-Israyeli babuyela emakhaya. **17** Kodwa uRehobhohami waqhubeka ebusa abako-Israyeli ababehlala emadolobheni akoJuda. **18** Inkosi uRehobhohami yathuma u-Adoniram, owayephethe izibhalwa, kodwa bonke abako-Israyeli bamkhanda ngamatsho bambulala. Kodwa inkosi uRehobhohami, yona yenelisa ukubaleka ngenqola yempi yaya eJerusalem. **19** Kusukela ngalesosikhathi abako-Israyeli bayihlamukela indlu kaDavida kuze kube lamuhla. **20** Kwathi bonke abako-Israyeli besizwa ukuthi uJerobhohamu usebuyile bambizela enkundleni lapho abafika bambeka ukuba abe yinkosi yalo lonke elako-Israyeli. Isizwana saJokuda saba yiso sodwa esasala sibuswa yindlu kaDavida. **21** Kwathi uRehobhohami esefike eJerusalem wabuthanisa bonke abakoJuda labakoBhenjamini, amadoda empi azinkulungwane ezilikhulu lamatshumi ayisificaminwembili ukuba bayekulwa labako-Israyeli ukuze babuyisele uRehobhohami indodana kaSolomoni esihlalweni sobukhosi. **22** Kodwa ilizwi likaNkulunkulu leza kuShemaya inceku kaNkulunkulu. **23** “Tshono kuRehobhohami indodana kaSolomoni inkosi yakoJuda, kubo bonke abendlu kaJuda lekaBhenjamini, lakubo bonke abanye abantu uthi, **24** ‘Nanku okutshiwu nguThixo ukuthi: Lingahambi ukuyakulwa labafowuni, abako-Israyeli. Yanini emakhaya enu, munye ngamunye, ngoba lokhu okwenzakalayo kuvela kimi.’” Ngakho balilalela ilizwi likaThixo babuyela emakhaya abo, njengokulaywa kwabo nguThixo. **25** UJerobhohamu wasesakha iShekhemu elizweni lamaqqaqqa elako-Efrayimi wahlala khonale. Esuka lapho waphuma wayakwakhela ePheniweli. **26** UJerobhohamu wacabanga wathi, “Umbuso usuzabuyela endlini kaDavida. **27** Nxa abantu laba bangayanikela imihlatshelo ethempeleni likaThixo eJerusalem, bazaphinda baphe usekelo lwabo enkosini,

uRehobhowami inkosi yakoJuda. Bazangibulala babuyele enkosini uRehobhowami.” **28** Ngemva kokudinga ukwelulekwa, inkosi yenza amathole egolide amabili. Yasisithi ebantwini, “Kunzima kakhulu kini ukuthi liye eJerusalem. Nampa onkulunkulu benu, Oh Israyeli, abalikhupha eGibhithe.” **29** Wasemisa elinye eBetheli, elinye njalo eDani. **30** Lokhu kwaba yisono; abantu babesiya khonale eDani ukuyakhonza lelo elalikhonale. **31** UJerobhowamu wakha amathempeli ezindaweni eziphakemeyo wasebeka abaphristi emihlotsheni yonke yabantu, lakulabo ababengasibo abaLevi. **32** Wamisa umkhosi ngosuku lwetshumi lanhlanu ngenyanga yetshumi lasificaminwembili, owawunjengomkhosi owasenziswa koJuda, wanikela imihlatshelo e-Alithareni. Lokhu wakwenza eBetheli, enikela ematholeni ayewenzile. LeBetheli wabeka abaphristi ezindaweni eziphezulu ayezenzile. **33** Ngosuku lwetshumi lanhlanu lwenyanga yesificaminwembili, inyanga ayezikhethele yona, wanikela imihlatshelo e-alithareni ayezikhile eBetheli. Ngakho wamisa umkhosi kwabako-Israyeli waya e-alithareni ukuyanikela imihlatshelo.

13 UJerobhowamu esemi e-alithareni ukuze atshise impepha, kwafika umuntu kaNkulunkulu eBetheli evela koJuda eelizwi likaThixo, **2** walethula e-alithareni lelizwi likaThixo elithi: “Wena alithare! Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo ukuthi, ‘Kuzazalwa indodana endlini kaDavida, ibizo lakhe lizakuba nguJosiya. Izakwenza umhlatshelo phezu kwakho ngabaphristi bezindawo eziphakemeyo okwakhathesi abenza iminikelo khona lapha, lamathambo abantu azatshiselwa phezu kwakho.” **3** Ngalolosuku umuntu kaNkulunkulu wenza isibonakaliso esithi: “Lesi yisiboniso esivela kuThixo: I-alithari lizadatshulwa phakathi lomlotha ophezu kwalo uzachithwa.” **4** Inkosi uJerobhowamu isizwile isikhazalozo sendoda evela kuNkulunkulu nge-alithare leBetheli yelulela isandla sayo e-alithareni, yathi, “Mbambeni!” Kodwa isandla lesi ayeselulile soma wehluleka ukusifinyeza. **5** Kwathi i-alithari lalo ladatshulwa phakathi umlotha walo walahlwa, njengokwesibonakaliso esasethulwe ngumuntu kaNkulunkulu ngelizwi likaThixo. **6** Inkosi yathi emuntwini kaNkulunkulu, “Ake ungincengele kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakho, ungikhulekele, ukuba isandla sami sisiliswe sibuyele esimeni saso.” Umuntu kaNkulunkulu wasemncengela kuThixo, lesandla sikaJerobhowamu sasiliswa saba njengakuqala. **7** Wasesithi emuntwini kaNkulunkulu: “Ake siye ekhaya ukuba udle, ngizakunika umvuzo.” **8** Kodwa umuntu kaNkulunkulu wayiphendula inkosi wathi, “Loba ungaze unginike ingxenye yenothe yakho, kangihambi lawe; kangiyikudla ukudla, njalo angiyikunatha amanzi kulindawo; **9** ngoba ngilaywe ngelizwi likaThixo ukuthi: ‘Ungabokudla ukudla, unganathi amanzi njalo ungaphenduki ngendlela oze ngayo.” **10** Ngakho wabuyela ngenye indlela, kasabuyelanga ngendlela ayeze ngayo eBetheli. **11** Kwakulomphrofethi omdala owayehlala eBetheli, okweza kuye amadodana akhe amntshela ngokwakwenziwe ngumuntu kaNkulunkulu ngalosuku. Amadodana atshela uyise lokuthi indoda leyo yayitheni enkosini. **12** Uyise wasebuzwa amadodana ukuthi: “Pho angabe uhambe ngayiphi indlela?” Amadodana atshengisa uyise indlela eyathathwa ngumuntu kaNkulunkulu owavela koJuda. **13** Wasesithi emadodaneni akhe, “Lungisani ubabhemi lingifakele isihlalo phezu kwakhe.” Kwathi sebeblungisele wagada ubabhemi **14** walandela umuntu kaNkulunkulu,

wamfika ehlezi ngaphansi kwesihlahla som’Okhi wambuza wathi, “Nguwe umuntu kaNkulunkulu na ovela koJuda?” Indoda yathi, “Yebo yimi.” **15** Ngakho umphrofethi wasesithi kuye, “Woza siye ekhaya uzokudla.” **16** Umuntu kaNkulunkulu wathi, “Angingeke ngiphenduke ukuthi ngibuyele lawe emuva, njalo angingeke ngidle ukudla loba nginathe amanzi lawe kule indawo. **17** Ilizwi likaThixo lifike kimi lathi, ‘Ungadli ukudla kwalapha, unganathi lamanzi akhona njalo ungabobuyela ngendlela oze ngayo.” **18** Umphrofethi omdala wamphendula wathi, “Lami ngingumphrofethi njengawe. Ingilosi seza kimi ngelizwi likaThixo sathi: ‘Ubumletha umbuyisele emuva endlini yakho ukuze ayekudla isinkwa njalo anathe lamanzi.” (Kodwa wayeqamba amanga.) **19** Ngakho umuntu kaNkulunkulu wabuyela laye wafika wadla ukudla wanatha lamanzi endlini yakhe. **20** Besahlezi endaweni yokudlela, ilizwi likaThixo lafika kuye umphrofethi omdala owayemphendule wabuyela laye emuva. **21** Wakhuluma kulomuntu kaNkulunkulu owayevela koJuda wathi, “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: ‘Usuphikise ilizwi likaThixo awusagcinanga imilayo kaThixo uNkulunkulu wakho akulaya ngayo. **22** Uphenduke endleleni wafika wadla ukudla wanatha lamanzi lapho utshelwe ukuthi ungaze wadla ukudla kumbe unathe amanzi akhona. Ngenxa yalokho isidumbu sakho asisayikungcwatshwa emangcwabeni abokhokho bakho.” **23** Kwathi umuntu kaNkulunkulu eseqedile ukudla lokunatha, umphrofethi owayemphendule endleleni wambuyisela emuva wafaka isihlalo sakhe phezu kukababhemi wamkhweza. **24** Uthe esengene indlela yakhe, kwavela isilwane endleleni sambulala, isidumbu sakhe sasala phansi emgwaqweni, kwathi ubabhemi wema ngapha kwesidumbu lesilwane sime ngale kwaso. **25** Abantu ababesedlula lapho babona isidumbu siwele khonapho emgwaqweni, isilwane simi eceleni phansi kwesidumbu, bedlulela edolobheni bayabikela umphrofethi omdala lapho ayehlala khona. **26** Kwathi umphrofethi owayemphendule endleleni ehambeni lwakhe ekuzwa lokhu, wathi, “Ngumuntu kaNkulunkulu odelele ilizwi likaThixo. UThixo umnikele isilwaneni, esimphoqoze sambulala, njengoba ilizwi likaThixo belimxwayisile.” **27** Umphrofethi wathi emadodaneni akhe, “Ngilungiselani ubabhemi limethese isihlalo.” Akwenza lokho amadodana, **28** wasesuka esiya khonale lapho afumana khona isidumbu endleleni, ngapha kumi isilwane ngale kungubabhemi emaceleni aso. Isilwane asizange sisithinte isidumbu kanti njalo sasivele singazange simthinte lobabhemi. **29** Ngakho umphrofethi wathatha isidumbu somuntu kaNkulunkulu, wasikhweza kubabhemi, wasithwalela edolobheni lakhe lapho afika amlilela khona njalo wamngcwaba khona. **30** Wasebeka isidumbu engcwabeni lakhe, wamlilela wathi, “Maye, umfowethu!” **31** Ngemva kokumngcwaba, wathi emadodaneni akhe, “Ekufeni kwami, lingingcwabe engcwabeni lona leli okungcwatshwe khona umuntu kaNkulunkulu; libeke amathambo ami ndawonye lamathambo akhe. **32** Ngoba ilizwi alimemezelayo ngelizwi likaThixo phezu kwe-alithari eBetheli lapho kwazo zonke indawana zomhlatshelo eziphakemeyo emadolobheni aseSamariya lizagcwaliseka.” **33** Langemva kwalokho, uJerobhowamu kazange aguqule izindlela zakhe zokona, waqhubeka ekhetha abaphristi bendawo eziphakemeyo edobha nje ingqe ngubani ebantwini. Kwakusithi loba ngubani ofuna ukuba ngumphristi wayemgcobela indawo eziphezulu. **34** Lesi kwakuyisono sendlu

kaJerobhowamu esakhokhelela ekuweni lasekudilikeni kwayo kayaze yaba khona emhlabeni.

14 Ngalesosikhathi u-Abhija indodana kaJerobhowamu wagula, 2 uJerobhowamu wathi kumkakhe, “Hamba, uzifihle ngesinye isimo, ukuze kungabikhona ozakunanzelela ukuthi ungumkaJerobhowamu. Ube ususiya eShilo. U-Ahija umphrofethi ukhona onguye owangitshela ukuthi ngizakuba yinkosi yabantu laba. 3 Uthathe izinkwa ezilitshumi, amakhekhe athile kanye legabha loluju, ube ususiya kuye. Uzakutshela okumele kwenzakale emntwaneni.” 4 Ngakho umkaJerobhowamu wenza lokho ayekutshilo wasesiya endlini ka-Ahija eShilo. U-Ahija wayengasaboni, eseyisiphofu ngenxa yokuluphala. 5 Kodwa uThixo wayetshela u-Ahija ukuthi, “UmkaJerobhowamu uyeza uzokubuzana ngendodana yakhe, iyagula, njalo uzamnika impendulo le lale ngalokhu lalokhuyana. Ekufikeni kwakhe uzakwenzeka kungathi kayisuye ezifihla.” 6 Kwathi u-Ahija esizwa izisinde zakhe phandle wahle wema emnyango, wathi, “Ngena, Nkosikazi kaJerobhowamu, kanti ngokwani ukuzenzisa? Ngithunywe kuwe ngilombiko omubi. 7 Hamba, uyeshela uJerobhowamu ukuthi lokhu yikho okutshiwo nguThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: ‘Ngakondla wakhula phakathi kwabantu ngakwenza umkhokheli wabantu bami bako-Israyeli. 8 Ngaxebula umbuso endlini kaDavida ngawunika wena, kodwa awuzange wenze njengenceku yami uDavida, yena owagcina imilayo yami njalo wangilandela ngayo yonke inhliziyu yakhe, esenza konke okuhle phambi kwami. 9 Wonile okudlula bonke abakwandulelayo. Usuzidalele abanye onkulunkulu, izithombe ezikhandwe ngensimbi, ungithukuthelisile ngazonda njalo ungifulathele. 10 Ngenxa yalokho ngizakwehlisela incithakalo endlini kaJerobhowamu. Ngizabhubhisa bonke abesilisa bokucina ekuzalweni kwabakaJerobhowamu ko-Israyeli loba yisigqili loba okhululekileyo. Ngizayitshisa indlu kaJerobhowamu kungathi ngibase ubulongwe, ize iphele du. 11 Izinja zizabada bonke abakaJerobhowamu abafele edolopheni, lezinyoni zemkhathini zizazitika ngalabo abafela emaphandleni. UThixo usekhululile!’ 12 Wena, buyela ekhaya. Uzakuthi ubeka unyawo lwakho edolopheni umfana ahle afe. 13 U-Israyeli uzalila amngcwabe. Nguye yedwa kwabakaJerobhowamu ozangcwatshwa, ngoba nguye yedwa endlini kaJerobhowamu, uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, amthole enze ukulunga. 14 UThixo uzazivusela owakhe umbusi ozakuba yinkosi phezu kuka-Israyeli, ozachitha imuli kaJerobhowamu. Lamuhla yikho ukuqala kwakho lokho. 15 UThixo uzamtshaya u-Israyeli, kungathi ngumhlanga uzunguzeka emanzini. Uzamqophuna u-Israyeli elizweni lakhe elihle alinika okhokho bakhe abachithe ngaphetsheya komfula uYufathe, ngoba uThixo bamvuse ulaka ngokwenzeka izinsika zikanzulunkulukazi u-Ashera. 16 Njalo uzamlahla u-Israyeli ngenxa yezono zikaJerobhowamu azenzileyo wakhokhelela lo-Israyeli ukuzenza.” 17 UmkaJerobhowamu wasuka lapho waqonda eThiza. Wathi enyathela egumeni, indodana yafa. 18 Bayingcwaba njalo, u-Israyeli wonke wayililela njengoba uThixo wayetshilo ngeneku yakhe umphrofethi u-Ahija. 19 Ezinye izehlakalo zombuso kaJerobhowamu, izimpi lokuthi wabusa njani, kulotshiwe egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi ako-Israyeli. 20 Wabusa okweminyaka engamatshumi amabili lambili wasesiyaphumula labokhokho bakhe ekufeni. Indodana yakhe uNadabi wathatha isikhundla sakhe waba

yinkosi. 21 URehobhowami indodana kaSolomoni waba yinkosi wabusa kokuJuda. Wayeleminyaka engamatshumi amane lanye eqalisa ukubusa, wabusa okweminyaka elitshumi lesikhombisa eJerusalem idolobho elakhethwa nguThixo phakathi kwezizwana zonke zako-Israyeli ukubeka iBizo lakhe. Unina wayenguNahama; engowase-Amoni. 22 AbakoJuda bona phambi kukaThixo. Ngokona lokhu, bavusa ubukhwele bolaka lwakhe ukwedlula okwakwenziwe ngoyise. 23 Bazakhela njalo indawo eziphakemeyo zeminikelo, amatshe azilayo lezinsika zika-Ashera ezintabeni zonke langaphansi kwemithunzi yezihlahla eziyizithingithingi. 24 Kwakukhona lapho amadoda afeba lamanye amadoda ezindaweni zemihlatshelo phakathi kwelizwe; abantu ababesenza wonke amanyala ezizwe uThixo ayezixotshile phansi kwabako-Israyeli. 25 Ngomnyaka wesihlanu kaRehobhowami, uShishakhi inkosi yaseGibhithe wahlasela iJerusalem. 26 Wabutha yonke inotho yethempeli likaThixo kanye lenotho yesigodlo sobukhosi. Wahuquluzwa konke kanye lamahawu enziwe ngegolide ayekhandwe nguSolomoni. 27 Ngakho inkosi uRehobhowami yakhanda amahawu ethusi ukwenanisa lawo yawabela abakhokheli babalindimasango besigodlweni. 28 Kwakusithi nxa inkosi isiya ethempelini likaThixo, abalindi babewathala amahawu lawo, baphinde bawabuyise endlini yabalindi. 29 Ezinye izehlakalo ekubuseni kukaRehobhowami, lakho konke akwenzayo, akulutshwanga yini egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi akoJuda? 30 Kwahlala kulempi phakathi kukaRehobhowami loJerobhowamu. 31 URehobhowami wakhothama, wangcwatshwa labokhokho bakhe eMzini kaDavida. Unina wayenguNahama, engum’Amoni. U-Abhija indodana yakhe wathatha ubukhosi waba yinkosi ngemva kukayise.

15 Ngomnyaka wetshumi lasificaminwembili wokubusa kukaJerobhowamu indodana kaNebhathi, u-Abhija waba yinkosi yakoJuda, 2 njalo wabusa eJerusalem okweminyaka emithathu. Ibizu likanina lalinguMahakha indodakazi ka-Abhisalomu. 3 Wenza zonke izono ezazisenziwa nguyise, inhliziyu yakhe yajengekho ekukhonzeni uThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe, inganjengenhliziyu kaDavida ukhokho wakhe. 4 Kungenani, ngenxa kaDavida uThixo uNkulunkulu wamnika isibane eJerusalem ngokuveza indodana eyayizathatha isihlahlo sakhe langokuqinisa iJerusalem. 5 UDavida wayekwenzile konke okufaneleyo emehlweni kaThixo njalo kehulekanga ukugcina imilayo kaThixo kuzozonke insuku zokuphila kwakhe ngaphandle kwendaba ka-Uriya umHithi. 6 Kwaba lempi phakathi kukaRehobhowami loJerobhowamu ngasosonke isikhathi sokuphila kuka-Abhija. 7 Okunye okumayelana lombuso ka-Abhija, lakho konke akwenzayo, akulutshwanga yini egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi akoJuda? Kwaba lempi phakathi kuka-Abhija loJerobhowamu. 8 U-Abhija waphumula laboyise wangcwatshwa emzini kaDavida. U-Asa indodana yakhe wathatha ubukhosi bukayise. 9 Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amabili okubusa kukaJerobhowamu inkosi yako-Israyeli, u-Asa waba yinkosi yakoJuda, 10 wabusa eJerusalem okweminyaka engamatshumi amane lowodwa. Ibizu likagogo wakhe lalinguMahakha indodakazi ka-Abhisalomu. 11 U-Asa wenza okubukekayo phambi kukaThixo, njengalokhu okwakwenziwe nguDavida uyise. 12 Waxotsha abesilisa ababefeba ngokwenzana abafazi, wadiliza zonke izithombe ezazakhiwe ngoyise. 13 Waze waxotsha kanye logogo

wakhe uMahakha wamsusa esihlalweni sokuba yindlovukazi yomndlunkulu, ngoba wayebumbe isithombe esihlhlazo sika-Ashera. U-Asa wasidilizela phansi lesisithombe wayasitshisela eSigidini saseKhidroni. **14** Noma engadilizanga izindawo eziphakemeyo zokukhonzela, inhliziyo ka-Asa yayinamathele kuThixo impilo yakhe uyise. **15** Waletha ethempelini likaThixo isiliva legolide lonke yonke kanye laye ababekumele lezinye impahla. **16** Kwaba lempi phakathi kuka-Asa loBhasha inkosi yako-Israyeli ekubuseni kwabo bonke. **17** UBhasha inkosi yako-Israyeli waqophana loJuda wasesakha umuzi weRama ukuvimbela loba ngubani owayezama ukuphuma loba ukungena elizweni lika-Asa inkosi yakoJuda. **18** U-Asa wasethatha isiliva sonke legolide elalisele eziphaleni zokuligugu ethempelini likaThixo lokwakusesigidini sakhe. Wakubeka ezandleni zezikhulu zakhe wazithumela kuBheni-Hadadi indodana kaThabhrimoni, oyindodana kaHeziyoni, inkosi yase-Aramu, owayebusa eDamaseko. **19** “Akubekhona ubudlelwano phakathi kwami lawe,” watshe, eqhubeka wathi, “njengoba kwakunjalo phakathi kukayihlo lobaba. Khangela ngikuthumela izipho zesiliva legolide. Wena quma ubudlelwano bakho loBhasha inkosi yako-Israyeli yikho ezaphuma elizweni lami.” **20** UBheni-Hadadi wavumelana lenkosi u-Asa wasethumela abalawuli bamabutho akhe ukuyahlasela amadolobho ako-Israyeli. Wanqoba ele-Ijoni, eleDani, ele-Abheli-Bhethi-Mahakha lalo lonke elaseKhinerehi kanye leNafithali. **21** UBhasha wathi ekuzwa lokhu, wema ukwakha iRama wasehlelela eThiza. **22** Inkosi u-Asa yaquma ukuthi kungasali amantshe kulolonke elakoJuda. Basebethutha eRama bethwala muntsho lamapulanka ayekade esetshenziswa nguBhasha kuleyondawo. Ngalokho inkosi u-Asa yakha iGebha kwelakoBhenjamini, leMizipha. **23** Konke okumayelana lombuso ka-Asa, lalokho anqoba kikho, lamadolobho wonke ayewakhile, akulotshwanga na egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi akoJuda? Kodwa-ke, ekuluphaleni kwakhe, waba lomkhuhlane ezinyaweni zakhe. **24** Ngakho u-Asa waya ekuphumleni wangcwatshwa laboyise emzini kayise uDavid. Kwathi indodana yakhe uJehoshafathi wathatha isihlalo sakhe sobukhosi. **25** UNadabi indodana kaJerobhowamu waba yinkosi yakabo-Israyeli ngomnyaka wesibini ka-Asa inkosi yakoJuda, njalo wabusa abako-Israyeli okweminyaka embili. **26** Wona wenza okubi emehlweni kaThixo, wahamba ngendlela kayise lasezonweni zakhe, lezo ezazibangele ukuthi u-Israyeli angene kuzo adale isono. **27** UBhasha indodana ka-Ahija owendlu ka-Isakhari waceba ukumbulala. Wambulala eGibhethoni elinye lamadolobho amaFilistiya, ngesikhathi uNadabi labo bonke abako-Israyeli belihanqile. **28** UBhasha wabulala uNadabi ngomnyaka wesithathu wombuso ka-Asa inkosi yakoJuda wasehlala esihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi. **29** Waqalisa ukubusa wahle wabulala bonke abendlu kaJerobhowamu. Kazange atshiyele uJerobhowamu loyedwa kodwa wabubhisa bonke elandela ilizwi likaThixo eleza lenceku yakhe u-Ahija waseShilo **30** ngenxa yezono zikaJerobhowamu ayezenzile njalo enguye owabangela ukuthi u-Israyeli one, ngoba wathukuthelisa uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. **31** Ezinye izehlakalo ekubuseni kukaNadabi, lakho konke akwenzayo, akulotshwanga na egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi ako-Israyeli? **32** Kwaba lempi phakathi kuka-Asa loBhasha inkosi yako-Israyeli ngesikhathi sonke sokubusa kwabo. **33** Ngomnyaka wesithathu ka-Asa inkosi yakoJuda, uBhasha indodana ka-Ahija waba yinkosi yalo lonke elako-Israyeli

laseThiza, njalo wabusa iminyaka engamatshumi amabili lane. **34** Wona phambi kukaThixo, wahamba ngendlela kaJerobhowamu lezono zakhe, lezo abangela u-Israyeli ukuthi azenze.

16 Ilizwi likaThixo leza kuJehu indodana kaHanani lisongela uBhasha lisithi: **2** “Ngakususa othulini ngakwenza umkhokheli wabantu bami bako-Israyeli, kodwa wasuka wahamba ngezindlela zikaJerobhowamu njalo wabangela abantu bami bako-Israyeli ukuthi bonke bangithukuthelise ngezono zabo. **3** Ngakho sekufanele ngichithe uBhasha labendlu yakhe, njalo indlu yakho ngizakwenza ifanane lekaJerobhowamu indodana kaNebhathi. **4** Bazadliwa yizinja abangabakaBhasha abazafela edolobheni, kanti izinyoni zasemoyeni zizakudla labo abazafela emangweni.” **5** Okunye okumayelana lombuso kaBhasha, akwenzayo lokuphumelela kwakhe, akulotshwanga yini egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi ako-Israyeli? **6** UBhasha waphumula laboyise wembelwa eThiza. Kwathi u-Ela indodana yakhe yathatha ubukhosi yabusa. **7** Njalo ilizwi lafika livela kuThixo ngoJehu indodana kaHanani lisiya kuBhasha labendlu yakhe, ngoba kulezono ezinengi ayezenzile emehlweni kaThixo, wamthukuthelisa ngezinto abazenzayo, waze wafanana labendlu kaJerobhowamu kanye lokuthi wayichitha. **8** Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amabili lesithupha wokubusa kuka-Asa inkosi yakoJuda, u-Ela indodana kaBhasha waba yinkosi yako-Israyeli njalo wabusa eThiza okweminyaka embili. **9** UZimri, esinye sezikhulu zakhe, owayelawula ingxenye yezinqola zempi, waceba ukumbulala. U-Ela wayeseThiza ngalesosikhathi, esidla edakwa endlini ka-Ariza, indoda eyayiphethe isigodlo saseThiza. **10** UZimri wangena, wamtshaya wambulala. Kwakungumnyaka wamatshumi amabili lesikhombisa wokubusa kuka-Asa inkosi yakoJuda. Wasethatha isikhundla sakhe sobukhosi waba yinkosi. **11** Uthe eqalisa ukubusa esehlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi, wabulala bonke abendlu kaBhasha. Katshiyanga ndoda noma kuyisihlobo loba kungumngane. **12** Ngakho uZimri wabubhisa bonke abendlu kaBhasha, kwaba njengokwatshiwo nguThixo owasongela uBhasha ngomphrofethi uJehu **13** ngenxa yazo zonke izono azenzayo uBhasha lendodana yakhe u-Ela; benza lo-Israyeli wona kwaze kwaqubula uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, wazonda ngenxa yezithombe zabo eziyize. **14** Ezinye izehlakalo ngombuso ka-Ela, lakho konke akwenzayo, akulotshwanga yini encwadini yembali yamakhosi ako-Israyeli? **15** Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amabili lesikhombisa wokubusa kuka-Asa inkosi yakoJuda, uZimri wabusa eThiza okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. Ibutho lalisenkambeni yaseGibhethoni, idolobho lamaFilistiya. **16** Abako-Israyeli bathi sebezile ukuthi uZimri wakha icebo lokubulala inkosi lakanye wayibulala, babeka u-Omri, umlawuli webutho wahle waba yinkosi yako-Israyeli mhlalokho enkambeni. **17** U-Omri labo bonke abako-Israyeli bahlehla basuka eGibhethoni bayavimbezela iThiza. **18** UZimri uthe ebona ukuthi idolobho laselithethwe, waya enqabeni yesigodlo senkosi wathungela isigodlo sesikhosini ngomlilo lapho ayekhona. Ngakho wafa, **19** ngenxa yezono azenzayo, esenza okubi phambi kukaThixo njalo kwakungaselamuntu ohamba ngendlela zikaJerobhowamu lasezonweni ayengene kuzo lalazo ayebangela u-Israyeli ukuba azenze. **20** Ezinye izehlakalo zokubusa kukaZimri, lomvukela ayewenzile, akulotshwanga na ogwalweni lwembali yamakhosi ako-Israyeli? **21** Kwasekusiba lokudabukana

phakathi kwabantu bako-Israyeli, abanye babesekela uThibhini indodana kaGinathi ukuthi abe yinkosi, abanye besekela u-Omri. **22** Kodwa-ke kwabasobala ukuthi abalandeli baka-Omri bayabakhulela abakaThibhini indodana kaGinathi. Ngakho uThibhini wafa u-Omri waba yinkosi. **23** Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amathathu lanye ka-Asa inkosi yakoJuda, u-Omri waba yinkosi yako-Israyeli, wabusa okweminyaka elitshumi lambili, eyisithupha yayo eseThiza. **24** Wathenga uqaqa lwaseSamariya kuShemeri ngamathalenta amabili esiliva njalo wakha idolobho phezu koqaqa lolo walibiza ngokuthi Samariya, elubiza ngoShemeri, owayekade engumnikazi walo. **25** Kodwa u-Omri wona waba lezono phambi kukaThixo, njalo yena wona okwedlula bonke abamandulelayo. **26** Wahamba ngazozonke izindlela zikaJerobhowamu indodana kaNebhathi kanye lasezonweni zakhe, abangela ukuthi u-Israyeli azenze, ngalokho baqubula uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, wazonda ngenxa yezithombe zabo eziyize. **27** Okwembali yokubusa kuka-Omri, akwenzayo kanye layephumelele kukho, akulotshwanga na ogwalweni lwembali yamakhosi ako-Israyeli? **28** U-Omri waphumula kuboyise wembelwa eSamariya. Kwathi u-Ahabi indodana yakhe wabusa ngemva kwakhe. **29** Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amathathu lasificaminwembili wokubusa kuka-Asa inkosi yakoJuda, u-Ahabi indodana ka-Omri waba yinkosi yako-Israyeli, njalo wabusa eSamariya kwabako-Israyeli okweminyaka engamatshumi amabili lambili. **30** U-Ahabi indodana ka-Omri waba lezono ezingaphezu kwalabo abamandulelayo phambi kukaThixo. **31** Kwathi lanxa ebona kungasilutho ukungena ebumi bukaJerobhowamu indodana kaNebhathi, wathatha ujezibheli indodakazi ka-Ethibhali inkosi yamaSidoni, waseqalisa ukukhonza lokusebenzela uBhali. **32** Wakhela uBhali i-alithari ethempelini likaBhali ayelakhe eSamariya. **33** U-Ahabi wenzela u-Ashera insika njalo kunengi akwenzayo okwathukuthelisa uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, okwedlula wonke amakhosi ako-Israyeli amandulelayo. **34** Ngezinsuku zika-Ahabi uHiyeli waseBhetheli wakha kutsha iJerikho. Ukubekwa kwezisekelo zayo kwathatha impilo yezibulo lakhe u-Abhiramu kwathi lasekumiseni amasango alo kwathatha impilo yecinathunjana lakhe uSegubi, kwagcwaliseka ilizwi likaThixo ayelikhulume ngoJoshuwa indodana kaNuni.

17 U-Elia uThishibi owayevela ngaseThishibi eGilyadi, wasesithi ku-Ahabi. “Njengoba uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, engimkhonzayo ephila, akuyikuba lamazolo njalo akuyikuba lezulu okweminyaka embalwa ezayo ngaphandle kokuba ngitsho.” **2** Ngakho ilizwi likaThixo lafika ku-Elia lisithi: **3** “Suka lapho, khangela empumalanga uyecatsha eDongeni lwaseKherithi, empumalanga kweJodani. **4** Uzanatha amanzi avela kulesosifula, njalo sengilayile amawabayi ukuthi azabe ekulethela ukudla khonapho.” **5** Ngakho wenza lokho okwakutshiwu nguThixo. Waya eDongeni lwaseKherithi, empumalanga yeJodani, wafika wahlala khona. **6** Amawabayi amlethela ukudla, isinkwa lenyama ekuseni kwathi lantambama kwaba yisinkwa lenyama, amanzi wayenatha esifuleni. **7** Ngemva kwesikhathi amanzi atsha esifuleni ngoba kwakungelazulu elizweni. **8** Ngakho kwabuye kwafika kuye ilizwi likaThixo lisithi: **9** “Suka khathesi uye eZarefathi yeSidoni uyehlala khona. Sengilungisile khona ukuthi umfelokazi uzakulungisela abe ekupha ukudla.” **10** Wasesiya eZarefathi. Uthe efika esangweni ledolobho, kwakukhona umfelokazi edobha incwathi. Wazibika

kuye njalo ecela wathi, “Ungangilethela amanzi ngenkezo kenginathe na?” **11** Uthe esayathatha amanzi, wambiza njalo wathi, “Ngicela ungiphathele locezu lwesinkwa.” **12** Umfelokazi waphendula wathi, “Ngeqiniso lanjengoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho ephila, angilaso isinkwa kodwa ngilengcosana nje yefulawa engebethwini encane lamafutha anganganani ediweni. Ngidobha incwathi lezi nje ngiya lazo ngekhyaya ukuze ngiyezigoqozela engingakudla mina lendodana yami, kube yikho esizakudla andubana sife.” **13** U-Elia wathi kumfelokazi, “Ungesabi. Hamba uye ekhaya uyekwenza khonokho okutshoyo. Kodwa uqale ungiphekele iqebelengwane eliyisinkwa ngalokho olakho ube usuliletha lapha kimi, andubana uzipekele okwakho lendodana yakho. **14** Ngoba lokhu yikho uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli akutshiloyo: ‘Impuphu esengebethwini kayiyikuphela, lamafutha asediweni kawayikuphela, kuze kufike usuku uThixo azanisa ngalo izulu elizweni?’” **15** Wasuka lapho wayakwenza njengalokho ayekutshilo u-Elia. Ngakho kwahlala kulokudla kuka-Elia lomfelokazi labendlu yakhe okwensuku zonke. **16** Ngoba ifulawa eyayisengebethwini ayiphelanga, kanti njalo lamafutha agobhoza kokuphela kazaphela njengokutsho kukaThixo ku-Elia. **17** Ngemva kwesikhathshana indodana yomfelokazi owayengumninindlu yagula. Wakhula umkhuhlane ngamandla, yaze yema ukuphefumula. **18** Umfelokazi wathi ku-Elia, “Kanti kuyini ongizondela khona, wena muntu kaNkulunkulu? Kambe ungabe ulande ukuzangikhumbuzwa ngesono sami ukuze ubulale indodana yami na?” **19** U-Elia waphendula wathi, “Nginika indodana yakho.” Wayiphatha ngezandla indodana, wakhwela layo waya endlini ephezulu ayehlala kuyo, wayilalisa embhedeni wakhe. **20** Wasecela ngamandla kuThixo esithi. “Yebo Thixo Nkulunkulu wami, wehlisele umonakalo lakulo umfelokazi engihlezi kuye na, ngokubangela ukufa kwendodana yakhe na?” **21** Wasezelula ecambalala phezu komfana kathathu ecela kuThixo, esithi, “Wena Thixo Nkulunkulu wami, ake ubuyisele impilo yalumnwana!” **22** UThixo wakuzwa ukukhala kuka-Elia lakanye impilo yomfana yabuyela, wavuka waphila. **23** U-Elia wamphakamisa umntwana wamthwalela endlini ephansi. Wamqhubela unina wasesithi kunina, “Khangela ubone, indodana yakho iyaphila!” **24** Umfelokazi wasesithi ku-Elia, “Khathesi sengisazi ukuthi ungumuntu kaNkulunkulu lokuthi ilizwi likaThixo elivela emlonjeni wakho liliqiniso.”

18 Ngemva kwesikhathi eside, ngomnyaka wesithathu, ilizwi likaThixo lezwakala ku-Elia lisithi: “Hamba uyezibika ku-Ahabi, ngizanisa izulu elizweni.” **2** Lakanye u-Elia wahamba wayazibika ku-Ahabi. Ngalesosikhathi indala yayinkulu kakhulu eSamariya, **3** njalo u-Ahabi wayebize u-Obhadaya, owayengulindi wesigodlo sakhe. (U-Obhadaya wayekholwa kakhulu kuThixo. **4** Lapho ujezibheli wayebulala abaphrofethi bakaThixo, u-Obhadaya wayethe abalikhulu wayabafihla ezimbalwini ezimbili, bengamatshumi amahlanu ebhalwini lunye, wabathumela ukudla lamanzi.) **5** U-Ahabi wayethe ku-Obhadaya, “Ngena elizweni lonke emaxhaphozini lasezihotsheni. Mhlawumbe singathala khona utshani bokupha amabhiza lezimbongolo zethu ukuze singabulali leyodwa yezinyamazana zethu.” **6** Ngakho behlukaniselana isigaba somhlaba ababezawuhlola. U-Ahabi wakhangela le kwathi lo-Obhadaya laye waya le. **7** Kwathi u-Obhadaya ezihambela nje, wahlangabezwa ngu-Elia. U-Obhadaya wamnanzelela,

wakhothamela phansi emhlabathini, wasesithi, “Kambe nguwe sibili, nkosi yami Elija?” **8** U-Elija waphendula wathi, “Yebo. Hamba uyetshele inkosi yakho ukuthi, ‘U-Elija ulapha.’” **9** U-Obhadaya wabuza wathi, “Ngoneni kanti okwenza unikele inceku yakho ezandleni zika-Ahabi ukuba ibulawe?” **10** Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho ephila, akukho sizwe loba umbuso lapho inkosi yami ingazange ithumele izithunywa ukuba zikudinga khona. Kuthe laloba isizwe loba umbuso ulandula ukuba awukho khonale, ubenze bafunga ukuthi abangeke bakuthole. **11** Kodwa khathesi usunguthuma ukuthi ngiye enkosini ngiyeyitshela ukuthi, ‘U-Elija ulapha.’ **12** Angikwazi ukuthi uMoya kaThixo uzakusa ngaphi mhla ngakutshiyayo. Nxa ngingayatshela u-Ahabi akudinga akuswele, uzangibulala. Kunjalo-nje mina nceku yakho ngimkhonzile uThixo kusukela ebutsheni bami. **13** Awukezwa yini, nkosi yami, engakwenzayo uJezebheli ebulala abaphrofethi bakaThixo na? Ngafihla abalikhulu ezimbini ezimbili, bengamatshumi amahlanu kolulodwa, ngabapha ukudla lamanzi. **14** Njalo khathesi usungithuma ukuba ngiye enkosini yami ngiyeyitshela ngithi, ‘U-Elija ulapha.’ Kusobala ukuthi izangibulala!” **15** U-Elija wathi, “Njengoba uThixo uSomandla engimkhonzayo ekhona, ngizazinikela ngempela ku-Ahabi lamuhla.” **16** Ngakho u-Obhadaya wahlangabeza u-Ahabi wayamtshela, u-Ahabi wayahlangabeza u-Elija. **17** Uthe ebona u-Elija, wathi kuye, “Nguwe wena, wena oluhlupho ko-Israyeli?” **18** U-Elija waphendula wathi, “Angibanganga hlupho ko-Israyeli. Kodwa nguwe labendlu kayihlo abalungileyo. Selitshiye imilayo kaThixo lalandela oBhali. **19** Biza abantu kulonke elako-Israyeli ngiyehlangana labo eNtabeni iKhameli. Njalo lethla bonke abaphrofethi bakaBhali abangamakhulu amane lamatshumi amahlanu labaka-Ashera abangamakhulu amane, abadlela etafuleni kaJezebheli.” **20** U-Ahabi wakhupha ilizwi kulonke elako-Israyeli wahlanganisa abaphrofethi labo eNtabeni iKhameli. **21** U-Elija wema phambi kwabantu wathi, “Lizathandabuza kuze kube nini ngeminakano emibili le na? Nxa uThixo enguNkulunkulu mlandeleni kodwa nxa uBhali enguNkulunkulu, mlandeleni.” Kodwa abantu abazange batsho lutho. **22** Ngakho u-Elija wasesithi kubo, “Yimi ngedwa umphrofethi kaThixo oseleyo kodwa uBhali ulabangamakhulu amane lamatshumi amahlanu. **23** Sidingeleni inkunzi ezimbili. Libanike bazikhethela abayifunayo bayihlabi bayiqume amaqatha bayifake phezu kwenkuni kodwa bangabasi umlilo. Lami ngizahlinsa eyinye yazo ngiyiqobaqobe ngiyifake phezu kwenkuni kodwa angiyikubasa umlilo. **24** Libe selibiza ibizo likankulunkulu wenu mina ngizacela ebizweni likaThixo. Unkulunkulu ozaphendula ngomlilo, nguye-ke uNkulunkulu.” Ngakho abantu bonke bathi, “Lokho okutshoyo kulungile.” **25** U-Elija wathi kubaphrofethi bakaBhali, “Khethani inkunzi eyodwa njalo liqale lina ukuyilungiselela, njengoba lina libanengi kangaka. Memezani unkulunkulu wenu ngegama lakhe, kodwa lingalumathisi umlilo.” **26** Bayithatha inkunzi ababeyiphiwe bayilungisa. Basebebiza ibizo likaBhali kusukela ekuseni kwaze kwaba semini enkulu. Baklabalala besithi, “We Bhali, sabela bol!” Kodwa akubanga lampendulo; kakho owaphendulayo. Bagida bezingelezela i-alithari ababelakhile. **27** Kwathi emini enkulu u-Elija waqalisa ukubahoza esithi, “Klabalalani ngamandla! Ngempela angithi ungunkulunkulu! Mhlawumbe ujule eminanweni, engxenywe ubambekile, loba engxenywe uphakathi kohambo. Engxenywe ulele ngakho ufuna

ukukuswa.” **28** Ngakho baklabalala ngamandla baziklaya ngezingqamu langezinkemba, njengoba kwakungumkhuba wabo, kwaze kwajuluka igazi. **29** Yedlula imini enkulu, bona baqhubeka ngokuphithizela bephrofetha kwaze kwaba yisikhathi somhlatshelo wakusihlwa. Kodwa akubanga lalutho, akubanga lampendulo, kakho owazihlupha ngakho. **30** Ngakho u-Elija wathi ebantwini, “Wozani ngapha engkhona.” Basondela kuye, yena walungilungisa i-alithari likaThixo elaselibhidlikile. **31** U-Elija wathatha amatshe alitshumi lambili, yilelo limele isizwana sosendo lukaJakhobe, yena owayezwe ilizwi likaThixo lisithi kuye, “Uzabizwa ngokuthi ungu-Israyeli.” **32** Wakha i-alithari ngebezwe likaThixo ngalowo matshe, wagebha umgelo ozingelezela i-alithari okungangena kuwo igokoko lamabele. **33** Walungisa inkuni, wasika inyama yenkunzi wenza amaqatha, waseyibeka phezu kwenkuni. Wasesithi kubo, “Gcwalisani imigqomo emine emikhulu ngamanzi libe seliwathela phezu komhlatshelo laphedu kwenkuni.” **34** Wathi, “Kwenzeni futshi,” bakwenza lokho njalo. Wathi, “Kwenzeni okwesithathu,” lakanye bakwenza bephinda okwesithathu. **35** Amanzi agcwala aze agcwala lasemgelweni owawugombolozela i-alithari. **36** Kuthe ngesikhathi somhlatshelo, u-Elija umphrofethi wasondela wakhuleka esithi, “Oh Thixo, Nkulunkulu ka-Abrahama, lo-Isaka lo-Israyeli, veza obala lamuhla ukuthi wena unguNkulunkulu ko-Israyeli kanye lokuthi mina ngiyinceku yakho, lokuthi zonke lezizinto ngizenza ngokulaya kwakho. **37** Akungiphendule Oh Thixo, akungiphendule ukuze lababantu bakwazi ukuthi wena Thixo, unguNkulunkulu, lokuthi njalo uguqula inhlizyo zabo.” **38** Khonokho umlilo kaThixo wehla watshisa umhlatshelo, inkuni, amatshe lomhlabathi, kwaze kwatsha lamanzi ayesemgelweni. **39** Abantu bonke bekubona lokhu, bazilahlala phansi bakhala bathi, “UThixo nguye uNkulunkulu! UThixo nguye uNkulunkulu!” **40** U-Elija wasebaluka wathi, “Bambani abaphrofethi bakaBhali. Akungaphunyuki lamunye!” Bababamba, u-Elija wathi kabasiwe eSigidini saseKhishoni, babulawelwa khona. **41** Ngakho u-Elija wasesithi ku-Ahabi, “Hamba, udle unathe, ngoba kuzwakala umdumo wezulu elikhulu.” **42** Ngalokho u-Ahabi wasuka wayakudla njalo wanatha, kodwa u-Elija wakhwela phezu kwentaba yaseKhameli, wagobisa ikhanda lakhe walifaka phakathi kwamadolo akhe. **43** Wathuma isisebenzi sakhe wathi: “Hamba uyephosa amehlo akho olwandle.” Lakanye isisebenzi sahamba sayakhangele. Sathi, “Akulalutho laphaya.” U-Elija watsho kwaze kwaba kasikhombisa esithi, “Buyela.” **44** Ngesikhathi sesikhombisa isisebenzi sabika sathi, “Iyezana elincinyane ngangesandla somuntu likhanya liqubuka lisuka olwandle.” Ngakho u-Elija wasesithi, “Hamba uyetshele u-Ahabi uthi, ‘Bopha inqola yakho yempi usuke lapho ungakavalelwa lizulu.’” **45** Ngalesosikhathi, kwaba mnyama emkhathini ngamayezi, kwaqubuka umoya, kwana izulu elikhulu njalo u-Ahabi wasuka ngenqola waya eJezerili. **46** Amandla kaThixo ehlela ku-Elija, njalo uthe ukuba akhwecele isembatho sakhe ebhantini wagijima phambi kuka-Ahabi indlela yonke esiya eJezerili.

19 U-Ahabi wasetshela uJezebheli ngakho konke okwakwenziwe ngu-Elija kanye lokuthi wababulala njani abaphrofethi ngenkemba. **2** Ngalokho uJezebheli wathumela isithunywa ku-Elija ukuthi siyekuthi, “Onkulunkulu kabangihlanekele ngokwengezelelweyo nxa

ngingakubulalanga kuze kube kusasa, njengoba usubulele abaphrofethi.” **3** U-Eliza wasesesaba, wasuka wabaleka, wayafika eBherisheba yakoJuda, wasetshiya khona inceku yakhe. **4** Yena wahamba okwelanga elilodwa engena enkangala. Wathola khona isihlahla, wahlala ngaphansi kwaso emthunzini, wakhuleleka ukuthi ngabe uyafa wathi, “Kwanele, Thixo, susa ukuphila kwami ngoba angingcono kulabokhokho.” **5** Wasecambalala elala ngaphansi kwesihlahla wajunywa yibuthongo. Khonokho ingilosi yamthinta yathi kuye, “Vuka udle.” **6** Wathalaza, lakanye wabona ngenakhanda nantiyana iqebelengwane lisatshisa emalaheni elaliphekwe kanti, kanye lenzezo eyayilamanzi okunatha. Wadla njalo wanatha, waphinda walala. **7** Ingilosi kaThixo yaphinda yabuya okwesibili yamthinta, yathi kuye, “Vuka udle, ngoba uhambo lude luzakukhulela.” **8** Ngakho wavuka, wadla njalo wehlisa ngamanzi. Eseqiniswe yilokhokudla wahamba insuku ezingamatshumi amane lobusuku obungamatshumi amane waze wayafika eHorebhi intaba kaNkulunkulu. **9** Eselapho wangena ebhalwini walala. Ngakho ilizwi likaThixo lafika kuye lisithi, “Kanti wenzani khonapha, Elija?” **10** Yena waphendula wathi, “Bengikutshisekela kakhulu, wena Thixo Nkulunkulu Somandla. Abako-Israyeli basephule isivumelwano sakho, badiliza ama-alithare akho, babulala abaphrofethi bakho ngenkamba. Yimi ngedwa engiseleyo, njalo khathesi bayangizingela bafuna ukungibulala.” **11** UThixo wathi kuye, “Hamba uyekuma phezu kwentaba phambi kukaThixo ngoba uThixo uzadlula khona.” Kwaba lomoya owawuvunguza ngamandla udabula izintaba uqhekeza lamadwala phambi kukaThixo, kodwa uThixo wayengekho kulesosiphepho. Kwedlula isiphepho kweza ukuzamazama komhlaba kodwa uThixo wayengekho kulokhokuzamazama. **12** Kwedlula ukuzamazama komhlaba kwaqhamuka umlilo, kodwa uThixo wayengekho kulowomlilo. Ngemva komlilo kwezwakala ilizwi elipholileyo linyenyeza. **13** U-Eliza uthe elizwa, wadonsa isembatho sakhe wamboza ubuso bakhe wasuka wayakuma entubeni yobhalu. Khonokho ilizwi lathi kuye, “Wenzani khonapha, Elija?” **14** Yena waphendula wathi, “Bengikutshisekela kakhulu wena Thixo Nkulunkulu Somandla. Abako-Israyeli basephule isivumelwano sakho, badiliza ama-alithare akho, babulala abaphrofethi bakho ngenkamba. Yimi ngedwa engiseleyo, njalo khathesi bayangizingela bafuna ukungibulala lami.” **15** UThixo wathi kuye, “Buyela ngayonale indlela oze ngayo, uye enkangala yaseDamaseko. Ekufikeni kwakho khonale, ugcobe uHabayeli abe yinkosi yase-Aramu. **16** Njalo, ugcobe loJehu indodana kaNimishi abe yinkosi yako-Israyeli, ubusugcoba u-Elisha indodana kaShafathi wase-Abheli-Mehola athathe isikhundla sakho sobuphrofethi. **17** UJehu uzabulala bonke abazaphetha kuleyonkamba kaHabayeli, njalo u-Elisha uzabulala labo abazalisa kuleyonkamba kaJehu. **18** Kodwa ngizaphethisa abako-Israyeli abazinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa abangazange bakhothamele uBhali njalo abandebe zabo azizange zimange.” **19** Ngakho u-Elija wasuka lapho wathola u-Elisha indodana kaShafathi. Wamfica elima labanye ngenkabi emajongweni alitshumi lambili, yena etshayela ezejogwe letshumi lambili. U-Elija wasondela kuye wamambesa ngesembatho sakhe. **20** U-Elisha watshiya inkabi zakhe walandela u-Elija. Wasesithi, “Ngivumela ngiyevalelisa ubaba lomama, ngibuye ngizehamba lawe.” U-Elija wamphendula wathi, “Buyela, kanti ngenzeni kuwe?” **21**

Ngakho u-Elisha wehlukana laye wabuyela emuva. Wathatha inkabi zezogwe lakhe wazihlaba. Wabasa umlilo ngezinto lezo ayelima ngazo ukuze ose inyama yazo wayinika abantu bayidla. Waselandela u-Elija waba yinceku yakhe.

20 UBheni-Hadadi inkosi yama-Aramu waqoqa ibutho lakhe lonke. Wayephelekezelwa ngamakhosi angamatshumi amathathu lamabili ngezinqola zawo zempi lamabhiza, wasuka wayahanqa iSamariya wayihlasela. **2** Wathuma izithunywa edolobheni ku-Ahabi inkosi yako-Israyeli, esithi, “Nanku okutshiwo nguBheni-Hadadi: **3** Isiliva legolide lakho ngokwami, abafazi benu abahle kakhulu labantwana ngabami.” **4** Inkosi yako-Israyeli yaphendula yathi, “Kunjalo nkosi mbusi wami. Mina lakho konke engilakho ngokwakho.” **5** Izithunywa zaphenduka njalo zisithi, “UBheni-Hadadi uthi: ‘Ngathumela ngathi ngifuna isiliva legolide lakho, abafazi labantwabakho. **6** Kodwa ngasolesi isikhathi kusasa ngizathumela izikhulu zami ukuzakhuthuza isigodlo sakho lezindlu zezikhulu zakho. Zizabutha yonke into eligugu kuwe zikuthathele.’” **7** Inkosi yako-Israyeli yasibiza bonke abadala belizwe yathi kubo, “Ake libone lindoda edinga uhlupho! Ithe isithi ifuna abafazi bami labantwabami, isiliva legolide lami, angizange ngale.” **8** Abadala kanye labantu bonke bathi, “Ungalaleli njalo ungamniki lokho akufunayo.” **9** Yasitshela izithunywa zikaBheni-Hadadi ukuthi, “Tshelani inkosi umbusi wami ukuthi, ‘Inceku yakho izagcwalisisa isicelo sakuqala kodwa lesi hayi ayenlisi.’” Zasuka izithunywa zabuyisela impendulo kuBheni-Hadadi. **10** Ngakho uBheni-Hadadi wakhupha ilizwi njalo lisiya ku-Ahabi, wathi: “Kabangihlanekele onkulunkulu, loba kungaba lobunzima obunganani, nxa kuzasala ubhuqu olulingana ukufunjathwa ngamadoda wonke aseSamariya.” **11** Inkosi yako-Israyeli yaphendula yathi, “Mtshelani lithi: ‘Lowo ohloma ngezempi angabokloloda njengongahlomanga.’” **12** UBheni-Hadadi wemukela lelizwi ezinathela lamanye amakhosi emathenteni awo, wahle walawula amabutho akhe esithi: “Hlomelani ukhulasela.” Basebelungisela ukuhlasele idolobho. **13** Kusenjalo kweza umphrofethi ku-Ahabi inkosi yako-Israyeli owafika wabika esithi, “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: ‘Uyalibona na ibutho elikhulu kangaka? Ngizalinikela ezandleni zakho lamuhla nje, ukuze wazi ukuba nginguThixo.’” **14** U-Ahabi wabuza wathi, “Kodwa ngubani ozakwenza lokhu?” Umphrofethi waphendula wathi, “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: ‘Lokhu kuzakwenziwa ngabalawuli bamabutho ezabelweni abayintanga yabatsha.’” Yena wabuza njalo ukuthi, “Pho ngubani ozayiqalisa impi?” Umphrofethi wamphendula wathi, “Nguwe.” **15** Ngakho u-Ahabi wamema abalawuli bamabutho abentanga yabatsha ezabelweni, abangamakhulu amabili lamatshumi amathathu lambili. Waseqoqa labo bonke abanye abako-Israyeli abazinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa ndawonye. **16** Basuka emini enkulu ngesikhathi uBheni-Hadadi lamakhosi angamatshumi amathathu lambili ayezomhlomulela belokhu besazinathela bedakwa emathenteni abo. **17** Abalawuli bezabelweni bentanga yabatsha basuka kuqala. UBheni-Hadadi wayethumele inhlobo, ezabika ukuthi, “Kulamadoda ezayo evela eSamariya.” **18** Yena wathi, “Nxa esiza ngokuthula, athumbeni ephila; nxa ezohlasele, athumbeni ephila.” **19** Abalawuli bamabutho ezabelweni abentanga yabatsha baphuma edolobheni bezandelwa libutho **20** njalo ngamanye wabo wabulala lowo ayeqondene laye. Ebona lokhu, ama-Aramu abaleka, ama-Israyeli axotshana

lawo. Kodwa uBheni-Hadadi inkosi yama-Aramu wabaleka ngebhiza lamanye amabutho ayesilwa ngamabhiza. **21** Inkosi yako-Israyeli yaqhubeka yakhulela abamabhiza kanye labezinqola zempi yatshaya yabhuqa ama-Aramu amanengi kakhulu. **22** Ngemva kwalokho, umphrofethi waya enkosini yako-Israyeli wafika wathi, “Hloma uphelele ubone ukuthi ungenzani, ngoba entwasa inkosi yama-Aramu iyeza izokuhlasela futhi.” **23** Kusenjalo, izikhulu zenkosi yase-Aramu zayicebisa zathi, “Onkulunkulu babo ngonkulunkulu bezintabeni. Yikho besikhulele. Kodwa singalwela emagcekeni, ngempela sizabakhulela. **24** Wena yenza kanje: Susa wonke amakhosi ekulawuleni kwawo ufake abanye abalawuli esikhundleni sawo. **25** Njalo kumele uqoqe amanye amabutho anjengala anqotshwayo, kulingane amabhiza kanye lezinqola zempi ukuze silwele emagcekeni labako-Israyeli. Ngalokho akulakuthandabuza ukuthi sizabe silamandla kulabo.” Wavumelana labo wenza njengokutsho kwabo. **26** Ngesikhathi sentwasa uBheni-Hadadi waqoqa ama-Aramu wasesiya e-Afekhi ukuze alwe labako-Israyeli. **27** Ama-Israyeli ayeseqoqene, anikwa lemiphako, asuka ayawahlangebeza. Ama-Israyeli amisa maqondana lawo kungathi yimihlanjana yembuzi emibili, kanti ama-Aramu ayegcwele indawana yonke. **28** Umphrofethi kaNkulunkulu wasesiya enkosini yako-Israyeli wafika wathi, “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: ‘Njengoba ama-Aramu esithi uThixo ngukulunkulu wezintaba hatshi uNkulunkulu wezigodi, ngizanikela wonke amabutho awo amanengi kangaka ezandleni zakho, ukuze wazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo.’” **29** Bajamelana okwensuku eziyisikhombisa, kwathi ngosuku lwesikhombisa bahlaselana. Ama-Israyeli abulala abazinkulungwane ezilikhulu phakathi kwamabutho ama-Aramu ahamba ngezinyawo ngosuku olulodwa. **30** Amanye amabutho abalekela edolobheni lase-Afekhi, lapho adilikelwa khona ngumdluli owabulala izinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lesikhombisa. Kwathi uBheni-Hadadi wabalekela edolobheni lapho afika watatsha endlini ephakathi. **31** Izikhulu zakhe zathi kuye, “Khangela, sesizwile ukuthi amakhosi ako-Israyeli ngamakhosi alomusa. Asihambeni enkosini yako-Israyeli sembethe amasaka okhalweni njalo sibophe amakhanda ngentambo. Mhlawumbe izakuxolela ingakubulali.” **32** Basuka bethandlele amasaka ezinkalweni zabo, bebophe amakhanda ngentambo, baya enkosini yako-Israyeli bafika bathi, “Inceku yakho uBheni-Hadadi ithi, ‘Ngicela ungiyekele ngiphile.’” Inkosi yathi, “Ulokhu esaphila? Ngumfowethu lowo.” **33** Amadoda lawo abona lokhu kukhomba ubuhle alithathela phezu lelizwi athi, “Ye, umfowenu uBheni-Hadadi!” Inkosi yathi, “Hambani liyemthatha.” Lakanye uBheni-Hadadi uthe efika, u-Ahabi wathi kakhwele enqoleni yakhe yempi. **34** UBheni-Hadadi wazibika esithi, “Ngizabuyisela wonke amadolobho athunjelwa ngubaba kuyihlo. Ungazilungisela izindawo zokuthengiselana eDamaseko, njengoba ubaba laye wayelazo eSamariya.” U-Ahabi wathi, “Ngesivumelwano ngizakuhlula.” Wasesenza isivumelwano laye wamkhulula. **35** Ngelizwi likaThixo omunye wamadodana abaphrofethi wathi komunye, “Ake ungitshaye ngesikhali sakho,” kodwa wala. **36** Ngakho umphrofethi wasesithi, “Njengoba ungalalelanga ilizwi likaThixo, uzakuthi usuka kimi ubulawe yisilwane.” Ngemva kokusuka kwakhe, wafunyanwa yisilwane sambulala. **37** Umphrofethi wafumana enye njalo indoda wathi kuyo, “Ake ungigwaze.” Yamgwaza leyondoda yamlimaza. **38** Umphrofethi wasuka wayamelela inkosi

endleleni. Wazifihla ubuso bakhe ngeqhiye. **39** Kuthe inkosi isedlula khonapho, umphrofethi wayimezeza esithi, “Inceku yakho ibe iphakathi kwempi etshisayo, kwathi omunye weza kimi lothunjweyo wathi, ‘Linda lumuntu. Nxa engabaleka, uzamfela wena, loba uhlawule ngethalenta lesiliva.’” **40** Kuthe inceku yakho isaphathekile lapha laphaya, umuntu lowo wayamalala.” Inkosi yako-Israyeli yathi, “Leso yiso isigwebo sakho. Usuvele wasiqamba wena ngokwakho.” **41** Umphrofethi waphanga wembula ubuso bakhe, inkosi yako-Israyeli yabona ukuthi ngomunye wabaphrofethi. **42** Wathi enkosini, “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: ‘Usukhulule umuntu ebengithe kumele afe. Butsho ukuthi usuzamfela wena, labantu bakho bazafela abantu bakhe.’” **43** Ngokuhlululkelwa langokuzandla, inkosi yako-Israyeli yasuka yabuyela esigodlweni sayo eSamariya.

21 Kwathi ngemva kwesikhathi esithile kwaba lesenzo esithile ngesivini sikaNabhothi umJezerili. Isivini lesa saseJezerili, phansi kwesigodlo sika-Ahabi inkosi yaseSamariya. **2** U-Ahabi wathi kuNabhothi, “Kahle mina ngilime imibhida yami esivini sakho, njengoba siphansi kwesigodlo sami. Mina ngizakunika isivini esingcono, loba nxa uthanda, ngizakunika intengo ofisa ukusithenga ngayo.” **3** Kodwa uNabhothi wathi, “UThixo kangavumi ukuba ngikunike ilifa labobaba.” **4** Ngalokho u-Ahabi wabuyela ekhaya enyukubele njalo ethukuthele ngoba uNabhothi umJezerili wayethe, “Angizakunika ilifa labobaba.” U-Ahabi walala embhedeni enyukubele wala lokudla. **5** Umkakhe uJezebhelu wangena endlini wambuzwa wathi, “Kungani usineme kangaka? Kungani usala ukudla?” **6** Yena wamphendula wathi, “Kungenxa yokuthi ngithe kuNabhothi umJezerili, ‘Ngithengisela isivini sakho; loba nxa ufuna, ngikunike esinye isivini esikhundleni salesi.’” Kodwa ungiyendule wathi ‘Angizakunika isivini sami.’” **7** UJezebhelu umka-Ahabi wathi, “Lokhu yikho okwenzayo njengenkosi yako-Israyeli na? Vuka udle! Uchelese. Mina ngizakuzuzela isivini sikaNabhothi umJezerili.” **8** UJezebhelu wasebhala izincwadi ngebizo lika-Ahabi, wazidinda ngophawu luka-Ahabi, wazithumela ebadaleni lakuzo izikhulu ezazihlala loNabhothi emzini wakibo. **9** Ezincwadini lezo waloba ukuthi: “Memezalani usuku lokuzila libe selibeka uNabhothi esihlalweni esiqakathekileyo phakathi kwabantu. **10** Libe selihlalisa izigangi ezimbili maqondana laye lithi kazifakaze ngokuthi uthuke uNkulunkulu kanye lenkosi. Libe selimkhuphela phandle liyemkhanda ngamatshe limbulale.” **11** Ngakho abadala lezikhulu ababehlala emzini kaNabhothi benza lokho ababekuthunye nguJezebhelu ngezincwadi ayebalobele zona. **12** Bamemezela isikhathi sokuzila bahlalisa uNabhothi esihlalweni esiphakemeyo phambi kwabantu. **13** Kwasuka izigangi ezimbili zahlala phambi kwakhe zakhangelana laye zaqalisa ukwethesa uNabhothi amacala, zisithi, “UNabhothi uthuke uNkulunkulu kanye lenkosi.” Ngakho bamkhuphela ngaphandle komuzi bamkhanda ngamatshe bambulala. **14** Basebethumela ilizwi kuJezebhelu besithi, “UNabhothi ukhandwe ngamatshe njalo usefile.” **15** Masinyazana uJezebhelu esezwe ukuthi uNabhothi ukhandwe ngamatshe wabulawa, wathi ku-Ahabi, “Vuka uyethatha isivini sikaNabhothi umJezerili sona lesiyana alileyo ukukuthengisela sona. Uvele kasekho, usefile.” **16** U-Ahabi uthe esizwa ukuthi uNabhothi kasekho, wavuka wayathatha lesosivini sikaNabhothi waseJezerili. **17** Ilizwi likaThixo leza ku-Elija umThishibi lisithi: **18** “Yehla uyehlangabeza

u-Ahabi inkosi yako-Israyeli obusa eSamariya. Usesivini sikaNabhothi, uye khona ukuze azithathele lesosivini. **19** Ufike uthi kuye, 'Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: Awubulalanga umuntu wathumba impahla yakhe na?' Ubususithi kuyo, 'Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo; Khonapho lapho izinja ezikhothele khona igazi likaNabhothi, kukhonapho kanye lapho izinja ezizakhothela khona elakho, yebo, elakho kanye!'" **20** U-Ahabi wathi ku-Elija, "Wo usungitholile, wena sitha sami!" U-Elija wamphendula wathi, "Yebo sengikutholile ngoba uzinikele ukwenza isono emehlweni kaThixo. **21** 'Ngizokwehlisela ukubhujiswa. Ngizabhubhisa izizukulwane zakho ngisuse sonke isilisa sokucina ko-Ahabi ko-Israyeli loba yisigqili loba ngokhululekileyo. **22** Indlu yakho ngizayenza lokhu engakwenza ekaJerobhowamu indodana kaNebhathi lekaBhasha indodana ka-Ahija, ngoba ungithukuthelisile wabangela ukuthi u-Israyeli enze isono.' **23** Ngalokho uThixo uthi ngoJezebheli: 'Izinja zizamdadubula uJezebheli zindlele emidulini yaseJezerili.' **24** Izinja zizakudla bonke abangabaka-Ahabi abafela edolobheni, izinyoni zezulu zizakudla labo abazafela emaphandleni." **25** (Akuzange kube lendoda eyayifanana lo-Ahabi yena owazinikela ukuthi adale isono phambi kukaThixo, ekhuthazwa ngumkakhe uJezebheli. **26** Waziphatha butshapha kakhulu elandela izithombe, njengama-Amori wona ayesuswe nguThixo phambi kuka-Israyeli.) **27** U-Ahabi wathi esizwa lawomazwi, wadabula izigqoko zakhe, wembatha amasaka wazila. Walala embethe amasaka wahamba edanile. **28** Ngemva kwalokho ilizwi likaThixo lathi ku-Elija umThishibi: **29** 'Ukubonile na ukuthi u-Ahabi usezithobe kanganani phambi kwami? Ngenxa yokuzithoba kwakhe, angiyikumehlise la lobobubi esaphila, kodwa ngizakwehlisela endlini yakhe ensukwini zendodana yakhe.'

22 Kwathatha iminyaka kungelampi phakathi kwe-Aramu le-Israyeli. **2** Kodwa ngomnyaka wesithathu uJehoshafathi inkosi yakoJuda wayabonana lenkosi yako-Israyeli. **3** Inkosi yako-Israyeli yayike yakhuluma lezikhulu zayo isithi, "Alilikwazi na ukuthi eleRamothi Giliyadi ngelethu kodwa asizenzi lutho ukuze silithathe ezandleni zenkosi yase-Aramu?" **4** Ngakho yasicela uJehoshafathi isithi, "Ungahamba lami na ukuze siyehlasela eRamothi Giliyadi?" UJehoshafathi ephendula inkosi yako-Israyeli wathi, "Mina ngikanye lawe, abantu bami banjengabakho, amabhiza ami anjengawakho." **5** Kodwa uJehoshafathi waphinda wathi enkosini yako-Israyeli, "Akubuze kuThixo kuqala." **6** Ngakho inkosi yako-Israyeli yahlanganisa abaphrofethi abangaba ngamakhulu amane yasibabuza isithi, "Ngihambe ngiyehlasela iRamothi Giliyadi yini, loba ngiyekele na?" Abaphrofethi bathi, "Hamba ngoba inkosi izayinikela esandleni sakho." **7** Kodwa uJehoshafathi wabuza wathi, "Kambe kakusela mphrofethi kaThixo lapha esingabuza kuye na?" **8** Inkosi yako-Israyeli yathi kuJehoshafathi, "Ukhona oyedwa esingabuza uThixo ngaye kodwa ngiyamzonda ngoba kakaze aphrofethi okuhle ngami, uhlanga ekhuluma okubi. Ibizo lakhe nguMikhaya indodana ka-Imla." UJehoshafathi wathi, "Inkosi kayimelanga itsho njalo." **9** Inkosi yako-Israyeli yasibiza omunye wezikhulu zayo yathi kuye, "Phangisa ungilethele uMikhaya indodana ka-Imla." **10** Bembethe izembatho zabo zobukhosi, inkosi yako-Israyeli loJehoshafathi inkosi yakoJuda babehlezi ezihlalweni zabo zobukhosi esizeni sokubhulela amabele esangweni laseSamariya labo bonke abaphrofethi bephrofetha phambi

kwabo. **11** UZedekhiya indodana kaKhenana wayekhonde impondo zensimbi, wasesithi, "Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo, uthi: 'Ngempondo lezi uzagwaza ama-Aramu uwabhubhise.'" **12** Bonke abaphrofethi babevele bephrofetha okufananayo besithi, "Hlasela iRamothi Giliyadi unqobe, ngoba uThixo uyinikela esandleni senkosi." **13** Isithunywa esasithunywe ukuyabiza uMikhaya sathi kuye, "Khangela, abanye abaphrofethi bafakaza bengela kuthandabuza ukuthi inkosi izanqoba. Lawe vumelana labo, ukhulume okuyithokozisayo." **14** Kodwa uMikhaya wathi, "Njengokutsho kukaThixo, mina ngizayitshela lokho engikuthunywe nguThixo." **15** Ekufikeni kwakhe, inkosi yambuza yathi, "Mikhaya, sihambe siyehlasela iRamothi Giliyadi yini, loba ngiyekele na?" Yena wamphendula wathi, "Hlasela njalo unqobe, ngoba uThixo uzalunikela ezandleni zakho nkosi." **16** Inkosi yathi kuye, "Kumele ngikufungise kangaki ukuze ungangikohlisi kodwa ungitshele iqiniso ebizweni likaThixo?" **17** Ngakho uMikhaya waphendula wathi, "Ngabona u-Israyeli wonke ehlakazekile ezintabeni njengezimvu ezingamelumeli, kulapho uThixo athi 'Lababantu abalamkhomkheli. Yekela bonke babuyele emakhaya ngokuthula.'" **18** Inkosi yako-Israyeli yathi kuJehoshafathi, "Angikutshelanga yini ukuthi uvele kaphrofethi okuhle ngami, kodwa okubi kuphela?" **19** UMikhaya waqhubeka phambili wathi, "Ngakho zwana ilizwi likaThixo elithi, Ngabona uThixo ehlezi esihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi lamabutho wonke asezulwini emi ngakwesokunene sakhe lakwesokhohlo sakhe. **20** Njalo uThixo wathi, 'Ngubani ozahugela u-Ahabi ekhulaseleni iRamothi Giliyadi ukuze ayefela khonela na?' Omunye waqamba lokhu, lomunye okwakhe. **21** Ekucineni kwavela umoya, wema phambi kukaThixo wathi, 'Mina ngizamhuga.' **22** UThixo wabuza wathi, 'Uzakwenza ngandlelani bani?' Umoya waphendula wathi, 'Ngizahamba ngiyekuba ngumoya wokuqamba amanga emiloniyeni yabo bonke abaphrofethi bakhe.' UThixo wathi, 'Uzaphumelela ukumhuga. Hamba-ke uyekwenza lokho.' **23** Ngakho khathesi uThixo usefake umoya wenkohliso emiloniyeni yabaphrofethi bakho bonke laba. UThixo usekumisele ukubhujiswa." **24** Kusenjalo uZedekhiya indodana kaKhenana wasondela, wamwakala uMikhaya ebusweni. Wabuza wathi: "Umoya kaThixo wasuka njani kimi ungena kuwe na?" **25** UMikhaya waphendula wathi, "Uzazibonela mhla uzakuyacatsha endlini engaphakathi." **26** Inkosi yako-Israyeli yalaya yathi, "Thathani uMikhaya limbuyisele ku-Amoni obusa idolobho laJoJowashi indodana yenkosi. **27** Liyekuthi, 'Inkosi ithi: Valelani umuntu lo entolongweni lingamniki lutho ngaphandle kwesinkwa lamanzi ngize ngiphenduke ngokuhle.'" **28** UMikhaya waqonqosela wathi: "Nxa ungaphenduka kuhle, uThixo uyabe engakhulumanga ngami." Waqhubeka wathi, "Lani lonke bantu abambisiseni amazwi amil!" **29** Ngakho inkosi yako-Israyeli loJehoshafathi inkosi yakoJuda baya eRamothi Giliyadi. **30** Inkosi yako-Israyeli yathi kuJehoshafathi: "Mina ngizakuya empini ngizazifihla ngokulahlisa isimo sami, kodwa wena gqoka ezakho ezobukhosi." Ngakho inkosi yako-Israyeli yazifihla ngokulahlisa isimo sayo yangena empini. **31** Inkosi yase-Aramu yayilaye abalawuli bayo bezingqola zokulwa abangamathumi amathathu lambili yathi, "Lina lingalwi lamuntu, loba eyisikhulu loba engumuntukazana, ngaphandle kwenkosi yako-Israyeli." **32** Abalawuli bezingqola zokulwa bathe bebona uJehoshafathi, bahle bathi "Ngempela le yiyo kanye inkosi

yako-Israyeli.” Abalawuli bezinqola zokulwa basebehlasela uJehoshafathi, yena wahlaba umkhosi, **33** baphanga babona ukuthi kwakungasiyo inkosi yako-Israyeli bahle bayekela ukuxotshana laye. **34** Umuntu othile wakhokha umtshoko wakhe watshoka engaqondanga muntu umtshoko wayaciba inkosi yako-Israyeli emkenkeni wesihlangu sayo. Inkosi yasisithi kumtshayeli wenqola yokulwa: “Phendula inqola yakho ungisuse lapha. Sengilimele.” **35** Kwalwiwa impi kanzima ilanga lonke. Inkosi yayeyanyiswe enqoleni yayo yokulwa ikhangele ama-Aramu. Igazi lamanxeba ayo lagelezela phansi enqoleni yokulwa, kwathi Ngalokhokuhlwa yafa. **36** Ekutshoneni kwelanga kwamenyezelwa kuyo yonke impi ukuthi: “Abantu bonke kababuyele emizini yakibo, bonke kababuyele lowo lalowo elizweni lakibo!” **37** Ngakho inkosi yafa yasiwa eSamariya, yangcwatshwa khona. **38** Inqola yokulwa bayigezisela esizibeni seSamariya (endaweni eyayigezela izifebe), izinja zakhotha igazi layo, njengokutsho kwelizwi likaThixo. **39** Konke okunye ngempilo langokubusa kuka-Ahabi lakho konke akwenzayo, ukwakha isigodlo esasiceciswe ngempondo zezindlovu, lamadolobho ayevikelwe okwenqaba, akulotshwanga na egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi ako-Israyeli? **40** U-Ahabi wangcwatshwa laboyise. Ubukhosi bakhe bathathwa yindodana yakhe u-Ahaziya. **41** UJehoshafathi indodana ka-Asa waba yinkosi yakoJuda ngomnyaka wesine wokubusa kuka-Ahabi inkosi yako-Israyeli. **42** UJehoshafathi waba yinkosi eleminyaka engamatshumi amathathu lemihlanu yokuzalwa, wabusa eJerusalema okweminyaka engamatshumi amabili lemihlanu. Ibizo likanina kungu-Azubha indodakazi kaShilili. **43** Kukho konke ayekwenza wayesenyathelweni likayise u-Asa njalo kazange aphambuke; wenza konke okuhle emehlweni kaThixo. Kodwa izindawo eziphakemeyo zokukhonzela kazisuswanga, abantu babelokhu benikela imihlatshelo, betshisa impepha khonapho. **44** UJehoshafathi wahlalisana ngokuthula lenkosi yako-Israyeli. **45** Okwenzakala ekubuseni kukaJehoshafathi, ukuphumelela kwakhe kanye lokunqoba ezimpini, akulotshwanga na encwadini yembali yamakhosi akoJuda? **46** Waqeda insalela yabesilisa ababefeba emathempelini ayelokhu esasele lapho langemva kokubusa kukayise u-Asa. **47** Kwakungaselankosi e-Edomi, umsekeli nguye owayebusa. **48** UJehoshafathi wakha imikhumbi yokuthutha igolide e-Ofiri, kodwa ayizange isebenze olwandle, yahle yahlizeka, yabhidlikela e-Eziyoni-Gebheri. **49** Ngalesosikhathi u-Ahaziya indodana ka-Ahabi wathi kuJehoshafathi, “Yekela abantu bami bahambe labakho olwandle,” kodwa uJehoshafathi wala. **50** Ngakho uJehoshafathi waphumula labokhokho bakhe, wangcwatshwa kanye labo emzini kaDavida uyise. UJehoram indodana yakhe wabusa esikhundleni sakhe. **51** U-Ahaziya indodana ka-Ahabi waba yinkosi yako-Israyeli eSamariya ngomnyaka wetsumi lesikhombisa wokubusa kukaJehoshafathi inkosi yakoJuda, yena-ke wabusa ko-Israyeli okweminyaka emibili. **52** Wona emehlweni kaThixo, ngoba wahamba enyathelweni likayise lelikanina walandela njalo izindlela zikaJerobhowamu indodana kaNebhathi, owabangela u-Israyeli ukuthi enze isono. **53** Wasebenzela uBhali njalo wamkhonza wathukuthelisa uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, njengalokhu okwakwenziwe nguyise.

2 Amakhosi

1 Ngemva kokufa kuka-Ahabi, amaMowabi ahlamukela u-Israyeli. **2** U-Ahaziya wayewele embotsheni yendlu yakhe engaphezulu eSamariya walimala. Wathumela izithunywa, wathi kuzo, “Hambani liyebuza kuBhali-Zebhubhi, unkulunkulu wase-Ekroni, ukuthi kambe ngizasila yini kulokhu kulimala na.” **3** Kodwa ingilosi kaThixo yathi ku-Elija umThishibi, “Suka uyehlangabeza izithunywa zenkosi yaseSamariya uyezibiza ukuthi, ‘Kambe yikuthi akuselaNkulunkulu ko-Israyeli na ukuze uyehlahlula kuBhali-Zebhubhi, unkulunkulu wase-Ekroni?’” **4** Ngakho uThixo uthi: ‘Awuyikusuka kulowombheda ogulela kuwo. Ngempela uzakufala!’” **5** Ekubuyeleni kwezithunywa enkosini, yazibuza yathi, “Kungani selibuyile na?” **6** Izithunywa zaphendula zathi, “Kulendoda esihlangabezileyo yathi kithi, ‘Buyelani enkosini elithumileyo liyeyitshela ukuthi, ‘Ilizwi likaThixo lithi: Kungenxa yokuthi akulaNkulunkulu yini ko-Israyeli okubangele ukuthi uthumele abantu ukuyahlahlula kuBhali-Zebhubhi, unkulunkulu we-Ekroni na? Ngakho awuyikuvuka kulowombheda olele kuwo. Ngempela uzakufala!’” **7** Inkosi yabuza izithunywa yathi, “Ngumuntu onjani lowo olihlangabezileyo waselitshela lokhu?” **8** Izithunywa zaphendula zathi, “Yindoda ebizigqoke isigqoko soboya ekhalweni ibophe ngozwezwe.” Inkosi yathi, “Lowo ngu-Elija umThishibi.” **9** Inkosi yasithumela ku-Elija induna yebutho labantu bayo abangamatshumi amahlanu. Induna yebutho yakhwela yaya ku-Elija, owayehlezi phezu koqaqa, yafika yathi kuye, “Muntu kaNkulunkulu, inkosi ithi, ‘Yehla!’” **10** U-Elija ephendula induna yebutho wathi, “Nxa ngingumuntu kaNkulunkulu, kakwehle umlilo ovela ezulwini ukuqothule wena kanye labantu bakho abangamatshumi amahlanu!” Lakanye wehla umlilo uvela ezulwini wayiqothula induna yebutho kanye labantu bayo. **11** Ngokubona lokho inkosi yathuma ku-Elija eyinye induna yebutho lamanye amadoda angamatshumi amahlanu. Induna yathi ku-Elija, “Muntu kaNkulunkulu, inkosi ithi, ‘Yehla khathesi.’” **12** U-Elija waphendula wathi, “Nxa ngingumuntu kaNkulunkulu, kakwehle umlilo ovela ezulwini ukuqothule wena kanye labantu bakho!” Ngakho umlilo kaNkulunkulu wehla uvela ezulwini waqothula izinduna zamabutho ezakuqala zombili kanye labo bonke abantu bayo abangamatshumi amahlanu. **13** Ngakho inkosi yathuma induna yebutho yesithathu labantu bayo abangamatshumi amahlanu. Induna yebutho yesithathu yakhwela yafika yaguqa ngamadolo phambi kuka-Elija yamcenga yathi, “Muntu kaNkulunkulu, akube lesihawu ngempilo yami leyamadoda la angamatshumi amahlanu, thina sizinceku zakho!” **14** Angithi uyabona, umlilo wehle uvela ezulwini waqothula izinduna zamabutho lamadoda angamatshumi amahlanu induna nganye. Kodwa manje akunakekele impilo yami!” **15** Ingilosi kaThixo yathi ku-Elija, “Yehla kanye layo induna; ungayesabi.” Ngakho u-Elija wasukuma wehla kanye lenduna waya enkosini. **16** Wasesithi enkosini, “Ilizwi likaThixo lithi: Kungenxa yokuthi akulaNkulunkulu yini ko-Israyeli ukuze uthumele izithunywa ukuthi ziyohlahlula kuBhali-Zebhubhi, unkulunkulu we-Ekroni na? Ngenxa yesenzo sakho lesi, awuyikuvuka kulowombheda olele kuwo. Ngempela uzakufala!” **17** Lakanye wafa, njengelizwi likaThixo elakhulunywa ngu-Elija. Njengoba u-Ahaziya

wayengelandodana, ubukhosi bakhe bathathwa nguJoram u waba yinkosi ngomnyaka wesibili wokubusa kukajehoram indodana kaJehoshafathi inkosi yakoJuda. **18** Konke okwembali yokubusa kuka-Ahaziya, kanye lakwenzayo, akulotshwanga yini egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi ako-Israyeli na?

2 Kwathi uThixo esezathatha u-Elija ukuba aye ezulwini ngesivunguzane, u-Elija lo-Elisha babevela eGilgali. **2** U-Elija wathi ku-Elisha, “Hlala lapha; uThixo usengithume eBhetheli.” Kodwa u-Elisha wathi, “Njengoba uThixo ephila njalo njengoba lawe uphila, angiyikutshiyana lawe.” Ngakho basuka baya eBhetheli. **3** Iqula labaphrofethi eBhetheli leza ku-Elisha lambuza lisithi: “Uyakwazi yini ukuthi uThixo uzakuthathela inkosi yakho lamuhla na?” U-Elisha wathi, “Yebo, ngiyakwazi, kodwa lingakhulumi ngakho.” **4** Ngakho u-Elija wasesithi kuye, “Hlala lapha, Elisha; uThixo usengithume eJeriko.” U-Elisha waphendula wathi: “Njengoba uThixo ephila njalo njengoba lawe uphila, angiyikutshiyana lawe.” Ngakho basuka baya eJeriko. **5** Iqula labaphrofethi eJeriko laya ku-Elisha lambuza lisithi, “Uyakwazi yini ukuthi uThixo uzathatha inkosi yakho lamuhla na?” Waphendula wathi, “Yebo, ngiyakwazi, kodwa lingakhulumi ngakho.” **6** Ngakho u-Elija wasesithi, “Hlala khonapha; uThixo usengithume eJodani.” Yena waphendula wathi, “Njengoba uThixo ephila njalo njengoba lawe uphila, angiyikutshiyana lawe.” Ngakho baqhubekela phambili ngohambo. **7** Amadoda angamatshumi amahlanu exukwini labaphrofethi asuka ayakuma bucwadlana ekhangele lapho u-Elija lo-Elisha ababemi khona eJodani. **8** U-Elija wasethatha ingubo yakhe, wayigoqa watshaya ngayo amanzi. Amanzi adabuka phakathi amanye aba kwesokunene amanye kwesokhohlo, basebechapha emhlabathini omomileyo. **9** Ekuchapheni kwabo, u-Elija wathi ku-Elisha, “Akungitshela, kambe kuyini engingakwenzela khona ngingakasuswa kuwe?” U-Elisha waphendula wathi, “Ngicela isabelo esiphindwe kabili somoya wakho.” **10** U-Elija wathi, “Usucela into elukhuni, ungangibona ngisuswa kuwe kuzakuba ngokwakho, kodwa nxa kungangabinjalo akuyikuba ngokwakho.” **11** Besahamba belokhu bekhuluma, kwafika inqola yokulwa yomlilo lamabhiza ayo avuthayo yabehlukanisa, ngakho u-Elija waya ezulwini ngesivunguzane. **12** U-Elisha ebona lokhu wamemeza wathi, “Baba! Baba! Izingqala zokulwa labamabhiza okulwa ako-Israyeli!” U-Elisha kasazange aphinde ambone futhi. Wasethatha izigqoko zakhe wazidabula. **13** Wasedobha ingubo eyayiwe ku-Elija wabuyela emuva wayakuma okhunjini lomfula uJodani. **14** Wathatha ingubo eyayiwe kuye watshaya ngayo amanzi wathi, “Ungaphi khathesi uThixo, unkulunkulu ka-Elija?” Wasethaya amanzi, adabuka phakathi amanye kwesokunene amanye kwesokhohlo, wasechaphela ngaphetsheya. **15** Ixuku labaphrofethi ababevela eJeriko, ababebukele, lathi, “Umoya ka-Elija uphezu kuka-Elisha.” Basebesiya mhlangebeza bakhothama phambi kwakhe. **16** Basebesithi, “Uyabona, thina izinceku zakho silamadoda angamatshumi amahlanu enelisayo. Yekela amadoda la ayedinga inkosi yakho. Mhlawumbe uMoya kaThixo umthethe wayambeka entabeni ethile loba esihotsheni esithile.” U-Elisha wathi, “Hatshi, lingabathumi.” **17** Kodwa baphikelela waze wakhulelwa zinhloni zokuba elokhu esala. Wasesithi, “Bathumeni.” Ngakho bathuma amadoda angamatshumi amahlanu, amdinga okwensuku ezintathu amswela. **18** Bathe sebebuyela ku-Elisha, owayesehlala eJeriko, wababuzwa wathi, “Bengingalitshelanga yini ukuthi lingamdingi?” **19**

Amadoda omuzi wakhona athi ku-Elisha, “Akubone, nkosi yethu, umuzi lo usendaweni ebukekayo, njengoba lawe uzibonela, kodwa amanzi alapha mabi lomhlaba wakhona awulazithelo.” **20** U-Elisha wathi, “Ngiphani umganu oyingubhe liwufake itswayi.” Ngakho bawuletha umganu. **21** Wasephuma esiya emthonjeni wafika waphosela khona itswayi ekhulumisa esithi, “Ilizwi likaThixo lithi: ‘Sengiwahlambulule amanzi la. Awangeke aphinde futhi abangele ukufa loba ukungatheli kuhle kwalumhlaba.’” **22** Amanzi lawo kusukela mhlalokho kuze kube lamuhla mahle, njengokwakutshiwo ngu-Elisha. **23** Esuka lapho u-Elisha waya eBetheli. Esahamba endleleni, kwavela kulowomuzi ixuku lentanga yabatsha lamhoza lisithi, “Qhubeka, wena mpabanga! Qhubeka, wena mpabanga!” **24** Wanyemukula, wabakhangele wasebehlisela isiqalekiso ngebizo likaThixo. Kwasekuvela amabhele amabili ehlathini afohloza abangamatshumi amane lababili babo. **25** Wasesedlulela eNtabeni yaseKhameli, uthe esesuka lapho waya eSamariya.

3 UJoramu indodana ka-Ahabi waba yinkosi yako-Israyeli eSamariya ngomnyaka wethshumi lasificaminwembili wokubusa kukaJehoshafathi inkosi yakoJuda, wena wabusa okweminyaka elitshumi lamibili. **2** Wona emehlweni kaThixo, kodwa kwakungafanani lokukayise lonina ababekwenzile. Walahla ilitshe likaBhali elalizila elalibazwe nguyise. **3** Kodwa wagxila ezonweni zikaJerobhowamu indodana kaNebhathi, lezo ayebangele u-Israyeli ukuthi azenze; kazange azifulatehe. **4** UMesha inkosi yaseMowabi wayefuya izimvu, wayefanele ukubhadala inkosi yako-Israyeli izimvu ezizinkulungwane ezilikhulu kanye loboya benqama ezizinkulungwane ezilikhulu. **5** Kodwa ngemva kokufa kuka-Ahabi, inkosi yamaMowabi yahlamukela inkosi yako-Israyeli. **6** Ngalesosikhathi inkosi uJoramu yasuka eSamariya yabutha abako-Israyeli bonke. **7** Wathumela lelilizwi kuJehoshafathi inkosi yakoJuda wathi: “Inkosi yamaMowabi isingihlamukele. Singahambisana siyehlasela amaMowabi na?” UJehoshafathi waphendula esithi, “Ngizahamba lawe. Mina nginguwe, abantu bami banjengabantu bakho, amabhiza ami anjengamabhiza akho.” **8** Wasebuza ukuthi, “Sizahlasela sivelela ngaphi na?” UJoramu wathi “Sizavelela eNkangala yase-Edomi.” **9** Ngakho inkosi yako-Israyeli yaphuma lenkosi yakoJuda kanye lenkosi yase-Edomi. Ngemva kohambo bezulazula okwensuku eziyisikhombisa amanzi amabutho kanye lawezinyamazana zempi aphela. **10** Inkosi yako-Israyeli yababaza yathi, “Kutheni kanti? UThixo angasibiza singamakhosi amathathu ukuze azosinikela ezandleni zamaMowabi na?” **11** Kodwa uJehoshafathi wabuza wathi, “Akulamphrofethi kaThixo yini, esingabuza ngaye kuThixo na?” Esinye sezikhulu zenkosi yako-Israyeli sathi, “Ukhona u-Elisha indodana kaShafathi. Wayeyinceku ka-Eliza.” **12** UJehoshafathi wathi, “Ilizwi likaThixo likuye.” Ngakho inkosi yako-Israyeli kanye loJehoshafathi lenkosi yase-Edomi baya kuye. **13** U-Elisha wathi enkosini yako-Israyeli, “Mina lawe singenelana njani? Hamba kubaphrofethi bakayihlo lakubaphrofethi bakanyoko.” Inkosi yako-Israyeli yaphendula yathi, “Hayi, kungenxa yokuthi uThixo wasibiza sobathathu singamakhosi sinje ukuze asinikele kumaMowabi.” **14** U-Elisha wathi, “Njengoba uThixo uSomandla engimkhonzayo ephila, kungasikuhlonipha kwami ukuthi kuloJehoshafathi inkosi yakoJuda, ngibe ngingayikukhangela loba ukukubona ukuthi ukhona kodwa

lokhu. **15** Kodwa-ke ngibizela umtshayi wechacho.” Umtshayi wechacho esatshaya ichacho, amandla kaThixo ehlela ku-Elisha, **16** wasesithi, “Ilizwi likaThixo lithi: Lungisani imigelo eminengi kulesisigodi. **17** Ngoba ilizwi likaThixo lithi: Aliyikubona yezi loba izulu, kodwa lesisigodi sizagcwala ngamanzi, kuthi lina lenkomo zenu kanye lezinyamazana zonke lithole ukunatha. **18** Le yinto elula kuThixo, njalo uzanikela amaMowabi esandleni sakho. **19** Uzanqoba kuzozonke izinqaba zedolobho lakuyo yonke imizi eqakathekileyo. Uzawisa zonke izihlahla ezinhle, ugqibele yonke imithombo yamanzi, wonakalise wonke amasimu amahle ngamatshe.” **20** Ngosuku olulandelayo ekuseni, ngesikhathi sokunikela imihlatshelo, lakanye babona, nanko amanzi egeleza evelela e-Edomi! Ngakho ilizwe lagcwala amanzi. **21** AmaMowabi wonke ayesezwile ukuthi amakhosi ayezohlasela; ngalokho amadoda wonke, abadala lamajaha, ababengenelisa ukuphatha izikhali balawulwa ukuba bayevikela umngcele. **22** Bathi bevuka emadabukakusa bathola ilanga linkanyazela phezu kwamanzi. Ekuboneni kwamaMowabi ngale, amanzi ayekhanya ebomvu kungani ligazi. AmaMowabi asesithi, **23** “Ligazi leliyanal Kutshe ukuthi amakhosi lawayana alwile abulalana wodwa. Asiyeni butha impango, maMowabi!” **24** Kodwa amaMowabi athe efika enkambeni yama-Israyeli, ama-Israyeli awavukela awahlasela, amaMowabi aze abaleka. Ngakho ama-Israyeli ahlasela ilizwe lelo abhubhisa amaMowabi. **25** Atshabalalisa imizi kwathi indoda nganye yaphosela ilitshe kuwo wonke amasimu amahle aze agcwala ngamatshe. Bagqibela yonke imithombo yamanzi njalo bagamula zonke izihlahla ezinhle. Kwasa iKhiri-Haresethi eyasala amatshe ayo elokhu enjalo, kodwa amadoda ayehlome ngezavutha ayihonqolozela njalo ayihlasela. **26** Inkosi yamaMowabi ithe ibona ukuthi isikhulelwa ekulweni, yathatha amadoda angamakhulu ayisikhombisa alwa ngenkema yazama ukuthi idabule phakathi ngamandla iyephutshela enkosini yase-Edomi, kodwa yehluleka. **27** Inkosi yaseMowabi yasithatha ingqabutho yayo eyiyo indodana eyayizasala ibusa yayinikela njengomnikelo wokutshiswa phezu kwemiduli yedolobho. Kwakukukhulu ukuthukuthelela abako-Israyeli baze bahlela babuyela kwelakibo.

4 Umfazi wenye indoda phakathi kwexuku labaphrofethi wakhalaza ku-Elisha wathi, “Indoda yami ebinyanceku yakho isifile, njalo uyakwazi ukuthi ibe imkhonza uThixo. Umkami ubelesikwelede sendoda ethile esifuna ukuthumba amadodana ami amabili ukuze abe yizigqili zayo.” **2** U-Elisha wamphendula wathi, “Ngingakunceda kanjani na? Akungitshela, kulani endlini yakho?” Umfelokazi wathi, “Incekukazi yakho ayilalutho ngaphandle kwengcosana yamafutha.” **3** U-Elisha wasesithi, “Hamba uyekweboleka imbiza ezinengi kubomakhelwane bakho bonke. Ungaceli ezilutshwane nje. **4** Ubusungena endlini yakho lamadodana akho uvale umnyango. Ubusuthululela amafutha embizeni inye nganye, ithi ingagcwala uyibeke eceleni.” **5** Wasuka kuye kwathi ngemva kwesikhathi wawala umnyango lamadodana akhe. Amadodana amqhubela imbiza yena elokhu ezigwalisa ngamafutha. **6** Kuthe imbiza zonke sezigcwele, wathi endodaneni yakhe, “Letha enye futhi.” Kodwa yaphendula yathi, “Akuselambiza eseleyo.” Amafutha kazabe esajuluka. **7** Wasuka wayatshela umuntu kaNkulunkulu, owathi, “Hamba uyethengisa amafutha lawo ubhadale izikwelede zakho. Wena lamadodana akho lizaphila ngaseleyo.” **8** Ngolunye usuku u-Elisha waya eShunemi. Kwakulowesifazane onothileyo,

owamcela ukuba ahlaledle ukudla. Kwakusithi nxa ehambele khonale wayethola ukudla khonapho. **9** Owesifazane wathi kumyeni wakhe, “Ngiyakwazi ukuthi lumuntu ohlala esedlula lapha ngumuntu ongcwele kaNkulunkulu. **10** Kasimlungisele indlu ephezulu simfakela khona umbheda, itafula, isihlalo kanye lesibane. Kube yindlu azafikela kiyona nxa elapha kithi.” **11** Kwelinye ilanga, u-Elisha wafika wayangena endlini yakhe leyo wacambalala khona. **12** Wathuma inceku yakhe uGehazi, wathi, “Ngibizela umShunami.” Ngakho inceku yambiza, wafika wema phansi kwakhe. **13** U-Elisha wasesithi, “Umtshele uthi, ‘Usuzihluphe kangaka usilungisele. Kambe kuyini ongakwenzela wena? Singakukhulumela yini enkosini loba kumlawuli wamabutho na?’” Owesifazane wathi, “Ngilomuzi phakathi kwabantu bakithi.” **14** U-Elisha wabuza wathi, “Kuyini esingamenzela khona na?” UGehazi wathi, “Kalandodana njalo umyeni wakhe useluphele.” **15** Ngakho u-Elisha wathi, “Mbize.” Inceku yasimbiza, wafika wema emnyango. U-Elisha wathi, **16** “Ngasolesi isikhathi ngomnyaka ozayo uzaphatha indodana ezandleni zakho.” Owesifazane waphikisa wathi, “Atshi, nkosi yami, ungabokhohlisa incekekazi yakho, wena muntu kaNkulunkulu!” **17** Owesifazane wathatha isisu, kwathi ngomnyaka owalandelayo ngesikhathi esifananayo wakhululeka wazuka indodana njengokutshelwa kwakhe ngu-Elisha. **18** Umntwana wakhula, kwathi ngelinye ilanga walandela uyise, owayelabavuni. **19** Wasesithi kuyise, “Maye ikhanda lami! Maye ikhanda lami!” Uyise wathuma isisebenzi wathi, “Thwala umntwana uye laye kunina.” **20** Isisebenzi sesimthwalele kunina uninawamanga kwaze kwaba semini enkulu umntwana wasesifa. **21** Unina wamthatha wayamlalisa embhedeni womuntu kaNkulunkulu, waphuma wasevala umnyango. **22** Owesifazane wathumela kumkakhe ilizwi elithi, “Ngicela ungthumele esinye sezisebenzi kanye lobabhemi ukuze ngiphange ngiyebona umuntu kaNkulunkulu ngiphenduke.” **23** Umyeni wakhe wathi, “Kungani umlanda lamuhla? Akusikho ekuThwaseni kweNyanga njalo akusilo iSabatha.” Owesifazane wathi, “Kulungile kunjalo.” **24** Wethesa ubabhemi wasesithi kusisebenzi sakhe, “Khokhela; ungahambi kancane usenzela mina ngaphandle kokuba ngikutshela.” **25** Ngakho waphuma wahamba waze wayamthola umuntu kaNkulunkulu eNtabeni yaseKhameli. Ebona owesifazane esesebucwadlana, umuntu kaNkulunkulu wathi kuGehazi inceku yakhe, “Khangel! Nanguyana umShunami! **26** Gijima umhlangabeze umbuze uthi, ‘Konke kulungile kuwe na? Umkakho uyaphila na? Umntanako uyaphila na?’” Owesifazane wathi, “Konke kulungile.” **27** Kodwa esefikile emuntwini kaNkulunkulu entabeni, wagadlala inyawo zakhe. UGehazi weza kuye wamfuqela khatshana, kodwa umuntu kaNkulunkulu wathi, “Myekele! Uphakathi kosizi olukhulu, kodwa uThixo ukufihlile kimi lokho njalo kangitshelanga ukuthi kungani.” **28** Owesifazane wathi, “Ngake ngacela indodana kuwe na, nkosi yami? Angizange ngikutshela yini ukuthi ungaze wangikhohlisa na?” **29** U-Elisha wathi kuGehazi, “Khwincela ijazi lakho ebhantini, uphathe intonga yami ngesandla ubusugijima. Loba ngubani ohlangana laye, ungambingeleli, loba angaze akubingelele ungamphenduli. Ufike ubeke intonga yami ebusweni bomfana.” **30** Kodwa uninawomfana wathi, “Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ephila lanjengoba uphila, angiyikukutshiya.” Ngakho wasuka walandela owesifazane. **31** UGehazi wahle wagijima phambili wayabeka intonga ebusweni bomfana, kodwa

akuzwakalanga lutho njalo kanyikinyekanga. Ngakho uGehazi wabuyela ukuyahlangabeza u-Elisha wamtshela wathi, “Umfana kavukanga.” **32** Ekufikeni kwakhe endlini u-Elisha, wafumana lakanye nangu umfana usembhedeni wakhe ufile. **33** Wangena wawala umnyango baba bobabili lomfana wasekhuleka kuThixo. **34** Wakhwela embhedeni wacambalala phezu komfana, umlomo emlonyeni, amehlo emehlweni, izandla ezandleni. Uthe esazelula phezu komfana, umzimba womfana waqalisa ukukhudumala. **35** U-Elisha wafulathela wahambahamba endlini waphinda wabuyela embhedeni wacambalala phezu komfana. Umfana wathimula kasikhombisa wasevala amehlo. **36** U-Elisha wabiza uGehazi wathi kuye, “Biza umShunami.” Wakwenza lokho. Uthe esefikile wasesithi kuye owesifazane, “Thatha indodana yakho.” **37** UmShunami wangena, wawela ezinyaweni zakhe wakhothama. Wasethatha indodana yakhe wahamba. **38** U-Elisha wabuyela eGiligali njalo kulesosigaba kwakulendlala. Kwathi esesemhlanganweni lexuku labaphrofethi, wathuma isisebenzi sakhe wathi, “Beka imbiza enkulu eziko, uphekele abaphrofethi ukudla.” **39** Omunye wabo wayakukha imibhida egangeni wathola ivini leganga. Wakha amajodwana wagcwalisa ophikweni lwesigqoko sakhe. Ekuphendukeni kwakhe wawaqoqoba wawafaka embizeni esiphesho lanxa kungekho owayesazi ukuthi kuyini. **40** Kwaphakululwa ukuba abantu badle, kodwa bathi beqalisa ukudla bamemeza bathi, “Awu muntu kaNkulunkulu kulokufa embizeni!” Kabazabe besakudla. **41** U-Elisha wathi, “Lethani ifulawa.” Wayifaka embizeni wasesithi, “Baphakuleni abantu badle.” Ngalokho kwakungaselabuthi embizeni. **42** Kwafika indoda ethile ivela eBhali-Shalisha, iphathele umuntu kaNkulunkulu izinkwa zebhali ezingamatshumi amabili, zibekhwe ngezilimo zakuqala. U-Elisha wathi, “Nikani abantu badle.” **43** Inceku yakhe yathi, “Ngingababela njani abantu abalikhulu okungaka?” Kodwa u-Elisha wathi, “Phakululela abantu badle. Ngoba ilizwi likaThixo lithi: ‘Bazakudla baze bakutshiye.’” **44** Inceku yasiphakululela abantu, badla baze bakutshiya, njengokutsho kwelizwi likaThixo.

5 UNamani wayengumlawuli webutho lenkosi yase-Aramu. Wayelodumo ehlonipheka emehlweni enkosi yakhe, ngoba ngaye uThixo wanika ele-Aramu ukunqoba. Wayelibutho elisesibindi, kodwa wayelobulephero. **2** Amaxuku amabutho ase-Aramu ayephumile athumba intombazana yako-Israyeli, yaba yisichaka somkaNamani. **3** Yathi kunkosikazi yayo, “Ngabe inkosi yami ike ibonane lomphrofethi oseSamariya! Ubezayelapha ubulephero bayo.” **4** UNamani wayatshela inkosi yakhe ngalokho okwathushiwo yintombazana yako-Israyeli. **5** Inkosi yase-Aramu yathi, “Ye kufanele uhambe, ngizabaleka inkosi yako-Israyeli incwadi.” Ngakho uNamani wasuka ephethe amathalenta esiliva alitshumi, amashekeli egolide azinkulungwane eziyisithupha kanye lamaxha ezigqoko alitshumi. **6** Incwadi ahamba layo enkosini yako-Israyeli yayisithi: “Ngalincwadi ngikuthumela inceku yami uNamani ukuba uzomelapha ubulephero bakhe.” **7** Inkosi yako-Israyeli yathi iqeda ukufunda incwadi leyo, yadabula izembatho zayo yathi, “NginguNkulunkulu mina na? Ngilamandla okubulala lamandla okuphilisa na? Kungani lumuntu ethumele umuntu esithi ngimelaphe ubulephero? Angithi liyabona ukuthi udinga ukuxabana lami!” **8** U-Elisha umuntu kaNkulunkulu esezwe ukuthi inkosi yako-Israyeli yayisidabule izembatho zayo,

wayithumela ilizwi esithi, “Kungani usudabule izembatho zakho na? Letha indoda leyo kimi ukuze yazi ukuthi kulomphrofethi ko-Israyeli.” **9** Ngakho uNamani wahamba lamabhiza akhe kanye lezinqola zokulwa wayakuma emnyango wendlu ka-Elisha. **10** U-Elisha wathuma isithunywa ukuthi siyotshela uNamani sithi: “Hamba, uyegeza kasikhombisa emfuleni uJodani, inyama yakho izahluma njalo lawe uhlambuluke.” **11** Kodwa uNamani wasuka ethukuthele wasesithi: “Mina benginakana ukuthi ngempela uzaphuma eze kimi ame abize ibizo likaThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe, aphakamise isandla phezu kwezilonda angelaphe ubulephero. **12** Imifula yaseDamaseko, i-Abhana leFariphari kayingcono yini kulawo wonke amanzi ako-Israyeli na? Bengegeke ngegeza kiyo ngihlambuluke na?” Ngakho wafulathela wahamba ethukuthele. **13** Izinceku zikaNamani zamlanda zathi kuye, “Baba, alubana umphrofethi ubekutshela ukuthi wenze into enkulu ube ungayikuyenza na? Pho, kwehlula ngaphi nxa esithi, ‘Geza uhlambuluke!’” **14** Yikho ukusuka kwakhe esiya khonale efika egeza kasikhombisa, njengokulaywa kwakhe ngumuntu kaNkulunkulu, inyama yakhe yahluma njalo yahlambuluka kungathi ngeyomfana omncinyane. **15** Ngakho uNamani kanye lezinceku zakhe babuyela kumphrofethi uNkulunkulu. Wafika wema phambi kwakhe wathi, “Ngiyakwazi ukuthi akulankulunkulu emhlabeni wonke ngaphandle kukaNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. Ngoxolo ngicela wamukele lesisipho senceku yakho.” **16** Umphrofethi wathi, “Ngeqiniso elinjengokuba uThixo engimkhonzayo ephila, angiyikwamukela lutho.” Kwathi lanxa uNamani emncenga wala. **17** UNamani wasesithi, “Nxa ungasoze ukwamukele ngiyacela, mina nceku yakho, ukuba ngithole umhlabathi walapha ongalingana ukuthwalwa zimbongolo ezimbili, ngoba mina nceku angisayikunikela iminikelo yokutshiswa lemihlatshelo lakuwuphi unkulunkulu kodwa kuThixo. **18** Kodwa inceku yakho icela ukuba uThixo ayixolele kulokhu kuphela: Nxa inkosi yami ingena ethempelini likaRimoni ukuze iyemkhotshela ibambelele engalweni yami lami ngikhothame kanye layo, nxa ngikhothama ethempelini likaRimoni, ngiyacela ukuba uThixo angixolele kulokho.” **19** U-Elisha wathi, “Hamba ngokuthula.” UNamani utha eshambe okomango othile. **20** uGehazi, isisebenzi sika-Elisha inceku kaNkulunkulu, wazitshela ukuthi, “Inkosi yami imyekele uNamani wase-Aramu, wahamba ingasamukelanga isipho sakhe. Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ephila ngizangijimela ngiyezuzela ulutho kuye.” **21** Ngakho uGehazi wahaluzela wamxhuma uNamani. Kwathi uNamani embona esiza egijima, wehla enqoleni yakhe wamhlangabeza, wambuza wathi, “Kulungile konke na?” **22** uGehazi wathi, “Yebo, konke kulungile. Inkosi yami ingithumile ukuba ngithi, ‘Sekufike amajaha amabili exuku labaphrofethi bevela elizweni lezintaba elako-Efrayimi, icela ukuba uwanike ithalenta lesiliva elilodwa lezigqoko ezimbili.’” **23** UNamani wathi, “Ngokujabula, ngithi thatha amathalenta amabili.” Wamkhuthaza uGehazi ukuba awamukele, wasebophela amathalenta esiliva amabili emigodleni emibili, lamaxha amabili ezigqoko. Wawaqhubela izisebenzi ezimbili, zawathwala zahamba kuqala phambi kukaGehazi. **24** Esefikile eqaqeni uGehazi, wathatha impahla kulezozisebenzi wayazibeka endlini. Wathi kababuyele, lakanye basuka. **25** Wasengena wafika wema phambi kwenkosi yakhe u-Elisha. U-Elisha wambuza wathi, “Ube ungaphi Gehazi?” uGehazi waphendula wathi, “Inceku yakho ayizange iye

ndawo.” **26** Kodwa u-Elisha wathi kuye, “Umoya wami ubungekanye lawe na lapho lowomuntu ephenduka enqoleni ekuhlangebeza? Yisikhathi sokwamukela imali lesi na, kumbe esokwamukela izigqoko, lezivande zama-oliva, lamavini lemihlambi yezimvu, leyenkomo, kumbe eyezinceku zesilisa lesifazane? **27** Ubulephero bukaNamani buzanamathela kuwe lasenzalweni yakho kuze kube laphakade.” uGehazi wasuka phambi kuka-Elisha eselobulephero esemhlophe njengongqawqwane.

6 Ixuku labaphrofethi lathi ku-Elisha, “Khangela, indawo esihlala kiyo lawe kayisasanelanga. **2** Asiye eJodani lapho esizagamula khona izigodo sakhe indawo yokuhlala.” U-Elisha wathi, “Kulungile, hambani.” **3** Omunye wabo wathi, “Ungazake uhambe lezinceku zakho na?” U-Elisha wathi, “Kulungile ngizahamba.” **4** Ngakho wasehamba labo. Baya eJodani bafika baqalisa ukugamula izigodo. **5** Omunye wathi egamula, ihloka lakhe laqamuka isihloko salo sawela emanzini. Wasekhala esithi, “Nkosi yami, ihloka leli bengilibolekile.” **6** Umuntu kaNkulunkulu wasebuza esithi, “Liwela ngaphi?” Uthe esemtshengisile indawo yakhona, u-Elisha wagamula uswazi waluphosele khonapho, lokho kwenza ihloka lelo landenda. **7** Wasesithi, “Lenyule emanzini.” Umuntu lowo welula isandla sakhe walenyula. **8** Inkosi yase-Aramu yayisempini ilwisana labako-Israyeli. Ngemva kokukhulumisana lezikhulu zayo inkosi yathi, “Inkamba yami ngizayimisa endaweni ethile.” **9** Umuntu kaNkulunkulu wathumela ilizwi enkosini yako-Israyeli lisithi, “Qaphela ungedluli kuleyana indawo, ngoba ama-Aramu azakwehla ayekhona.” **10** Ngakho inkosi yako-Israyeli yahlolisisa kuleyondawo eyayiqanjwe ngumuntu kaNkulunkulu. U-Elisha wakuphinda enkosini lokhu kuxwayisa kanenginengi, ukuze izivikele ezindaweni ezinjengalezi. **11** Lokhu kwayithukuthelisa inkosi yase-Aramu. Yabiza izikhulu zayo yazihwabhela yathi, “Aliyikungitshela yini ukuthi phakathi kwethu ngubani oseceleni lenkosi yako-Israyeli na?” **12** Esinye sezikhulu zakhe sathi, “Kakho phakathi kwethu nkosi yami, kodwa u-Elisha, umphrofethi wako-Israyeli, ulakho ukutshela inkosi yako-Israyeli ngalawo mazwi owakhuluma usendlini yakho yokulala.” **13** Inkosi yabalaya yathi, “Hambani liyemdinga lapho akhona, ukuze ngithumele amadoda ayemthumba.” Kwavela impendulo ethi, “UseDothani.” **14** Inkosi yasithumela amabhiza lezinqola zokulwa kanye lamabutho aqinileyo. Bahamba ebusuku bahle bagombolozela umuzi wakhona. **15** Kuthe inceku yomuntu kaNkulunkulu ivuka ekuseni ngelanga elilandelayo yaphuma phandle yathola amabutho alamabhiza lezinqola zokulwa sezihonqolozele idolobho. Inceku yethuka yathi, “Maye, nkosi yami, sizakwenzenjani na?” **16** Umphrofethi wathi, “Ungesabi. Labo abalathi banengi kulalabo abangakubo.” **17** U-Elisha wasekhuleka wathi, “Oh Thixo, vula amehlo akhe ukuze abone.” Ngakho uThixo wavula amehlo enceku, yakhangelala yabona amaqaga agcwele amabhiza lezinqola zokulwa ezomlilo zihonqolozele u-Elisha. **18** Kuthe izitha zisondele kuye, u-Elisha wakhuleka kuThixo wathi, “Tshaya lababantu babe yiziphofu.” Ngakho wabaphumputhekisa, njengokucela kuka-Elisha. **19** U-Elisha wabatshela wathi, “Akusiwo umgwaqo njalo akusiwo umuzi eliwudingayo. Ngilandelani, ngizalikhokhela liye emuntwini elimdingayo.” Ngakho wabakhokhelela eSamarिया. **20** Sebephakathi komuzi, u-Elisha wathi, “Thixo, vula amehlo alabantu ukuze babone.”

Ngakho uThixo wavula amehlo abo, bazibonela ukuthi babephakathi kweSamariya. **21** Inkosi yako-Israyeli ithe ibabona, yabuza ku-Elisha yathi, “Ngibabulale yini, baba? Ngibabulale na?” **22** Yena waphendula wathi, “Ungababulali. Kambe ungababulala yini ngenkamba loba ngomtshoko wakho abantu obathumbileyo. Baphe ukudla lamanzi ukuze badle babe sebebuyela enkosini yabo.” **23** Inkosi yako-Israyeli yasibenzela idili elikhulu, bathe sebeqedile ukudla lokunatha, yabakhulula ukuba bahambe, ngakho basuka babuyela enkosini yabo. Kwathi amaxuku amabutho ase-Aramu ayehlala ehlasela elako-Israyeli akhawula ukhulasela. **24** Ngemva kwesikhathi, uBheni-Hadadi inkosi yase-Aramu yaqoqa amabutho ayo wonke yayavimbezela umuzi waseSamariya. **25** Kwaba lendlala enkulu eSamariya ngesikhathi sokuvinjazelwa kwayo; ngakho inhloko kababhemu yayithengiswa ngamashekeli esiliva angamatshumi ayisificaminwembili, legajana lombhida othile ngamashekeli amahlanu esiliva. **26** Kwathi ngolunye usuku inkosi yako-Israyeli ihambahamba phezu komduli womuzi, owesifazane othile wamemeza esithi kuyo, “Akungincede, baba nkosi yami!” **27** Inkosi yaphendula yathi, “Nxa uThixo engakusizi, mina kambe ngizaluthatha ngaphi uncedo? Ngizaluthatha esikhangelweni sewayini yini loba esizeni sokubhulela na?” **28** Wasebuza wathi, “Kodwa uhlutshwa yini?” Owesifazane waphendula wathi, “Owesifazane lo uthe kimi, ‘Letha umntanako ukuba simudle lamuhla, kuzakuthi kusasa sidle owami.’” **29** Ngakho simphekile umntanami samudla. Ngosuku olulandelayo ngasengisithi, “Letha umntanako ukuba simudle.” Kodwa yena ubesemfihlile.” **30** Inkosi ithe isizwa okwakutshwo ngwesifazane lowo yadabula izigqoko zayo. Inkosi yayihamba phezu komduli, abantu bayikhangelana, babona ukuthi isigqoko sayo sangaphansi sasingesokulula. **31** Inkosi yathi, “Sengathi uNkulunkulu angangihlanekela kubi nxa ikhanda lika-Elisha indodana kaShafathi kungasa lilokhu limi phezu kwamahlombe akhe lamuhla!” **32** U-Elisha wayehlezi endlini yakhe labadala babehlezi laye. Inkosi yasithumela isithunywa phambili, kodwa sithe singakafiki u-Elisha wathi ebadaleni, “Liyakubona yini ukuthi umbulali lo uthumele umuntu ukuba azoquma ikhanda lami na? Khangelani, ekufikeni kwesithunywa lapha libovala umnyango libambe isivalo siqine. Kalizwa yini izisinde zenkosi yaso ngemva kwaso na?” **33** Kwathi esakhuluma, isithunywa sahle safika. Ngakho inkosi yathi, “Uhlupho lonke lolu luvula kuThixo. Pho-ke ngisamlindlelani uThixo na?”

7 U-Elisha wathi, “Zwanini ilizwi likaThixo. Nanku okutshwo nguThixo: Kusasa ngasolesi isikhathi, ingxenye yegokoko lefulawa izabe isithengiswa ngeshekeli kuthi ingxenye ezimbili zegokoko lebhali zibe ngezeshakeli elilodwa esangweni laseSamariya.” **2** Isikhulu leso inkosi eyayeyeme engalweni yaso sathi emuntwini kaNkulunkulu, “Khangela, kambe loba uThixo angaze avule amasango empophoma zamazulu bekungenzeka lokhu na?” U-Elisha waphendula wathi, “Lokho uzakubona ngawakho amehlo, kodwa awuyikudla loba yini yakho!” **3** Kwakukhona amadoda alobulephero amane esangweni lomuzi. Akhulumisana athi, “Sihlaleleni lapha size sife na?” **4** Nxa singathi, ‘Asingeneni phakathi komuzi.’ Lakhona kulendlala, sizakufa. Singahlala khonapha, sizakufa. Ngakho asiyeni enkambeni yama-Aramu siyezinkela. Bangahlala bengasibulali, sizaphila; kodwa bangasibulala, sizakufa.” **5** Kusihlwa baya enkambeni yama-Aramu. Bathe befika

eduzane lenkamba, bananzelela ukuthi kwakungaselumuntu loyedwa, **6** ngoba inkosi yayenze ukuthi ama-Aramu azwe umsindo wezinqola zokulwa lamabhiza kanye lebutho elikhulu endlebeni zawo, aze atshelana athi, “Qaphelani, inkosi yako-Israyeli isisibizele amakhosi amaHithi lamaGibhithe ukuthi azosihlaselali.” **7** Ngakho asuka abaleka ngomnyama wokuhlwa atshiya amathente awo kanye lamabhiza labobabhemu. Abaleka atshiya inkamba ilokhu imi injalo evikela impilo yawo. **8** Amadoda ayelobulephero angena enkambeni afika ahlala kwelinye lamathente. Adla anatha, aze athwala lesiliva, legolide lezigqoko, ahamba lakho ayakufihla. Apenduka njalo angena kwelinye lamathente athatha njalo ezinye impahla lazo ayazifihla. **9** Asekhulumisana esithi, “Akulunganga lokhu esikwenzayo. Lolu lusuku lwezindaba ezinhle kodwa silokhu singazitsheli muntu. Singalindela ukusa kwelanga sizajeziswa. Asihambeni khathezi siyebika esigodlweni.” **10** Ngakho bahamba bamemeza abalindi bamasango bomuzi bathi kubo, “Siye sayafika enkambeni yama-Aramu sathola kungelumuntu loyedwa kodwa lokhu kungezwakali lomsindo womuntu ngaphandle kwamabhiza labobabhemu kubotshelwe, kanye lamathente atshiywe enjengoba enjalo.” **11** Abalindi bamasango bamemezela lezizindaba, kwaze kwayabikwa laphakathi esigodlweni. **12** Inkosi yavuka ebusuku yakhuluma lezikhulu zayo yathi, “Ngizalitshela ukuthi ama-Aramu asenzeni kithi. Ayakwazi ukuthi siphakathi kwendlala; ngakho asuke atshiya inkamba zawo ukuze asicathamele emaphandleni enakana esithi, ‘Ngempela bazaphuma ijumo, kube lapho esizabathumba khona singene phakathi komuzi.’” **13** Esinye sezikhulu zenkosi sathi, “Thuma abahlanu ngamabhiza aseleyo phakathi komuzi. Bazawelwa luhlupho olufana lolwama-Israyeli wonke asele lapha, yebo, bazafana nje labo bonke abako-Israyeli abalindele ukufa. Ngakho asibathume balandele bayedingisisa okwenzakeleyo.” **14** Basebekhetha izinqola zokulwa ezimbili lamabhiza azo, inkosi yathuma ukuba zilandele ibutho lama-Aramu. Inkosi ekulawuleni kwayo abatshayeli balezinqola zokulwa yathi, “Hambani liyedingisisa ukuthi kuyini okwenzakeleyo.” **15** Balandela baze bayafika eJodani, bathola kuyikuthi indlela yonke yayihlakazeke ngezigqoko langempahla ezazilahlwe ngama-Aramu ekubalekeni kwawo. Ngakho zaphenduka izithunywa zafika zabika enkosini. **16** Abantu baphuma bayaphanga okwakusenkambeni yama-Aramu. Ngakho igokoko lefulawa lathengiswa ngeshekeli, amagokoko amabili ebhali athengiswa ngeshekeli, njengokutsho kukaThixo. **17** Inkosi yayibeke isikhulu eyayeyeme engalweni yaso ukuba silondoloze isango. Abantu baphithizela basinyathela esangweni, safu, njengokwakutshwo ngumuntu kaNkulunkulu ngesikhathi inkosi ize ifike endlini yakhe. **18** Kwenzakala njengalokhu umuntu kaNkulunkulu wayetshilo enkosini: “Ngalesi isikhathi kusasa, igokoko lefulawa lizathengiswa ngeshekeli, amagokoko amabili ebhali azathengiswa ngeshekeli esangweni laseSamariya.” **19** Isikhulu senkosi sona sasithe emuntwini kaNkulunkulu, “Khangela, loba uThixo angaze avule amasango empophoma zamazulu bekungenzeka lokhu na?” Umuntu kaNkulunkulu yena wayephendule wathi, “Lokhu uzakubona ngawakho amehlo, kodwa awuyikudla loba yini yakho!” **20** Yikho kanye okwenzakala kulesisikhulu senkosi, ngoba abantu baphithizela basinyathela esangweni, safu.

8 U-Elisha wayetshela umfazi olomntwana ayemvuse ekufeni wathi, “Suka uhambe labendlu yakho uyehhala lapha ongathuthela khona okwesikhatshana, ngoba uThixo uzaletsha indlala elizweni ezathatha iminyaka eyisikhombisa.” **2** Owesifazane lowo wakwenza lokho njengokulaywa kwakhe ngumuntu kaNkulunkulu. Yena kanye labendlu yakhe basuka bayahlala elizweni lamaFilistiya okweminyaka eyisikhombisa. **3** Ekupheleni kweminyaka eyisikhombisa wasuka elizweni lamaFilistiya waya enkosini yakibo wayacela indawo yomuzi kanye lamasimu akhe. **4** Inkosi yayikhuluma loGehazi, isisebenzi somuntu kaNkulunkulu, yathi, “Ake ungxoxele ngezimanga ezinkulu esizike zenziwa ngu-Elisha.” **5** Uthe uGehazi esathi uyalandisela inkosi ngokuthi u-Elisha wavusa njani abafileyo, owesifazane owayelendodana yakhe eyasiliswa ngu-Elisha wafika ezocela ukubuyela emzini wakhe lokulima amasimu akhe. UGehazi wathi, “Nguyenalo owesifazane, nkosi yami, nansi lendodana yakhe, eyiyo eyavuswa kwabafileyo ngu-Elisha.” **6** Inkosi yambuza ngalokhu umama lowo, lakanye wakufakaza lokho. Inkosi yasikhetha esinye sezikhulu zayo ukuba sikhangele izikhhalazo zowesifazane yaqonqosela yathi, “Uze umbuyisele konke okwakungokwakhe, lenzuzo yonke eyasala izukalala emasimini akhe kusukela mhla asuka kulelilizwe kuye kubekuphendukeni kwakhe lamuhla.” **7** U-Elisha waya eDamaseko, uBheni-Hadadi inkosi yase-Aramu wayegula. Inkosi isitsheliwe ngalokho ukuthi, **8** “Umuntu kaNkulunkulu usefikile uvela ekudeni khonale esiza lapha,” wathi kuHabayeli: “Thatha isipho uyehlangabeza umuntu kaNkulunkulu. Khuluma ubuze uThixo ngaye; uthi, ‘Kambe ngizasila yini kulokhu kugula na?’” **9** UHabayeli waphuma wayehlangabeza u-Elisha, ephethe izipho zezimpahla ezinhle kakhulu ezenziwa ngabaleminwe eDamaseko zithwelwe ngamakamela angamatshumi amane. Wafika wangena wema phambi kwakhe, wathi, “Indodana yakho uBheni-Hadadi inkosi yase-Aramu ungithumile ukuba ngizobuza, uthu yena, ‘Kambe ngizasila emkhuhlaneni na?’” **10** U-Elisha waphendula wathi, “Hamba uyemtshela ukuthi, ‘Ngempela uzasila;’ kodwa uThixo usebonakalisile kimi umbono wokuthi uzakufa.” **11** Wamkhangela engacyozi emuthe nzo ngamehlo uHabayeli waze waba lenhloni. Umuntu kaNkulunkulu wasekhala. **12** UHabayeli wabuzwa wathi, “Kungani inkosi yami ikhala?” Umuntu kaNkulunkulu waphendula wathi, “Kungenxa yokuthi ngiyabazi ububi ozabenza ebantwini bako-Israyeli; uzatshisa izinqola zabo ngomlilo, ubulale lamadodana abo ngenkamba, uchoboze ingane zabo njalo uqhahqe abesifazane abazithweleyo.” **13** UHabayeli wathi, “Kambe inceku yakho, yona iyinga ngokwayo, ingasanelisa njani isiga esingako?” U-Elisha waphendula wathi, “UThixo ungitshengisile ukuthi wena uzakuba yinkosi yase-Aramu.” **14** Ngakho uHabayeli wasuka ku-Elisha wabuyela enkosini yakhe. UBheni-Hadadi wabuzwa esithi, “Utheni u-Elisha kuwe?” UHabayeli yena waphendula wathi, “Ungitshele ukuthi ngempela uzasila.” **15** Kodwa ngosuku olulandelayo wathatha ingubo, wayigxamuza emanzini, wasembomboza ubuso benkosi ngayo yaze yafa. Ngakho uHabayeli waba yinkosi. **16** Ngomnyaka wesihlanu kaJoram indodana ka-Ahabi inkosi yako-Israyeli, ngesikhathi uJehoshafathi eyinkosi yakoJuda, uJehoram indodana kaJehoshafathi waqalisa ukubusa eyinkosi yakoJuda. **17** Wayeleminyaka engamatshumi amathathu lambili eqalisa ukubusa, njalo wabusa eJerusalema okweminyaka eyisificaminwembali. **18**

Yena wahamba emanyathelweni amakhosi ako-Israyeli, njengalokho okwakwenziwe ngabendlu ka-Ahabi, ngoba wayethethe indodakazi ka-Ahabi. Wona phambi kukaThixo. **19** Loba kunjalo, ngenxa kaDavida inceku yakhe, uThixo kathandanga ukudiliza indlu kaJuda. Wayemthembise ukugcina isibane sikaDavida lenzalo yakhe kuze kube nini lanini. **20** Ngensuku zikaJehoram, abase-Edomi bahlamukela uJuda babeka eyabo inkosi. **21** Ngakho uJehoram waya eZayiri lezinqola zakhe zokulwa. Ama-Edomi amhanqa yena kanye labalawuli bezinqola zokulwa, wavuka ebusuku waphulukundlela ngobusuku; kodwa amabutho akhe abaleka abuyela ekhaya. **22** Kuze kube lamhla abase-Edomi balokhu behlamukela uJuda. ULibhina laye wahlamuka ngalesikhathi. **23** Okunye ngombuso langezehlakalo zikaJehoram, lakho konke okunye akwenzayo, akulotshwanga egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi akoJuda na? **24** UJehoram waya kwabaphansi, wangcwatshwa laboyise eMzini kaDavida. Ngakho u-Ahaziya indodana yakhe wathatha ubukhosi. **25** Ngomnyaka wetshumi lambili kaJoram indodana ka-Ahabi inkosi yako-Israyeli, u-Ahaziya indodana kaJehoram inkosi yakoJuda waqalisa ukubusa. **26** U-Ahaziya waqalisa ukubusa eleminyaka engamatshumi amabili, njalo wabusa eJerusalema okomnyaka omdwa. Unina wayengu-Athaliya, umntanomntanake kaOmri inkosi yako-Israyeli. **27** Wahamba ngenyathelo labendlu ka-Ahabi wona phambi kukaThixo, njengokwakwenziwe ngabendlu ka-Ahabi, ngoba wayeyisihlobo sabo ngokuthatha. **28** U-Ahaziya waya empini loJoram indodana ka-Ahabi besilwa loHabayeli inkosi yase-Aramu eRamoth Giliyadi. Ama-Aramu alimaza uJoram, **29** ngakho inkosi uJoram yabuyela eJezerili ukuthi iyekwelatshwa amanxeba lapho eyayilinyazwe khona ngama-Aramu eRama ekulweni kwayo loHabayeli inkosi yama-Aramu. Ngakho u-Ahaziya indodana kaJehoram inkosi yakoJuda wehla wayabona uJoram indodana ka-Ahabi, njengoba wayeselimele.

9 Umphrofethi u-Elisha wabiza enye indoda exukwini labaphrofethi wathi kuyo, “Khwica isembatho sakho ebhantini ubusuthatha iqhagana lamafutha leli, uye eRamoth Giliyadi. **2** Ekufikeni kwakho khonale, ubodinga uJehu indodana kaJehoshafathi, indodana kaNimishi. Ufike umthathe, umsuse kubangane bakhe ubusumngenisana endlini engaphakathi. **3** Ube usuthatha iqhagana lamafutha uwathele ekhanda lakhe, ube usubika uthi, ‘Ilizwi likaThixo lithi: Ngikugcoba ubukhosi bako-Israyeli.’ Ube usuvula umnyango ubaleke; ungapophuza!” **4** Ngakho ijaha leli, umphrofethi, waya eRamoth Giliyadi. **5** Ekufikeni kwakhe khonale wafika izikhulu zebutho zihlezi ndawonye, wasesithi kuzo, ‘Mlawuli, ngilombiko kuwe.’ UJehu wabuzwa wathi, “Ngokabani phakathi kwethu?” Yena waphendula wathi, “Ngowakho mlawuli webutho.” **6** UJehu wasukuma wangena endlini. Umphrofethi wathela amafutha ekhanda likaJehu wasebika ukuthi, “Ilizwi likaThixo uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli lithi: ‘Ngikugcoba wena ukuba ube yinkosi phezu kwabantu bakaThixo, u-Israyeli.’ **7** Kumele ubhubhise indlu ka-Ahabi inkosi yakho, njalo ngizaphindisela igazi lezincedu zami abaphrofethi kanye legazi lezincedu zikaThixo zonke elachithwa nguJezebheli. **8** Indlu ka-Ahabi izabhujiswa. Ngizaqeda ko-Ahabi bonke abesilisa ko-Israyeli, isigqili loba okhululekileyo. **9** Indlu ka-Ahabi ngizayenza lokho engakwenza ekaJerothowamu indodana kaNebhathi kanye lokwenzakala endlini kaBhasha indodana ka-Ahija. **10** UJezebheli, yena uzadliwa yizinja

elizweni laseJezerili; kayikungcwatshwa muntu.” Wasevula umnyango, wabaleka. **11** UJehi uthe ephuma lapho esebuyele kwabanye abalawuli, omunye wabo wambuza wathi, “Kulungile konke na? Uhlanya lolu lube luzofunani kuwe?” UJehi wathi, “Liyamazi umuntu lo kanye lezinto azikhulumayo.” **12** Abalawuli basebesithi, “Kakusilo iqiniso lokho! Sitshele.” UJehi wathi, “Nanku angitshele khona: ‘Ilizwi likaThixo lithi: Ngiyakugcoba ube yinkosi ko-Israyeli.’” **13** Baphanga bathatha izembatho zabo bazendlala ezinyaweni zakhe ezikhwelweni. Bavuthela icilongo bamemeza besithi, “UJehi useyinkosi!” **14** Ngakho UJehi indodana kaJehoshafathi, indodana kaNimishi wavukela uJoram. (UJoram laba bonke abako-Israyeli babevikela iRamothi Gilyadi kuHazayeli inkosi yama-Aramu, **15** kodwa inkosi uJoram yayisibuyele eJezerili ukuze yelatshwe amanxeba okulinyazwa ekulweni lama-Aramu kulwiwa loHazayeli inkosi yama-Aramu.) UJehi wathi, “Nxa lifuna lokho, akungabikho loyedwa ozaphuma emzini ukuba ayefikisa ilizwi eJezerili.” **16** Wasekhwela enqoleni yakhe yokulwa waya eJezerili, ngoba uJoram wayephumulela khonale njalo u-Ahaziya inkosi yakoJuda wayehlele khona ukuba ayembona. **17** Umlindi owayemi emphotsongweni eJezerili wathi ebona amabutho kaJehi esiza, wamemeza esithi, “Ngibona impi ezayo.” UJoram wathi, “Thumela umgadi webhiza abahlangabeze ayebabuza ukuthi, ‘Liza ngokuthula na?’” **18** Umgadi webhiza wasuka wayahlangabeza uJehi wathi, “Inkosi ingithume ukuba ngibuze ngisithi, ‘Uza ngokuthula na?’” UJehi waphendula wathi, “Ulani lakho ukuthula na? Ngena ngemva kwami.” Umlindi wabika wathi, “Isithunywa sesifikile kubo, kodwa kasiphenduki.” **19** Ngakho inkosi yathuma umgadi webhiza wesibili. Esefikile kubo wathi, “Inkosi ithi: ‘Liza ngokuthula na?’” UJehi waphendula wathi, “Ulani lakho ukuthula na? Ngena ngemva kwami.” **20** Umlindi wabika wathi: “Usefikile kubo, kodwa kukhanya kaphenduki. Ugijima sengathi nguJehi indodana kaNimishi njalo utshayela sengathi luhlanya.” **21** UJoram wakhwaza wathi, “Bophani inqola yami yokulwa.” Inqola yokulwa itha isilungisiwe, uJoram inkosi yako-Israyeli kanye lo-Ahaziya inkosi yakoJuda bagada, basuka omunye ekweyakhe inqola yokulwa lomunye laye ekweyakhe, behlangabeza uJehi. Bahlangana laye esivandeni sesiqinti esasikade singesikaNabhothi umJezerili. **22** UJoram uthe ebona uJehi wambuza wathi, “Uza ngokuthula na, Jehu?” UJehi wathi, “Kambe kungaba lokuthula njani khona kugcwele izithombe lobuthakathi bukanyoko uJezebheli na?” **23** UJoram wafathela wabaleka, ememezela ku-Ahaziya esithi, “Umvukela, Ahaziya!” **24** UJehi wakhokha umtshoko wakhe waciba uJoram esiphangeni ngomtshoko wakhe. Umtshoko wahle wangena enhliziyweni yakhe yena wathi votshololo enqoleni yakhe yokulwa. **25** UJehi wathi kuBhidikhari, owayeyisikhulu sakhe sezinqola zokulwa, “Dobha isidumbu sakhe uyesisiphosela esimini eyayingekaNabhothi umJezerili. Uyakhumbula mhla sasigadile sobabili enqoleni yokulwa ngemva kuka-Ahabi uyise mhla uThixo enza lesisiphrofethi ngaye esithi, **26** ‘Izolo ngibone igazi likaNabhothi lelamadodana akhe, kutsho uThixo, ngeqiniso ngizakwenza ulihlawulele kulesisivande, kutsho uThixo.’” Ngakho umthathe, uyemphosela esimini leyana, njengokutsho kwelizwi likaThixo.” **27** U-Ahaziya inkosi yakoJuda esebone lokhu okwakwenzakele wabaleka wahamba ngomgwaqo esiya eBhethi-Hagani. UJehi waxotshana laye ememeza esithi, “Mbulaleni laye!” Bamlimaza enqoleni yakhe yokulwa endleleni yokuya eGuri phansi kwe-

ibhiliyami, kodwa wabaleka waya eMegido lapho ayafela khona. **28** Izinceku zakhe zamthwala ngenqola yokulwa zamusa eJerusalema zayamngcwaba laboyise ethuneni lakhe eMzini kaDavida. **29** (Ngomnyaka wetshumi lanye kaJoram indodana ka-Ahabi, u-Ahaziya waba yinkosi yakoJuda.) **30** Ngakho uJehi waya eJezerili. UJezebheli wathi ekuzwa lokho, wazicomba ngesibhuda emehlweni weluka inwele zakhe waselunguza ngefasisela. **31** UJehi uthe engena esangweni, wambuza wathi, “Uza ngokuthula na, Zimri, wena mbulali wenkosi yakho?” **32** Yena wakhangelela phezu ewindini wabuza wathi, “Ngubani ongakimi na? Ngubani?” Abathenwa ababili loba abathathu bakhangelela phansi kuye. **33** UJehi wathi, “Msakazeleni phansi!” Ngakho basebemsakazela phansi, elinye igazi lakhe lachaphakela emdulini lasemabhizeni ayeseqidagida emnyathela ngamasondo. **34** UJehi wangena wafika wadla njalo wanatha. Wathi, “Ake limthathe lo owesifazane oqalekiweyo liyemngcwaba, ngoba eyindodakazi yenkosi.” **35** Kodwa batha sebethi bayathatha isidumbu bathola sekusele ikhanda lenyawo lezandla kuphela. **36** Babuyela bayatshela uJehi yena owathi, “Leli yilizwi likaThixo alikhuluma ngenceku yakhe u-Elia umThishibi lisithi: Esiqintini esiseJezerili izinja zizakudla inyama kaJezebheli, **37** lesidumbu sikaJezebheli sizakuba njengobulongwe emhlabathini elizweni laseJezerili ukuze kungabi lozakuthi, ‘Lo nguJezebheli.’”

10 ESamariya kwakulamadodana angamatshumi ayisikhombisa ayengawendlu ka-Ahabi. Ngakho uJehi waloba izincwadi elobela izikhulu zaseJezerili, abadala lakulabo ababesondla abantwana baka-Ahabi. Waloba kanje: **2** “Masinyazana ekuboneni kwenu lincwadi, njengoba abantwana benkosi yenu besezandleni zenu njalo lilezingqola zokulwa lamabhiza, umuzi wenqaba lezikhali, **3** khethani lowo elimbona efanelo kulabo bonke phakathi kwamadodana enkosi yenu limfakhe esihlalweni sikayise sobukhosi, beselilwela indlu yenkosi yenu.” **4** Kodwa besaba bathi: “Nxa amakhosi amabili ehlulekile ukumelana laye, thina singakwenza njani?” **5** Ngakho isiphathamandla sesigodlo, usibalukhulu, abadala kanye labalindi bathumela lelilizwi kuJehi, “Sizinceku zakho, njalo sizakwenza konke njengokutsho kwakho. Kakho esizamketha ukuba abe yinkosi; yenza lokho obona kulungile kakhulu.” **6** Ngakho uJehi wabalobela incwadi yesibili esithi, “Nxa livumelana lami njalo lizimisele ukungilalela, qumani amakhanda amadodana enkosi yenu libe selibuya lawo kusasa eJezerili ngasonalesisikhathi.” Amakhosana esikhosini, ayengamatshumi ayisikhombisa, ayehlala lamadoda aqakathekileyo phakathi komuzi, okuyiwo ayesondla amadodana enkosi. **7** Incwadi yathi ifika, amadoda la bulala wonke amakhosana angamatshumi ayisikhombisa. Afaka amakhanda awo ezitsheni awathumela kuJehi eJezerili. **8** Isithunywa sitha sifika satshela uJehi sathi: “Sebewalethile amakhanda amakhosana.” UJehi wasekhupha ilizwi esithi, “Abutheleleni abe zinqwaba ezimbili esangweni lomuzi kuze kube sekuseni.” **9** Ngosuku olulandelayo uJehi waphuma; wema phambi kwabantu wathi, “Lina linsulwa. Yimi engithame ukubulala inkosi yami njalo ngiyibulele, kodwa ngubani obulele bonke laba? **10** Alibokwazi ukuthi akukho lalinye ilizwi elivela kuThixo lingxame u-Ahabi labendlu yakhe, elizakwehluleka. UThixo usekwenzile lokho akuthembisa ngenceku yakhe u-Elia.” **11** Ngakho uJehi

wabulala bonke eJezeri abendlu ka-Ahabi ababesele, kanye lezikhulu zakhe, abangane bakhe abasekhwapheni labaphristi bakhe, akusalanga muntu kwabendlu ka-Ahabi. **12** UJeh waphuma njalo waqonda eSamariya. EBhethi-Ekhedi yaBelusi, **13** wahlangana lezihlobo zika-Ahaziya inkosi yakoJuda wababuza wathi, “Lingobani lina na?” Bona bamphendula bathi, “Siyizihlobo zika-Ahaziya, njalo sizekwethekelela abendlu yenkosi kanye lendlovukazi engunina.” **14** Yena wathi ezincekwini zakhe, “Bathatheni bephila!” Ngakho babathatha bephila bayababulalela emthonjeni weBhethi-Ekhedi, babengamadoda angamatshumi amane. Kakho loyedwa abamtshiya ephila. **15** Ngemva kokusuka kwakhe lapho, wahlangana lojehonadabi indodana kaRekhabi, owayesendleleni ezomhlangabeza. UJeh wambingelela wathi, “Wena uvumelana lami na, njengoba mina ngikanye lawe?” UJehonadabi waphendula wathi, “Mina ngilawe.” UJeh wathi, “Nxa kunjalo ngibamba isandla,” kwathi esembabile wamkheza enqoleni yokulwa. **16** UJeh wasesithi, “Woza sihambe ngiyekutshengisa ukuphithshekela kwami uThixo.” Ngakho wagada laye enqoleni yakhe yokulwa. **17** UJeh uthe efika eSamariya, wabulala bonke ababesele khonale abendlu ka-Ahabi, wababhubhisa njengokutsho kwelizwi likaThixo ekhuluma ku-Eliza. **18** Ngakho uJeh wasebuthanisa abantu bonke wasesithi kubo, “U-Ahabi ubekhonza uBhali kancinyane; uJeh uzamkhonza kakhulu. **19** Ngakho ngibizelani bonke abaphrofethi bakaBhali, zonke izikhonzi zakhe labaphristi bakhe. Linanzelele ukuthi kakho loyedwa ozasala, ngoba ngifuna ukwenza umhlathshelo omkhulu kuBhali. Ongayikubuya kasayikuphila.” UJeh wayebakhohlisa ngoba wayedinga ukubhubhisa abafundisi bakaBhali. **20** UJeh wasesithi, “Bizani umhlangano wokudumisa uBhali.” Basebewumemezela. **21** Wasethumela ilizwi kulolonke elako-Israyeli, beza bonke abafundisi bakaBhali; kakho loyedwa ongezanga. Bagcwalaba baminanya ethempelini likaBhali kusukela emsamu kusiya emnyango. **22** UJeh wasesithi kulowo owayegcina izigqoko zabakhonza uBhali, “Balethele izigqoko bonke abakhonza uBhali.” Ngakho wabaletshela lezozigqoko. **23** UJeh lojehonadabi indodana kaRekhabi bangena ethempelini likaBhali. UJeh wathi kubakhonzi bakaBhali, “Linanzelele kungangeni loyedwa oyinceku kaThixo enkonzweni yenu, akube ngabakhonzi bakaBhali kuphela.” **24** Ngakho bangena banikela benza leminikelo yokutshiswa. UJeh wayebeke amadoda angamatshumi ayisificaminwembili wawaqonqosela wathi, “Loba ngubani oza yekela omunye walamadoda engiwebake ezandleni zenu ephunyuka, ngizaphindisela ngempilo yakhe.” **25** UJeh wathi eseqedile ukunikela umnikelo wokutshiswa, wathi kubalindi lezikhulu zebutho, “Ngenani liyebabulala; kungabikho loyedwa ozaphunyuka.” Ngakho babatshaya ngenkamba bababhubhisa. Abalindi lezikhulu balahlela phandle izidumbu basebengena ethempelini likaBhali elingaphakathi. **26** Bakhiphla ilitshela elikhonzwayo likaBhali balitshisa. **27** Balidiliza lelolitshela likaBhali elikhonzwayo bakhidiliza lethempeli lakhe, balenza laba yindlu yokuyela ngaphandle kuze kube lalamuhla lokhu. **28** Ngalokho uJeh wadiliza ukhoho lukaBhali ko-Israyeli. **29** Kodwa, yena katshiyananga lezono zikaJerobhohamu indodana kaNebhathi, lezo ayebangele u-Israyeli ukuzenza, ukukhonza amathole egolide eBhetheli laseDani. **30** UThixo wathi kuJeh, “Njengoba wenze kuhle ngokuphelelisa lokho okufaneleyo phambi

kwami njalo wenze konke ebengikumisele abendlu ka-Ahabi, abendlu yakho bazabusa ko-Israyeli kuze kube yisizukulwane sesine.” **31** Kodwa uJeh kazange ananzelele ukugcina umthetho kaThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, ngenhliziyo yakhe yonke. Kazange atshiyane lezono ezazisenziwa nguJerobhohamu, lezo ayebangele u-Israyeli ukuba azenze. **32** Ngalezonsuku uThixo waqalisa ukwehlisa inani labako-Israyeli. UHabayeli wanqoba ama-Israyeli kulolonke ilizwe lawo, **33** empumalanga yeJodani kulolonke eleGilyadi (kuthatha umango kaGadi, okaRubheni lokaManase), kusukela e-Aroweri ngaseSihotsheni se-Arinoni kusiyaphutshala eGilyadi kungena eBhashani. **34** Okunye kwezehlakalo lezenzo ngokubusa kukajeh, konke akwenzayo, aphumelela kukho, akulotshwanga yini egwalweni lwembali yamakhozi ako-Israyeli na? **35** UJeh wafa walala kuboyise emathuneni aseSamariya. UJehowahazi indodana yakhe yathatha ubukhozi yabusa. **36** UJeh isikhathi abusa ngaso u-Israyeli eseSamariya kwaba yiminyaka engamatshumi amabili lasificaminwembili.

11 U-Athaliya unina ka-Ahaziya wathi ebona ukuthi indodana yakhe isifile, waqhubeka ebulala bonke abendlunkulu. **2** Kodwa uJehosheba, indodakazi yenkosi uJehoramu njalo engudadawo ka-Ahaziya, wathatha uJowashi indodana ka-Ahaziya wamngqisa emsusa phakathi kwamakhosana ayesezabulawa. Wamfihla kanye lomlizane wakhe endlini yokulala emcatshisa ukuze u-Athaliya angaze ambona; yikho kasazange abulawe. **3** Wahlala ecatsishiwe yena kanye lomlizane wakhe ethempelini likaThixo okweminyaka eyisithupha yokubusa kuka-Athaliya. **4** Ngomnyaka wesikhombisa uJehoyada wamema abalawuli bamakhulu, amaKharithi kanye labalindi, bonke balethwa phambi kwakhe ethempelini likaThixo. Wenza isivumelwano labo wabafungisa ethempelini likaThixo. Wasebathengisa indodana yenkosi. **5** Wabalaya wathi, “Nanku elizakwenza: Lina elisemaviyweni amathathu azabe elindile ngeSabatha, ingxenye yokuthathu yenu kumele ilinde isigodlo, **6** lengxenye yokuthathu eseSangweni laseSuri, lengxenye yokuthathu esangweni elingemva kwabalindi, abazophisanayo ukulinda ithempeli, **7** lani elisemaviyweni amabili okuvame ukuthi lingasebenzi ngeSabatha, lonke lizalindela inkosi ithempeli. **8** Lizalinda lizingezelele inkosi, ngulowo ehlo mile ngesikhali sakhe esandleni sakhe. Loba ngubani onondela kini kumele abulawe. Hlalani liseduze kwenkosi loba ingaze iye ngaphi.” **9** Abalawuli bekhulu benza njengokulaywa kwabo nguJehoyada umphristi. Umlawuli munye ngamunye wathatha iviyi lakhe lamadoda lawo ayesiya ekulindeni ngeSabatha lalawo ayezakuba engasebenzi eza kuJehoyada umphristi. **10** Ngakho yena wanika abalawuli imikhonto lamahawu ayengawenkosi uDavida ayegcinwa ethempelini likaThixo. **11** Kwathi abalindi ngamunye, ephethe isikhali esandleni sakhe, bajama bephahle inkosi iseduze kwe-alithari lethempelini, kusukela ezansi kusiya enyakatho yethempeli. **12** UJehoyada waseveza indodana yenkosi wayethwesa umqheke; wayiqhubela lesivumelwano sikaThixo wahle wamemezela ukuba isiyinkosi. Bayigcoba inkosi, abantu batshaya izandla bahlaba umkhosi besithi, “Mpilo ende enkosini!” **13** U-Athaliya uthe esizwa umkhosi wokujabula kwabalindi kanye labantu bonke, waya ebantwini ngasethempelini likaThixo. **14** Uthe ethi mehlo suka, wabona nansi inkosi, yayimi eduze kwensika njengomkhuba. Izikhulu labatshayi bamacilongo babesekele

inkosi, abantu bonke bejabula ngokutshaya amacilongo. Ngakho u-Athaliya wadabula izembatho zakhe wamezeza esithi, “Umvukela! Umvukela!” **15** UJehoyada waselaya abalawuli bekhulu, ababelawula amabutho wathi: “Mkhupheni limfaka phakathi kwamaviyo amabutho limhlasele ngenkamba lolo ozama ukumlandela.” Ngenxa yokuthi umphristi wayethe, “Akumelanga abulawelwe ethempelini likaThixo.” **16** Ngakho bamdumela ekufikeni kwakhe endaweni lapha okungenela khona amabhiza esigodlweni, kulapho abulawelwa khona. **17** UJehoyada wasesenza isivumelwano phakathi kukaThixo lenkosi kanye labantu ukuthi bavume ukuba ngabantu bakaThixo. Wenza njalo isivumelwano phakathi kwenkosi labantu. **18** Abantu bonke belizwe baya ethempelini likaBhali bafika balidilizela phansi. Babhidliza ama-alithare lezithombe kwaba yizicucu, babulala uMathani umphristi kaBhali phambi kwama-alithare. Ngakho UJehoyada umphristi wasebeka abalindi ethempelini likaThixo. **19** Wathatha abalawuli bamakhulu, amaKharithi, abalindi labantu bonke belizwe, sebendawonye behla lenkosi ethempelini likaThixo baya layo esigodlweni, bengenela esangweni labalindi. Inkosi yasithatha indawo yayo esihlalweni sobukhosi, **20** abantu bonke belizwe baba lokujabula okukhulu. Kwaba lokuthula emzini, ngoba u-Athaliya wayesebulewe ngenkamba esigodlweni. **21** UJowashi waqalisa ukubusa eleminyaka eyisikhombisa.

12 Ngomnyaka wesikhombisa kaJehu, uJowashi waba yinkosi, njalo wabusa eJerusalem okweminyaka engamatshumi amane. Ibizo likanina kunguZibiya; yena wayevela eBherisheba. **2** UJowashi wenza ukulunga phambi kukaThixo ngayo yonke leyminyaka elaywa ngujehoyada umphristi. **3** Kodwa indawo eziphakemayo zokukhonzela azidilizwanga, ngakho abantu baqhubeka benikela imihlatshelo yabo khona, njalo betshisa impepha khona. **4** UJowashi wathi kubaphristi, “Qoqani yonke imali elethwa ethempelini likaThixo kuyiminikelo engcwele, imali eqoqwe ekubalweni kwabantu, lemali eyamukelwe ngokuzifungela komuntu lemali elethwe ngokuzithandela ethempelini. **5** Akuthi ngamunye umphristi amukele imali evela kumgcinisikhwama, leyomali izaseshenziswa ukulungisa lapho okonakala khona ethempelini.” **6** Kodwa kwaze kwaba ngumnyaka wamatshumi amabili lemithathu wokubusa kwenkosi uJowashi, abaphristi babelokhu bengalilungisanga ithempeli. **7** Ngakho inkosi uJowashi yabiza UJehoyada umphristi kanye labanye abaphristi yababusa yathi, “Kungani lingalungisi lapho okwadilika khona ethempelini? Lingabe lisathatha enye imali kumgcinisikhwama, kodwa liyilethe ukuze kulungiswe ethempelini.” **8** Abaphristi bavuma ukuthi abasayikuthatha enye imali ebantwini njalo abasayikulungisa ithempeli bona ngokwabo. **9** UJehoyada umphristi wasehathisa ibhokisi, wabhobza isikhala esivalweni salo, waselibeka eceleni kwe-alithari, ngakwesokudla nxa umuntu engena ethempelini likaThixo. Abaphristi bokulinda emnyango basebefaka ebhokisini yonke imali eyayilethwa ethempelini likaThixo. **10** Besithi bangabona isinengi ebhokisini, babize unobhala wesigodlweni kanye lomphristi omkhulu, bafike bayibale yonke engenileyo ethempelini likaThixo babesebeyigqiba emigodleni. **11** Kwakusithi imali isibaliwe kukhiitshwe eyokubhadala ababekhethelewe ukukhangela umsebenzi ethempelini. Ngaleyomali babhadala labo ababesebenza ethempelini likaThixo, ababazi kanye

labakhi **12** labakha ngamatshe lababazi bamatshe. Bathenga amapulanka lamatshe abaziweyo ayesetshenziiswa ukwakha kulungiswa ithempeli likaThixo, njalo babhadala zonke izindleko ezazingezomsebenzi wokuvuselela ithempeli. **13** Imali eyailethwa ethempelini likaThixo kayisetsheziwanga ukwenza imiganu yesiliva, lezindlawu, lemiganu yokuchela, lamacilongo loba ezinye izinto zegolide lezeziliva; **14** yaphiwa izisebenzi ezayisebenzisa ukulungisa ithempeli. **15** Akudingakalanga ukuthi bacele imvumo kulabo ababanika imali yokubhadala ababesebenza, ngoba babesebenza beyiphatha ngokuthembeka okupheleleyo. **16** Imali yeminikelo yecala leminikelo yesono kayilethwanga ethempelini likaThixo ngoba yayingeyabaphristi. **17** Ngalesosikhathi uHazayeli inkosi yase-Aramu wayahlasela iGathi, wayithumba, wasezimisela ukuthumba iJerusalem, **18** kodwa uJowashi inkosi yakoJuda wathatha zonke impahla ezingcwele ezazinikelwe ngokhokho bakhe uJehoshafathi loJehoram lo-Ahaziya, amakhosi akoJuda laleziziphazelo ezazinikelwe nguye ngokwakhe, legolide lonke elatholakala ethempelini likaThixo lasesigodlweni, wazithumela kuHazayeli inkosi yase-Aramu. UHazayeli wasesuka eJerusalem. **19** Mayelana lezinye izehlakalo zombuso kaJowashi, lakho konke akwenzayo, akulotshwanga yini encwadini yembali yamakhosi akoJuda na? **20** Izikhulu zakhe zaceba ndawonye ngaye zambulala eBhethi-Milo, emgwaqweni owehla usiya eSila. **21** Izikhulu ezambulalayo ngoJozabhadhi indodana kaShimeyathi loJehozabhadhi indodana kaShomeri. Wafa wangcwatshwa laboyise emzini kaDavida. U-Amaziya indodana yakhe yabusa esikhundleni sakhe.

13 Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amabili lantathu wokubusa kukaJowashi indodana ka-Ahaziya inkosi yakoJuda, uJehowahazi indodana kaJehu waba yinkosi yako-Israyeli eSamariya njalo wabusa okweminyaka elitshumi lesikhombisa. **2** Wenza okubi phambi kukaThixo ngokulandela izono zikaJerobhowamu indodana kaNebhathi, owayebangele u-Israyeli ukuthi azenze, njalo kazinge axekelane lazo. **3** Ngakho ulaka lukaThixo lwavutha ku-Israyeli, okwaze kwathi okwesikhathi eside wabayekela bengaphansi kombuso kaHazayeli inkosi yase-Aramu loBheni-Hadadi indodana yakhe. **4** UJehowahazi wacela ukuthethelelwa kuThixo. UThixo wamuzwa, ngoba wabona ukuba abako-Israyeli bancindezelwe kanganani yinkosi yase-Aramu. **5** UThixo wabapha umkhulu abako-Israyeli owabakuhlula esandleni sama-Aramu. Ngalokho abako-Israyeli bahlala emzini yabo njengakuqala. **6** Kodwa abatshiyananga lezono zabendlu kaJerobhowamu, lezo ayebangele abako-Israyeli ukuthi bazenze; baqhubeka ngazo, njalo lezinsika zika-Ashera zahlala zilokhu zikhona eSamariya. **7** Akusalanga lutho lwamabutho kaJehowahazi ngaphandle kwabagadi bamabhiza abangamatshumi amahlanu, lezinqola zempi ezilithumi kanye lezinkulungwane ezilithumi zamabutho ahamba ngezinyawo, ngoba inkosi yase-Aramu yayibhubhise bonke abanye yabenza baba njengothuli ngesikhathi sokubhula. **8** Mayelana lezinye izehlakalo zombuso kaJehowahazi, lakho konke akwenzayo lokuphumelela kwakhe, akulotshwanga encwadini yembali yamakhosi abako-Israyeli na? **9** UJehowahazi waphumula laboyisemkhulu njalo wangcwatshwa eSamariya. Indodana yakhe uJowashi yabusa esikhundleni sakhe. **10** Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amathathu lesikhombisa kaJowashi inkosi yakoJuda, uJowashi indodana kaJehowahazi waba yinkosi yako-Israyeli eSamariya, yena-ke wabusa okweminyaka elitshumi

lesithupha. **11** Wenza okubi phambi kukaThixo njalo kazange axekelane lezono zikaJerobhowamu indodana kaNebhathi, ayebangele u-Israyeli ukuthi azenze, waqhubeka ngazo. **12** Mayelana lezinye izehlakalo zombuso Jowashi lakho konke akwenzayo lokuphumelela kwakhe lezimpi azilwa lo-Amaziya inkosi yamaJuda akulotshwanga encwadini yembali yamakhozi ako-Israyeli na? **13** UJowashi waphumula laboyisemkhulu, ubukhozi bakhe bathathwa nguJerobhowamu. UJowashi wangcwatshwa eSamariya ndawonye lamakhozi abako-Israyeli. **14** U-Elisha wayegula umkhuhlane owacina usumbulala. UJowashi inkosi yako-Israyeli wahamba ukuyambona wafika wakhala wathi, “Baba! Baba! Izinqola zokulwa labagadi bamabhiza ako-Israyeli!” **15** U-Elisha wathi, “Thatha idandili lemitshoko.” Wakwenza lokho. **16** Wathi enkosini yako-Israyeli, “Phatha idandili lelo ngezandla.” Yathi isiliphethe, u-Elisha wabeka izandla zakhe phezu kwezandla zenkosi. **17** U-Elisha wasesithi, “Vula iwindi elisempumalanga.” Yalivula, u-Elisha wathi, “Tshoka!” Yatshoka. U-Elisha wasemezeza eqonqosela wathi, “Umtshoko wokunqoba kaThixo, umtshoko wokunqoba ele-Aramu! Uzabhubhisa ama-Aramu e-Afekhi.” **18** Wasesithi enkosini, “Thatha imitshoko yakho,” inkosi yayithatha. U-Elisha wasesithi kuyo, “Tshaya iphansi leli,” inkosi yatshaya iphansi kwaze kwaba kathathu yasisima. **19** Umuntu kaNkulunkulu kwamzondisa lokho wasesithi kuyo inkosi, “Bekufanele ukuthi utshaye iphansi kahlanu loba kasithupha; ngalokho kade uzabe unqobe ele-Aramu njalo walibhubhisa. Kodwa khathesi usuzalinqoba kathathu kuphela.” **20** U-Elisha wafa wangcwatshwa. Abahlaseli bamaMowabi babeyajele ukungena elizweni entswa. **21** Kwathi kwesinye isikhathi abako-Israyeli bengcwaba indoda ethile, babona nampa abahlaseli; basebelahlela isidumbu lesi ethuneni lika-Elisha. Kuthe isidumbu lesi sithinta amathambo ka-Elisha, indoda leyo yavuka yasukuma yama ngezinyawo zayo. **22** UHazyazi inkosi yase-Aramu wancindezela abako-Israyeli ngesikhathi sokubusa kukaJehowahazi. **23** Kodwa uThixo waba lomusa kubo waba lozwelo watshengisela ukubakhathalela ngenxa yesivumelwano sakhe lo-Abrahama, u-Isaka loJakhobe. Kuze kube lamuhla kalandi ukubabhubhisa loba ukubalahla basuke phambi kwakhe. **24** UHazyazi inkosi yama-Aramu wafa, uBheni-Hadadi indodana yakhe wabusa esikhundleni sakhe. **25** Ngakho uJowashi indodana kaJehowahazi wabuya wathumba njalo amadolobho embusweni kaBheni-Hadadi indodana kaHazyazi ayethunjwe empini kayise uJehowahazi. UJowashi wamnqoba kathathu, ngakho wawabuyisa amadolobho abako-Israyeli.

14 Ngomnyaka wesibili kaJowashi indodana kaJehowahazi inkosi yako-Israyeli, u-Amaziya indodana kaJowashi inkosi yakoJuda waqalisa ukubusa. **2** Wayeleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lanhlano eqalisa ukubusa, njalo wabusa eJerusalem okweminyaka engamatshumi amabili lasificamunwemunye. Unina kwakunguJehowadani, wayevela eJerusalem. **3** Yena wenza okulungileyo phambi kukaThixo, kodwa kwakungafanani lokukayise uDavida. Kukho konke ayekwenza walandela inyathelo likayise uJowashi. **4** Kodwa izindawo eziphakemayo zokukhonzela azizange zisuswe; abantu baqhubeka benikela imihlatshelo lokutshisa impepha kulezondawo. **5** Kuthe umbuso usuninile ezandleni zakhe, wabulala izikhulu ezazibulele uyise owayeyinkosi. **6** Kodwa kasabulalanga amadodana alabo ababulala uyise inkosi, njengokulotshiweyo eNcwadini yoMthetho kaMosi lapho

uThixo alaya khona wathi: “Abazali abayikufela abantwababo, loba abantwana bafele abazali babo; ngulowo lalowo uzafela isono sakhe.” **7** Nguye owanqoba ama-Edomi azinkulungwane ezilithumi, eSigidini seTswayi waze wathumba iSela empini, wayibiza ngokuthi yiJokitheli, okulibizo layo kuze kube lalamuhla. **8** Ngakho u-Amaziya wathumela izithunywa kuJowashi indodana kaJehowahazi, indodana kaJehu, inkosi yako-Israyeli emqopha esithi, “Woza, uqondane lami ubuso ngobuso.” **9** Kodwa uJowashi inkosi yako-Israyeli waphendula u-Amaziya inkosi yakoJuda wathi, “Isihlahlana sameva saseLebhanoni sathumela umsedari eLebhanoni ilizwi sathi, ‘Yendisela indodakazi yakho endodaneni yami.’ Kwavela isilo eLebhanoni ezeza safika sagxobagxoba isihlahlana sameva ngamasondo aso. **10** Ngempela uyingqobile i-Edomi ngakho khathesi usuziqhenya. Ziqhenye ekunqobeni kwakho, kodwa uhlale ekhaya! Kungani uzibizela uhlupho uzibangela ukulwa kwakho njalo lokukaJuda na?” **11** Loba kunjalo, u-Amaziya, kazange alalele, ngakho uJowashi inkosi yako-Israyeli wahlasela. Yena waqondana lo-Amaziya inkosi yakoJuda bakhangelana ubuso ngobuso eBethi-Shemeshi koJuda. **12** UJuda wachithwa ngu-Israyeli, kwathi amadoda wonke abalekela emizini yawo. **13** UJowashi inkosi yako-Israyeli wathumba u-Amaziya inkosi yakoJuda, indodana kaJowashi, eyindodana ka-Ahaziya, eBethi-Shemeshi. Ngakho uJowashi wasesiya eJerusalem wayadiliza umduli weJerusalem kusukela esangweni lika-Efrayimi kusiya eSangweni leJiko, isibanga esingaba yizingalo ezingamakhulu ayisithupha ubude. **14** Wathatha lonke igolide lesiliva lazozonke ezinye impahla ezatholakala zisethempelini likaThixo lazezindlini zenotho esigidlweni waphinda wathumba labantu wahamba labo eSamariya. **15** Mayelana lezinye izehlakalo zombuso kaJowashi, lakho konke lokuphumelela kwakhe, lempi ayilwa lo-Amaziya inkosi yakoJuda, lokhu akulotshwanga yini egwalweni lwembali yamakhozi ako-Israyeli na? **16** UJowashi waphumula laboyise, njalo wembelwa eSamariya lamakhozi ako-Israyeli. UJerobhowamu indodana yakhe wabusa esikhundleni sakhe. **17** U-Amaziya indodana kaJowashi inkosi yakoJuda waphila okweminyaka elitshumi lemihlanu ngemva kokufa kukaJowashi indodana kaJehowahazi inkosi yako-Israyeli. **18** Mayelana lezinye izehlakalo zombuso ka-Amaziya azilotshwanga na egwalweni lwembali yamakhozi akoJuda? **19** Bamenzela icebo eJerusalem, wasebalekela eLakhishi, kodwa bathumela amadoda amlandela ayambulalela khonale. **20** Bamthwala ngebhiza bamletha eJerusalem lapha angcwatshwa khona labokhokho bakhe, eMzini kaDavida. **21** Ngakho abantu bonke koJuda bathatha u-Azariya, owayeleminyaka elitshumi lesikhombisa yokuzalwa bamgoba ubukhozi bukayise u-Amaziya. **22** Nguye owakha kutsha i-Elathi walibuyisela koJuda ngemva kokuphuma kukayise labokhokho bakhe. **23** Ngomnyaka wetshumi lanhlano ka-Amaziya indodana kaJowashi inkosi yakoJuda, uJerobhowamu indodana kaJowashi inkosi yako-Israyeli waba yinkosi eSamariya, njalo wabusa okweminyaka engamatshumi amane lanye. **24** Wenza ububi phambi kukaThixo njalo kazange atshiye lasinye sezono zikaJerobhowamu indodana kaNebhathi, lezo abangela u-Israyeli ukuthi azenze. **25** Nguye owayibizela imingcele yako-Israyeli kusukela eLebho Hamathi kusiya eLwandle lwase-Arabha, njengelizwi likaThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, alikhuluma ngenceku yakhe uJona indodana ka-Amithayi, umphrofethi owayevela eGathi-Heferi. **26** UThixo

wayekubonile ukuthi kwakubuhlungu kanganani kubo bonke abako-Israyeli, izigqili loba ababekhululekile, ukuhlupheka ababekukho; kungekho labani owayengabasiza. **27** Kanti njengoba uThixo wayengatshongo ukuthi uzakwesula ibizo lika-Israyeli ngaphansi kwamazulu, wabahlenga ngesandla sikaJerobhowamu indodana kaJowashi. **28** Mayelana lezinye izehlakalo zombuso kaJerobhowamu, konke akwenzayo, kanye lokuphumelela kwakhe empini, lokuthi wathumba njani wabuyisela embusweni ka-Israyeli iDamaseko leHamathi, ayengawe Juda, akulotshwanga yini egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi ako-Israyeli na? **29** UJerobhowamu waphumula laboyise, amakhosi ako-Israyeli. UZakhariya indodana yakhe wabusa esikhundleni sakhe.

15 Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amabili lesikhombisa kaJerobhowamu inkosi yako-Israyeli, u-Azariya indodana ka-Amaziya inkosi yakoJuda waqalisa ukubusa. **2** Wayeleminyaka elitshumi lesithupha yokuzalwa esiba yinkosi, njalo wabusa eJerusalema okweminyaka engamatshumi amahlanu lambili. Ibizo likanina lalinguJekhohiya; evela eJerusalema. **3** Wenza ukulunga phambi kukaThixo, njengalokho okwakwenziwe nguyise u-Amaziya. **4** Kodwa izindawo eziphakemeyo zokukhonzela, azidilizwanga; abantu baqhubeka benikela imihlatshelo kanye lokutshisela impepha kuzo. **5** UThixo wehlisela inkosi u-Azariya ubulephero eyabugula yaze yafa, njalo yayihlala yodwa endlini yayo. UJothamu indodana yakhe wayegcina isigodlo senkosi, ephethe labantu belizwe. **6** Ezinye izehlakalo ngombuso ka-Azariya, lakho konke akwenzayo, akulotshwanga yini egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi akoJuda na? **7** U-Azariya wafa walala kuboyise njalo wangcwatshwa phansi kwabo eMzini kaDavida. UJothamu indodana yakhe wathatha ubukhosi. **8** Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amathathu leminyaka efica mibili ka-Azariya inkosi yakoJuda, uZakhariya indodana kaJerobhowamu waba yinkosi yako-Israyeli eSamariya, njalo wabusa okwezinyanga eziyisithupha. **9** Wenza okubi phambi kukaThixo, njengalokho okwakwenziwe ngoyise. Kazange atshiyane izono zikaJerobhowamu indodana kaNebhathi, yena owabangela ukuba u-Israyeli azenze. **10** UShalumi indodana kaJabheshi wenza amacebo okususa uZakhariya wamhlasele phambi kwabantu, wambulala wahle wathatha ubukhosi waba yinkosi. **11** Ezinye izehlakalo ngombuso kaZakhariya zilotshwe egwalweni lwembali yombuso wamakhosi ako-Israyeli. **12** Ngakho kwagcwaliseka ilizwi likaThixo kuJehu elathi: “Abendlu yakho bazabusa u-Israyeli kuze kube yisizukulwane sesine.” **13** UShalumi indodana kaJabheshi waba yinkosi ngomnyaka wamatshumi amathathu lesificamunwemunye ka-Uziya inkosi yakoJuda, yena wabusa eSamariya okwenyanga eyodwa. **14** Ngakho uMenahemu indodana kaGadi wehla esuka eThiza esiya eSamariya. Wahlasela uShalumi indodana kaJabheshi eSamariya, wambulala wasethatha ubukhosi. **15** Ezinye izehlakalo ngombuso kaShalumi, lamacebo okuhlumuka lawokukhokhela kwakhe, kulotshwe egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi ako-Israyeli. **16** Ngalesosikhathi uMenahemu, wathi esuka eThiza wahlasela uThifisa laye wonke umuntu owatholakala esedolobheni lababeseduzane lalo, ngoba bala ukuvula amasango abo. Wasuka uThifisa waqhaqha wonke amanina ayezithwele. **17** Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amathathu lasificamunwemunye ka-Azariya inkosi yakoJuda, uMenahemu indodana kaGadi waba yinkosi yako-Israyeli,

wabusa eSamariya okweminyaka elitshumi. **18** Wenza okubi phambi kukaThixo. Ekubuseni kwakhe konke kazange atshiyane lezono zikaJerobhowamu indodana kaNebhathi, ayebangele ukuba u-Israyeli azenze. **19** Ngakho uPhuli inkosi yase-Asiriya wahlasela ilizwe, njalo uMenahemu wamnika amathalenta esiliva ayinkulungwane ukuze azuze ukusekelwa lokuqinisa umbuso wakhe. **20** UMenahemu wathelisa bonke abako-Israyeli. Wonke umuntu onothileyo kwakumele athele ngamashekeli esiliva angamatshumi amahlanu ukuze aphiwe inkosi yase-Asiriya. Ngakho inkosi yase-Asiriya yasuka elizweni, ayizange ibe isahlala khona. **21** Ezinye izehlakalo ngombuso kaMenahemu, lakho konke akwenzayo, akulotshwanga yini egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi ako-Israyeli na? **22** UMenahemu waya ekuphumuleni kubokhokho bakhe. UPhekha hiya indodana yakhe yathatha ubukhosi. **23** Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amahlanu ka-Azariya inkosi yakoJuda, uPhekha hiya indodana kaMenahemu waba yinkosi yako-Israyeli eSamariya, yena wabusa okweminyaka embili. **24** UPhekha hiya wenza okubi phambi kukaThixo. Kazange atshiyane lezono zikaJerobhowamu indodana kaNebhathi, ayebangele u-Israyeli ukuba azenze. **25** Omunye wezikhulu zakhe, uPhekha indodana kaRemaliya wabumba amacebo okususa. Wathatha amadoda angamatshumi amahlanu aseGilyadi, wayabulala uPhekha hiya, kanye lo-Aghobi lo-Ariye enqabeni yesigodlo eSamariya. Ngakho uPhekha wabulala uPhekha hiya njalo wahle wathatha ubukhosi. **26** Ezinye izehlakalo ngombuso kaPhekha hiya, lakho konke akwenzayo, kulotshwe egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi ako-Israyeli. **27** Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amahlanu lambili ka-Azariya inkosi yakoJuda, uPhekha indodana kaRemaliya waba yinkosi yako-Israyeli eSamariya, njalo wabusa okweminyaka engamatshumi amabili. **28** Wenza okubi phambi kukaThixo. Kazange atshiyane lezono zikaJerobhowamu indodana kaNebhathi, ayebangele ukuthi u-Israyeli azenze. **29** Ngezininkosi zikaPhekha inkosi yako-Israyeli, uThigilathi-Phileasa inkosi yase-Asiriya weza wathumba i-Ijoni, le-Abheli-Bhethi-Mahakha, leJanowa, leKhedeshi kanye leHazoni. Wathumba iGilyadi kanye leGalile, kubalwa lelizwe lonke likaNafithali njalo waxotshela abantu e-Asiriya. **30** Ngakho uHosheya indodana ka-Ela wenza amacebo okususa uPhekha indodana kaRemaliya. Wamhlasele wambulala, wasethatha umbuso waba yinkosi ngomnyaka wamatshumi amabili kaJothamu indodana ka-Uziya. **31** Ezinye izehlakalo ngombuso kaPhekha, lakho konke akwenzayo, akulotshwanga egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi ako-Israyeli na? **32** Ngomnyaka wesibili kaPhekha indodana kaRemaliya inkosi yako-Israyeli, uJothamu indodana ka-Uziya inkosi yakoJuda waqalisa ukubusa. **33** Waba yinkosi eleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lanhlano ubudala bakhe, njalo wabusa eJerusalema okweminyaka elitshumi lesithupha. Ibizo likanina kwakunguJerusha indodakazi kaZadokhi. **34** Wenza okulungileyo phambi kukaThixo, njengalokho okwakwenziwe nguyise u-Uziya. **35** Kodwa izindawo eziphakemeyo zokukhonzela kazisuswanga; abantu baqhubeka benikela imihlatshelo lokutshisela impepha khonale. UJothamu wavuselela iSango laNgaphezulu lethempeli likaThixo. **36** Ezinye izehlakalo ngombuso kaJothamu, kanye lakwenzayo, akulotshwanga egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi akoJuda na? **37** (Ngalezonsuku uThixo waqala ukuthuma uRezini inkosi yase-Aramu kanye loPhekha indodana kaRemaliya ukumelana loJuda.) **38** UJothamu waya ekuphumuleni kubokhokho

bakhe wangcwatshwa labo eMzini kaDavida, okwakulidolobho likayise. U-Ahazi indodana yakhe wathatha ubukhosi.

16 Ngomnyaka wetshumi lesikhombisa kaPhekha indodana kaRemaliya, u-Ahazi indodana kaJothamu inkosi yakoJuda waqalisa ukubusa. **2** U-Ahazi wayeleminyaka engamatshumi amabili esiba yinkosi, yena wabusa eJerusalem okweminyaka elitshumi lesithupha. Wayengafanani loyise uDavida, ngoba kazange enze ukulunga phambi kukaThixo. **3** Wahamba ngezindlela zamakhosi ako-Israyeli waze wenza umnikelo wokutshiswa ngendodana yakhe, elandela izindlela zezizwe ezingamanyala uThixo ayezixotshe abako-Israyeli bengakangeni kulelolizwe. **4** Wanikela imihlatshelo njalo watshisa impepha ezindaweni zokukhonzela phezu kwamaqaqa langaphansi kwazo zonke izihlahla eziyizithingithing. **5** Ngakho uRezini inkosi yama-Aramu kanye loPhekha indodana kaRemaliya inkosi yako-Israyeli basuka bayahlasela iJerusalem bavimbezela u-Ahazi, kodwa abazange bamehlule. **6** Ngalesosikhathi, uRezini inkosi yase-Aramu, wahluthuna i-Elathi wayibuyisela kuma-Aramu ngokududula abantu bakoJuda. Ama-Edomi ahle angena e-Elathi ahlala khona kuze kube lamuhla. **7** U-Ahazi wathuma izithunywa ukuthi ziyekuthi kuThigilathi-Phileasa inkosi yase-Asiriya, “Ngiyinceku yakho lesichaka. Woza uzongikhulula esandleni senkosi yase-Aramu lasesandleni senkosi yako-Israyeli, amakhosi angihlaselayo.” **8** Ngakho u-Ahazi wathatha isiliva legolide elafunyanwa ethempelini likaThixo lasezindlini zenotho zesigondweni senkosi wakuthumela kwaba yisipho senkosi yase-Asiriya. **9** Inkosi yase-Asiriya yahle yamhlomulela ngokuhlasela iDamaseko yayithumba. Yakhupha ababehlala khona yabaxotshela eKhiri njalo uRezini yahle yambulala. **10** Ngakho inkosi u-Ahazi yasisiya eDamaseko ukuze ibonane loThigilathi-Phileasa inkosi yase-Asiriya. Yabona i-alithari eDamaseko yasithumela umdwebo walelo alithare ku-Uriya umphristi lengcazelo egcweleyo yokwakhiwa. **11** Ngakho u-Uriya umphristi wasesakha i-alithari ngomdwebo owawuvula enkosini u-Ahazi eDamaseko waliqeda inkosi u-Ahazi ingakaphenduki. **12** Inkosi ithe isivela eDamaseko yabona i-alithari yahle yayanikela kulo. **13** Inkosi yanikela umnikelo wokutshiswa lomnikelo wamabele, yathela okunathwayo komnikelo, yachela igazi lomnikelo wobudlelwano e-alithareni. **14** I-alithari lethusi elalimi phambi kukaThixo yaliletha livela ngaphambili ethempelini, phakathi kwe-alithari elitsha lethempeli likaThixo, yalifaka ngenyakatho ye-alithare elitsha. **15** Inkosi u-Ahazi yasilaya u-Uriya umphristi yathi, “Phezu kwe-alithari elikhulu elitsha, nikela umnikelo wokutshiswa wekuseni kuthi ntambama kube ngumnikelo wamabele, lomnikelo wabantu bonke elizweni, lomnikelo wabo wonke wamabele kanye lowokunathwayo. Chela i-alithari ngalo lonke igazi leminikelo yokutshiswa kanye lemihlatshelo. Kodwa ngizasebenzisa i-alithari lethusi ukucela iziqondiso.” **16** Ngakho u-Uriya umphristi wenza njengokulaywa kwakhe yinkosi u-Ahazi. **17** Inkosi u-Ahazi yasusa izinsimbi zenqodlana lemiganu phezulu, yethula uLwandle phezu kwenkabi zethusi ezizingaphansi kwalo, yalubeka phezu kwesisekelo selitsh. **18** Yasusa isembeso seSabatha esasakhiwe ethempelini, yavala intuba yokungena inkosi eyayiphandle kwethempeli likaThixo, ivumela okwakufunwa yinkosi yase-Asiriya. **19** Ezinye izehlakalo ngombuso ka-Ahazi, kanye lokunye akwenzayo, akulotshwanga egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi akoJuda na?

20 U-Ahazi waya ekuphumuleni kubokhokho bakhe eMzini kaDavida. UHezekhiya indodana yakhe yathatha ubukhosi.

17 Ngomnyaka wetshumi lambili wokubusa kuka-Ahazi inkosi yakoJuda, uHosheya indodana ka-Ela waba yinkosi yako-Israyeli eSamariya, njalo wabusa iminyaka eyisificamunwemunye. **2** Wenza ububi phambi kukaThixo, kodwa akubanga njengokwamakhosi ako-Israyeli amandulelayo. **3** UShalimaneseri inkosi yase-Asiriya weza wahlasela uHosheya, owayekade eyisichaka sakhe esasithela kuye. **4** Kodwa inkosi yase-Asiriya yafumana ukuthi uHosheya ngumhlamuki, ngoba wayekade ethumele amanxusa enkosini yaseGibhithe uSo, njalo engasatheli imithelo enkosini yase-Asiriya njengalokhu ayekwenza minyaka yonke. Ngakho uShalimaneseri wambamba wamfaka entolongweni. **5** Inkosi yase-Asiriya yasihlasela ilizwe lonke, yangena eSamariya yalivimbezela okweminyaka emithathu. **6** Ngomnyaka wesificamunwemunye kaHosheya, inkosi yase-Asiriya yathumba iSamariya yaxotshela abako-Israyeli e-Asiriya. Yabahlalisa eHala, ngaseGozani eMfuleni uHabhori lasemizini yamaMede. **7** Konke lokhu kwenzakala ngenxa yokona kwabako-Israyeli phambi kukaThixo, owabakhupha eGibhithe emandleni kaFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe. Bakhonza abanye onkulunkulu **8** belandela lemikhuba yezizwe uThixo ayezixotshile phambi kwabo kanye lemikhuba amakhosi ako-Israyeli ayesezingenisile. **9** Basebesenza ngaseze izinto ezazingalunganga kuThixo. Kusukela emphongolweni wesilindo kusiya enqabeni yomuzi basebezakhele izindawo zokukhonzela emizini yabo. **10** Bazimisela amatshe okukhonzela lezinsika zika-Ashera kuwo wonke amaqaka aphakemeyo langaphansi kwazo zonke izihlahla eziyizithingithing. **11** Kuzozonke izindawo zokukhonzela batshisa impepha, njengalokhu okwakusenziwa yizizwe uThixo ayezixotshile phambi kwabo. Benza okubi okwathukuthelisa uThixo. **12** Bakhonza izithombe, lanxa uThixo wayethe, “Lingabokwenza lokhu.” **13** UThixo wayebaxwayisile abako-Israyeli kanye labakoJuda ngabaphrofethi bakhe bonke lezanuse wathi: “Tshiyani izindlela zenu ezimbi. Gcinani imithetho yami lezimiso zami ezisemlayweni engalaya okhokho benu ngawo lengawuthumela kini ngezinceku zami abaphrofethi.” **14** Kodwa abalalelanga njalo baba ntamolukhuni njengabokhokho babo, bona abangazange bathembele kuThixo wabo. **15** Balahla izimiso zakhe lesivumelwano asenza labokhokho babo lezixwayiso ayebanike zona. Balandela izithombe eziyize, labo ngokwabo baba yize, balingisela izizwe ababehlala phakathi kwazo lanxa uThixo wayebalaye wathi, “Lingenzi njengabo,” njalo benza izinto ayebanqabele ukuthi bazenze. **16** Bayephula wonke imilayo kaThixo wabo, bazenzela izithombe ezikhandiweyo ezamathole amabili, benza insika ku-Ashera. Bakhothamela zonke izinkanyezi zezulu, njalo bakhonza uBhali. **17** Benza umhlatshelo ngamadodana lamadodakazi abo emlilweni. Babevumisa njalo besenza ubuthakathi, bazinikela ekwenzeni okubi phambi kukaThixo bamthukuthelisa. **18** Ngakho uThixo wabathukuthelisa abako-Israyeli wabaxotshela kuye. Isizwana sakoJuda yiso kuphela esasalayo, **19** loba nje laye uJuda engayigcinanga imilayo kaThixo. Balandela imikhuba eyayingeniswe ngabako-Israyeli. **20** Ngakho uThixo wakhulala bonke abantu bako-Israyeli; wabahlukuluza njalo wabanikela ezandleni zabaphangi, waze wabasusa phambi

kwakhe. **21** UThixo uthe esemkhiphile u-Israyeli endlini kaDavida, babeka uJerobhowamu indodana kaNebhathi ukuba abe yinkosi yabo. UJerobhowamu wamphambula u-Israyeli ekulandeleni uThixo wambangela ukuba enze isono esikhulu. **22** Abako-Israyeli baqhubeke ngazozonke izono zikaJerobhowamu abaze bazidela. **23** UThixo waze wabasusa phambi kwakhe, njengoba wayexwayisile ngezinceku zakhe zonke abaphrofethi. Ngakho abantu bako-Israyeli bathunjwa elizweni labo basiwa e-Asiriya, njalo balokhu bekhonale. **24** Inkosi yase-Asiriya yaletha abantu ababevela eBhabhiloni, leKhutha, le-Ava, leHamathi kanye leSefavayimi yayabahlalisa emizini yeSamariya endaweni eyayingeyabako-Israyeli. **25** Ekuqaleni kokuhlala kwabo khona, babengamkhonzi uThixo; ngakho uThixo wathumela izilwane phakathi kwabo, zabulala abanye babo. **26** Kwabikwa enkosini yase-Asiriya kwathiwa, “Abantu obaxotshela eSamariya wabahlalisa emizini yakhona abakwazi ukuthi unkulunkulu walelizwe ufunani. Usethumele izilwane phakathi kwabo, ezibabulalayo zibaqeda, ngoba abantu abakwazi ukuthi ufunani.” **27** Inkosi yase-Asiriya yakhupha isiqondiso yathi, “Thuma omunye wabaphristi owabathumbayo eSamariya, abuyele ayohlala labantu njalo abafundise ukuthi unkulunkulu walelizwe ufunani.” **28** Ngakho omunye wabaphristi ababethunjwe eSamariya weza wayahlala eBetheli wabafundisa ukuthi uThixo ukhonzwa njani? **29** Loba kunjalo, yileloqembu ngobuzwe balo lenza onkulunkulu balo emadolobheni wonke ababehlaliswe khona, bababeka ezindaweni zokukhonzela ezazakhiwe ngabantu beSamariya. **30** Abantu ababevela eBhabhiloni babumba uSukhothi-Bhenothi, kwathi ababevela eKhutha benza uNerigali, ababevela eHamathi benza u-Ashima, **31** ama-Avi enza uNihbazi kanye loTharithaki, lamaSefavi enza umhlatshelelo ngokutshisa abantwababo emlilweni benikela ku-Adrameleki lo-Anameleki, onkulunkulu bamaSefavayimi. **32** Bamkhonza uThixo, kodwa basebezikhethela phakathi kwabo inhlobo zonke zabantu ukuthi babe ngabaphristi ezindaweni eziphakemayo zokukhonzela. **33** Bamkhonza uThixo, kodwa babekhonza labonkulunkulu babo belandela imikhuba yezizwe ababevela kizo. **34** Kuze kube lamuhla balokhu bekwenza lokhu belandela imikhuba emidala. Abamkhonzi uThixo njalo abalandeli izimiso leziqondiso, imithetho lemilayo uThixo ayeyiphe abantwana bakajakhobe, lo ambiza ngokuthi ngu-Israyeli. **35** UThixo wathi esenza isivumelwano labako-Israyeli, wabalaya wathi, “Lingakhonzi abanye onkulunkulu loba ukubakhothamela, lingabenzeli lutho loba ukubenzela umhlatshelelo. **36** Khonzani kuphela uThixo, yena owalikhuphula walisusa eGibhithe ngamandla amakhulu langesandla somusa esivulekileyo, nguye yedwa okumele limkhonze. Kuye lizakhothama njalo kuye lizanikela imihlatshelo. **37** Linanzelele ngezikhathi zonke ukulondoloza izimiso, leziqondiso, imithetho lemilayo alilobela yona. Lingabokhonza abanye onkulunkulu. **38** Lingakhohlwa isivumelwano engasenza lani, njalo lingakhonzi abanye onkulunkulu. **39** Kodwa, khonzani uThixo unkulunkulu wenu, nguye ozalikhulula ezandleni zezitha zenu zonke.” **40** Loba kunjalo, kabazange balalele kodwa baqhubeke belandela imikhuba yabo yakuqala. **41** Lanxa babemkhonza uThixo, babelandela izithombe zabo. Lalamuhla abantwababo labantwana babantwababo balokhu besenza khonokho okwakusenziwa ngoyise.

18 Ngomnyaka wesithathu kaHosheya indodana ka-Ela inkosi yako-Israyeli, uHezekhiya indodana ka-Ahazi inkosi yakoJuda waqalisa ukubusa. **2** Wayeleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lanhlano esiba yinkosi, njalo wabusa eJerusalema okweminyaka engamatshumi amabili lasificamunwemunye. Ibizo likanina lalingu-Abhija indokakazi kaZakhariya. **3** Wenza okulungileyo phambi kukaThixo, njengalokho okwakwenziwe nguyise uDavida. **4** Wadiliza izindawo zokukhonzela, wabhidliza amatshe ababewakhonza njalo wagamulela phansi insika zika-Ashera. Watsheya wenza izicucu inyoka yethusi eyayenziwe nguMosi, ngoba kuze kube yilesoikhathi abako-Israyeli babelokhu beyitshisela impepha. (Yayibizwa ngokuthi Nehushithani.) **5** UHezekhiya wayethembele kuThixo, unkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. Kakho owayenjengaye kuwo wonke amakhosi akoJuda, loba kulabo abamandulelayo kumbe labo abamlandelayo ekubuseni. **6** Wabambelela kuThixo kanzake ekele ukulandela, wagcina imilayo uThixo ayeyinike uMosi. **7** UThixo wayelaye; waphumelela kukho konke ayekwenza. Wahlamukela inkosi yase-Asiriya kasabanga ngaphansi kwayo. **8** Kusukela emphongolweni wesilindo kusiya emzini oyingqaba, wanqoba amaFilistiya, kuze kuyefika khonale eGaza lamazwe akhona. **9** Ngomnyaka wesine wenkosi uHezekhiya, okwakungumnyaka wesikhombisa wokubusa kukaHosheya indodana ka-Ela inkosi yako-Israyeli, uShalimaneseri inkosi yase-Asiriya wayahlasela iSamariya wayivimbezela. **10** Ngemva kweminyaka emithathu ama-Asiriya alithumba. Ngakho iSamariya yathunjwa ngomnyaka wesithupha wokubusa kukaHezekhiya, okwakungumnyaka wesificamunwemunye wokubusa kukaHosheya inkosi yako-Israyeli. **11** Inkosi yase-Asiriya yaxotshela abako-Israyeli e-Asiriya yabahlalisa eHala ngaseGozani eMfuleni uHabori lasemizini yamaMede. **12** Lokhu kwenzakala ngoba bengalalelanga uThixo wabo, kodwa sebhuphele isivumelwano sakhe, lakho konke uMosi inceku kaThixo ayebalaye ngakho. Abazanga balalele njalo abazanga bakwenze. **13** Ngomnyaka wetshumi lane wokubusa wenkosi uHezekhiya, uSenakheribhi inkosi yase-Asiriya wahlasela wonke amadolobho avikelweyo akoJuda wawathumba. **14** Ngakho uHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda wathumela ilizwi enkosini yase-Asiriya eLakhishi esithi, “Ngiphambanisile. Suka kimi, mina ngizakubhadala konke okufunayo kimi.” Inkosi yase-Asiriya yathi uHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda kayinike amathalenta esiliva angamakhulu amathathu kanye legolide elingamathalenta angamatshumi amathathu. **15** Ngakho uHezekhiya wamnika sonke isiliva esatholakala ethempelini likaThixo lasezindlini zenotho yesigodlweni senkosi. **16** Ngalesisikhathi uHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda waxaxebula igolide elalisezivalweni zethempeli likaThixo lelalinanyathiselwe emigubazini yethempeli likaThixo, walinika inkosi yase-Asiriya. **17** Inkosi yase-Asiriya yathumela umlawuli omkhulu wamabutho ayo, lesikhulu somndlunkulu kanye lomlawuli wamabutho lamabutho amanengi, besuka eLakhishi besiya enkosini uHezekhiya eJerusalema. Bafika eJerusalema bema emgelweni wechibi elingaphezulu, elisendleleni yeNsimu yoMgezi. **18** Babiza inkosi ngokwayo: Kodwa kweza u-Eliyakhimu indodana kaHilikhiya umpathi wesigodlo, loShebhina umabhalane, loJowa indodana ka-Asafi umbhali. **19** Umlawuli webutho wathi kubo, “Tshelani uHezekhiya ukuthi: ‘Nanku okutshiwo yinkosi enkulu, inkosi yase-Asiriya ithi: Uthembeni ngalesisibindi sakho na? **20** Uthi

ulamaqhinga lamandla ebutho, kodwa ukhuluma amazwi ayize. Uthembe bani uze ungihlamukele nje? **21** Khangela, ngiyazi uthembe iGibhithe, yona enjengomhlanga ozimvava osika isandla somuntu umlimaze nxa eweyamile. Unjalo uFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe kubo bonke abathembele kuye. **22** Njalo nxa lisithi kimi, “Thina sithembe uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu”: kasuye yini uHezekhiya asusa izindawo zakhe eziphakemeyo lama-alithare akhe, esithi kuJuda leJerusalema, “Kumele likhonzele phambi kwaleli i-alithari eliseJerusalema”? **23** Khathesi woza wenze isivumelwano lenkosi yami, inkosi yase-Asiriya: Ngizakunika amabhiza azinkungwane ezimbili nxa bekhona abazawagada! **24** Pho ungayehlula njani induna yezikhulu ezincane zenkosi yami eyodwa, lanxa uthembele eGibhithe ekutholeni izinqola zempi labagadi bamabhiza na? **25** Phezu kwalokho, kanti ngizehlasela lokuzochitha lindawo ngaphandle kwelizwi elivela kuThixo na? UThixo uqobo ngaye othe ngizohlasela ilizwe leli ngilichithi.” **26** Ngakho u-Eliyakhimu indodana kaHilikhiya, loShebhina loJowa bathi kumlawuli webutho, “Ake ukhulume ezincekweni zakho ngesi-Aramayikhi, ngoba siyasizwa. Ungasikhulumisi ngesiHebheru lababantu abasemdulini besizwa.” **27** Kodwa umlawuli webutho waphendula esithi, “Inkosi yami ingithume ukuba izinto lezi ngizitho kuphela enkosini yenu lakini, hatshi ebantwini abahlezi emdulini, okuzakuthi labo, njengani badle ubulongwe babo banathe lomchamo wabo na?” **28** Umlawuli webutho wasukuma wasememeza ngesiHebheru esithi, “Zwanini ilizwi lenkosi enkulu, inkosi yase-Asiriya! **29** Lokhu yikho okutshiwo yinkosi: Lingamvumeli uHezekhiya ukuba alikhohlise. Angeke alikhulule. **30** Lingamvumeli uHezekhiya elincenga ukuba lithembe kuThixo lapho esithi, ‘Ngempela uThixo uzasikhulula; idolobho leli kaliyikuphiwa esandleni senkosi yase-Asiriya.’ **31** Lingamlaleli uHezekhiya. Nanku okutshiwo yinkosi yase-Asiriya: Yenxa isivumelwano sokuthula lami, uphume uze kimi. Lapho-ke omunye lomunye uzakudla esivini sakhe lasemkhiweni wakhe anathe lamanzi emthonjeni wakhe, **32** ngize ngifike ngilithathe, ngilise elizweni elifanana lelakini, ilizwe lamabele lewayini elitsha, ilizwe lesinkwa lezivini, ilizwe lezihlahla zama-oliva loluju. Khethani impilo hatshi ukufa, Lingamlaleli uHezekhiya, ngoba uyalikhohlisa nxa esithi, ‘UThixo uzasikhulula.’ **33** Kambe ukhona unkulunkulu wesinye isizwe osewake wakhulula ilizwe lakhe esandleni senkosi yase-Asiriya na? **34** Bangaphi onkulunkulu baseHamathi le-Ariphadi na? Bangaphi onkulunkulu baseSefavayimi labaseHena labase-Iva na? Bayikhulule iSamarिया esandleni sami na? **35** Nguphi kubo bonke onkulunkulu bamazwe la oke wenelisa ukukhulula ilizwe lakhe kimi na? Pho uThixo angayikhulula njani iJerusalema esandleni sami na?” **36** Kodwa abantu bathula kabazange batshe lutho, ngoba inkosi yayilaye yathi, “Lingamphenduli.” **37** U-Eliyakhimu indodana kaHilikhiya umgcinu wesigodlo loShebhina umabhalane loJowa indodana ka-Asafi umbhali, baya kuHezekhiya izigqoko zabo zidabukile bamtshele okwakutshiwo ngumlawuli webutho.

19 Kwathi lapho uHezekhiya, inkosi, esezwe lokhu, wadabula izigqoko zakhe wagqoka amasaka, wasesiya ethempelini likaThixo. **2** Wathuma u-Eliyakhimu umphathi wesigodlo, uShebhina umabhalane labaphristi abangabakhokheli, bonke begqoke amasaka, baya kumphrofethi u-Isaya indodana ka-Amozi. **3** Bathi kuye, “UHezekhiya uthi: ilanga lanamhla lusuku losizi lokusolwa

kanye lehlazo njengalapho abantwana sekufike isikhathi sokuthi bazalwe kodwa amandla okubeletha engekho. **4** Mhlawumbe uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho izawezwa wonke amazwi omlawuli webutho, onkosi yakhe, inkosi yase-Asiriya, emthume ukuba athuke uNkulunkulu ophilayo, lokuthi uzamthuka ngenxa yamazwi uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho awazwileyo. Ngakho-ke khulekela insali elokhu iphila.” **5** Kwathi izithunywa zenkosi uHezekhiya sezifikele ku-Isaya, **6** u-Isaya wathi kuzo, “Tshelani inkosi yenu lithi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: Ungesabi lokhu okuzwileyo, amazwi lawana izinceke zenkosi yase-Asiriya ezingithuke ngawo. **7** Lalela! Ngizafaka umoya ozamenza athi nxa esizwa umbiko othile, afune ukubuyela elizweni lakhe, athi angafika khonale ngenze ukuba abulawe ngenkema.” **8** Kwathi lapho umlawuli webutho esezwile ukuthi inkosi yase-Asiriya yayisisukile eLakhishi, laye wasuka wayathola inkosi isilwa leLibhina. **9** USenakheribhi wemukela umbiko othi uThirihaka, inkosi yaseKhusi, wayesiza ukuba amhlasele. Ngakho wathumela njalo izithunywa kuHezekhiya lombiko othi: **10** “Tshela uHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda ukuthi: Ungavumi ukuthi unkulunkulu omthembileyo akukhohlise esithi, ‘IJerusalema kaliyikunikelwa enkosini yase-Asiriya.’ **11** Ngempela usukuzwile okwenza ngamakho ase-Asiriya emazweni wonke, ewabhidiza okupheleleyo. Wena-ke uzaphepha na? **12** Onkulunkulu bezizwe ezatshabalaliswa ngokhokho bami bake bazikhulula na onkulunkulu beGozani, leHarani, leRezezi kanye labantu base-Edeni ababeseTheLasari? **13** Ingaphi inkosi yaseHamathi, inkosi yase-Ariphadi, angaphi amakhosi aseLayiri leSefavayimi, loba eyaseHena kumbe eyase-Iva?” **14** UHezekhiya wamukela incwadi eyeza lezithunywa wayibala. Emva kwalokho waya ethempelini leNkosi, wayichaya phambi kukaThixo. **15** UHezekhiya wakhuleka kuThixo esithi: “Thixo, Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, osebukhosini phakathi kwamaKherubhi, wena kuphela nguwe onguNkulunkulu wemibuso yonke yasemhlabeni. Nguwe owenza izulu lomhlaba. **16** Beka indlebe, Thixo, uzwe; vula amehlo akho Thixo, ubone. Lalela uzwe amazwi uSenakheribhi awathumele ukuzathuka uNkulunkulu ophilayo. **17** Kuliqiniso, Thixo, ukuthi amakhosi ase-Asiriya azitshabalalisa lezizwe kanye lamazwe azo. **18** Aphosele onkulunkulu bawo emilweni abatshabalalisa, ngoba kungesibo onkulunkulu kodwa yizigodo lamatshe kuphela, okubunjwe ngezandla zabantu. **19** Khathesi, Thixo, Nkulunkulu wethu, sikhulule esandleni sakhe, ukuze imibuso yonke emhlabeni ibekwazi, ukuthi wena wedwa, Thixo, unguNkulunkulu.” **20** U-Isaya indodana ka-Amozi wathumela ilizwi kuHezekhiya elithi: “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli: Ngiwuzwile umkhuleko wakho mayelana loSenakheribhi inkosi yase-Asiriya. **21** Nanti ilizwi uThixo aselikhulume ngaye: ‘Ndodakazi eGcweleyo iZiyoni iyakweyisa njalo iyakuklolodela. Ndodakazi iJerusalema inqekuzi ikhanda layo lapho wena ubaleka. **22** Ngubani lowo omthukileyo wamhlazisa? Ngubani lowo omphakamisele ilizwi lakho wamphakamisele lamehlo akho ngokuziqaqaja na? NgoNgcwele ka-Israyeli! **23** Ngezithunywa zakho umthukile uThixo. Utsihlo njalo ukuthi, “Ngezinqola zami ezinengi ngikhwelile eziqongweni zezintaba, iziqongo eziphezulu kakhulu zaseLebhanoni. Sengigamule ngawisa izihlahla ezinde zemisedari, izihlahla ezikhethiweyo zamaphayini. Ngifikile eziqongweni zalo ezikhatshana, emaguswini alo

amahle kakhulu. **24** Ngigebhile imithombo ezizweni nganatha amanzi khona. Ngezinyawo zami ngomisile zonke izifula zaseGibhithe.”” **25** “Kawuzwanga na? Lokhu ngakumisa endulo. Ngakuceba ensukwini zasendulo; khathesi sengenze ukuba kufezeke, ukuthi usudilize amadolobho avikelweyo aba yizinqwaba zamatshe. **26** Abantu bakhona, abangasemamandla, badangele njalo bayangekile. Banjengezilimo ensimini, njengamahlumela aluhlaza, lanjengotshani obuhluma ephahleni lwendlu bubuye butshe bungakakhuli. **27** Kodwa ngiyakwazi lapho okhona, lalapho usiza uphinde uhambe; kanye lokuthi ungithukuthela kangakanani. **28** Ngenxa yokungithukuthela kwakho langenxa yokuthi ubuqhobo bakho sebufikile ezindlebeni zami ngizafaka umkhala wami emakhaleni akho lamatomu ami emlonyeni wakho, njalo ngizakwenza ubuyele ngendlela oze ngayo.” **29** Lokhu kuzakuba yisibonakaliso kuwe, Hezekhiya: Lonyaka lizakudla okuzikhulela kodwa, ngomnyaka wesibili lidle umkhukhuzela kwakhona. Kodwa ngomnyaka wesithathu hlanyelani livune, hlanyelani izivini lidle izithelo zazo. **30** Futhi insali yendlu kaJuda izagxilisa njalo impande phansi ithele izithelo ngaphezulu. **31** Ngoba eJerusalem kuzavela insali, kuthi entabeni iZiyoni kuphume ixuku labasindayo. Ukutshiseka kukaThixo uSomandla kuzakwenza ukuba lokhu kufezeke. **32** Ngakho-ke mayelana lenkosi yase-Asiriya uThixo uthi: ‘Kasoze angene kulelidolobho loba atshoke umtshoko lapha. Kasoze eze kulo elehawu kumbe akhe umduli wokulivimbezela. **33** Uzabayela ngendlela eza ngayo, kasoze angene kulelidolobho, kutsho uThixo. **34** Idolobho leli ngizalivikela ngilihlenge, ngenxa yami langenxa kaDavida inceku yami.”” **35** Ngalobobusuku ingilosu kaThixo yasuka yayabulala abantu abalikhulu elilamatshumi ayisificaminwembili lanhlalu lezinkulungwane ezihonqweni zama-Asiriya. Kwathi lapho abantu bevuka ekuseni kwakhona bonke kwasekuyizidumbu kuphela! **36** Ngakho uSenakheribhi inkosi yama-Asiriya wasuka ezihonqweni wahamba. Wabuyela eNiniva wahlala khona. **37** Kwathi ngolunye usuku ekhonza ethempelini likaNisirokhi unkulunkulu wakhe, amadodana akhe u-Adrameleki loShareza ambulala ngenkomba asebakelela elizweni lase-Ararathi. U-Asarahadoni indodana yakhe yaba yinkosi esikhuleni sakhe.

20 Ngalezonsuku uHezekhiya wagula, eselengela ekufeni. Umphrofethi u-Isaya indodana ka-Amozi waya kuye wathi: “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: Lungisa indlu yakho, ngoba uzakufa; awuyikusila.” **2** UHezekhiya waphendula ubuso bakhe wakhangela emdulini wakhuleka kuThixo esithi, **3** “Khumbula, Thixo, ukuthi ngihambe phambi kwakho ngokuthembeka langokuzinikela ngenhlizyo yami yonke, njalo ngenze okuhle emehlweni akho.” UHezekhiya wakhala kabuhlungu. **4** U-Isaya engakasuki egumeni elingaphakathi, kwafika ilizwi likaThixo kuye lisithi: **5** “Buyela uyetshele uHezekhiya, umkhokheli wabantu bami uthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo, unkulunkulu kayihlo uDavida. Uthi: Ngiwuzwile umkhuleko wakho njalo ngizibonile lezinyembezi zakho; ngizakusilisa. Ngosuku lwesithathu kusukela khathesi uzakhwela uye ethempelini likaThixo. **6** Ngizakwengezelela iminyaka elitshumi lanhlalu empilweni yakho. Ngizakuhlulula wena kanye ledolobho leli ezandleni zenkosi yase-Asiriya. Ngizavikela idolobho leli ngizenzela mina njalo ngisenzela inceku yami uDavida.”” **7** U-Isaya wathi: “Lungisani isigaqa semikhiwa.” Bakwenza lokho

basebethoba ngaso ithumba, wasesila. **8** UHezekhiya wayebuze u-Isaya wathi, “Kuyini okuzakuba yisibonakaliso sokuthi uThixo uzangisilisa kanye lokuthi ngizakhwela ngiye phezulu ethempelini leNkosi ngosuku lwesithathu kusukela khathesi na?” **9** U-Isaya waphendula wathi, “Nansi isibonakaliso sikaThixo kuwe, esokuthi uThixo uzakwenza akuthembisayo. Kambe isithunzi sizakuya phambili amanyathelo alitshumi kumbe sizabayela emuva amanyathelo alitshumi na?” **10** “UHezekhiya wathi kulula ukuba isithunzi siye phambili amanyathelo alitshumi, kodwa kasiyi emuva amanyathelo alitshumi.” **11** Ngakho umphrofethi u-Isaya wacela kuThixo, uThixo wenza ukuthi isithunzi sibuyele emuva okwezinyathelo ezilitshumi esasehle ngawo ezikhwelelweni zika-Ahazi. **12** Ngalesosikhathi uMerodakhi-Bhaladani indodana kaBhaladani inkosi yaseBhabhiloni wabhalela uHezekhiya izincwadi wamthumela lesipho ngoba wayezwile ngokugula kukaHezekhiya. **13** UHezekhiya wazamukela izithunyuwa wazitshenga konke okwakusendlini yakhe yokugcinela impahla, isiliva, igolide, iziyoliso kanye lamafutha acengekileyo, izikhali zakhe lakho konke okwakukhona enothweni yakhe. Akulalutho esigodlweni sakhe loba embusweni wakhe wonke uHezekhiya angazitshengisanga lona. **14** Ngakho u-Isaya umphrofethi waya kuHezekhiya inkosi wambuza wathi, “Atheni amadoda lawana njalo avela ngaphi?” UHezekhiya waphendula wathi: “Avela elizweni elikhatshana. Avela eBhabhiloni.” **15** Umphrofethi wabuza wathi: “Aboneni esigodlweni sakho?” UHezekhiya wathi, “Abone konke okusesigodlweni sami. Akulalutho phakathi kwempahla zami eziligugu engingawatshengisanga khona.” **16** Ngakho u-Isaya wasesithi kuHezekhiya, “Zwana ilizwi likaThixo lithi: **17** Isikhathi sizafika sibili lapho konke okusesigodlweni sakho lakho konke oyihlo abakugcinayo kusiyafika lolosuku, kuzathwalelwa eBhabhiloni. Akuyikusala lutho, kutsho uThixo. **18** Njalo abanye besizukulwane sakho, abenama legazi lakho, abazazalwa nguwe, bazathathwa bayekuba ngabathenwa esigodlweni senkosi yaseBhabhiloni.” **19** UHezekhiya waphendula wathi: “Ilizwi likaThixo olikhulumileyo lilungile.” Ngoba wayenakana esithi: “Kambe kakuyikuba lokuthula lokuvikeleka ekuphileni kwami na?” **20** Ezinye izehlakalo zombuso kaHezekhiya, konke ukuphumelela kwakhe lokwakha kwakhe ichibi kanye lomgelo owaletsa amanzi phakathi komuzi, akulotshwanga yini egwalweni lwembali yamakhozi akofuda na? **21** UHezekhiya waya ekuphumuleni kubokhokho bakhe. Indodana yakhe uManase yathatha ubukhosi.

21 UManase wayeleminyaka elitshumi lambili eqalisa ukubusa njalo wabusa okweminyaka engamatshumi amahlanu lemihlanu eJerusalem. Ibizu likanina lalinguHefizibha. **2** Wenza ububi emehlweni kaThixo, elandela imikhuba eyenyanyekayo yezizwe uThixo ayezizotshile phambi kuka-Israelayi. **3** Wavuselela izindawo zokukhonzela ezazidilizwe nguyise uHezekhiya, wakha lama-alithare kaBhali wenza lensika ka-Ashera, njengalokhu okwakwenziwe ngu-Ahahi inkosi yako-Israelayi. Wakhothamela zonke izinkanyezi zezulu wazikhonza. **4** Wakha ama-alithare ethempelini likaThixo, lona uThixo ayethe, “EJerusalem ngizabeka khona iBizo lami.” **5** Kuwo womabili amagama ethempeli likaThixo, wakhela izinkanyezi zezulu ama-alithare. **6** Wenza umhlathshelo ngendodana yakhe emlilweni, wavumisa, wenza imilingo, wasebaza lezanuse labemimoya. Wenza okubi kakhulu emehlweni kaThixo, wamthukuthelisa.

7 Wathatha insika ebaziweyo ka-Ashera ayeyenzile wayifaka ethempelini, lona lelo kanye uThixo ayethe kuDavida lakuSolomoni indodana yakhe, “Kulelithempeli lakulo umuzi waseJerusalema, engiwukhethileyo kuzozonke izizwana zak-Israelayeli, ngizabeka iBizo lami kuze kube nininini. 8 Angiyikuphinda ngenze inyawo zabako-Israelayeli zizule elizweni engalinika okhokho babo, nxa bezananzelela balandele yonke imilayo engabanika yona bagcine wonke uMthetho abawunikwa nguMosi inceku yami.” 9 Kodwa abantu abalalelanga. UManase wabalalelekisa, ngakho bona kakhulu ukwedlula izizwe uThixo ayezishabalalise phambi kokuba u-Israelayeli angene. 10 UThixo wakhuluma ngezinceku zakhe abaphrofethi wathi: 11 “UManase inkosi yakoJuda wenzile wonke amanyala la. Wenzile izono lezi ezenyanyekayo. Usenze ububi obukhulu obedlula obama-Amori ayekhona ngaphambi kwakhe, njalo usekhokhelele uJuda esonweni ngezithombe zakhe, 12 ngakho-ke nanku okutshiwo nguThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israelayeli ukuthi, Ngizakwehlisela phezu kweJerusalema loJuda incithakalo ezakwenza indlebe zakhe wonke oyizwayo zinkenteze. 13 Ngizakwelula phezu kweJerusalema intambo eyasetshenziswa ekulahleni iSamarिया, lentambo eyasetshenziswa ekulahleni indlu ka-Ahahi. Ngizakwesula iJerusalema njengomuntu owesula umganu, awesule awumbokothe. 14 Ngizalahla insalela yabantu bami, ngibanikele ezitheni zabo. Bazathunjwa babe yimpango yezitha zabo zonke, 15 ngoba benzile okubi phambi kwami, bangithukuthelisa, kusukela ekuphumeni kwabokhokho babo eGibhithe kuze kube lamuhla.” 16 Futhi uManase wachitha igazi elinengi kakhulu elingelacala waze waligcwalisa iJerusalema kusukela ekuqaleni kwalo kuze kube sekucineni, ngaphandle kwesono ayebangele uJuda ukuba asenze, ngakho benza isono emehlweni kaThixo. 17 Ezinye izehlakalo ngokubusa kukaManase, lakho konke akwenzayo, kanye lesono asenzayo, akulotshwanga yini egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi akoJuda na? 18 UManase waya ekuphumuleni kubokhokho bakhe, wangcwatshelwa esivandeni sesigodlo sakhe, isivande sika-Uza. U-Amoni indodana yakhe wathatha ubukhosi. 19 U-Amoni waba yinkosi eleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lambili, njalo wabusa eJerusalema okweminyaka emibili. Ibizo likanina lalinguMeshulemethi indodakazi kaHaruzi; owayevela eJothibha. 20 Wenza okubi emehlweni kaThixo, njengalokhu okwakwenziwe nguyise uManase. 21 Walandela konke okwakwenziwe nguyise, wakhonza izithombe ezazikhonzwa nguyise, njalo wazikhothamela. 22 Wamdela uThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho bakhe, njalo kazange ahambe ngendlela kaThixo. 23 Izikhulu zika-Amoni zamelana laye zabumba icebo zambulala esigodlweni sakhe. 24 Abantu bakulelolizwe basebebulala ababecebe ukubulala inkosi u-Amoni, basebebeka indodana yakhe uJosiya waba yinkosi, esikhundleni sakhe. 25 Ezinye izehlakalo ngokubusa kuka-Amoni, lakho konke akwenzayo, akulotshwanga yini egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi akoJuda na? 26 Wangcwatshwa ethuneni lakhe, esivandeni sika-Uza. UJosiya indodana yakhe wathatha ubukhosi.

22 UJosiya waba yinkosi eleminyaka eyisificaminwembili eqalisa ukubusa njalo wabusa eJerusalema okweminyaka engamatshumi amathathu lolodwa. Ibizo likanina lalingujedida indodakazi ka-Adaya; wayevela eBhozikhathi. 2 Wenza okulungileyo emehlweni kaThixo njalo wahamba

eziindleleni zonke zikayise uDavida, engaphambukeli eceleni kwesokudla loba esenxele. 3 Ngomnyaka wethumi lasificaminwembili wokubusa kwakhe, uJosiya inkosi wathumela unobhala wakhe, uShafani indodana ka-Azaliya, indodana kaMeshulam, ethempelini likaThixo. Wathi, 4 “Hamba uye kuHilikhiya umphristi omkhulu uyekuthi kalungise imali elethwe ethempelini likaThixo, ekade iqoqwa ebantwini ngabalindi beminyango. 5 Abayigcinise amadoda akhethelwe ukukhangela ukuqhubeka komsebenzi ethempelini. Babe yibo abazahlola basebenza ukulungisa kutsha ithempeli likaThixo, 6 ababazi, abakhi, lababazi bamatshe. Babe yibo njalo abazathenga amapulanka lamatshe abaziweyo okulungisa kutsha ithempeli. 7 Kodwa akudingeki ukuthi babike ngokusetshenziswa kwemali abayigcinisiweyo, ngoba basebenza ngokwethembeka.” 8 UHilikhiya umphristi omkhulu wathi kuShafani unobhala, “Sengithole uGwalo lwemiThetho ethempelini likaThixo.” Walunika uShafani walufunda. 9 Ngakho uShafani waya enkosini, wayibikela wathi, “Izikhulu zakho sezibhadele imali ebisethempelini likaThixo njalo seziyigcinise izisebenzi kanye labakhangelale ethempelini.” 10 UShafani unobhala wasebikela inkosi esithi, “UHilikhiya umphristi usenginike ugwalo.” Ngakho uShafani waselubala phambi kwenkosi. 11 Inkosi ithe isizwile amazwi eNcwadi yoMthetho, yadabula izembatho zayo. 12 Yapha leziziqondiso kuHilikhiya umphristi, lo-Ahikhami indodana kaShafani, lo-Akhibhori indodana kaMikhaya loShafani unobhala kanye lo-Asaya inceku yenkosi, yathi: 13 “Hambani kuThixo liyengibuzela mina labantu kanye loJuda wonke ngalokhu okulotshwe kulugwalo osolutholakele. Likhulu ulaka lukaThixo oluvuthayo kithi ngoba okhokho bethu kabawalalelanga amazwi alolugwalo: abakulandela konke okulotshiweyo kulo mayelana lathi.” 14 UHilikhiya umphristi, lo-Ahikhami, lo-Akhibhori, loShafani lo-Asaya bayakhuluma lomphrofethikazi uHulida umkaShalumi indodana kaThikhiva, indodana kaHarihasi, umgcinu wezigqoko. UHulida wayehlala eJerusalema Esigabeni Sesibili. 15 Yena wathi kubo: “Nanku okulotshiwo nguThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israelayeli ukuthi, tshelani indoda elithume kimi ukuthi, 16 ‘Nanku okulotshiwo nguThixo: Ngizakwehlisela incithakalo kulindawo lasebantwini bayo ngakho konke okulotshwe egwalweni olubalwa yinkosi yakoJuda. 17 Ngoba bangihlamukele, batshisela abanye onkulunkulu impepha, njalo bangithukuthelile ngazozonke izithombe abazenze ngezandla zabo, ulaka lwami luzavutha kule indawo lungacitshwa muntu.’ 18 Tshelani inkosi yakoJuda yona elithume ukuzabusa kuThixo, lithi, ‘Nanku okulotshiwo nguThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israelayeli, mayelana lamazwi eliwazwileyo: 19 Ngenxa yokuthi inhliziyi yakho ivumile njalo uzithobile phambi kukaThixo lapho usizwa engikukhulume ngendawo le labantu bayo, ukuthi bazakuba ngabaqalekisiweyo bachithwe, njalo ngenxa yokuthi udabule izigqoko zakho wakhala phambi kwami, ngikuzwile, kutsho uThixo. 20 Ngakho ngizakusa kubokhokho bakho, njalo uzangcwatshwa ngokuthula. Amehlo akho awayikuyibona incithakalo engizayehlisela kule indawo.’” Ngakho izithunywa zayithatha leyompendulo zayisa enkosini.

23 Inkosi yasibiza bonke abadala bakoJuda labeJerusalema. 2 Yasuka yaya ethempelini likaThixo lamadoda akoJuda, abantu baseJerusalema, abaphristi labaphrofethi, abantu bonke kusukela kubantukazana kusiya kuzo kanye izikhulu. Yabafundela bonke besizwa wonke amazwi oGwalo

lweSivumelwano, olwatholakala ethempelini likaThixo. **3** Inkosi yema ngasensikeni, yavuselela isivumelwano phambi kukaThixo sokumlandela lokugcina imilayo yakhe lemithetho yakhe lezimiso zakhe ngenhliziyo yayo yonke langomoya wayo wonke, ngalokho iqinisa amazwi esivumelwano ayebhaliwe kulugulwalo. Ngakho bonke abantu bazinikela kuse isivumelwano. **4** Inkosi yalaya uHilikhiya umpfisti omkhulu labaphristi abalandelayo labalindi beminyango ukuba bakhuphe ethempelini likaThixo zonke izitsha ezazenzelwe uBhali lo-Ashera, lazozonke izinkanyezi zaphezulu, wazitshisela ngaphandle kweJerusalem eziqintini zeSigodi saseKhidironi, umlotha wazo wawuthwalela eBethethi. **5** Wakhupha abaphristi bezithombe ababekhethe yinkosi yakoJuda ukuba batshise impepha emizini yakoJuda lakuleyo ephansi kweJerusalem, labo ababetshisa impepha kuBhali lelanga lenyanga lezinkanyezi zonke zaphezulu. **6** Wakhupha ethempelini likaThixo insika ka-Ashera, wayisa esigodini seKhidironi ngaphandle kweJerusalem, wayitshisela khona, wayichola yaba luthuli wasechithachithela umlotha wayo phezu kwamangcwaba abantukazana. **7** Wadiliza izindlu zabelisela ababefeba ethempelini likaThixo lapho abesifazane ababethungela khona u-Ashera amaveli. **8** UJosiya waletha bonke abaphristi besuka emizini yakoJuda, wangcolisa izindawo zokukhonzela, kusukela eGebha kusiya lapho abaphristi ababetshisela khona impepha eBherisheba. Wabhidliza izindawo zokukhonzela emasangweni ekungeni kwesango likajoshuwa umphathi womuzi, ngakwesokhohlo kwesango lomuzi. **9** Loba abaphristi bezindawo zokukhonzela bengaphathisanga e-alithareni likaThixo eJerusalem, kodwa badla isinkwa esingelamvubelo kanye labanye abaphristi ababedlelana labo. **10** Wangcolisa iThofethi elisesihotsheni saseBheni-Hinomu ukuze kungabikhona otshisa indodana yakhe kumbe indodakazi emliweni kaMoleki. **11** Entubeni yethempeli likaThixo wasusa amabhiza amakhosi abakoJuda ayewahlukanisele ilanga, wona ayeseduze lendlu yesikhulu esasithiwa nguNathani-Meleki. UJosiya wasetshisa izinqola zempi ezazehlukaniselwe ilanga. **12** Wadilizela phansi ama-alithare ayakhiwe ngamakhosi akoJuda ephaheni eduze lendlu epehuzi ka-Ahazi lama-alithare uManase ayewakhile emagumeni womabili ethempeli likaThixo. Wawasusa lapho, wawachoboza, aba yizicucu waziphosela eSigodini seKhidironi. **13** Inkosi yangcolisa izindawo zokukhonzela ezazingempumalanga kweJerusalem, ngaseningizimu kwentaba yokuXhwala, uSolomoni inkosi yako-Israyeli eyayizakhele u-Ashithorethi unkulunkulukazi oyisinengiso wamaSidoni, loKhemoshi uNkulunkulu oyisinengiso wamaMowabi, kanye loMoleki oyisinengiso wama-Amoni. **14** UJosiya wabhidliza amatshe okukhonza, waquma izinsika zika-Ashera, wafaka amathambo abantu abanengi endaweni yazo. **15** Le-alithari elaliseBethethi indawo yokukhonzela eyayenziwe nguJerobowamu indodana kaNebhathi owenza ukuba u-Israyeli one, lalelo-alithare lendawo yokukhonzela, wakubhidliza. Watshisa indawo yokukhonzela wayichola yaba yimpuphu njalo watshisa insika ka-Ashera. **16** UJosiya wathalaza ngapha langapha, kwathi ebona amangcwaba amanengi ayelapho ewatheni loqaqa wathi kawasuswe, atshiswe e-alithareni ukulingcolisa mayelana lelizwi likaThixo elamenyezela ngumuntu kaThixo owaziphrofethayo lezizinto. **17** Inkosi yabuza yathi, “Ilitshe lesikhumbuzo sengcwaba leliyana engilibonayo

ngelani?” Abantu bomuzi bathi, “Liphawule ingcwaba lenceku kaNkulunkulu eyavela koJuda, yaqalekisa i-alithari laseBethethi ngalezizinto ozenze kulo.” **18** Yena wasesithi, “Liyekeleni lingavumeli muntu awathinte amathambo akhe.” Ngakho bawayekela amathambo akhe kanye lalawo awomphrofethi owavela eSamariya. **19** UJosiya wasusa amathempeli ezindawo zokukhonzela ezisemizini yaseSamariya ayekade akhiwe ngamakhosi ako-Israyeli, ethukuthelisa uThixo, wenza kiwo lokho ayekwenze eBethethi. **20** UJosiya wabulalela abaphristi bezindawo zokukhonzela phezu kwama-alithare, watshisela amathambo abantu phezu kwawo. Wasebuyela eJerusalem. **21** Inkosi uJosiya yalaya bonke abantu yathi, “Ligcine iPhasika likaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, njengoba kulotshiwe eGwalweni LweSivumelwano.” **22** Lalingagcinwa iPhasika elinjalo kusukela ensukwini zabeluleli abaphatha u-Israyeli, lakuzo zonke insuku zamakhosi ako-Israyeli lezamazhosi akoJuda. **23** Kodwa ngomnyaka wetsumi lasificamwombili wenkosi uJosiya, lagcinwa iPhasika likaThixo eJerusalem. **24** Wakwenza njalo uJosiya ukususa izangoma, labahlahluli, labonkulunkulu basezindlini, lezithombe kanye lazozonke izinto zamanyala ezazikhona koJuda laseJerusalem. Lokhu kwakuyikugcwalisa izimiso zomlayo owawulotshwe encwadini umpfisti uHilikhiya ayithola ethempelini likaThixo. **25** Ngaphambi kwakhe noma ngemva kwakhe uJosiya kakubanga khona inkosi eyafanana laye eyaphendukela kuThixo njengalokhu akwenzayo ngenhliziyo yakhe langomphfumulo wakhe wonke njalo langamandla akhe wonke mayelana lawo wonke uMthetho kaMosi. **26** Kanti uThixo kadadanga ekuvutheni lokala lwakhe olwawutha kakhulu koJuda ngenxa yazo zonke izinto uManase amthukuthelisa ngazo. **27** Ngakho uThixo wathi, “Ngizamsusa phambi kwami uJuda njengoba ngasusa u-Israyeli, ngiwulahlle lumuzi waseJerusalem engawukhethayo, lethempele leli engathi ngalo, ‘Ibizo lami lizakuba kulo.’” **28** Ezinye izehlakalo ngombuso kaJosiya, lakho konke akwenzayo, akulotshwanga yini egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi akoJuda na? **29** Ngesikhathi sokubusa kukaJosiya, uFaro Nekho inkosi yaseGibhithe waya eMfuleni uYufathe ukuyancedisa inkosi yase-Asiriya. Inkosi uJosiya wamhlangabeza empini kodwa uNekho waqondana laye wambulala eMegido. **30** Izisebenzi zikaJosiya zaletsa isidumbu sakhe ngenqola yokulwa zisuka eMegido zisiya eJerusalem njalo zamngcwabela ethuneni lakhe. Ngakho abantu elizweni bathatha uJehowahazi indodana kaJosiya bamgcoba ubukhosi bukayise. **31** UJehowahazi wayeleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lantathu ubudala bakhe esiba yinkosi, njalo wabusa eJerusalem inyanga ezintathu. Ibizo likanina kwakunguHamuthali indodakazi kaJeremiya njalo wayevela eLibhina. **32** Wenza ububi emehlweni kaThixo njengabokhokho bakhe. **33** Inkosi uFaro Nekho wambopha ngamaketani eRibhila elizweni lamaHamathi ukuze angabusi eJerusalem, wamthelisa kakhulu uJuda amathalenta alikhulu esiliva, lethalenta legolide. **34** UFaro Nekho wabeka u-Eliyakhimu indodana kaJosiya esihlalweni sobukhosi esikhundleni sikayise uJosiya waseguqula ibizo lakhe wathi nguJehoyakhimi. Kodwa wathatha uJehowahazi waya laye eGibhithe, wafela khonale. **35** UJehoyakhimi wathela ngenani lesiliva legolide elalifunwa nguFaro Nekho. Ukuze akwenelise lokho wayethelisa abantu elizweni ngesiliva legolide ngesilinganiso ayebona sibalingene. **36** UJehoyakhimi wayeleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lanhlano ubudala

bakhe ethatha ubukhosi, yena wabusa eJerusalem iminyaka elitshumi lanye. Ibizo likanina lalinguZebhuda indodakazi kaPhedaya owayevela eRuma. **37** Wenza ububi phambi kukaThixo, njengabokhokho bakhe.

24 Ngezinsuku zokubusa kukaJehoyakhimi uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yahlasela ilizwe, uJehoyakhimi wathela kuye okweminyaka emithathu. Kodwa waphinda waguquka wamvukela uNebhukhadineza. **2** UThixo wathuma abahlaseli bamaKhaladiya lama-Asiriya lamaBhabhiloni lama-Aramu lamaMowabi, lama-Amoni, amhlasele. Wabathuma ukuchitha uJuda njengelizwi likaThixo alikhuluma ngezinceku zakhe abaphrofethi. **3** Ngempela konke lokho kwenzeka koJuda mayelana lomlayo kaThixo ukuze basuswe phambi kwakhe ngenxa yazo zonke izono zikaManase azenzayo, **4** langenxa yegazi elachithekayo lingelacala. Ngoba wayegcwalise iJerusalem ngegazi elingelacala njalo uThixo wayengazimisela ukuthethelela. **5** Ezinye izehlakalo zembali kaJehoyakhimi azilotschwanga yini egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi akoJuda na? **6** Wafa uJehoyakhimi waya ekuphumleni kubokhokho bakhe. UJehoyakhini indodana yakhe yathatha ubukhosi. **7** Inkosi yaseGibhithe ayizange ihlasele futhi iphuma elizweni layo, ngenxa yokuthi inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yayisithethe ingxenye yelizwe layo enkulu kakhulu, kusukela eSihotsheni seGibhithe kuze kuyefika eMfuleni uYufurathe. **8** UJehoyakhini wayeminyaka elitshumi lasificaminwembali esiba yinkosi, njalo wabusa eJerusalem okwezinyanga ezintathu. Ibizo likanina lalinguNehushita indodakazi ka-Elinathani; evela eJerusalem. **9** Wenza ububi phambi kukaThixo, njengalokho okwakwenziwe nguyise. **10** Ngalesosikhathi amabutho kaNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni afika eJerusalem, awuvimbezela umuzi, **11** uNebhukhadineza yena ngokwakhe wazafika amabutho akhe esewuvimbezele umuzi. **12** UJehoyakhini inkosi yakoJuda wazinikela enkosini yaseBhabhiloni, yena lonina lezincedu zakhe kanye labathenwa bakhe. Ngomnyaka wesificaminwembali wokubusa kwenkosi yaseBhabhiloni uNebhukhadineza wathumba uJehoyakhini. **13** Njengelizwi likaThixo, uNebhukhadineza wabutha yonke inotho yasethempelini likaThixo lenotho yesigodlo senkosi, wabutha zonke izitsha zegolide ezazisethempelini likaThixo, ezazenziwe nguSolomoni inkosi yako-Israyeli, njengokutsho kukaThixo. **14** Wathumba abaseJerusalem bonke: izikhulu zonke, lawo wonke amadoda empi lazozonke izingcitshi ezileminwe, abantu abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi. Kwasala abantukazana kuphela elizweni. **15** UNebhukhadineza wamthatha uJehoyakhini wayamgqilaza eBhabhiloni. Wathumba njalo eJerusalem unina wenkosi labafazi bayo lezikhulu zayo lamadoda aziwayo elizweni. **16** Inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yathumbela eBhabhiloni wonke amadoda angamaqhawe, azinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa, aqinileyo ayengaphuma impi, kanye lezingcitshi ezileminwe eziyinkulungwane. **17** Inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yabeka uMathaniya isinini sikaJehoyakhini waba yinkosi esikhundleni sikaJehoyakhini, yasimupha ibizo elitsha lokuthi nguZedekhiya. **18** UZedekhiya waba yinkosi eleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lanye, njalo wabusa eJerusalem okweminyaka elitshumi lanye. Ibizo likanina lalinguHamuthali indodakazi kaJeremiya, waseLibhina. **19** Wenza okubi emehlweni kaThixo, njengalokho okwakwenziwe nguJehoyakhimi. **20**

Kwakungenxa yokuthukuthela kukaThixo ukuze kwenzakale konke lokhu eJerusalem lajoJuda, njalo ekucineni kwabangela ukuthi uThixo abachithe. Ngalokho uZedekhiya wayihlamukela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni.

25 Ngomnyaka wesificaminwemunya wokubusa kukaZedekhiya, ngosuku lwetshumi lwenyanga yetshumi, uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni waya eJerusalem lebutu lakhe lonke, wayivimbezela; wayakhela imiduli yokuvimbezela inxa zonke. **2** Idolobho lavinjezelwa kwaze kwaba ngumnyaka wetshumi lanye kaZedekhiya inkosi. **3** Ngosuku lwesificaminwemunya lwenyanga yesine indlala yayisinzima edolobheni, abantu bengaselakudla. **4** Umdluli wedolobho wafohlwa, ibutho lonke labaleka. Basuka edolobheni bephuma ngesango eliphakathi kwemiduli emibili, phansi kwesivande senkosi, lanxa nje amaBhabhiloni ayeligombolozele idolobho. Babaleka beqonde e-Arabha. **5** Kodwa ibutho lamaKhaladiya laxotshana lenkosi layamfika emagcekeni aseJeriko. Wonke amabutho akhe ehlokana laye njalo ahlakazeka, **6** yena wathunjwa. Wasiwa enkosini yaseBhabhiloni eRibhila, lapho afika wagwetshelwa khona. **7** Babulala amadodana kaZedekhiya ekhangele. Basebembkhupha amehlo, bambopha ngamaketane ethusi bamusa eBhabhiloni. **8** Ngosuku lwesikhombisa ngenyanga yesihlanu, ngomnyaka wetshumi lasificaminwemunya kaNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, uNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi besikhosini, owayesebenzela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, wafika eJerusalem. **9** Wathungela ithempeli likaThixo ngomlilo, lesigodlo senkosi lezindlu zonke zaseJerusalem. Zonke izindlu eziqakathekileyo wazitshisa. **10** Wonke amabutho aseBhabhiloni, ekhokhelwa ngumlawuli wamabutho okulinda umndlungulu, adiliza imiduli ehonqolozele iJerusalem. **11** UNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi wathatha bonke abantu ababesele edolobheni wabasa ekuthunjweni, ndawonye labo bonke abantu lalabo abasebeye enkosini yaseBhabhiloni. **12** Kodwa umlawuli wamabutho watshiya inengi labantu ababengabayanga bokucina elizweni ukuba basebenze ezivini lasemasimini. **13** AbeBhabhiloni baphahlaza izinsika zethusi lezinti zezibane loLwandle lwethusi, okwakusethempelini likaThixo. Bathwalela ithusi lelo eBhabhiloni. **14** Bathatha njalo imbiza, lamafotsholo, lezindlawu, lezinditshi lazozonke izitsha zethusi ezazisetsheziwe enkonweni yasethempelini. **15** Umlawuli wabalindi besigodlo wathatha indengezi lemiganu yokuchela, konke okwakwenziwe ngegolide elicengekileyo loba isiliva. **16** Ithusi elalivela ensikeni ezimbili, loLwandle kanye lelezidindi ezisusekayo, konke okwakwenzelwe ithempeli likaThixo nguSolomoni, kwakulesingalo esasengelinganiswe. **17** Ubude bensika ngayinye babuzingando ezilitshumi lasificaminwembali. Isiduku sethushi phezu kwenye insika sasizingalo ezintathu ubude baso njalo siceciswe ngomeluko lamaphomegranathi ethusi nxazonke. Eyinye insika kanye lomeluko wayo layo yayinjalo. **18** Umlawuli wabalindi wathumba uSeraya induna yabaphristi, loZefaniya umsekelo wakhe kanye labalindi bomnyango abathathu. **19** Kulabo ababelokhu besedolobheni, wathatha isikhulu esasiphethe amadoda okulwa labacebisi besikhosini abahlanu. Wathatha lonobhala owayeyinduna eyayiphethe ukubuthwa kwabantu bengenisa emabuthweni kanye lamadoda angamatshumi ayisithupha ayelawo atholakala phakathi komuzi. **20** UNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabathatha bonke wabasa enkosini yaseBhabhiloni eRibhila.

21 Khonale eRibhila, elizweni laseHamathi, inkosi yathi kabaqunywe. Ngakho abakoJuda baya ekuthunjweni kude lelizwe labo. **22** UNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni wakhetha uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami, oyindodana kaShafani, ukuba aphanthe abantu ababesele koJuda. **23** Kwathi zonke izikhulu zabalawuli bamabutho lamabutho sebezwile ukuthi inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yayisibeke uGedaliya ukuba nguSibalukhulu, beza kuGedaliya eMizipha izikhulu kungu-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya, uJohanani indodana kaKhareya, uSeraya indodana kaThanihumethi umNethofa, uJazaniya indodana kaMahakhathi, labantu babo. **24** UGedaliya wafunga isifungo ebathembisa labantu babo wathi: “Lingesabi izikhulu zaseBhabhiloni. Hlalani elizweni lisebenzele inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, konke kuzalilungela.” **25** Kodwa ngenyanga yesikhombisa u-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya, indodana ka-Elishama, owayezalwa esikhosini, weza lamadoda alitshumi bafika babulala uGedaliya lamadoda akoJuda kanye laweBhabhiloni ayekade elaye eMizipha. **26** Ngenxa yalokhu, abantu bonke kusukela kubantukazana kusiya kwabaphakemeyo, kanye lezikhulu zamabutho, babalekela eGibhithe ngokwesaba abeBhabhiloni. **27** Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amathathu lesikhombisa wokuthunjwa kukaJehoyakhini inkosi yakoJuda, ngomnyaka u-Evili-Merodakhi aba yinkosi eBhabhiloni, wakhulula uJehoyakhini entolongweni ngosuku lwamatshumi amabili lesikhombisa lwenyanga yetshumi lambili. **28** Wakhuluma laye ngomusa, wamnika isihlalo esihloniphekayo esasingaphezu kwezamanye amakhosi ayelaye eBhabhiloni. **29** Ngakho uJehoyakhini wakhupha izigqoko zakhe zasentolongweni, wadla lenkosi izikhathi zonke okwempilo yakhe yonke. **30** Nsuku zonke inkosi yayinika uJehoyakhini isabelo esimisiweyo malanga wonke, empilweni yakhe yonke.

1 Imilando

1 U-Adamu, uSethi, u-Enoshi, **2** uKhenani, uMahalaleli, uJaredi, **3** u-Enoki, uMethuzela, uLameki, uNowa. **4** Amadodana kaNowa ayeyila: uShemu, uHamu loJafethi. **5** Amadodana kaJafethi ayeyila: uGomeri, uMagogi, uMadayi, uJavani, uThubhali, uMesheki loThirasi. **6** Amadodana kaGomeri ayeyila: u-Ashikhenazi, uRifathi kanye loThogarima. **7** Amadodana kaJavani ayeyila: u-Elisha, uThashishi, uKhithimi loRodanimu. **8** Amadodana kaHamu ayeyila: uKhushi, uMizirayimi, uPhuthi loKhenani. **9** Amadodana kaKhushi ayeyila: uSebha, uHavila, uSabhitha, uRahama loSabhitheka. Amadodana kaRahama ayeyila: uShebha loDedani. **10** UKhushi wayenguyise kaNimrodi, owakhula waba liqhawe elilamandla emhlabeni. **11** UMizirayimi wayenguyise wamaLudi, ama-Anami, amaLehabhi, amaNafithuhi, **12** amaPhathrosi, lamaKhasiluhi (okwadabuka khona amaFilistiya) lamaKhafithori. **13** UKhenani wayenguyise kaSidoni izibulo lakhe, amaHithi, **14** amaJebusi, ama-Amori, amaGigashi, **15** amaHivi, ama-Arikhi, amaSini, **16** ama-Avadi, amaZemari kanye lamaHamathi. **17** Amadodana kaShemu ayeyila: u-Elamu, u-Ashuri, u-Afazadi, uLudi lo-Aramu. Amadodana ka-Aramu ayeyila: u-Uzi, uHuli, uGetha loMesheki. **18** U-Afazadi wayenguyise kaShela, uShela wazala u-Ebha. **19** Amadodana amabili ayezalwa ngu-Ebha ayeyila: Omunye wayenguPhelegi, ngoba ngezinsuku zakhe emhlaba wawudabuke phakathi; umfowabo kwakuthiwa nguJokithani. **20** UJokithani wayenguyise ka-Alimodadi, uShelefi, uHazarimavethi, uJera, **21** uHadoramu, u-Uzali, uDikila, **22** u-Obhali, u-Abhimayeli, uShebha, **23** u-Ofiri, uHavila kanye loJobhabhi. Bonke laba babengamadodana kaJokithani. **24** UShemu, u-Afazadi uShela, **25** u-Ebha, uPhelegi, uRewu **26** uSerugi, uNahori, uThera **27** lo-Abhrama (u-Abhrahama). **28** Amadodana ka-Abhrahama ayeyila: u-Isaka lo-Ishumayeli. **29** Laba babeyinzalo yabo: uNebhayothi izibulo lika-Ishumayeli, uKhedari, u-Adibheli, uMibhisamu, **30** uMishima, uDuma, uMasa, uHadadi, uThema, **31** uJethuri, uNafishi kanye loKhedema. La yiwo ayengamadodana ka-Ishumayeli. **32** Amadodana azalwa nguKhethura, umfazi ka-Abhrahama oweceleni, ayeyila: uZimirani, uJokishani, uMedani, uMidiyani, u-Ishibhaki loShuwa. Amadodana kaJokishani ayeyila: uShebha loDedani. **33** Amadodana kaMidiyani ayeyila: u-Efa, u-Eferi, uHanokhi, u-Abhida lo-Elida. Bonke laba babeyizukulwane zikaKhethura. **34** U-Abhrahama wayenguyise ka-Isaka. Amadodana ka-Isaka ayeyila: u-Esawu lo-Israyeli. **35** Amadodana ka-Esawu ayeyila: u-Elifazi, uRuweli, uJewushi, uJalamu loKhora. **36** Amadodana ka-Elifazi ayeyila: uThemani, u-Omari, uZefi, uGathamu loKhenazi; ekaThimina kungu-Amaleki. **37** Amadodana kaRuweli ayeyila: uNahathi, uZera, uShama loMiza. **38** Amadodana kaSeyiri ayeyila: uLothani, uShobhali, uZibhiyoni, u-Ana, uDishoni, u-Ezeri loDishani. **39** Amadodana kaLothani ayeyila: uHori loHomami. UThimina wayengudadewabo kaLothani. **40** Amadodana kaShobhali ayeyila: u-Alivani, uManahathi, u-Ebhali, uShefo lo-Onami. Amadodana kaZibhiyoni ayeyila: u-Ayiya lo-Ana. **41** Indodana ka-Ana yayingu: uDishoni. Amadodana kaDishoni ayeyila: uHemirani, u-Eshibhani, u-Ithirani loKherani. **42** Amadodana ka-Ezeri ayeyila: uBhilihani, uZavani lo-Akhani. Amadodana kaDishoni

ayeyila: u-Uzi lo-Arani. **43** La ayengamakhosi abusa e-Edomi kungakabusi inkosi yako-Israyeli: uBhela indodana kaBheyori, idolobho lakhe lalibizwa ngokuthi yiDinihabha. **44** UBhela esefile, uJobhabhi indodana kaZera waseBhozira wathatha umbuso waba yinkosi. **45** UJobhabhi esefile, uHushamu wazelizweni lamaThemani wathatha umbuso waba yinkosi. **46** UHushamu esefile, uHadadi indodana kaBhedadi owanqoba uMidiyani elizweni laseMowabi, wathatha umbuso waba yinkosi. Idolobho lakhe lalibizwa ngokuthi yi-Avithi. **47** UHadadi esefile, uSamila waseMasirekha wathatha umbuso waba yinkosi. **48** USamila esefile, uShawuli waseRehobhothi phezu komfula wathatha umbuso waba yinkosi. **49** UShawuli esefile, uBhali-Hanani indodana ka-Akhibhori wathatha umbuso waba yinkosi. **50** UBhali-Hanani esefile, uHadadi wathatha umbuso waba yinkosi. Idolobho lakhe labizwa ngokuthi yiPawu, njalo ibizo lomkakhe lalinguMehethabheli indodakazi kaMathiredi, indodakazi kaMe-Zahabhi. **51** UHadadi laye wafa. Izinduna zase-Edomi kwakuyilezi: uThimina, u-Aliva, uJethethi, **52** u-Oholibhama, u-Ela, uPhinoni, **53** uKhenazi, uThemani, uMibhizari, **54** uMagidiyeli lo-Iramu. Lezi kwakuzinduna ze-Edomi.

2 Amadodana ka-Israyeli ayeyila: uRubheni, uSimiyoni, uLevi, uJuda, u-Isakhari, uZebhulun, **2** uDani, uJosefa, uBhenjamini, uNafithali, uGadi lo-Asheri. **3** Amadodana kaJuda yila: ngu-Eri, lo-Onani kanye loShela. Laba bobathathu wabazala lowesifazane ongumKhenani, indodakazi kaShuwa. U-Eri, izibulo likajuda, wayeyisigangi phambi kukaThixo, ngalokho uThixo wambulala. **4** UThamari, umalukazana kaJuda wamzalela uPHEREZI loZera. UJuda wayelamadodana amahlanu. **5** Amadodana kaPHEREZI yila: nguHezironi loHamuli. **6** Amadodana kaZera yila: nguZimri, lo-Ethani, loHemani, loKhalikholi kanye loDarida. Bonke babebahlanu. **7** Indodana kaKhami yile: ngu-Akhari, owaletsa inhlupheko ko-Israyeli ngesiphambeko asenza ngalokho okungcwelisiweyo. **8** Indodana ka-Ethani yile: ngu-Azariya. **9** Amadodana azalwa nguHezironi yila: nguJerameli, loRamu kanye loKhalebi. **10** URamu wayenguyise ka-Aminadabi, njalo u-Aminadabi enguyise kaNahashoni, umkhokheli wabantu bakoJuda. **11** UNahashoni wayenguyise kaSalimoni, uSalimoni enguyise kaBhowazi. **12** UBhowazi enguyise ka-Obhedi, u-Obhedi enguyise kaJese. **13** UJese wayenguyise ka-Eliyabi izibulo lakhe; indodana yesibini kungu-Abhinadabi, eyisithathu kunguShimeya, **14** eyesine kunguNethaneli, eyesihlanu kunguRadayi, **15** eyesithupha kungu-Ozemu, eyesikhombisa kunguDavida. **16** Odadewabo kwakunguZeruya lo-Abhigeli. Amadodana amathathu kaZeruya kwakungu-Abhishayi, loJowabi kanye lo-Asaheli. **17** U-Abhigeli wayengunina ka-Amasa, oloyise okwakuthiwa nguJetha um'Ishumayeli. **18** UKhalebi indodana kaHezironi wayelabantwana abazala kumkakhe u-Azubha (lakuJeriyothi). Amadodana ka-Azubha ayeyila: nguJesheri, loShobhali, kanye lo-Adoni. **19** Ekufeni kuka-Azubha, uKhalebi wathatha u-Efrathi, owamzalela uHuri. **20** UHuri wayenguyise ka-Uri, njalo u-Uri enguyise kaBhezaleli. **21** Muva, uHezironi wembatha lendodakazi kaMakhiri uyise kaGiliyadi (ayemthethe eseleminyaka engamatshumi ayisithupha ubudala bakhe), yena wamzalela uSegubi. **22** USegubi wayenguyise kaJayiri, owayephethe imizi engamatshumi amabili lantathu eGiliyadi. **23** (Kodwa uGeshuri lo-Aramu bathumba iHavothi-Jayiri, kanye leKhenathi lezindawana eziyimizana eseduzane, imizi engamatshumi

ayisithupha.) Bonke laba babeyisizukulwane sikaMakhiri uyise kaGilyadi. **24** Ngemva kokufa kukaHezironi eKhalebi-Efratha, u-Abhija umkaHezironi wamzalela u-Ashuri uyise kaThekhowa. **25** Amadodana kaJerameli izibulo likaHezironi yila: nguRamu izibulo lakhe, loBhuna, lo-Oreni, lo-Ozemu kanye lo-Ahija. **26** UJerameli wayelomunye umfazi owayethiwa ngu-Athara unina ka-Onami. **27** Amadodana kaRamu izibulo likaJerameli yila: nguMazi, loJamini kanye lo-Ekheri. **28** Amadodana ka-Onami yila: nguShamayi loJada. Amadodana kaShamayi yila: nguNadabi lo-Abhishuri. **29** Umka-Abhishuri kwakungu-Abhihayili, owamzalela u-Ahibhani loMolidi. **30** Amadodana kaNadabi yila: nguSeledi lo-Aphayimi. USeledi wafa engelabantwana. **31** Indodana ka-Aphayimi yile: ngu-Ishi, uyise kaSheshani. USheshani wayenguyise ka-Ahilayi. **32** Amadodana kaJada, umfowabo kaShamayi yila: nguJetha loJonathani. UJetha wafa engelabantwana. **33** Amadodana kaJonathani yila: nguPhelethi loZaza. Laba babeyinzalo kaJerameli. **34** USheshani wayengelowo amadodana, wayelamadodakazi wodwa. Wayelesisebenzi saseGibhithe esasithiwa nguJariha. **35** USheshani wendisela isisebenzi sakhe lesi esingujariha, indodakazi yakhe eyamzalela u-Athayi. **36** U-Athayi wayenguyise kaNathani, uNathani enguyise kaZabhadi, **37** uZabhadi enguyise ka-Efilali, u-Efilali enguyise ka-Obhedi, **38** u-Obhedi enguyise kaJehu, uJehu enguyise ka-Azariya, **39** u-Azariya enguyise kaHelezi, uHelezi enguyise ka-Eleyasa, **40** u-Eleyasa enguyise kaSisimayi, uSisimayi enguyise kaShalumi, **41** uShalumi enguyise kaJekhamiya, uJekhamiya enguyise ka-Elishama. **42** Amadodana kaKhalebi umfowabo kaJerameli yila: uMesha izibulo lakhe, onguyise kaZifi, lendodana yakhe uMaresha, uyise kaHebhroni. **43** Amadodana kaHebhroni yila: nguKhora, loThaphuwa, loRekhemu loShema. **44** UShema wayenguyise kaRahama, uRahama yena enguyise kaJokheyama. URekhemu wayenguyise kaShamayi. **45** Indodana kaShamayi kunguMawoni, uMawoni wayenguyise kaBhethi Zuri. **46** Umfazi weceleni kaKhalebi u-Efa wayengunina kaHarani, loMoza kanye loGazezi. UHarani wayenguyise kaGazezi. **47** Amadodana kaJahidayi yila: nguRegemi, loJothamu, loGeshani, loPhelethi, lo-Efa kanye loShafi. **48** UMahakha umfazi weceleni kaKhalebi wayengunina kaShebheri loThirihana. **49** Nguye njalo owazala uShafi uyise kaMadimana kanye loSheva uyise kaMakhibhena loGibhiya. Indodakazi kaKhalebi kwakungu-Akhisa. **50** Yibo laba abenzalo kaKhalebi. Amadodana kaHuri izibulo lika-Efrathi yila: nguShobhali uyise kaKhiriayathi-Jeyarimi, **51** loSalima uyise kaBhethihlehma, loHarefi uyise kaBhethi-Gaderi. **52** Inzalo kaShobhali uyise kaKhiriayathi-Jeyarimi yile: nguHaro, ingxenyane yamaManahathi, **53** labosendo lukaKhiriayathi-Jeyarimi kungama-Ithira lamaPhuthi lamaShumathi lamaMishirayi. Kulapho okwakudabuka khona amaZorathi lama-Eshithawoli. **54** Abenzalo kaSalima yilaba: nguBhethihlehma, umNethofa, u-Athirothi-Bhethi-Jowabi, ingxenyane yamaManahathi, amaZori, **55** losendo lwabalobi ababehlala eJabhezi: AmaThirathi lamaShimeya lamaSukhathi. Laba babengamaKheni beyinzalo kaHamathi ukhokho wamaRekhabi.

3 Nanka amadodana kaDavida awazala eHebhroni: izibulo lakhe lalungu-Amnoni indodana ka-Ahinowama owaseJezerili; owesibili, uDanyeli indodana ka-Abhigeli waseKhameli; **2** owesithathu, ngu-Abhisalomu indodana kaMahakha indodakazi kaThalimayi inkosi yaseGeshuri;

owesine, u-Adonija indodana kaHagithi; **3** owesihlanu, uShefathiya indodana ka-Abhithali; owesithupha, u-Ithireyamu amzuza ku-Egila, umkakhe. **4** Abayisithupha laba uDavida wabazalela eHebhroni, lapho abusa khona okweminyaka eyisikhombisa lezinyanga eziyisithupha. UDavida wabusa eJerusalem okweminyaka engamatshumi amathathu lemithathu, **5** njalo la yivo amadodana awazalela khona: uShamuwa, uShobabi, uNathani loSolomoni. Amadodana amane la wawazala loBhathisheba indodakazi ka-Amiyeli. **6** Njalo kwaba lo-Ibhari, u-Elishama, u-Elifelethi, **7** uNoga, uNefegi, uJafiya, **8** u-Elishama, u-Eliyada kanye lo-Elifelethi, beyisificamanumwemunye bonke. **9** Bonke laba babengamadodana kaDavida, ngaphandle kwamadodana akhe awazala labafazi bakhe beceleni. Udadewabo wamadodana la wayenguThamari. **10** Indodana kaSolomoni kwakunguRehobhowami, indodana yakhe kungu-Abhija, indodana yakhe kungu-Asa, indodana yakhe kunguJehoshafathi, **11** indodana yakhe kunguJehoram, indodana yakhe kungu-Ahaziya, indodana yakhe kunguJowashi, **12** indodana yakhe kungu-Amaziya, indodana yakhe kungu-Azariya, indodana yakhe kunguJothamu, **13** indodana yakhe kungu-Ahazi, indodana yakhe kunguHezekhiya, indodana yakhe kunguManase, **14** indodana yakhe kungu-Amoni, indodana yakhe kunguJosiya. **15** Amadodana kaJosiya yila: nguJohanani izibulo, uJehoyakhimi indodana yesibili, uZedekhiya eyesithathu, uShalumi eyesine. **16** Abasala behlala esikhundleni sikaJehoyakhimi yilaba: nguJekhoniya indodana yakhe loZedekhiya. **17** Abosendo lukaJekhoniya owayethunjwe yilaba: uSheyalithiyeli indodana yakhe, **18** uMalikhiramu, loPhedaya, loShenazari, loJekhamiya, loHoshama, kanye loNedabhiya. **19** Amadodana kaPhedaya yila: nguZerubhabheli loShimeyi. Amadodana kaZerubhabheli yila: nguMeshulami loHananiya. UShelomithi engudadewabo. **20** Babekhona njalo abanye abahlanu: uHashubha, u-Oheli, uBherekhiya, uHasadiya, loJushabi-Hesedi. **21** Abosendo lukaHananiya yilaba: nguPhelathiya loJeshaya, kanye lamadodana kaRefaya, ka-Anani, ka-Obhadaya kanye lokaShekhanaya. **22** Abosendo lukaShekhanaya yilaba: nguShemaya lamadodana akhe: uHathushi, lo-Igali, loBhariya, loNeyariya kanye loShafathi, beyisithupha. **23** Amadodana kaNeyariya yila: ngu-Eliyonayi, loHezekhiya, lo-Azirikhamu, bebathathu. **24** Amadodana ka-Eliyonayi yila: nguHodaviya, lo-Eliyashibi, loPhelaya, lo-Akhubi, loJohanani, loDelaya kanye lo-Anani, beyisikhombisa.

4 Abosendo lukaJuda kuyilaba: NguPherezi, loHezironi, loKhami, loHuri loShobhali. **2** UReyaya indodana kaShobhali wayenguyise kaJahathi, uJahathi onguyise ka-Ahumayi kanye loLahadi. Laba babengabosendo lwamaZorathi. **3** La ayengamadodana ka-Ethamu: uJezerili, lo-Ishima kanye lo-Idibhashi. Udadewabo kwakuthiwa nguHazeleliphoni. **4** UPhenuweli wayenguyise kaGedori, lo-Ezeri uyise kaHusha. Laba kungabosendo lukaHuri, izibulo lika-Efrathi uyise kaBhethihlehma. **5** U-Ashuri uyise kaThekhowa wayelabafazi ababili, uHela loNara. **6** UNahara wamzalela u-Ahuzami, loHeferi, loThemeni kanye loHahashithari. Laba kwakungabosendo lukaNara. **7** Amadodana kaHela yila: nguZerethi, loZohari, lo-Ethinani, **8** loKhozi owayenguyise ka-Anubi loHazobheba kanye labosendo luka-Ahareheli indodana kaHarumi. **9** UJabhezi wayelomdo kulabafowabo. Unina wayemuphe lelibizo lokuthi Jabhezi,

ngoba esithi “Ngamzala kabuhlungu.” **10** UJabhezi wakhuleka kuNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli wathi: “Sengathi ungangibusisa uqhelise ilizwe lami! Isandla sakho kasibe lami, ungivikele ebubini, ngingehlelwa yibuhlungu.” UNkulunkulu wamnika lokho ayekucela. **11** UKhelubi, umfowabo kaShuha, wayenguyise kaMehiri, owayenguyise ka-Eshithoni. **12** U-Eshithoni wayenguyise kaBhethi-Rafa, loPhaseya kanye loThehina uyise ka-Iri Nahashi. Laba babengabantu bakaRekha. **13** Amadodana kaKhenazi yila: ngu-Othiniyeli loSeraya. Amadodana ka-Othiniyeli yila: nguHathathi loMeyonothayi. **14** UMeyonathayi wayenguyise ka-Ofira. USeraya wayenguyise kaJowabi, owayengukhokho wesizwe samaGe-Harashimi. Babizwa ngalelibizo ngoba babezincitshi. **15** Amadodana kaKhalebi indodana kaJefune yila: ngu-Iru, lo-Ela kanye loNamu. Indodana ka-Ela yile: nguKhenazi. **16** Amadodana kaJehaleleli yila: nguZifi, loZifa, loThiriya kanye lo-Asareli. **17** Amadodana ka-Ezra yila: nguJetha, loMeredi, lo-Eferi kanye loJaloni. Omunye wabafazi bakaMeredi wazala uMiryemu, loShamayi kanye lo-Ishibha uyise ka-Eshithemowa. **18** Laba kwakungabantwana bakaBhithiya indodakazi kaFaro, eyayendele kuMeredi. Umkakhe ongumjudakazi wamzalela uJeredi uyise kaGedori, uHebheri uyise kaSokho, loJekuthiweli uyise kaZanowa. **19** Amadodana omkaHodiya, udadewabo kaNahama, uyise kaKheyila owaseGami, lo-Eshithemowa waseMahakhathi. **20** Amadodana kaShimoni yila: ngu-Amnoni, loRina, loBheni-Hanani kanye loThiloni. Abosendo luka-Ishi yilaba: nguZohethi loBheni-Zohethi. **21** Amadodana kaShela indodana kaJuda yila: ngu-Eri uyise kaLekha, loLada uyise kaMaresha labantwana babeluki bamalembu amahle eBhethi-Ashibheya. **22** UJokhimu, lamadoda aseKhozeba, uJowashi loSarafu, owabusa amaMowabi loJashubi Lehemu. (Lokhu kutholakala emibhalweni yasendulo). **23** Laba kwakungabumbi ababehlala eNethayimi leGedera; behlala khona besebenzela inkosi. **24** Abosendo lukaSimiyoni yilaba: nguNemuweli, loJamini, loJaribhi, loZera kanye loShawuli; **25** uShalumi wayeyindodana kaShawuli, uMibhisamu indodana yakhe loMishima indodana yakhe. **26** Abosendo lukaMishima yilaba: nguHamuweli indodana yakhe, loZakhuri indodana yakhe loShimeyi indodana yakhe. **27** UShimeyi wayelamadodana alithsumi lesithupha lamadodakazi ayisithupha, kodwa abafowabo babengelabantwana abanengi, ngakho usendo lwabo lonke aluzanga lwande njengabantu bakajuda. **28** Babehlala eBherishebha, eMolada, eHazarishuwali, **29** eBhiliha, e-Ezema, eTholadi, **30** eBhethuweli, eHoma, eZikhilagi, **31** eBhethi-Makhabhothi, eHazaru Susimi, eBhethi-Bhiri laseShaharayimu. Yiyo eyayiyimzi yabo kwaze kwabusa uDavida. **32** Imizana eyayilapho kwakuyi-Ethamu, i-Ayini, iRimoni, iThokheni le-Ashani, imizi emihlanu **33** layo yonke imizana eyayisedzane lalimizazi kuye yufika eBhalathi. Lezi yizo izindawo abahalisiswa khona. Bagcina imibhalo yosendo lwabo. **34** UMeshobabi lojamuleki, loJoshua indodana ka-Amaziya **35** loJoweli, loJehu indodana kaJoshibhiya, indodana kaSeraya, indodana ka-Asiyeli **36** kanye lo-Eliyonayi, loJakhobha, loJeshohaya, lo-Asaya, lo-Adiyeli, loJesimiyeli, loBhenaya, **37** kanye loZiza indodana kaShifi, indodana ka-Aloni, indodana kaJedaya, indodana kaShimiri, indodana kaShemaya. **38** Amadoda aqanjitweyo ngamazizo ngaphezulu ayengabakhokheli bosendo lwakwabo. Izimuli zabo zanda kakhulu, **39** zaqhela zayakwakha langaphandle kweGedori okuya ngempumalanga yesihotsha bedinga

amadlelo emihlambi yabo. **40** Bathola umhlaba ovundileyo olamadlelo amahle, obanzi ophilileyo njalo uthule. Kwakuke kwahlala amanye amaHamu khonapho. **41** Amadoda alamabizo abhaliweyo afika ngezinsuku zikaHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda. Bahlasela amaHamu emizini yawo kanye lamaMewuni ayelapho bawabhuqa du, njengoba kubonakala lalamuhla. Basebezihlalela besakha khonapho, ngoba kwakulamadlelo emihlambi yabo. **42** Abangamakhulu amahlanu alaba abakaSimiyoni, bekhokhelwa nguPhelathiya, uNeyariya loRefaya lo-Uziyeli amadodana ka-Ishi, bahlasela ilizwe lamaqaqa laseSeyiri. **43** Babulala ama-Amaleki ayephunyukile asala, njalo sebehlele kulindawo kuze kube lamuhla.

5 Amadodana kaRubheni izibulo lika-Israyeli (wayelizibulo, kodwa kwathi esengcolise umbheda kayise owomthshado, amalungelo akhe njengezibulo aphiwa amadodana kaJosefa indodana ka-Israyeli, ngakho kasalotshwanga emibhalweni yosendo njengolungelo lokuzalwa kwakhe, **2** lanxa uJuda wayelamandla amakhulu kulabo bonke abafowabo njalo enguye owazala umbusi, ilungelo lobuzibulo laya kuJosefa). **3** Amadodana kaRubheni izibulo lika-Israyeli ayeyila: nguHanokhi, loPhalu, loHezironi kanye loKhami. **4** Abenzalo kaJoweli yilaba: nguShemaya indodana yakhe, loGogi indodana yakhe, loShimeyi indodana yakhe, **5** loMikha indodana yakhe, loReyaya indodana yakhe, loBhali indodana yakhe, **6** kanye loBhera indodana yakhe, lowo uThigilathi-Philea inkosi yase-Asiriya eyamthumba yamusa ezizweni. UBhera wayengumkhokheli wabakoRubheni. **7** Izihlobo zabo ngosendo lwabo, njengokulotshwe emibhalweni yosendo yilezi: nguJeyiyeli induna, loZakhariya, kanye **8** loBhela indodana ka-Azazi, indodana kaShema, indodana kaJoweli. Bakha bahlala emangweni osuka e-Aroweri kusiya eNebho laseBhali-Meyoni. **9** Empumalanga babehezile emangweni ofika emaphethelweni enkangala etshaya khonela eMfuleni uYufathe, ngoba izifuyo zabo zasezandile eGiliyadi. **10** Ngezinsuku zokubusa kukaSawuli balwa impi lamaHagari; bawanqoba basebhlala emizaneni yawo emangweni wonke ongempumalanga yeGiliyadi. **11** AbakaGadi babelhala phansi kwabo eBhashani, kuye kuyefika eSalekha: **12** UJoweli wayeyinduna, uShafamu emlandela, besekusiza uJanayi loShafathi, ngaseBhashani. **13** Izihlobo zabo, ngokuzalana kwabo, yilezi: nguMikhayeli, loMeshulami, loShebha, loJorayi, loJakhani, loZiya kanye lo-Ebha, beyisikhombisa sebendawonye. **14** Laba babengamadodana ka-Abhihayili indodana kaHuri, indodana kaJarowa, indodana kaGiliyadi, indodana kaMikhayeli, indodana kaJeshishayi, indodana kaJahido, indodana kaBhuzi. **15** U-Ahi indodana ka-Abhidiyeli, indodana kaGuni, wayeyinhloko yemuli yabawo. **16** AbakaGadi babelhala eGiliyadi, eBhashani lemizaneni yakhona, kanye lasemadlelweni aseSharoni kuze kuyefika emaphethelweni awo. **17** Bonke laba balotshwa emibhalweni yosendo ngezinsuku zokubusa kukaJothamu inkosi yakoJuda loJerobhowamu inkosi yako-Israyeli. **18** AbakoRubheni, labakoGadi lengxenye yesizwana sakoManase babelamadoda ayeselungele ukubuthwa azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane lane lamakhulu ayisikhombisa lamatshumi ayisithupha amadoda ayeseqwahele esenelisa ukuphatha ihawu ahlome ngenkamba, atshoke ngemitshoko, ayesevele afundela ukulwa empini. **19** Bahlasela uHagari loJethuri loNafishi loNodabi. **20** Bahlonyulelwa ekulweni kwabo labo, njalo

uNkulunkulu wanikela uHagari labanye bakhe ezandleni zabo, ngoba bakhuleka kuNkulunkulu empini. Wayiphendula imikhuleko yabo, ngoba bamethemba. **21** Bathumba izifuyo zakoHagiri ezibalisa amakamela azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amahlanu, izimvu eziyizinkulungwane ezingamakulu amabili lamatshumi amahlanu labobabhemi abazinkulungwane ezimbili. Bathumba njalo abantu abazinkulungwane ezilikhulu, **22** abanye abanengi babulawa, ngoba le kwakuyimpi kaNkulunkulu. Bona bahlala kulelolizwe kwaze kwaba yisikhathi bethunjwa. **23** Abantu ababeyingxenyeye yesizwana sikaManase babebanengi; bahlala elizweni kusukela eBhashani kusiya eBhali-Hemoni, kusitsho iSeniri (iNtaba yaseHemoni). **24** Laba yibo ababezinhloko zezimuli: u-Eferi, lo-Ishi, lo-Eliyeli, lo-Aziriyeli, loJeremiya, loHodaviya, kanye loJahidiyeli. Babengamadoda empi alezibindi, amadoda adumileyo, njalo bezinhloko zezimuli zabo. **25** Kodwa bona babengathembekanga kuNkulunkulu waboyise basebakhona onkulunkulu bezizwe uNkulunkulu wabo ababhubhisa kulawomazwe bengakahlali khona. **26** Ngakho uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli wadunga umoya kaPhuli inkosi yase-Asiriya (okuyikuthi, Thigilathi-Phileasa inkosi yase-Asiriya), owathumba abakoRubheni, labakoGadi kanye lengxenyeye yesizwana sikaManase. Wabathatha wabasa eHala, leHabhori, leHara lasemfuleni uGozani, lapho abakhona lalamuhla.

6 Amadodana kaLevi yila: nguGeshoni, loKhohathi, kanye loMerari. **2** Amadodana kaKhohathi yila: ngu-Amramu, lo-Izihari, loHebhroni kanye lo-Uziyeli. **3** Abantwana baka-Amramu yilaba: ngu-Aroni, loMosi kanye loMiryemu. Amadodana ka-Aroni yila: nguNadabi, lo-Abhihi lo-Eliyazari lo-Ithamari. **4** U-Eliyazari wayenguyise kaFinehasi, uFinehasi enguyise ka-Abhishuwa, **5** u-Abhishuwa enguyise kaBhukhi, uBhukhi enguyise ka-Uzi, **6** u-Uzi enguyise kaZerahiya, uZerahiya enguyise kaMerayothi, **7** uMerayothi enguyise ka-Amariya, u-Amariya enguyise ka-Ahithubi, **8** u-Ahithubi enguyise kaZadokhi, uZadokhi enguyise ka-Ahimazi, **9** u-Ahimazi enguyise ka-Azariya, u-Azariya enguyise kaJohanani, **10** uJohanani enguyise ka-Azariya; nguye lo owayengumphristi ethempelini elakhiswa nguSolomoni eJerusalem. **11** U-Azariya enguyise ka-Amariya, u-Amariya enguyise ka-Ahithubi, **12** u-Ahithubi enguyise kaZadokhi, uZadokhi enguyise kaShalumi, **13** uShalumi enguyise kaHilikhiya, uHilikhiya enguyise ka-Azariya, **14** u-Azariya enguyise kaSeraya, uSeraya enguyise kaJozadaki. **15** UJozadaki wathunjwa lapho uThixo athumba abakoJuda labaseJerusalem ngesandla sikaNebhukhadineza. **16** Amadodana kaLevi yila: nguGeshoni, loKhohathi kanye loMerari. **17** Nanka amabizo amadodana kaGeshoni: nguLibhini loShimeyi. **18** Amadodana kaKhohathi yila: ngu-Amramu, lo-Izihari, loHebhroni kanye lo-Uziyeli. **19** Amadodana kaMerari yila: nguMahili loMushi. Laba babelusendo lwabaLevi behlelwe ngoluhlu lwaboyise: **20** AbakaGeshoni yilaba: nguLibhini indodana yakhe, loJahathi indodana yakhe, loZima indodana yakhe, **21** loJowa indodana yakhe, lo-Ido indodana yakhe, loZera indodana yakhe kanye loJeyatherayi indodana yakhe. **22** Abosendo lukaKhohathi yilaba: ngu-Aminadabi indodana yakhe, loKhora indodana yakhe, lo-Asiri indodana yakhe, **23** lo-Elikhana lo-Ebhiyasafi indodana yakhe lo-Asiri indodana yakhe, **24** loThahathi indodana yakhe, lo-Uriyeli indodana yakhe, lo-Uziya indodana yakhe kanye loShawuli indodana yakhe. **25** Abosendo luka-Elikhana yilaba:

ngu-Amasayi, lo-Ahimothi, **26** lo-Elikhana indodana yakhe, loZofayi indodana yakhe, loNahathi indodana yakhe, **27** lo-Eliyabi indodana yakhe, loJerohamu indodana yakhe, lo-Elikhana indodana yakhe kanye loSamuyeli indodana yakhe. **28** Amadodana kaSamuyeli ayeyila: uVashini izibulo lo-Abhija indodana yesibili. **29** Abosendo lukaMerari yilaba: nguMahili, loLibhini indodana yakhe, loShimeyi indodana yakhe, lo-Uza indodana yakhe, **30** loShimeya indodana yakhe, loHagiya indodana yakhe kanye lo-Asaya indodana yakhe. **31** Laba yibo abakethwa nguDavida ukuphatha ukuhlabelela endlini kaThixo ngemva kokubekwa kwebhokisi lesivumelwano khona. **32** Bakhona ngokuhlabelela phambi kwebhokisi lesivumelwano, iTenthe lokuHlanganela, uSolomoni waze wakha ithempeli likaThixo eJerusalem. Benza inkonzo yabo ngendlela okwakuqoqwe ngayo. **33** Bona ababekhethele lowomsebenzi kanye lamadodana abo yilaba: Kwabendlu kaKhohathi yilaba: nguHemani umhlabeleli, indodana kaJoweli, indodana kaSamuyeli **34** indodana ka-Elikhana, indodana kaJerohamu, indodana ka-Eliyeli, indodana kaThowa, **35** indodana kaZufi, indodana ka-Elikhana, indodana kaMahathi, indodana ka-Amasayi, **36** indodana ka-Elikhana, indodana kaJoweli, indodana ka-Azariya, indodana kaZefaniya **37** indodana kaThahathi, indodana ka-Asiri, indodana ka-Ebhiyasafi, indodana kaKhora, **38** indodana ka-Izihari, indodana kaKhohathi, indodana kaLevi, indodana ka-Israyeli. **39** U-Asafi umkhulu kaHemani owasebenza laye ngasesandleni sakhe sokudla: U-Asafi indodana kaBherekhiya, indodana kaShimeya, **40** indodana kaMikhayeli, indodana kaBhaseya, indodana kaMalikhija, **41** indodana ka-Ethini, indodana kaZera, indodana ka-Adaya, **42** indodana ka-Ethani, indodana kaZima, indodana kaShimeyi, **43** indodana kaJahathi, indodana kaGeshoni, indodana kaLevi; **44** kanti njalo kubakhula babo amaMerari kwesenele isandla sakhe yilaba: ngu-Ethani indodana kaKhishi, indodana ka-Abhidi, indodana kaMaluki, **45** indodana kaHashabhiya, indodana ka-Amaziya, indodana kaHilikhiya, **46** indodana ka-Amizi, indodana kaBhani, indodana kaShemeri, **47** indodana kaMahili, indodana kaMushi, indodana kaMerari, indodana kaLevi. **48** Abafowabo kubaLevi babephiwe yonke eminye imisebenzi ethabanikeleni, endlini kaNkulunkulu. **49** Kodwa u-Aroni labosendo lwakhe yibo ababesethula iminikelo yokutshiswa e-alithareni kanye lase-alithareni lempepha lakho konke okwakusenziwa eNdaweni eNgcwele kakhulu, becelela u-Israyeli umusa, njengalokhu uMosi inceku kaNkulunkulu yayitshilo. **50** Laba ngabosendo luka-Aroni: ngu-Eliyazari indodana yakhe, loFinehasi indodana yakhe, lo-Abhishuwa indodana yakhe, **51** loBhukhi indodana yakhe, lo-Uzi indodana yakhe, loZerahiya indodana yakhe, **52** loMerayothi indodana yakhe, lo-Amariya indodana yakhe, lo-Ahithubi indodana yakhe, **53** loZadokhi indodana yakhe kanye lo-Ahimazi indodana yakhe. **54** Imizi ababehlezi kiyi kuselizweni ababeliphiwe (yimizi eyayiphiwe abosendo luka-Aroni beyinzalo kaKhohathi, ngoba isabelo sakuqala sasingesabo) yile: **55** Babephiwe iHebhroni koJuda lamadlelo akhona. **56** Kodwa amasimu lemizana eyayiseduzane ledolobho kwaphiwa uKhalebi indodana kaJefune. **57** Ngakho abosendo luka-Aroni baphiwa iHebhroni (umuzi wokuphephela), leLibhina, leJathiri, le-Eshithemowa, **58** leHileni, leDebhiri, **59** le-Ashani, leJuta leBhethi-Shemeshi, ndawonye lamadlelo akhona. **60** Esizwaneni sikaBhenjamini baphiwa iGibhiyoni, leGebha, le-Alemethi le-Anathothi, kanye lamadlelo akhona.

Imizi eyaphiwa amaKkhohathi yayilitshumi lantathu. **61** Abaseleyo bamaKkhohathi baphiwa imizi elitshumi beyingxenyeyendlu yesizwana sikaManase. **62** Abosendo lukaGeshoni, indlu ngendlu, baphiwa imizi elitshumi lemithathu ezizwaneni zako-Isakhari, ko-Asheri lakoNafithali, kanye lengxenyeyesizwana sikaManase esiseBhashani. **63** Abosendo lukaMerari, indlu ngendlu, baphiwa imizi elitshumi lambili esizwaneni sikaRubheni, lesikaGadi lesikaZebhuluni. **64** Ngakho yiyo imizi lamadlelo ayo eyaphiwa abaLevi ngama-Israyeli. **65** Esizwaneni sakoJuda, lesakoSimiyo ni loBhenjamini baphiwa imizi esike yaqanjwa. **66** Amanye amaKkhohathi aphiwa imizi elizweni lesizwana sika-Efrayimi. **67** Elizweni lamaqaqa lika-Efrayimi baphiwa iShekhemu (umuzi wokuphephela) leGezeri, **68** leJokhimeyamu, leBhethi-Horoni, **69** leAyijaloni leGathi-Rimoni, kanye lamadlelo akhona. **70** Engxenyeni yesizwana sikaManase abako-Israyeli, banika insalela yamaKkhohathi, i-Aneri leBhileyamu kanye lamadlelo akhona. **71** AmaGeshoni azuza lezindawo: Kwabosendo lwengxenyeyesizwana sikaManase bazuza iGolani eBhashani kanye le-Ashitharothi, ndawonye lamadlelo akhona; **72** esizwaneni sika-Isakhari bazuza iKhedeshi, leDaberathi, **73** leRamothi le-Anema lamadlelo akhona; **74** esizwaneni sika-Asheri bazuza iMashali, le-Abhidoni, **75** leHukhokhi leRehobhi, kanye lamadlelo akhona; **76** esizwaneni sikaNafithali bazuza iKhedeshi eGalile, leHamoni, leKhiriyathayimi kanye lamadlelo akhona. **77** AmaMerari (insalela yabaLevi) aphiwa kanje: esizwaneni sikaZebhuluni azuza iJokhinyamu, iKhatha, iRimoni leThabhori, kanye lamadlelo akhona; **78** esizwaneni sikaRubheni ngaphetsheya kweJodani ngempumalanga yeJerikho azuza iBhezeri enkangala, leJahazi, **79** leKhedemothi kanye leMefahathi lamadlelo akhona; **80** lasesizwaneni sikaGadi azuza iRamothi eGilyadi, leMahanayimi, **81** leHeshibhoni, leJazeri, kanye lamadlelo akhona.

7 Amadodana ka-Isakhari yila: nguThola, loPhuwa, loJashubi loShimroni, bonke babebane. **2** Amadodana kaThola yila: ngu-Uzi, loRefaya, loJeriyeli, loJahamali, lo-Ibhisamu loSamuyeli, bonke bezinhloko zezindlu zabo. Ngezinsuku uDavida esabusa, abosendo lukaThola abangamadoda aselindele impi ngoluhlu lokuzalana kwabo, babengamadoda ayezinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lambili lamakhulu ayisithupha. **3** Indodana ka-Uzi kungu: Izrahiya. Amadodana ka-Izrahiya yila: nguMikhayeli, lo-Obhadaya, loJoweli lo-Ishiya. Ngobuhlanu babo babezinduna. **4** Ngoluhlu lokuzalana kwabo, babelamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu lesithupha ayeselungele ukuthi angaphuma ayekulwa impi, ngoba babelabafazi labantwana abanengi. **5** Abayizihlobo abesilisa abasebefanele ukuthi bangaya empini bengabosendo luka-Isakhari, ngoluhlu lokuzalana kwabo, sebendawonye babezinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisificaminwembili lesikhombisa. **6** Amadodana kaBhenjamini amathathu yila: nguBhela, loBhekheri loJedyeli. **7** Amadodana kaBhela yila: ngu-Ezibhoni, lo-Uzi, lo-Uziyeli, loJerimothi lo-Iri, babebahlanu bonke, bezinhloko zezindlu zabo. Bona-ke ngoluhlu losendo lwabo babelamadoda ayelungele ukulwa empini azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lambili lamatshumi amathathu lane. **8** Amadodana kaBhekheri yila: nguZemira, loJowashi, lo-Eliyezeri, lo-Eliyonayi, lo-Omri, loJeremothi, lo-Abhija, lo-Anathothi kanye lo-Alemethi. Wonke la kwakungamadodana kaBhekheri. **9** Imbali yoluhlu lwezimuli zababezinhloko zemendeni ibalisa ukuthi babengabantu

abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lamakhulu amabili amadoda empini. **10** Indodana kaJedyeli kwakunguBhilihani. Amadodana kaBhilihani yila: nguJewushi, loBhenjamini, lo-Ehudi, loKhenana, loZethani, loThashishi kanye lo-Ahishahari. **11** Wonke lamadodana kaJedyeli ayeyizinhloko zezindlu zawo. Kwakungamadoda ayesefanele ukubuthwa ayekulwa empini azinkulungwane ezilitshumi lesikhombisa, lamakhulu amabili. **12** AmaShuphimu lamaHuphimu ayengawosendo luka-Iri, lamaHushimu engawosendo luka-Aheri. **13** Amadodana kaNafithali yila: nguJazyeli, loGuni, loJezeri kanye loShalumi, abosendo lukaBhiliha. **14** Abosendo lukaManase yilaba: ngu-Asiriyeli amzala loMfazi weceleni ongum'Aramu. Wazala uMakhiri uyise kaGilyadi. **15** UMakhiri wathatha umfazi ozalwa ngamaHuphimu lamaShuphimu. Udadewabo kwakunguMahakha. Omunye owosendo kwakunguZelofehadi owazala amankazana kuphela. **16** UmkaMakhiri uMahakha wazala indodana yathiwa nguPhereshi. Umfowabo yena wethiwa ibizo elithi Shereshi, njalo amadodana akhe kwakungu-Ulamu loRakhemu. **17** Indodana ka-Ulamu kungu: Bhedani. La ngamadodana kaGilyadi, indodana kaMakhiri, indodana kaManase. **18** Udadewabo uHamolekethi wazala u-Ishodi, lo-Abhiyezeri loMahila. **19** Amadodana kaShemida yila: ngu-Ahiyani, loShekhemu, loLikhikhi kanye lo-Aniyami. **20** Abosendo luka-Efrayimi yilaba: nguShuthela, loBheredi indodana yakhe, loThahathi indodana yakhe, lo-Eleyada indodana yakhe, loThahathi indodana yakhe, **21** loZabhadhi indodana yakhe kanye loShuthela indodana yakhe. (U-Ezeri lo-Eliyadi babulawa ngababazela eGathi, baze bayethumba izifuyo zabo. **22** Uyise u-Efrayimi wabalilela okwensuku ezinengi, izihlobo zakhe zabuya ukuzomduzuza. **23** Walala njalo lomkakhe wakhulelwa, wazala indodana ayitha ibizo elithi Bheriya, kuyikutshengisa ukuthi kwakonakele phakathi kwemuli. **24** Indodakazi yakhe kwakunguShera owakha iBhethi-Horoni yaPhansi leyaPhezulu kanye le-Uzeni-Shera.) **25** URefa wayeyindodana yakhe, loReshefi indodana yakhe, loThela indodana yakhe, loThahani indodana yakhe, **26** loLadani indodana yakhe, lo-Amihudi indodana yakhe, lo-Elishama indodana yakhe, **27** loNuni indodana yakhe kanye loJoshuwa indodana yakhe. **28** Amazwe lemizi yabo yayihlanganisa iBhetheli lemizana esuduzane, iNaharani empumalanga, iGezeri lemizana yayo kusiya entshonalanga, iShekhemu lemizana yayo kusiya e-Aya lemizana yayo. **29** Emingceleni yakwelakoManase kuleBhethi-Shani, leThanakhi, leMegido, kanye leDori lemizana yakhona. Ababehlala kulimizi ngabosendo lukaJosefa indodana ka-Israyeli. **30** Amadodana ka-Asheri yila: ngu-Imna, lo-Ishiva, lo-Ishivi kanye loBheriya. Udadewabo kunguSera. **31** Amadodana kaBheriya yila: nguHebheri loMalikhiyeli uyise kaBhirizayithi. **32** UHebheri wayenguyise kaJafilethi, loShomeri loHothamu kanye lodadewabo uShuwa. **33** Amadodana kaJafilethi yila: nguPasaki, loBhimihali kanye lo-Ashivathi. Laba kwakungamadodana kaJafilethi. **34** Amadodana kaShomeri yila: ngu-Ahi, loRohiga, loHubha kanye lo-Aramu. **35** Amadodana omfowabo uHelemu yila: nguZofa, lo-Imna, loSheleshi kanye lo-Amali. **36** Amadodana kaZofa yila: nguSuwa, loHarineferi, loShuwali, loBheri, lo-Imra, **37** loBhezeri, loHodi, loShama, loShilisha, lo-Ithirani kanye loBhera. **38** Amadodana kaJetha yila: nguJefune, loPhisipha kanye lo-Ara. **39** Amadodana ka-Ula yila: ngu-Ara, loHaniyeli kanye loRiziya. **40** Bonke laba babengabosendo luka-Asheri

bezinhlolo zendlu ngendlu, amadoda akhethiweyo, amabutho alesibindi njalo bengabakhokheli abalokuhlakanipha. Inani lamadoda ayesebanele ukubuthwa aye empini, kusiya ngoluhlu losendo lwakwabo, kwakuzinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lesithupha.

8 UBhenjamini wayenguyise kaBhela izibulo lakhe, lo-Ashibheli indodana yesibili, lo-Ahara eyesithathu, **2** loNoha eyesine loRafa indodana yesihlanu. **3** Amadodana kaBhela ayeyila: u-Adari, uGera, u-Abhithudi, **4** u-Abhishuwa, uNamani, u-Ahawa, **5** uGera, uShefufani kanye loHuramu. **6** Laba ngabosendo luka-Ehudi, ababezinhloko zezindlu zalabo ababehlala eGebha abaxotshelwa eManahathi: **7** KunguNamani, lo-Ahija, kanye loGera owabaxotshayo njalo enguyise ka-Uza, lo-Ahithudi. **8** Kulamadodana azalwa nguShaharaimi eMowabi ngemva kokwehlukana labafazi bakhe oHushimi loBhara. **9** Emfazini wakhe uHodeshi wayelabantwana laba: uJobhabhi, loZibhiya, loMesha, loMalikhani, **10** loJewuzi, loSakhiya kanye loMirima. Yiwo amadodana akhe, ayeyizinhloko zezindlu zawo. **11** KuHushimi wazala u-Abhithubi lo-Eliphali. **12** Amadodana ka-Eliphali ayeyila: u-Ebheri, uMishami, uShemedi (nguye owakha i-Ono leLodi lemizana eseduzane layo), **13** kanye loBheriya loShema, bona bezinhloko zezindlu zalabo ababehlala e-Ayijaloni abayibo njalo abaxotsha ababehlala eGathi. **14** U-Ahiyo, uShashaki, uJeremothi, **15** uZebhadiya, u-Adari, u-Ederi, **16** uMikhayeli, u-Ishipha kanye loJoha bengamadodana kaBheriya. **17** UZebhadiya, uMeshulami, uHizikhi, uHebheri, **18** u-Ishimerayi, u-Iziliya, loJobhabhi kungamadodana ka-Eliphali. **19** UJakhimi, uZikhiri, uZabhidu, **20** u-Eliyanayi, uZilethayi, u-Eliyeli, **21** u-Adaya, uBheraya kanye loShimirathi kungamadodana kaShimeyi. **22** U-Ishiphani, u-Ebheri, u-Eliyeli, **23** u-Abhidoni, uZikhiri uHanani, **24** uHananiya, u-Elamu, u-Anithothija, **25** u-Ifideya loPhenuweli bengamadodana kaShashaki. **26** UShamisherayi, uShehariya, u-Athaliya, **27** uJarehiya, u-Elija, kanye loZikhiri kungamadodana kaJerohamu. **28** Bonke laba babezinhloko zezindlu, izinduna kusiya ngoluhlu losendo lwabo, njalo babehlala eJerusalem. **29** UJeyiyeli uyise kaGibhiyoni wayehlala eGibhiyoni. Ibizo lomkakhe lalinguMahakha, **30** njalo indodana yakhe elizibulo kwakungu-Abhidoni, eselanywa nguZuri, loKhishi, loBhali, loNeri, loNadabi, **31** loGedori, lo-Ahiyo, loZekheri **32** kanye loMikhilothi, owayenguyise kaShimeya. Laba labo babehlala eJerusalem eduze lezihlobo zabo. **33** UNeri wayenguyise kaKhishi, uKhishi enguyise kaSawuli, uSawuli enguyise kaJonathani, loMalikhi-Shuwa, lo-Abhinadabi kanye lo-Eshi-Bhali. **34** Indodana kaJonathani: kwakunguMeri-Bhali yena enguyise kaMikha. **35** Amadodana kaMikha ayeyila: uPhithoni, uMeleki, uThareya kanye lo-Ahazi. **36** U-Ahazi wayenguyise kaJehoyada, uJehoyada enguyise ka-Alemethi, lo-Azimavethi loZimri, njalo uZimri enguyise kaMoza. **37** UMoza wayenguyise kaBhineya, loRafa eyindodana yakhe, lo-Eleyasa indodana yakhe kanye lo-Azeli indodana yakhe. **38** U-Azeli wayelamadodana ayisithupha, amabizo awo eyila: u-Azirikhamu, loBhokheru, lo-Ishumayeli, loSheyariya, lo-Obhadaya kanye loHanani. Wonke la ayengamadodana ka-Azeli. **39** Amadodana omfowabo u-Eshekhi ayeyila: u-Ulamu izibulo lakhe, uJewushi indodana yesibili kanye lo-Elifelethi eyesithathu. **40** Amadodana ka-Ulamu ayengamaqhawe alezibindi ayezintshantshu zemitshoko. Babelamadodana amanengi lamadodana amadodana abo,

babelikhulu elilamatshumi amahlanu sebendawonye. Bonke laba babeyinzalo kaBhenjamini.

9 Bonke abako-Israyeli babelotshiwe eluhlwini logwalo lokuzalana kwabo lwamakhozi ako-Israyeli. AbakoJuda bathunjwa basiwa eBhabhiloni ngenxa yokungathembeki kwabo. **2** Abokuqala ukwakha kutsha elizweni labo bahlala emizini yabo babengabantu bako-Israyeli, abaphristi, abalevi lezinceku zethempelini. **3** AbakoJuda, abakoBhenjamini kanye labako-Efrayimi loManase ababehlala eJerusalem yilaba: **4** Ngu-Uthayi indodana ka-Amihudi, indodana ka-Omri, indodana ka-Imri, indodana kaBhani, owosendo lukaPherezi indodana kaJuda. **5** KwabakoShilo ngu-Asaya izibulo lamadodana akhe. **6** KwabakoZera: nguJuweli. Abantu bakoJuda babengamakhulu ayisithupha amatshumi ayisificamunwemunye. **7** KwabakoBhenjamini: nguSalu indodana kaMeshulami, indodana kaHodaviya, indodana kaHasenuwa; **8** lo-Ibhineya indodana kaJerohamu; lo-Ela indodana ka-Uzi, indodana kaMikhiri; loMeshulami indodana kaShefathiya, indodana kaRuweli, indodana ka-Ibhiniya. **9** Abantu bakoBhenjamini, ngoluhlu lokuzalana kwabo njengokulotshiweyo, babengamakhulu ayisificamunwemunye amatshumi amahlanu lesithupha. Bonke laba kwakungamadoda ayizinhloko zezindlu zawo. **10** Abaphristi yilaba: nguJedaya; loJehoyaribhi; kanye loJakhini; **11** lo-Azariya indodana kaHilikhiya, indodana kaMeshulami, indodana kaZadokhi, indodana kaMerayothi, indodana ka-Ahithubi, isikhulu esasiphethe indlu kaNkulunkulu; **12** lo-Adaya indodana kaJerohamu, indodana kaPhashuri, indodana kaMalikhija; loMasayi indodana ka-Adiyeli, indodana kaJahizera, indodana kaMeshulami, indodana kaMeshilemithi, indodana ka-Imeri. **13** Abaphristi ababezinhloko zezindlu zabo babeyinkulungwane eyodwa elamakhulu ayisikhombisa amatshumi ayisithupha. Babengamadoda alolwazi, belomlandu wokuphatha umsebenzi endlini kaNkulunkulu. **14** Abalevi yilaba: nguShemaya indodana kaHashubhi, indodana ka-Azirikhamu, indodana kaHashabhiya, kanye loMerari; **15** loBhakhikhakhari, loHereshi, loGalali kanye loMathaniya indodana kaMikha, indodana kaZikhiri, indodana ka-Asafi; **16** lo-Obhadaya indodana kaShemaya, indodana kaGalali, indodana kaJeduthuni, kanye loBherekhiya indodana ka-Asa, indodana ka-Elikhana, owayehlala emizini yamaNethofa. **17** Abalindi bamasango yilaba: nguShalumi, lo-Akhubi, loThalimoni, lo-Ahimani labafowabo loShalumi induna yabo, **18** eyayilinda iSango leNkosi empumalanga, kuze kube lamuhla. Abalindi bamasango bakoLevi yilaba: **19** nguShalumi indodana kaKhore, indodana ka-Ebhiyasafi, indodana kaKhora, lababelinda amasango ndawonye bengabendlunye (amaKhora) beyibo ababefanele bananzelele iminyango yeThempeli njengoba oyise babevele belinda iminyango yendlu kaThixo. **20** Ekadeni owayephetha abalindi bamasango kwakunguFinehasi indodana ka-Eliyazari njalo uThixo wayelaye. **21** UZakhariya indodana kaMeshelemya wayengumlindisango lokungena eThenteni lokuHlanganela. **22** Sebebonke labo ababekhethiwe ukuba ngabalindimasango ezindaweni eziqakathekileyo babengamakhulu amabili aletshumi lambili. Babelotshwe ngoluhlu lokuzalana kwabo emizini yabo. Abalindi bamasango babefakwe kulezizindawo zokwethembeka nguDavida loSamuyeli umboni. **23** Bona kanye lenzalo yabo babephetha ukugcinakala kwamasango

endlu kaThixo indlu ethiwa iThente. **24** Abalindimasango laba babesenhlangothini zozine: empumalanga, entshonalanga, enyakatho laseningizimu. **25** Abafowabo ababehlezi labo emizini yabo babefanele babebelinda labo bezophisana okwensuku eziyisikhombisa ihlandla ngalinye. **26** Abalindimasango abakhulu, abangabaLevi, ngobune babo babefanele bagcine izindlu lenotho esendlini kaNkulunkulu. **27** Babelala belindile ubusuku bonke besendlini kaNkulunkulu, ngoba babefanele bayilinde; njalo yibo ababezihluthulelo beyivula ngokusa insuku zonke. **28** Abanye babo babegcina izitsha zenkonzo ezazisetsheziwa ethempelini; babezibala zingena babuye bazibale njalo seziphuma. **29** Abanye njalo babegcine impahla yendlini lakho konke okwakusendlini engcwele, kanye lokugcina ifulawa lewayini, lamafutha, impepha leziyoliso. **30** Kodwa abanye abaphristi babesebenza ukuhlanganisa iziyoliso. **31** UmLevi obizwa ngokuthi nguMathithiya, indodana elizibulo likaShalumi umKhora, wayephiwe umlandu wokubumba isinkwa somnikelo. **32** Abanye abazalwane bamaKhohathi babephethe umsebenzi ngamaSabatha wonke owokubumba isinkwa esokubekwa etafuleni. **33** Labo ababengabahlabeleli, bezinhloko zezindlu zabaLevi, babehlala ezindlini phakathi kwethempeli bengaphiwiwanga eminye imisebenzi ngoba babephathekile kowabo emini lebusuku. **34** Bonke laba babezinhloko zezindlu zenzalo kaLevi, izinduna njengokulotshiwewo eluhlwini losendo lwabo, njalo babehlala eJerusalem. **35** UJeyiyeli uyise kaGibhiyoni wayehlala eGibhiyoni. Ibizo lomkakhe lalinguMahakha, **36** njalo indodana yakhe elizibulo kwakungu-Abhidoni eselanya nguZuri, loKhishi, loBhali, loNeri, loNadabi, **37** loGedori, lo-Ahiyo, loZakhariya kanye loMikhilothi. **38** UMikhilothi wayenguyise kaShimeyamu. Laba labo babehlala eJerusalem eduze lezihlobo zabo. **39** UNeri wayenguyise kaKhishi, uKhishi enguyise kaSawuli, uSawuli enguyise kaJonathani, loMalikhi-Shuwa, lo-Abhinadabi kanye lo-Eshi-Bhali. **40** Indodana kaJonathani kwakunguMeri-Bhali, yena enguyise kaMikha. **41** Amadodana kaMikha ayeyila: uPhithoni, uMeleki, uThareya kanye lo-Ahazi. **42** U-Ahazi wayenguyise kaJada, uJada enguyise kaLemethi, lo-Azimavethi loZimri, yena uZimri enguyise kaMoza. **43** UMoza wayenguyise kaBhineya; uRefaya eyindodana yakhe, lo-Eleyasa indodana yakhe kanye lo-Azeli indodana yakhe. **44** U-Azeli wayelamadodana ayisithupha, amabizo awo eyila: u-Azirikhamu, loBhokheru, lo-Ishumayeli. loSheyariya, lo-Obhadaya kanye loHanani. Laba babengamadodana ka-Azeli.

10 AmaFilistiya alwa lo-Israyeli; abako-Israyeli babaleka, njalo abantshi bafela eNtabeni yase Gilibhowa. **2** AmaFilistiya axotshana kanzima loSawuli kanye lamadodana akhe, abulala amadodana akhe uJonathani, lo-Abhinadabi kanye loMalikhi-Shuwa. **3** Impi yatshisa macele wonke kuSawuli, njalo kwathi abatshoki bemitshoko sebemxhumile, bamlimaza. **4** USawuli wathi kumthwali wezikhali zakhe, “Hwatsha inkemba yakho ungigwaze, helezi abantu laba abangasokanga bafike bangigwaze bangenze ihlazo.” Kodwa umphathi wezikhali zakhe wesaba, akaze akwenza lokho, ngakho uSawuli wathatha inkemba yakhe waziwisa phezu kwayo. **5** Kwathi umphathi wezikhali ebona ukuthi uSawuli wayesefile, laye waziwisa phezu kwenkamba yakhe, wafa. **6** Ngakho uSawuli lamadodana akhe amathathu bafa, labo bonke abendlu yakhe bafa ndawonye. **7** Kwathi

bonke abako-Israyeli ababesigodini bebona ukuthi ibutho lalibalekile lokuthi uSawuli kanye lamadodana akhe basebefile, batshiya imizi yabo babaleka. AmaFilistiya afika ahlala kuyo. **8** Ngelanga elalandelayo, amaFilistiya esefikile ukuba akhuthuze abafileyo, afica uSawuli lamadodana akhe befile eNtabeni yase Gilibhowa. **9** Bamkhuthuza baze bamquma ikhanda lakhe balithatha kanye lezikhali zakhe, basebethuma izithunywa kulolonke ilizwe lamaFilistiya ukuthi zimemezele lindaba ezithombeni zabo lebantwini bakibo. **10** Abeka izikhali zakhe ethempelini labonkulunkulu babo kwathi ikhanda lakhe balibeka ethempelini likaDagoni. **11** Abantu bonke basejabheshi Giliyadi sebezile ngokwakwenziwe ngamaFilistiya kuSawuli, **12** wonke amaqhawe alezibindi ahamba ayathatha isidumbu sikaSawuli lezamadodana akhe aya lazo eJabheshi. Basebengcwaba amathambo abo ngaphansi kwesihlahla esikhulu eJabheshi, bazila insuku eziyisikhombisa. **13** USawuli wafa ngoba wayengathembekanga kuThixo; kaligcinanga ilwazi likaThixo wakhe waze wayadinga ukuqondiswa yizangoma, **14** esikhundleni sokukhuleka kuThixo. Ngakho uThixo wamenza wafa wathatha ubukhosi wabunika uDavida indodana kaJese.

11 Bonke abako-Israyeli baya kuDavida eHebhroni bafika bathi: “Thina siyinyama yakho legazi lakho. **2** Esikhathini esedlulayo, lanxa uSawuli eseseyinkosi, wena nguwe owawukhokhela u-Israyeli emkhankasweni wezimpi. Njalo uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho wathi kuwe, “Wena uzakuba ngumelusi wabantu bami u-Israyeli, njalo uzakuba ngumbusi wabo.” **3** Kwathi abadala bonke bako-Israyeli sebefikile enkosini uDavida eHebhroni, wenza isivumelwano labo eHebhroni phambi kukaThixo, basebegcoba uDavida ukuba abe yinkosi ko-Israyeli, njengesithembiso sikaThixo asenza ngoSamuyeli. **4** UDavida labo bonke abako-Israyeli baya eJerusalem (kusitsho iJebusi). AmaJebusi ayehlala khona **5** athi kuDavida, “Kawuyikungena lapha.” Kodwa lanxa kunjalo, uDavida wayithamba inqaba yaseZiyoni, uMuzi kaDavida. **6** UDavida wayetha, “Ozakhokhela ekhulaseleni amaJebusi uzakuba nguMlawuli omkhulu wempi.” UJowabi indodana kaZeruya nguye owaqala ukuya khona, ngakho wazuza ubukhokheli. **7** UDavida wasehlala enqabeni, yikho yathiwa ibizo lokuthi nguMuzi kaDavida. **8** Wakha idolobho inxa zonke kusokela emadundulwini kuze kuyefinyelela emidulini ehonqolozelayo, ngalesosikhathi uJowabi esakha evuselela umuzi. **9** UDavida waqhubeka njalo esiba lamandla, ngoba uThixo uSomandla wayelaye. **10** Lezi zinduna zamaqhawe kaDavida ezazimsekele ngokuqinileyo embusweni kanye laye wonke u-Israyeli, ukuba abe yinkosi, njengokuthembisa kukaThixo. **11** Lolu yilubho lwalawo maqhawe kaDavida: UJashobhehamu, umFakhimoni, wayengumlawuli wezikhulu; waphakamisela amadoda angamakhulu amathathu umkhonto wakhe, ababulalayo ekhulaseleni kunye. **12** Yena elandelwa ngu-Eliyazari indodana kaDodo um’Ahoi omunye wamaqhawe amathathu. **13** WayeloDavida ePhasi Damimi, ekuhlomeni kwamafilistiya elungiselela ukudibana empi. Endaweni ethile kwakulensimu yebhali, amabutho abaleka ebalekela amaFilistiya. **14** Kodwa bona bema bajama phakathi kwensimu. Bayivikela bawabulala amaFilistiya, uThixo wabapha ukunqoba okukhulu. **15** Izinduna ezintathu kwezingamatshumi amathathu zaya edwaleni kuDavida ebalhuni lwase-Adulami, ngalesosikhathi amanye amaFilistiya ayebuthe eSigodini saseRefayi. **16** Ngalesosikhathi uDavida wayesenqabeni,

iviyo lamabutho amaFilistiya laliseBhethilehema. **17** UDavida womela amanzi wasesithi, “Oh, sengathi kungaba lomuntu ongangikhela amanzi okunatha emthonjeni oseduze lesango laseBhethilehema!” **18** Ngakho abathathu laba badabula phakathi kweviyo lamaFilistiya bayakukha amanzi eduzane lesango laseBhethilehema bayawanika uDavida. Kodwa wala ukwanatha, waketha ukuwathululela phambi kukaThixo. **19** Wasesithi, “UNkulunkulu kangangivumeli ukukwenza lokhu! Kufanele yini ukuthi nginathe igazi lalabantu abanikele impilo yabo engozini bewaletha?” Ngoba babeka impilo zabo engozini bewaletha, uDavida kawanathanga. Lezi zaziyezeno zobuqhawe zalawomabutho womathathu. **20** U-Abhishayi umfowabo kajowabi wayeyinduna yabaThathu labo. Waphakamisela umkhonto wakhe phezu kwabangamakhulu amathathu, ababulalayo, ngakho waba lodumo njengabaThathu. **21** Waba lodumo oluphindwe kabili phezu kwalaba abathathu waze waba ngumlawuli wabo, loba engazange abe phakathi kwabo. **22** UBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada wayeliqhawe elilesibindi laseKhabhizeli, elenza izenzo zobuqhawe obukhulu. Wabulala amaqhawe amaMowabi amabili ayezintshantshe kulweni. Wake wangena emgodini wabulala isilwane mhla kulongwaqwane. **23** Wabulala umGibhithe owayemude okwezingalo eyisikhombisa njalo eqatha. Lanxa umGibhithe wayephethe umkhonto esandleni kwakungani uphethe umkhonto onjengogodo lomaluki, uBhenayiwa waqondana laye ngenduku. Wahluthuna umkhonto esandleni somGibhithe wambulala ngawo umkhonto wakhe. **24** Lezi zaziyezeno zobuqhawe zikaBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada, laye futhi wayedume njengamaqhawe amathathu. **25** Wayehlonitshwa kakhulu ukwedlula bonke abangamatshumi amathathu, kodwa wayengabalwa kanye labaThathu. UDavida wambeka ukuba abe ngumphathi wabalandi bakhe. **26** Amaqhawe ayelamandla ayeiyela: u-Asaheli umfowabo kajowabi, u-Elihanani indodana kaDodo waseBhethilehema, u-Shamothi umHarori, uHelezi umPheloni, **28** u-Ira indodana ka-Ikheshi waseThekhowa, u-Abhiyezeri wase-Anathothi, **29** u-Sibhekhayi umHushathi, u-Ilayi um’Ahohi, **30** uMaharayi umNethofathi, uHeledi indodana kaBhana umNethofa, **31** u-Ithayi indodana kaRibhayi owaseGibhiya koBhenjamini, uBhenaya umPhirathoni, **32** uHurayi wasezindongeni zaseGashi, u-Abhiyeli um’Aribhathi, **33** u-Azimavethi umBhararumi, u-Eliyaba umShalibhoni, **34** amadodana kaHashemi umGizoni, uJonathanani indodana kaShageye umHarari, **35** u-Ahiyamu indodana kaSakhari umHarari, u-Elifali indodana ka-Uri, **36** uHeferi indodana kaMekherathi, u-Ahija umPheloni, **37** uHeziro umKhameli, uNarayi indodana ka-Ezibhayi, **38** uJoweli umfowabo kaNathani, uMibhari indodana kaHagiri, **39** uZelexhi um’Amoni, uNaharayi umBherothi, owayethwala izikhali zikaJowabi indodana kaZeruya, **40** u-Ira um’Ithira, uGarebhi um’Ithiri, **41** u-Uriya umHithi, uZabhadri indodana ka-Ahilayi, **42** lo-Adina indodana kaShiza owakoRubheni, owayeyinduna yakoRubheni, kanye labangamatshumi amathathu ababelaye, **43** lo-Hanani indodana kaMahakha, loJoshafathi um’Mithini, **44** lo-Uziya um’Ashitherathi, loShama loJeyiyeli amadodana kaHothamu um’Aroweri, **45** loJedyiyeli indodana kaShimiri, umfowabo uJoha umThizi, **46** lo-Eliyeli um’Mahavi, loJeribhayi loJoshaviya amadodana ka-Elinamu, lo-Ithima waseMowabi, **47** lo-Eliyeli, lo-Obhedhi kanye loJasiyeli waseMezobha.

12 La ngamabutho ayeloDavida eZikhilagi, ngesikhathi engavunyelwa ukubonakala kuSawuli indodana kaKhisshi (kwakungamaqhawe ayemhlo mulele empini; **2** ayehlome ngemitshoko, ezingcitshi ekutshokeni lokutshaya ngezavutha loba ejikijela ngesokudla loba ngesenxele; ayeyizihlobo zikaSawuli engawesizwe sikaBhenjamini). **3** U-Ahiyezeri induna yawo loJowashi amadodana kaShemaha owaseGibhiya; loJeziyeli loPhelethi amadodana ka-Azimavethi; loBherakha, loJehu um’Anathothi, **4** kanye lo-Ishimaya umGibhiyoni, indoda eyayilamandla amakhulu kwabangamatshumi amathathu, engumkhokheli wabangamatshumi amathathu, loJeremiya, loJahazyeli, loJohanani, loJozabhadri umGederathi, **5** lo-Eluzayi, loJerimothi, loBheliya, loShemariya kanye loShefathiya umHarufi, **6** lo-Elikhana, lo-Ishiya, lo-Azareli, loJowezeri loJashobheyamu amaKhora; **7** kanye loJowela loZebhadiya amadodana kaJerohamu waseGedori. **8** Abanye abakoGadi babalekela kuDavida enqabeni yakhe enkangala. Babengamabutho alezibindi, belungele ukulwa njalo bekwazi ukuphatha ihawu lomkhonto. Ubuso babo babungobezilwane, njalo belesiqubu njengamagogo ezintabeni. **9** U-Ezeri wayeyinduna, u-Obhadaya engumsekelo womlawuli, u-Eliyabi engowesithathu, **10** uMishimana engowesine, uJeremiya engowesihlanu, **11** u-Athayi engowesithupha, u-Eliyeli engowesikhombisa, **12** uJohanani engowesificaminwembili, u-Elizabethi engowesificaminwemunye, **13** uJeremiya engumsekelo wetshumi kanye loMakhabhanayi owayengowetshumi lanye. **14** Amadoda akoGadi ayengabalawuli bamabutho, kuthi omncinyane wabo wayengamelana labalikhulu kodwa omkhulu wabo engamelana labayinkulungwane. **15** Yiwo la amadoda achapha uJodani ngenyanga yakuqala umfula ugwele uphuphuma emakhunjini awo wonke, yiyo njalo abaxotsha bonke ababehlala ezihotsheni, empumalanga kanye lasentshonalanga. **16** Amanye amadoda akoBhenjamini lamanye ayevela koJuda lawo alandela uDavida khonale enqabeni yakhe. **17** UDavida waphuma ukuba ayewahlangabeza wathi kuwo: “Nxalalingandela ngokuthula, lizongiphathisa njengabangane, ngizimisele ukhlanganyela kanye lani. Kodwa nxalidinga ukunginikela ezitheni zami, mina ngimsulwa, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho kakubone lokho, alijeze.” **18** Ngakho uMoya wasesehlela ku-Amasayi, umlawuli wabangamatshumi amaThathu, wathi: “Singabakho thina, wena Davida! Sikanye lawe wena ndodana kaJese! Impumelelo, impumelelo kuwe, njalo impumelelo kulabo abaphathisana lawe! Ngoba uNkulunkulu wakho uzakusiza.” Ngakho uDavida wabamukela wabenza abakhokheli bamaviyo amabutho ayehlasela. **19** Amanye amadoda akoManase abalekela kuDavida ekuhambeni kwakhe lamaFilistiya esiyahlasela uSawuli. (Yena kanye lamabutho akhe kasazange ancedise amaFilistiya, ngoba ngemva kokubuzisana, ababusi bawo bathi kaxotshwe. Bathi bona: “Uyingozi kithi, ngoba angasiphendukela abuyele enkosini yakhe uSawuli.”) **20** UDavida wathi esiya eZikhilagi, nanka amadoda abaleka koManase amlandela: ngu-Adina, loJozabhadri, loJedyiyeli, loMikhayeli, loJozabhadri, lo-Elihu kanye loZilethayi ababengabalawuli benkulungwane koManase. **21** Bancedisa uDavida ekulweni lamaviyo abahlaseli, ngoba bonke babengamabutho alezibindi, njalo basebengabalawuli phakathi kwamabutho akhe. **22** Insuku zonke, ukusa kwamalanga, kwakutheleka abantu bezoncedisa

uDavida, waze waba lebutho elikhulu, njengebutho likaNkulunkulu. **23** Nanka amanani amadoda ayehlomele impi eza kuDavida eHebhroni ezomncedisa ukuthatha umbuso kaSawuli, njengokutsho kukaThixo: **24** amadoda ayevela koJuda ehlome ngamahawu lemikhonto ayezinkulungwane eziyisithupha lamakhulu ayisificaminwembili ehlomele ukulwa impi; **25** abakaSimiyoni, amabutho ayeungelele ukuhlaselelaba bezinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa lekhulu, **26** amadoda akoLevi ayezinkulungwane ezine lamakhulu ayisithupha, **27** kubalwa loJehoyada, umkhokheli wabendlu ka-Aroni babezinkulungwane ezintathu lamakhulu ayisikhombisa zamadoda **28** kanye loZadokhi, ibutho elaliseselijaha lilesibindi, lilezikhulu zendlu yakwabo ezingamatshumi amabili lambili; **29** amadoda akoBhenjamini, labakibo kaSawuli babezinkulungwane ezintathu, ababesele bethembekile kuSawuli kuze kufike lesisikhathi yibo ababebanengi kulelonani; **30** amadoda ako-Efrayimi, amadoda ayezizibindi, edumile ezizwaneni zawo, ayezinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lamakhulu ayisificaminwembili, **31** amadoda ayevela kungxenywe yesizwana sikaManase, ekhethwe ngamabizo awo ukuba azobeka uDavida ukuthi abeyinkosi, ayezinkulungwane ezilithumi lesificaminwembili; **32** amadoda ayevela ko-Isakhari, ayezwisisa umumo walesosikhathi njalo esazi ukuthi u-Israyeli kumele enzeni. Kwakuzinduna ezingamakhulu amabili kanye lezihlobo zazo ezazingaphansi kwazo; **33** amadoda ayevela koZebhuluni, amabutho ayezingwazi empini, ngezikhali zemihlobo etshiyeneyo, eza ukuzancedisa uDavida ngokuzinikela okungalakuthandabuza, ayezinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amahlanu; **34** amadoda ayevela koNafithali kwakuyizikhulu eziyinkulungwane eyodwa, kanye lamadoda ayephethe amahawu lemikhonto ayezinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu lesikhombisa; **35** amadoda ayevela koDani, ezimisele ukulwa empini, ayezinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lesificaminwembili lamakhulu ayisithupha; **36** amadoda ayevela ko-Asheri, amabutho ayevele ekwejayele ukulwa empini njalo ezimisele ukulwa, ayezinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane; **37** njalo ngempumalanga yeJodani, amadoda akoRubheni, koGadi lakungxenywe yesizwana sikaManase, ayehlome ngemihlobobhlobo yezikhali, ayezinkulungwane ezilikhulu lamatshumi amabili. **38** Bonke laba babengamabutho azinikeleyo ukungena lalaba yisiphi isigaba. Ngamabutho aya eHebhroni ezimisele ukufika abeke uDavida esihlalweni sobukhosi abe yinkosi ka-Israyeli. Abanye bonke abako-Israyeli babengqondonye befisa ukwethesa uDavida ubukhosi. **39** Wonke lamadoda athatha insuku ezintathu eloDavida, esidla njalo enatha, njengoba izimuli zawo zaziwalungisele umphako. **40** Konke labomakhelwane babo, ababevela kude khonale ku-Isakhari, loZebhuluni lakuNafithali beza bethwele ukudla ngabobabhemi, amakamela, imbongolo langenkabi. Kwakulefulwana enengi, amakhekhe omkhiwane, amakhekhe erezini, iwayini, amafutha, inkomo lezimvu, ngoba kwakulokujabula ko-Israyeli.

13 UDavida wacebisana lezikhulu zakhe zonke, abalawuli bezinkulungwane labalawuli bamakhulu. **2** Wasesithi kuwo wonke umbuthano wako-Israyeli: “Nxakulungile njalo nxa kuyintando kaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu, asithumeleni ilizwi eduze lakhatshana kubo bonke abafowethu

kuwo wonke amazwe ako-Israyeli, kanye lakubaphristi labaLevi abalabo khonale emadolobheni abo lasemadloleni abo, sibaxusa ukuthi beze bazohlalanyela kanye lathi. **3** Asibuyiseni ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu wethu kithi, ngoba asizange sibuze kulo ngesikhathi sokubusa kukaSawuli.” **4** Bonke ababebuthene bavumelana ukukwenza lokho, ngoba bonke abantu bakubona kufanele ukukwenza lokho. **5** Ngakho uDavida wahlanganisa ama-Israyeli wonke, kusukela eMfuleni uShihori eGibhithe kusiya eLebho Hamathi, ukuyathatha ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu eKhiriyathi-Jeyarimi. **6** UDavida labo bonke abako-Israyeli ababelaye kanye eHlala yakoJuda (iKhiriyathi-Jeyarimi) ukuthi baye khonale bayebuya lebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo uNkulunkulu, osesihlalweni sobukhosi ephahlwe ngamaKherubhi, ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo elibizwa ngaleloBizo. **7** Balisusa ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu endlini ka-Abhinadabi ngenqola entsha, eyayiqondiswa ngu-Uza lo-Ahiyo. **8** UDavida labo bonke abako-Israyeli babebajabula bezithokozisa ngamandla abo wonke phambi kukaNkulunkulu, ngezingoma betshaya lamachacho, lezingungu, lezigubhu, lamacilongo. **9** Bathi befika esizeni sokubhulela eKhidoni, u-Uza welula isandla sakhe ezama ukuzinzisa ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo, ngoba inkabi zazikhubekile. **10** Ulaka lukaThixo lwavutha ku-Uza, wamtshaya wafa ngoba wayebeke isandla sakhe phezu kwebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo. Ngakho wahle wafa khonapho phambi kukaThixo. **11** Ngakho uDavida wathukuthela ngoba ulaka lukaThixo lwavutha ku-Uza, njalo kuze kule lalamuhla indawo leyo ibizwa ngokuthi yiPherazi Uza. **12** UDavida wamesaba uNkulunkulu ngalolosuku waze wabuza wathi: “Pho ngingaliletha njani kimi ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu?” **13** Kasazange alithathe ibhokisi lesivumelwano ukuze libe kuye eMzini kaDavida. Kodwa-ke walisa eceleni endlini ka-Obhedi-Edomi umGithi. **14** Ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu lalala kwabendlu ka-Obhedi-Edomi endlini yakhe okwezinyanga ezintathu, yikho uThixo wabusisa indlu yakhe lakho konke okwakungokwakhe.

14 Ngalesosikhathi uHiramu inkosi yaseThire wathumela izithunywa kuDavida, ndawonye lezigodo zomsedari, ababazi bamatshe kanye lababazi ukuthi bayemakhela isigodlo. **2** UDavida wahle wakwazi ukuthi uThixo usembekile ukuba abeyinkosi ka-Israyeli lokuthi umbuso wakhe uphakanyisiwe kakhulu ngenxa yabantu bakhe bako-Israyeli. **3** EJerusalem uDavida wathatha abanye abafazi wazala amanye amadodana lamadodakazi. **4** Nanka amabizo abantwana abazalelwa khona: uShamuwa, uShobabi, uNathani, uSolomoni, **5** u-Ibhari, u-Elishuwa, u-Eliphelethi, **6** uNoga, uNefegi, uJafiya, **7** u-Elishama, uBheyelijada kanye lo-Elifelethi. **8** AmaFiliistiya athi esizwa ukuthi uDavida usegcotshwe ukuba yinkosi yalo lonke elako-Israyeli, aphuma wonke ehlome ephelele esiyamzingela, kodwa uDavida wakuzwa lokho wahle waphuma yena ukuyawahlalangeza. **9** AmaFiliistiya ayesefikile njalo ukuyahlaselela eSigidini saseRefayi; **10** ngakho uDavida wabuza kuNkulunkulu wathi: “Ngihambe ngiyewahlasele amaFiliistiya na? Uzawanikela kimi na?” UThixo wamphendula wathi, “Hamba, ngizawanikela kuwe.” **11** Ngakho uDavida lamabutho akhe aya eBhali Pherazimi lapho awehlula khona. Wathi: “Njengamanzi efohla, uNkulunkulu ufophele ezitheni zami ngesandla sami.” Ngakho leyondawo yasibizwa

ngokuthi yiBhali Pherazimi. **12** AmaFilitiya ayebeleke atshiya onkulunkulu bawo khonale, uDavida wathi kabatshiswe ngomlilo. **13** AmaFilitiya aphinda njalo ukukhulasa isigodi, **14** ngakho uDavida wabuza kuNkulunkulu njalo, uNkulunkulu wamphendula wathi, “Ungasuki uqonde phambili kodwa bazingeleze ubusubahlasela uvelela ezihlahleni zebhalisamu. **15** Kuzakuthi lapho usizwa izisinde zabahambayo ezihlahleni zebhalisamu, uphume uhlasela, ngoba lokho kuzabe kusitsho ukuthi uNkulunkulu usehambe phambi kwakho ukuyanqoba amabutho amaFilitiya.” **16** Ngakho uDavida wenza njengokulaywa kwakhe nguNkulunkulu, njalo bawacakazela phansi amaFilitiya umango wonke kusukela eGibhiyoni kusiya eGezeri. **17** Yikho udumo lukaDavida lwanda lwafinyelela kuwo wonke amazwe, uThixo wenza izizwe zonke zimesabe.

15 Ngemva kokuba uDavida esakhile ezakhe izindlu eMzini kaDavida, wakha indawo yebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu, walimisela ithente kuleyondawo. **2** UDavida wasesithi: “Kakho ozathwala ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu ngaphandle kwabaLevi ngoba uThixo wabakhethela ukuthwala ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo lokumkhonza kuze kube nininini.” **3** UDavida wasehlenganisa bonke abako-Israyeli eJerusalema ukuze balethe ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo endaweni ayeyilungisele lona. **4** Wahlanganisa abosendo luka-Aroni labaLevi ngezindlu zabo: **5** Kwabendlu kaKhohathi, kwakungu-Uriyeli umkhokheli lezihlobo ezilikhulu lamatshumi amabili; **6** kwabendlu kaMerari, kwakungu-Asaya umkhokheli lezihlobo ezingamakhulu amabili lamatshumi amabili; **7** kwabendlu kaGeshoni, kwakunguJoweli umkhokheli lezihlobo ezilikhulu labantu abangamatshumi amathathu; **8** kwabendlu ka-Elizafani, kwakunguShemaya umkhokheli lezihlobo ezingamakhulu amabili; **9** kwabendlu kaHebhroni, kwakungu-Eliyeli umkhokheli lezihlobo ezingamatshumi ayisificaminwembili; **10** kwabendlu ka-Uziyeli, kwakungu-Aminadabi umkhokheli lezihlobo ezilikhulu labantu abalitskumi lamibili. **11** UDavida wasenxusa abaphristi uZadokhi lo-Abhiyathari kanye lo-Uriyeli, lo-Asaya, loJoweli, loShemaya, lo-Eliyeli lo-Abhinadabi abaLevi. **12** Wasesithi kubo, “Lina lizinhloko zezindlu zabaLevi, zihlambululeni lina kanye lezihlobo zenu ukuze liyethatha ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, lililethe endaweni engiyilungisele lona. **13** UThixo uNkulunkulu wethu wasithukuthela ngenxa yokuthi lina abaLevi, ayisini elathwala ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo kuqala. Asizanga sibuze kuThixo ukuthi kwakumele senzeni njengokulaywa kwakhe.” **14** Ngakho abaphristi labaLevi bazihlambulula ukuze bathwale ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. **15** Yikho abaLevi bathwala ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo ngezibambo zezigodo emahlombe abo, njengokulaywa kukaMosi kulandelwa ilizwi likaThixo. **16** UDavida watshela abakhokheli babaLevi ukuthi bakhethe abafowabo ukuthi babe ngabahlabeleli ukuze bahlabelele izingoma ezimnandi, betshaya amachacho lezigubhu lemihubhe. **17** AbaLevi bakhetha uHemani indodana kaJoweli; kubafofawo, u-Asafi indodana kaBherekhiya; lakubafowabo amaMerari, u-Ethani indodana kaKhushaya; **18** kanye labafowabo ngokulandelana ngezikhundla: uZakhariya, loJahaziyeli, loShemiramothi, loJeyiyeli, lo-Uni, lo-Eliyabi, loBhenaya, loMaseya, loMathithiya, lo-Elifelehu, loMikhineya, lo-Obhedi-

Edomi kanye loJehiyeli abalindi bamasango. **19** Abahlabeleli uHemani lo-Asafi kanye lo-Ethani babezatshaya izigubhu zethusi; **20** loZakhariya, lo-Aziyeli, loShemiramothi, loJehiyeli, lo-Uni, lo-Eliyabi, loMaseya kanye loBhenaya babezatshaya imihubhe, ngokuhambelana le-alamothi **21** loMathithiya, lo-Elifelehu, loMikhineya, lo-Obhedi-Edomi, loJeyiyeli kanye lo-Azaziya babezatshaya imiqangala, njengokuqondiswa kwabo yishiminithi, **22** uKhenaniya umkhokheli kubaLevi wayengumhlabeleli; wayepethe lapha ngoba wayeligabazi. **23** UBherekhiya lo-Elikhana babengabalindi bamasango ebhokisi lesivumelwano, **24** loShebhaniya, loJoshafathi loNethaneli, lo-Amasayi, loZakhariya, loBhenaya kanye lo-Eliyezari bengabaphristi bokuvuthela icilongo phambi kwebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu. U-Obhedi-Edomi loJehiya labo babengabalindi beminyango yebhokisi lesivumelwano. **25** Ngakho uDavida labadala bako-Israyeli labalawuli bamaxuku enkulungwane bahamba ukuyathatha ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo endlini ka-Obhedi-Edomi, bahamba ngokujabula. **26** Ngoba uNkulunkulu wayebasizile abakoLevi ababethwele ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo, benza umhlatshelelo wenkunzi eziyisikhombisa lenqama eziyisikhombisa. **27** UDavida labo bonke abaLevi ababethwele ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo labahlabeleli loKhenaniya umkhokheli wabahlabeleli babegqoke izigqoko zelemu lelineni elihle, uDavida wayegqoke lesigqoko semahlombe selineni elihle. **28** Ngakho abako-Israyeli ngobunengi babo balethe ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo ngomdumo omkhulu, bevuthela impondo zenqama betshaya lamacilongo, lezigubhu lamachacho lemihubhe. **29** Ekungeneni kwebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo eMzini kaDavida, uMikhali indodaka kaSawuli wayebukele elunguze ngefasisela. Wathi ebona inkosi uDavida izithokozisa igida, wayeyisa ngenhliziyoyakhe.

16 Balithwala ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu bayalengenisa ethenteni uDavida ayelilungiselele lona, banikela ngeminikelo yokutshiswa leyobudlelwano phambi kukaNkulunkulu. **2** UDavida eseqedile ukunikela ngeminikelo yokutshiswa langeyobudlelwano, wabusisa abantu ngebizo likaThixo. **3** Wababela bonke abako-Israyeli, abesilisa labesifazane, yilowo lalowo isinkwa, lekhekhe lezithelo kanye lekhekhe lamavini awonyisiweyo. **4** Wakhetha abanye abaLevi ukukhonzisa phambi kwebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo bedumisa uThixo, bebonga uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli: **5** Induna kwakungu-Asafi, uZakhariya engumseki, kulandela uJeyeli, loShemiramothi, loJehiyeli, loMathithiya, lo-Eliyabi, loBhenaya, lo-Obhedi-Edomi kanye loJeyiyeli. Babezatshaya amachacho lemihubhe, u-Asafi etshaya izigubhu, **6** abaphristi uBhenaya loJahaziyeli bengabokuvuthela amacilongo phambi kwebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu. **7** Ngalolosuku uDavida wamisa ukuba u-Asafi labanye bakhe bahlabelele lelihubo bebonga uThixo: **8** Bongani uThixo, memezani ibizo lakhe, lizazise phakathi kwabantu izenzo zakhe. **9** Hlabelelani kuye, hlabelelani indumiso kuye; likhulume ngezenzo zakhe zonke ezimangalisayo. **10** Jabulani ebizweni lakhe elingcwele; kazithokoze inhliziyoyakhe abamdingayo uThixo. **11** Dingani uThixo lamandla akhe, limdinge yena njalonjalo. **12** Khumbulani izenzo zakhe ezimangalisayo azenzayo, izimangalisayo azenzayo, lezihlulelo azikhulumayo, **13** lina zizukulwane zika-Israyeli inceku yakhe, lina madodana kaJakhobe, abakhethiweyo bakhe. **14** Yena unguThixo

uNkulunkulu wethu; izahlulelo zakhe zigcwele wonke umhlaba. **15** Uyakhumbula isivumelwano sakhe nini lanini, ilizwi lomlayo wakhe, okwezizukulwane ezizinkulungwane, **16** isivumelwano asenza lo-Abhrhama, isifungo asenza lo-Isaka, **17** wasiqinisa kujakhobe saba yisimiso, laku-Israyeli saba yisivumelwano esingapheliyo, **18** wathi “Ngizalnika ilizwe laseKhenani njengesabelo selifa lenu.” **19** Kwathi lisesebalutshwana, bebalutshwana kakhulu, beyizihambi kulo, **20** bezula kuzizwe ngezizwe besuka komunye umbuso besiya komunye. **21** Kavumelanga loba ngubani ukubancindezela; wawakhuza amakhosi ngenxa yabo, **22** “Lingabathinti abagcotshweyo bami; lingahlukuluzi abaphrofethi bami.” **23** Hlabelani kuThixo lina, mhlaba wonke, limemezele insindiso yakhe insuku ngezinsuku. **24** Fakazani ngobukhosi bakhe ezizweni zonke, lemisebenzi yakhe emangalisayo phakathi kwabantu bonke. **25** Ngoba umkhulu uThixo, ufanele ukudunyiswa ngokuphindiweyo; kumele esatshwe ngaphezu kwabonkulunkulu bonke. **26** Ngoba bonke onkulunkulu bezizwe bayizithombe; kodwa uThixo wadala amazulu. **27** Inkazimulo lobukhosi kuphambi Kwakhe Amandla lentokozo kusendaweni yakhe yokuhlala. **28** Mnikeni uThixo, lina zizukulwane zezizwe. Mnikeni uThixo ubukhosi lamandla. **29** Mnikeni uThixo udumo olufanele ibizo lakhe. Lethani umnikelo libuye phambi kwakhe. Mkhonzeni uThixo enkazimulweni yobungcwele bakhe; **30** thuthumelani phambi kwakhe mhlaba wonke! Umhlaba ugxilile, ngeke ugudluzwe. **31** Amazulu kawathokoze, lomhlaba ujabule, kabathi phakathi kwabezizwe, “UThixo uyabusa.” **32** Ulwandle kaluhlokome lakho konke okukulo, amasimu kawathakazelele lakho konke okukuwo. **33** Lapho-ke izihlahla zonke zeganga zizahlabela ngentokozo phambi kukaThixo, ngoba uyeza ukuzakwahlulela umhlaba. **34** Bongani uThixo ngoba ulungile. Uthando lwakhe olungapheliyo lumi kokuphela. **35** Celani lithi: “Sisindise, Oh Nkulunkulu Mkhulu wethu, usiqoqe usikhulule phakathi kwezizwe, ukuze silibonge ibizo lakho elingcwele, sijabule ekukudumiseni.” **36** Kabongwe uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, kusukela endulo kuze kube nininini. Bonke abantu bathi: “Ameni. Kabongwe uThixo!” **37** UDavida wasetshiya o-Asafi labakhula bakhe ukuba bagcine ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo, bakhonze njalo benze konke okufanele kwenziwe lapho ngezinsuku zonke. **38** Abanye abatshiya lapho ukuze bakhonze labo ngo-Obhedi-Edomi labakhula bakhe, ababengamatshumi ayisithupha lasificaminwembali. U-Obhedi-Edomi indodana kaJeduthuni, kanye loHosa babengabalindi bamasango. **39** UDavida watshiya uZadokhi umphristi kanye labanye abaphristi phambi kwethabanikeli likaThixo endaweni ephakemeyo yokukhonzela eGibhiyoni **40** ukunikela kuThixo iminikelo yokutshiswa e-alithareni ngezikhathi zonke, ekuseni lantambama, njengokulotshiweyo eMthethweni kaThixo, awupha abako-Israyeli. **41** Abanye abasala labo babengoHemani lojeduthuni labanye bonke balabo ababekhethiwe beqanjwa ngamabizo ukuba badumise uThixo, “ngoba uthando lwakhe lumi kuze kube nininini.” **42** UHemani lojeduthuni babengabokuvuthela amacilongo lokutshaya izigubhu lamanye amachacho ezingoma ezingcwele. Amadodana kaJeduthuni ayehlala esangweni. **43** Abanye bonke basuka, ngulowo lalowo waqonda emzini wakhe, uDavida wabuyela emzini wakhe ukuyabusisa abendlu yakhe.

17 UDavida eshlezi esigodlweni sakhe wasesithi kuNathani umphrofethi, “Uyabona, mina ngihlezi esigodlweni esakhiwa ngomsedari, kodwa ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo lingaphansi kwethente.” **2** UNathani wathi kuDavida, “Konke okusengqondweni yakho, kwenze, ngoba uNkulunkulu ulawe.” **3** Ngalobobusuku ilizwi likaNkulunkulu leza kuNathani, lisithi: **4** “Hamba uyetshele inceku yami uDavida uthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: Ayisuwu ozangakhela indlu yokuhlala kuyo. **5** Angikahlali endlini kusukela mhla ngakhulula abako-Israyeli eGibhithe kuze kube lamuhla. Sengibhode ngisuka kulelithente ngaya kuleliyana, ngisuka endaweni ethile yokuhlala ngisiya kweyinye. **6** Konke lapho engihambe khona labako-Israyeli, kambe kukhona lapho engike ngathi kubakhokheli babo engabalaya ukuthi beluse abantu bami, ‘Kungani lingangakhelanga indlu yemisedari na?’” **7** Ngakho tshela inceku yami uDavida ukuthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla: Ngakuthatha emadelweni ekweluseni izimvu, ukuze ube ngumbusi wabantu bami abako-Israyeli. **8** Ngibe ngilawe lapho obuhamba khona, ngizinqobile zonke izitha zakho phambi kwakho. Ngalokho ibizo lakho ngizalenza libe lodumo olufana lamabizo amadoda adume kakhulu emhlabeni. **9** Njalo ngizalungisela abantu bami bako-Israyeli indawo engeyabo ngibafake khona labo babe lekhaya labo lapho abangayikhulutshwa khona. Abantu abangagileyo abasayikubancindezela futhi, njengalokhu abakwenza kuqala **10** lalokhu asebhikelele ukukwenza kusukela esikhathini engamisa ngoba abakhokheli ebantwini bami u-Israyeli. Ngizazinqaba zonke izitha zakho. Ngiaqinisa kuwe ukuthi uThixo uzakwakhela indlu: **11** Kuzakuthi nxa insuku zakho seziphelile ususiya kubokhokho bakho, ngizakwenza inzalo yakho ithathe isikhundla sakho, omunye wamadodana akho, njalo ngizawuqinisa umbuso wakhe. **12** Lowo nguye ozangakhela indlu yami, ngakho ngizamisa isihlalo sombuso wakhe kuze kube nininini. **13** Ngizakuba nguyise, yena abe yindodana yami. Angiyikususa uthando lwami kuye, njengalokhu engakwenza kulowo owakwandulelayo. **14** Ngizambeka yena endlini yami lasembusweni wami kuze kube nininini, lombuso wakhe uzakuma kokuphela.” **15** UNathani wabikela uDavida amazwi wonke esambulelo. **16** Ngakho inkosi uDavida wangena wahlala phambi kukaThixo, wasesithi, “Ngingubani mina, awu Thixo Nkulunkulu wami, bayini abendlu yami, lokho okwenze waze wangibeka kulesi isimo? **17** Kanti njalonje lakho kubuye kukhanye kungathi kakwenelanga emehlweni akho, Oh Nkulunkulu, usukhulume ngelizayo ngendlu yencku yakho. Ungiphethe Nkulunkulu wami, awu Thixo Nkulunkulu wami, kungathi ngingomunye wabaphakemeyo kakhulu. **18** Kambe kuyini okunye uDavida angakutsho kuwe ngokuhlompheza okwenze encekwini yakho? Ngoba wena uyayazi inceku yakho, **19** Oh Thixo. Ngenxa yencku yakho, njalo langantando yakho, uyenzile into le enkulu, waziveza obala lezizithembiso ezinkulu kangaka. **20** Kakho ofanana lawe, Oh Thixo, njalo kakho omunye uNkulunkulu kodwa nguwe kuphela, njengoba sesizwile ngezethu indlebe. **21** Njalo ngubani ongafanana labantu bakho bako-Israyeli esiyiso sodwa isizwe emhlabeni esiloNkulunkulu owayazikhululela abantu, lokuzenzela ibizo, lokwenza imimangaliso enzima ngokuxotsha izizwe phambi kwabantu bakho, owabakhulula eGibhithe? **22** Wabenza abantu bakho u-Israyeli baba ngabantu bakho kuze kube nini lanini, njalo wena, Thixo, usunguNkulunkulu wabo. **23**

Lakhathesi, Thixo akuthi lesosithembiso owasenza encekwini yakho labendlu yayo sigwaliseke kuze kube nininini. Yenza njengokuthembisa kwakho, **24** kuze kubonakale ukuthi ibizo lakho lizaphakanyiswa kuze kube nininini. Ngakho abantu bazakuthi, 'UTHixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, ngoka-Israyeli uNkulunkulu!' Kuthi indlu yenceku yakho imiswe phambi kwakho. **25** Wena Nkulunkulu wami ukuveze obala encekwini yakho ukuthi uzayakhela indlu. Ngalokho incekukho yakho isithole isibindi sokukhuleka kuwe. **26** Oh Thixo, unguNkulunkulu wena! Usuthembise lezizinto ezinhle encekwini yakho. **27** Ngakho kukuthokozisile ukubusisa indlu yenceku yakho, ukuthi ibe khona phambi kwakho kuze kube nininini ebusweni bakho; ngoba wena, Oh Thixo, uyibusisile, njalo izabusiwa nini lanini."

18 Ngokuhubeka kwesikhathi uDavida wahlasela amaFilistiya wawanqoba, wathumba iGathi lebizana eseduzane layo eyayiphethwe ngamaFilistiya. **2** UDavida wanqoba njalo amaMowabi aba ngaphansi kwakhe athela kuye. **3** Kanti njalo, uDavida walwa loHadadezeri inkosi yaseZobha, kwaze kwafika eHamathi, esiyamisa umbuso wakhe emangweni olandela uMfula iYurathe. **4** UDavida wathumba izinqola zakhe zokulwa eziyinkulungwane, abatshayeli bazo abazinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa lamabutho ahamba phansi azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili. Wawaquma imisila wonke amabhiza eziyinqola zokulwa kwasala alikhulu kuphela. **5** Kwathi ama-Aramu aseDamaseko ezoncedisa uHadadezeri inkosi yaseZobha, uDavida wawathshaya wawabhuqa ama-Aramu kwafa azinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amabili lambili. **6** Wenza izinqaba e-Aramu embusweni waseDamaseko, ama-Aramu aba ngaphansi kombuso wakhe athela kuye. UThixo wanika uDavida ukunqoba kuzozonke izindawo ayezihlasele. **7** UDavida wathatha amahawu egolide ayephethwe yizikhulu zikaHadadezeri wawathwalela eJerusalem. **8** Kusukela eThebha laseKhuni, imizi eyayingekaHadadezeri, uDavida wathatha khona ithusi elinengi kakhulu, lelo uSolomoni enza ngalo uLwandle wethusi, izinsika lezinye impahla ezabunjwa ngethusi. **9** Kuthe lapho Towu inkosi yaseHamathi isizwe ukuthi uDavida usenqobe lonke ibutho likaHadadezeri inkosi yaseZobha, **10** wathumela indodana yakhe uHadoramu enkosini uDavida ukuthi iyembingelela emenzela amhlophe ngokunqoba uHadadezeri owayekade esilwa impi loTowu. UHadoramu wayethwele imihlobobho yezimpahla zegolide lesiliva kanye lezethusi. **11** Inkosi uDavida yazahlukanisela kuThixo, lezo zinto njengalokho eyayikwenze impahla zegolide lesiliva ezazithunjwe kulezozizwe zama-Edomi lamaMowabi, lama-Amoni, lamaFilistiya lama-Amaleki. **12** U-Abhishayi indodana kaZeruya watshaya wabhuqa ama-Edomi azinkulungwane ezilithshumi lasificamwembili eSigidini seTswayi. **13** Wabeka inkamba zamabutho okulinda e-Edomi, bonke abase-Edomi babangaphansi kombuso kaDavida. UThixo wapha uDavida ukunqoba kuzozonke izindawo ayesiya kuzo. **14** UDavida wabusa kulolonke elako-Israyeli, esenza okuqondileyo lokulungele abantu bakhe bonke. **15** UJowabi indodana kaZeruya wayephethe amabutho; uJehoshafathi indodana ka-Ahithubi engumlobi, **16** uZadokhi indodana ka-Ahithubi lo-Ahimeleki indodana ka-Abhiyathari babengabaphristi; uShavisha wayengumabhalane; **17** uBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada wayephethe amaKherethi

lamaPhelethi, lamadodana kaDavida ayeyizikhulu ayeseduzane lenkosi embusweni.

19 Kwathi emva kwesikhathi, uNahashi inkosi yama-Amoni wafa, ngakho indodana yakhe yathatha isikhundla yaba yinkosi. **2** UDavida wacabanga wathi, "Ngizakuba lomusa kuHanuni indodana kaNahashi ngoba uyise wayelomusa kimi." Ngakho uDavida wathuma izithunywa ukuyakhalela uHanuni ngoyise. Izithunywa zikaDavida zithe zifika kuHanuni ukuthi zikhalele elizweni lama-Amoni, **3** izikhulu zama-Amoni zathi kuHanuni, "Wena nkosi unakana ukuthi uDavida uhlonipha uyihlo ngokuthuma izithunywa zokukhalela na? Amadoda akhe la kawasizinhloli ezithunywe ukuzahlola umumo welizwe ukuze ahluthune umbuso na?" **4** Ngenxa yalokho uHanuni wabamba izithunywa zikaDavida, waziphuca, waquma izigqoko zazo zafika ezibunu, wasezixotsha. **5** Kwathi uDavida esekuzwile lokho wathuma izithunywa ukuba zihlangabeze izithunywa, njengoba zazihlukuluzwe zayingiswa kakhulu. Inkosi yathi, "Lina hlalani eJeriko indevu zenu zize zikhule, libe selisiza ngapha." **6** Kwathi ama-Amoni esebonile ukuthi asenuka emakheleni kaDavida, uHanuni lama-Amoni bathumela amathalenta esiliva ayinkulungwane okuqatshisa izinqola zokulwa labatshayeli bazo e-Aramu Naharayimu, le-Aramu-Mahakha laseZobha. **7** Baqatshisa izinqola zokulwa labatshayeli bazo abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu lambili, banxusa lenkosi uMahakha lamabutho akhe, yona eyoze yazakanisa eMedeba labantu bayo, ama-Amoni lawo eqoqana emadolobheni abo aphuma ukuya empini. **8** Uthe ekuzwa lokho uDavida, wathumela uJowabi kanye lamabutho akhe wonke. **9** Ama-Amoni asondela esehlome aphelela emangenelweni edolobho lakibo, kanti amakhosi ayenxusiwe ayejamile lawo wodwa egangeni. **10** UJowabi wabona ukuthi kwakulamavuyo amabutho phambi kwakhe langemva kwakhe, ngakho wakhetha amanye amaqhawe athenjiweyo ko-Israyeli wabahlala ukuba bamelane lama-Aramu. **11** Amanye amabutho ayesele wathi kawalawulwe ngu-Abhishayi umfowabo, wona-ke ajamelana lama-Amoni. **12** UJowabi wasesithi, "Nxa ama-Aramu ezangikhulela, wena uzangihlomulela; kanti-ke nxa ama-Amoni ezakukhulela lami ngizakuhlomulela. **13** Qina, kasilwe ngesibindi silwela abantu bakithi lemizi kaNkulunkulu wethu. UThixo uzakwenza lokho okufaneleyo njengokubona kwakhe." **14** Ngakho uJowabi lamabutho ayelawo wasuka ukuyakulwa lama-Aramu, wona ahle abaleka phambi kwakhe. **15** Kuthe ama-Amoni ebona ukuthi ama-Aramu ayabaleka, abaleka lawo phambi kuka-Abhishayi umfowabo kaJowabi, abuyela phakathi kwedolobho. Ngakho uJowabi wasebuyela eJerusalem. **16** Kwathi ama-Aramu esebonile ukuthi ehlulwe ngama-Israyeli, athuma izithunywa ziyaphendula ama-Aramu ayengaphethsheya koMfula, kanye loShofaki umlawuli wamabutho kaHadadezeri lamabutho ayekhokhele. **17** Kwathi uDavida esekutsheliwe lokhu, waqoqa bonke abako-Israyeli, wachapha uJodani, wajamelana labo ngamavuyo ayeqondene laye. UDavida walungiselela amavuyo akhe ukudibana lama-Aramu empini, lakanye alwa lawo. **18** Abaleka ebona u-Israyeli, ngakho uDavida wabulala abatshayeli beziyinqola zokulwa abazinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa lamabutho ahamba ngezinyawo azinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amane. Waze wabulala loShofaki umlawuli wamabutho akhona. **19** Kwathi izinceku zikaHadadezeri zibona ukuthi zehlulwe

ngabako-Israyeli, zaxolisana loDavida, zathela kuye. Ngakho ama-Aramu awathandanga ukunceda ama-Amoni kusukela lapho.

20 Kwathi entwasa, ngesikhathi sokuphuma kwezimpi zamakhosi ukuyakulwa, uJowabi wakhokhela amabutho ayehlomile. Watshaya wabhuqa ilizwe lama-Amoni waze wayavimbezela ilizwe laseRabha, kodwa uDavida wasala eJerusalem. UJowabi wahlasela iRabha wayitshiya ingamanxiwa. **2** UDavida wathatha umqhele owawusekhanda lenkosi yabo isisindo sawo sasilithalenta legolide, uceciswe ngamatshe aligugu, umqhele wasufakwa ekhanda likaDavida. Wathatha impango enengi kakhulu kulelodalobho, **3** njalo abantu ababelapho wabasusa wabasa lapho ababezasebenza khona gadalala ngamasaha, ngamapiki ensimbi kanye lamahloka. Lokhu uDavida wakwenza kuwo wonke amadolobho ama-Amoni. Kwathi uDavida ngokwakhe kanye lamabutho akhe wonke babuyela eJerusalem. **4** Ngokuqhubeka kwesikhathi, kwaqhamuka impi yamaFilistiya, eGezeri. Ngalesosikhathi uSibhekhayi umHushathi wabulala uSiphayi, omunye wobosendo lwamaRefayi kwaba yikwehlulwa kwamaFilistiya. **5** Kweyinye impi lamaFilistiya, u-Elihanani indodana kajayiri wabulala uLahimi umfowabo kaGoliyathi umGithi, owayelomkhonto ololuthi olunjengolomeluki. **6** Kanti njalo kwenye impi, eyalwelwa eGathi, kwakulendoda enkulu kakhulu ileminwe eyisithupha esandleni ngasinye, lamazwane ayisithupha enyaweni ngalunye, sekubalwa konke ndawonye kungamatshumi amabili lane. Laye wayengowosendo lukaRafa. **7** Ngokuchothoza kwakhe abako-Israyeli, uJonathani indodana kaShimeya, umfowabo kaDavida, wambulala. **8** Laba ngabosendo lukaRafa eGathi, njalo bafela ezandleni zikaDavida lamabutho akhe.

21 USathane wasemelana labako-Israyeli njalo wafuqela uDavida ukuba abale abantu bako-Israyeli. **2** Ngakho uDavida wathi kuJowabi kanye labalawuli bamabutho, “Hambani liyebala u-Israyeli kusukela eBherishebha kusiya koDani. Beseliphenduka lizongitshela ukuze ngazi ukuthi bangaki khonale.” **3** Kodwa uJowabi waphendula wathi, “Sengathi uThixo angandazi amabutho akhe ngokuphindwe okwedlula ikhulu. Mhlekazi wami nkosi, kambe kabasibantu benkosi yami bonke laba? Inkosi yami ifunelani ukukwenza lokhu? Kungani ithanda ukwehlisela icala phezu kwabako-Israyeli?” **4** Loba kwakunjalo, uJowabi wakhulelwa yilizwi lenkosi, ngakho uJowabi walibhoda lonke elako-Israyeli wasebuyela eJerusalem. **5** UJowabi wafika wabikela uDavida inani lamadoda ayengalwa empini: Kulolonke elako-Israyeli kwakulamadoda ayisigidi lezikulungwane ezilikhulu ayelakho ukuthi angayiphatha inkemba, kubalwa labazinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amane alamatshumi ayisikhombisa koJuda. **6** Kodwa ekubaleni kwakhe uJowabi kazange ahlanganise abalevi labakaBhenjamini, ngoba umlayo wenkosi wawumnenga. **7** Kanti njalo lowomlayo wawuyisono phambi kukaNkulunkulu, lakanye wamjezisa u-Israyeli. **8** Ngakho uDavida wasesithi kuNkulunkulu, “Ngonile kakhulu phambi kwakho ngokwenza lokhu. Ngakho, ngiyakuncenga, susa umlandu lo encekwini yakho. Ngenze ubuwala obukhulu kakhulu.” **9** UThixo wakhuluma loGadi, umboni kaDavida, wathi: **10** “Hamba uyetshela uDavida ukuthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: Ngikunika ukuthi ukhethe phakathi kokuthathu. Khetha okukodwa okumele ngikwehlisele khona

mina.” **11** Ngakho uGadi waya kuDavida wathi kuye, “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: ‘Zikhethele wena okufunayo: **12** iminyaka emithathu yendlala, loba izinyanga ezintathu zokududulwa uxotshwa yizitha zakho, ngenkemba zazo zikukhulela, loba insuku ezintathu zokumelana lenkemba kaThixo, kuyikuthi kuyabe kuyisifo elizweni, ingilosi kaThixo iletha incithakalo kulolonke elako-Israyeli.’ Ngakho, khathesi khetha ukuthi ngifike ngithini kulo ongithumileyo.” **13** UDavida wathi kuGadi, “Ngisosizini olukhulu kakhulu; kungangcono ngizinikele ezandleni zikaThixo, ngoba umusa wakhe mkhulu kakhulu; kodwa unganganikeli ezandleni zabantu.” **14** Ngakho uThixo wathumela isifo ko-Israyeli, kwafa amadoda azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa ko-Israyeli. **15** Njalo uNkulunkulu wasethumela ingilosi ukuba iyechitha iJerusalem. Kodwa ingilosi ithe isakwenza lokho, uThixo wazisola ngencithakalo eyayizakwenzakala wale wakhuzo ingilosi eyayizabhubhisa abantu wathi, “Kwaele! Susa isandla sakho.” Ingilosi kaThixo ngalesosikhathi yayisimi esizeni sika-Onani umJebusi. **16** UDavida wakhangelela phezu wabona ingilosi kaThixo imi phakathi kwezulu lomhlaba, iphethe inkemba esandleni sayo phezu kweJerusalem. Ngakho uDavida labadala, begqoke amasaka, bawa phansi ngobuso. **17** UDavida wathi kuNkulunkulu, “Angithi yimi engithe akubalwe amadoda okulwa na? Yimi engonileyo ngadala isono. Laba abasilutho yizimvu ezilandelayo. Benzeni? Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu wami, isandla sakho asiwele phezu kwami labendlu yami, kodwa akuthi isifo singasali ebantwini bakho.” **18** Ngakho ingilosi kaThixo yathuma uGadi ukuthi ayetshela uDavida ukuthi ayekwakha i-alithari likaThixo esizeni sika-Onani umJebusi. **19** Lakanye uDavida walalela ilizwi elakhitshwa nguGadi ngebizo likaThixo. **20** U-Onani esabhula ingqoloyi, wanyemukula wabona ingilosi; amadodana akhe amane ayelaye acatsha. **21** Kwasekufika uDavida, kuthe u-Onani embona, watshiya ukubhula wayakhothamela uDavida elokhu ebuso bukhothamele phansi. **22** UDavida wathi kuye, “Ake ungivumele ngibone isiza sakho sokubhulela amabele ukuze ngakhe i-alithari likaThixo, ukuze isifo esisebantwini simiswe. Ngithengisele sona ngentengo yaso egcweleyo.” **23** U-Onani wathi kuDavida, “Sithathe! Inkosi yami kayenze lokho ebona kuyithokozisa. Khangela, mina ngizaletha inkabi zomnikelo wokutshiswa, lemibhulo yokubhula izakuba zinkuni, ingqoloyi izakuba ngumnikelo wamabele. Konke lokhu ngiyakunika.” **24** Kodwa inkosi uDavida yathi ku-Onani, “Hayi, ngifuna ukuthenga ngentengo egcweleyo. Angiyikuthatha okuya kuThixo okungokwakho, angiyikumikela umnikelo wokutshiswa engingawuthenganga.” **25** Ngakho uDavida wanika u-Onani amashekeli egolide angamakhulu ayisithupha ethenga leyondawo. **26** UDavida wakhela uThixo i-alithari kuleyondawo wanikela iminikelo yokutshiswa leminikelo yobudlelwano. Wakhuleka kuThixo, uThixo wamphendula ngomlilo uvela ezulwini phezu kwe-alithari lomnikelo wokutshiswa. **27** Ngakho uThixo wakhuluma lengilosi, yona yasibuyisela inkemba yayo esikhwameni sayo. **28** Ngalesosikhathi, uDavida esebonile ukuthi uThixo wayemphendulele esizeni sika-Onani umJebusi, wanikela iminikelo kuleyondawo. **29** Ithabanikele likaThixo, elalakiwe nguMosi enkangala, kanye le-alithari leminikelo yokutshiswa ngalesosikhathi kwakusendaweni ephakemeyo eGibhiyoni. **30** Kodwa uDavida wehluleka ukuya khona ukuze abuze kuNkulunkulu ngoba wayesebaka inkemba yengilosi kaThixo.

22 UDavida wasesithi, “Indlu kaThixo uNkulunkulu izakuba khonapha, kanye le-alithari lomnikelo wokutshiswa ka-Israyeli.” **2** Ngakho uDavida wakhupha ilizwi lokuthi bonke abezizweni abahlala ko-Israyeli babuthaniswe, kwathi phakathi kwabo wakhetha ababazi bamatshe ukuze balungise babaze amatshe okwakha indlu kaNkulunkulu. **3** Wabuthanisa insimbi enengi kakhulu yokwenza izipikili zezivalo lezinsimbi zokuhlanganisa, wabuthanisa lethusi elinengi elingelakulinganiswa. **4** Wadinga lezigodo zomsedari ezinengi ezingelakubalwa, ngoba amaSidoni labaseThire balesitha inani lazo elikhulu kakhulu kuDavida. **5** UDavida wasesithi, “Indodana yami uSolomoni usengumntwana njalo ayikabi lolwazi, ngoba phela indlu ezakwakhelwa uThixo kumele ibe yindlu ebukeyayo kakhulu ibe lodumo lesithunzi emehlweni ezizwe zonke. Ngakho ngizalungiselela ukwakhiwa kwayo.” Yikho uDavida walungiselela ngokujulileyo esaphila. **6** Wasebiza uSolomoni indodana yakhe, wamlaya ukuthi akhele uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli indlu. **7** UDavida wathi kuSolomoni: “Ndodana yami, ngangizimisele ukwakhela iBizo likaThixo, uNkulunkulu wami indlu. **8** Kodwa ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: ‘Wena uchithe igazi elinengi, walwa izimpi ezinengi. Kawuyikwakhela iBizo lami indlu, ngoba uchithe igazi elinengi kakhulu emhlabeni. **9** Kodwa, uzalala indodana ezakuba ngumuntu othanda ukuthula; ngizayiphumusa ezitheni zayo inxa zonke. Izathiwa nguSolomoni, njalo ngizanika u-Israyeli ukuthula ensukwini zokubusa kwakhe. **10** Nguye ozakwakhela iBizo lami indlu. Uzakuba yindodana yami, mina ngizakuba nguyise. Njalo ngizaqinisa ubukhosi bakhe ko-Israyeli kuze kube nininini.’ **11** Ndodana yami, uThixo kabe lawe ukuze uphumelele ukwakha indlu kaThixo uNkulunkulu wakho, njengokutsho kwakhe ngawe. **12** Sengathi uThixo angakunika ukuhlakanipha lokuqedisa, ukuze kuthi lapho ekunika amandla ko-Israyeli, uwulondolozel maylo kaThixo uNkulunkulu wakho. **13** Uzaphumelela nxa unanzelela ukugcina izimiso lemithetho uThixo ayinika u-Israyeli ngoMosi. Qina, ube lesibindi. Ungesabi utshaywe luvalo. **14** Ngayo yonke imizamo yami ngilungisele indlu kaThixo amathalenta egolide azinkulungwane ezilikhulu, lamathalenta esiliva ayisigidi, lethusi kanye lesimbi okulesisindo esingelakubalwa, lezigodo kanye lamatshe. Lawe ungengezelela kulokho. **15** Ulezisebenzi ezinengi, ababazi bamatshe, labakha ngamatshe, lababazi, lezingcitshi zemisebenzi yonke, **16** eyegolide, isiliva, ithusi kanye lesimbi, izingcitshi ezingelakubalwa. Qalisa-ke umsebenzi, uThixo abe lawe.” **17** UDavida waselaya bonke abakhokheli bako-Israyeli ukuba basize uSolomoni indodana yakhe. **18** Wathi kubo, “uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu kakho kini na? Kalinikanga ukuthula inxa zonke na? Ngoba unikele abantu belizwe esandleni sami, lelizwe libuswa nguThixo labantu bakhe. **19** Ngakho nikelani inhliziyu zenu ekufuneni uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. Qalisanu ukwakha indlu kaThixo uNkulunkulu, ukuze ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo lezitsha zikaThixo ezingcwele kungeniswe ethempelini elizakwakhelwa iBizo likaThixo.”

23 Kwathi uDavida esemdala eseluphele, wabeka uSolomoni indodana yakhe ukuba abe yinkosi ko-Israyeli. **2** Wasehlanganisa bonke abakhokheli bako-Israyeli, labaphristi kanye labaLevi. **3** AbaLevi abaleminyaka esukela kwengamatshumi amathathu kusiya phezulu babalwa,

inani lamadoda laba zinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu lasificaminwembali. **4** UDavida wasesithi: “Phakathi kwalaba, abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lane bazakhangela ukuqhutshwa komsebenzi wethempeli likaThixo kuthi abazinkulungwane eziyisithupha bazakuba yizikhulu labahluleli. **5** Abazinkulungwane ezine bazakuba ngabalindi bamasango kuthi abazinkulungwane ezine badumise uThixo ngamachacho lezigubhu engizigcinele lowomsebenzi.” **6** UDavida wehlukanisa abaLevi ngamaxuku kusiya ngamadodana kaLevi: uGeshoni, loKhhohathi kanye loMerari. **7** Exukwini labakaGeshoni yilaba: uLadani loShimeyi. **8** Amadodana kaLadani yila: nguEhiyeli owokuqala, loZethami kanye loJoweli, bonke bebathathu. **9** Amadodana kaShimeyi yila: nguShelomothi, loHaziyeleli kanye loHarani, bonke bebathathu. Laba babezinhloko zezindlu zenzalo kaLadani. **10** Lamadodana kaShimeyi yila: nguJahathi, loZiza, loJewushi kanye loBheriya. Laba kwakungamadodana kaShimeyi, bonke babebane. **11** UJahathi engowakuqala loZiza engowesibili, kodwa uJewushi loBheriya abazange babelamadodana amanengi, ngakho babalwa njengemuli yinye bahle baphiwa umsebenzi bendawonye. **12** Amadodana kaKhhohathi yila: ngu-Amramu, lo-Izihari, loHebhroni kanye lo-Uziyeli, bonke babebane. **13** Amadodana ka-Amramu yila: ngu-Aroni loMosi. U-Aroni wehlukanisela ukunikela izinto ezingcwele kakhulu kuThixo, ukuze yena lamadodana akhe batshise impepha phambi kukaThixo lokumkhonza lokubusisa ngebizo lakhe kuze kube nininini. **14** Amadodana kaMosi inceku kaNkulunkulu abalwa ndawonye labesizwana sikaLevi. **15** Amadodana kaMosi yila: nguGeshomu lo-Eliyezari. **16** Abosendo lukaGeshomu: nguShubhayeli engowakuqala. **17** Abosendo luka-Eliyezari: nguRehabhiya engowakuqala. U-Eliyezari kazange abe lamanye amadodana kodwa amadodana kaRehabhiya ayemanengi kakhulu. **18** Amadodana ka-Izihari yila: nguShelomithi engowokuqala. **19** Amadodana kaHebhroni yila: nguJeriya engowokuqala, lo-Amariya engowesibili, loJahaziyeleli engowesithathu kanye loJekhameyamu owesine. **20** Amadodana ka-Uziyeli yila: nguMikha engowakuqala lo-Ishiya owesibili. **21** Amadodana kaMerari yila: nguMahili loMushi. Amadodana kaMahili yila: ngu-Eliyezari loKhishi. **22** U-Eliyezari wafa engelamadodana: wayelamadodakazi wodwa. Amadodakazi endela kubafowabo, amadodana kaKhishi. **23** Amadodana kaMushi yila: nguMahili, lo-Ederi kanye loJerimothi, bonke bebathathu. **24** Laba kwakungabosendo lukaLevi ngazingindlu zabo, abazinhloko zezindlu njengokulotshwa kwamabizo lokubalwa kwabo ngamunye, okutsho ukuthi, abasebenzayo abaleminyaka engamatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu ababesebenza ethempelini likaThixo. **25** Ngoba uDavida wathi: “Njengoba uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, enike abantu bakhe ukuthula lokuthi bazahlala eJerusalem kuze kube nininini, **26** abaLevi akusafanele bathwale ithabanikeli loba kuyini okusetshenziswa ezinkonzweni zalo.” **27** Njengeziyalezelo zikaDavida zokucina, abaLevi babalwa kusukela kwabaleminyaka engamatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu. **28** Umsebenzi wabaLevi wawungowokuncedisa inzalo ka-Aroni emsebenzini wethempeli likaThixo: ukugcina amagama akhona; izindlu ezisemaceleni, ukuhlambulula zonke izinto ezingcwele lokwenza yonke imisebenzi endlini kaNkulunkulu. **29** Babephethe umsebenzi wesinkwa sokwahlukanisela ethaleni, ifulawa yomnikelo wamabele,

lesinkwa esingelamvubelo, ukuxuba lokupheka isinkwa, lezilinganiso zonke zezisindo lobukhulu bakhona. **30** Njalo babemele beme ngezinyawo ekuseni nsuku zonke ukubonga lokudumisa uThixo. Kwakufanele benzenjalo lantambama, **31** lalapho kunikelwa iminikelo yokutshiswa kuThixo ngamaSabatha, emadilini okuThwasa kweNyanga, lakuyo yonke imikhosi emisiweyo. Babefanele bambenzele uThixo ngazozonke izikhathi ngenani elilingeneyo langendlela ababeyimiselle. **32** Ngakho abaLevi bawenza umsebenzi wabo weThenteni lokuHlanganela, laseNdaweni eNgcwele, ngaphansi kwabafowabo abayisizukulwana sika-Aroni, emsebenzini wethempeli likaThixo.

24 Lezi yizo izigaba zamadodana ka-Aroni: Amadodana ka-Aroni nguNadabi, lo-Abhihi, lo-Eliyazari kanye lo-Ithamari. **2** Kodwa uNadabi lo-Abhihi bafa uyise engakafi, njalo babengelamadodana; ngakho u-Eliyazari lo-Ithamari yibo ababa ngabaphristi. **3** Ngokuphathisana loZadokhi owosendo luka-Eliyazari kanye lo-Ahimeleki owosendo luka-Ithamari, uDavida wabehlukanisa ngezigaba kusiya ngemisebenzi ababemele bayenze. **4** Babebanengi abosendo luka-Eliyazari abakhokheli kulabosendo luka-Ithamari ngakho behlukaniswa bamiswa njengalokhu: kwakusiba ngabalitshumi lesithupha kwabosendo luka-Eliyazari abazinhloko labayisificaminwembili kusendo luka-Ithamari. **5** Babakhetha kungelakubandlulula ngokuphosa inkatho, ngoba zazikhona izikhulu zendawo yokuphephela lezikhulu zikaNkulunkulu phakathi kwabosendo luka-Eliyazari laphakathi koluka-Ithamari. **6** Umlobi uShemaya indodana kaNethaneli, umLevi, waloba amabizo abo phambi kwenkosi kanye lezikhulu: uZadokhi umphristi, lo-Ahimeleki indodana ka-Abhiyathari kanye lenhloko zezimuli zabaphristi labaLevi, kuthathwa imuli eyodwa ku-Eliyazari kuphinde kuthathwe imuli eyodwa ku-Ithamari. **7** Inkatho yakuqala yadla uJehoyaribhi, eyesibili yadla uJedaya, **8** eyesithathu yadla uHarimu, eyesine yadla uSeworimi, **9** eyesihlanu yadla uMalikhija, eyesithupha yadla uMijamini, **10** eyesikhombisa yadla uHakhozi, eyesificaminwembili yadla u-Abhija, **11** eyesificaminwemunye yadla uJeshuwa, eyetshumi yadla uShekhanija, **12** eyetshumi lanye yadla u-Eliyashibi, eyetshumi lambili yadla uJakhimi, **13** eyetshumi lantathu yadla uHupha, eyetshumi lane yadla uJeshehheyabi, **14** eyetshumi lanhlano yadla uBhiliga, eyetshumi lesithupha yadla u-Imeri, **15** eyetshumi lesikhombisa yadla uHeziri, eyetshumi lasificaminwembili mbili yadla uHapizezi, **16** eyetshumi lesificaminwemunye yadla uPhethahiya, eyamatshumi amabili yadla uHezekhiyeli, **17** eyamatshumi amabili lanye yadla uJakhini, eyamatshumi amabili lambili yadla uGamuli, **18** eyamatshumi amabili lantathu yadla uDela, eyamatshumi amabili lane yadla uMaziya. **19** Yizo lezi izigaba ababehlukaniswe ngazo ukuze benze umsebenzi wokukhonza ekungeneni kwabo ethempelini likaThixo, ngezimiso ezenzelwa ukhokho wabo u-Aroni, njengokulaywa kwakhe nguThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. **20** Kwathi-ke ababesele abosendo lukaLevi: emadodaneni ka-Amramu: uShubhayeli; emadodaneni kaShubhayeli: nguJehideya. **21** Kuvela kuRehabhiya, amadodana akhe yila: ngu-Ishiya engowokuqala. **22** Kuma-Izihari: nguShelomothi; emadodaneni kaShelomothi; nguJahathi. **23** Amadodana kaHebhroni yila: nguJeriya owokuqala lo-Amariya owesibili, loJahaziyele

owesithathu loJekhameyamu owesine. **24** Indodana ka-Uziyele: nguMikha; emadodaneni kaMikha nguShamiri. **25** Umfowabo kaMikha: ngu-Ishiya; emadodaneni ka-Ishiya: nguZakhariya. **26** Amadodana kaMerari: nguMahili loMushi. Indodana kaJahaziya: nguBheni. **27** Amadodana kaMerari: Kusuka kuJahaziya: nguBheni, loShohamu, loZakhuri kanye lo-Ibhiri. **28** Kusuka kuMahili: ngu-Eliyazari, ongazange abe lamadodana. **29** Kusukela kuKhishi: indodana kaKhishi: nguJerameli. **30** Njalo lakumadodana kaMushi: nguMahili, lo-Ederi kanye loJerimothi. Laba kwakungabaLevi, ngezimuli zabo. **31** Labo baphosa inkatho, njengalokhu okwenziwa ngabafowabo abosendo luka-Aroni, phambi kwenkosi uDavida loZadokhi, u-Ahimeleki, labayizinhloko zezimuli zabaphristi kanye lezabaLevi. Imuli yomfowabo omdala yaphathwa njengemuli yomfowabo omncinyane kulabo bonke.

25 UDavida, elabalawuli bamabutho, wakhetha abanye bamadodana ka-Asafi, uHemani loJeduthuni emsebenzini wokuphrofetha, baphelekezelwa yimihubhe lamachacho lezigubhu. Nantu uluhlu lwamadoda ayenza lowomsebenzi: **2** Emadodaneni ka-Asafi: nguZakhuri, loJosefa, loNethaniya kanye lo-Asarela. Amadodana ka-Asafi ayesesandleni sika-Asafi, yena owayephrofetha esesandleni senkosi. **3** NgakuJeduthuni, amadodana akhe yila: nguGedaliya, loZeri, loJeshaya loShimeyi, loHashabhiya kanye loMathithiya, beyisithupha ndawonye, besesandleni sikayise uJeduthuni, owayephrofetha esebenzisa umhubhe ukubonga lokudumisa uThixo. **4** NgakuHemani, amadodana akhe yila: nguBhukhiya, loMathaniya, lo-Uziyele, loShubhayeli kanye loJerimothi; uHananiya, loHanani, lo-Eliyatha, loGidalithi loRomamthi-Ezeri; loJeshibhekhasa, loMalothi, loHothiri kanye loMahaziyothi. **5** Bonke laba kwakungamadodana kaHemani umboni wenkosi. Bona ebaphiwe ngesithembiso sikaNkulunkulu sokumphakamisa. UNkulunkulu wapha uHemani amadodana alitshumi lane lamadodakazi amathathu. **6** Wonke lamadoda ayephethwe ngoyise emsebenzini wokuhlabelela ethempelini likaThixo, ngezigubhu, amachacho lemihubhe enkonzweni endlini kaNkulunkulu. U-Asafi, loJeduthuni kanye loHemani babengaphansi kwenkosi. **7** Bona kanye lezihlobo zabo zonke babewufundele umsebenzi wokuhlabelela njalo bengamagabazi okuhlabelela uThixo, babengamakhulu amabili lamatshumi ayisificaminwembili labantu abayisificaminwembili. **8** Abatsha labadala ngokufanayo, abafundisayo lababefunda, baphosa inkatho. **9** Inkatho yakuqala eyayingeka-Asafi yawela kuJosefa lamadodana akhe kanye lezihlobo zakhe, belitshumi lambili; eyesibili yawela kuGedaliya, yena kanye lezihlobo lamadodana akhe belitshumi lambili; **10** eyesithathu yawela kuZakhuri, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo zakhe, belitshumi lambili; **11** eyesine yawela ku-Iziri, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo zakhe belitshumi lambili; **12** eyesihlanu yawela kuNethaniya, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo zakhe belitshumi lambili; **13** eyesithupha yawela kuBhukhiya, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili; **14** eyesikhombisa yawela kuJesarela, lamadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili; **15** eyesificaminwembili yawela kuJeshayiya, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili; **16** eyesificaminwemunye yawela kuMathaniya, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili; **17** eyetshumi yawela kuShimeyi, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili; **18** eyetshumi lanye

yawela ku-Azareli, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili; **19** eyetshumi lambili yawela kuHashabhiya, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili; **20** eyetshumi lantathu yawela kuShubhayeli, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili; **21** eyetshumi lane yawela kuMathithiya, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili; **22** eyetshumi lanlanu yawela kuJerimothi, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili; **23** eyetshumi lesithupha yawela kuHananiya, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili; **24** eyetshumi lesikhombisa yawela kuJoshibhekhasa, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili; **25** eyetshumi lasificaminwembili yawela kuHanani, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili; **26** eyetshumi lesificaminwemunye yawela kuMalothi, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili; **27** eyamatshumi amabili yawela ku-Eliyatha, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili; **28** eyamatshumi amabili lanye yawela kuHothiri, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili; **29** eyamatshumi amabili lambili yawela kuGidalithi, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili; **30** eyamatshumi amabili lantathu yawela kuMahazyothi, lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili; **31** eyamatshumi amabili lane yawela kuRomamthi-Ezeri lakumadodana akhe lezihlobo, belitshumi lambili.

26 Izigaba zabalindi bamasango: KwabakoKhora: kunguMeshelemiya indodana kaKhora, omunye wamadodana ka-Azafi. **2** UMeshelemiya wayelamadodana ahlanganisa uZakhariya eyakuqala loJedyeli eyesibili, loZebhadiya eyesithathu, loJathiniyeli eyesine, **3** lo-Elamu eyesihlanu, loJehohanani eyesithupha kanye lo-Eliyehonayi eyesikhombisa. **4** U-Obhedi-Edomi laye wayelamadodana: kunguShemaya eyakuqala, loJehozabdhali eyesibili, loJowa eyesithathu, loSakhari eyesine, loNethaneli eyesihlanu, **5** lo-Amiyeli eyesithupha, lo-Isakhari eyesikhombisa, kanye loPheuwethayi eyesificaminwembili. (Ngoba uNkulunkulu wayembusile u-Obhedi-Edomi.) **6** Indodana yakhe uShemaya layo yayilamadodana, ayengabakhokheli kwabendlu kayise ngoba babengamadoda enelisayo. **7** Amadodana kaShemaya wona yila: ngu-Othini, loRafayeli, lo-Obhedi kanye lo-Elizabhadhi; izihlobo zakhe u-Elihu loSemakhiya lazo zazingamadoda ayesenelisa. **8** Bonke laba babengabosendo luka-Obhedi-Edomi; bona kanye lamadodana abo lezihlobo zabo babengamadoda enelisayo belamandla okwenza umsebenzi, bengabosendo luka-Obhedi-Edomi, babengamatshumi ayisithupha lambili sebendawonye. **9** UMeshelemiya wayelamadodana lezihlobo, amadoda ayekhaliphile ayelitshumi lasificaminwembili esendawonye. **10** UHosa ongum'Merari wayelamadodana: uShimiri engowakuqala (loba wayengasuye izibulo, uyise wayembeke kulesosikhundla sokuba ngowokuqala), **11** loHilikhiya engowesibili, loThabhaliya engowesithathu kanye loZekhariya engowesine. Amadodana lezihlobo zikaHosa sebendawonye babelitshumi lantathu. **12** Izigaba zabalindi bamasango, kusiya ngabakhokheli bazo, zazilomlandu wokwenza umsebenzi ethempelini likaThixo, njengokwakusenziwa yizihlobo zabo. **13** Benza inkatho isango lilinye, kusiya ngemuli, abatsha labadala kufanana. **14** Inkatho yeSango langaseMpumalanga yawela kuShelemiya. Basebesenzela inkatho indodana yakhe uZakhariya owayengumcebisi

okhaliphileyo, inkatho yeSango langaseNyakatho yawela kuye. **15** Inkatho yeSango langaseZansi lawela ku-Obhedi-Edomi, amadodana akhe kwathiwa kawalinde isiphala. **16** Inkatho yeSango langaseNtshonalanga kanye leSango leShalekethi emgwaqweni ongaphazulu laya kuShuphimu loHosa. Kwalinda abalindi ngabalindi: **17** Kwakusiba labaLevi abayisithupha ngelanga empumalanga, abane ngelanga enyakatho, abane ezansi ngelanga kuthi esipheleni kube lababili lakhona ngazozonke izikhathi. **18** Phambili ngentshonalanga, kwakulabane emgwaqweni, ababili besegumeni uqobo. **19** Lezi yizigaba zabalindi bamasango ababengabosendo lukaKhora loMerari. **20** Abanye babaLevi babephatha inotho yethempeli likaNkulunkulu leziligugu ezingcwele. **21** Abosendo lukaLadani, ababe ngamaGeshoni ngoLadani njalo ababezinhloko zabakaLadani umGeshoni, kwakunguJehiyeli, **22** amadodana kajehiyeli, loZethami lomfowabo uJoweli. Laba yibo ababephethe inotho yethempeli likaThixo. **23** Kuma-Amramu, ama-Izihari, lamaHebhroni lama-Uziyeli babemi ngalindlela: **24** uShubhayeli, owoosendo lukaGeshomu indodana kaMosi, wayeyisikhulu esasiphethe ezenotho. **25** Izihlobo zakhe ngo-Eliyezari yilezi: nguRehabhiya indodana yakhe, loJeshaya indodana yakhe, loJoramu indodana yakhe, loZikhiri indodana yakhe loShelomithi indodana yakhe. **26** (UShelomithi lezihlobo zakhe babephethe zonke ezenotho ezingcwele ezazinikelwe yinkosi uDavida, labayizinhloko zezindlu ababengabalawuli bezinkulungwane labalawuli bamakhulu, langabanye abalawuli bamabutho. **27** Einye impango eyayithunjwe ekuleni bayinikela ekulungisweni kwethempeli likaThixo. **28** Lakhokheli wawo kwakunguJeriya kusiya ngokulotshwa koluhlu lokuzalana kwezimuli zawo. Kwathi ngomnyaka wamatshumi amane wokubusa kukaDavida kwahlolisiswa kuloluhlu lwemibhalo, kwafunyanwa ukuthi amadoda akhaliphileyo phakathi kwamaHebhroni ayesejazeri ngaseGilyadi. **32** UJeriya wayelezihlobo ezingamakhulu angamatshumi amabili lesikhombisa, ezazikhaliyile njalo zizinhloko zezimuli zazo, ngakho inkosi uDavida wazibeka ukuthi ziphathe abakoRubheni, abakoGadi lengxenyane yesizwana sikaManase kukho konke okwakungokukaNkulunkulu lokuyizindaba zenkosi.

27 Nantu uluhlu lwabako-Israyeli, inhloko zezimuli, abalawuli bezinkulungwane labalawuli bamakhulu, ababesebenzela inkosi kulokho okuqondane lamaviyo empi ayefanele ukuzophisana ngenyanga kuze kuyephela umnyaka. Iviyo lilinye lalilamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lane. **2** Owayephethe iviyo lakuqala, ngenyanga yakuqala, kwakunguJashobheyamu indodana kaZabhidiyeli. Kwakulamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lane esigabeni sakhe. **3** Yena

wayengowosendo lukaPherezi njalo eyinduna yezikhulu zonke zamabutho okwenyanga yakuqala. **4** Owayephethe iviyo ngenyanga yesibili kwakunguDodayi wako-Ahohi; uMikhilothi engumkhokheli weviyo lakhe. Kwakulamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lane eviyweni lakhe. **5** Umlawuli wamabutho wesithathu, owezopho lesithathu, kwakunguBhenaya indodana kaJehoyada umphristi. Wayeyinduna, njalo esigabeni sakhe kwakulamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lane. **6** Nguyenalo uBhenaya owayeliqhawe phakathi kwamaTshumi amaThathu njalo eyinduna yamaTshumi amaThathu. Indodana yakhe u-Amizabhadhi yayiphethe iviyo lakhe. **7** Owesine, owezopho lenyanga yesine, kwakungu-Asaheli umfowabo kaJowabi; indodana yakhe uZebhadiya wasala esethatha isikhundla sakhe. Kwakulamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lane eviyweni lakhe. **8** Owesihlanu, owezopho lenyanga yesihlanu, kwakungumlawuli uShamihuthi owako-Izira. Kwakulamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lane eviyweni lakhe. **9** Owesithupha, owezopho lenyanga yesithupha, kwakungu-Ira indodana ka-Ikheshi waseThekhowa. Kwakulamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lane eviyweni lakhe. **10** Owesikhombisa, owezopho lenyanga yesikhombisa, kwakunguHelezi umPheloni, owako-Efrayimi. Kwakulamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lane eviyweni lakhe. **11** Owesificaminwembili, owezopho lenyanga yesificaminwembili, kwakunguSibbekhayi umHushathi wakoZera. Kwakulamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lane eviyweni lakhe. **12** Owesificamunwemunye, owezopho lesificamunwemunye, kwakungu-Abhiyezeri um'Anathothi owakoBhenjamini. Kwakulamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lane eviyweni lakhe. **13** Owetshumi, owezopho lenyanga yetshumi, kwakunguMaharayi umNethofa wakoZera. Kwakulamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lane eviyweni lakhe. **14** Owetshumi lanye, owezopho lenyanga yetshumi lanye, kwakunguBhenaya umPhirathoni wako-Efrayimi. Kwakulamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lane eviyweni lakhe. **15** Owetshumi lambili, owezopho lenyanga yetshumi lambili, kwakunguHelidayi umNethofa, owemuli ka-Othiniyeli. Kwakulamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lane eviyweni lakhe. **16** Izikhulu ezizwaneni zako-Israyeli yilezi: KwabakoRubheni: ngu-Eliyezari indodana kaZikhiri; kwabakoSimiyoni, nguShefathiya indodana kaMahakha; **17** kwabakoLevi: nguHashabhiya indodana kaKhemuweli; kwabako-Aroni: nguZadokhi; **18** kwabakoJuda: ngu-Elihu, umfowabo kaDavida; kwabako-Isakhari: ngu-Omri indodana kaMikhayeli; **19** kwabakoZebhuluni: ngu-Ishimoya indodana ka-Obhadaya; kwabakoNafithali: nguJerimothi indodana ka-Aziriyeli **20** kwabako-Efrayimi: nguHosheya indodana ka-Azaziya; kwabayingxenyane yesizwana sikaManase: nguJoweli indodana kaPhedaya; **21** kwabayingxenyane yesizwana sikaManase eGilyadi: ngu-Ido indodana kaZakhariya; kwabakoBhenjamini: nguJasiyeli indodana ka-Abhineri; **22** kwabakoDani: ngu-Azareli indodana kaJerohamu. Laba babeyizikhulu ezizwaneni zako-Israyeli. **23** UDavida kazange abhale phansi inani lamadoda ayeleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lababengaphansi kwaleyo, ngoba uThixo wayethembise ukuthi wayezakwandisa u-Israyeli abe njengezinkanyezi

emkhathini. **24** UJowabi indodana kaZeruya waqalisa ukubala amadoda kodwa kaqedanga. Ulaka lwehlela u-Israyeli ngenxa yalokho kubalwa ngakho inani lelo alibhalwanga encwadini yeindaba zeNkosi uDavida. **25** U-Azimavethi indodana ka-Adiyeli wayephethe iziphala zesikhosini. UJonathani indodana ka-Uziya wayephethe iziphala emaphandleni ezabelweni, emadolobheni, emizini kanye lasezilindweni. **26** U-Eziri indodana kaKhelubi wayephethe izisebenzi emaphandleni ezazilima amasimu. **27** UShimeyi umRamathi wayephethe izivini. UZabhidhi waseShefama wayephethe izithelo zezivini zokwenza iwayini. **28** UBhali-Hanani umGederi wayephethe izihlahla zama-oliva lomkhiwane wesikhomare emawatheni ezintatshana zantsшонalanga. UJowashi wayephethe amafutha e-oliva. **29** UShithirayi umSharoni wayephethe imihlambi eyayisemadlweni aseSharoni. UShafathi indodana ka-Adilayi, wayephethe imihlambi ezihotsheni. **30** U-Obhili owako-Ishumayeli wayephethe amakamela, uJehideya owakoMeronothi ephethe ezabobabheni. **31** UJazizi umHagari wayephethe ezemihlambi yezimvu. Bonke laba babeyizikhulu ezaziphethe impahla zenkosi uDavida. **32** UJonathani, isihlobo sikaDavida, wayengumcebisi, indoda ehlananiphileyo njalo engumbhali. UJehiyeli indodana kaHakhimoni wayephethe amadodana enkosi. **33** U-Ahithofeli wayengumcebisi wenkosi. UHushayi owako-Arikhi wayengumngane wenkosi. **34** UJehoyada indodana kaBhenaya nguye owathatha isikhundla sika-Ahithofeli kwalandela u-Abhiyathari. UJowabi wayengumlawuli webutho lenkosi.

28 UDavida wamema zonke izikhulu zako-Israyeli zabuthana eJerusalem: izikhulu zezizwana, abalawuli bamaviyo emsebenzini wenkosi, abalawuli bezinkulungwane kanye labalawuli bamakhulu, lezikhulu ezaziphethe ezazimpahla lezifuyo zenkosi lamadodana ayo, kanye lezikhulu zesigodlweni, amaqhawe labo bonke ababelezibindi empini. **2** Inkosi uDavida yasukuma yathi: 'Lalelani, zihlobo labantu bami, bengizimisele ukwakhela ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo, indlu yokuhlala njalo kuyisenabelo sikaNkulunkulu wethu, ngaze ngenza amalungiselelo okukufeza lokho. **3** Kodwa uNkulunkulu wathi kimi: 'Awuyikulakhela indlu iBizo lami, ngoba wena ungowempi njalo usuchithe igazi.' **4** Kodwa uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, wakhetha mina kuyo yonke indlu yakwethu ukuba yinkosi yako-Israyeli kuze kube nininini. Wakhetha uJuda ukuba abe ngumkhokheli, kwathi khona endlini kaJuda wakhetha imuli yakwethu, kwakuthi emadodaneni kababa kumthokozisile ukungibeka ngibe yinkosi kulolonke elako-Israyeli. **5** Kuwo wonke amadodana ami njengoba uThixo engiphe amanengi, umkhethile uSolomoni indodana yami ukuba ahlale esihlalweni sobukhosi esikhosini sombuso kaThixo ko-Israyeli. **6** Wathi kimi: 'USolomoni indodana yakho yiyo ezangakhela indlu yami ilungise lamagama ami, ngoba ngimkhethile ukuba abe yindodana yami, lami ngizakuba nguyise. **7** Ngizawuqinisa umbuso wakhe kuze kube nininini nxa eqina ekucineni imilayo yami lemithetho yami njengalokhu okwenzakalayo lamuhla.' **8** Ngakho-ke phambi kwakhe wonke u-Israyeli, lebandla likaThixo uNkulunkulu, laphambi kukaNkulunkulu wethu: gcinani linanzelele imilayo kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, ukuze libe lelizwe elihle elizalithiyela izizukulwane kube yilifa lazo kuze kube nininini. **9** Njalo wena ndodana yami, Solomoni, mamukele uNkulunkulu kayihlo, umkhonze ngokuzinikela ngenhliziyo yakho yonke

langengqondo yokuvuma, ngoba uThixo uyihlola yonke inhliziyi kanti uyayazi iminakano lezenzo zonke. Nxa umdinga uThixo, uzamthola wena, kodwa nxa umfulathela, uzakufulathela yena kuze kube nininini. **10** Nanzelela-ke ngoba uThixo ukukhethile ukuba umakhele ithempeli libe yindawo yokukhonzela. Qina wenze umsebenzi.” **11** Ngakho uDavida wasenika uSolomoni indodana yakhe umdwebo wesakhiwo sethempeli, lowezindlu zalo, lowezindlu zenotho, lowezindlu zangaphezulu, lowezindlu zangaphakathi, lowendlu yesihlalo somusa. **12** Wamnika umdwebo wakho konke ayekutshengiswa nguMoya engqondweni yakhe ngamagama ethempeli likaThixo, lowezindlu eziwazingelezeleyo, lowendlu yenotho yethempeli, lowendlu yenotho yezinto ezingcwele. **13** Wamtshela langesimo sezigaba zabaphristi lezabaLevi, langawo wonke umsebenzi wasethempelini likaThixo, langezitsha zonke zenkonzo, **14** langesisindo segolide lazozonke izitsha zegolide zaleyo lalayo nkonzo, langesisindo zezitsha zesiliva zaleyo lalayo nkonzo: **15** langesisindo sezinti zezibane zegolide kanye lezibane zazo, langesisindo segolide salolo lalololuthi lwesibane lezibane zalo, lobunzima besiliva balolo lalololuthi lwesibane lezibane zalo, njengokusetshenziswa kwazo enkonkweni; **16** langesisindo segolide saleyotafula lezinkwa ezahlukeniselwe uNkulunkulu lesisindo sesiliva esamatafula enziwe ngesiliva; **17** isisindo segolide elicengekileyo lezinti, imiganu yokuchelisa lezinkezo zakhona, lesisindo saleso lalesositsha segolide, kanye lesaleso lalesositsha sesiliva. **18** Wamtshela langesimo se-alithare lempepha elenziwe ngegolide elicengekileyo lesisindo salo, langomfanekiso wesihlalo esingamakherubhi egolide achaye amaphiko awo egubuzele ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo. **19** UDavida wasesithi: “Konke lokhu ngilakho kulotshwe ngesandla sikaThixo phezu kwami, njalo wanginika ukuzwisisa kukho konke lokhu langokuphelela kwesimo sakhona.” **20** Okunye okwatshwano nguDavida kuSolomoni indodana yakhe yikuthi, “Qina ube lesibindi, njalo uwenze lumsebenzi. Ungesabi njalo ungalahli ithemba ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu wami, ulawe. Kawuyikwehluleka njalo kayikukufulathela kuze kube sekupheleni komsebenzi wethempeli likaThixo. **21** Izigaba zabaphristi labaLevi sebelindele wonke umsebenzi wethempeli likaNkulunkulu, njalo kuzakuthi bonke abazinikeleyo bakuphathise ngobungcitshi babo obupheleleyo kuyo yonke imisebenzi. Izikhulu labantu bonke zizayamukela yonke imilayo yakho.”

29 Inkosi uDavida yathi ebandleni lonke: “Indodana yami uSolomoni, yena kanye osekhethwe nguNkulunkulu, usesengumfana njalo usesemutsha. Umsebenzi mkhulu, ngoba lesisakhiwo sobukhosi ayisiko esomuntu kodwa ngesikaThixo uNkulunkulu. **2** Sengilungiselele ngayo yonke inzuzo engilayo ukwakhiwa kwethempeli likaNkulunkulu wami, igolide lokwenza izinto zegolide, isiliva sokwenza izinto zesiliva, ithubo lokwenza izinto zethusi, lensimbi yokwenza izinto zensimbi, lezigodo zokwenza izinto zezigodo, kanye lohlobo lwamatshe e-onikisi, lamatshe okubekwa, lamatshe okucecisa, lalemibala, lenhlobonhlobo zonke zamatshe amahle lamatshe alukhuni amanengi, konke lokhu ngikubuthelele ngakunengi. **3** Ngaphandle kwalokho, ngenxa yokutshisekela kwami ithempeli likaNkulunkulu wami, manje senginikela inotho yami yegolide lesiliva ethempelini likaNkulunkulu wami ngaphezu kwakho konke engikulethileyo ethempelini

leli elingcwele: **4** ngamathalenta egolide azinkulungwane ezintathu egolide (igolide lase-Ofiri) lamathalenta esiliva esicengekileyo azinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa okokugudula ngalo imiduli yezindlu, **5** okomsebenzi wegolide lokomsebenzi wesiliva lokwawo wonke umsebenzi ozakwenziwa yizingcitshi. Ngakho, ngubani ofuna ukuzinikela kuThixo lamuhla?” **6** Abazinhloko zezindlu, izikhulu zezizwana zaka-Israyeli, abalawuli bezinkulungwane labalawuli bamakhulu, lezikhulu ezazikhangele ngokuqhutshwa komsebenzi wenkosi bapha ngokuzinikela. **7** Banikela emsebenzini wethempeli likaNkulunkulu amathalenta azinkulungwane ezinhlanu lezinhlamvu zegolide ezizinkulungwane ezilithumi, lamathalenta esiliva azinkulungwane ezilithumi, amathalenta ethusi azinkulungwane ezilithumi lasificaminwembili mibili, lamathalenta azinkulungwane ezilikhulu ensimbi. **8** Loba ngubani owayelamatshe aliguwu wawanikela endlini yenotho yethempeli likaThixo yona eyayiphethwe nguJehiyeli umGeshoni. **9** Abantu baba lokujabula okukhulu bebona ukuzinikela kwabakhokheli babo, ngoba banikela kuThixo ngokukhululeka langezinhliziyi zabo zonke. UDavida inkosi laye wajabula kakhulu. **10** UDavida wamdumisa uThixo phambi kwebandla lonke esithi: “Kawudunyiswe, Wena Thixo, Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli ukhokho, kusukela nininini kuze kube nininini. **11** Bungobakho, Oh Thixo, ubukhulu lamandla lodumo lobukhosi lenkazimulo, ngoba konke okusezulwini lokusemhlabeni kungokwakho. Bungobakho, Oh Thixo, ubukhosi; uphakeme wena phezu konke. **12** Inotho lodumo kulela kuwe; ungumbusi wazo zonke izinto. Esandleni sakho kukhona ukuqina lamandla. Kukuwe ukuphakamisa lokupha amandla kubo bonke. **13** Siyakubonga khathesi, Nkulunkulu wethu, silidumisa ibizo lakho elilodumo. **14** Kodwa mina ngiyini, bayini abantu bami, ukuthi sinikele ngenhliziyi yonke na? Konke kuvela kuwe, thina sikunike kuphela lokho okuvela esandleni sakho. **15** Singabezizweni lezethekele emehlweni akho, njengoba labokhokho bethu bonke babenjalo. Insuku zethu emhlabeni ziyafanana lesithunzi, asisilutho, kalikho ithemba. **16** Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu wethu, lokhu esesikunikele ngobunengi bakho ekwakhiweni kwethempeli eliyindawo yeBizo lakho eliNgcwele, kuvela esandleni sakho, njalo konke kuvale kungokwakho. **17** Ngiyazi, Nkulunkulu wami, uhlola inhliziyi njalo uyabuthanda ubuqotho. Zonke lezizinto ngizinikele ngokufisa langenhliziyi jobuqotho. Khathesi ngikhangele ngenkotoz abantu bakho abalapha ukuthi banikele ngesifiso kuwe. **18** Oh Thixo, Nkulunkulu wabobaba o-Abrahamama, lo-Isaka lo-Israyeli, yenza inhliziyi zabantu bakho zime ngalokhu kulangatha, njalo inhliziyi zabo zibe kuwe kuze kube nininini. **19** Phana uSolomoni, indodana yami, inhliziyi epheleleyo ukuze agcine imilayo yakho lemithetho yakho lezimis zakho, lokuthi akhe lesisakhiwo eziyisigodlo mina esengisilungiselele.” **20** UDavida wasesithi kulolonke ibandla, “Dumisani uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu.” Ngakho bonke bamdumisa uThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho babo, bathi mbo ngobuso phansi, bekhonza uThixo, behlonipha lenkosi. **21** Ngosuku olulandelayo banikela imihlatshelo kuThixo leminikelo yokutshiswa: inkunzi eziyinkulungwane, lenqama eziyinkulungwane lamazinyane amaduna ayinkulungwane, leminikelo yokunathwayo, layo yonke eminye imihlatshelo banikela ngokunengi benikelela bonke abako-Israyeli. **22** Badla banatha ngokujabula okukhulu ngalolosuku phambi kukaThixo. Basebememukela okwesibili

uSolomoni indodana kaDavida, bamgcoba phambi kukaThixo ukuthi abe ngumbusi, kuthi uZadokhi abe ngumphristi. **23** USolomoni wasebusa embusweni kaThixo esikhundleni sikayise uDavida. Waphumelela njalo wonke u-Israyeli wamlalela. **24** Izikhulu zonke kanye lamaqhawe, ndawonye lamadodana eNkosi uDavida bazinikela ngaphansi kombuso weNkosi uSolomoni. **25** UThixo wamphakamisa kakhulu uSolomoni wamnika isithunzi phezu kwabo bonke abako-Israyeli, njalo wamnika ubukhosi obungazange bube khona esikhosini kwabako-Israyeli. **26** UDavida indodana kaJese wayeyinkosi yabo bonke abako-Israyeli. **27** Wabusa kwabako-Israyeli iminyaka engamatshumi amane, eyisikhombisa eHebhroni kwathi engamatshumi amathathu lantathu eJerusalem. **28** Wafa eseluphele eseleminyaka eminengi kakhulu lenotho lodumo; uSolomoni indodana yakhe waba yinkosi esikhundleni sakhe. **29** Izehlakalo zombuso weNkosi uDavida kusukela ekuqaleni kuze kube sekupheleni, zilotshiwe egwalweni lwembali kaSamuyeli umboni, egwalweni lwembali kaNathani umphrofethi kanye lasegwalweni lwembali kaGadi umboni. **30** Kubalwa ukubusa kwakhe ngokugcweleyo, amandla lakho konke okwakusenzakala kuye lakwabako-Israyeli leminyane imibuso yawo wonke amanye amazwe.

2 Imilando

1 USolomoni indodana kaDavida waqina embusweni wakhe, ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe wayelaye njalo wamenza waba mkhulu kakhulu. **2** Kwathi uSolomoni wakhuluma kubo bonke abako-Israyeli kusukela kubalawuli bezinkulungwane labalawuli bamakhulu, kusiya kubahluleli lakubo bonke abakhokheli bako-Israyeli, abazinhloko zezimuli **3** kwaze kwathi yena uSolomoni lebandla lonke baya endaweni ephakemeyo yokukhonzela eGibhiyoni, njengoba ithente lokuhlanganela likaNkulunkulu, elalenzwe nguMosi inceku kaThixo enkangala lalikuluyondawo. **4** UDavida wayeselethe ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu lisuka eKhiriyaathi-Jeyarimi elisa endaweni ayelilungisele yona, ngoba wayeselimelele ithente eJerusalema. **5** Kodwa i-alithari lethusi elalaxhiwe nguBhezaleli indodana ka-Uri, indodana kaHuri, laliseGibhiyoni phambi kwethabanikeli likaThixo; ngakho uSolomoni lebandla lonke bahamba ukuyafuna intando yakhe khona. **6** USolomoni waseyiya e-Alithareni lethusi phambi kukaThixo ethenteni lokuhlanganela wafika wanikela iminikelo yokutshiswa eyinkulungwane phezu kwalo. **7** Ngalobobusuku uNkulunkulu wabonakala kuSolomoni wathi kuye: “Cela loba kuyini okufunayo ukuze ngikumike khona.” **8** USolomoni ephendula uNkulunkulu wathi: “Utshengisile umusa omkhulu kakhulu kubaba uDavida njalo mina usungibeke ngaba yinkosi esikhundleni sakhe. **9** Khathesi, Thixo Nkulunkulu, gcwalisa isithembiso owasenza kubaba uDavida, ngoba ungenze inkosi phezu kwabantu abanengi okothuli lomhlabathi. **10** Nginika ukuhlakanipha lolwazi, ukuze ngikhokhele lababantu, ngoba ngubani ongabusa abantu bakho abanengi kangaka?” **11** UNkulunkulu wathi kuSolomoni, “Njengoba lesi kuyisifiso somoya wakho njalo kawucelanga impahla lenotho lodumo, lokubhubha kwalabo abakuzondayo, lokuthi awucelanga impilo ende kodwa ucele inhlikanipho lolwazi ukuze ubuse phezu kwabantu bami engikwenze waba yinkosi yabo, **12** ngenxa yalokho ngizakunika inhlikanipho lolwazi. Njalo ngizakunika impahla, lenotho lodumo, okungakaze kwenzakale emakhosini akwandulelayo njalo akuyikwenzakala lakumakhosi alandelayo.” **13** Ngakho uSolomoni waya eJerusalema esuka endaweni yokukhonzela eGibhiyoni, evela phambi kwethente lokuhlanganela. Wabusa phezu kuka-Israyeli. **14** USolomoni wabuthanisa izinqola zokulwa lamabhiza; wayezeleziinqola zokulwa ezingamakhulu alitshumi lane lamabhiza azinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili, ayekugcina emizini yezinqola zezimpi okunye ekugcina yena eJerusalema. **15** Inkosi yandisa isiliva legolide eJerusalema kwangani ngamatshu, lezihlahla zomsedari zanda kwangani yizihlahla zomkhwiwa wesikhombe emawetheni ezintaba. **16** Amabhiza kaSolomoni ayethengwe eGibhithe laseKhuwe, abathengi besikhosini babewathenga eKhuwe. **17** Bathenga inqola yempi eGibhithe ngamashekeli esiliva angamakhulu ayisithupha kanye lebhiza ngamashekeli alikhulu elilamatshumi amahlanu. Babuya bawedlulisa wonke bayawathengisele amakhosi amaHithi kanye lawama-Aramu.

2 USolomoni wathi akwaxhiwe ithempeli leBizo likaThixo kanye lesigodlo sakhe. **2** Wabutha amadoda azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa awokuthwala imithwalo, lamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisificaminwembali awokubaza amatshe emaqaqeni,

lazinkulungwane ezintathu lamakhulu ayisithupha ayezakhangela abasebenzayo. **3** USolomoni wakhupha ilizwi elalisiya kuHiramu inkosi yaseThire lisithi: “Ngithumela izigodo zomsedari njengalokhu owakwenza kubaba uDavida owawumthumela umsedari ukuthi azakhele isigodlo ayezhlala kuso. **4** Sengilungiselela ukwakha ithempeli leBizo likaThixo uNkulunkulu wami lokunikela kuye ukutshisela impepha eloqhatshi olumnandi phambi kwakhe, lokunikela isinkwa esingcwele ngezikhathi zonke, lokunikela iminikelo yokutshiswa ekuseni lantambama langeSabatha langokuThwasa kweziNyanga kanye lasemikhosini emisiweyo kaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu. Lokhu ngokumiselwe u-Israyeli ngokungapheliyo. **5** Ithempeli engizalakra lizaqakatheka, ngoba uNkulunkulu wethu mkhulu kulabo bonke onkulunkulu. **6** Ngubani ozamakhela ithempeli, njengoba lamazulu, kanye lamazulu aphezulu engqongeni, angeke amanele. Pho ngingubani mina ukuba ngimakhele ithempeli, ngaphandle kwendawo yokutshisela imihlatshelo phambi kwakhe? **7** Ngakho, ngithumela indoda eyingcitshi ekusebenzeni ngegolide langesiliva, ithubu lensimbi, langamalembu ayibubende labomvu laluhlaza, ekwaziyo ukubalaza, ukuthi izosebenzela koJuda laseJerusalema labami abazingcitshi emisebenzini yezandla, labo abalethwa ngubaba uDavida. **8** Ngithumela izigodo zomsedari lezephayini leze-aligumi ezivela eLebhanoni, ngoba ngiyakwazi ukuthi abantu bakho bazingcitshi ekugamuleni izigodo khonale. Abantu bami bazasebenza labakho **9** bengilethela izigodo ezinengi, ngoba ithempeli engilakhayo kufanele libe ngelikhulu njalo elibukekayo. **10** Ngizanika izinceku zakho, abagamuli bezigodo, ingqoloyi ecolekileyo eyizilinganiso ezizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili, izilinganiso zebhali ezizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili, amatshumi amabili ezinkulungwane zezilinganiso zewayini kanye lezilinganiso zezithelo ze-oliva eziyizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili.” **11** UHiramu inkosi yaseThire waloba incwadi ephendula uSolomoni wathi: “Kungenxa yokuthi uThixo uyabathanda abantu bakhe, kungakho ukwenze waba yinkosi yabo.” **12** UHiramu wabuye wengezelela wathi: “Udumo kuye uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, yena owadala izulu lomhlabali Unike inkosi uDavida indodana ehlikaniphileyo, egcwele ukukhalipha lombono, ezakwakhela uThixo ithempeli njalo izakhele layo isigodlo sayo. **13** Ngikuthumela uHiramu-Abhi, indoda eyingcitshi kakhulu, **14** unina wayo wayedabuka koDani loyise evela eThire. Wafundela ukusebenza igolide lesiliva, ithubu lensimbi, ilitshu lezigodo, kanye lamalembu ayibubende, aluhlaza labomvu lelineni elicolekileyo. Ulobuciko kukho konke ukubalaza lokulungisa amise izimo zezifanekiso aziphwiweyo. Uzasebenza lezingcitshi zakho labala abenkosi yami, enguyihlo uDavida. **15** Ngakho inkosi yami kayithumele izinceku zayo ingqoloyi lebhali lamafutha e-oliva kanye lewayini njengokuthembisa kwayo. **16** Thina sizagamula zonke izigodo zeLebhanoni ozifunayo, sizenze iminyaba ezandanda olwandle igelezele ejopha. Wena uyihlangabeze uyithwalele eJerusalema.” **17** USolomoni wasebala bonke abezizweni ababeko-Israyeli, ngemva kokubalwa okwakwenziwe nguyise uDavida; kwatholakala kuyikuthi babezinkulungwane ezilikhulu elilamatshumi amahlanu lantathu, lamakhulu ayisithupha. **18** Wasesithi abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi

ayisikhombisa ababengabokuthwala, kuthi abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisificaminwembali babengabokubaza amatshe emaqaqeni, abazinkulungwane ezintathu lamakhulu ayisithupha babengabokukhangela abasebenzayo.

3 USolomoni waseqalisa ukwakha ithempeli likaThixo eJerusalem eNtabeni yaseMoriya, lapho uThixo wayeke waziveza khona phambi kukayise uDavida. Kwakusesizeni sokubhulela amabele sika-Onani umJebusi, indawo eyayilungiselelwe nguDavida. **2** Waqalisa ukwakha ngosuku lwesibili lwenyanga yesibili ngomnyaka wesine wokubusa kwakhe. **3** Isisekelo sesakhiwo sethempeli likaNkulunkulu esasimiswe nguSolomoni sasizingalo ezingamatshumi ayisithupha ubude baso njalo sibanzi okwezingalo ezingamatshumi amabili (kuyisilinganiso zezingalo zakudala). **4** Umkhandlwana owawuphambi kwethempeli wawubanzi okwezingalo ezingamatshumi amabili ulingana lowethempeli njalo umude ukuyaphezulu lakho kuzingalo ezingamatshumi amabili. Ngaphakathi wagudula ngegolide elihle. **5** Wabethela indlu yalo enkulu ngamapulanka ephayini wasehuqa ngegolide elicengekileyo wacacisa ngokucomba amalala lemiceco yamakhetane. **6** Wagqizisa ithempeli ngamatshe aligugu. Igolide alisebenzisayo kwakuligolide lePharivayimu. **7** Wasegudula ingaphakathi yophahla lemijabo yakhona, imigubazi, imiduli lezivalo zethempeli ngegolide, njalo wabazela amakherubhi emidulini. **8** Wakha iNdawo eNgcwelengcwele, ubude bayo bulingana lobubanzi bethempeli, izingalo ezingamatshumi amabili ubude njalo ezingamatshumi amabili ububanzi bayo. Wagudula ngaphakathi ngamathalenta angamakhulu ayisithupha egolide elicengekileyo. **9** Izipikili zegolide zilesisindo samashekele angamatshumi amahlanu. Wabuye wagudula ngegolide izindawo ezingaphezulu. **10** ENdaweni eNgcwelengcwele wenza amakherubhi abaziweyo wawahuqa ngegolide. **11** Amaphiko amakherubhi nxa evulekile eyizingalo ezingamatshumi amabili. Uphiko olulodwa lwekherubhi lakuqala lwaluzingalo ezinhlanu ubude balo njalo luthinta umduli wethempeli, kusithi olunye uphiko, lalo luzingalo ezinhlanu, luthinta uphiko lwelinye ikherubhi. **12** Ngokufananayo uphiko lwekherubhi lesibili lwaluzingalo ezinhlanu ubude balo lalo luthinta omunye umduli wethempeli, njalo kusithi olunye uphiko lalo luzingalo ezinhlanu ubude balo, luthinta uphiko lwekherubhi lakuqala. **13** Amaphiko amakherubhi ayechaye okuzingalo ezingamatshumi amabili. Ayemi ngezinyawo zawo, ekhangele indlu enkulu. **14** Wenza ikhetheni ngelembu eliluhlaza, leliyibubende lelibomvu, langelineni elicolekileyo, welukela imifanekiso yamakherubhi kilo. **15** Ngapha ngaphambi kwethempeli wamisa insika ezimbili, zona zombili zazinde okwezingalo ezingamatshumi amathathu lanhlano, ngalinye lilesiduku phezu esilingana izingalo ezinhlanu. **16** Wenza amaketane aphotheneyo wawabeka phezu kwezinsika. Njalo wenza amaphomegranathi alikhulu wawanamathisela emaketaneni. **17** Wasesakha izinsika zaphansi kwethempeli, eyinye ngezansi eyinye layo ngenyakatho. Insika engezansi wayibiza ngokuthi Jakhini kwathi eyenyakatho wayibiza ngokuthi Bhowazi.

4 Wenza i-alithari lethusi elizingalo ezingamatshumi amabili ubude balo, lezingamatshumi amabili ububanzi njalo izingalo ezilitshumi ukuyaphezulu. **2** Wasesenza uLwandle ngethusi elincibilikisiweyo, luyisizingelezi, luzingalo

ezilitshumi ukusuka okhunjini kusiya kolunye ukhumbi njalo luzingalo ezinhlanu ukuyaphezulu. Isilinganiso sokuluzingelezela sizingalo ezingamatshumi amathathu. **3** Ngaphansi komphetho, kulenkunzi eziluzingelezileyo, ingalo nganye iletshumi. Inkunzi zazibunjelwe emizileni emibili ndawonye loLwandle. **4** ULwandle lwalumi phezu kwenkunzi ezilitshumi lambili, ezintathu zikhangele enyakatho, ezintathu zikhangele entshonalanga, ezintathu eningizimu kanye lezintathu zikhangele empumalanga. ULwandle lwalumi phezu kwazo, izinge zazo zazifulathele ngaphakathi. **5** Uhlonzi lwalungangobubanzi besandla, umpetho walo unjengomphetho wenkomitsho njengeluba liqhakaza. Lwaluthwala amatanka azinkulungwane ezintathu. **6** Wasesenza izinditshi zokugezela ezilitshumi, ezinhlanu wazifaka eceleni laseningizimu ezinye ezinhlanu wazifaka enyakatho. Zazingezokuhlambululela izinto zokusetshenziswa eminkelweni yokutshiswa, kodwa uLwandle lwalungokugezela abaphristi. **7** Wenza izinti zezibane zegolide ezilitshumi elandela isilinganiso sazo, wazifaka ethempelini, ezinhlanu zazo eceleni leningizimu ezinye ezinhlanu ngenyakatho. **8** Wenza amatafula alitshumi wawafaka ethempelini, amahlanu ngeningizimu kwathi amahlanu ngenyakatho. Njalo wenza imiganu elikhulu eyegolide eyokuchela. **9** Wenza iguma labaphristi, leguma elikhulu kanye lezivalo zeguma, wasehuqa izivalo ngethusi. **10** Wafaka uLwandle eceleni leningizimu ejikweni leningizimu yempumalanga. **11** Wenza njalo lezimba lamafotsholo lemiganu yokuchela. Kwaba yikuqeda kukaHiram umsebenzi ayezinkolelo ukuzenzela inkosi uSolomoni ethempelini likaNkulunkulu: **12** izinsika ezimbili; iziduku eziyingubhe phezu kwezinsika; okwelukiweyo kungakubili kucecise iziduku eziyingubhe phezu kwezinsika; **13** amaphomegranathi angamakhulu amane ezalukweni zombili (imizila emibili yamaphomegranathi esalukweni ngasinye, kucecisa iziduku eziyingubhe phezu kwensika); **14** izingodlana ezilenkonxa phezu; **15** uLwandle lenkunzi ezilitshumi lambili ngaphansi kwalo; **16** imbiza, amafotsholo, izinti zenyama lakho konke okuhambelana lalokho. Zonke izinto uHuramu-Abhi azenzela inkosi uSolomoni ezethempeli likaThixo zazingezethusi elilolongiweyo. **17** Inkosi yabumba lezozinto ngebumba emagcekeni aseJodani phakathi kweSukhothi leZereda. **18** Zonke lezizinto ezenziwa nguSolomoni zazingeni okukuthi isisindo sethusi lazo sasingalinganiswa. **19** USolomoni wenza zonke izinto ezazisetempelini likaNkulunkulu: i-alithari legolide; amatafula esinkwa esiNgcwele; **20** izinti zezibane zegolide elihle lezibane zazo zokukhanyisa endlini engaphakathi njengokumisiweyo, **21** lamaluba, lezibane lezindlawu (zazenziwe ngegolide elihle); **22** izihloko zezibane ezegolide, imiganu yokuchela, lezindegezi zokuthwala umlilo, lezivalo zethempeli eziligolide, izivalo zangaphakathi eNdaweni eNgcwele Kakhulu lezivalo zendlu enkulu.

5 USolomoni eseqedile wonke umsebenzi wethempeli likaThixo ayewenzile, waletha zonke izinto ezazinikelwe nguyise uDavida, isiliva legolide lempahla wazibeka endaweni yezenotho ethempelini likaNkulunkulu. **2** USolomoni wasebiza abadala bako-Israyeli ebanxusela eJerusalem, lezinhloko zezizwana kanye lezinduna zezimuli zaku-Israyeli ukuthi bathathe ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo

eZiyoni, balise eMzini kaDavida. **3** Wonke amadoda ako-Israyeli ahlngana ndawonye enkosini ngesikhathi somkhosi ngenyanga yesikhombisa. **4** Kwathi bonke abadala bako-Israyeli sebefikile, abaLevi bathatha ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo, **5** balithwala kanye lethente lokuhlanelana lazozonke izinto ezingcwele ezaziphakathi kwalo. Abaphristi, ababengabaLevi, bazithwala; **6** njalo iNkosi uSolomoni kanye labo bonke abako-Israyeli ababebuthene kuye babephambi kwebhokisi lesivumelwano, benikela imihlatshelo eminengi yezimvu lenkomo ezazingeke zilotshwe loba zibalwe. **7** Abaphristi basebeletha ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo endaweni yalo engcwele engaphakathi ethempelini, iNdawo eNgcwele Kakhulu, balifaka ngaphansi kwamaphiko amakherubhi. **8** Amakherubhi avula amaphiko awo phezu kwendawo yebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo, amboza ibhokisi lesivumelwano kanye lemijabo yalo yokulithwala. **9** Imijabo yayimide kakhulu okuthi izihloko zayo, zisuka ebhokisini, zazibonakala endlini engcwele yangaphakathi, kodwa hatsi eNdaweni eNgcwelengcwele; zisekhona lanamhlanje. **10** Kwakungelalutho ebhokisini ngaphandle kwezibhebhedu zombili uMosi azifaka kulo eHorebhi, lapho uThixo enza khona isivumelwano lo-Israyeli sebepumile eGibhithi. **11** Abaphristi basebesuka eNdaweni eNgcwelengcwele. Bonke abaphristi abalapho babezingcwele, kungananza ixuku labo. **12** Bonke abaLevi ababengabahlabeleli, u-Asafi, uHemani, uJeduthuni lamadodana abo lezihlobo zabo bamela ngempumalanga kwe-alithari, begqoke ilineni elihle njalo betshaya izigubhu, amachacho lemiqangala. Babephelekezelwa ngabaphristi abalikhulu lamatshumi amabali bekhalisa amacilongo. **13** Abatshayi bamacilongo labahlabeleli bahlanganyela ndawonye, kungathi yilizwi linye, ukuba badumise njalo bebonga uThixo. Sekuhlangene amacilongo lezigubhu lokunye okukhaliswayo, baphakamisa amazwi abo bedumisa uThixo behlela besithi: "Ulungile; uthando lwakhe lumi kuze kube nininini." Ithemveli likaThixo lagcwala iyezi, **14** ngakho abaphristi babengeke benze inkonzo yabo ngenxa yeyezi, ngoba inkazimulo kaThixo yagcwala ithempeli likaNkulunkulu.

6 USolomoni wasesithi, "UThixo usetshilo ukuthi uzahlala eyezini elimnyama, **2** sengikwakhele ithempeli elimangalisayo, indawo yakho ozahlala kuyo kuze kube nininini." **3** Ibandla lonke lako-Israyeli lisemi khonapho, inkosi yaphenduka yababusisa. **4** Yasisithi: "Kadunyiswe uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, yena osegcwalise ngezandla zakhe ayekuthembise ubaba uDavida ngomlomo wakhe. Ngoba wathi, **5** 'Kusukela ngelanga engakhupha ngalo abantu bami eGibhithi, akuladolobho engalikhethayo laloba kusiphi isizwana sako-Israyeli, ukuba iBizo lami lakhelwe ithempeli khona, njalo angikhethanga loba ngubani ukuba abe ngumkhokheli wabantu bami bako-Israyeli. **6** Kodwa khathesi sengikhethe iJerusalem ukuba iBizo lami libe khonale, njalo sengikhethe uDavida ukuba abuse abantu bami bako-Israyeli.' **7** Ubaba uDavida wayetshiseka enhliziyweni yakhe ukuba akhele iBizo likaThixo ithempeli, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. **8** Kodwa uThixo wathi kubaba uDavida, 'Wenza kuhle ngokuba lesifiso sokungakhela ithempeli leBizo lami enhliziyweni yakho. **9** Lanxa kunjalo, kayisuwu ozakwakha ithempeli, kodwa indodana yakho eyinyama yakho legazi lakho, yiyo ezakwakhela iBizo lami ithempeli.' **10** UThixo usigcinile isithembiso asenzayo. Sengiyinkosi esikhundleni sikababa

uDavida njalo khathesi sengihlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi sika-Israyeli njengokuthembisa kukaThixo, njalo sengakhele iBizo likaThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli ithempeli. **11** Kulapho engibeke khona ibhokisi, phakathi kwalo kulesivumelwano sikaThixo asenza labantu bako-Israyeli." **12** USolomoni wasesima phambi kwe-alithari likaThixo phambi kwalo lonke ibandla lako-Israyeli welula izandla zakhe. **13** Wayenze isitubhu sethushi, ubude baso buzingalo ezinhlanu, lobubanzi baso buzingalo ezinhlanu njalo buzingalo ezintathu ukuyaphezulu, sona wayesimise phakathi laphakathi kweguma elingaphandle. Wema phezu kwesitubhu wasegqiza phambi kwalo lonke ibandla lako-Israyeli waphakamisela izandla zakhe ezulwini. **14** Wasesithi: "Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, kakho uNkulunkulu ofanana lawe ezulwini lasemhlabeni, wena ogcina isivumelwano sakho sothando lezincedu zakho eziqhubeka endleleni yakho ngezinhliziyo ezipheleleyo. **15** Usigcinile isithembiso sakho encekweni yakho uDavida ongubaba; ngomlomo wakho uthembisile njalo ngesandla sakho ukugcwalisile lokho njengoba kunjalo lamuhla. **16** Ngakho Thixo, Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, gcinela inceku yakho uDavida ubaba isithembiso owasenza kuye usithi, 'Kawuyikuswela umuntu ozakama phambi kwami esihlalweni sobukhosi buka-Israyeli, nxa amadodana akho ezahamba ngokomthetho wami phambi kwami, njengalokhu okwenzileyo wena.' **17** Ngakho khathesi, Thixo, Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, kaligcwaliseke ilizwi lesithembiso owalikhuluma kuDavida inceku yakho. **18** Kambe uNkulunkulu uzahlala labantu emhlabeni na? Amazulu, kanye lamazulu aphezulu kakhulu, kawakulingani. Pho lisilela kanganani lelithempeli engilakhileyo! **19** Kodwa-ke akuzwe umkhuleko wenceku yakho lokucela kwayo umusa, Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu wami. Zwana ukukhala lokukhuleka kwenceku yakho phambi kwakho. **20** Ebusuku lemini amehlo akho kakhangele lindlu, yona eyindawo owathi iBizo lakho lizakuba kuyo. Akuzwe umkhuleko wenceku yakho ngalindawo. **21** Akulalele ukucela kwenceku yakho lokwabantu bakho bako-Israyeli nxa bekhuleka bekhangele kule indawo. Akuzwe ezulwini, lona eliyindawo yakho yokuhlala; ukuze uthi ungezwa, uthethelele. **22** Nxa umuntu angonela umakhelwane wakhe, afungiswe, abesefunga isifungo phambi kwe-alithari lakho kulelithempeli, **23** zwana usezulwini, uthethelele. Zahlulele izinceku zakho, uyigwebe leyo elecala ngalokho ekwenzileyo, njalo uyidedele engonanga uyiphe umvuzo ofanele ukuba msulwa kwayo. **24** Kuthi lapho abantu bakho bako-Israyeli behlulwe yizitha ngoba bonile kuwe, akuthi lapho bephenduka befakaza ibizo lakho, bekhuleka njalo becela phambi kwakho kulelithempeli, **25** zwana usezulwini uthethelele izono zabantu bakho bako-Israyeli ubabuyisele elizweni owabapha lona kanye laboyise. **26** Akuthi nxa emazulwini kuvalekile lingasani izulu ngoba abantu bakho bonile kuwe, njalo bathi nxa bekhuleka bekhangele kulindawo befakaza ibizo lakho betshiya izono zabo ngoba ubajezisile, **27** zwana usezulwini uthethelele izono zenceku zakho, abantu bakho u-Israyeli. Bafundise indlela eqondileyo yokuphila uthumele izulu elizweni owalinika abantu bakho ukuba libe yilifa labo. **28** Nxa kufika indlala loba isifo elizweni, loba ingumane loba isikhwekhe, intethe loba isikhongwane, loba izitha zibavimbezela loba kukuyiphi imizi yabo, loba kufika incithakalo kumbe umkhuhlane bani, **29** kuthi lanxa umkhuleko kumbe isicelo sisenziwa ngomunye wabantu bakho bako-Israyeli, ngulowo lalowo ebona inhlupeko lezinsizi zakhe

njalo ephakamisela izandla zakhe kulelithempeli, **30** lalela usezulwini, okuyindawo yakho yokuhlala. Thethelela, wenzele umuntu munye ngamunye lokho okuhambelana lezenzo zakhe, ngoba wena uyazazi inhliziyi zabo (futhi nguwe wedwa owazi inhliziyi zabantu), **31** ukuze bakwesabe bahambe ezindleleni zakho besaphila elizweni owalipha okhokho bethu. **32** Akuthi owezizweni ongasuyeni omunye wabantu bakho bako-Israyeli kodwa evela elizweni elikhathshana ngenxa yodumo lwebizo lakho lesandla sakho esilamandla lengalo yakho elulekileyo, nxa esiza ekhuleka ekhangele kulelithempeli, **33** umuzwe usezulwini, lona eliyindawo yakho yokuhlala, umenzele owezizweni loba kuyini akucela kuwe, ukuze kuthi abantu bonke emhlabeni balazi ibizo lakho bakwesabe, njengalokhu abantu bakho bako-Israyeli bekwenza, ukuze bazi ukuthi lindlu engiyakhileyo ngeyeBizo lakho. **34** Nxa abantu bakho bephuma besiya epini ukuyakulwa lezitha zabo, loba kungaphi lapho obathuma khona, njalo kuthi nxa bekhuleka kuwe bekhangele lelidolobho olikhethileyo kanye lalelithempeli engilakhele iBizo lakho, **35** uzwe usezulwini imikhuleko yabo lokuncenga kwabo, ubamele wena. **36** Nxa bonile phambi kwakho, ngoba kakho ongoniyo njalo uze ubathukuthelele ubanikele ezitheni zabo ezibathumba zibase elizweni elikhathshana loba eliseduzane, **37** kuthi nxa benzagquka ezinhliziyweni zabo besemazweni abayabe bethunjelwe kuwo, baphenduke bakuncenge besemazweni abathunjelwa khona bathi, 'Sonile, senza okungalunganga lokubi', **38** loba nxa bephendukela kuwe ngezinhliziyi zabo zonke langemiphumulo yabo elizweni njalo bekhuleka bekhangele elizweni owalinika oyise, edolobheni owalikhethayo lasethempelini engilakhele iBizo lakho; **39** ngakho wena osezulwini, endaweni yakho yokuhlala, akuzwe imikhuleko yabo lokuncenga kwabo, ubamele. Njalo ubathethelele abantu bakho, bona abakoneleyo. **40** Ngakhoke, Nkulunkulu wami sengathi amehlo akho angavuleka lezindlebe zakho zilalele imikhuleko eyenziwa kule indawo. **41** Ngakho phakama, Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu, **42** Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu, ungangatheli oqotshiweyo wakho.

7 Kwathi uSolomoni eseqedile ukukhuleka, kwehla umlilo uvela ezulwini, waqhunqisa umnikelo wokutshiswa lemihlatshelo, inkazimulo kaThixo yagcwalisa ithempeli. **2** Abaphristi behluleka ukungena ethempelini likaThixo ngoba laligcwele inkazimulo kaThixo. **3** Kwathi lapho bonke abako-Israyeli bebona umlilo usehla lenkazimulo kaThixo ethempelini, bathi mbo ngobuso phansi embundwini weguma, badumisa bebonga uThixo besithi: "Yena ulungile; uthando lwakhe lumi kuze kube nininini." **4** Inkosi labantu bonke banikela imihlatshelo kuThixo. **5** Ngalokho inkosi uSolomoni yanikela umhlatshelo wenkomo ezizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lamabili kanye lezimvu lembuzi ezizinkulungwane ezilikhulu elilamatshumi amabili. Ngakho inkosi labantu bonke banikela ithempeli likaNkulunkulu. **6** Abaphristi bema ngezindawo zabo, njengoba labaLevi labo bema ngamachacho lawo inkosi uDavida eyayivele iwenzele ukudumisa uThixo njalo ayevele esetshenziswa nxa ebonga, esithi, "Uthando lwakhe lumi kuze kube nininini." Maqondana labaLevi, abaphristi babevuthela amacilongo abo, njalo bonke abako-Israyeli babemi. **7** USolomoni wahlukanisela uThixo indawo yaphakathi laphakathi kweguma phambi kwethempeli likaThixo, njalo kulapho anikelela khona iminikelo yokutshiswa lamafutha eminikelo yobudlelwano,

ngoba i-alithari lethusi ayelenzile lalingeke lenele iminikelo yokutshiswa, iminikelo yamabele kanye lamafutha. **8** Ngakho ngalesosikhathi uSolomoni wathakazelela umkhosi okwensuku eziyisikhombisa, labo bonke abako-Israyeli ababelaye, ababelibandla elikhulu, abanye bevela eLebho Hamathi kusiya eSihotsheni saseGibhithe. **9** Ngosuku lwesificaminwembili benza umhlangano, ngoba babekhonze ngokunikela i-alithari okwensuku eziyisikhombisa lomkhosi wezinye insuku eziyisikhombisa phezu. **10** Ngosuku lwamatshumi amabili lantathu lwenyanga yesikhombisa wakhulula abantu ukuthi babuyele emakhaya abo bethokoza njalo bejabula ngenhliziyi ngenxa yezinto ezinhle uThixo ayezenzele uDavida loSolomoni kanye labantu bakhe bako-Israyeli. **11** Kwathi uSolomoni eseqedile ithempeli likaThixo lesigodlo, eselenisile lokwenza konke ayekunakana ngethempeli likaThixo kanye lesigodlo sakhe, **12** UThixo wabonakala kuye ebusuku wathi: "Ngiwuzwile umkhuleko wakho njalo sengizikhethile indawo le ukuba ibe lithempeli lemihlatshelo. **13** Nxa ngivala iphezulu ukuze kungabi lezulu, loba ngithumela intethe ukuchitha ilizwe, ingabe ngithumela isifo phakathi kwabantu bami, **14** nxa abantu bami, ababizwa ngebizo lami, bezazithoba bakhuleke badinge ubuso bami njalo batshiye izindlela zabo ezimbi, kulapho ngizakuzwa khona ngisezulwini ngithethelele izono zabo njalo ngiphephise ilizwe labo. **15** Ngalokho amehlo ami azavuleka, lezindlebe zami zizalalela imikhuleko eyenziwa kulindawo. **16** Ngilikhethile ngizahlukanisela lelithempeli ukuze iBizo lami libe kulo kuze kube nininini. Amehlo ami lenhliziyi yami kuzakuba kulo ngazonkele izikhathi. **17** Wena, nxa ungangathela phambi kwami njengalokhu okwenzwa nguyihlo uDavida, wenze konke engikulaya ngakho, ulandele izimiso lemithetho yami, **18** ngizaqinisa isihlalo sakho sobukhosi, njengesivumelwano engasenza loyihlo uDavida ngisithi: 'Kawuyikuswela umuntu ozabusa u-Israyeli.' **19** Kodwa ungangathela utshiye izimiso lemilayo engikunika yona usuke uyekhothamela abanye onkulunkulu ubakhonze, **20** kulapho ngizakhucula abako-Israyeli elizweni lami, engabanika lona, kuthi lelithempeli engilahlukanisele iBizo lami ngilichithe, ngilenze libe yinto ekhohlakeleyo into eyinhlekisa kubo bonke abantu. **21** Loba lelithempeli likhanga amehlo, bonke abedlula lapha bazamangala bathi, 'Kanti kungani uThixo ekwenzile lokhu okunje kulelizwe kanye lakulelithempeli?' **22** Abantu bazaphendula bathi, 'Ngoba bamfulathele uThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho babo, owabakhupha eGibhithe, basuka bayabambelela kwabanye onkulunkulu, bebakhonza njalo bebakhothamela, yikho ebehlixelele incithakalo yonke le.'"

8 Ekupheleni kweminyaka engamatshumi amabili, leyo uSolomoni akha ngayo ithempeli likaThixo kanye lesigodlo sakhe, **2** uSolomoni wabuye wavusa imizi uHiramu ayemnike yona, wahlalisa abako-Israyeli kuyo. **3** USolomoni wayahlasela iHamathi-Zobha wayithumba. **4** Wakha njalo leThamari enkanjala layo yonke imizi yeziphala ayakha eHamathi. **5** Wavusa iBhethi-Horoni elingaphezu kanye leBhethi-Horoni elingaphansi, imizi ebizelweyo elimthangala lamasongo alemigoqo, **6** kanye leBhalathi lamadolobho akhe wonke ayeyiziphala lemizi yezinqola zakhe zempi kanye lamabhiza akhe lakho konke nje ayengafisa ukukwakha eJerusalemale leLebhanoni kanye lakulo lonke ilizwe ayelibusa. **7** Abantu bonke ababesele kumaHithi, lama-Amori, lamaPherizi,

lamaHivi kanye lamaJebusi (lababantu babengasiwo ama-Israyeli), 8 kutshiwo labo inzalo yabo eyayisele elizweni, labo abangabhujiswanga ngama-Israyeli, uSolomoni wababutha baba yizigqili: njengoba kunjalo kuze kube lanamhla. 9 Kodwa abako-Israyeli uSolomoni kabenzanga izigqili emsebenzini wakhe; babengamadoda akhe empi, abalawuli bezinduna zebutho, labalawuli bezinqola zokulwa labokulwa ngezinqola zokulwa. 10 Njalo babeyizikhulu zenkosi uSolomoni, bengamakhulu amabili alamatshumi amahlanu ababepethe abantu. 11 USolomoni wasusa indodakazi kaFaro eMzini kaDavida wayisa esigodlweni asakhela yona, ngoba wathi, “Umkami kamelanga ahlahle esigodlweni sikaDavida inkosi yako-Israyeli, ngoba izindawo esezike zangena ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo zingcwele.” 12 USolomoni wasenikela kuThixo umnikelo wokutshiswa phezu kwe-alithari likaThixo ayelakhele phambi komkoto, 13 kulandelwa umkhuba wemihla ngemihla njengokulaya kukaMosi eqakathekisa iSabatha, lokuThwasa kweNyanga kanye lokwemikhosi emithathu yomnyaka, uMkhosi weSinkwa esingelaMvubelo, uMkhosi wamaViki loMkhosi weziHonqo. 14 Elandela isimiso sikayise uDavida wamisa izigaba zabaphristi ngezinkonzo zabo, njalo abaleVi bekhokhela ekudumiseni lokuphathisa abaphristi kusiya ngemfanelo yemihla ngemihla. Wakhetha abalindi bamasango ngezigaba ukulinda amasango ehlukeneyo ngoba yikho okwakutshiwo nguDavida umuntu kaNkulunkulu. 15 Kabaphambukanga kulokho inkosi uDavida eyayikutshilo mayelana labaphristi labaLevi kanye lezindlu zenotho. 16 Wonke umsebenzi kaSolomoni wenziwa, kusukela ngosuku lokubekwa kwesisekelo sethempeli likaThixo kwaze kwaba sekupheleni kwawo. Kwaba yikuphela kokwakhiwa kwethempeli likaThixo. 17 Ngakho uSolomoni wasesiya e-Eziyoni-Gebheri lase-Elathi ngasemakhunjini ase-Edomi. 18 UHiramu wathumela kuye imikhumbi eyayiphethwe yizinduna zakhe, amadoda ayelwazi ulwandle. Zona, kanye lezinceku zikaSolomoni zaya e-Ofiri, zayathwala igolide elingamathalenta angamakhulu amane amatshumi amahlanu, zayaethula enkosini uSolomoni.

9 Indlovukazi yaseShebha isizwile ngodumo lukaSolomoni, yaya eJerusalema ukuba iyemlinga ngemibuzo enzima. Yayiphelikezelwa ludwende olukhulu, amakamela ayethwele iziyoliso, igolide elinengi kakhulu amatshu aligugu, yafika kuSolomoni yaxosa laye ngakho konke eyayikumumethe. 2 USolomoni wayiphendula yonke imibuzo yayo, akubanga lalutho olwaba nzima ukuthi aluchasisele yona. 3 Inkosikazi yaseShebha isibonile konke ukuhlakanipha kukaSolomoni, lesigodlo ayesakhile, 4 lokudla kwakhe, lokuhlaliswa kwezinduna zakhe, lokuhlelwa kwezinceku zakhe lezigqoko zazo, labaphathi benkezo lezigqoko zabo, leminikelo yokutshiswa ayeyinikela ethempelini likaThixo, kwayiqeda amandla. 5 Yathi enkosini, “Imibiko ebifika ezindlebeni zami elizweni lami ngengqubelaphambili langenhlikanipho yakho iqotho. 6 Ngibe ngingayikholwa leyo mbiko ngaze ngazibonela ngawami amehlo. Ngeqiniso, akufiki engxenyeni engikuzwileyo ngokujula kwenhlikanipho yakho; engikubonileyo kwedlula engakuzwayo ngawe ngokuphindwe kanengi. 7 Yeka ukujabula kwabantu bakho! Yeka ziyadela izikhulu zakho, ezihlezi zimi phambi kwakho zizizwela inhlakanipho yakho! 8 Udumo kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakho, obe lokuthokoza ngawe wakufaka esihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi ukuba ube yinkosi

ubusele uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho. Ngenxa yothando lukaNkulunkulu wakho ngo-Israyeli, lokuzimisela ukubamela kuze kube nininini, ukubekile waba yinkosi phezu kwabo, ukuze ulondolozwe ukwahlulela ngemfanelo langokulunga.” 9 Indlovukazi yasinika uSolomoni amathalenta egolide alikhulu elilamatshumi amabili, iziyoliso ezinengi, amatshu aligugu. Kwakungakaze kube leziyoliso ezinjengalezo zephiwa inkosi uSolomoni yindlovukazi yaseShebha. 10 (Izinceku zikaHiram lezikaSolomoni zaletsa igolide livela e-Ofiri; zaletsa lezigodo zom’aligumu amatshu aligugu. 11 Inkosi yasebenzisa izigodo zom’aligumu ukwakha inyathelo lethempeli likaThixo lenyathelo lesigodlo sesikhosini, kanye lokwenza imihubhe lemiqangala yabahlabeleli. Kwakungakaze kubonakale okunjengalokhu kwelakoJuda). 12 Inkosi uSolomoni yapha inkosikazi yaseShebha okwedlula lokho eyayikucelile, kwakukunengi kugabhela lokho ayekuphathelwe yinkosikazi. Yavalelisa-ke inkosikazi yabuyela elizweni layo lobhobo lwezindwendwe yayo. 13 Isisindo segolide elalifika kuSolomoni minyaka yonke lalingamathalenta angamakhulu ayisithupha amatshumi ayisithupha lasithupha, 14 kungabalwa inzuzo eyayivela emithelweni yabathengisi labathengi. Kunjalonje amakhosi ase-Arabhiya leziphathamandla zelizwe zaletsa igolide lesiliva kuSolomoni. 15 Inkosi uSolomoni yenza amahawu amakhulu angamakhulu amabili ngegolide elikhandiweyo; lilinye langena amashekeli angamakhulu ayisithupha. 16 Inkosi yasisenza ezinye ezincinyane ezingamakhulu amathathu ngegolide elikhandiweyo, sisinye sithatha amashekeli egolide elikhandiweyo angamakhulu amathathu. Inkosi yazibeka eSigodlweni saseGuswini laseLebhanoni. 17 Ngakho inkosi yasisenza isihlalo esikhulu sinanyekwe ngempondo zendlovu ngaphakathi kodwa ngaphandle kuligolide elihle. 18 Isihlalo sobukhosi sasilezinyathelo eziyisithupha njalo kulesenabelo segolide esasixhunywe kuso. Emaceleni esihlalo kwakulezelayamelo zengalo, yileso laleso kumi isilwane eceleni kwaso. 19 Izilwane ezilitshumi lambili zazimi kulawomakhwelelo ayisithupha, sisinye simi nganxanye kwekhwelelo ngalinye. Kakukho okunjalo okwakwe kwenzekala loba kuwuphi umbuso. 20 Zona inkezo zenkosi uSolomoni zazingezegolide, lazozonke izitsha zeSigodlweni saseGuswini laseLebhanoni zazingezegolide elicolekileyo. Akukho okwakwenziwe ngesiliva ngoba ngensuku zikaSolomoni igugu lesiliva lalilincinyane kakhulu. 21 Inkosi yayilodibi lwemikhumbi yezokuthengiselana eyayigwedlwa ngabantu bakaHiram. Yayiphenduka kanye ngemva kohambo lweminyaka emithathu, iphenduka ithwele igolide, isiliva lempondo zendlovu, inkawu lendwangu. 22 Inkosi uSolomoni yawedlula wonke amakhosi omhlaba ngenotho langenhlikanipho. 23 Amakhosi wonke omhlaba eza kuSolomoni ukuzokuzwa inhlakanipho uNkulunkulu ayeyifake enhliziyweni yakhe. 24 Minyaka yonke amlethela izipho zesiliva lezegolide, izembatho, izikhali leziyoliso, lamabhiza kanye lezimbongolo. 25 USolomoni wayelezibaya zamabhiza lezezinqola zokulwa ezizinkulungwane ezine, kanye lamabhiza azinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili, ayekugcina emizini yezinqola zokulwa okunye njalo kukuye khonopho eJerusalema. 26 Wabusa wonke amakhosi kusukela emfuleni iYufrathe kusiya elizweni lamaFilistiya, lasemngceleni weGibhithe. 27 Inkosi yandisa isiliva kwangani ngamatshu eJerusalema, lezihlahla zomsedari zanda kwangani yizihlahla zomkhiwa wesikhamore emawatheni

ezintaba. **28** USolomoni wayezuka amabhiza ayevela eGibhithe lakuwo wonke amanye amazwe. **29** Ezinye izehlakalo ezenzakala ekubuseni kukaSolomoni kaziilotshwanga yini kusukela ekuqaleni kuze kube sekucineni, ezindabeni zomlandu kaNathani umphrofethi, lasesiphrofethini sika-Ahija waseShilo, lasemibonweni ka-Ido umboni emayelana loJerobhowami indodana kaNebhathi? **30** USolomoni wabusa u-Israyeli wonke eJerusalem okweminyaka engamatshumi amane. **31** Waya kwabaphansi, wangcwatshwa emzini kaDavida uyise. URehobhowami indodana yakhe waba yinkosi esikhundleni sakhe.

10 URehobhowami waya eShekhemu ngoba bonke abako-Israyeli babeye khona ukuze bamethese ubukhosi. **2** Kwathi uJerobhowami indodana kaNebhathi ekuzwa lokhu (wayeseGibhithe lapho abuya evela khona ngoba wayebalekele inkosi uSolomoni.) **3** Abako-Israyeli basebethumela ilizwi bembiza uJerobhowami, kwathi-ke yena kanye labo bonke abako-Israyeli baya kuRehobhowami bafika bathi: **4** “Uyihlo wasithwalisa umthwalo onzima, kodwa wena kathesi ake uphungule ubunzima asethesa bona, wethule lemithwalo yethu enzima abesithwalise yona, yikho sizakukhonza.” **5** URehobhowami wabaphendula wathi: “Libobuya ngemva kwensuku ezintathu.” Ngakho abantu basuka bahamba. **6** Inkosi uRehobhowami yasicebisa labadala ababeloyise uSolomoni esaphila, yathi: “Lingcebisa ukuthi ngibanike mpendulo bani lababantu?” **7** Baphendula bathi, “Ungaba lomusa kulabantu, ubathokozise, ukhulumisane labo kuhle, bazahlala bezincku zakho.” **8** Kodwa uRehobhowami kazange akwamukele ukucebisa kwabadala wakhetha ukudinga ulwazi kwabayintanga yakhe ababekhule bonke njalo kuyibo abasebezincku zakhe. **9** Wababuza wathi, “Seluleko bani elilaso? Singabaphendula sithini lababantu abathi kimi, ‘Ake uphungule ubunzima esabetheswa nguyihlo?’” **10** Amajaha ayeyintanga yakhe ampendula athi, “Batshele lababantu abathi kuwe, ‘Uyihlo wasesetha ubunzima, akusiphungulele lobubunzima’ uthi kubo, ‘Ucikilicane wami uqatha kulokhalo lukababa. **11** Ubaba walethesa ubunzima, mina ngizabungezelela. Ubaba walitshaya ngezaswebhu, mina ngizalilumisa ngenkume.” **12** UJerobhowami labo bonke abantu babuyela kuRehobhowami ngosuku lwesithathu njengokutsho kwakhe ukuthi, “Phendukani lize kimi ngemva kwensuku ezintathu.” **13** Lakanye inkosi yaphendula abantu ngolaka, yalahla iseluleko sabadala, **14** yalandela iseluleko samajaha yathi, “Ubaba walethwesa ubunzima, mina ngizakwengezelela kubo. Walitshaya ngezaswebhu, mina ngizalilumisa ngezinckume.” **15** Ngakho inkosi kayibalalelanga abantu, ngoba lokhu kwenziwa nguNkulunkulu, ukuze kugcwaliseke ilizwi likaThixo ayelikhulume ngo-Ahija waseShilo kuJerobhowami indodana kaNebhathi. **16** Kwathi bonke abako-Israyeli bebona ukuthi inkosi iyala ukubalalela bayiphendula bathi: “Silesabelo bani kuDavida na, silengxenye bani endonani kaJese na? Yanini emizini yenu lina bako-Israyeli! Sala lendlu yakho, Davida!” Ngakho bonke abako-Israyeli babuyela emakhaya. **17** Kodwa uRehobhowami waqhubeka ebusa abako-Israyeli ababehlala emizini yakoJuda. **18** Inkosi uRehobhowami yasithuma u-Adoniram uwayengumphathi wezibhalwa, kodwa abako-Israyeli bamkhanda ngamatshu wafa. Kodwa inkosi uRehobhowami yaphanga yakhwela enqoleni yayo yokulwa, yabalekela eJerusalem. **19** Kusukela ngalesosikhathi

abako-Israyeli bayihlamukela indlu kaDavida kuze kube lamuhla.

11 Kwathi uRehobhowami esefike eJerusalem, wabuthanisa abakoJuda labakoBhenjamini, amadoda empi azinkulungwane ezilikhulu lamatshumi ayisificaminwembili ukuba bayekulwa labako-Israyeli ukuze babuyisele uRehobhowami embusweni. **2** Kodwa ilizwi likaThixo lafika kuShemaya umuntu kaNkulunkulu lisithi: **3** “Tshela uRehobhowami indodana kaSolomoni inkosi yakoJuda, labo bonke abako-Israyeli koJuda lakoBhenjamini uthi, **4** ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: Lingaphumi ukuthi liyekulwa labafowenu. Buyelani emizini yenu, lina lonke, ngoba lokhu kuyikwenza kwami.’” Ngakho balalela ilizwi likaThixo, babuyela emizini yabo, kabasayanga kulwa loJerobhowami. **5** URehobhowami wahlala eJerusalem njalo wakha imizi eyizinqaba koJuda: **6** iBethhilehema, le-Ethamu, leThekhowa, **7** leBethi Zuri, leSokho, le-Adulami, **8** leGathi, leMaresha, leZifi, **9** le-Adorayimi, leLakhishi, le-Azekha, **10** leZora, le-Ayijaloni, kanye leHebhroni. Le kwakuyimizi ebizelweyo koJuda lakoBhenjamini. **11** Waqinisa izinqaba zayo wabeka abalawuli bemp kuyo, wabuthela ezinqabeni ukudla lamafutha om’oliva lewayini. **12** Wafaka izihlangu lemikhonto kuyo yonke imizi, wayiqinisa kakhulu. Ngakho-ke wabusa koJuda lakoBhenjamini. **13** Abaphristi labaLevi kulezozabelo kulolonke elako-Israyeli bamsekela. **14** AbaLevi bahle batshiya amadlelo abo lempahla, baya koJuda laseJerusalem, ngoba uJerobhowami lamadodana akhe wala ukuthi bangaphristi bakaThixo. **15** Wasekhetha abakhe abaphristi wababeka ezindaweni zokukhonzela, labezithombe zembuzi lezamatshole ayezenzile. **16** Abezizwana zonke zako-Israyeli ababezimisele ukukhonza uThixo uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, balandela abaLevi eJerusalem ukuyanikela imihlatshelo yabo kuThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho babo. **17** Baqinisa umbuso kaJuda basekela uRehobhowami indodana kaSolomoni iminyaka emithathu, belandela indlela kaDavida lekaSolomoni ngalesosikhathi. **18** URehobhowami wathatha uMahalathi, indodakazi kaJerimothi indodana kaDavida, leka-Abhihayili indodakazi ka-Eliyabi indodana kaJese, waba ngumkakhe, **19** wamzalela amadodana la: uJewushi loShemariya loZahamu. **20** Wasethatha njalo uMahakha indodakazi ka-Abhisalomu owamzalela o-Abhija lo-Athayi loZiza loShelomithi. **21** URehobhowami wathanda kakhulu uMahakha indodakazi ka-Abhisalomu ukwedlula bonke omkakhe labafazi beceleni; wathatha abafazi abalitshumi lasificaminwembili, labafazi beceleni abangamatshumi ayisithupha. **22** URehobhowami wabeka u-Abhija indodana kaMahakha ukuba abe yinkosana enkulu kubafowabo ngoba wayeqonde ukumenza inkosi. **23** Wenza ngokuhlakanipha, amadodana akhe wawabeka ezindaweni zonke zakoJuda lakoBhenjamini, kuyo yonke imizi ebizelweyo. Wasebanika ukudla okunengi, wabadingela labafazi abanengi.

12 Ngemva kokuba uRehobhowami eselamandla, lombuso wakhe usuqinile, yena kanye labo bonke abako-Israyeli bawudela umlayo kaThixo. **2** Kodwa ngoba bona kuThixo, uShishakhi inkosi yaseGibhithe wahlasela iJerusalem ngomnyaka wesihlanu wokubusa kwenkosi uRehobhowami. **3** Wahlasela ngezinqola zokulwa ezingamakhulu alitshumi lambili labagadi bamabhiza abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisithupha, labantu abangelakubalwa

ubunengi babo abanye bengabeLibhiya, lamaSukhi labaKhushi abeza laye bevelela ngaseGibthithe, **4** wathumba imizi yakoJuda ebijelweyo waze wayafika leJerusalema. **5** Ngakho uShemaya umphrofethi waya kuRehobhowami kanye lakubakhokheli bakoJuda ababebuthene eJerusalema ngokwesaba uShishakhi, wafika wathi kubo, “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uthi, ‘Lingilahlile lina; ngakho sengilnikela kuShishaki.’” **6** Abakhokheli bako-Israyeli lenkosi yabo bazithoba batsho bathi, “uThixo ulungile.” **7** Kwathi uThixo esebonile ukuzithoba kwabo ilizwi lakhe lafika kuShemaya lisithi: “Njengoba bezithobile, kangisayikubabhubhisa, kodwa ngizabakuhlula emva kwesikhatshana, lolaka lwami kalusayikwehliselwa eJerusalema ngesandla sikaShishakhi. **8** Kodwa bazakuba yizinceku zakhe ukuze bazi umahluko phakathi kokungikhonza lokukhonza amakhosi amanye amazwe.” **9** UShishakhi inkosi yaseGibthithe wasehlasele iJerusalema, wabutha yonke inotho yasethempelini likaThixo kanye lenotho yasesigodlweni sesikhosini. Wathatha konke waze wathatha lezihlangu zegolide ezazenziwe nguSolomoni. **10** Ngakho inkosi uRehobhowami yasisenza izihlangu zethusi endaweni yalezo njalo yazibeka ngaphansi kwabalawuli abalindi bamasango asesigodlweni sesikhosini. **11** Kwakusithi lapho inkosi isiya ethempelini likaThixo, abalindi babehamba layo bephethe izihlangu, kuze kuthi emva kwesikhatshi bazibuyisele endlini yabalindi. **12** Ngenxa yokuthi uRehobhowami wazithoba, ulaka lukaThixo lwadeda kuye, kasazange abe esabuhjiswa. Ngempela kwakukhona okuhle koJuda. **13** Inkosi uRehobhowami yaqinisa umbuso wayo eJerusalema njalo yaqhubeka ibusa. Ekugcotshweni kwakhe ubukhosi wayeleminyaka engamatshumi amane lanye, wabusa okweminyaka elitshumi lesikhombisa eJerusalema umuzi kaThixo ayewukhethile phakathi kwezizwana zako-Israyeli ukuze abeke iBizo lakhe. Ibizo likanina linguNahama, engowako-Amoni. **14** Wenza okubi wona ngoba engazange abeke inhliziyi yakhe ekumdingeni uThixo. **15** Okumayelana lokubusa kukaRehobhowami, kusukela ekuqaleni kuze kube sekupheleni, akulotshwanga na emibhalweni kaShemaya umphrofethi leka-Ido umboni mayelana lokuzalana kwabantu? Kwaba lempi njalo phakathi kukaRehobhowami loJerobhowamu. **16** URehobhowami wakhothama, wangcwatshwa labokhokho bakhe eMzini kaDavida. U-Abhija, indodana yakhe wathatha ubukhosi waba yinkosi ngemva kukayise.

13 Ngomnyaka wethshumi lasificaminwembili wokubusa kukaJerobhowamu, u-Abhija waba yinkosi yakoJuda, **2** njalo wabusa eJerusalema okweminyaka emithathu. Ibizo likanina lalinguMikhaya, indodakazi ka-Uriyeli waseGibhiya. Kwaba lempi phakathi kuka-Abhija loJerobhowamu. **3** Bathi behlangana ekulweni, u-Abhija wayelamadoda aqinileyo azinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amane, kanti uJerobhowamu wahlangabezana laye elamadoda azinkulungwane ezificaminwembili. **4** U-Abhija wema phezu kweNtaba iZemarayimu, elizweni lamaqaaqako lako-Efrayimi, wathi: “Wena Jerobhowamu kanye laye wonke u-Israyeli, lalelani kimi, lizwe! **5** Alikwazi na ukuthi uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, unikele ubukhosi bako-Israyeli kuDavida lenzalo yakhe kuze kube nininini ngesivumelwano setswayi na? **6** Kukanti uJerobhowamu indodana kaNebhathi, isikhulu sikaSolomoni indodana kaDavida, uhlamukele inkosi yakhe. **7** Abantu ababi

bamlandela behlamukela uRehobhowami indodana kaSolomoni esemncinyane engakaqedisisi njalo engakabi lamandla okumelana labo. **8** Khathesi licabanga ukumelana lombuso kaThixo, ophethwe ngamadodana kaDavida ngoba libona libanengi kakhulu, lilamathole eGolide elawenzelwa nguJerobhowamu ukuba abe ngonkulunkulu. **9** Kalibaxotshanga yini abaphristi bakaThixo, amadodana ka-Aroni, kanye labaLevi, lazibekela abenu abaphristi njengalokhu okwenziwa ngabantu bamanye amazwe na? Kuthi lowo ofika elenkunzi loba inqama eziyisikhombisa ukuba ahlukaniselwe uThixo waba ngumphristi walokho okungayisikho onkulunkulu. **10** Kodwa thina, uThixo uNkulunkulu ngowethu, asimdelanga. Thina abaphristi esilabo ngamadodana ka-Aroni, amkhonzayo uThixo, njalo baphathiswa ngabaLevi. **11** Bayanikela kuThixo ekuseni lantambama insuku zonke iminikelo yokutshiswa lempepha elephunga elihle. Bayalungisa izinkwa ezahlukeniselwe uThixo etafuleni legolide elihle, balumathise izibane oluthini lwegolide ntambama nsuku zonke. Thina siyawulalela umlayo kaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu. Kodwa lina limdelile. **12** UNkulunkulu ulathi, nguye osikhokhelayo. Abaphristi bakhe abaphethe amacilongo bazawavuthela besibizela ekulweni lani. Madoda ako-Israyeli, lingabokulwa loThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho benu, ngoba aliyikuphumelela.” **13** UJerobhowamu wayesethumele elinye iviyo lamabutho akhe ngemva ukuze athi yena ejamelane labakoJuda phambili lona licathamele ngemva kwabo. **14** AbakoJuda bafulathela kodwa babona ukuthi babehlaselwa inxa zonke phambili langemva kwabo. Bakhala kuThixo. Abaphristi bevuthela amacilongo abo **15** kwathi abakoJuda bakhwaza ngephimbo lokuhlasela empini. Kuthe kuzwakala ukukhwaza ngephimbo lokuhlasela, uNkulunkulu wabhuqa uJerobhowamu labo bonke abako-Israyeli phambi kuka-Abhija labakoJuda. **16** Abako-Israyeli babalekela abakoJuda njalo uNkulunkulu wabanikela ezandleni zabo. **17** U-Abhija lamabutho akhe babulala amadoda amanengi kakhulu, kwafa amadoda ako-Israyeli aqinileyo empini azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amahlanu. **18** Amadoda ako-Israyeli aqinileyo ngalesikhathi anqotshwa, kwathi abakoJuda baphumelela ngoba babethembele kuThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho babo. **19** U-Abhija waxotshana loJerobhowamu wamthatshela amadolobho eBetheli, leleJeshana kanye lele-Efroni, lemizi eyayiseduzane khonapho. **20** UJerobhowamu kazange abuse futhi kusabusa u-Abhija. UThixo wamtshaya wafa. **21** Kodwa u-Abhija waqina waba lamandla embusweni. Wathatha abafazi abalitshumi lane waba lamadodana angamatshumi amabili lamadodakazi alitshumi lesithupha. **22** Ezinye izehlakalo ekubuseni kuka-Abhija, akwenzayo lakutshoyo, kulotshiwe ezindabeni zomphrofethi u-Ido.

14 Ngakho u-Abhija waya kubokhokho bakhe wembelwa eMzini kaDavida. Indodana yakhe u-Asa wathatha isikhundla sakhe waba yinkosi, njalo ngezinsuku zokubusa kwakhe kwaba lokuthula elizweni okweminyaka elitshumi. **2** U-Asa wenza okuhle lokulungileyo phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe. **3** Wasusa wonke ama-alithare ezizweni lezindawo zokukhonzela, wadiliza izinsika zakhona lezithombe zikankulunkulukazi u-Ashera. **4** Walaya abakoJuda ukuba bakhonze uThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho babo, balandele yonke imithetho lemilayo yakhe. **5** Wavala izindawo zokukhonzela lama-alithare

empepha kuwo wonke amadolobho akoJuda, ngakho kwaba lokuthula ekubuseni kwakhe. **6** Wakha imizi ebizelweyo koJuda, njengoba kwakulokuthula elizweni. Kakho owalwa impi laye ngaleyominyaka, ngoba uThixo wamnika ukuphumula. **7** Wathi kwabakoJuda, “Kasakheni imizi le ziyizingelelele ngenmiduli, lemiphotshongo, lamasango leminxibo. Ilizwe lilokhu lingelethu, ngoba simtholile uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu; simkhonzile usesilethele ukuthula inxa zonke.” Basebesakha njalo baphumelela. **8** U-Asa wayelamabutho empi azinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amathathu koJuda, ayehlome ngamahawu amakhulu lemikhonto, lamanye azinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amabili alamatshumi ayisificaminwembali koBhenjamini, ayehlome ngezihlangu ezincinyane lamadandili. Wonke kungamadoda alezibindi zokulwa. **9** Uzera umKhushi waphuma ebuthukuthulele ephelekezelwa libutho elikhulu lezinqola zokulwa ezingamakhulu amathathu, waze wayafika eMaresha. **10** U-Asa waphuma laye ukuyamjama, bafika bajama eSigidini saseZefatha phansi kweMaresha. **11** U-Asa wasekhuleka kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe wathi: “Thixo, kakho omunye onjengawe ongakwela ababuthakathaka kwabalamanda. Sisize, Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu wethu, ngoba thina sithembele kuwe, ngebizo lakho siphumile ukuba silwe lalibutho lempi elikhulu kangaka. Oh Thixo, unguNkulunkulu wethu; umuntu angezake amelane lawe.” **12** UThixo wawatshaya wawabhuqa amaKhushi phambi kuka-Asa labakoJuda. AmaKhushi abaleka, **13** kodwa u-Asa lamabutho akhe waxotshana lawo waze wayawafikisa eGerari. Kwafa amaKhushi amanengi okokuthi kasazange azame ukuqoqana kutsha; abhuqwa phambi kukaThixo laphambi kwamabutho akhe. Amadoda akoJuda atshuquluzela impango enengi kakhulu. **14** Atshabalalisa yonke imizi yaseGerari, ngoba ukuthukuthela kukaThixo kwakuphezu kwayo. Atshuquluzela yonke imizi ngoba impango yayinengi kuyo. **15** Ahlasela izihonqo zabelusi njalo abutha imihlambi yezimvu, imbuzi kanye lamakamela. Asebuyela eJerusalem.

15 Umoya kaNkulunkulu wehlela phezu kuka-Azariya indodana ka-Odedi. **2** Waphuma ukuba ayehlangabezana lo-Asa wasesithi kuye, “Lalela kimi, Asa labo bonke abakoJuda labakoBhenjamini. UThixo ulawe nxa wena ukuye. Nxa umfuno, uzamthola, kodwa nxa umlahla uzakulahla. **3** Okwesikhathi eside abako-Israyeli babengelaye uNkulunkulu weqiniso, bengelaye umphristi wokufundisa njalo bengelawo umthetho. **4** Kodwa osizini lwabo baphendukela kuThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, bamdinga bamthola. **5** Ngalezonsuku, ngenxa yokuxokozela okukhulu kwezizwe, kwakungelula ukuhambahamba. **6** Kwakulencithakalo isizwe sichithwa ngesinye, umuzi uchithwa ngomunye, ngoba uNkulunkulu wabeliselwa zonke inhlobonhlobo zosizi. **7** Kodwa wena, qina ungayekethisi, ngoba owakho umsebenzi uzakuba lomvuzo.” **8** U-Asa wathi ewezwa lamazwi lesiphrofethi sika-Azariya indodana ka-Odedi umphrofethi, waqina waba lesibindi. Wasusa zonke izithombe ezinengisayo kulolonke ilizwe lakoJuda lelakoBhenjamini lasemizini ayeyithumbile emaqeni ako-Efrayimi. Wavuselela i-alithari likaThixo elaliphambi komkoto wethempeli likaThixo. **9** Wasebuthanisa bonke abakoJuda labakoBhenjamini kanye labantu ababevela ko-Efrayimi, lakoManase kanye lakoSimiyoni ababehlezi phakathi kwabo, ngoba babebanengi kakhulu abako-Israyeli ababethe ngokubona ukuthi uThixo uNkulunkulu

wayelaye bathutha beza ngakuye. **10** Babuthana eJerusalem ngenyanga yesithathu ngomnyaka wethsumi lanhlano wokubusa kuka-Asa. **11** Ngalesosikhathi benza imihlatshelo kuThixo eyezinkomo ezingamakhulu ayisikhombisa lezimvu kanye lembuzi eziyizinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa kulezo ababezithumbe babuya lazo. **12** Benza isivumelwano sokuba bamdinge uThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho babo, ngezinhlizyo zabo ezipheleleyo langomoya. **13** Bonke ababengayi kumdinga uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, babefanele babulawe, loba bebancinyane loba bebakhulu, loba kungowesilisa kumbe omesifazane. **14** Benza isifungo kuThixo ngokuvungama, bemeseza njalo bevuthela lamacilongo lempondo. **15** AbakoJuda bathokoza bonke ngesifungo ngoba babesenze ngenhlizyo yabo yonke. Bamdinga uThixo ngokulangatha, wabavumela ukuthi bamthole. Ngakho uThixo wabanika ukuthula inxa zonke. **16** Inkosi u-Asa yasusa ugogo wayo uMahakha esikhundleni sokuba yindlovukazi ngoba wayenze insika yokukhonzela unkulunkukazi u-Ashera oyisinengiso. U-Asa wayidiliza insika, wayiqumaquma wayitshisela eSigidini saseKhidroni. **17** Lanxa engasusanga izindawo zokukhonzela ko-Israyeli, u-Asa wayezinikele kuThixo ngenhlizyo yakhe yonke empilweni yakhe yonke. **18** Wangenisa ethempelini likaNkulunkulu isiliva legolide lezinto lezo yena kanye loyise ababezahlukanisele uThixo. **19** Akusazange kube lempi kwaze kwaba ngumnyaka wamatshumi amathathu lanhlano wokubusa kuka-Asa.

16 Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amathathu lesithupha wokubusa kuka-Asa uBhasha inkosi yako-Israyeli wasuka wayavimbezela uJuda wakhela iRama inqaba ukunqabela loba ngubani ukuthi angaphumi loba angangeni elizweni lika-Asa inkosi yakoJuda. **2** Ngakho u-Asa wathatha isiliva legolide esipheleni senotho sethempeli likaThixo lakwesakhe esigodlweni sakhe wakuthumela kuBheni-Hadadi inkosi yase-Aramu, owayebusa eDamaseko. **3** Wathi, “Kasenze isivumelwano mina lawe njengalokho okwakwenziwe ngubaba loyihlo. Uyabona, nanku mina ngokuthumele isiliva legolide. Wena yesula isivumelwano sakho loBhasha inkosi yako-Israyeli yikho ezahlehla angiyekele.” **4** UBheni-Hadadi wavumelana lenkosi u-Asa wahle wathumela abalawuli bamabutho akhe ukuba bayehlasela imizi yako-Israyeli. Banqoba elako-Ijoni, lelakoDani le-Abheli-Mayimi kanye layo yonke imizi yeziphala zakoNafithali. **5** UBhasha wathi ekuzwa lokhu wema ukwakha iRama wahle wayekela umsebenzi wakhe. **6** Ngakho inkosi u-Asa yaletha wonke amadoda akoJuda athutha amatshe lezigodo eRama okwakusetshenziswa nguBhasha. Wakha ngakho iGebha leMizipha. **7** Ngalesosikhathi uHanani umboni wafika ku-Asa inkosi yakoJuda wathi kuye: “Ngenxa yokuthi wethembele enkosini yase-Aramu wadela ukwethembela kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakho, ibutho lenkosi yase-Aramu seliphunyukile esandleni sakho. **8** Kanti amaKhushi lamaLibhiya babengelabutho elilamanda amakhulu lamanani amanengi ezinqola zokulwa lamadoda alwa ngamabhiza na? Kodwa ke wathi usuthembele kuThixo, wabanikela esandleni sakho. **9** Ngoba amehlo kaThixo athungatha umhlaba wonke ukuze aqinise labo abanhlizyo zabo zizimisele kuye. Usuwenze ubuwula, ngakho kusukela khathesi uzahlala usempini.” **10** U-Asa wazondela umboni ngenxa yalokho; wathukuthela wahle wamfaka entolongweni. Kusenjalo u-Asa waphatha abanye babantu ngochuku. **11**

Izehlakalo zombuso ka-Asa, kusukela ekuqaleni kuze kube sekupheleni, zilotshe egwalweni lwamakhosi akoJuda lawako-Israyeli. **12** Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amathathu layisificamunwemunye wokubusa kwakhe u-Asa wahlaselwa ngumkhuhlane ezinyaweni zakhe. Loba umkhuhlane wakhe wayubuhlungu kakhulu, kazinge adinge usizo kuThixo, kodwa wayesiya ezinyangeni. **13** Kwathi ngomnyaka wamatshumi amane lowodwa u-Asa wafa walala kunye laboyise. **14** Bamngcwaba ethuneni ayezenzele lona eMzini kaDavida. Bambeka phezu kwethala elaligcwele amakha enhlobo ngenhlobo ayexutshwe ngokuhlakanipha kwezingcitshi zamakha, babasa umlilo omkhulu wokumhlonipha.

17 UJehoshafathi indodana ka-Asa waba yinkosi esikhundleni sakhe; wazilungisela ukumelana lo-Israyeli empini. **2** Wabeka amabutho emizini ebiyelweyo yakoJuda wafaka amaviyo koJuda kanye lasemizini yako-Efrayimi eyayithunjwe nguyise u-Asa. **3** UThixo wayelaye uJehoshafathi ngoba ngeminyaka yakuqala wayehamba ngezindlela ezalandelwa nguyise uDavida. Kabadinganga oBhali, **4** kodwa wadinga uNkulunkulu kayise njalo walalela imilayo yakhe kazinge alingisele okwakusenziwa ngabako-Israyeli. **5** UThixo wawuqinisa umbuso wakhe, bonke abakoJuda baletha izipho kuJehoshafathi, ngakho wanatha kakhulu njalo wahlonitshwa kakhulu. **6** Inhliziyo yakhe yayi kuThixo ngokuzinikela okukhulu ezindleleni zakhe; njalo wasusa zonke izindawo zokukhonzela wadiliza lezinsika zikankulunkulakazi u-Asahera koJuda. **7** Ngomnyaka wesithathu wokubusa kwakhe wathuma izikhulu zakhe oBheni-Hali, lo-Obhadaya, loZakhariya, loNethaneli kanye loMikhaya ukuba ziyefundisa emizini yakoJuda. **8** Ndawonye lazo kwakulabanye abaLevi uShemaya loNethaniya, loZebhadiya, lo-Asaheli, loShemiramothi, loJehonathani, lo-Adonija, loThobhija kanye loThobhi-Adonija lo-Elishama loJehoram abaphristi. **9** Bafundisa kulonke elakoJuda, bethwele uGwalo lwemiThetho kaThixo; babhoda yonke imizi yakoJuda befundisa abantu. **10** Ukumesaba uThixo kwagcwala kuyo yonke imibuso yamazwe akhelane loJuda, ngakho abasayanga empini loJehoshafathi. **11** Amanye amaFilistiya alethelela uJehoshafathi izipho lesiliva njengomthelo, lama-Arabhu aletha imihlambi yezimvu: izinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa lamakhulu ayisikhombisa enqama, lembuzi eziyizinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa lamakhulu ayisikhombisa. **12** UJehoshafathi waba lamandla amakhulu angezelelweyo, wakha izinqaba lamadolobho eziphala koJuda **13** njalo wayelokudla okunengi emizini yakoJuda. Wayelamabutho akwaziyo ukulwa ayehlala eJerusalem. **14** Wona ayemi kanje ngezimuli: KwabakoJuda, abalawuli bamaviyo enkulungwane babeyilaba: u-Adina umlawuli wayelamaqhawe alamandla azinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amathathu; **15** kulandele uJehohanani umlawuli, elamabutho azinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amabili lamatshumi ayisificaminwembili; **16** kulandele u-Amasiya indodana kaZikhiri, owazinikela ukusebenzela uThixo elamaqhawe alamandla azinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amabili. **17** KwabakoBhenjamini: kwakungu-Eliyada, indoda eliqhawe, elamadoda azinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amabili ayehlome ngamadandili lezihlangu; **18** kulandele uJehozabhadi elamadoda azinkulungwane ezilikhulu lamatshumi ayisificaminwembili ayehlomele ukulwa impi. **19** Yiwo la

amadoda ayesebenzela inkosi, ngaphandle kwalawo ayesemzini ebiyelweyo kulolonke elakoJuda.

18 Ngakho uJehoshafathi wayenothe kakhulu njalo ehlonipheka, waba lobunini lo-Ahabi ngokwendiselana. **2** Ngemva kweminyaka ethile wayakwethekelela u-Ahabi eSamariya. U-Ahabi wamhlabela izimvu ezinengi lenkomo yena kanye labantu ayelabo njalo wamkhuthaza ukuba ahlasele iRamothi Giliyadi. **3** U-Ahabi inkosi yako-Israyeli yabuza uJehoshafathi inkosi yakoJuda wathi: “Uzahamba lami na ukuyahlasele iRamothi Giliyadi?” UJehoshafathi waphendula wathi, “Mina nginjengawe, abantu bami banjengabantu bakho; sizakuba lawe empini.” **4** Kodwa uJehoshafathi waphinda wathi enkosini yako-Israyeli, “Akubuze kuThixo kuqala.” **5** Ngakho inkosi yako-Israyeli yasibuthanisa abaphrofethi, amadoda angamakhulu amane, yababuza yathi, “Siphume impi siyehlasele iRamothi Giliyadi, loba ngizithibe na?” Bayiphendula bathi, “Hamba, ngoba uNkulunkulu uzayinikela esandleni senkosi.” **6** Kodwa uJehoshafathi wabuza wathi, “Kambe kakusela mphrofethi kaThixo lapha esingabuza kuye na?” **7** Inkosi yako-Israyeli yathi kuJehoshafathi, “Ukhona oyedwa esingabuza uThixo ngaye kodwa ngiyamzonda ngoba kakaze aphrofetha okuhle ngami, uhllala ekhuluma okubi. Ibizo lakhe nguMikhaya indodana ka-Imla.” UJehoshafathi wathi, “Inkosi kayimelanga itsho njalo.” **8** Ngakho inkosi yako-Israyeli yabiza esinye sezikhulu zayo yathi kuso, “Ngibizela uMikhaya indodana ka-Imla khathesi.” **9** Bembethe izembatho zabo zobukhosi, inkosi yako-Israyeli loJehoshafathi inkosi yakoJuda babehlezi ezihlalweni zabo zobukhosi esizeni sokubhulela amabele esangweni laseSamariya labo bonke abaphrofethi bephrofetha phambi kwabo. **10** UZedekhiya indodana kaKhenana wayekhonde impondo zensimbi, wasesithi, “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo, uthi: ‘Ngepondo lezi uzagwaza ama-Aramu uwabhuhise.’” **11** Bonke abaphrofethi babevele bephrofetha okufananayo besithi, “Hlasela iRamothi Giliyadi unqobe, ngoba uThixo uyinikile esandleni senkosi.” **12** Isithunyuwa esasithunyuwe ukuyabiza uMikhaya sathi kuye, “Khangela, abanye abaphrofethi bafakaza bengela kuthandabuza ukuthi inkosi izanqoba. Lawe vumelana labo, ukhulume okuyithokozisayo.” **13** Kodwa uMikhaya wathi, “Ngeqiniso njengoba uThixo ekhona, engingamtshela khona yilokhu okutshiwo nguThixo.” **14** Uthe efika, inkosi yambuza yathi, “Mikhaya, siye empini eRamothi Giliyadi, loba ngizithibe na?” Yena waphendula wathi: “Hlasela unqobe, ngoba bazanikelwa ezandleni zakho.” **15** Inkosi yathi kuye, “Kumele ngikufungise kangaki ukuze ungangikhohlisi kodwa ungitshele iqiniso ebizweni likaThixo?” **16** Ngakho uMikhaya waphendula wathi, “Ngabona abako-Israyeli bonke behlakazekile emaqaqeni njengezimvu ezingamelusi, uThixo wathi, ‘Lababantu kabalamkhokheli. Kabazibuyelele emakhaya ngokuthula.’” **17** Inkosi yako-Israyeli yathi kuJehoshafathi, “Kangikutshelanga yini ukuthi uevele kaphrofethi lutho oluhle ngami kodwa okubi kuphela na?” **18** Umikhaya waqhubeka wathi, “Ngakho zwanini ilizwi likaThixo: Ngabona uThixo ehlezi esihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi lebutho lonke lasezulwini limi ngakwesokudla langakwesokhohlo. **19** Njalo uThixo wathi, ‘Ngubani ozakhohlisa u-Ahabi inkosi yako-Israyeli ukuba ahlasele eRamothi Giliyadi njalo ayofela khona na?’ Omunye wabonisa lokhu, omunye laye lokhuyana. **20** Ekucineni kwavela umoya, wema phambi kukaThixo wathi:

'Mina ngizamhuga.' UThixo wathi kuwo: 'Ngendlela bani na?' **21** Wona wathi: 'Ngizahamba ngiyekuba ngumoya wokuqamba amanga emilonyeni yabo bonke abaphrofethi bakhe.' UThixo wathi: 'Uzaphumelela ukumhuga. Hamba-ke uyekwenza lokho.' **22** Ngakho khathesi uThixo usefake umoya wenkohliso emilonyeni yabaphrofethi bakho bonke laba. UThixo usekumiselele ukubhujiswa.' **23** Ngakho uZedekhiya indodana kaKhenana waphakama wayawakala uMikhaya ngempama ebusweni, watsho embuza wathi, "Umoya kaThixo wasuka njani kimi ukuyakhuluma kuwe na?" **24** UMichaya waphendula wathi, "Wena ngokwakho uzakubona lokho mhla ubalekela endlini engaphakathi usiyacatsha." **25** Inkosi yako-Israyeli yathi, "Bambani uMikhaya, limbuyisele ku-Amoni umbusi wedolobho lakuJowashi indodana yenkosi **26** lithi: 'Nanku okutshiwo yinkosi, ithi: Valelani umuntu lo entolongweni, lingamniki lutho ngaphandle kwesinkwa lamanzi ngize ngphenduke kukuhle.'" **27** UMichaya waqonqosela wathi: "Nxa ngaphenduka kuhle, uThixo uyabe engakhulumanga ngami." Waqhubeka wathi, "Lani lonke bantu abambisiseni amazwi ami!" **28** Ngakho inkosi yako-Israyeli loJehoshafathi inkosi yakoJuda baya eRamothi Giliyadi. **29** Inkosi yako-Israyeli yathi kuJehoshafathi: "Mina ngizakuya empini ngizazifihla ngokulahlisa isimo sami, kodwa wena gqoka ezakho ezobukhosi." Ngakho inkosi yako-Israyeli yazifihla ngokulahlisa isimo sayo yangena empini. **30** Ngakho inkosi yase-Aramu yayiqonqosele abalawuli beziqola zokulwa yathi, "Lingalwi lamuntu, loba ngomncinyane loba ngomkhulu, ngaphandle kwenkosi yako-Israyeli." **31** Abalawuli beziqola zokulwa bathi bebona uJehoshafathi bathi, "Yiyonale inkosi yako-Israyeli." Ngakho bamphendukela ukuba bamhlasele, kodwa uJehoshafathi wahlaba umkhosi, uThixo wamsiza. UNkulunkulu wabenza baya khathshana laye, **32** ngoba abalawuli beziqola zokulwa bathi sebebonile ukuthi kasiyo inkosi yako-Israyeli, abazange besaxotshana laye. **33** Kodwa omunye watshoka kungananzelelwe umtshoko waphutsha emkhandlweni wesikhali wagwaza inkosi yako-Israyeli. Inkosi yatshela umtshayeli wenqola yokulwa yathi, "Phendula inqola yakho ungisuse lapha, sengilimele." **34** Impi yalwiwa ilanga lonke, njalo inkosi yako-Israyeli yeyama enqoleni yayo yokulwa ikhangele ama-Aramu kwaze kwaba ntambama. Kuthe litshona layo yabe isifa.

19 UJehoshafathi inkosi yakoJuda wathi esebuyela eJerusalem esigodlweni sakhe ephephile, **2** uJehu umboni, indodana kaHanani, waphuma ukuba ayomhlangabeza wasesithi enkosini, "Kufanele yini ukuba uncedise ababi njalo uthande abamzondayo uThixo? Ngenxa yalokho, ulaka lukaThixo luphezu kwakho. **3** Kodwa-ke kukhona okuhle ngawe, ngoba uziqedile elizweni lonke izinsika zikankulunkulukazi u-Ashera, inhliziyi yakho wayimisela ukudinga uNkulunkulu." **4** UJehoshafathi wayehlala eJerusalem, waphuma wahambela abantu kusukela eBherisheba kusiya elizweni lamaqaqa lako-Efrayimi wabaphendula ukuba bamkhonze uThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho babo. **5** Wakhetha abehluleni elizweni, kuwo wonke amadolobho abiyelweyo akoJuda. **6** Wabatshela wathi: "Linanzelele elikwenzayo, ngoba kalehluleni umuntu kodwa lehlulela uThixo, yena uzalisiza ekwahluleni. **7** Ngakho mesabeni uThixo linanzelele elikwenzayo, yahluleni ngonanzelelo ngoba kuThixo uNkulunkulu wethu kakukho

ukwehlulela kubi loba ubandlululo loba ukufumbathisana." **8** Lakhona eJerusalem, uJehoshafathi wabeka abalevi abathile labaphristi lezinhlolo zezindlu zabako-Israyeli ukuba balawule umthetho kaThixo balamule lembango. Babehlala eJerusalem. **9** Wabanika iziqondiso ezithi: "Kumele lethembeke ngokumesaba uThixo, ngobuqotho langenhliziyi nye epheleleyo. **10** Wonke amacala eza kini evela ezihlotsheni zenu kuwo wonke amadolobho elihlala kiwo loba kungamacala okuchitha igazi loba awokwephula umthetho, imilayo, izimiso loba iziqondiso, baxwayiseni ukuba bangoni kuThixo, funa ulaka lwakhe lwehlele phezu kwenu labafowenu. Lingenxa lokho aliyikwenza isono. **11** U-Amariya umphristi omkhulu nguye ozalikhangelane emsebenzini wonke kaThixo, kuthi uZebhadiya indodana ka-Ishumayeli, umkhokheli wesizwe sakoJuda alikhokhele ezintweni eziqondane lenkosi, abalevi labo bazakuba yizikhulu zenu. Yenzani ngesibindi, njalo sengathi uThixo angaba labalo abazakwenza ngobuqotho."

20 Ngemva kwalokho amaMowabi lama-Amoni kanye labanye bamaMewuni baphuma impi ukuba bayehlasele uJehoshafathi. **2** Amanye amadoda aya kuJehoshafathi afika athi kuye, "Kulempi enkulu ezayo ukuzakuhlasele evela ngase-Edomi, ngaphetsheya kolwandle. IsiseHazazoni Thamari" (okuyikuthi, Eni-Gedi). **3** Ngokwethuka, uJehoshafathi wazimisela ukumdinga uThixo, wamemezela ukuba akuzilwe ukudla kulolonke elakoJuda. **4** Abantu bakoJuda baqoqana bahlangana bezodanga usizo kuThixo, lakanye baphuma kuyo yonke imizi yakoJuda. **5** Ngakho uJehoshafathi wema phambi kwebandla lakoJuda lelaseJerusalem ethempelini likaThixo phambi kweguma elitsha **6** wathi, "Oh Thixo, Nkulunkulu wabokhokho, kakuswe yini uNkulunkulu osezulwini? Ubusa phezu kwemibuso yezizwe zonke. Amandla asesandleni sakho, njalo kakho ongamelana lawe. **7** Oh Nkulunkulu wethu, awubaxotshanga ababekuleli lizwe phambi kwabantu bakho bako-Israyeli wabanika ukuba libe ngelabo nini lanini abesizukulwane sika-Abrahama umngane wakho na? **8** Sebehlale kulo njalo sebakhe indawo yokukhonzela yeBizo lakho, besithi, **9** 'Nxa sisehlelwa zinhlupekho, loba yinkemba yokwahlulela, loba yizifo loba yindlala, sizakuma ngobukhona bakho phambi kwalelithempeli elileBizo lakho sikhale kuwe ekuhlukuluzweni kwethu, wena uzasizwa njalo usisindise.' **10** Kodwa khathesi nanka amadoda ama-Amoni lamaMowabi labeNtabeni yaseSeviri, abelizwe owalela u-Israyeli ukuba alinqobe ekuphumeni kwakhe eGibhithe; okwabangela ukuthi babatshiye abaze bababhubhisa. **11** Khangela ukuthi khathesi baphindisela ngokungananeni ngokusemuka isipho owasipha sona ukuba sibe yilifa lethu. **12** Oh Nkulunkulu wethu, awuyikubahlulela na? Ngoba asilamandla okumelana lebutsho elikhulu kangaka elisihlaselayo. Asikwazi esingakwenza, kodwa amehlo ethu aphezu kwakho." **13** Wonke amadoda akoJuda, labomkabo labantwabawo lensane, bema lapho phambi kukaThixo. **14** Umoya kaThixo wehlele kuJahaziyeli indodana kaZakhariya, indodana kaBhenaya, indodana kaJeyiyeli, indodana kaMathaniya, umLevi oyisizukulwane sika-Asafi, emi phambi kwebandla. **15** Wasesithi: "Lalela, wena Nkosi Jehoshafathi labo bonke abahlala koJuda labaseJerusalem! Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo kini: 'Lingesabi njalo lingadediswa yibukhulu bebutho lalayompi. Ngoba ukulwa akusikweni, kodwa ngokukaNkulunkulu. **16** Kusasa hambani liyejamelana labo. Bona bazakhwela ngokhalo lwaseZizi, lina lizabathola ekucineni kodonga eNkangala

yaseJeruweli. 17 Aliyikuyilwa limpi. Lunganini ezindaweni; lime ngesibindi lizabona ukuhlenga kukaThixo azalenzela khona, Oh lina bakaJuda lani beJerusalem. Lingesabi, lingandangali. Phumani kusasa liyehlasela, uThixo uzakuba lani.” 18 UJehoshafathi wakhothama ubuso buphansi kanti njalo bonke abakoJuda labaseJerusalem bawela phansi ngobuso bemkhonza uThixo. 19 Ngakho abanye abaLevi bamaKhhohathi, lamaKhora bema bamdumisa uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, ngelizwi eliphakemeyo okuphezulu. 20 Kwathi ekuseni kakhulu basuka baya eNkangala yaseThekhowa. Bathi besuka lapho, uJehoshafathi waphakama wathi, “Lalelani kimi, bantu bakoJuda lani baseJerusalem! Thembelani kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu uzaliphathisa; likholwe abaphrofethi bakhe, lizaphumelela.” 21 Ngemva kokubuzabantu, uJehoshafathi wakhetha amadoda okuhlabelela uThixo lokumdumisa ngenxa yenkazimulo yobungcwele bakhe bekhokhelele amabutho, besithi: “Mbongeni uThixo, ngoba uthando lwakhe lumi nininini.” 22 Bathi beqalisa ukuhlabelela njalo bedumisa, uThixo wabeka abantu bokucathamela abase-Amoni labase-Mowabi labaseNtabeni iSeyiri ababedinga ukuhlaselela uJuda, behlulwa. 23 Amadoda ako-Amoni lawamaMowabi avukela amadoda ayevela eNtabeni yaseSeyiri ukuba bawabulale bawatsabalalise. Ngemva kokuba sebeqedile ukubulala abaseSeyiri, banceda ngokubulalana bodwa. 24 Amadoda akoJuda athe efika endaweni emalungana lenkangala bakhangelale lapho okwakulebutho elikhulu khona babona ngezidumbu zelekene phansi, kungekho loyedwa owayebalekile. 25 Ngakho uJehoshafathi lamanye amadoda bahamba bayabutha impango, njalo phakathi kwayo bafumana impahla zokusebenzisa lezembatho lezinye njalo impahla eziligugu ukwedlula lezo ababengazithwala. Impango yayinengi kwaze kwathatha insuku ezintathu beyithutha. 26 Ngosuku lwesine babuthana eSigidini saseBherakha, lapho abadumisa khona uThixo. Kungenxa yokho yonale indawo yabizwa ngokuthi iSigidini saseBherakha kuzo kube lamuhla. 27 Ngakho wonke amadoda akoJuda lawaseJerusalem abuyela ngokuthokoza eJerusalem, bekhokhelwa nguJehoshafathi ngoba uThixo wayebenzele lokho okwakubajabulisile phezu kwezitha zabo. 28 Bangena eJerusalem baya ethempelini likaThixo bethsaya imihube lemiqangala lama-cilongo. 29 Ukwesaba uNkulunkulu kwehlela phezu kwayo yonke imibuso emazweni besizwa ngokulwa kukaThixo esilwa lezitha zika-Israyeli. 30 Lakanye umbuso kaJehoshafathi waba lokuthula, ngoba uNkulunkulu wakhe wayemnike ukuphuma inxa zonke. 31 Ngakho uJehoshafathi wabusa koJuda. Waba yinkosi yakoJuda eleminyaka engamatshumi amathathu lanhlana, wabusa eJerusalem okweminyaka engamatshumi amabili lanhlana. Unina wayengu-Azubha indodakazi kaShilhi. 32 Wahamba ngezindlela zikayise u-Asa njalo kazange aphanbuke kuzo; wenza okulungileyo phambi kukaThixo. 33 Izindawo zokukhonzela zakusiswanga njalo abantu babelokhu bengazimisela ngezinhliziyo zabo ngokupheleleyo kuNkulunkulu wabo. 34 Ezinye izehlakalo ngombuso kaJehoshafathi kusukela ekuqaleni kusiya ekucineni, zilotshiwe embalini kaJehu, indodana kaHanani, yona elotshwe egwalweni lwamakhozi ako-Israyeli. 35 Ngokuqhubeke kwezikhathi, uJehoshafathi inkosi yakoJuda waba lesibopho asenza lo-Ahaziya inkosi yako-Israyeli, owayelecala lokwenza okubi. 36 Wavumelana laye ukuba bakhe imikhumbi yokuthwala impahla zokuthengiselana.

Ngemva kokuba isiyakhiwe e-Eziyoni-Gebheri, 37 u-Eliyazari indodana kaDodavahu waseMaresha wakhuluma isiphrofethi esilahlalwe uJehoshafathi, esithi, “Ngenxa yokuthi wenza isibopho lo-Ahaziya, uThixo uzadiliza lokho okwenzileyo.” Imikhumbi yabhidlika ayaze yenelisa ukungena olwandle isiyathengisa.

21 Ngakho uJehoshafathi waphumula labokhokho bakhe, wangcwatshwa kanye labo emzini kaDavida uyise. UJehoram indodana yakhe wabusa esikhundleni sakhe. 2 Abafowabo bakajehoram, amadodana kaJehoshafathi, babengo-Azariya, loJehiyeli, loZakariya, lo-Azariyahu, loMikhayeli kanye loShefathiya. Bonke laba babengamadodana kaJehoshafathi inkosi yako-Israyeli. 3 Uyise wayebanike iziphos ezinengi zesiliva lezegolide kanye lezinye impahla eziligugu, lamadolobho abiyelweyo koJuda, kodwa ubukhosi wayebunike uJehoram ngoba eyindodana yakhe yamazibulo. 4 UJehoram esengenile esikhundleni sikayise waqinisa umbuso wakhe, wabulala bonke abafowabo ngenkamba kanye lamanye amakhosana ako-Israyeli. 5 UJehoram waba yinkosi eleminyaka engamatshumi amathathu lamibili, njalo wabusa eJerusalem okweminyaka eyisififaminwembili. 6 Walandela izindlela zamakhosi ako-Israyeli, njengalokho okwakwenziwe ngabendlu ka-Ahabi, ngoba wathatha indodakazi ka-Ahabi. Wenza okubi phambi kukaThixo. 7 Lanxa kunjalo, ngenxa yesivumelwano uThixo ayesenze loDavida, uThixo kathandanga ukuyidiliza indlu kaDavida. Wayethembise ukumbekela isibane yena kanye lesizukulwane sakhe nini lanini. 8 Ngensuku zikaJehoram, abase-Edomi bahlamukela uJuda babeka eyabo inkosi. 9 Ngakho uJehoram waya khonale lezikhulu zakhe lazozonke izinqola zakhe zempi. Abase-Edomi bamhanqa kanye labalawuli bezingola zakhe zempi, kodwa wavuka ebusuku waphunyuka. 10 Kuze kube lamhla abase-Edomi balokhu behlamukela uJuda. AbaseLibhina labo bahlamuka ngasolesi isikhathi, ngoba uJehoram wayefulathela uThixo, uNkulunkulu wabo. 11 Njalo wamisa izindawo zokukhonzela emaqaneni akoJuda, wenza abaseJerusalem ukuba bakhonze izithombe, wadukisa abakoJuda. 12 UJehoram wemukela incwadi eyayivela ku-Elija umphrofethi isithi: “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo, uNkulunkulu kayihlo uDavida, uthi: ‘Kawuhambanga ezindleleni zikaJehoshafathi uyihlo lezika-Asa inkosi yakoJuda. 13 Kodwa ulandele izindlela zamakhosi ako-Israyeli, waholela abakoJuda labantu baseJerusalem ekuzingcoliseni njengalokhu indlu ka-Ahabi eyakwenzayo njalo usubulele abafowenu abendlu kayihlo ababengcono kulawe. 14 Ngakho-ke uThixo usezabatshaya abantu bakini lamadodana akho, labomkabo lakho konke okungokwakho, ngesidutshulo esikhulu. 15 Lawe uqobo uzagala umkhuhlane omubi owesifo samathumbu akho, amathumbu akho aze ahotshuke ngokuhamba kwensuku ngenxa yesifo.’” 16 UThixo wamvuselela uJehoram ulaka lwamaFilistiya lama-Arabhu ayehlala eduzane lamaKhushi. 17 Bahlasela koJuda, bangena khona bathutha zonke impahla ababezitholile esigodlweni senkosi, labantwabayo labomkayo. Akulandodana eyasalayo ngaphandle kuka-Ahaziya isicino sabo. 18 Ngemva kwakho konke lokhu uThixo wehlisela uJehoram isifo samathumbu esingelaphekiyo. 19 Ngokuqhubeke kwesikhathi ekupheleni komnyaka wesibili, amathumbu akhe ahotshuka ngenxa yesifo, wafa esebuhlungweni obukhulu. Abantu bakhe abazange babase umlilo wokumhlonipha njengalokhu ababekwenza kuboyise. 20 UJehoram waba

yinkosi eleminyaka engamatshumi amathathu lambili, njalo wabusa eJerusalema okweminyaka eyisificaminwembali. Wafa engakhalelwa muntu, wabekwa eMzini kaDavida, kodwa kungesikho emangcwabeni amakhosi.

22 Abantu baseJerusalema babeka u-Ahaziya, indodana encinyane kaJehoram, ukuba abe yinkosi esikhundleni sikayise, njengoba abahlalasi ababeze lama-Arabhu enkambeni, babebulele wonke amadodana akhe amadala. Ngakho u-Ahaziya indodana kaJehoram inkosi yakoJuda waqalisa ukubusa. **2** U-Ahaziya wayeleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lambili ekubeni kwakhe yinkosi, njalo wabusa eJerusalema okomnyaka owodwa. Unina wayengu-Athaliya, umntanomntanakhe ka-Omri. **3** Laye ngomunye owalandela izindlela zabendlu ka-Ahabi, ngoba unina wamkhuthaza ukwenza okubi. **4** Wona phambi kukaThixo, njengalokhu okwakwenziwe ngabendlu ka-Ahabi, ngoba ngemva kokufa kukayise bahle baba ngabacebisi bakhe, babangela ukuchitheka kwakhe. **5** Walalela ukwetuleka kwabo aze ahambe loJoram indodana ka-Ahabi inkosi yako-Israyeli empini yokuhlasele uHazayeli inkosi yase-Aramu eRamothi Giliyadi. Ama-Aramu alimaza uJoram; **6** wahle wabuyela eJezireli ukuba ayephozisa amanxeba okulinyazwa kwakhe eRama ekulweni kwakhe loHazayeli inkosi yase-Aramu. Ngakho u-Ahaziya indodana kaJehoram inkosi yakoJuda waya eJezireli ukuyabona uJoram indodana ka-Ahabi njengoba wayeselieme. **7** Ngokwethekelela kuka-Ahaziya kuJoram, uNkulunkulu wayemise ukumbhubhisa u-Ahaziya. Ngoba ekufikeni kwakhe khonale wahle waphuma loJoram ukuyahlangabeza uJehu indodana kaNimishi owayegcotshwe nguThixo ukubhubhisa indlu ka-Ahabi. **8** Kwathi lapho uJehu esenza lokhu okuyifaneleyo indlu ka-Ahabi, wahlangana lezikhulu zakoJuda lamadodana abafowabo baka-Ahaziya ababesebenzela u-Ahaziya, wababulala. **9** Wasedinga u-Ahaziya abantu bakhe bambamba esecatshile eSamariya, bamletha kuJehu, wabulawa. Bamngcwaba ngoba bathi: “Wayeyindodana kaJehoshafathi owadinga uThixo ngenhliziyo yakhe yonke.” Ngakho kwakungaselamuntu endlini ka-Ahaziya olamandla okuwumisa umbuso. **10** Kwathi u-Athaliya unina ka-Ahaziya esebonile ukuthi indodana yakhe isifile, waqhubekela phambili edinga ukubhubhisa umndlunkulu wendlu yakoJuda. **11** Kodwa uJehoshabhiyathi, indodakazi yenkosi uJehoram, watshontsha uJowashi indodana ka-Ahaziya phakathi kwamakhosana omdlunkulu ayesezabhujiwisa wamfihla endlini yakhe yokulala kanye lomlizane wakhe. Njengoba uJehosheba indodakazi yenkosi uJehoram wayengumkaJehoyada umphristi njalo engudadewabo ka-Ahaziya, wamfihla umntwana ukuze angabulawa ngu-Athaliya. **12** Wacatsha labo ethempelini likaNkulunkulu okweminyaka eyisithupha yokubusa kuka-Athaliya elizweni.

23 Ngomnyaka wesikhombisa uJehoyada waqunga isibindi. Wenza isivumelwano labalawuli bamakhulu embuthweni: o-Azariya indodana kaJerohamu lo-Ishumayeli indodana kaJehohanani, lo-Azariya indodana ka-Obhedi, loMaseya indodana ka-Adaya kanye lo-Elishafathi indodana kaZikhiri. **2** Bangena kulonke elakoJuda, baqoqa abaLevi kuyo yonke imizi yakoJuda labayizihloko zezimuli zaka-Israyeli. Ekufikeni kwabo eJerusalema, **3** ibandla lonke lenza isivumelwano lenkosi ethempelini likaNkulunkulu.

UJehoyada wathi kubo, “Indodana yenkosi izabusa, njengoba uThixo wathembisa abayinzalo kaDavida. **4** Ngakho nanku okumele likwenze: Ingxenywe yesithathu yenu baphristi labaLevi abalinda ngeSabatha bafanele balinde eminyango, **5** eyinye ingxenywe yesithathu esigodlweni somndlunkulu kanye lenye njalo ingxenywe yesithathu ezalinda eSangweni leSisekelo, kuthi wonke amanye amadoda abesemagumeni ethempeli likaThixo. **6** Kakho ozangena ethempelini likaThixo ngaphandle kwabaphristi labaLevi abazabe besemsebenzini; labo bezangena ngoba behlanjululwe, kodwa wonke amanye amadoda azalinda lokho azabe ekutshengiswe nguThixo. **7** AbaLevi bazahonqolozela inkosi, ngulowo lawo wabo ehlomile. Loba ngubani ozangena ethempelini kumele abulawe. Lingaxekelani lenkosi loba kungaphi lapho ezabe ikhona.” **8** AbaLevi lawo wonke amadoda akoJuda benza khonokho kanye ababekutshelwe nguJehoyada umphristi. Kwaba ngulowo lawo wathatha abantu bakhe, kulabanye ababesiyaqalisa amazopho abo ngeSabatha labanye ababetshayisa ngemva kwamazopho abo ngoba uJehoyada umphristi wayelokhu engakakhululi loba iviyo elilodwa. **9** Wasenika abalawuli bamaviyo amabutho alikhulu imikhonto lamahawu amakhulu lamancinyane ayekade engawenkosi uDavida ayasethempelini likaNkulunkulu. **10** Wasemisa wonke amadoda, ngamunye epethele izikhali zakhe ezandleni, ezingelezele inkosi eduze kwe-alithari lethempeli, kusukela eceleni langezansi kusiya enyakatho yethempeli. **11** UJehoyada lamadodana akhe basebeveza indodana yenkosi njalo bayethesa umqhele; bayiqhubela lencwadi yesivumelwano bayibeka yaba yinkosi. Bayigcoba bavungama bathi: “Mpilonde nkosi!” **12** U-Athaliya uthe esizwa umsindo wabantu begijima njalo behalalisa inkosi, wasuka waya kubo ethempelini likaThixo. **13** Lakanye wayibona inkosi imi ensikeni yayo ngasemangelweni. Izikhulu labavutheli bamacilongo besekele inkosi, njalo bonke abantu belizwe bejabula bevuthela amacilongo, kanye labahlaleleli bephethe izinto zokuhlabelela bekhokhela emkhosini wokuhaya inkosi. U-Athaliya wadabula izigqoko zakhe njalo wamemeza ethi: “Umvukela! Umvukela!” **14** UJehoyada umphristi wathumela abalawuli bamaviyo amabutho alikhulu, ababelawula amabutho, wathi: “Mkhupheleni handle u-Athaliya phakathi kwamaviyo kuthi loba ngubani omlandelayo limbulale ngenkema.” Ngoba umphristi wayethe, “Lingambulaleli ethempelini likaThixo.” **15** Ngakho bambamba esefikile emangelweni eSango laMabhiza emagumeni esigodlo, njalo kulapho abambulalela khona. **16** UJehoyada wasesena isivumelwano sokuthi yena kanye labantu lenkosi bazakuba ngabantu bakaThixo **17** Bonke abantu baya ethempelini likaBhali, balidilizela phansi, babhidliza lama-alithare akhe lezithombe zakhe, babulala uMathani umphristi kaBhali phambi kwama-alithare. **18** UJehoyada wabeka abalindi bethempeli likaThixo ezandleni zabaphristi, ababengabaLevi, bona uDavida ayevele ebezele amazopho abo ethempelini, ukuze balethe iminikelo yokutshiswa kaThixo njengokulotshwa kwayo eMthethweni kaMosi, kulokujabula lokuhlabelela njengokulaya kukaDavida. **19** Wahlalalisa njalo abalindiminyango emasangweni ethempeli likaThixo ukuze kungangeni loyedwa ongahlanjululwanga. **20** Wasethatha abalawuli bamabutho alikhulu, lezikhulu lababusi babantu kanye labantu bonke belizwe basebeletha inkosi ethempelini likaThixo. Bangena esigodlweni ngeSango elingaPhezulu bahlalisa khona inkosi esihlalweni soBukhosi, **21** njalo bonke

abantu elizweni bajabula. Kwaba lokuthula kulolonke idolobho ngoba u-Athaliya wayesebulewe ngenkomba.

24 UJowashi waba yinkosi eleminyaka eyisikhombisa yokuzalwa, njalo wabusa eJerusalem okweminyaka engamatshumi amane. Ibizo likanina linguZibhaya owayevela eBherisheba. **2** UJowashi wenza okulungileyo phambi kukaThixo iminyaka yonke uJehoyada engumphristi. **3** UJehoyada wamdingela abafazi ababili, wazala amadodana lamadodakazi. **4** Ngemva kwesikhathi esithile uJowashi wabona kufanele ukuthi alungise kutsha ithempeli likaThixo. **5** Wabuthanisa abaphristi labaLevi wathi kubo: “Yanini emizini yakoJuda liyeqoqa imali yomnyaka ngomnyaka kuye wonke um’Israyeli, lilungiswe kutsha ithempeli likaNkulunkulu wenu. Kwenzeni khathesi.” Kodwa abaLevi abazange bakwenze masinyane. **6** Ngakho inkosi yabiza uJehoyada umphristi omkhulu yathi kuye, “Kungani ungatshelanga abaLevi ukuba baqoqe koJuda laseJerusalem umthelo owabekwa nguMosi inceku kaThixo kanye lasebandleni lako-Israyeli okweThente loBukakazi na?” **7** Amadodana ka-Athaliya umfazi oxhwalileyo adiliza ithempeli likaNkulunkulu abuye azisebenzisele lazinto zalo ezingcwele kuboBhali. **8** Ngokulaya kwenkosi, kwenzima ibhokisi labekwa phandle, esangweni lethempeli likaThixo. **9** Kwasekumenyezelwa kulolonke elakoJuda laseJerusalem ukuba kulethwe kuThixo, umthelo owawumiswe nguMosi inceku kaNkulunkulu enkangala ukuba uzakhitshwa ngabako-Israyeli. **10** Izikhulu zonke labantu bonke baletha okwabo ngokujabula, bakufaka ebhokisini laze lagcwa. **11** Kwakusithi nxa ibhokisi lingalethwa ngabaLevi ezikhulwini zenkosi zithi zingabona ukuthi sekulemali enengi, unobhala wesigodlweni lesikhulu somphristi omkhulu bafike bathulule okwakusebhokisini babe sebelibuyisele endaweni yalo. Bakwenza lokho ngezikhathi zonke baze babuthelela imali enengi kakhulu. **12** Inkosi loJehoyada baholisa abantu ababesenza umsebenzi owawufanele wenziwe ethempelini likaThixo. Baqhatsha ababazi bamatshe lababazi ukuze bakhe kutsha ithempeli likaThixo, labakhandi bezinsimbi kanye labakhandi bethusi besakha kutsha ithempeli. **13** Amadoda ayebona ngokuqhutshwa komsebenzi ayekhaliphile, njalo umsebenzi ayewukhangele waqhubeka kuhle. Lakhwiwa kutsha ithempeli likaNkulunkulu labuyela esimeni salo elaliyiso njalo baliqinisa. **14** Batha sebeqedile, baletha imali eyasalayo enkosini lakuJehoyada, benza ngayo impahla zethempeli likaThixo: izitsha zokusebenzela kanye lezeminkelo yokutshiswa, izinditshi lezinye izitsha zegolide lezesiliva. UJehoyada esaphila, iminikelo yokutshiswa yayihlezi ikhona ethempelini likaThixo. **15** UJehoyada wayeseluphele eleminyaka emineni, wafa eleminyaka yokuzalwa elikhulu elilamatshumi amathathu. **16** Wangcwatshwa lamakhosi eMzini kaDavida ngenxa yalokho okuhle akwenza ko-Israyeli ekwenzela uNkulunkulu ethempelini lakhe. **17** Ngemva kokufa kukaJehoyada, izikhulu zakoJuda zayakhonza enkosini uJowashi, yazilalela. **18** Balidela ithempeli likaThixo, uNkulunkulu waboyise, basebekhonza izinsika zika-Ashera, lezithombe zakhe. Ngenxa yalesisono, ulaka lukaNkulunkulu lwehlela phezu kwabakoJuda laseJerusalem. **19** Lanxa uThixo wathumela abaphrofethi ebantwini ukuba bababuyisele kuye njalo lanxa bafakaza ngokungavumelani labo, abazange babalalele. **20** Ngakho uMoya kaNkulunkulu wehlela kuZakhariya indodana yomphristi uJehoyada. Wema phambi

kwabantu wathi, “Nanku okutshiwo nguNkulunkulu: ‘Kungani lingalaleli imilayo kaThixo? Aliyikuphumelela. Ngenxa yokumlahla uThixo elikwenzileyo, laye uselilahleli.’” **21** Kodwa bamhlamukela, kwathi ngokuqondisa kwenkosi bamkhanda bambulala ngamatshe egumeni lethempeli likaThixo. **22** Inkosi uJowashi ayizange izihluphe ngomusa eyayiwenzelwe nguJehoyada uyise kaZakhariya kodwa yabalala indodana yakhe, yona yathi ekufeni kwayo, “UThixo kakubone lokhu, aphindisele.” **23** Ekupheleni komnyaka amabutho ama-Aramu ahlasele uJowashi; ahlasele koJuda laseJerusalem abulala bonke abakhokheli babantu. Impango yonke ayithumela enkosini yawo eDamaseko. **24** Kwathi loba impi yama-Aramu yayikade ize lamadoda amalutshwana, uThixo wanikela ezandleni zawo ibutho elikhulu kakhulu. Njengoba abakoJuda babemlahlele uThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho babo, uJowashi wehlulelwa ngokufanele. **25** Ama-Aramu athi esehlela, atshiya uJowashi elimele kakhulu. Izikhulu zakhe zamhlamukela ngokubulala kwakhe indodana kaJehoyada umphristi, zahle zambulalela embhedeni wakhe. Ngakho wafa wayangcwatshwa eMzini kaDavida, kodwa kungasikho emathuneni amakhosi. **26** Laba abaceba ukumbulala kwakunguZabhadhi, indodana kaShimeyathi owesifazane wama-Amoni loJehozabhadhi, indodana kaShimirithi owesifazane wamaMowabi. **27** Imbali yamadodana akhe, iziphrofethi ezinengi ngaye, lembali yokwakhiwa kutsha kwethempeli likaNkulunkulu kulotshiwe egwalweni lwezindaba zamakhosi. U-Amaziya indodana yakhe waba yinkosi esikhundleni sakhe.

25 U-Amaziya wayeleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lanhlana ubudala ekubekweni kwakhe ukuba yinkosi, njalo wabusa eJerusalem okweminyaka engamatshumi amabili lasificamunwemunya. Ibizo likanina linguJehowadani evela eJerusalem. **2** Wenza okulungileyo emehlweni kaThixo, kodwa kakwenzanga ngenhliziyo yakhe yonke. **3** Kwathi umbuso wakhe usuqinile, wabalala izikhulu zakhe ezazibulele inkosi uyise. **4** Kodwa amadodana azo kawabulalanga, wenza okuseMthethweni, eNcwadini kaMosi, lapho uThixo wapha umlayo wathi: “Oyise kabayikubulawa ngenxa yabantwababo, labantwababo kabayikubulawa ngenxa yaboyise; ngulowo lalowo uzafela izono zakhe.” **5** U-Amaziya wabuthanisa abantu bakoJuda wabamisa ngezindlu zabo bephethe wazinduna zezinkulungwane lezamazhulu kwelakoJuda lelakoBhenjamini. Wasebutha kusukela kwabaleminyaka engamatshumi amabili kusiya phezu, wathola bezinkulungwane ezingamazhulu amathathu, amadoda akhethiweyo, angaphuma impi, angahloma ngemikhonto langezihlangu. **6** Wabuya waqhatsha ko-Israyeli amaqhawe alamandla azinkulungwane ezikhulu ngamathalenta esiliva alikhulu. **7** Kodwa kwafika kuye inceku kaNkulunkulu yathi: “Nkosi yami, amabutho ako-Israyeli la akufanelanga aphume impi kanye lawe ngoba uThixo kakho kwabako-Israyeli, kakho lakubani ebantwini bako-Efrayimi. **8** Loba ungaze uhambe uyekulwa ngesibindi empini, uNkulunkulu uzakuchitha phambi kwesitha ngoba uNkulunkulu ulamandla okukusiza loba ukukuchitha.” **9** U-Amaziya wasebuza inceku kaNkulunkulu wathi, “Pho ngizakuthini ngamathalenta alikhulu engiwabhadalele amabutho ako-Israyeli?” Inceku kaNkulunkulu yaphendula yathi, “UThixo angakunika okunengi kakhulu kulalokho.” **10** U-Amaziya wawakulula amabutho ayevela ko-Efrayimi wathi kawabuyeke kibo. Lokhu amabutho abazondela abakoJuda abuyela kibo ngokufuthelana okukhulu. **11** U-Amaziya

wasequnga isibindi, waphuma lamabutho akhe, waya eSigidini seTswayi, lapho abulala khona amadoda aseSeyiri azinkulungwane ezilithumi. **12** Ibutho lakoJuda lathumba amadoda azinkulungwane ezilithumi ephila, lawaqhuba layawafikisa engqongeni yeliwa lapho awaphosela khona phansi aphahlazeka wonke aba yizicucu. **13** Kwathi amabutho ayebuyiselwe emuva ngu-Amaziya ngoba engasafuni ukuthi amlwele impi, ahamba ehlasele imizi yaseSamariya laseBhethi-Horoni kwelakoJuda. Abulala abantu abazinkulungwane ezintathu njalo athutha impango enengi kakhulu. **14** U-Amaziya wathi esevela bulala ama-Edomi wabuya ethlewe onkulunkulu babantu baseSeyiri. Wabamisa baba ngonkulunkulu bakhe wakhothama kubo wanikela iminikelo yokutshiswa. **15** Ulaka lukaThixo lwavutha wathukuthelela u-Amaziya, wasethuma umphrofethi owafika wambuza wathi, “Kungani udinga uncedo kubonkulungulo balababantu na, abehluleka ukuvikela abantu bako ekubahlaleni kwakho?” **16** Wathi esakuhluma, inkosi yathi kuye, “Sikubekile yini ukuba ngumcebisi wenkosi na? Thula! Kungani udinga ukubulawa na?” Ngakho umphrofethi wema kodwa wasesithi, “Ngiyakwazi ukuthi uNkulunkulu uzimisele ukuthi akubhubhise, ngoba lokhu akwenzileyo kutsho ukuthi awuzange ulalele ukucebisa kwami.” **17** Ngemva kokuba u-Amaziya inkosi yakoJuda eseke wabuzabacebisi bakhe, wathumela ilizwi kujowashi indodana kaJehowahazi, indodana kaJehu, inkosi yako-Israyeli wathi: “Woza, siqondane ubuso ngobuso.” **18** Kodwa uJowashi inkosi yako-Israyeli waphendula u-Amaziya inkosi yakoJuda wathi: “Isihlahla sameva saseLebhanoni sathumela umbiko kwesomsedari waseLebhanoni sathi: ‘Yendisela indodakazi yakho endodaneni yami ibe ngumkayo.’ Ngakho kwavela isilo saseLebhanoni sanyathela safohloza isihlahla sameva. **19** Uzitshela ukuthi usuyinqobile i-Edomi, khathesi usuziqhenya. Kodwa hlala ekhaya! Kungani uzibangela uhluho oluzakuchitha luze luchithe loJuda na?” **20** Kodwa u-Amaziya kazange alalele ngoba uNkulunkulu wayekumisile ukuthi uzabanikela kujowashi, ngenxa yokukhonza kwabo onkulunkulu bama-Edomi. **21** Ngakho uJowashi inkosi yako-Israyeli wasehlasele. Yena kanye lo-Amaziya inkosi yakoJuda baqondana ubuso ngobuso eBhethi-Shemeshi koJuda. **22** UJuda wachithwa ngu-Israyeli, kwathi amadoda wonke abalekela emizini yawo. **23** UJowashi inkosi yako-Israyeli wathumba u-Amaziya inkosi yakoJuda, indodana kaJowashi indodana ka-Ahaziya, eBhethi-Shemeshi. Ngakho uJowashi waya laye eJerusalem njalo wadiliza umduli weJerusalem kusukela eSangweni lika-Efrayimi kusiya eSangweni laseJikweni isibanga esingaba ngamanyathelo angamakhulu ayisithupha ubude baso. **24** Wasethatha lonke igolide lesiliva lazozonke impahla azithola ethempelini likaNkulunkulu ezazilindwe ngu-Obhedi-Edomi, kanye leziligugu zenotho yesigidolweni lezithunjwa, wasebuyela eSamariya. **25** U-Amaziya indodana kaJowashi inkosi yakoJuda waphila okweminyaka elitshumi lemihlanu ngemva kokufa kukaJowashi indodana kaJehowahazi inkosi yako-Israyeli. **26** Ezinye izehlakalo ngombuso ka-Amaziya, kusukela ekuqaleni kuze kube sekupheleni, azilotshwanga yini egwalweni lwamakhusi akoJuda lako-Israyeli na? **27** Kusukela ekuphambukeni kuka-Amaziya engasalandeli uThixo, bamsongela eJerusalem wabalekela eLakhishi, kodwa bathumela amadoda amlandela eLakhishi ambulalela khonale. **28** Wabuyiswa esethwelwe ngebhiza wangcwatshwa labokhokho bakhe eMzini kaJuda.

26 Ngakho bonke abantu bakoJuda bathatha u-Uziya, owayeleminyaka elitshumi lesithupha ubudala, bambeka waba yinkosi esikhundleni sikayise u-Amaziya. **2** Nguye owakha kutsha umuzi we-Elathi wawubuyisela koJuda ngemva kokufa kwenkosi u-Amaziya owangcwatshwa kubokhokho bakhe. **3** U-Uziya wayeleminyaka elitshumi lesithupha ubudala ekubeni kwakhe yinkosi njalo wabusa eJerusalem okweminyaka engamatshumi amahlanu lambili. Ibizo likanina linguJekhohiya; evela eJerusalem. **4** Wenza okulungileyo phambi kukaThixo, njengalokhu okwakwenziwe nguyise u-Amaziya. **5** Wazimisele ukumdinga uNkulunkulu ngezinsuku zikaZakhariya, owamfundisa ukumesaba uNkulunkulu. Esamlandela uThixo, uNkulunkulu wamphumelele. **6** Waphuma impi wayakulwa lamaFilistiya wadiliza imiduli yaseGathi, laseJabhine lase-Ashidodi. Wasesakha kutsha imizi eseduzane le-Ashidodi leminye kwezinye iziqinti phakathi kwamaFilistiya. **7** UNkulunkulu wayelaye ekuhlaleni kwakhe amaFilistiya kanye lama-Arabhu ayehlala eGuri Bhali kanye lekuhlaleni amaMewuni. **8** Ama-Amoni aletha umthelo wawo ku-Uziya, udumo lwakhe lwanda lasemingceleni kusiyafika eGibthi, ngoba wayeselamandla amakhulu. **9** U-Uziya wakha imiphotshongo eJerusalem ngaseSangweni leNgosi langaseSangweni leSigidini langasengosini yomduli, wayivikela ngezinqaba. **10** Wakha njalo imiphotshongo enkangala, wemba imithombo eminengi, ngoba wayefuyile elemihlambi yezifuyo emawatheni amaqaaq lasemagcekeni. Wayelabantu bokulima lababesezivinini emaqaqeni lasemhlabeni ovundileyo, ngoba wayethanda ukulima. **11** U-Uziya wayelamabutho ayekezwayi ukulwa ebuthwe ngamaviyo ayeqoqwe nguJeyiyeli umabhalane loMaseya isikhulu esasiqondiswa nguHananiya, omunye wezikhulu zomndulunkulu. **12** Inani labakhokheli lonke ngezimuli emadodeni okulwa lalizinkulungwane ezimbili lamakhulu ayisithupha. **13** Babelawala ibutho elilamadoda abazinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amathathu lesikhombisa lamakhulu amahlanu ayefundele ukulwa, amaviyo alamandla okuhlomulela inkosi ezitheni zayo. **14** U-Uziya wahlomisa amabutho akhe wonke ngezihlanga, imikhonto, ingowane zensimbi lamabhatshi ensimbi, lemithoko lamatshe ezavutha. **15** EJerusalem wakhandisa imithshina yokufutha imithsho leyokujikijela amatshe amakhulu ayikhandisa emadodeni ayezingcitshi eyayisetshenziswa emiphotshongweni esemajikweni. Udumo lwakhe lwanda lwayafika kude, ngoba wancediswa kakhulu waze waba lamandla amakhulu kakhulu. **16** Kodwa kwathi u-Uziya eselamandla amakhulu, ukuziqhenya kwakhe kwamlethela incithakalo. Kazange athembeke kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe, waze wangena ethempelini likaThixo, ukuba ayetshisa lempepha e-alithareni lempepha. **17** U-Azariya umphristi labanye abaphristi bakaThixo abangamatshumi ayisificaminwabili abalezibindi bamlandela phakathi ethempelini. **18** Bajamelana laye bathi kuye, “Akulunganga ukuthi wena, Uziya, utshisele uThixo impepha. Lokho ngokwabaphristi, abenzalo ka-Aroni, abehlukaniselwa ukutshisa impepha. Phuma kulindawo engcwele, ngoba awuzange wethembeke, njalo awuyikuphakanyiswa nguThixo uNkulunkulu.” **19** U-Uziya owayephethe udengezi lokutshisele impepha esandleni sakhe, wathukuthelela. Uthe elokhu esakhwazela abaphristi ngoba kwabo phambi kwe-alithari lempepha ethempelini likaThixo, kwaqalisa ubulephero ebunzini lobuso bakhe. **20** Kwathi u-

Azariya umphristi omkhulu labanye abaphristi bemkhangelana, babona eselobulephero ebunzini lakhe, ngakho baphanga bamkhuphela phandle. Lakanye yena ngokwakhe wayevele esefisa ukuphuma, ngoba uThixo wayesemtshayile. **21** U-Uziya inkosi waba lobulephero kwaze kwaba lilanga lakhe lokufa. Wayesehlala endlini yakhe eyayimi yodwa ngoba elobulephero njalo engasavunyelwa ethempelini likaThixo. UJothamu indodana yakhe yaphatha isigodlo njalo yaphatha abantu bonke belizwe. **22** Ezinye izehlakalo zombuso ka-Uziya, kusukela ekuqaleni kuze kube sekucineni, zilotshwe ngumphrofethi u-Isaya indodana ka-Amozi. **23** U-Uziya waphumula labokhokho bakhe wangcwatshwa eduze kwabo ensimini yokungcwaba eyayingeyamakhosi ngoba abantu bathi, “Wayelobulephero.” Ngakho uJothamu indodana yakhe wathatha isikhundla sakhe waba yinkosi.

27 UJothamu wayeleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lanhlana ubudala eqalisa ukubusa, njalo wabusa eJerusalem okweminyaka elitshumi lesithupha. Ibizo likanina lalinguJerusha indodakazi kaZadokhi. **2** Wenza okungileyo phambi kukaThixo njengalokhu okwenziwa nguyise u-Uziya kodwa yena kasangenanga ethempelini likaThixo njengoyise. Lanxa kunjalo, abantu baqhubeka besenza okubi. **3** UJothamu wakha wavuselela iSango langaPhezulu lethempeli likaThixo wenza njalo umsebenzi omkhulu emdulini ngapha ngaseqaqeni lwe-Ofele. **4** Wakha amadolobho emaqaqeni aseJuda lemiphotshongo ezindaweni ezenileyo. **5** UJothamu wahlasela inkosi yama-Amoni wawanqoba. Ngalowomnyaka ama-Amoni athela kuye ngamathalenta esiliva alikhulu, lezilinganiso zezilimo zengqoloyi ezizinkulungwane ezilitshumi lezinkulungwane ezilitshumi zebhali. Ama-Amoni amlethela inani elifananayo ngomnyaka wesibili langomnyaka wesithathu. **6** UJothamu waba lamandla amakhulu ngoba waqina kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe. **7** Ezinye izehlakalo embusweni kaJothamu, kanye lezimpi azilwalo lokunye ayekwenza, kulotshiwe egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi ako-Israyeli lajoJuda. **8** Waba yinkosi eleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lanhlana, njalo wabusa okweminyaka elitshumi lesithupha eJerusalem. **9** UJothamu waphumula labokhokho bakhe, wangcwatshwa eMzini kaDavida. U-Ahazi indodana yakhe wathatha isikhundla waba yinkosi.

28 U-Ahazi wayeleminyaka engamatshumi amabili ubudala nyakana esiba yinkosi, njalo wabusa eJerusalem okweminyaka elitshumi lesithupha. Kenzanga njengoyise uDavida, kazange enze okungileyo emehlweni kaThixo. **2** Wahamba ngezindlela zamakhosi ako-Israyeli njalo wabaza izithombe zokukhonza oBhali. **3** Watshisa imihlatshelo eSigodini saseBheni-Hinomu wanikela amadodana akhe emilweni, elandela izindlela ezenyanyekayo zezizwe uThixo ayezixotshe mandulo kokufika kwabako-Israyeli. **4** Wanikela imihlatshelo njalo watshisa impepha ezindaweni zokukhonzela phezu kwamaqaga langaphansi kwazo zonke izihlahla eziyizithingithing. **5** Ngakho uThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe wanikela enkosini yama-Aramu. Ama-Aramu amnqoba athumba abantu bakhe abanengi abaletha eDamaseko. Yena njalo wanikelwa ezandleni zenkosi yako-Israyeli, yona eyambulalela abantu abanengi kakhulu. **6** Kwathi ngelanga elilodwa uPhekha indodana kaRemaliya wabulala amabutho azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili koJuda

ngoba abakoJuda babemfulathele uThixo, uNkulunkulu waboyise. **7** Uzikhiri ibutho lako-Efrayimi, wabulala uMaseya indodana yenkosi, lo-Azirikhamu isikhulu somndlunkulu, kanye lo-Elikhana, owayengumsekeli wenkosi. **8** Abako-Israyeli bathumba ezihlotsheni zabo zakoJuda omkabo, lamadodana lamadodakazi abazinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amabili. Babutha njalo impango enengi kakhulu, abayithwala babuyela layo eSamariya. **9** Kodwa umphrofethi wenkosi okwakuthiwa ngu-Odedi wayekhonale, ngakho waphuma ukuyahlangabeza ibutho ekuphendukeni kwalo eSamariya. Wathi kulo, “Ngenxa yokuthi uThixo, uNkulunkulu waboyihlo wayethukuthelele abakoJuda, wabanikela ezandleni zenu. Kodwa lina selibabhuhise ngolaka oluze lwayathinta ezulwini. **10** Khathezi selifuna ukuthi amadoda labesifazane bakoJuda laseJerusalem babe yizigqili zenu. Kodwa lina ngokwenu kalonanga yini kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu na? **11** Lalelani kimi! Buyiselani amadoda akini eliwenze izibotshwa, ngoba ulaka lukaThixo olwesabekayo luphezu kwenu.” **12** Abanye babakhokheli bako-Efrayimi u-Azariya indodana kaJehohanani, loBherekhiya indodana kaMeshilemothi, loJehizikhiya indodana kaShalumi, kanye lo-Amasa indodana kaHadilayi bamelana labalo ababevela empini bathi kubo, **13** “Lingalethi lezizibotshwa lapha, ngoba kungenzeka sibe lecala phambi kukaThixo. Selidinga ukuthi lengezele lelocala phezu kwesono sethu na? Ngoba icala lethu livele likhulu, njalo lentukuthelo yakhe eyesabekayo iphezu kwabako-Israyeli.” **14** Ngakho amabutho akhulula ababebotshwe asebuyisela lempahla ezaziyimipango phambi kwezikhulu laphambi kwebandla. **15** Amadoda ayeqanjwe ngomabizo abuyisela izibotshwa ezimpahleni zempango bagqokisa ababenqunu. Babanika izigqoko lamanyathelo, ukudla lokunathwayo, kanye lomuthi wokwelapha. Bonke ababuthakathaka babagadisa obabhemi. Ngakho babathatha bababuyisela kwabanye babo eJericho, iDolobho lamaLala, basebebuyela eSamariya. **16** Ngalesosikhathi inkosi u-Ahazi yacela uncedo enkosini yase-Asiriya. **17** Ama-Edomi ayesehendukile ezohlasela abakoJuda njalo asuka eqhuba izibotshwa, **18** kanti amaFilistiya lawo ngapha ayesehlasele amadolobho angaphansi kwamaqaga kanye laseNegebi yakoJuda. Bathumba basebhala khona eBhethi-Shemeshi, le-Ayjaloni leGederothi, kanye laseSokho, leThimina leGimizo lemizana eyayiseduze lalapho. **19** UThixo wabatshaya abakoJuda ngoba u-Ahazi inkosi yako-Israyeli wayekhuthaze ukona kwabakoJuda watshengisela ukungathembeki okukhulu kuThixo. **20** UThigilathi-Phileasa inkosi yase-Asiriya esikhundleni sokumsiza laye wafika wengezelela uhlupho. **21** U-Ahazi wathatha ezinye zezimpahla zasethempelini likaThixo lezinye azithatha endlini yomndlunkulu esigodlweni waze wathatha lezamazhosana wayaziqhubela inkosi yase-Asiriya, kodwa lakho lokhu akumncedanga. **22** Kwathi lanxa inkosi u-Ahazi iphakathi kobunzima, yandisa ukona kwayo kuThixo. **23** Yanikela imihlatshelo kubonkulunkulu baseDamaseko, ababeyehlule, ngoba yakhumbula yathi, “Njengoba onkulunkulu bamakhosi ama-Aramu bewancedile, ngizanikela imihlatshelo kubo kuze bangisize lami.” Kodwa-ke kwahle kwaba yikuwa kwayo lokuchitheka kwabako-Israyeli. **24** U-Ahazi wabutha zonke izitsha ethempelini likaNkulunkulu wazisusa. Wavala iminyango yethempeli likaThixo wasesakha ama-alithare kuwo wonke amajiko eJerusalem. **25** Wakha izindawo zokukhonzela kuwo wonke amadolobho akoJuda ukuze

atshisele onkulunkulu imihlatshelo; wathukuthelisa uThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho babo. **26** Ezinye izehlakalo zombuso wakhe lezindlela zakhe zonke, kusukela ekuqaleni kuze kube sekupheleni, zilotshiwe egwalweni lwembali yamakhosi akoJuda lako-Israyeli. **27** U-Ahazi waya ekuphumuleni kubokhokho bakhe wangcwatshwa labo emzini waseJerusalema, kodwa kabekwanga emathuneni amakhosi ako-Israyeli. UHezekhiya indodana yakhe wathatha isikhundla waba yinkosi.

29 UHezekhiya wayeleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lemihlanu ubudala ethatha ubukhosi, njalo wabusa eJerusalema okweminyaka engamatshumi amabili lasificamunwemunye. Ibizo likanina lalingu-Abhija indodakazi kaZakhariya. **2** Wenza okulungileyo phambi kukaThixo, njengalokho okwakwenziwe nguyise uDavida. **3** Ngenyanga yakuqala ngomnyaka wakuqala wokubusa kwakhe, wavula iminyango yethempeli likaThixo wayilungisa. **4** Wamema abaphristi kanye labaLevi, wababuthanisa egumeni eliseceleni langempumalanga **5** wathi: “Lalelani kimi, lina baLevi! Zihlambululeni khathesi njalo hlambulule lethempeli likaThixo, uNkulunkulu waboyihlo. Lisuse amanyala endaweni engcwele. **6** Obaba babengathembekanga; benza okubi emehlweni kaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu bamdela. Indawo kaThixo bayincitsha ubuso bakhangela eceleni njalo bamfulathela uThixo. **7** Bavala njalo izivalo zomphempe bacitsha izibane. Abazange batshise impepha njalo kabaletanga iminikelo yokutshiswa endaweni engcwele kaNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. **8** Ngakho ulaka lukaThixo selwehlele phezu kwabakojuda laphezu kwabaseJerusalema; uThixo usebenze besabeka, bathuthumelisa baba yinto ukweyiswa, njengoba lizibonela ngawenu amehlo. **9** Lokhu sekubangele ukubulawa kwabo ngenkamba njalo lokuthi amadodana lamadodakazi labomkethu babe sekuthunjweni. **10** Khathesi ngifuna ukwenza isivumelwano loThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, akeze ulaka lwakhe oluvuthayo lusidedele. **11** Madodana ami, kalingabi ngabangananziyo ngoba uThixo uselikethile lina ukuma phambi kwakhe limkhonze, limsebenzele lokutshisa impepha.” **12** Ngakho laba abaLevi bahle baqalisa umsebenzi: KwabakaKhohathi, uMahathi indodana ka-Amasayi lojweli indodana ka-Azariya; kwabakaMerari, uKhishi indodana ka-Abhidi lo-Azariya indodana kaJehaleleli; kwabakaGeshoni, uJowa indodana kaZima lo-Edeni indodana kaJowa; **13** kwabosendo luka-Elizafani, kunguShimiri loJeyiyeli; kwabosendo luka-Asafi, kunguZakhariya loMathaniya; **14** kwabosendo lukaHemani, kunguJehiyeli loShimeyi; kwabosendo lukaJeduthuni, kunguShemaya lo-Uziyeli. **15** Bathi sebebutshanise abafowabo bazihlambulula bona, bangena ukuyahlambulula ithempeli likaThixo, njengokuqondisa kwenkosi, eyayilandela ilizwi likaThixo. **16** Abaphristi bangena endaweni engcwele kaThixo ukuba bayeyihlambulula. Konke okwakungcolile ethempelini likaThixo bakuhuphela egumeni lethempeli likaThixo. AbaLevi bakuthwala baya lakho eSigidini saseKhidironi. **17** Baqalisa ukwahlukanisela ngosuku lwaquqala lwenyanga yakuqala, kwathi ngosuku lwesificaminwembili lwenyanga bafika emphempeni kaThixo. Ngezinsuku ezilandelayo ezificaminwembili bangcwelisa ithempeli likaThixo uqobo, baze baqeda ngosuku lwetshumi lesithupha lwenyanga yakuqala. **18** Basebengena enkosini uHezekhiya ukuba

bayembikela bathi: “Sesilhlambulule lonke ithempeli likaThixo, le-alithari lomnikelo wokutshiswa lezitsha zalo zonke, kanye lethala lokwendlalela isinkwa esingcwelisiweyo kanye lazozonke impahla zakhona. **19** Sesilungise sangcwelisa zonke izitsha ezasuswa yinkosi u-Ahazi ngokungathembeki kwakhe eseseyinkosi. Khathesi seziphambi kwe-alithari likaThixo.” **20** Ekuseni ngosuku olulandelayo inkosi uHezekhiya wabuthanisa izikhulu zedolobho ndawonye wasesiya ethempelini likaThixo. **21** Baletha inkunzi eziyisikhombisa, lenqama eziyisikhombisa, lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna ayisikhombisa kanye lempongo eziyisikhombisa kungumnikelo wesono sombuso, lesendulo yokukhonzela kanye lesikaJuda. Inkosi yalaya abaphristi, abenzalo ka-Aroni, ukunikela ngalokho e-alithareni likaThixo. **22** Ngakho babulala inkunzi, abaphristi bathatha igazi bachela ngalo e-alithareni; kwalandela inqama abazibulala bachela igazi lazo e-alithareni; basebebulala amazinyane ezimvu bachela igazi lawo e-alithareni. **23** Impongo zomnikelo wesono zalethwa phambi kwenkosi laphambi kwebandla, babeka izandla zabo phezu kwazo. **24** Abaphristi basebebulala impongo baletha igazi lazo e-alithareni kungumnikelo wesono ukuze kwenzelwe wonke u-Israyeli indlela yokubuyisana, ngoba inkosi yayilaye ukuthi kube lomnikelo wokutshiswa lomnikelo wesono kunikelelwa wonke u-Israyeli. **25** AbaLevi yababeka phakathi kwethempeli likaThixo belezigubhu, lamachacho lemihubhe njengalokho okwakumiswe nguDavida loGadi umboni wenkosi loNathani umphrofethi; lokhu kwakungumlayo kaThixo oweza ngabaphrofethi bakhe. **26** Ngakho abaLevi balinda belamachacho kaDavida, abaphristi belamacilongo. **27** UHezekhiya wakhupha isiqondiso sokuba kwenziwe umnikelo wokutshiswa e-alithareni. Kuthe kuqalisa umnikelo, ukuhlabelela uThixo lakho kwaqalisa, kwahamba kanyekanye lamacilongo kanye lamachacho kaDavida inkosi yako-Israyeli. **28** Ibandla lonke lakhothama lakhonza, abahlabeleli behlabele labamacilongo bewavuthela. Konke lokhu kwaqhubeka kwaze kwaphela umnikelo wokutshiswa. **29** Ngemva kokuphela kweminikelo inkosi labo bonke ababekhona baguqa bakhonza. **30** Inkosi uHezekhiya lezikhulu zayo yatshela labaLevi ukuba badumise uThixo ngamazwi kaDavida kanye laka-Asafi umboni. Ngakho badumisa ngokuhlabelela ngenjabulo bakhothamisa amakhanda abo bakhonza. **31** UHezekhiya wasesithi, “Selizinkele kuThixo khathesi. Wozani lilethe imihlatshelo leminikelo yokubonga ethempelini likaThixo.” Ngakho ibandla laletha imihlatshelo leminikelo, yokubonga, njalo ababelenhliziyo ezivumayo baletha iminikelo yokutshiswa. **32** Inani leminikelo yokutshiswa eyalethwa libandla kwakuzinkunzi ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa, inqama ezilikhulu lamazinyane amaduna ezimvu angamakhulu amabili, konke kungokomnikelo wokutshiswa kaThixo. **33** Izifuyo ezahlukaniselwa ukuba ngumhlatshele kwakuzinkunzi ezingamakhulu ayisithupha lezimvu lembuzi ezizinkulungwane ezintathu. **34** Kodwa, abaphristi babebalutshwana kakhulu ekuhlizeni ezomnikelo wokutshiswa; ngakho basebencediswa ngabafowabo abaLevi waze waphela umsebenzi njalo abanye abaphristi baze bangcweliswa ngoba abaLevi babekunanzelele kakhulu ukuzingcwelisa kulabaphristi. **35** Umnikelo wokutshiswa wawumnengi, kanye lamafutha omnikelo wobudlelwano kanye lomnikelo wokunathwayo okwakuhambelana lomnikelo

wokutshiswa. Ngakho lokhu kwaba yikuvuselelwa kwenkonzo ethempelini likaThixo. **36** UHezekhiya labo bonke abantu bajabula ngababekuphiwe nguNkulunkulu ekwenzela abantu bakhe, ngoba kwakwenzakale ngokuphangisa.

30 UHezekhiya wanxusa bonke abako-Israyeli labakoJuda, wanxusa labako-Efrayimi labakoManase ngezincwadi eJerusalem, ukuthi bazokudla iPhasika ethempelini likaThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. **2** Inkosi lezikhulu zayo lebandla lonke eJerusalem bavumelana ukwenza ukugcina iPhasika ngenyanga yesibili. **3** Babengenlisanga ukwenza umkhosi ngesikhathi sawo ngoba abaphristi babebalutshwana ababezingcwelisile njalo labantu babengabuthananga eJerusalem. **4** Icebo leli lakhanya lilihle enkosini lasebandleni lonke. **5** Baquma ukuthi kukhutshwe ilizwi kulolonke elako-Israyeli kusukela eBherisheba kusiya koDani, kunxuswa abantu ukuthi beze eJerusalem emkhosini wePhasika likaThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. Umkhosi lo wawungakaze wenziwe ngabanengi kusiya ngomthetho owalotshwa phansi. **6** Ngokulaya kwenkosi, izithunywa zangena kulolonke elako-Israyeli lelakoJuda ziphethe izincwadi ezazivela enkosini lasezikhulwini zayo, ezazilotshwe ukuthi: “Bantu bako-Israyeli, buyelani kuThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Abrahamama lo-Isaka lo-Israyeli, ukuze abuyele kulabo benu abaseleyo abaphunyuke ezandleni zamakho ase-Asiriya. **7** Lingabi njengaboyihlo lezihlo zenu ababengathembekanga kuThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho babo, waze wabenza baba yisibonelo sokwesabekayo njengoba libona. **8** Lingabi ntamolukhuni njengaboyihlo; zehliseni kuThixo. Wozani endlini yokukhonzisa aseyingcwelisile kuze kube nininini. Mkhonzeni uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, ukuze ulaka lwakhe olwesabekayo lusuke kini. **9** Nxa libuyela kuThixo, abafowenu labantwabenu bazathola umusa kulabo ababathumbayo, babuye kulelizwe, ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ulomusa lesihawu. Kayikulifulathela nxa libuyela kuye.” **10** Ngakho izithunywa zaphuma zangena kuyo yonke imizi lemizana ko-Efrayimi lakoManase, zayafika lakhonale koZebhuluni, kodwa abantu bazihleka ulunya njalo bazikolodela. **11** Lanxa kunjalo, abanye abantu bako-Asheri labakoManase labakoZebhuluni bazithoba baya eJerusalem. **12** Njalo lakoJuda isandla sikaNkulunkulu sasisebantwini ukubapha ukubambana engqondweni ukuze benze lokho inkosi lezikhulu zayo eyayithe abakwenzwe, njengokutsho kwelizwi likaThixo. **13** Kwabuthana abantu abalixuku elikhulu eJerusalem bethakazelela uMkhosi weSinkwa esingelaMvubelo ngenyanga yesibili. **14** Basusa ama-alithare eJerusalem bakhucula ama-alithare empepha bawathwala bayawaphosela eSgodini saseKhidironi. **15** Babulala amazinyane ezimvu awePhasika ngosuku lwetshumi lane lwenyanga yesibili. Abaphristi labaLevi bayangeka bazihlambulula baletha iminikelo yokutshiswa ethempelini likaThixo. **16** Basebebuyela ezikhundleni zabo zenjalyo njengokumisiweyo emthethweni kaMosi umuntu kaNkulunkulu. Abaphristi bachela igazi ababeliqutshelwa ngabaLevi. **17** Njengoba babebanengi ababengazihlambululanga exukwini, abaLevi bahlaba amanye amazinyane ezimvu awePhasika besenzela labo ababengahlanjululwanga ngokomkhuba njalo bengelakho ukuzahlukanisela izimvu zabo phambi kukaThixo. **18** Lanxa abantu abanengi ababevela ko-Efrayimi, koManase, ko-Isakhari lakoZebhuluni babengazihlambululi, kodwa badla iPhasika, okwakungekho emthethweni olotshweyo.

Kodwa uHezekhiya wabakhulekela wathi: “Kungathi uThixo, olungileyo, angathethelela bonke **19** abamdingayo uNkulunkulu uThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho babo loba bengahlambululanga ngokomthetho wendawo engcwele.” **20** Lakanye uThixo wawuzwa umkhuleko kaHezekhiya wasilisa abantu. **21** Ama-Israyeli ayeseJerusalem athakazelela uMkhosi weSinkwa esingelaMvubelo okwensuku eziyisikhombisa ngokujabula okukhulu, abaLevi labaphristi behlabelela kuThixo insuku zonke, bepathiswa ngamachacho okudumisa uThixo. **22** UHezekhiya wabakhuthaza bonke abaLevi abatshengisela ukuzinikela emsebenzini kaThixo. Ngalezonsuku eziyisikhombisa badla leyongxenyeyayiyisabelo sabo njalo banikela umnikelo wobudlelwano bamdumisa uThixo, uNkulunkulu waboyise. **23** Ibandla lonke laselivumelana ukuthakazelela umkhosi lo okwezinye insuku eziyisikhombisa; ngakho umkhosi bawuqhuba okwezinye insuku eziyisikhombisa bejabula. **24** UHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda walethela ibandla inkunzi eziyinkulungwane lezimvu ezizinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa lembuzi zingezibandla, kwathi izikhulu lazo zaletha inkunzi eziyinkulungwane lezimvu lembuzi ezizinkulungwane ezililishumi. Abaphristi abanengi kakhulu bazihlambulula. **25** Ibandla lonke lakoJuda lajabula, ndawonye labaphristi labaLevi labo bonke ababuthene bevela ko-Israyeli, ndawonye labezizweni ababevela ko-Israyeli lababehlala koJuda. **26** Kwaba lokujabula okukhulu eJerusalem, ngoba kusukela ensukwini zikaSolomoni indodana kaDavida inkosi yako-Israyeli kwakungazange kube lomkhosi onjalo eJerusalem. **27** Abaphristi labaLevi bema basusa abantu, uNkulunkulu wabenza, ngoba imikhuleko yabo yafika ezulwini, endaweni yakhe engcwele ahlala kiyo.

31 Sekuphelele konke lokhu abako-Israyeli ababesemkhosini bangena emizini yakoJuda, badliza izinsika zokukhonzela u-Ashera. Badliza izindawo zokukhonzela lama-alithare kulolonke elakoJuda lakoBhenjamini kanye lako-Efrayimi lakoManase. Bathe sebekudilizile konke lokhu, abako-Israyeli babuyela emizini yabo, ezindaweni zabo. **2** UHezekhiya wamisa abaphristi labaLevi ngezigaba ngamunye wabo kusiya ngemisebenzi yabo yobuphristi kumbe eyabaLevi eyokunikela ngeminikelo yokutshiswa leminikelo yobudlelwano, ukukhonzisa, ukubonga kanye lokuhlabelela indumiso emasangweni endaweni ehlanga uThixo. **3** Inkosi yapha okuvela kweyayo inotho iminikelo yokutshiswa yekuseni lantambama kanye lokweminikelo yokutshiswa ngamaSabatha, leyokuThwasa kweziNyanga kanye leyemikhosi emisiweyo njengokulotshweyo emthethweni kaThixo. **4** Inkosi yathi abantu abahlala eJerusalem kumele banike abaphristi labaLevi imfanelo yabo ukuze basebenze ngokuzinikela emthethweni kaThixo. **5** Masinyazana ngemva kwesiqondiso, abako-Israyeli banikela kakhulu ngokwesivuno sakuqala samabele, lokweyayini elitsha, lokwamafutha lokwenyosi lakho konke okwatholakala emasimini. Baletha okunengi kakhulu, okwetshumi kukho konke. **6** Amadoda ako-Israyeli lawakoJuda ayehlala emizini yakoJuda lawo aletha okwetshumi kwemihlambi yenkomo leyezimvu zawo lezinto ezingcwele zokunikela kuThixo uNkulunkulu wawo, azibuthelala inqwabanqwaba. **7** Baqalisa ukukwenza lokhu ngenyanga yesithathu baze baqeda ngenyanga yesikhombisa. **8** UHezekhiya lezikhulu zakhe befika bebona lezozinqabanqwaba badumisa uThixo

njalo babusisa abantu bakhe bako-Israyeli. **9** UHezekhiya wabuza abaphristi labaLevi ngenqwabanqwaba; **10** u-Azariya umphristi omkhulu, owendlu kaZadokhi wamphendula wathi, “Kusukela abantu beqalise ukuletha iminikelo yabo ethempelini likaThixo, sesizuze ukudla okunengi njalo okusalayo kunengi kakhulu, ngoba uThixo ubabusisile abantu bakhe, yikho kulalokhu okunengi kangaka okuseleyo.” **11** UHezekhiya wapha imilayo yokuba kwakhiwe iziphala ethempelini likaThixo, lakanye lokho kwenziwa. **12** Ngakho baqhubeke beletha izipho ngokwethembeka, lokwethshumi kanye lezipho eziqakathekileyo. UKhenaniya induna enkulu, umLevi, wayepethe lezizinto, njalo umfowabo uShimeyi wayengumsekeli wakhe. **13** UJehiyeli, lo-Azaziya, loNahathi, lo-Asaheli, loJerimothi, loJozabhadhi, lo-Eliyeli, lo-Isimakhiya loMahathi kanye loBhenaya babekhangele umsebenzi bengaphansi kukaKhenaniya lomfowabo uShimeyi, njengokukhethwa kwabo yinkosi uHezekhiya lo-Azariya isikhulu esasikhangele ithempeli likaNkulunkulu. **14** UKhore indodana ka-Imna umLevi, owayengumlindi weSango langeMpumalanga, wayepethe iminikelo yokuzithandela kuNkulunkulu, enguye owaba okunikelwe kuThixo kanye lezipho ezingcwelisiweyo. **15** U-Edeni, loMiniyamini, loJeshuwa, loShemaya, lo-Amariya kanye loShekhananiya bamncedisa kakhulu bethembekile emizini yabaphristi, besabelana kusiya ngezigaba zabaphristi, abadala labatsha, ngokufananayo. **16** Phezu kwalokho, babesabela abesilisa kusukela kwabaleminyaka emithathu ngokulotshwa egwalweni lokuzalana kwabo bonke ababangena ethempelini likaThixo besiyakwenza imisebenzi etshiyeneyo kusiya ngemilandu yabo ngezigaba zabo. **17** Babela abaphristi ngezimuli zabo njengokulotshiweyo egwalweni lokuzalana kwabo njalo kwabanjalo lakubaLevi abaleminyaka engamatshumi amabili yokuzalwa labadala, kusiya ngemisebenzi yabo langezigaba zabo. **18** Lokhu kwakuhlanganisa abantwana, abesifazane kanye lamadodana lamadodakazi esigaba sonke kwabasegwalweni lokuzalana kwabo. Ngoba babethembekile ngokuzahlala bengcwele. **19** Abaphristi abayinzalo ka-Aroni, ababehlala eziqintini eduzane lamadolobho loba kwamanye amadolobho, babeqanjwe ngamaziso ukuthi babelane iziquba zabele lababo bonke ababelotshiwe ezingwalweni zokuzalana kwabaLevi. **20** Lokhu yikho okwenziwa nguHezekhiya kulolonke elakoJuda, esenza okufaneleyo lokulungileyo ngokwethemba kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe. **21** Kukho konke ayekwenza emsebenzini wethempeli likaNkulunkulu lasekulaleni kwakhe umthetho lemilayo, wadinga uNkulunkulu njalo wasebenza ngenhlizyo yakhe yonke. Ngalokho waphumelela.

32 Ngemva kwakho konke lokhu uHezekhiya ayekwenze ngokwethembeka, kweza uSenakheribhi inkosi yase-Asiriya wahlasela elakoJuda. Wavimbezela amadolobho ayeleziqaba, edinga ukuwanqoba abe ngawakhe. **2** UHezekhiya uthe ebona ukuthi uSenakheribhi usefikile njalo uhlose ukuhlasela iJerusalem, **3** wabuza izikhulu zakhe kanye labebutho ukuthi kwakungaba njani ukuthi kuvalwe amanzi avela emithonjeni engaphandle kwadolobho, bahle bamncedisa. **4** Ixuku elikhulu lamadoda labuthana, lakanye bawavala amanzi awemthonjeni lawesifula esasadabula phakathi kwelizwe. Bathi, “Kungani amakhosi ase-Asiriya afanele afice amanzi amanengi na?” **5** Ngakho wasebenza

ngamandla evuselela umduli lokwakha imiphotshongo phezu kwawo. Wakha omunye umduli ngaphandle kwalowo waseqinisa imithangala eyayivele ingeyoMuzi kaDavida. Wenza lezikhali lezihlangu ezinengi kakhulu. **6** Wabeka izikhulu zebutho zaphatha abantu wasezimisa phambi kwakhe egcekeni lesango elingasedolobheni wazikhuthaza ngalamazwi: **7** “Qinani libe lesibindi. Lingesabi njalo lingethuselwa libutho elikhulu kangaka lenkosi yase-Asiriya ngoba kulamandla amakhulu akithi adlula akuye. **8** Yena ulengalo yenyama kuphela, kodwa thina siloThixo uNkulunkulu wethu ukusizisa lokusilwela izimpi zethu.” Abantu baba lesibindi ngenxa yalokho okwatshiwo yinkosi yakoJuda uHezekhiya. **9** Muva, uSenakheribhi inkosi yase-Asiriya lawo wonke amabutho akhe esavimbezele eLakhishi, wathuma izikhulu zakhe eJerusalem ziphetho lelizwi elalisiya kuHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda kanye labantu bonke abakoJuda abebekhona lapho wathi: **10** “Nanku okutshiwo nguSenakheribhi inkosi yase-Asiriya uthi: Usithatha ngaphi wena isibindi, esokuthi wale ulokhu useJerusalem yona ivinjelwe? **11** Nxa uHezekhiya esithi, ‘UThixo uNkulunkulu wethu uzasisindisa ezandleni zenkosi yase-Asiriya,’ uyalikhohlisa, ukuba life ngendala langomhawu wamanzi. **12** UHezekhiya akasuye yini ngokwakhe owasusa izindawo zikankulunkulu lowu eziphakemayo lama-alithare, esithi kujuda leJerusalem, ‘Kumele likhonzele e-alithareni elilodwa njalo litshisele kulo imihlatshelo na?’ **13** Kutsho ukuthi alikwazi yini lokho engikwenzileyo lalokho okwenziwa ngobaba ebantwini bamanye amazwe na? Kambe onkulunkulu balezozizwe benelisa yini ukukhulula ilizwe labo esandleni sami na? **14** Nguphi kubo bonke onkulunkulu bamazwe balezozizwe ezabuhjiswa ngobaba owake wenelisa ukukhulula abantu bakhe kimi na? UNkulunkulu wenu angalikhulula njani esandleni sami? **15** Qaphelani lingakhohliswa nguHezekhiya limyekele elilahlekisa. Lingamethembi, ngoba kakho onkulunkulu loba ngowasiphi isizwe loba yiwuphi umbuso oseke wenelisa ukukhulula abantu bakhe esandleni sami loba esandleni sabokhokho. Pho kanganani ukuba owenu onkulunkulu angalikhulula yini esandleni sami!” **16** Izikhulu zikaSenakheribi zaqhubekela phambili zikhuluma kubi ngoThixo uNkulunkulu langenceku yakhe uHezekhiya. **17** Inkosi yaloba lezincwadi ithuka uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, isitsho lokhu okubi ngaye: “Njengoba onkulunkulu babantu bamanye amazwe behluleka ukukhulula abantu babo esandleni sami, kuyafanana kunjalo uNkulunkulu kaHezekhiya kasoze enelise ukukhulula abantu bakhe esandleni sami.” **18** Basebememeza ngesiHebheru ebantwini baseJerusalem ababephezu komduli, bebethusela ukuze besabe babesebthumba idolobho. **19** Bakhuluma ngoNkulunkulu weJerusalem njengalokho abakwenza ngabonkulunkulu babanye abantu bemhlabeni, izinto ezibunjwe yizandla zabantu. **20** Inkosi uHezekhiya lomphrofethi u-Isaya indodana ka-Amozi bakhala ngomkhuleko ngalokhu. **21** UThixo wathuma ingilosi, eyabhubhisa wonke amadoda empi labakhokheli lezikhulu enkambeni yenkosi yase-Asiriya. Ngakho wabuyela elizweni lakhe ngokuyangeka. Esengene ethempelini likankulunkulu wakhe, amanye amadodana akhe amjuqa ngenkemba. **22** Ngalokho uThixo wamsindisa uHezekhiya labantu baseJerusalem esandleni sikaSenakheribhi inkosi yase-Asiriya lakuzo zonke ezinye izitha. UThixo wabavikela wabaphatha kuhle inxa zonke. **23** Abanengi balethela uThixo iminikelo eJerusalem kanye lezipho eziligugu

kuHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda. Kusukela lapho waba lesithunzi wahlonitshwa yizizwe zonke. **24** Ngalezonsuku uHezekhiya wagula eselengela ekufeni. Wakhuleka kuThixo, wamphendula ngokumnika isibonakaliso. **25** Kodwa inhliziyi kaHezekhiya yagcwala ngokuzikhukhumeza ngakho kazange azihluphe ngesihawu ayesitshengisiwe; ngakho intukuthelo kaThixo yehlela phezu kwakhe lasebantwini bakoJuda labaseJerusalem. **26** Ngakho uHezekhiya waphenduka ukuzikhukhumeza ngenhliziyi yakhe, labantu baseJerusalem labo benza njalo; ngalokho ulaka lukaThixo alusabehlelanga ngezinsuku zikaHezekhiya. **27** UHezekhiya wayelentothe enengi njalo elodumo, wasesakha izindlu zokulondolozela isiliva sakhe legolide kanye lamatshe akhe aligugu, iziyoliso, izihlangu lakho konke okunye okuligugu. **28** Wakha njalo iziphala zokugcinela amabele, iwayini elitsha lamafutha, wakha izibaya zemihlobo eyehlukeneyo yenkomo, lezibaya zemihlambi yezimvu. **29** Wakha imizi wazuza imihlambi yezimvu leyenkomo, ngoba uNkulunkulu wamnika inotho enkulu kakhulu. **30** UHezekhiya nguye owavala amanzi entombo yangaphezulu kweGihoni wawadonsa agelezela ngentshonalanga koMuzi kaDavida. Waphumelela kukho konke ayekwenza. **31** Ekufikeni kwamaxusa ayethunywe ngababusi beBhabhiloni bezobuzwa ngomangaliso owenzakele elizweni, uNkulunkulu wamtshiya ukuze amhlole ukuthi azi konke okwakusenhliziyweni yakhe. **32** Ezinye izehlakalo ngokubusa kukaHezekhiya lemisebenzi yakhe yokuzinikela kulotshiwe embonweni womphrofethi u-Isaya indodana ka-Amozi egwalweni lwamakhozi akoJuda lawako-Israyeli. **33** UHezekhiya waphumula labokhokho bakhe wangcwatshwa eqaqeni lapha okulamangcwaba abosendo lukaDavida. AbakoJuda bonke labantu baseJerusalem bamhlonipha ekufeni kwakhe. Kwathi uManase indodana yakhe wathatha isikhundla waba yinkosi.

33 UManase waba yinkosi eleminyaka elitshumi lambili ubudala njalo wabusa eJerusalema okweminyaka engamatshumi amahlanu lanhlanu. **2** Wenza ububi emehlweni kaThixo, elandela imikhuba eyenyanyekayo yezizwe uThixo ayezizotshile phambi kuka-Israyeli. **3** Wavuselela izindawo zokukhonzela ezazibhidlizwe nguyise uHezekhiya; waphinda wakhela oBhali ama-alithare kanye lezinsika zika-Ashera. Wakhothamela zonke izinkanyezi zezulu wazikhonza. **4** Wakha ama-alithare ethempelini likaThixo, lona uThixo ayekhulume ngalo wathi: "IBizo lami lizahlala eJerusalema kuze kube nininini." **5** Emagumeni womabili ethempeli likaThixo wakhela izinkanyezi zezulu ama-alithare. **6** Wanikela amadodana akhe emlilweni eSigidini saseBheni-Hinomu, wenza imilingo, ukuvumisa, lokuthakatha njalo wayahlahlula lakwabalamadlozi. Wenza okubi kakhulu phambi kukaThixo, wamthukuthelisa. **7** Wathatha isithombe ayesibazile wasibeka ethempelini likaNkulunkulu, lelo uNkulunkulu ayethe kuDavida lasendodaneni yakhe uSolomoni, "Kulelithempeli kanye laseJerusalem, engilikhethileyo ezizwaneni zaka-Israyeli, ngizafaka iBizo lami kuze kube nininini. **8** Angiyikuyekela inyawo zabako-Israyeli zisuke kulelilizwe engalabela okhokho babo, nxa bezanazelela benze konke engabalaya ngakho okwemithetho, izimiso leziqondiso ezaphiwa uMosi." **9** Kodwa uManase wakhokhelela abakoJuda labaseJerusalema ekulahlekeni, benza ububi okwedlula izizwe uThixo azibhubhisa mandulo kokufika kwabako-Israyeli. **10** UThixo wakhuluma kuManase labantu bakhe, kodwa kabalalelanga. **11** Ngakho uThixo wabehlisela abalawuli

bamabutho enkosi yase-Asiriya, abathumba uManase, bamfaka umkhala emakhaleni, bambopha ngamakhetane ethusi bamusa eBhabhiloni. **12** Ekuhlulukelweni kwakhe wacela umusa kaThixo uNkulunkulu waboyise. **13** Ngakho uthe esekhuleka kuThixo, wezwa ukuncenga kwakhe walalela isicelo sakhe; wambuyisela eJerusalema ebukhosini bakhe. Ngalokho uManase wakwazi ukuthi uThixo unguNkulunkulu. **14** Ngemva kwalokho wakha kutsha umduli wangaphandle owoMuzi kaDavida, entshonalanga kwentombo yesigodini seGihoni, kusiya emangenelweni eSango leNhlanzi kubhoda uqaqa lwe-Ofeli; njalo wawakha waba mude kulukaqala. Wafaka abalawuli bamabutho kuwo wonke amadolobho aleziqaba koJuda. **15** Wasusa bonke onkulunkulu bezizweni wasusa lesithombe ethempelini likaThixo, lawo wonke ama-alithare ayewakhele eqaqeni lwethempeli kanye laseJerusalem; konke lokhu wakulahlela ngaphandle kwedolobho. **16** Wavuselela i-alithari likaThixo wenza iminikelo yobudlelwano leminikelo yokubonga phezu kwalo njalo watshelelelwa ukumkhonza uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. **17** Kodwa abantu baqhubeka benikela imihlatshelo ezindaweni zokukhonzela, kodwa benikela kuphela kuThixo uNkulunkulu wabo. **18** Ezinye izehlakalo ngombuso kaManase, kanye lomkhuleko wakhe kuNkulunkulu wakhe lamazwi akhulunywa ngababoni kuye ngebizo likaThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, kulotshiwe embalini yamakhozi ako-Israyeli. **19** Umkhuleko wakhe lokuthi uNkulunkulu wakwamukela njani ukuncenga kwakhe, lokona kwakhe konke, kanye lokungathembeki, lalezizindawo zokukhonzela ayezakhile lezinsika zika-Ashera lezithombe engakazehlisi ngokuzithoba, kulotshiwe konke emibhalweni yababoni. **20** UManase waphumula labokhokho bakhe wangcwatshwa esigodlweni sakhe. U-Amoni indodana yakhe yathatha isikhundla sakhe. **21** U-Amoni wayeleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lambili ubudala esiba yinkosi, njalo wabusa eJerusalema okweminyaka emibili. **22** Wenza ububi phambi kukaThixo, njengalokho okwakwenziwe nguyise uManase. U-Amoni wakhonza njalo wanikela imihlatshelo kuzozonke izithombe ezazenziwe nguManase. **23** Kodwa kenzanga njengoyise uManase, ngoba yena kazehlisanga phansi kukaThixo; u-Amoni wenza amacala ngokuphindiweyo. **24** Izikhulu zika-Amoni zathama icebo zambulalela esigodlweni sakhe. **25** Kodwa abantu belizwe babulala bonke labo ababethame amacebo ngenkosi u-Amoni, babeka ujosiya indodana yakhe wathatha ubukhosi.

34 Ujosiya waba yinkosi eleminyaka eyisificaminwembili ubudala njalo wabusa eJerusalema okweminyaka engamatshumi amathathu lanye. **2** Wenza okulungileyo phambi kukaThixo njalo wahamba ngenyathelo likayise uDavida, kazange apha mbukele kwesokudla loba esokholo. **3** Ngomnyaka wesificaminwembili wokubusa kwakhe, elokhu esesengumntwana, waqalisa ukumdinga uNkulunkulu kakhokho wakhe uDavida. Ngomnyaka wetshumi lambili waqalisa ukuhlambulula elakoJuda laseJerusalem, wavala izindawo zokukhonzela, izinsika zika-Ashera, izithombe ezibaziweyo lezikhandiweyo. **4** Ngeziqondiso zakhe kwabhidlizwa ama-alithare aboBhali; waqoba ama-alithare empepha ayengaphezu kwawo; wahlikiza izinsika zika-Ashera, izithombe kanye lemifanekiso. Lokhu wakuvadlaza wasekuchithizela phezu kwamangcwaba alabo ababenikele imihlatshelo kulezizithombe. **5** Watshisela amatambo

abaphristi ema-alithareni abo, ngalokho wahlambulula elakojuda laseJerusalem. **6** Emizini yakoManase, lako-Efrayimi lakoSimiyoni, kuze kuyefika koNafithali, lasemanxiweni aseduzane layo, **7** wadliza ama-alithare lezinsika zika-Ashera njalo wahlifiza izithombe zaba yimpuphu wachithiza ama-alithare empepha kulonke elako-Israyeli aba yizicucu. Wasebuyela eJerusalem. **8** Ngomyaka wetshumi lasificaminwembali wokubusa kukaJosiya, ukuze ahlambulule ilizwe kanye lethempeli, wathumela uShafani indodana ka-Azaliya loMaseya umbusi wedolobho, lojowa indodana kaJowahazi, umlobi, ukuba bavuselele ithempeli likaThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe. **9** Baya kuHilikhiya umphristi omkhulu bamnika imali eyayilethwe ethempelini likaNkulunkulu, eyayiqoqwe ngabaLevi ababengabagcini beminyango beyiqoqa ebantwini bakoManase, lako-Efrayimi layo yonke insalela yabako-Israyeli lakubo bonke abantu bakoJuda labakoBhenjamini lababehlala eJerusalem. **10** Basebeyiqhubela amadoda ayekhethelwe ukukhangela ukuqhubeka komsebenzi wasethempelini likaThixo. Lamadoda ayeholisa ababevuselela lokwakha kutsha ithempeli. **11** Eyinye bayiqhubela ababazi labakhi ukuze bathenge amatshe abaziweyo lezigodo lezintungo zezindlu ezadilika amakhosi akojuda engananzelele. **12** Amadoda ayisebenza imisebenzi yawo ngokwethembeka. Ayekhokhelwa njalo eqondiswa ngoJahathi lo-Obhadaya, abaLevi bosendo lukaMerari, uZakhariya loMeshulami abosendo lukaKohathi. AbaLevi bonke ababengamagabazi kwezamachacho omculo, **13** babephethe izisebenzi njalo bekhangele izisebenzi kulowo lalowo umsebenzi. Abanye abaLevi babengonobhala, labalobi kanye labalindi beminyango. **14** Besakhapha imali eyayingeniswe ethempelini likaThixo, uHilikhiya umphristi wafumana uGwalo loMthetho kaThixo owawuphiwe uMosi. **15** UHilikhiya wathi kuShafani unobhala, “Sengilutholile uGwalo loMthetho ethempelini likaThixo.” Waselunika uShafani. **16** Ngalokho uShafani waluthatha walusa enkosini wayibikela wathi: “Izikhulu zakho ziyakwenza konke ozilaye ukuba zikwenze. **17** Sebeyibhadele imali leyo eyayisethempelini likaThixo njalo sebeyitshiyele abakhangeli bomsebenzi kanye lezisebenzi.” **18** Ngakho uShafani unobhala wabikela inkosi, wathi, “UHilikhiya umphristi usengiphe ugwalo.” Ngakho uShafani waselubala phambi kwenkosi. **19** Inkosi yonela ukuzwa amazwi oMthetho, yadabula izembatho zayo **20** yapha leziziqondiso kuHilikhiya, lo-Ahikhani indodana kaShefani, lo-Abhidoni indodana kaMikha, loShafani unobhala kanye lo-Asaya inceku yenkosi yathi: **21** “Hambani liyengibuzela kuThixo lensalela yako-Israyeli labakoJuda ngalokho okulotshwe kulolugwalo olutholakeleyo. Likhulu ulaka lukaThixo phezu kwethu ngenxa yabokhokho abangazange balilalele ilizwi likaThixo; kabenzanga ngendlela okulotshwe ngayo kulolugwalo.” **22** UHilikhiya lalabo ayethunye labo yinkosi bahamba ukuba bayekhuluma loHulida umphrofethikazi owayengumkaShalumi indodana kaThokhathi, indodana kaHasira, umlondolozo wezembatho. UHulida wayehlala eJerusalem endaweni yeSiqinti Sesibili. **23** Wathi kubo, “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: Tshelani umuntu olithume kimi lithi, **24** ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uthi: Ngizakwehlisela lindawo labantu bayo incithakalo lazozonke izithuko ezilotshiweyo egwalweni olufundwe phambi kwenkosi yakoJuda. **25** Ngoba bangidelile batshisela abanye onkulunkulu impepha njalo bangithukuthelisile

ngakho konke abakwenze ngezandla zabo, ulaka lwami luzakwehlisela phezu kwalindawo njalo aluyikucitshwa.’ **26** Tshelani inkosi yakoJuda, elithume ukuzabuza kuThixo lithi: ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, mayelana lamazwi owezwileyo: **27** Njengoba uzisolile wazehlisa ngaphansi kukaNkulunkulu wezwa ukuthi utheni ngalindawo labantu bawo njalo langenxa yokuthi uzehlisile wazithoba phambi kwami wadabula izembatho zakho walila phambi kwami, ngikuzwile, utsho njalo uThixo. **28** Wena ngizakususa ngikuse kubokhokho bakho, njalo uzangcwatshwa ngokuthula. Amehlo akho awayikubona leyoncithakalo engizayehlisela indawo le lakulabo abahlala khona.’” Ngempela bayithatha leyompendulo baya layo enkosini. **29** Inkosi yasibuthanisa bonke abadala bakoJuda labaseJerusalem. **30** Yaya ethempelini likaThixo labantu bakoJuda, kanye labaseJerusalem, labaphristi kanye labaLevi labantu bonke kusukela komncinyane kusiya komkhulu. Inkosi yabafundela wonke amazwi ayeseGwalweni lweSivumelwano, olwatholakala ethempelini likaThixo. **31** Inkosi yema ensikeni yayo yavuselela isivumelwano sayo phambi kukaThixo, ukumkhonza uThixo lokwamukela imilayo yakhe, leziqondiso, lezimiso zakhe ngenhliziyo yayo yonke langomphefumulo wayo wonke, lokulalela amazwi esivumelwano esilotshiweyo ogwalweni. **32** Yasifungisa bonke ababeseJerusalem labakoBhenjamini ukuba bazasigcina; abantu baseJerusalem bakwenza lokho belandela isivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho babo. **33** UJosiya wasusa zonke izithombe ezenyanyekayo ezabelweni zonke ezazingezako-Israyeli, wenza bonke abako-Israyeli bamkhonza uThixo uNkulunkulu wabo. Ngezinsuku zokuphila kwakhe kazange aphambuke endleleni kaThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho babo.

35 UJosiya wenza uMkhosi wePhasika kuThixo eJerusalem, iwundlu lePhasika lahlathswa ngosuku lwetshumi lane lwenyanga yakuqala. **2** Wabeka abaphristi ngemisebenzi yabo njalo wabakhuthaza emsebenzini wethempeli likaThixo. **3** KubaLevi, ababefundisa abako-Israyeli bonke njalo ababevele behlukaniselwa uThixo wathi: “Bekani ibhokisi lesivumelwano elingcwele ethempelini elakhiwa nguSolomoni indodana kaDavida inkosi yako-Israyeli. Akumelanga libe lithwalwa ngamahlombe enu. Khatthesi khonzani uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu labantu bakhe bako-Israyeli. **4** Hlanganani ngezindlu zenu langezigaba zenu, kusiya ngeziziqondiso ezalotshwa nguDavida inkosi yako-Israyeli kanye loSolomoni indodana yakhe. **5** Manini endaweni engcwele leqembu labaLevi kuzozonke izigaba ngezindlu zezihlobo zenu, kube ngabemuli. **6** Hlabani amawundlu ePhasika, lizihlambulule lilungisele izihlobo zenu lenze njengokutsho kwelizwi likaThixo ngoMosi.” **7** UJosiya wanika abantu makhaza bonke ababekhona izimvu lembuzi eziyizinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu zomnikelo wePhasika, kanye lenkomo eziyizinkulungwane ezintathu, zonke zingezayo inkosi. **8** Izikhulu zakhe lazo zapha ngokuzinikela ebantwini zapha labaphristi labaLevi. UHilikhiya, loZakhariya loJehiyeli, abaphrofethi bethempeli likaNkulunkulu, bapha abaphristi iminikelo yePhasika engamakhulu angamatshumi amabili lesithupha lenkomo ezingamakhulu amathathu. **9** Abanye abapha kanye loKhenaniya loShemaya, loNethaneli, abafowabo, kanye loHashabhiya, loJeyiyeli, loJozabhadhi, abakhokheli babaLevi,

bapha okomnikelo wePhasika izinkulungwane ezinhlanu kanye lenkomo ezingamakhulu amahlanu ezabaLevi. **10** Inkonzo yalungiswa kwathi abaphristi bema ezindaweni zabo labaLevi ezigabeni zabo ngeziqondiso zenkosi. **11** Amawundlu ePhasika ahlathswa, abaphristi bemukela igazi bachelanga nalo, abaLevi ngalesosikhathi babehlinza. **12** Babeka eceleni iminikelo yokutshiswa ukuze banike izigaba ngezigaba zezimuli zabantu ukuze banikele kuThixo, njengokulotshiweyo eGwalweni lukaMosi. Benza okufaneleyo lasenkomeni. **13** Bosa izinyamazana zePhasika emlilweni njengokulaywa kwabo, babilisa iminikelo engcwele ezimbizeni, ezindengezini lasemapaneni baphanga bakuphakela abantu. **14** Ngemva kwalokho, bazilungisela okwabo ndawonye lokwabaphristi, ngoba abaphristi, abayinzalo ka-Aroni, babephathekile ngeminikelo yokutshiswa kanye leyamahwahwa kwaze kwaba kusihlwa. Ngakho abaLevi bazilungisela okwabo lokwabaphristi abangabendlu ka-Aroni. **15** Abahlabeleli, abenzalo ka-Asafi, babesezindaweni ezaqanjwa nguDavida, lo-Asafi, loHemani kanye loJeduthuni umboni wenkosi. Abalindi bamasango esangweni linye ngalinye akuzange kudingeke ukuthi basuke ezindaweni zabo, ngoba abaLevi abayizihlobo zabo babebalungisele okwabo. **16** Ngakho ngalesosikhathi umsebenzi kaThixo wenzelwa ukugcinwa kwePhasika lokunikelwa kweminikelo yokutshiswa e-alithareni likaThixo, njengoba inkosi uJosiya yayitshilo. **17** Abako-Israyeli ababekhona bathakazelela iPhasika ngalesosikhathi njalo bathakazelela uMkhosi weSinkwa esingelaMvubelo okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. **18** IPhasika lalingazange ligcinwe ngalindlela ko-Israyeli kusukela ngezinsuku zomphrofethi uSamuyeli; njalo kayikho leyodwa inkosi yako-Israyeli eyayike yathakazelela iPhasika elinjengaleli elenziwa nguJosiya, labaphristi, labaLevi labo bonke abakoJuda labako-Israyeli ababelapho labantu baseJerusalem. **19** LeliPhasika lathakazelelwa ngomnyaka wethshumi lasificaminwembali mibili wokubusa kakaJosiya. **20** Ngemva kwakho konke lokhu uJosiya eseqondisile konke ngeThempeli, uNekho inkosi yaseGibhithe wayahlasela iKharikhemishi eYufathe, uJosiya waphuma ukuyadibana laye empini. **21** Kodwa uNekho wamthumela amanxusa esithi, “Kulokuxabana bani phakathi kwam lawe, we nkosi yakoJuda? Phela angihlaseleli wena khathezi, ngihlaselana laleyondlu engilwa layo impi. UNkulunkulu ungitshele ukuba ngiphangise; wena mana ungaphikisani loNkulunkulu, yena olami, funa akubhubhise.” **22** Kodwa uJosiya kazange amyekele, wazifihla ukuze abe sempini. Kazange alalele akutshelwa nguNekho kuvela kuNkulunkulu kodwa laye wakayulwa emagcekeni aseMegido. **23** Abatshoki bayiciba inkosi uJosiya, yatshela izikhulu zayo yathi, “Ngisusani lapha, sengilimele kakubi.” **24** Ngakho bamethula enqoleni yakhe yokulwa, bamfaka kweyinye ayeelayo bamusa eJerusalem, lapho afela khona. Wangcwatshwa emathuneni abokhokho bakhe, bonke abakoJuda labako-Israyeli bamlilela. **25** UJeremiya laye waloba isililo ngoJosiya, njalo kuze kube lamuhla abahlabeleli bonke abesilisa labesifazane lokhu behaya isililo ngoJosiya. Lokhu kulila kwaba ngumkhuba ko-Israyeli njalo kubhaliwe eZililweni. **26** Ezinye izehlakalo ngokubusa kukaJosiya lenzwe izenzo zokuzinikela kwake, mayelana lokulotshiweyo eMthethweni kaThixo **27** zonke izehlakalo, kusukela ekuqaleni kuze kube sekuphetheni, kulotshiwe egwalweni lwamakhozi ako-Israyeli lakoJuda.

36 Abantu belizwe bathatha uJehowahazi indodana kaJosiya bamenza inkosi eJerusalem esikhundleni sikayise. **2** UJehowahazi wayeleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lantathu yobudala esiba yinkosi, njalo wabusa eJerusalem okwezinyanga ezintathu. **3** Inkosi yaseGibhithe yamethula ubukhosi eJerusalem njalo yathelisa abakoJuda amathalenta alikhulu esiliva kanye lethalenta legolide. **4** Inkosi yaseGibhithe, yabeka u-Eliyakhimu, umfowabo kaJehowahazi, ukuba abe yinkosi yakoJuda laseJerusalem yasiguqula ibizo lika-Eliyakhimu laba nguJehoyakhimi. Kodwa uNekho wathatha umfowabo ka-Eliyakhimu uJehowahazi wamusa eGibhithe. **5** UJehoyakhimi wayeleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lanhlano ubudala esiba yinkosi, njalo wabusa eJerusalem okweminyaka elitshumi lanye. Wenza ububi phambi kukaThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe. **6** UNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni wamhlasele wambopha ngamakethe ethusi wasemusa eBhabhiloni. **7** UNebhukhadineza wasuka lezinye impahla zethempeli likaThixo wazisa ethempelini lakhe elaliseBhabhiloni. **8** Ezinye izehlakalo ngombuso kaJehoyakhimi, lamanyala awenzayo lakho konke okwatholakala kulihlazo ngaye, kulotshiwe egwalweni lwamakhozi ako-Israyeli lakoJuda. UJehoyakhini indodana yakhe wathatha isikhundla waba yinkosi. **9** UJehoyakhimi wayeleminyaka elitshumi lasificaminwembali ubudala esiba yinkosi, njalo wabusa eJerusalem okwezinyanga ezintathu lezinsuku ezilitshumi. Wenza ububi phambi kukaThixo. **10** Kwathi entwasa, inkosi uNebhukhadineza yathumela ukuthi bamlethe eBhabhiloni, kanye lempahla eziligugu ezazivele ethempelini likaThixo, wabeka uZedekhiya isinini sikaJehoyakhini ukuba yinkosi yakoJuda laseJerusalem. **11** UZedekhiya waba yinkosi eleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lanye, njalo wabusa eJerusalem okweminyaka elitshumi lanye. **12** Wenza okubi emehlweni kaThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe njalo kazange azithobe ngaphansi komphrofethi uJeremiya, owayekhumelwa uThixo. **13** Wahlamukela inkosi uNebhukhadineza, owayemfungise ngebizo likaNkulunkulu. Waba lenkani, lenhliziyo elukhuni, kazange azithobe kuThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. **14** Abakhokheli bonke babaphristi lababantu baqhubeke ngokungathembeki, belandala izenzo ezingamanyala zezizwe, bengcolisa ithempeli likaThixo, ayezehlukanisele lona eJerusalem. **15** UThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho babo, wathumela ilizwi ephindaphinda ngezithunywa zakhe, ngoba wayelesihawu ebantwini bakhe kanye lendawo yakhe yokuhlala. **16** Kodwa izithunywa zikaNkulunkulu babezihleka ulunya, beseyisa amazwi akhe njalo beklolodela abaphrofethi bakhe lwaze lwavutha ulaka lukaThixo ebantwini bakhe kungasekho okunganceda. **17** Ngakho wathuma inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, yabulala amajaha akibo ngenkomba endlini engcwele, njalo akusindanga jaha loba ntombi, indoda endala loba oseluphele. UNkulunkulu wabanikela bonke esandleni sikaNebhukhadineza. **18** Wathutha zonke impahla zethempeli likaNkulunkulu wazisa eBhabhiloni, zonke ezincinyane lezinkulu, kanye lezenotho yethempelini likaThixo lezenotho yenkosi leyezikhulu zayo. **19** Batshisa ithempeli likaNkulunkulu njalo badliza umduli weJerusalem; batshisa zonke izigodlo batshabalalisa lakho konke okwakuligugu khonapho. **20** Wathatha bonke ababesele bengadliwanga yinkemba wabasa eBhabhiloni baba yizichaka zakhe lezamadodana akhe kwaze kwangena umbuso wasePhezhiya. **21** Ilizwe lazuba

ukuphumula kwalo kwamasabatha; kusosonke isikhathi salo sencithakalo laphumula kwaze kwaphela iminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa ukugcwalisa ilizwi likaThixo elakhulunywa nguJeremiya. **22** Ngomnyaka wakuqala wenkosi yasePhezhiya uKhurosi, ukuze kugcwaliseke ilizwi likaThixo elakhulunywa nguJeremiya, uThixo wathinta inhliziyi kaKhurosi inkosi yasePhezhiya ukuba yenze isimemezelo kuwo wonke umbuso wayo, ukuthi sibhalwe phansi kuthiwe: **23** “Nanti ilizwi likaKhurosi inkosi yasePhezhiya elithi: ‘UThixo, uNkulunkulu wasezulwini unginike yonke imibuso yomhlaba njalo ungikhethile ukuba ngimakhele ithempeli eJerusalema koJuda. Loba ngubani, wabantu bakhe phakathi kwenu sengathi uThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe angaba laye, kahambe.’”

U-Ezra

1 Ngomnyaka wakuqala wenkosi yasePhezhiya uKhurosi, ukuze kugcwaliseke ilizwi likaThixo elakhulunywa nguJeremiya, uThixo wathinta inhliziyo kaKhurosi inkosi yasePhezhiya ukuba yenze isimemezelo kuwo wonke umbuso wayo, ukuthi sibhalwe phansi kuthiwe: **2** “Nanku okutshiwo yinkosi uKhurosi wasePhezhiya: ‘UThixo, uNkulunkulu wasezulwini, ungiphile yonke imbuso yasemhlabeni njalo ungikhethile ukuthi ngimakhele ithempeli eJerusalem koJuda. **3** Loba ngubani wabantu bakhe phakathi kwenu angahamba aye eJerusalem koJuda ayekwakha ithempeli likaThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uNkulunkulu oseJerusalem njalo sengathi uNkulunkulu wabo angaba labo. **4** Akuthi abantu loba ngabakuyiphi indawo lapho okungabe kuseselensalela kabamuphe isiliva legolide, impahla lezifuyo, leminikelo yokuzithandela yethempeli likaNkulunkulu eJerusalem.’” **5** Kwasekusithi abazinhloko zemizi yakoJuda lakoBhenjamini, kanye labaphristi labaLevi, labo bonke ababethintwe inhliziyo zabo nguNkulunkulu, bazilungiselele ukuhamba ukuyakwakha indlu kaThixo eJerusalem. **6** Bonke omakhelwane bababancedisa ukuzuzwa izinto zesiliva legolide, impahla lezifuyo, lezipho eziligugu phezu kwayo yonke iminikelo yokuzizwela. **7** Phezu kwalokho inkosi uKhurosi yakhupha zonke izitsha ezazingezethempeli likaThixo ezazithunjwe nguNebhukhadineza eJerusalem zabeke ethempelini likanulunkulu wakhe. **8** UKhurosi inkosi yasePhezhiya wathi kazilethwe nguMithiredathi umgcinisikhwama onguye owazibalayo ezibalela uSheshibhazari inkosana yakoJuda. **9** Nanzi-ke lezompahla: imiganu yegolide yayingamatshumi amathathu, imiganu yesiliva yayiyinkulungwane, amapane esiliva ayengamatshumi amabili lasificamunwemunye, **10** imiganu yegolide ezingubhe yayingamatshumi amathathu, eyesiliva efana layo yayingamakhulu amane letshumi, ezinye impahla zaziyinkulungwane. **11** Sekukonke, kwakuyizinkulungwane ezinhlano lamakhulu amane ezinto zegolide lesiliva. USheshibhazari weza lazozonke lezizinto lapho izithunjwa zafika eJerusalem zivela eBhabhiloni.

2 Manje-ke yilaba abantu bendawo ababuyayo ekuthunjweni, ababethunjiwe nguNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yabasa eBhabhiloni (babuyela eJerusalem lakoJuda, ngulowo emzini wakibo, **2** behamba loZerubhabheli, loJeshuwa, loNehemiya, loSeraya, loRelayiya, loModekhayi, loBhilishani, loMisipha, loBhigivayi, loRehumi loBhana): Uluhlu lwamadoda ako-Israyeli: **3** izizukulwane sikaPharoshi sasizinkulungwane ezimbili lekhulu elilamatshumi ayisikhombisa lambili, **4** esikaShefathiya sasingamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi ayisikhombisa lambili, **5** esika-Ara sasingamakhulu ayisikhombisa lamatshumi ayisikhombisa lanhlano, **6** esikaPhahathi-Mowabi (ngosendo lukaJeshuwa loJowabi) sasizinkulungwane ezimbili lamakhulu ayisificaminwembili letshumi lambili, **7** esika-Elamu sasiyinkulungwane elamakhulu amabili lamatshumi amahlanu lane, **8** esikaZathu sasingamakhulu ayisificamunwemunye lamatshumi amane lanhlano, **9** esikaZakhayi sasingamakhulu ayisikhombisa lamatshumi ayisithupha, **10** esikaBhani sasingamakhulu ayisithupha lamatshumi amane lambili, **11** esikaBhebhayi sasingamakhulu ayisithupha lamatshumi amabili lantathu, **12** esika-Azigadi

sasiyinkulungwane elamakhulu amabili lamatshumi amabili lambili, **13** esika-Adonikhamu sasingamakhulu ayisithupha lamatshumi ayisithupha lasithupha, **14** esikaBhigivayi sasizinkulungwane ezimbili lamatshumi amahlanu lasithupha, **15** esika-Adini sasingamakhulu amane lamatshumi amahlanu lane, **16** esika-Atheri (ngoHezekhiya) sasingamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye lasificaminwembili, **17** esikaBhezayi sasingamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi amabili lantathu, **18** esikaJora sasilikhulu letshumi lambili, **19** esikaHashumi sasingamakhulu amabili lamatshumi amabili lantathu, **20** esikaGibhari sasingamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye lanhlano, **21** amadoda eBethihlema ayengamakhulu amabili lantathu, **22** eNethofa ayengamatshumi amahlanu lasithupha, **23** e-Anathothi ayelikhulu lamatshumi amabili lasificaminwembili, **24** e-Azimavethi ayengamatshumi amane lambili, **25** eKhiriyathi-Jeyarimi, eKhefira leBherothi ayengamakhulu ayisikhombisa lamatshumi amane lantathu, **26** eRama leGebha ayengamakhulu ayisithupha lamatshumi amabili lanye, **27** eMikhimashi ayelikhulu lamatshumi amabili lambili, **28** eBetheli le-Ayi ayengamakhulu amabili lamatshumi amabili lantathu, **29** eNebho ayengamatshumi amahlanu lambili, **30** eMagibhishi ayelikhulu lamatshumi amahlanu lasithupha, **31** kweyinye i-Elamu ayeyinkulungwane elamakhulu amabili lamatshumi amahlanu lane, **32** eHarimi ayengamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi amabili, **33** eLodi, eHadidi le-Ono ayengamakhulu ayisikhombisa lamatshumi amabili lanhlano, **34** eJeriko ayengamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi amane lanhlano, **35** eSenaya ayezinkulungwane ezintathu lamakhulu ayisithupha lamatshumi amathathu. **36** Abaphristi: esizukulwaneni sikaJedaya (ngosendo lukaJeshuwa) babengamakhulu ayisificamunwemunye lamatshumi ayisikhombisa lantathu, **37** kwesika-Imeri babeyinkulungwane lamatshumi amahlanu lambili, **38** kwesikaPhashuri babeyinkulungwane elamakhulu amabili lamatshumi amane lasikhombisa, **39** kwesikaHarimi babeyinkulungwane letshumi lasikhombisa. **40** AbaLevi: besizukulwane sikaJeshuwa loKhadimiyeli (abosendo lukaHodaviya) babengamatshumi ayisikhombisa lane. **41** Abahlabeleli: besizukulwane sika-Asafi babelikhulu lamatshumi amabili lasificaminwembili. **42** Abalindi bamasango: besizukulwane sikaShalumi, lo-Atheri, loThalimoni, lo-Akhubi, loHathitha loShobhayi babelikhulu lamatshumi amathathu lasificamunwemunye. **43** Izinceku zethempelini: zesizukulwane sikaZiha, loHasufa, loThabhawothi, **44** loKherosi, loSiyaha, loPhadoni, **45** loLebhana, loHagabha, lo-Akhubi, **46** loHagabi, loShalimayi, loHanani, **47** loGideli, loGahari, loReyaya, **48** loRezini, loNekhoda, loGazami, **49** lo-Uza, loPhaseya, loBhesayi, **50** lo-Asina, loMewunimi, loNefusimi, **51** loBhakibhuki, loHakufa, loHahuri, **52** loBhaziluthi, loMehida, loHasha, **53** loBhakhosi, loSisera, loThema, **54** loNeziya kanye loHathifa. **55** Izizukulwane zezinceku zikaSolomoni: izizukulwane sikaSothayi, loHasoferethi, loPheruda, **56** loJala, loDakhoni, loGideli, **57** loShefathiya, loHathili, loPhokherethi-Hazebhayimi kanye lo-Ami. **58** Izinceku zethempelini lezizukulwane zezinceku zikaSolomoni zazingamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye lambili. **59** Abalandelayo laba bavela emadolobheni aseTheli Mela, eTheli Hasha, eKherubi, e-Adani, lase-Imeri, kodwa behluleka ukuveza ukuthi usendo lwabo lwaphuma ko-Israyeli: **60**

abesizukulwane sikaDelaya, loThobhiya loNekhoda babengamakhulu ayisithupha lamatshumi amahlanu lambili. **61** Ababephuma kubaphristi kwakuyilaba: Abesizukulwane sikaHobhaya, esikaHakhozi lesikaBhazilayi (indoda eyayithethe indodakazi kaBhazilayi umGiliyadi layo yayibizwa ngalelobizo). **62** Laba baphenya imibhalo yembali yezimuli zabo, kodwa bayiswela ngakho basuswa euphristini kwathiwa bangcolile. **63** Umbusi wabalaya ukuthi bangakudli loba yikuphi ukudla okungcwele kuze kube lomphristi wokubuza inkatho i-Urimi leThumimi. **64** Ixuku lonke lalilani elifika izinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane lambili, lamakhulu amathathu amatshumi ayisithupha, **65** ngaphandle kwezinceku lezincekukazi zabo ezizinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa lamakhulu amathathu amatshumi amathathu lasikhombisa; njalo babe labahlabeleli besilisa labesifazane abangamakhulu amabili. **66** Babelamabhiza angamakhulu ayisikhombisa lamatshumi amathathu lasithupha, lezimbongo ezingamatshumi amabili lamatshumi amahlanu lanhlano, **67** lamakamela angamakhulu amane lamatshumi amathathu lanhlano kanye labobabhemi abazinkulungwane eziyisithupha ezilamakhulu ayisikhombisa lamatshumi amabili. **68** Bathi ukufika kwabo endlini kaThixo eJerusalem abanye bezinhloko zezimuli benza umnikelo wokuzizwela waba ngowokwakha indlu kaNkulunkulu endaweni yayo. **69** Banikela esikhwameni esikhulu ngokwamandla abo ukwenza umsebenzi lo banika amadrakhima azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisithupha lanye egolide lesiliva esifika izinkulungwane ezinhlanu samamina lezembatho zobuphristi ezilikhulu. **70** Abaphristi, labaLevi, labahlabeleli, labalindi bamasango kanye lezinceku zethempelini bahlala emadolobheni akibo, ndawonye labanye abantu, labo bonke abako-Israyeli bahlala emadolobheni akibo.

3 Kwathi sekufika inyanga yesikhombisa, lapho abako-Israyeli sebehlezi emizini yakibo, abantu babuthana njengomuntu munye eJerusalem. **2** Kwasekusithi uJeshuwa indodana kaJozadaki labaphristi ayesebenza labo kanye loZerubhabheli indodana kaSheyalithiyeli labakhula bakhe baqalisa ukwakha i-alithari likaNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli ukwenza umhlatshele womnikelo wokutshiswa kulo, mayelana lalokho okulotshiyayo eMthethweni kaMosi umuntu kaNkulunkulu. **3** Lokuba babesesaba abantu bendawo, balakha i-alithari esisekelweni salo benza iminikelo yokutshiswa kuThixo kulo, yomibili imihlatshelo yokusa lowokuhlwa. **4** Kwathi njalo belandela okulotshiyayo bawugubha uMkhosi weziHonqo besenza inani elifaneleyo leminikelo yokutshiswa elungiselwe lelo lalalo ilanga. **5** Emva kwalokho baletha iminikelo yenjayelo eyokutshiswa, iminikelo yokuThwasa kweNyanga leminikelo yayo yonke imikhosi kaThixo emisiweyo engcwele, kanye lalayo eyayilethwa njengeminikelo yokuzithandela eyalethwa kuThixo. **6** Ngelanga lokuqala lenyanga yesikhombisa baqalisa ukuletha iminikelo yokutshiswa kuThixo, lokuba isisekelo sethempeli likaThixo sasingakabekwa. **7** Basebesipha ababazi bamatshe lababazi nje imali, bapha ukudla lokunathwayo lamafutha ebantwini baseThire leSidoni, ukuze balethe izigodo zemisedari ngendlela yolwandle kusuka eLebanoni kusiya eJopha njengoba kwakuvunyelwe nguKhurosi inkosi yasePhezhiya. **8** Ngenyanga yesibili ngomnyaka wesibili bebuyile endlini kaNkulunkulu eJerusalem, uZerubhabheli indodana kaSheyalithiyeli, loJeshuwa indodana kaJozadaki labo

bonke abafowabo (abaphristi labaLevi labo bonke ababuyayo eJerusalem bevela ebugqilini) bawuqalisa umsebenzi, bakhetha labaLevi abaleminyaka engamatshumi amabili kusiya phezulu ukuthi baphathe umsebenzi wokwakha indlu kaThixo. **9** UJeshuwa lamadodana akhe labafowabo loKhadimiyeli lamadodana akhe (abazukulu bakaHodaviya) lamadodana kaHenadadi kanye lamadodana abo labafowabo, bonke bengabaLevi, bahlangana ndawonye ukukhangela labo ababesebenza endlini kaNkulunkulu. **10** Kwathi abakhi sebesibekile isisekelo sethempeli likaThixo abaphristi baqoka izembatho zabo, baphatha amachacho, kanye labaLevi (amadodana ka-Asafi) bephethe izigubhu, bonke bema ezindaweni zabo ukudumisa uThixo njengokwamiswa nguDavida inkosi yako-Israyeli. **11** Badumisa bebonga, bahlabelela uThixo bathi: “Ulungile; uthando lwakhe ku-Israyeli lumi laphakade.” Bonke abantu bamemeza bedumisa uThixo ngoba isisekelo sendlu kaThixo sasesibekiwe. **12** Kodwa abanengi babaphristi abadala labaLevi kanye lezikhulu zezimuli ababelibonile ithempeli lakuqala, bakhala kakhulu bebona isisekelo saleli ithempeli sibekwa, ikanti abanye babo bamemeza ngokuthaba. **13** Kakho owayengawehlukanisa umsindo wokumemeza kokuthokoza lomsindo wokukhala ngoba abantu benza umsindo omangalisayo. Njalo umsindo lowo wezwakala kude.

4 Kwathi lapho izitha zakoJuda lakoBhenjamini sezizwile ukuthi ababeyizithunjwa basebesakha ithempeli likaThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli **2** beza kuZerubhabheli lakulabo ababezinhloko zezimuli bathi, “Yekelani silincedise ukwakha ngoba lathi, njengani, siyamdinga uNkulunkulu wenu njalo kukade sisenza imihlatshelo kuye kusukela esikhathini sika-Esarihadoni inkosi yase-Asiriya, onguye owasiletha lapha.” **3** Kodwa uZerubhabheli, loJeshuwa labo bonke ababezinhloko zezimuli zoko-Israyeli baphendula bathi, “Kalilani lakho ukwakhisana lathi ithempeli likaNkulunkulu wethu. Thina sodwa sizalakra, silakhela uThixo, uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli, njengokulaywa kwethu nguKhurosi, inkosi yasePhezhiya.” **4** Kwasekusithi abantu balelolizwe baqalisa ukubadondisa abantu bakoJuda babenza besaba ukuqhubeka besakha. **5** Bathenga abacebisi bokudunga umsebenzi bawunyampise ngasosonke isikhathi sokubusa kukaKhurosi inkosi yasePhezhiya kwaze kwaba sekubuseni kukaDaryu inkosi yasePhezhiya. **6** Ekuqaleni kokubusa kuka-Ahasuweru bethesa abantu bakoJuda labaseJerusalem icala. **7** Njalo kwathi ngezinsuku zika-Athazekisisi inkosi yasePhezhiya uBhishilamu, loMithiredathi loThabheli labo bonke abangane babo baloba incwadi isiya ku-Athazekisisi. Incwadi leyo yayibhalwe ngolimi lwesi-Aramayikhi ngendlela yokuloba kwawo ama-Aramu. **8** URehumi umlawuli webutho loShimishayi unobhala bahlala incwadi isiya ku-Athazekisisi inkosi besola iJerusalem besithi: **9** URehumi umlawuli webutho loShimishayi unobhala kanye labo bonke abahlangene labo, abehluleli lezinduna zabantu abasuka eThiripholi, ePhezhiya, e-Ereki leBhabhiloni lama-Elamu aseSusa, **10** kanye labanye abantu inkosi enkulu ehloniphekayo u-Ashuribhaniphali (u-Osinaphari) eyabaxotshayo yabayahlalisa edolobheni laseSamariya lakwezinye izindawo ngaphetsheya kweYufrathe. **11** (Nanka amazwi encwadi leyo abayibhalayo.) Kuyo inkosi u-Athazekisisi, Ivela ezincekweni zakho, abantu abangaphetsheya kweYufrathe: **12** Inkosi ifanele yazi ukuthi amaJuda afikayo

kithi lapha evela kuwe aseye eJerusalem njalo sebelakha kutsha idolobho lelo elihlamukayo, elibi kakhulu. Sebevuza imiduli bevuselela lezisekelo. **13** Phezu kwalokho inkosi kufanele ukuba yazi ukuthi aluba idolobho leli lingaze lakhiwe lemiduli yalo imiswe njalo, kakusayikubhadalwa imithelo lenkongozelo yenkosi, lomthetho wokungenisa impahla ezweni, besekusithi-ke isikhwama senkosi sisilele izimali. **14** Pho njengoba thina silomlandu ophuma esigodlweni njalo kungafanelanga ukuthi sibone inkosi idelelwa, sithumela umbiko lo ukuyazisa inkosi, **15** ukuze kuhloliswe ezingwalweni zezindaba ezatshiywa yilabo abakwandulelayo. Kulezangozelo uzathola ukuthi idolobho leli lidolobho lokuhlumka, lilohlupho emakhosini lakwezinye izigaba zombuso, liyindawo yokuhlumka kulokhu kwasukela endulo. Yilokho okwabangela ukubhidliza kwalelidolobho. **16** Inkosi ziyazisela ukuthi aluba idolobho leli lingakhiwa, imiswe njalo imiduli yalo, izakube ingasasalanga lalutho ngaphetsheya kweYufra. **17** Inkosi yathumela impendulo le: KuRehumi umlawuli wempi loShimishayi unobhala labo bonke abaphathisana labo abahlala eSamariya lakwezinye izindawo ngaphetsheya kweYufra: Ngiyalibingelela. **18** Incwadi elasithumela yona isiguqulwe ulimi yabalwa phambi kwami. **19** Ngakhupha ilizwi kwaphenywa, kwafunyanwa ukuthi idolobho leli lilembali ende eyokuvukela amakhosi, liyindawo yokuhlumka lokuxhala. **20** IJerusalem isike yaba lamakhosi alamandla ayebusa kulolonke elangaphetsheya kweYufra, kubhadalwa kuwo imithelo, inkongozelo yenkosi lemithelo yokungenisa impahla elizweni. **21** Manje-ke khuphani umlayo kulawomadoda ukuthi kabamise umsebenzi, ukuze idolobho leli lingakhiwa ngize ngitsho mina. **22** Nanzelelani ukuthi lingayilibali indaba le. Kuyekelelwani indaba le ikhula yona ilimaza izifiso zenkosi? **23** Incwadi yeNkosi u-Athazekisisi yonela ukubalelwa uRehumi loShimishayi unobhala labalo ababephathisa bahle bahamba masinyane kubajuda eJerusalem bababamba ngamandla ukumisa umsebenzi. **24** Kanjalo umsebenzi wendlu kaNkulunkulu eJerusalem wema kwaze kwaba ngumnyaka wesibili wokubusa kukaDaryu inkosi yasePhezhiya.

5 Ngalesosikhathi uHagayi umphrofethi loZakhariya umphrofethi, umzukulu ka-Ido babephrofitha kubajuda laseJerusalem ngebizo likaNkulunkulu ka-Israeli onguye owayephezu kwabo. **2** Kwasekusithi uZerubhabheli indodana kaShelathiyeli loJeshuwa indodana kajoza daki baqalisa ukwakha kutsha indlu kaNkulunkulu eJerusalem. Abaphrofethi bakaNkulunkulu babelabo bebancedisa. **3** Ngalesosikhathi uThathenayi umbusi wangaphetsheya kweYufra the loShethari-Bhozenayi labaphathisi babo baya kubo bababuzwa bathi, “Ngubani olivumeleyo ukwakha kutsha ithempeli leli lokuvuselela lesisakhiwo?” **4** Babuza njalo bathi, “Ngobani amabizo amadoda ayakhayo indlu le na?” **5** Kodwa ilihlo likaNkulunkulu wabo lalibalindle abadala babajuda njalo kabazange beme kuze kuyefika umbiko kuDaryu kubuye njalo impendulo yakhe ibhalwe. **6** Le yiyo incwadi eyathunyelwa nguThathenayi umbusi wangaphetsheya kweYufra the loShethari-Bhozenayi labasekeli babo, izinduna zaphetsheya kweYufra the yaya kuDaryu iNkosi. **7** Umbiko abawuthumelayo wawubhalwe kanje: Kuyo iNkosi uDaryu: Ukubingelela okuhle. **8** Inkosi kufanele yazi ukuthi saya esiqintini sakoJuda, ethempelini likaNkulunkulu omkhulu. Abantu bayalakra ngamatshe amakhulu, kunqunyiswa imijabo

emidulini. Umsebenzi uqhutshwa ngokukhuthala, njalo uyaphambili ngokuphangisa ukhokhelwa yibo. **9** Sabuza abadala bakhona sathi, “Ngubani oliphe imvumo yokwakha kutsha leli ithempeli lokuvuselela isakhiwo lesi?” **10** Njalo sababuza amabizo abo ukuze sibhale amabizo abakhokheli babo sisenzela ukukwazisa. **11** Nansi impendulo abasipha yona: “Siyizinceku zikaNkulunkulu wezulu lomhlaba, yikho silakha kutsha ithempeli elakhiwa kudala, elakhiwa yinkosi enkulu yako-Israeli yaliqeda. **12** Kodwa ngenxa yokuthi okhokho bethu bamthukuthelisa uNkulunkulu wasezulwini, wabanikela ezandleni zikaNebhukhadineza umKhaladiya, inkosi yaseBhabhiloni owalibhidliza yeliithempeli abantu wabaxotshela eBhabhiloni. **13** Kodwa ngomnyaka wokuqala kaKhurosi inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, iNkosi uKhurosi wakhupha isimemezelo sokuthi kwakhiwe indlu kaNkulunkulu. **14** Wabuye wasusa ethempelini laseBhabhiloni impahla zegolide lesiliva ezendlu kaNkulunkulu ezazithethwe nguNebhukhadineza ethempelini eJerusalem waziletha ethempelini eBhabhiloni. Kwathi iNkosi uKhurosi yazinika indoda eyayithiwa nguSheshibhazari, eyamketha ukuba ngumbusi, **15** wamtshela wathi, ‘Thatha impahla lezi uhambe lazo uyebeka ethempelini eJerusalem. Njalo yakha kakutsha indlu kaNkulunkulu endaweni yayo.’ **16** Yikho uSheshibhazari weza wabeka izisekelo zendlu kaNkulunkulu eJerusalem. Kusakela ngalelola kuze kube manje ibilokhu isakhiwa kodwa kayikapheli.” **17** Ngakho-ke nxa kulungile enkosini, kakudingiswe ezincwadini zezindaba zamakhosi aseBhabhiloni kubonwe ingabe yikho na ukuthi iNkosi uKhurosi wayesenzile isimemezelo sokuthi yakhiwe indlu le kaNkulunkulu eJerusalem. Lapho-ke inkosi kayisithumele isinqumo sayo ngendaba le.

6 Inkosi uDaryu wasekhupha umlayo, basebephenya ezincwadini ezaziqoqwe ndawonye endlini yenothe yesizwe eBhabhiloni. **2** Kwafunyanwa khona umqulu womgoqwa enqabeni yase-Ekhibhathana elizweni laseMediya kulotshwe lokhu kuwo: Umbhalo wesimiso: **3** Ngomnyaka wokuqala yeNkosi uKhurosi, inkosi yakhupha isimemezelo mayelana lethempeli likaNkulunkulu eJerusalem: Ithempeli kalakhiwe kutsha libe yindawo yokwenzela imihlatshelo, njalo izisekelo zalo kazibekwe. Kalibe yizingalo ezingamatshumi ayisithupha ukuphakama, ububanzi bube yizingalo ezingamatshumi ayisithupha, **4** kwakhiwe imizila emithathu yamatshu amakhulu lomzila oodwa wezigodo. Izindleko zonke zizabhadalwa yisikhwama sesikhosini. **5** Akuthi njalo impahla zegolide lesiliva uNebhukhadineza azithatha ethempelini eJerusalem waziletha eBhabhiloni zibuyiselwe ezindaweni zazo ethempelini eJerusalem; zimele zibekwe endlini kaNkulunkulu. **6** Ngakho-ke wena Thathenayi, umbusi wangaphetsheya kweYufra the, loShethari-Bhozenayi labaphathisi benu bakulowo umango, sukani lapho. **7** Lingaphazamisi umsebenzi wethempeli lelo likaNkulunkulu. Yekelani umbusi wamaJuda labadala bamajuda bakhe kutsha indlu kaNkulunkulu endaweni yayo. **8** Njalo sengimisa umlayo walokho okumele lina likwenzele abadala bamajuda ekwakhiweni kwendlu kaNkulunkulu: Izindleko zala amadoda zizabhadalwa ngokugcweleyo yisikhwama senkosi, kuthathwa emithelweni yangaphetsheya kweYufra the ukuze umsebenzi ungaze wema. **9** Loba yini efunekayo, amajongosi, inqama, amazinyane amaduna eminikelo yokutshiswa kuNkulunkulu

wezulu, lengqoloyi, itswayi, iwayini lamafutha okuyabe kucelwe ngabaphristi eJerusalem, kabakuphiwe nsuku zonke kungaphuthi, **10** ukuze benze imihlatshelo ethokozisayo kuNkulunkulu wezulu njalo bakhulekele implakahle yenkosi lamadodana ayo. **11** Phezu kwalokho ngibeka umthetho othi nxa ekhona ozaguqula lesisimiso, kakuhatshwe uthungo endlini yakhe aphakanyiswe axhonxwe kulo. Akuthi ngenxa yalelicala indlu yakhe ibhidlizwe ibe yinqwaba yenhlabathi. **12** Sengathi uNkulunkulu owenza ukuthi iBizo lakhe lihlale khona, angayichitha loba yiphi inkosi loba ngabantu abaphakamisa isandla saba ukuququla umlayo lo loba ukudiliza ithempeli leli eliseJerusalem. Mina kaDaryu ngiwumisile umthetho lo. Kawulandelwe ngokukhuthala. **13** Kwathi-ke, ngenxa yomthetho iNkosi uDaryu eyase iwuthumele, uThathenayi umbusi wangaphetsheya kweYufra, loShethari-Bhozenayi labasekeli babo bakwenza lokho ngokuthalo. **14** Yikhoke abadala bamaJuda baqhubeke ngokwakha bephumelela beshunyayezwa nguHagayi umphrofethi loZakhariya, umzukulu ka-Ido. Baqeda ukulakha ithempeli belandela umlayo kaNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli kanye lezimiso zikaKhurosi, loDaryu lo-Athazekisisi, amakhosi asePhezhiya. **15** Ithempeli laqedwa ngosuku lwesithathu enyangeni ka-Adari, ngomnyaka wesithupha wokubusa kweNkosi uDaryu. **16** Kwasekusithi abantu bako-Israyeli, abaphristi, labaLevi labo bonke ababethunjiwe benza umkhosi. **17** Ukunikela indlu kaNkulunkulu le bapha umnikelo wenkunzi ezilikhulu, inqama ezingamakhulu amabili, amazinyane amaduna angamakhulu amane njalo lempongo ezilithshumi lambili njengomnikelo wesono ka-Israyeli wonke. **18** Njalo bagcoba abaphristi ezigabeni zabo labaLevi ngamaxuku abo ukwenza umsebenzi kaNkulunkulu eJerusalem, njengokulotshiweyo eNcwadini kaMosi. **19** Ngelanga letshumi lane lenyanga yokuqala, izithunjwa zathakazelela iPhasika. **20** Abaphristi labaLevi babezihlambulule behlanzekile ngokomkhuba. AbaLevi balihlaba izinyane lePhasika elabo bonke ababethunjiwe, labafowabo abaphristi njalo bezihlabela labo ngokwabo. **21** Ngakho abako-Israyeli ababebuyile ebugqilini balidla, kanye labo bonke labo abasebezhlukanisile emikhutsheni engcolileyo yabomakhelwane beZizwe ukuze badinge uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. **22** Bathakazelela uMkhosi weSinkwa esingelaMvubelo okwensuku eziyisikhombisa bethokoza, ngoba uThixo wayebagcwalise ngokuthokoza ngokuguqula ingqondo yenkosi yase-Asiriya ukuthi ibancedise emsebenzini wendlu kaNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli.

7 Ngemva kwalezizinto, ngesikhathi sokubusa kuka-Athazekisisi inkosi yasePhezhiya, u-Ezra indodana kaSeraya, indodana ka-Azariya, indodana kaHilikhiya, **2** indodana kaShalumi, indodana kaZadokhi indodana ka-Ahithubi, **3** indodana ka-Amariya, indodana ka-Azariya, indodana kaMerayothi, **4** indodana kaZerahiya, indodana ka-Uzi, indodana kaBhukhi, **5** indodana ka-Abhishuwa, indodana kaFinehasi, indodana ka-Eliyazari, indodana ka-Aroni umphristi omkhulu, **6** u-Ezra lo weza evela eBhabhiloni. Wayeyisifundiswa esazi kakhulu ngoMthetho kaMosi, owawuphiwe nguThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. Inkosi yayimuphe konke ayekucelile, ngoba isandla sikaThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe sasiphezu kwakhe. **7** Abanye abako-Israyeli, labaphristi, lamaLevi, labahlabeleli, labalindi bamasango lezinceku zethempelini labo babuya eJerusalem ngomnyaka wesikhombisa wokubusa kwenkosi u-Athazekisisi.

8 U-Ezra wafika eJerusalem ngenyanga yesihlanu ngomnyaka wesikhombisa wenkosi. **9** Wayeqalise uhambo lwakhe esuka eBhabhiloni ngelanga lakuqala lenyanga yokuqala, wafika eJerusalem ngelanga lakuqala lenyanga yesihlanu, ngoba isandla somusa sikaNkulunkulu sasiphezu kwakhe. **10** Ngoba u-Ezra wayezinikele ekufundeni lokugcina uMthetho kaThixo lokufundisa izimiso zawo ko-Israyeli. **11** Nansi incwadi iNkosi u-Athazekisisi ayeyiphe u-Ezra umphristi lomabhalane, indoda eyayifundile ezindabeni zemithetho lezimiso zikaThixo ku-Israyeli: **12** Athazekisisi, nkosi yamakhosi, Ku-Ezra umphristi, umfundisi womthetho kaNkulunkulu wasezulwini: Ngiyabingelela. **13** Manje-ke ngimisa umthetho wokuthi ingqe ngubani wako-Israyeli osebusweni wami, kugoqela abaphristi labaLevi, ofisa ukuhamba lawe eJerusalem, kahambe. **14** Uthunywa yinkosi labacebisi bayo abayisikhombisa ukuba uyofumisisa ngoJuda langeJerusalem mayelana loMthetho kaNkulunkulu wakho, owuphethayo. **15** Njalo ubothatha isiliva legolide elinikwe ngesihle yinkosi labacebisi bayo kuNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, ohlala eJerusalem, **16** kanye lesiliva legolide lonke ongalizuzwa elizweni laseBhabhiloni kanye leminikelo yokuzizwela eyabantu labaphristi benikelela ithempeli likaNkulunkulu wabo eJerusalem. **17** Ngaleyomali umele uthenge inkunzi, lenqama, lamazinyane ezimvu amaduna, ndawonye leminikelo yabo yamabele leyokunathwayo, konke kunikelwe e-alithareni lethempeli likaNkulunkulu wenu eJerusalem. **18** Wena labazalwane bakho abangamaJuda selingena lokho okuyabe kufanele ngesiliva legolide eliseyo, mayelana lentando kaNkulunkulu wenu. **19** Hambisani kuNkulunkulu weJerusalem zonke impahla eliziphathisiweyo ezokukhonza ethempelini likaNkulunkulu wenu. **20** Akuthi loba yini efunekayo ethempelini likaNkulunkulu wenu elifuna ukuthi izuzakale, kayidingwe ngendleko ephuma esikhwameni senkosi. **21** Mina, iNkosi Athazekisisi ngimisa umthetho wokuthi bonke abaphathi bezikhwama abangaphetsheya kweYufra baphe u-Ezra umphristi, umfundisi woMthetho kaNkulunkulu wasezulwini ngokuphangisa loba yini ayicelayo kini, **22** kuze kube ngamathalenta esiliva alikhulu, lamasaka alikhulu engqoloyi, imigqomo elikhulu yewayini, imigqomo elikhulu yamafutha e-oliva, letswayi elingelakulinganiswa. **23** Ingqe yini emiswe nguNkulunkulu wasezulwini, kakwenziwe ngokukhuthala kusenzelwa ithempeli likaNkulunkulu wasezulwini. Kakudingeki ukuthi ulaka luze lwehliselwe phezu kwenkosi lamadodana ayo. **24** Yazini njalo ukuthi kalilamvumo yokubiza imithetho loba inkongozelo yenkosi kumbe imbadalo yokungenisa impahla elizweni kubaphristi, labaLevi, labahlabeleli, labalindimasango, lezinceku zethempelini loba kwezinye izisebenzi zale indlu kaNkulunkulu. **25** Yikho wena Ezra, ngokuhlakanipha olakho okukaNkulunkulu wakho, beka abathonisi labehluleli ukwahlulela kuhle bonke abantu abangaphetsheya kweYufra, bonke abayaziyo imithetho kaNkulunkulu wenu. Kumele ufundise labo abangayaziyo. **26** Lowo ongalwaleliyo umthetho kaNkulunkulu wenu lomthetho wenkosi ngeqiniso umele ajeziswe ngokufa, loba ngokuxotshwa, loba ngokuhlathunelwa impahla loba ngokufakwa entolongweni. **27** Udumo kalube kuThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho bethu, okufakileyo enhliziyweni yenkosi ukuletha inhlonipho endlini kaThixo eJerusalem ngale indlela **28** njalo oshengise umusa wakhe kini phambi kwenkosi labeluleki bakhe lazozonke izinduna zakhe

ezilamandla. Ngenxa yokuthi isandla sikaThixo uNkulunkulu wami besiphezu kwami, ngaba lesibindi nqaqoqa amadoda angabakhokheli ko-Israyeli ukuthi bahambe lami.

8 Laba bazinhloko zezimuli labalo ababhalisa kubo abeza lami susuka eBhabhiloni ngesikhathi sokubusa kweNkosi u-Athazekisisi; **2** abesizukulwane sikaFinehasi, uGeshomu; abesizukulwane sika-Ithamari, uDanyeli; abesizukulwane sikaDavida, uHathushi **3** owesizukulwane sikaShekhaniya; abesizukulwane sikaPharoshi, uZakhariya, okwabhalisa kanye laye amadoda alikhulu lamatshumi amahlanu; **4** abesizukulwane sikaPhahathi-Mowabi: kwakungu-Eliyehonayi indodana kaZerahiya oweza lamadoda angamakhulu amabili; **5** abesizukulwane sikaZathu, kwakunguShekhaniya indodana kaJahaziyezi, oweza lamadoda angamakhulu amathathu; **6** abesizukulwane sika-Adini, kwakungu-Ebhedi indodana kaJonathani, oweza lamadoda angamatshumi amahlanu; **7** abesizukulwane sika-Elamu, kwakunguJeshaya indodana ka-Athaliya, oweza lamadoda angamatshumi ayisikhombisa; **8** abesizukulwane sikaShefathiya, kwakunguZebhadiya indodana kaMikhayeli, oweza lamadoda angamatshumi ayisificaminwembili; **9** abesizukulwane sikaJowabi, kwakungu-Obhadaya indodana kaJehiyeli, oweza lamadoda angamakhulu amabili aletshumi lasificaminwembili; **10** abesizukulwane sikaBhani, kwakunguShelomithi indodana kaJosifiya, oweza lamadoda alikhulu lamatshumi ayisithupha, **11** abesizukulwane sikaBhebhayi, kwakunguZakhariya indodana kaBhebhayi, oweza lamadoda angamatshumi amabili lasificaminwembili; **12** abesizukulwane sika-Azigadi, kwakunguJohanani indodana kaHakathani, oweza lamadoda alikhulu letshumi; **13** abesizukulwane sika-Adonikhamu, abokucina, kwakungu-Elifelethi, uJuweli loShemaya, beza lamadoda angamatshumi ayisithupha; **14** abesizukulwane sikaBhigivayi, kwakungu-Uthayi loZakhuri, abeza lamadoda angamatshumi ayisikhombisa. **15** Ngababuthanisa eMgelweni wamanzi agelezela ku-Ahava, samisa khona okwensuku ezintathu. Ngathi sengihlola phakathi kwabantu labaphristi, kangitholanga loyedwa wamaLevi khona. **16** Yikho ngasengibiza u-Elyezari, lo-Ariyeli, loShemaya, lo-Elinathani, loJaribi, loNathani, loZakhariya loMeshulami ababengabakhokheli, loJyaribi lo-Elinathani ababengabantu abafundileyo, **17** ngabathumela ku-Ido, lezihlobo zakhe, izinceku zethempelini eKhasifiya, ukwenzela ukuthi basilethele izikhonzi zendlu kaNkulunkulu. **18** Ngoba isandla somusa sikaNkulunkulu sasiphezu kwethu, basilethela uSherebbiyya, indoda emadodeni, owesizukulwane sikaMahili indodana kaLevi, indodana ka-Israyeli, lamadodana kaSherebbiyya labafowabo, amadoda alitshumi lasificaminwembili; **19** loHashabhiyya, kanye loJeshaya owesizukulwane sikaMerari, kanye labafowabo labantwababo, bonke babengamadoda angamatshumi amabili. **20** Bona beza lezinceku zethempelini ezingamakhulu amabili lamatshumi amabili ezazimiswe nguDavida lezinduna zakhe ukuncedisa abaLevi. Bonke babhalwa phansi amabizo abo. **21** Khonapho, ekhunjini loMgelo we-Ahava, ngamemezela ukuzila ukudla, ukuze sizehlise phambi kukaNkulunkulu wethu simcele asiphe uhambo oluhle, thina labantwabethu, lempahla zethu zonke. **22** Ngaba lenhloni ukucela enkosini amabutho labagadi bamabhiza ukuthi basivikele ezitheni endleleni ngoba inkosi sasiyitshela sathi, “Isandla somusa sikaNkulunkulu

wethu siphezu kwakhe lowo okhangele kuye, kodwa ulaka lwakhe olukhulu luyavutha kulabo abamfulathelayo.” **23** Ngakho sazila ukudla, samncenga uNkulunkulu wethu ngakho lokhu, wawuphendula umkhuleko wethu. **24** Ngasengisehlukanisa kwabanye abaphristi abalitshumi lambili abangabakhokheli, ndawonye loSherebbiyya, loHashabhiyya labalitshumi labafowabo, **25** ngabalinganisela umnikelo wesiliva legolide lempahla ezaziyizipho ezasisuka enkosini, labacebisi bayo, lezikhulu zayo labako-Israyeli bonke ababekhona lapho, siyisipho sendlu kaNkulunkulu. **26** Ngabalinganisela amathalenta angamakhulu ayisithupha lamatshumi amahlanu esiliva, impahla zesiliva ezilobunzima obungamathalenta alikhulu, amathalenta alikhulu egolide, **27** imiganu yegolide engamatshumi amabili kuthiwa intengo yayo ingaba ngamadariki ayinkulungwane, lezitsha ezimbili ezethusi lilolongiweyo eliligugu njengegolide. **28** Ngathi kubo, “Lina kanye lempahla lezi lingcwelisiwe eNkosini. Isiliva legolide kungumnikelo wokuzithandela kuThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho benu. **29** Kulindeni ngonanzelelo lize liyokulinganisa emakamelweni endlu kaThixo eJerusalem phambi kwabakhokheli babaphristi lamaLevi labayizinhloko zezimuli zako-Israyeli.” **30** Kwathi-ke abaphristi labaLevi basemukela isiliva legolide lempahla ezingcwele ezazilinganiswe ukuze zisiwe endlini kaNkulunkulu wethu eJerusalem. **31** Ngosuku lwetshumi lambili lwenyanga yokuqala saphakama sasuka eMgelweni we-Ahava saqonda eJerusalem. Isandla sikaNkulunkulu wethu sasiphezu kwethu, wasivikele ezitheni lasezigebungwini indlela yenke. **32** Ngakho safika eJerusalem, saphumula khona okwensuku ezintathu. **33** Ngosuku lwesine sangena endlini kaNkulunkulu salinganisa isiliva legolide lempahla zonke ezingcwelisiweyo sazibeka ezandleni zikaMeremothi indodana ka-Uriya umphristi. U-Elyezari indodana kaFinehasi laye wayekhona, labaLevi ojababadi indodana kaJeshuwa loNowadiya indodana kaBhinuwi. **34** Konke kwakukhona ngenani lakho langesisindo, kwathi isisindo sonke salotshwa phansi ngasonaleso isikhathi. **35** Yikho izithunywa ezabuya ebugqilini zenza umnikelo wokutshiswa kuNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli: inkunzi ezilitshumi lambili ezika-Israyeli wonke, inqama ezingamatshumi ayisificaminwemunye lesithupha, amawundlu amaduna angamatshumi ayisikhombisa lesikhombisa kanye lomnikelo wesono oyizimpongo ezilitshumi lambili. Konke lokhu kwakungumnikelo wokutshiswa kuThixo. **36** Bathi njalo bethula imilayo yenkosi kuzikhulu zenkosi lakubabusi bangaphetsheya kweYufurathe, okwathi-ke bona bancedisa abantu kanye lasendlini kaNkulunkulu.

9 Sezenziwe zonke lezi izinto, abakhokheli beza kimi bathi, “Abantu bako-Israyeli bonke, labaphristi, labaLevi kabazehlukanisanga labantu bezizwe abalezenzo ezinengekayo, abanjengamaKhenani, amaHithi, amaPherizi, amaJebusi, ama-Amori, amaMowabi, amaGibhithe lama-Amoni. **2** Bathatha amanye amadodakazi abo aba ngomkabo bathathela lamadodana abo, baxubanisa isizwe esingcwele labantu abahlezi labo. Njalo abakhokheli lezikhulu yibo abakhokheleyo kulokhu kungathembeki.” **3** Ngathi ngikuzwa lokho ngadabula isigqoko sami lejazi lami, ngadonsa inwele ekhanda lami lezindevu zami ngahlala phansi ngididekile. **4** Kwasekusithi wonke lowo owethuswa ngamazwi kaNkulunkulu

ka-Israyeli waziqoqa phansi kwami ngenxa yalokhu ukona kwezithunjwa. Ngahlala khonapho ngididekile kwaze kwaba ngumhlatshelelo wakusihlwa. **5** Kwathi-ke ngomhlatshelelo wakusihlwa, ngaphakama ekuzehliseni kwami, isigqoko sami lejazi lami kudabukile, ngaguqa, izandla zami zivuliwe kuThixo uNkulunkulu wami **6** ngakhuleka ngathi: “Oh Nkulunkulu wami, ngiyangekile kakhulu njalo ngilenhloni ukuphakamisela ubuso bami kuwe, Nkulunkulu wami, ngoba izono zethu ziphakeme kulamakhanda ethu lecala lethu selifikile emazulwini. **7** Kusukela ensukwini zabokhokho bethu kuze kube manje, icala lethu likhulu. Ngenxa yezono zethu, thina lamakhosi ethu labaphristi bethu sesilokhu sidliwa yinkemba njalo sigqilazwa, siphangwa njalo siyangiswa ngamakhosi ezizwe, njengoba kunjalo lalamuhla. **8** Kodwa khathesi, okwesikhatsana nje, uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu ube lomusa ngokusitshiyela insalela lokusipha indawo eqinileyo endlini yakhe engcwele, okuthi ngakho uNkulunkulu wethu uletha ukukhanya emehlweni ethu lokukhululeka kancinyane ekugqilazweni kwethu. **9** Lokuba siyizigqili, uNkulunkulu wethu kasidelanga ebugqilini bethu. Usitshengise umusa emehlweni amakhosi asePhezhiya; usiphile impilo entsha ukuba sakhe kutsha indlu kaNkulunkulu wethu sivuselele amaxhiwa ayo, njalo usesiphile umduli wokusivikela koJuda laseJerusalem. **10** Kodwa manje, awu Nkulunkulu wethu, kuyini esingakutsho sekwenzakale lokhu? Ngoba siyidelile imilayo **11** owayinika ngezinceku zakho abaphrofethi uze uthi: ‘Ilizwe eselengena kulo ukulithatha yilizwe elingcolisiweyo ngokuxhwalwa kwabantu balo. Ngemikhuba yabo enengekayo sebelicwalese ngamanyala abo kusukela ngapha kwalo kuze kufike ekucineni ngale. **12** Ngakho-ke lingendiseli amadodakazi enu emadodaneni abo kumbe amadodana enu athathe amadodakazi abo. Lingadingi isibopho sobudlelwano labo loba nini, ukuze liqine lidle izinto ezinhle zelizwe elizalitshiyela abantwabenu njengelifa laphakade.’ **13** Osekwenzakele kithi kungumvuzo wezenzo zethu ezimbi lecala lethu elikhulu, ikanti wena Nkulunkulu wethu usijezise okunganeno kwezono zethu wasipha abayinsalela kanje. **14** Sizaphinda njalo sephule imilayo yakho sendiselane labantu bezizwe abagila imikhuba eyenyanyekayo kangaka na? Ungaze wasizondela kakhulu na usibhubhise ungasitshiyeli lansalela loba abasindileyo na? **15** Oh Thixo, Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, ulungile! Namhlanje sisele njengensalela. Nanku silapha phambi kwakho ngecala lethu, lokuba engekho ongema ebukhoni bakho ngenxa yalo icala lethu.”

10 Lapho u-Ezra wayekhuleka njalo evuma izono, ekhala eziwisela phansi phambi kwendlu kaNkulunkulu, ixuku elikhulu labako-Israyeli kubalisa amadoda labafazi labantwana, babuthana kuye. Labo bakhala kabuhlungu. **2** Yikho uShekhaniya indodana kaJehiyeli, omunye wesizukulwane sika-Elamu, wathi ku-Ezra, “Kasizange sithembeke kuNkulunkulu wethu ngoba sathatha abafazi bezizweni ebantwini esakhelene labo. Kodwa loba kunjalo ithemba lisekhona ngo-Israyeli. **3** Manje kasenzeni isivumelwano phambi kukaNkulunkulu wethu ukubalahla bonke labobafazi labantwababo njengeseluleko senkosi yami labo abayesabayo imilayo kaNkulunkulu wethu. Kakwenziwe ngendlela yoMthetho. **4** Sukuma; indaba le isezandleni zakho. Thina sizakusekela, yikho yiba lesibindi ukwenze.” **5** Ngakho u-Ezra waphakama wafungisa bonke abakhokheli babaphristi labaLevi lo-Israyeli wonke ukwenza lokho okwakumisiwe.

Basenza lesosifungo. **6** U-Ezra wasesuka endlini kaNkulunkulu waya endlini kaJehohanani indodana ka-Eliyashibi. Elapho kadlala lutho njalo kazange anathe manzi, ngoba waqhubeka elilela ukungathembeki kwezithunjwa. **7** Kwasekukhutshwa isimemezelo kulonke elakoJuda kanye leJerusalem ukuthi zonke izithunjwa kaziqoqane eJerusalem. **8** Ngqo ngubani ongakifanga phakathi kwensuku ezintathu wayezathathelwa yonke impahla alayo, kulandelwa isinqumo sezinduna labadala, kuthi yena ngokwakhe axotshwe emphakathini walabo ababethunjiwe. **9** Phakathi kwalezonsuku ezintathu wonke amadoda akoJuda lakoBhenjamini ayesebuthene eJerusalem. Kwathi ngelanga lamatshumi amabili lenyanga yesificamunye bonke abantu babehlezi esigcawini phambi kwendlu kaNkulunkulu, bekhathazekile ngombuthano lowo njalo begxanxwa lizulu elalisina. **10** Kwathi u-Ezra umphristi wasukuma wathi kubo, “Kalithembekanga; lisuke lathatha abafazi bezizweni, lengeza icala lika-Israyeli. **11** Manje-ke vumani izono zenu kuThixo, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho benu, lenze intando yakhe. Zahlukaniseni kulababantu elakhelene labo lasebafazini benu abezizwe.” **12** Inkundla yonke yaphendula ngelizwi elikhulu yathi: “Uqondile! Kumele senze njengoba usitsho. **13** Kodwa kulabantu abanengi lapha futhi lesi yisikhathi sezulu; ngakho ngeke sime lapha phandle. Futhi indaba le ingazake iphethwe ngosuku olulodwa kumbe ezimbili, ngoba sonile kakhulu ngento le. **14** Akuthi izinduna zethu zisimele thina sonke. Akuthi wonkemuntu emizini yethu othethe umfazi wabezizwe eze ngesikhathi esimisiweyo, eze labadala kanye labehuleli balowomuzi, luze ludede kithi ulaka olwesabekayo lukaNkulunkulu wethu.” **15** Kwaba nguJonathani kuphela, indodana ka-Asaheli loJahizeya indodana kaThikhiva, besekelwa nguMeshulami loShabhethayi umLevi abakuphikisayo lokhu. **16** Ngakho izithunjwa zenza njengokwakumisiwe. U-Ezra umphristi wakhetha amadoda ayeyizinhloko zezimuli, oyedwa emulini, bonke baqanjwa ngamabizo. Ngosuku lokuqala lwenyanga yetshumi bahlala phansi bawahlolisisa lawomacala, **17** kwathi ngelanga lokuqala ngenyanga yokuqala baqeda ukuphatha indaba yamadoda ayethethe abafazi bezizweni. **18** Phakathi kwezizukulwane zabaphristi, laba abalandelayo yibo ababethethe abafazi bezizweni: Abesizukulwane sikaJeshuwa indodana kaJozadaki labafowabo: uMaseya, u-Eliyezari, uJaribhi loGedaliya. **19** (Bonke baphakamisa izandla zabo bafunga ukubalahla abafazi babo, kwathi ngenxa yecala labo ngulowo wakhupha inqama emhlabini ukuba ngumnikelo wesono.) **20** Abesizukulwane sika-Imeri: nguHanani loZebhadiya. **21** Abesizukulwane sikaHarimi: nguMaseya, lo-Elija, loShemaya, loJehiyeli lo-Uziya. **22** Abesizukulwane sikaPhashuri: ngu-Eliyonyayi, loMaseya, lo-Ishumayeli, loNethaneli, loJozabhadhi lo-Eleyasa. **23** Phakathi kwabaLevi nampa: uJozabhadhi, loShimeyi, loKhelaya (kutshiwo uKhelitha), loPhethahiya, loJuda lo-Eliyezari. **24** Phakathi kwabahlabeleli nampa: u-Eliyashibi. Phakathi kwabalindimasango: nguShalumi, loThelemu lo-Uri. **25** Phakathi kwabanye abako-Israyeli: Abesizwe sikaPharoshi: nguRamiya, u-Iziya, uMalikhija, uMijamini, u-Eliyezari, uMalikhija loBhenaya. **26** Abesizukulwane sika-Elamu: nguMathaniya, uZakhariya, uJehiyeli, u-Abhidi, uJeremothi lo-Elija. **27** Abesizukulwane sikaZathu: ngu-Eliyonyayi, u-Eliyashibi, uMathaniya, uJeremothi, uZabhadhi lo-Aziza. **28** Abesizukulwane sikaBhebhayi: nguJehohanani, uHananiya, uZabhayi lo-Athilayi. **29** Abesizukulwane sikaBhani:

nguMeshulami, uMaluki, u-Adaya, uJashubi, uSheyali loJeremothi. **30** Abesizukulwane sikaPhahathi-Mowabi: ngu-Adina, uKhelali, uBhenaya, uMaseya, uMathaniya, uBhezaleli, uBhinuwi loManase. **31** Abesizukulwane sikaHarimi: ngu-Eliyezari, u-Ishiya, uMalikhija, uShemaya, uSimiyoni, **32** uBhenjamini, uMaluki, loShemariya. **33** Abesizukulwane sikaHashumi: nguMathenayi, uMathatha, uZabhadi, u-Elifelethi, uJeremayi, uManase loShimeyi. **34** Abesizukulwane sikaBhani: nguMadayi, u-Amramu, u-Uweli, **35** uBhenaya, uBhedeya, uKheluhi, **36** uVaniya, uMeremothi, u-Eliyashibi, **37** uMathaniya, uMathenayi loJasu. **38** Abesizukulwane sikaBhinuwi loBhani: nguShimeyi, **39** uShelemya, uNathani, u-Adaya, **40** uMakhinadebhayi, uShashayi, uSharayi, **41** u-Azareli, uShelemya, uShemariya, **42** uShalumi, u-Amariya loJosefa. **43** Abesizukulwane sikaNebho: nguJeyiyeli, uMathithiya, uZabhadi, uZebhina, uJadayi, uJoweli loBhenaya. **44** Bonke laba bathatha abafazi bezizweni, abanye babo bazala abantwana labafazi labo.

UNehemiya

1 La ngamazwi kaNehemiya indodana kaHakhaliya: Kwathi ngenyanga kaKhisilevi ngomnyaka wamatshumi amabili, ngenyqabeni yaseSusa, **2** uHanani, omunye wabafowethu, wafika evela koJuda elamanye amadoda, ngababuza ngamaJuda lawo ayeyinsalela asinda ebugqilini, njalo ngabuza ngeJerusalem. **3** Bathi kimi, “Labo abasindayo ebugqilini ababuyelayo elizweni baphakathi kohlupho olumangalisayo lokuyangeka okukhulu. Umdluli weJerusalem wadilika lamasango ayo atshiswa ngomlilo.” **4** Ngathi sengizwile lezizinto ngahlala phansi ngakhala. Okwensuku ezithile ngalila, ngazila ukudla njalo ngikhuleka phambi kukaNkulunkulu wasezulwini. **5** Ngasengisithi: “Oh Thixo, Nkulunkulu wasezulwini, uNkulunkulu omkhulu owesabekayo, ogcina isivumelwano sakhe sothando labo abamthandayo, abalalela imilayo yakhe, **6** ake kuthi indlebe yakho ilalele lamehlo akho avuleke ukuze uzwe umkhuleko okhulekwa yinceku yakho kuwe imini lobusuku, ikhulekela izinceku zakho, abantu bako-Israyeli. Ngiyazivuma izono ezenziwe kuwe yithi ama-Israyeli, kugoqela mina lendlu kababa. **7** Senzile ububi kuwe. Kasilalelanga imilayo yakho, izimemezelo lemithetho owayinika inceku yakho uMosi.” **8** Khumbula umlayo owalaya ngawo inceku yakho uMosi wathi, “Aluba lingathembekanga ngizalichithachitha phakathi kwezizwe, **9** kodwa nxa libuya kimi lilalele imilayo yami, lapho-ke loba abathunjwiweyo bakini besemkhawulweni womhlaba, ngizabaqoqa besuka khonale ngibabuyise endaweni engiyikhethileyo ukuba likhaya leBizo lami. **10** Bazinceku zakho labantu bakho owabahlengayo ngamandla akho amakhulu lesandla sakho esilamandla. **11** Oh Thixo, akuthi indlebe yakho ilalele umkhuleko wale inceku yakho, lomkhuleko wezinceku zakho ezithokoza ekwesabeni ibizo lakho. Phumelelisa inceku yakho lamuhla ngokuyipha isihawu phambi kwendoda le.” Ngangingumphathi wezitsha zokudla kwenkosi.

2 Ngenyanga kaNisani ngomnyaka wamatshumi amabili weNkosi u-Athazekisisi, ngesikhathi ephiwa iwayini, ngalithatha iwayini ngalisa enkosini. Ngangingakaze ngivele kuyo ngidanile; **2** ngakho inkosi yangibuza yathi, “Kungani ubuso bakho bukhanya buhlobo kanje wena ungaguli? Lokhu ngeke kube ngokunye ngaphandle kokudana okusenhliziyweni.” Ngezwa ngisesaba kakhulu, **3** kodwa ngathi enkosini, “Phila lanini nkosi! Ubuso bami bungayekelelani na ukhuloba njengoba idolobho lapho okulele khona okhokho selingamanxiwa nje, lamasango alo atshiswa ngomlilo na?” **4** Inkosi yathi kimi, “Pho ufumani?” Ngasengikhuleka kuNkulunkulu wezulwini, **5** yikho ngasengiyiphendula inkosi ngathi, “Aluba kungaba yikuthanda kwenkosi njalo nxa inceku yakho ifumene umusa emehlweni ayo, kayingithumele kulelolobho elikoJuda lapho okwambelwa khona okhokho ukuze ngiyolakha kakutsha.” **6** Inkosi eyayihlezi lendlovukazi eceleni kwayo yangibuza yathi, “Uhambo lwakho luzathatha isikhathi esingakanani, njalo uzabuya nini?” Inkosi yathanda ukuthi ngihambe; yikho ngamisa isikhathi. **7** Ngaphinde ngathi kuyo, “Nxa kuyikuthanda kwenkosi, ngicela izincwadi zibe kubabusi bangaphetsheya kweYufrathe, ukwenzela ukuthi bangivikele ohanjweni lwami ngize ngiyefika koJuda? **8** Njalo ngicela incwadi eya ku-Asafi, umphathi wegusu lenkosi, yikho ezanginika izigodo zokwenza

izinsika zamasango esigodlo eduzane lethempeli lezomdluli wedolobho kanye lezendlu engizahlala kuyo.” Kwathi ngoba isandla somusa sikaNkulunkulu wami sasiphezu kwami, inkosi yazamukela izicelo zami. **9** Yikho ngasengisiya kubabusi bangaphetsheya kweYufrathe ngabapha izincwadi zenkosi. Inkosi yayingiphe futhi abalawuli bebutho kanye lamabutho amabhiza ukuba bangiphelikezele. **10** Kwathi ukuba uSanibhalathi umHaroni loThobhiya um’Amoni owayeyinduna bekuzwa lokhu, bakhathazeka kakhulu ukuthi ukhona owayeselande ukuzathuthukisa inhlobo yaba-Israyeli. **11** Ngaya eJerusalem ngapha, kwathi sengihlale khona insuku ezintathu **12** ngaphuma kusebusuku ngilamadoda ambalwa. Ngangingazange ngitshele muntu ngalokho uNkulunkulu wami ayekubeke enhliziyweni yami ngeJerusalem. Ngangingelanyamazana ngaphandle kwaleyo engangiyigadile. **13** Ebusuku ngaphuma ngeSango leSigodi nqaqonda uMthombo weKhaka leSango loBulongwe, ngihlala imiduli yeJerusalem, eyayibhidliziwe, kanye lamasango ayo ayetshiswe ngomlilo. **14** Nqaqhubeka sengiqonde eSango yom’Amoni loMthombo leSiziba Senkosi, kodwa kwakungelantshekuntshu yokudlula ubabemi wami engangigadile; **15** yikho ngasengikhwela ngesigodi kusebusuku, ngihlala umdluli. Ekucineni ngaphenduka ngenduna ngeSango leSigodi. **16** Izinduna kazizange zikwazi ukuthi ngangye ngaphi lokuthi ngangisenzani, ngoba ngangivele ngingakatsho lutho kubajuda loba kubaphristi loba ezikhulwini loba ezinduneni loba lakubobani ababezakwenza umsebenzi. **17** Ngasengisithi kubo, “Liyalubona uhlupho esiphakathi kwalo: iJerusalem selingamanxiwa nje, lamasango alo atshiswe ngomlilo. Wozani, siwakhe kutsha umdluli weJerusalem ukuze singabi silokhu sihlaziswa.” **18** Ngaphinda ngabatshela ngesandla somusa sikaNkulunkulu wami kimi lokuthi inkosi yayitheni kimi. Baphendula bathi, “Kasiqaliseni ukwakha.” Yikho bahle bawuqalisa umsebenzi lo omuhle. **19** Kodwa kwathi ukuba uSanibhalathi umHaroni, loThobhiya induna yom’Amoni loGeshemi umArabhu bekuzwa lokho, basichithoza basihleka. Babuza bathi, “Kuyini lokhu elikwenzayo. Selihlamukele inkosi na?” **20** Ngabaphendula ngokuthi, “UNkulunkulu wasezulwini uzasiphumelelisa. Thina izinceku zakhe sesiqalisa ukwakha kutsha, kodwa lina, kalilasabelo eJerusalem, loba imfanelo loba lungelo bani lomdabuko wenu.”

3 U-Eliyashibi umphristi omkhulu labanye bakhe abangabaphristi baya emsebenzini wokwakha bavuselela iSango leZimvu. Balinikela basebemisa kuhle izivalo zalo, bakha baze bayafika eMphotshongweni weKhulu, lawo abawunikelayo, baqhubeka bayafika eMphotshongweni kaHananeli. **2** Amadoda aseJerikho wona akha isigaba esilandelayo, kwathi uZakhuri indodana ka-Imri wakha eceleni kwabo. **3** ISango leNhlanzi lakhiwa ngamadodana kaHasena. Amisa imigubazi yalo afaka lezivalo lamabhawudo kanye leminxibo yakhona. **4** UMeremothi indodana ka-Uriya, indodana kaHakhози, yena wavuselela isigaba esilandelayo. Kusukela kuye kwakha uMeshulam indodana kaBherekhiya, indodana kaMeshezabeli, kwalandela kuye uZadokhi indodana kaBhana laye wayesakha. **5** Isigaba esilandelayo savuselelwa ngamadoda aseThekhowa, kodwa izikhulu zakhona zala ukusebenza ngaphansi kwabakhokheli babo. **6** ISango leJeshana lavuselelwa nguJoyada indodana kaPhaseya loMeshulam indodana kaBhesodeya. Bamisa imigubazi yalo

bafaka izivalo lamabhawudo leminxibo ezindaweni zakhona. **7** Eceleni kwabo, kwakuvuselela amadoda aseGibhiyoni lawaseMizipha, uMelathiya waseGibhiyoni lojadoni waseMeronthi, izindawo ezaziphethwe ngumbusi wangaphetsheya kweYufra. **8** U-Uziyeli indodana kaHarihaya, omunye wakhandi begolide, wavuselela isigaba esilandelayo; uHananiya, omunye wabenzi bamakha, laye wavuselela isigaba esilandelayo. Balivuselela iJerusalema kwaze kwafika eMdulini Obanzi. **9** URefaya indodana kaHuri, umbusi wengxenywe yeJerusalema, walungisa isigaba esilandelayo. **10** Okubambene lalapha kwavuselelwa nguJedaya indodana kaHarumafi okwakumalungana lendlu yakhe, loHathushi indodana kaHashabhineya wavuselela eceleni kwakhe. **11** UMalikhija indodana kaHarimi loHashubhi indodana kaPhahathi-Mowabi bavuselela esinye isigaba loMphotshongo Wamaziko. **12** UShalumi indodana kaHaloheshi, umbusi wengxenywe yeJerusalema, wavuselela isigaba esilandelayo esizwa ngamadodakazi akhe. **13** ISango leSigodi lavuselelwa nguHanuni lezakhamizi zaseZanowa. Balakha kutsha bafaka izivalo zalo lamabhawudo kanye leminxibo ezindaweni zakhona. Bavusa njalo umduli okwezinyathelo ezingamakhulu amahlanu kusiyafika eSangweni loBulongwe. **14** ISango loBulongwe lalungiswa nguMalikhija indodana kaRekhabi, umbusi wesiqinti saseBhethi-Hakheremi. Walivuselela wafaka izivalo lamabhawudo leminxibo yakhona ezindaweni zakhona. **15** ISango loMthombo lavuselelwa nguShaluni indodana kaKhohi-Hoze, umbusi wesiqinti saseMizipha. Walivuselela, wafaka uphahla lezivalo lamabhawudo leminxibo ezindaweni zakhona. Wavuselela futhi umduli weSiziba saseSilowami, eceleni kweSivande senkosi kwaze kwafika ezinyathelweni ezehla zisuka eDolobheni likaDavida. **16** Ngale kwakhe, uNehemiya indodana ka-Azibhuki, umbusi wengxenywe yesiqinti saseBhethi Zuri wavuselela kwaze kwafika maqondana lamathuna kaDavida, kusiyafika echibini lokwembiwa leNdlu yaMaqhawe. **17** Kulandela yena, kwaba ngabaLevi ababesakha ngaphansi kukaRehumi indodana kaBhani. Eceleni kwakhe, kwakusakha uHashabhiya, umbusi wengxenywe yesiqinti seKheyila, owayesakhela isiqinti sakhe. **18** Kulandela yena, kwakusakha amadoda akibo ngaphansi kukaBhavayi indodana kaHenadadi, umbusi wenye ingxenywe yesiqinti saseKheyila. **19** Kulandela yena, kungu-Ezeri indodana kaJeshuwa, umbusi waseMizipha, owavuselela esinye isigaba, kusukela endaweni eqondane lomqanso oya endlini yezikhali kwaze kwafika ejikweni. **20** Kulandela yena, kunguBharukhi indodana kaZabhayi owakha esinye isigaba ngesivuvu, kusukela ejikweni kusiya entubeni engena endlini ka-Eliyashibi umphristi omkhulu. **21** Kulandela yena, esinye isigaba savuselelwa nguMeremothi indodana ka-Uriya, indodana kaHakhozi, kusukela entubeni yako-Eliyashibi kusiya lapho ecina khona. **22** Sekusuka lapho kwalungisa abaphristi bakulowomango. **23** Ngale kwabo, kwakusakha uBhenjamini loHashubhi belungisa phambi kwendlu yabo; kulandela bona, kwasebenza u-Azariya indodana kaMaseya, indodana ka-Ananiya, esakha eduze lendlu yakhe. **24** Kulandela yena, uBhinuwi indodana kaHenadadi wavuselela esinye isigaba, kusukela endlini ka-Azariya kusiya ejikweni, **25** loPhalali indodana ka-Uzayi wasebenza maqondana lejiko lomphotshongo othutsha phezu kwesigodlo esingaphezulu kusiya egcekeni labalindi. Kulandela yena, kunguPhedaya

indodana kaPharoshi **26** lezincku zethempelini ezazihlala eqaqeni luka-Ofeli abakha baze bafika endaweni malungana leSango laManzi kusiya empumalanga kanye lomphotshongo othutshayo. **27** Kulandela bona, kwakungamadoda aseThekhowa avuselela esinye isigaba, kusukela emphotshongweni omkhulu othutshayo kusiya emdulini ka-Ofeli. **28** Ngaphezulu kweSango leBhiza, kwakusakha abaphristi, ngulowo phambi kwendlu yakhe. **29** Kulandela bona, uZadokhi indodana ka-Imeri wayesakha phambi kwendlu yakhe. Kulandela yena, kwakunguShemaya indodana kaShekhaneya, umlindi weSango laseMpumalanga, laye owakhayo. **30** Owamalandelayo, nguHananiya indodana kaShelemya, loHanuni, indodana yesithupha kaZalafi, laye wavuselela esinye isigaba. Owalandela bona nguMeshulami indodana kaBherekhiya owakha malungana lalapho ayehlala khona. **31** Kulandela yena, kwakunguMalikhija, omunye wakhandi begolide, wakha kwaze kwafika endlini yezincku zethempelini kanye labathengisi, malungana leSango lokuHlolwa, kuze kufike endlini engaphezulu kwejiko; **32** kwathi phakathi kwendlu engaphezu kwejiko leSango leZimvu abakhandi begolide labathengisi baba yibo abavuselelayo.

4 Kwathi uSanibhalathi esizwa ukuthi sasiwuvusa umduli, wazonda waze wagcwelelana. Wabahlake ulunya amaJuda, **2** wasesithi phambi kwabakhulu bakhe lebutho laseSamariya, “OkungamaJuda lokhu kuthi kwenzani kambe? Kungawuvusa umduli wakho na? Kuzayenza imihlatshelo na? Kuzawuqeda ngalanga linye? Kungakubuyisa na ukuphila ematsheni lawana azinqwaba zengcekeza etshe kanjeyana?” **3** UThobhiya um’Amoni, owayeseceleni kwakhe wathi, “Lokhu abakwakhayo, loba nje ikhanka lingakhwela phezu kwakho, lingawudiliza umduli wabo wamatshel!” **4** Sizwe, Oh Nkulunkulu wethu, ngoba siyeyiswa. Phindisela kubo emakhanda izithuko zabo. Banikele babe yimpango elizweni lobugqili. **5** Ungaligubuzeli icala labo kumbe wesule izono zabo emehlweni akho, ngoba bebehlabaza abakhi. **6** Ngakho sawakha umduli wonke waze waphakama okufika ingxenywe yobude bawo, ngoba abantu basebenza ngenhliziyo yabo yonke. **7** Kodwa kwathi ukuba uSanibhalathi, loThobhiya, lama-Arabhu, lama-Amoni lamadoda ase-Ashidodi besizwa ukuthi ukuvuselelwa kwemiduli yaseJerusalema kwasekuqhubekile njalo lezikhala zazivalwa bazonda kakhulu. **8** Baceba ukuba beze bazohlasele iJerusalema bavuse uthuli kulo. **9** Kodwa sakhuleka kuNkulunkulu wethu sabeka abalindi emini lebusuku ukuthi balindele lokhukuhlaselwa. **10** Kusenjalo, abantu bakoJuda bathi, “Amandla abasebenzi asededa, ikanti izibi zisezinengi okokuthi siyehluleka ukuqhubeka ngokwakha umduli.” **11** Izitha zethu lazo zathi, “Besalibe nje futhi bengakasiboni, bazaqabuka sesiphakathi kwabo sesibabulala siwuphethelwe lumsebenzi.” **12** Kwasekusithi amaJuda ababehlala eduze labo beza bazasitshela baphindaphinda besithi, “Lingaze liqonde ngaphi bazalihlasela kuphela.” **13** Ngasengimisa abanye abantu ngezimuli zabo ezindaweni lapho umduli owawuphansi khona, ezazingeneka lula, behlomile ngezinkemba, lemikhonto langemitshoko. **14** Ngemva kokuba sengiwuhlolisile wonke umumo, ngasukuma ngathi ezikhulwini, lezinduna lakabantu bonke jikelele, “Lingabesabi. Khumbulani uThixo, omkhulu owesabekayo, lilwele abafowene, amadodana lamadodakazi enu, abafazi benu lemizi yenu.” **15** Kwathi izitha zethu sezizwile ukuthi

sasesilazi icebo lazo lokuthi uNkulunkulu wayeselifubisile, sonke sabuyela kuwo umduli, ngulowo kowakhe umsebenzi. **16** Kusukela ngalelola, ingxenye yamadoda engangilawo yenza umsebenzi, enye ingxenye yahloma ngemikhonto, lamahawu, lemitshoko lamabhatshi ensimbi. Izinduna zazimisa ngemva kwabo bonke abantu bakoJuda **17** ababesakha umduli. Labo ababethwala izinto zokwakha babesenza umsebenzi ngesandla esisodwa ngesinye umuntu ephethe isikhali, **18** njalo ngulowo lalowo umakhi wayehlome inkemba ilengiswe eceleni kwakhe nxa esebenza. Kodwa indoda yokutshaya icilongo yahlala ikimi. **19** Ngasengisithi ezikhulwini, lezinduna lakubantu bonke jikelele, “Umsebenzi ubanzi usabalele, njalo sehlekene kakhulu omunye komunye kulandela umduli. **20** Lingezwa ingabe kungaphi okukhala khona icilongo, phuthumani khona lize kithi. UNkulunkulu wethu uzasilwela!” **21** Yikho sawuqhuba umsebenzi ingxenye yamadoda ihlomile ngemikhonto, kusukela emathathakusa kuze kuphume izinkanyo. **22** Ngasonalelo isikhathi ngabuye ngathi ebantwini, “Akuthi yonke indoda kanye lomsi wayo balale ngaphakathi kweJerusalema ebusuku, ukuze babengabalindi bethu ebusuku, babe ngabasebenzi emini.” **23** Mina labafowethu, lamadoda ayelami, labalindi ababelami kasizange sihlubule izigqoko zethu; ngulowo waphatha isikhali sakhe loba engena emanzini.

5 Ngalesosikhathi amadoda labomkabo baxokozela kakhulu besola abazalwane babo bamaJuda. **2** Abanye babesithi, “Thina lamadodana lamadodakazi ethu sibanengi kakhulu; ukuthi sidle ukuze siphile kumele sizuze amabele.” **3** Abanye babesithi, “Sesibambisa ngamasimu ethu, langezivini zethu kanye lemizi yethu ukuzuza amabele ngesikhathi sendlala.” **4** Abanye njalo labo babesithi, “Sesiseboleka imali ukuze sikwazi ukubhadala imithelo yenkosi eyamasimu ethu lezivini zethu. **5** Loba siyinyamanye legazi linye labantu bakithi njalo loba amadodana ethu elingana lawabo, kodwa sizibona sesifulela amadodana lamadodakazi ethu ebugqilini. Abanye bamadodakazi ethu bavele sebegqilaziwe, kodwa kasilamandla, ngoba amasimu ethu lezivini zethu sekungokwabanye.” **6** Ngathi sengizwile ukukhala kwabo kanye lensolo yabo, ngathukuthela kakhulu. **7** Ngakuhlolisisa kuhle konke lokhu engqondweni yami ngasengicala izikhulu lezinduna. Ngathi, “Libhadalisa abantu bakini inzuzo!” Ngasengibiza umhlango omkhulu ukuthi ngiqondane labo, **8** ngathi, “Ngokusemandleni ethu, sesabahlenga abazalwane bethu abangamaJuda ababethengiselwe kwabeZizwe. Kodwa manje selibathengisa abafowenu, babuye bathengiselwe kithi njalo!” Bathula ngoba baswela abangakutsho. **9** Ngaqhubeka ngathi, “Elikwenzayo kakulungana. Kungani lingahambi ngokwesaba uNkulunkulu na ukuze lingaklodelwa yizitha zethu zabeZizwe?” **10** Mina labafowethu labantu bami lathi siyabebileka abantu imali lamabele. Kodwa ukufuna inzuzo kakuphele! **11** Babuyiseleni khona manje amasimu abo, lezivini zabo, lezilahla zabo zama-oliva kanye lezindlu zabo, njalo lenzuzo yokweboleka leyo eliyithathayo kubo, ingxenye eyodwa yekhulu emalini, emabeheni, ewayinini elitsha lemafutheni.” **12** Bathi, “Sizakubuyisela. Njalo kasiyikubiza lutho kubo. Sizakwenza njengoba usitsho.” Ngasengibiza abaphristi ngathi izikhulu lezinduna kabenze isifungo sokuthi bazakwenza lokho abakuthembisileyo. **13** Njalo ngathintitha amavingo esigqoko sami ngathi,

“UNkulunkulu uzamthintitha kanje emkhupha endlini yakhe laselifeni lakhe wonke umuntu ongemi ngalesi isithembiso. Kanjalo umuntu onjalo kathintithwe achithwe!” Besizwa lokho umhlango wonke wathi, “Ameni,” badumisa uThixo. Abantu benza njengokuthembisa kwabo. **14** Kwathi njalo, kusukela ngomnyaka wamatshumi amabili wokubusa kweNkosi u-Athazekisisi, sengibekiwe ukuba ngumbusi wabo elizweni lakoJuda, kwaze kwaba ngumnyaka wakhe wamatshumi amathathu lambili, iminyaka elitshumi lambili, mina labazalwane bami kasizange sikuthinte ukudla okwakwabelwe umbusi. **15** Kodwa ababusi bangaphambili, labo abangandulelayo, babethwalisa nzima abantu ngokuthatha kubo amashekeli esiliva angamatshumi amane phezu kokudla lewayini. Labasekeli babo labo bathwalisa nzima abantu. Kodwa ngenxa yokumesaba uNkulunkulu mina kangikwenzanga lokho. **16** Esikhundleni salokho, ngazinikela emsebenzini womduli lo. Wonke amadoda ayelami abuthana khona ukuzasebenza; kasizange sizizulele umhlaba. **17** Phezu kwalokho, amaJuda alikhulu lamatshumi amahlanu kanye lezinduna babesidla kwami kanye lalabo abeza kithi bevela ezizweni eziseduze. **18** Insuku ngensuku kwakuhlatsywa inkabi eyodwa, lezimvu zekhethele eziyisithupha, lenkukhu, kulungiselwe mina, kuthi kuzozonke insuku ezilitshumi kulethwe yonke imihlobo yewayini. Phezu kwakho konke lokhu, kangizange ngikubize lokho kudla okwakuyisabelo sombusi, ngoba abantu laba babethwele nzima ngezinto ezifunekayo. **19** Ungikhumbule ngomusa, Oh Nkulunkulu wami, ngenxa yakho konke esengikwenzele lababantu.

6 Kwathi ukuba ilizwi lifike kuSanibhalathi, loThobhiya, loGeshemi um'Arabhu lakuzo zonke izitha zethu ukuthi ngasengiwakhile kutsha umduli kungasasalanga sikhala kuwo loba nje ngalesosikhathi nganginkakafaki izivalo emasangweni, **2** uSanibhalathi loGeshemi bangithumela lelilizwi: “Woza, kesihlangane komunye wemizi esemagcekeni ase-Ono.” Kodwa babebeba ukungenza kubi; **3** yikho ngasengithuma izithunyuwa kubo lala impendulo: “Ngiphezu komsebenzi omkhulu yikho ngeke ngize. Kungani umsebenzi ufanele ume ngiwutshiyela ukuza kini na?” **4** Kwaze kwaba kane bengithumela mbiko munye, lami ngala ngampendulo nye. **5** Kwathi ngesikhathi sesihlanu, uSanibhalathi wathuma inceku yakhe iphethe lona lelilizwi, ilencwadi esandleni ingavalwanga **6** ilotshwe ukuthi: “Kubikwa phakathi kwezizwe loGeshemi uthi kuliqiniso ukuthi wena lamaJuda liceba ukukhlamuka, ngakho lakha umduli. Njalo, imbiko le ithi wena usufuna ukuba yinkosi yawo **7** futhi usuze wabeka abaphrofethi ukuthi benze lesisimemelelo ngawe eJerusalema esithi: ‘Sekulenkosi koJuda!’ Umbiko lo ungahle uyofika enkosini; yikho woza sibonisanse.” **8** Ngambuyisela impendulo le: “Akulanto enjalo mayelana lalokho othi kuyenzakala; konke kuphume engqondweni yakho.” **9** Bonke babezama ukusethusela, bekhumbula besithi, “Izandla zabo zizaphela amandla bangabe besasebenza, yikho umsebenzi kawuyikuphela.” Kodwa ngakhuleka ngathi, “Manje qinisa izandla zami.” **10** Ngelinye ilanga ngaya endlini kaShemaya indodana kaDela, indodana kaMehethabehi, owayezivalele endlini yakhe. Wathi, “Kasihlangane endlini kaNkulunkulu, phakathi kwethempeli, sivale iminyango yethempeli, ngoba kulamadoda abuyayo ebusuku ukuzokubulala.” **11** Kodwa ngathi, “Umuntu onjengami kungamfanela ukubaleka na? Kumba umuntu onjengami angangena ethempelini ukusiza impilo yakhe

na? Kangiyil!” **12** Ngabona ukuthi wayengathunywanga nguNkulunkulu, kodwa wayenze isiphrofethi sokungilahla ngoba oThobhiya loSanibhalathi babemthengile. **13** Wayethengwe ukuthi angethuse ukuze ngenze isono ngokwenza lokhu, ukwenzela ukuthi bangiphe ibizo elibi ngizondakale. **14** Bakhumbule oThobhiya loSanibhalathi, Oh Nkulunkulu wami, ngenxa yalokho asebekwenzile; mkhumbule njalo umphrofethikazi uNowadiya labo bonke labobaphrofethi abebekade bezama ukungethusa. **15** Ngakho umduli waphela ngosuku lwamatshumi amabili ku-Eluli, ngemva kwensuku ezingamatshumi amahlanu lambili. **16** Izitha zethu zonke sezikuzwile lokho, zonke izizwe eziseduze zesaba zalahla ithemba, ngoba zananzelela ukuthi umsebenzi lo wenziswa uxhaswe nguNkulunkulu. **17** Njalo, ngalezonsuku izikhulu zakojuda zazithumezela izincwadi ezinengi kuThobhiya, lezimpendulo zikaThobhiya zabe zilokhu zifika kuzo. **18** Phela abanengi kojuda babebambelele kuye ngesifungo, ngoba wayengumkhwanyana kaShekhaniya indodana ka-Ara, futhi indodana yakhe uJehohanani yayithethe indodakazi kaMeshulami indodana kaBherekhiya. **19** Ikanti njalo babelokhu behlezi bengibikela ngezenzo zakhe ezinhle, basuke bayemtshela ukuthi ngitheni. Njalo uThobhiya wathumezela izincwadi ukungethusela.

7 Umduli usuyakwe kutsha lezivalo sengizifikile ezindaweni zazo, abalindi bamasango labahlabeleli labaLevi bakhethwa. **2** Ngabeka umfowethu uHanani ukuphatha iJerusalem, kanye loHananiya umlawuli wesigodlo lenqaba ngoba wayeyindoda elobuqotho, emesabayo uNkulunkulu kulamadoda amanengi. **3** Ngathi kubo, “Amasango aseJerusalem makangavulwa ilanga lize litshise. Nxa abalindimasango belokhu besemsebenzini, kabavale iminyango bayinxibe. Njalo khethani izakhamizi zeJerusalem ukuba ngabalindi, abanye ezindaweni lapho abamiswa khona, abanye eduze lezindlu zabo.” **4** Idolobho lalilikhulu libanzi, kodwa kwakulabantu abalutshwana phakathi kwalo, lezindlu zazingakavuselelwa. **5** Kwathi uNkulunkulu wami wakubeka enhliziyweni yami ukuqoqa ndawonye izikhulu, lezinduna labantukazana nje ukuthi bazobhalisa ngezimuli. Ngathola umbhalo wezizukulwane walabo ababuya kuqala. Nanku engakuthola kubhaliwe lapho: **6** laba yibo abantu belizwe abafikayo bephuma ebugqilini ababethunjwe nguNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni. Baba yizigqili (babuyela eJerusalem lakojuda, ngulowo waya emzini wakibo, **7** abeza kanye loZerubhabheli, loJeshuwa, loNehemiya, lo-Azariya loRamiya, loNahamani, loModekhayi, loBhilishani loMisipherethi, loBhigivayi, loNehumi loBhana): uluhlu lwamadoda ako-Israyeli: **8** awesizukulwane sikaPharoshi ayezinkulungwane ezimbili lekhulu elilamatshumi ayisikhombisa lambili, **9** akaShefathiya ayengamakhulu amathathu amatshumi ayisikhombisa lambili, **10** aka-Ara ayengamakhulu ayisithupha amatshumi amahlanu lambili, **11** akaPhahathi-Mowabi (ngosendo lukaJeshuwa loJowabi) ayezinkulungwane ezimbili lamakhulu ayisificaminwembili letshumi lasificaminwembili, **12** aka-Elamu ayeyinkulungwane elamakhulu amabili amatshumi amahlanu lane, **13** akaZathu ayengamakhulu ayisificaminwembili amatshumi amane lanlanu, **14** akaZakhayi ayengamakhulu ayisikhombisa amatshumi ayisithupha, **15** akaBhinuyi ayengamakhulu ayisithupha amatshumi amane lasificaminwembili, **16** akaBhebhayi

ayengamakhulu ayisithupha amatshumi amabili lasificaminwembili, **17** aka-Azigadi ayezinkulungwane ezimbili lamakhulu amathathu amatshumi amabili lambili, **18** aka-Adonikhama ayengamakhulu ayisithupha amatshumi ayisithupha lasikhombisa, **19** akaBhigivayi ayezinkulungwane ezimbili amatshumi ayisithupha lasikhombisa, **20** aka-Adini ayengamakhulu ayisithupha amatshumi amahlanu lanlanu, **21** aka-Atheri (ngoHezekhiya) ayengamatshumi ayisificaminwemunye lasificaminwembili, **22** akaHashumi ayengamakhulu amathathu amatshumi amabili lasificaminwembili, **23** akaBhezayi ayengamakhulu amathathu amatshumi amabili lane, **24** akaHarifi ayelikhulu letshumi lambili, **25** akaGibhiyoni ayengamatshumi ayisificaminwemunye lanlanu, **26** amadoda ayeseBhethilehema leNethofa ayelikhulu amatshumi ayisificaminwembili lasificaminwembili, **27** ayese-Anathothi ayelikhulu amatshumi amabili lasificaminwembili, **28** ayeseBethi Azimavethi ayengamatshumi amane lambili, **29** ayeseKhiriyathi-Jeyarimi, leKhefira leBherothi ayengamakhulu ayisikhombisa amatshumi amane lantathu, **30** ayeseRama leGebha ayengamakhulu ayisithupha amatshumi amabili lane, **31** ayeseMikhimashi ayelikhulu amatshumi amabili lambili, **32** ayeseBhetheli le-Ayi ayelikhulu amatshumi amabili lantathu, **33** awakweyinye iNebho ayengamatshumi amahlanu lambili, **34** awakweyinye i-Elamu ayeyinkulungwane elamakhulu amabili amatshumi amahlanu lane, **35** ayeseHarimi ayengamakhulu amathathu amatshumi amabili, **36** aseJeriko ayengamakhulu amathathu amatshumi amane lanlanu, **37** ayeseLodi, eHadidi le-Ono ayengamakhulu ayisikhombisa amatshumi amabili lane, **38** ayeseSenaya ayezinkulungwane ezintathu lamakhulu ayisificaminwemunye amatshumi amathathu. **39** Abaphristi: abesizukulwane sikaJedaya (ngosendo lukaJeshuwa) babengamakhulu ayisificaminwemunye amatshumi ayisikhombisa lantathu, **40** abaka-Imeri babeyinkulungwane elamatshumi amahlanu lambili, **41** abakaPhashuri babeyinkulungwane lamakhulu amabili amatshumi amane lasikhombisa, **42** abakaHarimi babeyinkulungwane elatshumi lasikhombisa. **43** AbaLevi: abesizukulwane sikaJeshuwa (ngoKhadimiyeli ngosendo lukaHodaviya) babengamatshumi ayisikhombisa lane. **44** Abahlabeleli: Abesizukulwane sika-Asafi babelikhulu amatshumi amane lasificaminwembili. **45** Abalindimasango ethempeli: abesizukulwane sikaShalumi, lo-Atheri, loThalimoni, lo-Akhubi, loHathitha loShobhayi babelikhulu amatshumi amathathu lasificaminwembili. **46** Izinceku zethempelini: abesizukulwane sikaZiha, loHasufa loThabhawothi, **47** loKherosi, loSiya, loPhadoni, **48** loLebhana, loHagabha, loShalimayi, **49** loHanani, loGideli, loGahari, **50** loReyaya, loRezini, loNekhoda, **51** loGazumi, lo-Uza, loPhaseya, **52** loBhesayi, loMewunini, loNefushesimi, **53** loBhakibhuki, loHakufa, loHahuri, **54** loBhaziluthi, loMehida, loHasha, **55** loBhakhosi, loSisera, loThema, **56** loNeziya loHathifa. **57** Abesizukulwane zezinceku zikaSolomoni: Abesizukulwane sikaSothayi, loSoferethi loPherida, **58** loJayala, loDakhoni, loGideli, **59** loShefathiya, loHathili, loPhokherethi-Hazebhayimi lo-Amoni. **60** Izinceku zethempelini labezizukulwane zezinceku zikaSolomoni babengamakhulu amathathu amatshumi ayisificaminwemunye lambili. **61** Abalandelayo laba bavela emadolobheni aseTheli Mela, eTheli Hasha, eKherubi, e-

Adoni, lase-Imeri, kodwa behluleka ukuveza ukuthi usendo lwabo lwaphuma ko-Israyeli: **62** abesizukulwane sikaDelaia, loThobhiya loNekhoda babengamakhulu ayisithupha lamatshumi amane lambili. **63** Ababephuma kubaphristi kwakuyilaba: abesizukulwane sikaHobhaya, esikaHakhozi lesikaBhazilayi (indoda eyayithethe indodakazi kaBhazilayi umGiliyadi layo yayibizwa ngalelobizo). **64** Laba baphenya imibhalo yembali yezimuli zabo, kodwa bayiswela ngakho basuswa ebuphristini kwathiwa bangcolile. **65** Ngakho-ke, umbusi wabalaya ukuthi bangakudli loba yikuphi ukudla okungcwele kuze kubekhona umphristi wokubusa inkatho i-Urimi leThumini. **66** Ixuku lonke lalilunani elifika inkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane lambili lamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi ayisithupha, **67** ngaphandle kwezinceku zabo ezesilisa labesifazane ezazifika inkulungwane eziyisikhombisa lamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi amathathu lasikhombisa; njalo belabahlabeleli besilisa labesifazane abafika amakhulu amabili lamatshumi amane lanhlano. **68** Kwakulamabhiza ayefika amakhulu ayisikhombisa lamatshumi amathathu lasithupha, imbongolo ezingamakhulu amabili lamatshumi amane lanhlano, amakamela angamakhulu amane lamatshumi amathathu lanhlano, **69** labobhemi abazinkulungwane eziyisithupha lamakhulu ayisikhombisa lamatshumi amabili. **70** Ezinye inhloko zezimuli zancedisa emsebenzini. Umbusi wanikela esikhwameni esikhulu, amadrakhima egolide ayinkulungwane, imiganu engamatshumi amahlanu lezigqoko zabaphristi ezingamakhulu amahlanu lamatshumi amathathu. **71** Abanye abazinhloko zezimuli baphosela esikhwameni amadrakhima egolide azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lamamina esiliva azinkulungwane ezimbili lamakhulu amabili. **72** Sekukonke okwaphiwa ngabantu bonke kwaba ngamadrakhima egolide azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili, amamina esiliva azinkulungwane ezimbili lezigqoko zabaphristi ezingamatshumi ayisithupha lasikhombisa. **73** Abaphristi, labaLevi, labalindimasango, labahlabeleli, lezinceku zethempelini, kanye labanye abantu lo-Israyeli wonke, bahlala emadolobheni akibo.

8 Kwathi sekuyinyanga yesikhombisa abako-Israyeli basebhelezi emadolobheni akibo. Bonke abantu babuthana ngangqondo yinye egekeni elaliphambi kweSango laManzi. Bacela u-Ezra umbhali ukuthi aethe iNcwadi yoMthetho kaMosi, uThixo ayelaye ngawo ama-Israyeli. **2** Yikho kwathi ngelanga lokuqala lenyanga yesikhombisa u-Ezra umphristi wawuletha uMthetho phambi komhlangano, owawugcwele amadoda labafazi labo bonke ababelokuzwisisa. **3** Wafunda kakhulu kusukela ekuphumeni kwelanga kwa kwaba semini enkulu ekhangele egekeni leSango laManzi phambi kwamadoda, labafazi labanye ababelokuzwisisa. Bonke abantu balalelisisa ukuzwa iNcwadi yoMthetho. **4** U-Ezra umbhali wayemi phezu kwethala eliphakemayo elalenziwe ngezigodo lenzelwe umkhosi lo. Eceleni kwakhe kwesokunene kwakumi uMathithiya, loSHEMA, lo-Anaya, lo-Uriya, loHilikhiya, loMaseya; kwathi kwesokohlo kunguPhedaya, loMishayeli, loMalikhija, loHashumi, loHashibhadana, loZakhariya loMeshulami. **5** U-Ezra wayivula incwadi. Bonke abantu babembona ngoba wayemi ekuphakameni ngaphezu kwabo; kwathi lapho eyivula abantu basukuma. **6** U-Ezra wamdumisa uThixo, uNkulunkulu omkhulu, kwathi bonke abantu baphendula baphakamis izandla zabo bathi, “Amen! Amen!”

Basebekhothama bekhonza uThixo bethe mbo ngobuso phansi. **7** AbaLevi ababalisa uJeshuwa, loBhani, loSherebhiya, loJamini, lo-Akhubi, loShabhethayi, loHodiya, loMaseya, loKhelitha, lo-Azariya, loJozabadi, loHanani loPhelaya bafundisa abantu uMthetho abantu belokhu bemi khonapho. **8** Babebala eNcwadini yoMthetho kaNkulunkulu, bewuchasisa baveze lokho okuthshoyo ukuze abantu bakuzwisise lokho okwakubalwa. **9** Kwasekusithi uNehemiya umbusi, lo-Ezra umphristi lombhali, kanye labaLevi ababefundisa abantu bathi kubo bonke, “Lelilanga lingcwele kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. Lingalili kumbe likhale.” Kwakungoba bonke babekhala lapho babelale amazwi oMthetho. **10** U-Nehemiya wathi, “Hambani liyozitika ngokudla okummandi lokunathwayo okummandi, okunye likuthumele labo abangelakho okulungisiweyo. Ilanga lanamhla lingcwele kuThixo wethu. Malingadani, ngoba ukuthokoza kukaThixo kungamandla enu.” **11** AbaLevi babathulisa bonke abantu, bathi, “Thulani, ngoba lolu lusuku olungcwele. Lingadani.” **12** Kwathi abantu bonke basebehamba bayakudla banatha, bathumela okunye ukudla kwabanye bazithokozisa kakhulu, ngoba manje basebewazwisisa lawomazwi abasebewazwile. **13** Ngosuku lwesibili lwenyanga, abazinhloko zezimuli zonke, kanye labaphristi labaLevi, babuthana ku-Ezra umbhali ukuba bahlolisisi amazwi oMthetho. **14** Bakufumana kubhaliwe emthethweni, owalawya nguThixo ngoMosi, ukuthi ama-Israyeli babemele bahlale ezihonqweni ngesikhathi somkhosi wenyanga yesikhombisa **15** lokuthi njalo lelilizwi babemele balimemezele liye kuwo wonke amadolobho abo laJeserusalem elithi: “Phumani liye emaqakeni liyokhwebula amatagasha ama-oliva lama-oliva eganga, lamamithili, lamalala lezihlahla ezilomthunzi, lenze izihonqo,” njengoba kulotshiwe. **16** Ngakho abantu baphuma babuya lamagatsha bazakhela izihonqo ephahleni lwezindlu zase, emagumeni abo, emagumeni endlu kaNkulunkulu lasegekeni eliseSangweni laManzi lalalo elaliseSangweni lika-Efrayimi. **17** Ixuku lonke elavela ebugqilini lakha izihonqo lahlala kuzo. Kusukela ensukwini zikaJeshuwa indodana kaNuni kuze kube yilolosuku, ama-Israyeli ayengazange awenze kanjalo lowo mkhosi. Kwakukukhulu ukuthokoza kwabo. **18** Insuku ngensuku, kusukela kolokuqala kusiya kolokucina, u-Ezra wayebala eNcwadini yoMthetho kaNkulunkulu. Bawuthakazelela lowo mkhosi okwensuku eziyisikhombisa, kwathi ngosuku lwesificaminwembili, kwabakhona umhlangano omkhulu, njengokumisiweyo emthethweni.

9 Ngelanga lamatshumi amabili lane aleyonyanga, ama-Israyeli ahlangana ndawonye, azila ukudla egqoke amasaka njalo bezithele uthuli emakhanda abo. **2** Labo ababengabako-Israyeli ngomdabuko bazehlukanisa kwabezizwe. Bema ezindaweni zabo bavuma izono zabo lobubi babokhokho babo. **3** Bema khonapho ababekhona babala eNcwadini yoMthetho kaThixo uNkulunkulu wabo okwengxenywe yesine yosuku, kwathi enye ingxenywe yesine babevuma izono zabo njalo bekhonza uThixo uNkulunkulu wabo. **4** Ethaleni kwakumi abaLevi, uJeshuwa, loBhani, loKhadimiyeli, loShebhaniya, loBhuni, loSherebhiya, loBhani loKhenani, abamemeza baqongisa amazwi kuThixo uNkulunkulu wabo. **5** Njalo abaLevi ababalisa uJeshuwa, loKhadimiyeli, loBhani, loHashabhineya, loSherebhiya, loHodiya, loShebhaniya, loPhethahiya bathi: “Sukumani lidumise uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, okhona kusukela phakade kuze kube phakade. Libusisiwe ibizo

lakho elingcwele, sengathi lingaphakanyiswa ngaphezulu kwakho konke ukubusiswa lokudunyiswa. **6** Wena wedwa unguThixo. Wenza amazulu, kanye lamazulu aphezukonke, lazozonke izinkanyezi zawo, umhlaba lakho konke okukuwo, inwandle lakho konke okukuzo. Uyapha ukuphila kukho konke, lamabutho wonke asezulwini ayakukhonza. **7** UnguThixo uNkulunkulu, owakhetha u-Abhrama wamkhupha e-Uri lamaKhaladiya wambiza ngokuthi ngu-Abrahama. **8** Wabona ukuthi inhliziyi yakhe yayithembekile kuwe, ngakho wenza isivumelwano laye ukupha izizukulwane zakhe ilizwe lamaKhenani, lamaHithi, lama-Amori, lamaPherizi, lamaJebusi lamaGigashi. Usgicinile isithembiso sakho ngoba ulungile. **9** Wakubona ukhulupheka kwabokhokho bethu eGibhithe; wezwa ukukhala kwabo eLwandle oluBomvu. **10** Wathumela izibonakaliso ezingumangaliso lezimanga kuFaro, kuzozonke izinduna zakhe lakubo bonke abantu belizwe lakhe, ngoba wawukwazi ukuthi amaGibhithe abaphatha njani ngodlakela. Wawenzela ibizo, elimiyo kuze kube lamuhla. **11** Walwehluhanisa ulwandle phambi kwabo, ukuze bedlule kulo emhlabathini owomileyo, kodwa waphosela labo ababebaxhuma ekujuleni, njengelitsheliphoselwa ethwaceni lwamanzi. **12** Emini wawubakhokhela ngensika yeyezi, ebusuku ngensika yomlilo ukubapha ukukhanya endleleni ababehamba ngayo. **13** Wehla weza eNtabeni yaseSinayi; wakhuluma kubo usezulwini. Wabapha izimiso lemithetho eqondileyo njalo elungileyo, lezimemezelo lemilayo elungileyo. **14** Wabazisa ngeSabatha lakho elingcwele njalo wabapha imilayo, lezimiso lemithetho ngenceku yakho uMosi. **15** Ngesikhathi belambile wabapha isinkwa sivela ezulwini njalo ekomeni kwabo wabaletshela amanzi ephuma edwaleni; wabatshela ukuthi bangene balithathe ilizwe owafunga uphakamisa isandla ukubapha. **16** Kodwa bona, okhokho bethu, baba yiziqholo baqinisa intamo, kabaze balalela imilayo yakho. **17** Bala ukulalela njalo behluleka ukukhumbula izimanga owawenzayo phakathi kwabo. Baqinisa intamo kwathi ekuhlamukeni kwabo bakhetha umkhokheli ukuze babuyele ebugqilini babo. Kodwa unguNkulunkulu oxolelayo, olomusa lesihawu, ophuza ukuthukuthela kodwa wandile ngothando. Ngakho kawubafalathelanga, **18** lalapho sebezibumbele isithombe sethole besithi, 'Lo ngukulunkulu wenu owalikhuphayo eGibhithe,' lanxa benze amanyala esabekayo. **19** Ngenxa yesihawu sakho esikhulu kawubakhalalanga enkangala. Emini insika yeyezi kayikhawulanga ukubakhokhela endleleni yabo, loba insika yomlilo ebusuku ukukhanyisa indlela ababele bahambe ngayo. **20** Wanika uMoya wakho omuhle ukubafundisa. Kawuyigodlanga imana yakho emilonyeni yabo, njalo wabapha amanzi ukucitsha umhawu wabo. **21** Okweminyaka engamatshumi amane wabagcina enkangala; kabazange baswele lutho, izembatho zabo kaziguganga lezinyawo zabo kazivuvukanga. **22** Wabapha imibuso lezizwe, wababela lemingcele ekude. Balithatha ilizwe likaSihoni inkosi yaseHeshibhoni lelizwe lika-Ogi inkosi yaseBhashani. **23** Wenza amadodana abo aba manengi njengezinkanyezi zomkhathi, wabaletshela elizweni owawutshela okhokho babo ukuba bangene kulo balithathe. **24** Amadodana abo angena alithatha ilizwe. Wawehlukanisa phambi kwabo amaKhenani, ababehlala phakathi kwelizwe; wanikela amaKhenani kubo, ndawonye lamakhosi awo labantu belizwe, ukuba benze kubo njengokuthanda kwabo. **25** Bathumba amadolobho abiyelweyo lomhlaba ovundileyo; bazithatha izindlu ezazigwaliswe

ngakho konke okuhle, lemithombo eyayivele igejiwe, izivini, lezivande zama-oliva lezihlahla ezinengi ezezithelo. Badla bazitika bakhithika imikhaba; bazithokozisa ngokulunga kwakho okukhulu. **26** Kodwa kabalalelanga bakuhlumukela; umthetho wakho bawubeka ngemva kwabo. Babulala abaphrofethi bakho, ababebakhuza ukuze babuyele kuwe; bahlambaza ngendlela eyesabekayo. **27** Ngakho wabanikela ezitheni zabo, zabancindezela. Kodwa kwathi sebencindezelwe bakhala kuwe. Usezulwini wabezwa, kwathi ngesihawu sakho esikhulu wabapha abakhululi, ababahlengayo ezandleni zezitha zabo. **28** Kodwa bonela ukuphumula, baphinda njalo benza okubi phambi kwakho. Wase ubadela ezandleni zezitha zabo ukuthi zibabuze. Kwathi lapho sebekhala kuwe njalo, wezwa usezulwini, kwathi ngesihawu sakho wabakhululi izikhathi ngezikhathi. **29** Wabaxwayisa ukuthi babuyele emthethweni wakho, kodwa baqholosa kabaze bayilalela imilayo yakho. Benza isono ngezimiso zakho, okuthi nxa umuntu ezilalela aphile. Ngobuqholo bakufalathela, baqinisa intamo, bala ukulalela. **30** Okweminyaka eminengi wababekezelela. NgoMoya wakho wabakhuza ngabaphrofethi bakho. Kodwa kabananzanga, ngakho wabanikela ebantwini abakhelene labo. **31** Kodwa ngomusa wakho omkhulu kawubaqadanga njalo kawubadelanga, ngoba unguNkulunkulu olomusa, olowwelo. **32** Ngakho-ke manje, Oh Nkulunkulu wethu, uNkulunkulu omkhulu, olamandla njalo omangalisayo, ogcina isivumelwano sakhe sothando, ungadeleli bonke lobu ubunzima obusehleleyo thina laphezu kwamakhosi ethu labakhokheli, phezu kwabaphristi labaphrofethi bethu, phezu kwabobaba labantu bakho bonke, kusukela ensukwini zamakhosi ase-Asiriya kuze kube lamuhla. **33** Kukho konke lokho okwenzakeleyo kithi, ubeqotho; wenze ngokuthembeka, thina sisenza okubi. **34** Amakhosi ethu, abakhokheli bethu, abaphristi bethu labobaba abawulandelanga umthetho wakho; abayinanzanga imilayo yakho izixwayiso owabapha zona. **35** Loba babesembusweni wabo, bekholisa ukulunga kwakho kubo elizweni elibanzi elivundileyo lelo owabapha lona, kabakukhonzanga futhi kabaguqukanga ezindleleni zabo ezimbi. **36** Kodwa ake ubone, siyizigqili lamuhla, izigqili elizweni owalipha okhokho bethu ukuthi badle izithelo zalo lezinye izinto ezinhle eziphuma kulo. **37** Ngenxa yezono zethu, isivuno salo esinengi siya emakhosini osuwabeke phezu kwethu. Abusa phezu kwemizimba yethu laphezu kwezinkomo zethu njengokuthanda kwawo. Siphakathi kosizi olumangalisayo." **38** "Ngenxa yakho konke lokhu, sesisenza isivumelwano esibophayo, sisibhala phansi, njalo abakhokheli bethu, abaLevi labaphristi bethu bafaka uphawu lwabo kuso."

10 Labo abafaka uphawu lwabo yilaba: Umbusi: uNehemiya indodana kaHakhaliya. LoZedekhiya, **2** loSeraya, lo-Azariya, loJeremiya, **3** loPhashuri, lo-Amariya, loMalikhija, **4** loHathushi, loShebhaniya, loMaluki, **5** loHarimi, loMeremothi, lo-Obhadaya, **6** loDanyeli, loGinethoni, loBharukhi, **7** loMeshulami, lo-Abhija, loMijamini, **8** loMaziya, loBhiligayi loShemaya. Laba babe ngabaphristi. **9** AbaLevi: uJeshuwa indodana ka-Azariya, uBhinuwu owamadodana kaHenadadi loKhadimiyeli, **10** labasekeli babo: uShebhaniya, uHodiya, uKhelitha, uPhelaya loHanani, **11** uMikha, uRehobhi, uHashabhiya, **12** uZakhuri, uSherebhiya, uShebhaniya, **13** uHodiya, uBhani loBheninu. **14** Abakhokheli babantu yilaba: uPharoshi, uPhahathi-Mowabi, u-Elamu, uZathu

uBhani, 15 uBhuni, u-Azigadi, uBhebhayi, 16 u-Adonija, uBhigvayi, u-Adini, 17 u-Atheri, uHezekhiya, u-Azuri, 18 uHodiya, uHashumi, uBhezayi, 19 uHarifi, u-Anathothi, uNebhayi, 20 uMagiphiyashi, uMeshulami, uHeziri, 21 uMeshezabeli, uZadokhi, uJaduwa, 22 uPhelathiya, uHanani, u-Anaya, 23 uHosheyia, uHananiya, uHashubhi, 24 uHaloheshi, uPhiliha, uShobeki, 25 uRehumi, uHashabhina, uMaseya, 26 u-Ahija, uHanani, u-Anani, 27 uMaluki, uHarimi loBhana. 28 Inengi labantu, abaphristi, abaLevi, abalindimasango, abahlabeleli, lezinceku zethempeli labo bonke abazehlukanisayo ebantwini bezizwe ngenxa yoMthetho kaNkulunkulu, kanye lamakhosikazi abo lamadodana lamadodakazi abo ayeseqedisisa 29 bonke bahlanganyela labafowabo ababeyizikhulu, ukuzibopha ngesiqalekiso langesifungo ukuwulandela uMthetho kaNkulunkulu owanikwa ngoMosi inceku kaNkulunkulu lokulalela kuhlale yonke imilayo, leziqondiso lezimemezelo zikaThixo iNkosi yethu. 30 Sithembisa ukuthi kasiyikwendisa amadodakazi ethu ebantwini esakhelene labo loba sithathele amadodana ethu amadodakazi abo. 31 Nxa labo esakhelene labo beletha impahla kumbe amabele okuthengiswa ngeSabatha, kasiyikuthenga kubo ngeSabatha loba ngaliphi ilanga elingcwele. Kuwo wonke umnyaka wesikhombisa sizayekela amasimu ethu alaluke njalo sizacitsha zonke izikwelede. 32 Siyazethesa umlandu wokugcwalisa umlayo wokupha okwesithathu kweshekelo ngomnyaka okomsebenzi wendlu kaNkulunkulu: 33 okwesinkwa esibekwe etafuleni; okomnikelo wenjayelo owamabele lowokuthiswa; okweminikelo yamaSabatha, eyamabili okuThwasa kweNyanga leminyemi ikhosi emisiweyo; eyiminikelo engcwele, iminikelo yesono yokubuyisana eka-Israyeli; leyayo yonke imilandu yendlini kaNkulunkulu. 34 Thina abaphristi, abaLevi labantu sesenze inkatho ukubona ukuthi yiphi imuli emele ilethe inkuni ngasiphi isikhathi endlini kaNkulunkulu ezokuthiswa e-alithareni likaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu, njengokulotshiweyo eMthethweni. 35 Njalo sizethesa umlandu wokuletha endlini kaThixo umnyaka ngomnyaka izithelo zakuqala zamabele ethu lokwezithelo zonke zezihlala. 36 Njengoba kulotshiwe njalo eMthethweni, sizaletha amazibulo amadodana ethu, awenkomo zethu, lawemihlambi yethu yezimvu endlini kaNkulunkulu wethu, kubaphristi abasebenza khona. 37 Futhi njalo, sizaletha okuya eziphaleni zasendlini kaNkulunkulu, kubaphristi, okokuqala kwempuphu yethu, okweminikelo yamabele ethu, izithelo zezihlala zethu zonke lewayini lethu elitsha kanye lamafutha. Njalo sizaletha okwethshumi okwamabele ethu kubaLevi, ngoba ngabaLevi abaqoqa okwethshumi kuwo wonke amadolobho esisebenza kuwo. 38 Umphristi odabuka ku-Aroni kaphelekezele abaLevi besamukela okwethshumi, njalo abaLevi kumele balethe okwethshumi okomnikelo wethshumi kuze endlini kaNkulunkulu, eziphaleni eziqondane lesikhwama. 39 Abantu bako-Israyeli, kanye labaLevi, bamele balethe iminikelo yabo yamabele, iwayini elitsha lamafutha eziphaleni lapho okugcinwa khona impahla zendlu engcwele, njalo lapho okuhlala khona abaphristi abasebenzayo labalindimasango labahlabeleli. “Kasiyikuyidela indlu kaNkulunkulu.”

11 Abakhokheli babantu bafika bahlala eJerusalem. Abantu bonke basebesenzisa inkatho ukukhetha oyedwa etshumini ngalinye awayemele ayehlala eJerusalem, idolobho elingcwele, kuthi abaseleyo abayisificamunwemunye bahlale emadolobheni akibo. 2 Abantu babawonga

wonke amadoda azinikelayo ukuyahlala eJerusalem. 3 Laba yibo abakhokheli bezigodi abayahlala eJerusalem (amanye ama-Israyeli, labaphristi, labaLevi, lezinceku zethempelini kanye labezizukulwane zezisebenzi zikaSolomoni bahlala emadolobheni akoJuda, ngulowo esabelweni sakhe emadolobheni ehlukeneyo, 4 kwathi abanye babantu bakoJuda lakoBhenjamini bahlala eJerusalem): Abesizukulwane sikaJuda: U-Athaya indodana ka-Uziya, indodana kaZakhariya, indodana ka-Amariya, indodana kaShefathiya, indodana kaMahalaleli owosendo lukaPherezi; 5 loMaseya indodana kaBharukhi, indodana kaKholi-Howe, indodana kaHazaya, indodana ka-Adaya, indodana kaJoyaribi, indodana kaZakhariya, isizukulwane sikaShilo. 6 Abesizukulwane sikaPherezi ababehlala eJerusalem babefika 468, amadoda aqinileyo. 7 Abesizukulwane sikaBhenjamini: uSalu indodana kaMeshulami, indodana kaJoyedi, indodana kaPhedaya, indodana kaKholaya, indodana kaMaseya, indodana ka-Ithiyeli, indodana kaJeshaya, 8 labalandeli bakhe, uGabhayi loSalayi, amadoda afika amakhulu ayisificamunwemunye lamatshumi amabili lasificaminwembili. 9 UJoweli indodana kaZikhiri wayenguye induna yabo, loJuda indodana kaHasenuwa wayephethe isiQinti seSibili sedolobho. 10 Ababesuka kubaphristi: uJedayi; indodana kaJoyaribi; uJakhini; 11 uSeraya indodana kaHilikhiya, indodana kaMeshulami, indodana kaZadokhi, indodana kaMerayothi, indodana ka-Ahithubi, umphathi endlini kaNkulunkulu, 12 labasekeli babo, abaqhuba umsebenzi wethempeli, amadoda afika amakhulu ayisificaminwembili lamatshumi amabili lambili; u-Adaya indodana kaJerohamu, indodana kaPhelaliya, indodana ka-Amizi, indodana kaZakhariya, indodana kaPhashuri, indodana kaMalikhija, 13 labasekeli bakhe, ababe yizinhloko zezimuli, amadoda afika amakhulu amabili lamatshumi amane lambili; u-Amashisayi indodana ka-Azareli, indodana ka-Ahizayi, indodana kaMeshilemothi, indodana ka-Imeri, 14 labasekeli bakhe, ababengamadoda aqinileyo alikhulu lamatshumi amabili lasitshiyagalombili. Induna yabo kwakunguZabhidiyeli indodana kaHagedolimi. 15 Ababesuka kubaLevi: uShemaya indodana kaHashubhi, indodana ka-Azirikhamu, indodana kaHashabhaya, indodana kaBhuni; 16 uShabhehayi loJozabhadhi, bobabili bezinduna zabaLevi ababekhangela umsebenzi waphandle kwendlu kaNkulunkulu; 17 uMathaniya indodana kaMikha, indodana kaZabhidhi, indodana ka-Asafi, umqondisi owayekhokhela inkonzo yokubonga lemkhulekweni; uBhakhikhukhiya, engwesibili phakathi kwabasekeli bakhe; u-Abhida indodana kaShamuwa, indodana kaGalali, indodana kaJeduthuni. 18 AbaLevi ababesemzini ongcwele babefika amakhulu amabili lamatshumi ayisificaminwembili lane. 19 Abalindimasango: u-Akhubi, loThalimoni labasekeli babo, ababelinda amasango babengamadoda afika ikhulu elilamatshumi ayisikhombisa lambili. 20 Bonke abanye abako-Israyeli, kanye labaphristi labaLevi, babekuwonke amadolobho akoJuda, ngulowo esesabelweni sakwabo esomdabuko. 21 Izinceku zethempelini zazihlala entabeni i-Ofeli, ziphethwe nguZiha loGishipha. 22 Umlawuli wabaLevi eJerusalem waye ngu-Uzi indodana kaBhani, indodana kaHashabhaya, indodana kaMathaniya, indodana kaMikha. U-Uzi wayengomunye wabazukulu baka-Asafi, ababengabahlabeleli abakhangele inkonzo endlini kaNkulunkulu. 23 Abahlabeleli babengaphansi kwezimiso zenkosi, ezaziqondisa ababemele bakwenze insuku zonke. 24

UPhethahiyi indodana kaMeshezabeli, omunye wesizukulwane sikaZera indodana kaJuda, wayengumeluleki wenkosi mayelana lezindaba zonke zabantu. **25** Mayelana lemizi kanye lamasimu ayo, abanye babantu bakoJuda bahlala eKhiriyaathi Aribha lakweminye imizi eseduze, eDibhoni lemizini eseduze kwayo, eJekhahizeli lemizana yakhona, **26** eJeshuwa, eMolada, eBethi Phelethi, **27** eHazari-Shuwal, eBherishebha lemizana yakhona, **28** eZikhilagi, eMekhona lemizana yakhona, **29** e-Eni Rimoni, eZora, eJamuthi, **30** eZanowa, e-Adulami lemizana yakhona, eLakhishi lamasimu ayo, lase-Azekha lemizana yakhona. Yikho babehlala yonke indawo kusukela eBherishebha kusiya eSigodini sikaHinomu. **31** Abesizukulwane sikaBhenjamini ababesuka eGebha bahlala eMikhimashi, e-Aya, eBetheli lemizana yakhona, **32** e-Anathothi, eNobhi, le-Ananiya, **33** eHazoni, eRama leGithayimi, **34** eHadidi, eZebhoyimi laseNebhalathi, **35** eLodi lase-Ono, njalo laseSigodini seZingcitshi. **36** Abanye bezigaba zabaLevi bakoJuda bahlala koBhenjamini.

12 Laba ngabaphristi labaLevi ababuya loZerubhabheli indodana kaSheyalithiyeli kanye loJeshuwa: USeraya, uJeremiya, u-Ezra, **2** u-Amariya, uMaluki, uHathushi, **3** uShekhaniya, uRehumi, uMeremothi, **4** u-Ido, uGinethoni, u-Abhija, **5** uMijamini, uMowadiya, uBhiliga, **6** uShemaya, uJoyaribi, uJedaya, **7** uSalu, u-Amoki, uHilikhiya loJedaya. Laba babengabakhokheli babaphristi labakhulu babo ngezinsuku zikaJeshuwa. **8** AbaLevi babe ngJeshuwa, loBhinuwi, loKhadimiyeli, loSherebhya, loJuda njalo loMathaniya, okwathi yena, labakhula bakhe yibo ababekhokhela izingoma zenkonzo yokubonga. **9** UBhakhikhukhiya lo-Uni, labakhula babo, babesima ngale bakhangelane labo ezinkonzweni. **10** UJeshuwa wayenguyise kaJoyakhimu, uyise ka-Eliyashibi, u-Eliyashibi uyise kaJoyada, **11** uJoyada uyise kaJonathani, uJonathani uyise kaJaduwa. **12** Ngezinsuku zikaJoyakhimu, laba babezinhloko zezimuli zabaphristi: abendlu kaSeraya, nguMeraya; abendlu kaJeremiya nguHananiya; **13** abendlu ka-Ezra, nguMeshulami; abendlu ka-Amariya, nguJehohanani; **14** abendlu kaMaluki, nguJonathani; abendlu kaShebhaniya, nguJosefa; **15** abendlu kaHarimi, ngu-Adina; abendlu kaMeremothi, nguHelikhayi; **16** abendlu ka-Ido, nguZakhariya; abendlu kaGinethoni, nguMeshulami; **17** abendlu ka-Abhija nguZikhiri; abendlu kaMijamini lekaMowadiya, nguPhilithayi; **18** abendlu kaBhiliga nguShamuwa; abendlu kaShemaya nguJonathani; **19** abendlu kaJoyaribi, nguMathenayi; abendlu kaJedaya, ngu-Uzi; **20** abendlu kaSalu, nguKhalayi; abendlu ka-Amoki, ngu-Ebheri; **21** abendlu kaHilikhiya, nguHashabhiya; abendlu kaJedaya nguNethaneli. **22** Abazinhloko zezindlu zabaLevi ngezinsuku zika-Eliyashibi, loJoyada, uJonathani loJaduwa, kanye lezabaphristi, babhalwa phansi kubusa uDariyu wasePhezhiya. **23** Abakhokheli bezimuli ezizukulwaneni zikaLevi kuze kube yisikhathi sikaJohanani indodana ka-Eliyashibi babhalwa phansi encwadini yemilando. **24** Abakhokheli babaLevi babengoHashabhiya, loSherebhya, loJeshuwa indodana kaKhadimiyeli, labakhula babo ababesima baqondane labo nxa bedumisa njalo besenza inkonzo yokubonga, yilabo bevumela abanye, njengokwamiswa nguDavida umuntu kaNkulunkulu. **25** UMathaniya, loBhakhikhukhiya, u-Obhadaya, uMeshulami, uThalimoni lo-Akhubi babe ngabalindimasango ababelinda iziphala emasangweni. **26**

Bawenza umsebenzi lo ngezinsuku zikaJoyakhimu indodana kaJeshuwa, indodana kaJozadaki, langezinsuku zikaNehemiya umbusi lo-Ezra umphristi lombhali. **27** Ekunikelweni komduli waseJerusalema, abaLevi badingwa lapho ababehlala khona balethwa eJerusalema ukuzathakazelela umkhosi wokunikelwa ngezingoma langokubonga langokutshaya izigubhu lamachacha lemiqangala. **28** Abahlabeleli labo balethwa ndawonye besuka emangweni eseduze leJerusalema, basuka emizini yamaNethofa, **29** eBethi Giligali, lasemangweni waseGebha le-Azimavethi, ngoba abahlabeleli basebezakhele imizi eduze leJerusalema. **30** Kwathi lapho abaphristi labaLevi sebezihlambulule ngokomkhuba, bahlambulula abantu, amasango lomduli. **31** Ngathi abakhokheli bakoJuda bakhwele phezu komduli. Njalo ngamisa amaqembu amakhulu amabili awabahlabeleli ukuthi babonge. Elinye lalimele likhwele phezu loMduli kwesokunene, kusiya ngesangweni loBulongwe. **32** UHoshayiya lengxeny yabakhokheli bakoJuda babalandela, **33** kunye lo-Azariya, lo-Ezra, loMeshulami, **34** loJuda, loBhenjamini, loShemaya, loJeremiya, **35** kanye labanye abaphristi ababelamacilongo, loZakhariya indodana kaJonathani, indodana kaShemaya, indodana kaMathaniya indodana kaMikhaya, indodana kaZakhuri, indodana ka-Asafi, **36** labakhula bakhe oShemaya, lo-Azareli, loMilalayi, loGilalayi, loMayi, loNethaneli, loJuda loHanani bephetha amachacho njengokwakumiswe nguDavida umuntu kaNkulunkulu. U-Ezra umbhali nguye owayekhokhele udwendwe. **37** SebeseSangweni loMthombo baqhubeke bakhwela izinyathelo ziyi eMzini kaDavida emqansweni oya emdulini bedlula ngephezulu kwendlu kaDavida baya eSangweni laManzi ngempumalanga. **38** Iqembu lesibili labahlabeleli lona lafulathela elakuqala laya le. Ngabalandela phezu komduli ngilengxeny yabantu, sedlula uMphotshongo waMaziko siqonda uMduli Obanzi, **39** sedlula isango lika-Efrayimi, leSango likaJeshana, isango leNhlanzi, uMphotshongo kaHananeli loMphotshongo weKhulu saze sayafika eSangweni leZimvu. ESangweni laBalindi bafika bema. **40** Amaqembu lawo abahlabeleli amabili ayesipha ukubonga asesima ezindaweni zawo endlini kaNkulunkulu; lami ngenze njalo, kanye lengxeny yezinduna, **41** labaphristi o-Eliyakhimu, loMaseya, loMijamini, loMikhaya, lo-Eliyonyayi, loZakhariya loHananiya belamacilongo abo **42** njalo loMaseya, loShemaya, lo-Eliyezari, lo-Uzi, loJehohanani, loMalikhija, lo-Elamu lo-Ezeri. Amaqembu abahlabeleli ahlabela ekhokhelwa nguJezirahiya. **43** Ngalelolanga banikela imihlatshelo emangalisayo, bethokoza ngoba uThixo wayebaphe ukuthokoza okukhulu. Abesifazane kanye labantwana labo bathokoza. Umsindo wokuthokoza eJerusalema wawuzwakala kude. **44** Ngalesosikhathi kwakhethwa amadoda ukugcina iziphala zalokho okwakulethwa, izithelo zokuqala kanye lokwetshumi. Okusuka emasimini aseduzane lamadolobho babemele bakulethe eziphaleni lezo zilinganiso ezazivumelwa nguMthetho okwabaphristi labaLevi, ngoba uJuda wayejabuliswe ngumsebenzi owawughutshwa ngamaphristi lamaLevi. **45** Bayiphatha inkonzo kaNkulunkulu wabo lenkonzo yokuhlanjululwa, njalo benzenjalo labahlabeleli kanye labalindimasango, njengemilayo kaDavida lendodana yakhe uSolomoni. **46** Ngoba kudala, ensukwini zikaDavida lo-Asafi, kwakulabaqondisi babahlabeleli labezingoma zokudumisa lokubonga uNkulunkulu. **47** Yikho ngezinsuku zikaZerubhabheli loNehemiya, ama-Israyeli onke apha isabelo

sansukuzonke esabahlabeleli labalindimasango. Baphinda njalo babeka eceleni esinye isabelo esabanye abalevi, kwathi abalevi labo bacezula okunye kwabo kwaba ngokwabosendo luka-Aroni.

13 Ngalelolanga iNcwadi kaMosi yabalelwa abantu besizwa kwafunyanwa kuyo kubhaliwe ukuthi akungabi lam'Amoni loba um'Mowabi ovunyelwa emhlanganweni kaNkulunkulu, loba sekutheni, **2** ngoba babengahlangabezanga ama-Israyeli ngokudla lamanzi kodwa bathenga uBhalamu ukuba abaqalekise. (UNkulunkulu wethu kodwa waguqula isiqalekiso leso saba yisibusiso.) **3** Kwathi abantu sebewuzwile umthetho, babasusa ko-Israyeli bonke labo ababedabuka ezizweni. **4** Mandulo kwalokhu, u-Eliyashibi umphristi nguye owayephethe iziphala zendlu kaNkulunkulu wethu. Wasuka wezwana kakhulu loThobhiya, **5** wasemlungisela indlu enkulu eyayikade isetshenziswa ukulondoloza amabele omnikele lempepha kanye lempahla zethempeli, kanye njalo lamabele awokwethumi, lewayini elitsha lamafutha, konke okwakumiswe ukuthi kube ngokwabaLevi, labahlabeleli labalindimasango, kanye lezipho eziya kubaphristi. **6** Kodwa kwathi kusenzakala konke lokhu, mina ngangingekho eJerusalem, ngoba ngomnyaka wamatshumi amathathu lambili wokubusa kuka-Athazekisisi inkosi yaseBhabhiloni ngabuyela enkosini. Muva kwalokho ngacela imvumo kuye **7** ngabuyela eJerusalem. Kulapho engafika ngabona khona ngaleyonto embi eyenziwa ngu-Eliyashibi ngokupha uThobhiya indlu emagumeni asendlini kaNkulunkulu. **8** Ngacaphuka kakhulu ngaphosela phandle zonke impahla zikaThobhiya. **9** Ngakhupha ilizwi ukuthi kazihlanjululwe izindlu, ngasengibuyisela kuzo impahla zendlini kaNkulunkulu, ndawonye lamabele omnikele lempepha. **10** Ngezwa njalo ukuthi abalevi babengaphi-wanga lokho okwakuyisabelo sabo, lokuthi bonke abalevi labahlabeleli ababeghuba inkonzo basebebuyele emasimini abo. **11** Ngazikhwazela izinduna ngazibuza ngathi, "Kungani indlu kaNkulunkulu ingasakhathalelwa na?" Ngasengibabizela ndawonye ngababeka ezindaweni zemisebenzi yabo. **12** Bonke abakojuda baletha okwethumi kwamabele, iwayini elitsha lamafutha eziphaleni. **13** Ngasengibeka uShelemiya umphristi, loZadokhi umbhali, lomLevi owayethiwa nguPhedaya ukuba baphathe iziphala, ngenza uHanani indodana kaZakhuri, indodana kaMathaniya, ukuba ngumsekeli wabo, ngoba amadoda la kwakuthiwa athembekile. Baphiwa umlandu wokwabela abafowabo isabelo sabo. **14** Ungikhumbule ngalokhu, Oh Nkulunkulu wami, ungakucitshi lokho engikwenzele indlu kaNkulunkulu wami ngokuthembeka kanye lezinkonzo ezikuyo. **15** Ngalezonsuku ngabona abantu bakoJuda bevoxa izikhanelo zewayini ngeSabatha njalo beletha amabele bewethesa kubobabhemi, kunye lewayini, lamagrebisi, lomkhiwa leminyane imithwalo. Konke lokhu babekuletha eJerusalem ngeSabatha. Ngakho-ke ngasengibaxwayisa ukuthi bangathengisi ukudla ngosuku lolo. **16** Abantu beThire ababehlala eJerusalem babeletha inhlanzi lemihlobo yonke yezimpahla bezithengisa eJerusalem ebantwini bakoJuda ngeSabatha. **17** Ngazikhuza izikhulu zakoJuda ngathi kuzo, "Manyala bani la eliwenzayo lingcolisa usuku lweSabatha na? **18** Kakusikho yini okwenziwa ngoyihlomkhulu, okwabangela ukuthi uThixo wethu, ehlisele kithi laphezu kwalelidolobho lobubunzima na? Manje selibuye lisandisa ulaka ku-Israyeli ngokugcolisa iSabatha." **19** Kwathi

nxaxaxa selimathunzi emasangweni aseJerusalem kungakabi yiSabatha, ngalaya ukuthi iminyango kayivalwe ngaze yavulwa iSabatha ize idlule. Ngamisa emasangweni abanye abantu bami ukuze kungangeni mthwalo ngosuku lweSabatha. **20** Okwezikhathi ezimbalwa abathengi labathengisi bezinhlobo zonke zezimpahla balala ngaphandle kweJerusalem. **21** Kodwa ngabaxwayisa ngathi, "Lenzelani ukulala phansi komduli na? Lingakuphinda lokhu kuzakuba lokuxabana." Kusukela kulesosikhathi kabasaphindanga beza ngeSabatha. **22** Ngasengilaya abalevi ukuthi bazihlambulule besebesiyalinda amasango ukuze kugcinwe usuku lweSabatha lungcwele. Ungikhumbule langalokhu njalo, Oh Nkulunkulu wami, njalo utshengise umusa kimi mayelana lothando lwakho olukhulu. **23** Phezu kwalokho, ngalezonsuku ngabona amadoda akoJuda ayethethe abafazi base-Ashidodi, le-Amoni laseMowabi. **24** Ingxenyane yabantwababo babekhuluma ulimi lwase-Ashidodi kumbe ulimi lwabanye abantu, bengakwazi ukukhuluma isiHebheru. **25** Ngabathethisa, ngakhuluma iziqalekiso phezu kwabo. Amanye amadoda ngawatshaya ngaze ngawasiphuna inwele zawo. Ngathi kabenze isifungo ngebizo likaNkulunkulu ngathi, "Lingendiseli amadodakazi enu emadodaneni abo, njalo lingathatheli amadodana enu amadodakazi abo futhi lani lingazithatheli wama. **26** Kwakungasimitshado enjengale yini eyenza uSolomoni inkosi yako-Israyeli yenze isono? Phakathi kwezizwe ezinengi kwakungelankosi efana laye. Wayethandwa nguNkulunkulu wakhe, njalo uNkulunkulu wamenza inkosi ka-Israyeli wonke, kodwa laye wahugelwa esonweni ngabafazi bezizweni. **27** Manje-ke sesingezwa ukuthi lani selisenza wonke amanyala la esabekayo njalo kalisathembekanga kuNkulunkulu wethu ngokuthatha abafazi bezizwe na?" **28** Omunye wamadodana kaJoyada indodana ka-Eliyashibi umphristi omkhulu wayengumkhwenyana kaSanibhalathi umHoroni. Ngahle ngamxotshela khatshana kwami. **29** Ubakhumbule, Oh Nkulunkulu wami, ngoba babungcolisile ubuphristi lesivumelwano sobuphristi lesabaLevi. **30** Ngakho ngabahlambulula abaphristi labaLevi kuzozonke izinto zezizweni, ngababela imisebenzi yabo, ngulowo waqondana lomsebenzi wakhe. **31** Ngaphinde ngenza amalungiselelo okulethwa kwenkuni ngezikhathi ezimiswiweyo, njalo lawezithelo zokuqala. Ungikhumbule ngomusa, Oh Nkulunkulu wami.

U-Esta

1 Lokhu yikho okwenzakala ngesikhathi sika-Ahasuweru, owayebusa izifunda ezingaphezu kwekhulu elilamatshumi amabili lasikhombisa kusukela e-India kuze kuyefika eTopiya. **2** Ngalesosikhathi inkosi u-Ahasuweru wayebusa esesigodlweni saseSusa, **3** kwathi ngomnyaka wesithathu wokubusa kwakhe, wenzela izikhulu zakhe kanye leziphathamandla zakhe idili elikhulu. Abakhokheli bebutho basePhezhiya labaseMediya, amakhosana, kanye lezikhulu zezifunda zonke zazikhona. **4** Okwensuku ezilikhulu lamatshumi ayisificaminwembali watshengisa ubukhulu benotho yombuso wakhe kanye lobucwazicwazi lobukhosi bombuso wakhe. **5** Kwathi lezonsuku seziphelile, inkosi yenza idili elikhulu elabakhona okwensuku eziyisikhombisa, endaweni ehonqolozelweyo esigodlweni senkosi, lisenzelwa bonke abantu abaziwayo labantukazana ababesigodlweni saseSusa. **6** Egumeni kwakulezilengiso ezimhlophe leziluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka, zibotshelwe emasongweni esiliva ngentambo zelineni elimhlophe lelembu eliyibubende ensikeni zamatshe aqinileyo. Kwakulemibhedha yegolide lesiliva phezu kwephansi elaligandlwe ngamatshe aligugu, abomvu, aluhlaza, amhlophe lamnyama lamanye adulayo. **7** Iwayini lalinathelwa ezinkezweni zegolide, inye ngayinye yehlukene kwezinye, njalo iwayini lesikhosini lalililengi, kutshengisa ukukhululeka kwesandla senkosi. **8** Ngokulaya kwenkosi, isethekeli sanye ngasinye sasikhululekile ukuthi sinathe ngokwentando yase, ngoba inkosi yayilaye zonke iziphathamandla ezazisipha iwayini ukuthi ziphe umuntu wonke njengokufisa kwakhe. **9** INdlovukazi uVashithi layo yenzela abesifazane ababesigodlweni seNkosi u-Ahasuweru idili elikhulu. **10** Ngelanga lesikhombisa, inkosi u-Ahasuweru isidakiwe ngenxa yewayini, yalaya abathenwa abayisikhombisa ababeyisebenzela, uMehumani, uBhizitha, uHaribhona, uBhigitha, u-Abhagitha, uZethari loKharikhasi, **11** ukuthi balethe kuyo iNdlovukazi uVashithi ethwele umqhele wakhe wobukhosi ukuze abukise ubuhle bakhe ebantwini kanye lezikhulwini, ngoba wayemuhle kakhulu. **12** Kodwa kwathi abathenwa beyitshela ngokulaya kwenkosi, iNdlovukazi uVashithi yala ukuya. Ngakho inkosi yathukuthela yavutha ngolaka. **13** Njengoba kwakuyinjwayelo ukuthi inkosi icebisane lezingcithi ezindabeni eziphathelene lemithetho kanye lokwahlulela, yakhuluma lamadoda ahlakaniphileyo ayezwisisa ngomumo walezozikhathi **14** njalo ayeseduzane kakhulu lenkosi kwakunguKharishena, uShethari, u-Adimatha, uThashishi, uMeresi, uMarisena loMemukhani, izikhulu eziyisikhombisa zasePhezhiya laseMediya ezazilemvumo yoyisa enkosini njalo zilezikhundla eziphakemeyo embusweni. **15** Yasibuza yathi, “Umthetho uthi kwenziwini eNdlovukazini uVashithi? Phela kayilalelanga umlayo wenkosi u-Ahasuweru awuthumele kuyo ngabathenwa.” **16** UMemukhani wasephendula phambi kwenkosi kanye lezikhulu zayo wathi, “INdlovukazi uVashithi yonile, hatshi enkosini kuphela, kodwa lasezikhulwini zonke kanye labantu bonke bezabelo zonke zeNkosi u-Ahasuweru. **17** Phela isenzo seNdlovukazi sizakwazakala kuwo wonke amakhosikazi, abesedelela omkawo esithi, ‘Inkosi u-Ahasuweru yalaya iNdlovukazi uVashithi ukuthi ilethwe phambi kwayo, kodwa yala ukuya.’ **18** Lamhlanje amakhosikazi aphakemeyo asePhezhiya kanye laseMediya asizwileyo isenzo seNdlovukazi azaphendula izikhulu zenkosi

zonke ngendlela efananayo. Kuzakuba khona ukungahloniphi kanye lengxabangozo. **19** Ngakho-ke, nxa kulungile enkosini, kakube lomthetho ozaphuma esigodlweni njalo ulotshwe emithethweni yelizwe lePhezhiya leMediya, ongeke uguqulwe njalo, ukuthi uVashithi akumelanga aphinde angene lapho okulenkosi u-Ahasuweru. Njalo inkosi kayiphe isikhundla sayo sobundlovukazi komunye ongcono kulayo. **20** Kuzakuthi nxa umthetho wenkosi umenyezela kuwo wonke umbuso wayo omkhulu, abesifazane bonke bazahlonipha omkabo kusukela komncane kusiya komkhulu.” **21** Inkosi kanye lezikhulu zayo bathokoza ngalokhu kucebisa, inkosi yasisenza khona lokho loMemukhani akucebisayo. **22** Yathumela izincwadi kuzozonke izabelo zombuso, kuleso laleso sabelo incwadi yaso ngolimi olukhulunywa kuso, kwamenezelwa ngendimi zazo ukuthi yileyo laleyo ndoda kumele ibuse umuzi wayo.

2 Emva kokuba ukuthukuthela kweNkosi u-Ahasuweru sekudedile, yamkhumbula uVashithi kanye lalokho ayekwenzile, lalokho okwakumenyezela ngaye. **2** Izinceku zenkosi zasezisithi kuyo, “Akudingelwe inkosi amantombazana agcweleyo, amahle. **3** Inkosi kayikhethe iziphathamandla kuzozonke izabelo zombuso wayo ukuthi zilethe wonke amantombazana amahle endlini yabesifazane esigodlweni saseSusa. Bafakwe ezandleni zikaHegayi, umthenwa wenkosi, okhangele abesifazane; zilungiswe kuhle njalo ziphiwe amakha okuziqhola. **4** Besekusithi intombi ethokozisa inkosi ibe yiNdlovukazi esikhundleni sikaVashithi.” Iseluleko lesi sayithokozisa inkosi, yasisilandela. **5** Kwakukhona esigodlweni saseSusa umJuda owendlu yakoBhenjamini, okwakuthiwa nguModekhayi, indodana kaJayiri, indodana kaShimeyi, indodana kaKhishi, **6** owayethunjwe eJerusalemu nguNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, kanye lojekhoniya inkosi yakajuda wayephakathi kwabathunjwayo. **7** UModekhayi wayelomzawakhe okwakuthiwa nguHadasa, amondla ngoba engelayise lonina. Intombazana le yayisaziwa langokuthi ngu-Esta, yayibukeka kakhulu, inhle njalo uModekhayi wayeyondle njengendodakazi yakhe ize ifelwe nguyise lonina. **8** Kwathi umlayo wenkosi kanye lesimiso sekumenyezela, amantombazana amanengi aletshwa esigodlweni saseSusa afakwa ezandleni zikaHegayi. U-Esta laye wathathwa wasiwa esigodlweni sobukhosi wanikelwa ngaphansi kukaHegayi, owayelinda indawo yabesifazane. **9** Intombazana le yamthokozisa wayithanda. Wahle wayinika okokuzilungisa kuhle lamakha okuziqhola kanye lokudla okuhle. Wayipha amantombazana ayisikhombisa okuyisebenzela ayekhethe esigodlweni senkosi, wayisusa kanye lamantombazana ayo, wabafaka endaweni yabesifazane enhle kakhulu. **10** U-Esta wayengavezanga ukuthi udabuka ngaphi lembali yemuli yakibo, ngoba uModekhayi wayethe angakwenzi lokho. **11** Insuku zonke uModekhayi wayehamba eduzane leguma lendlu yabesifazane ukuze ezwe ukuba u-Esta uqhuba njani lokuthi uyaphila na. **12** Intombi yayiqeda izinyanga eziyisithupha igcotshwa, ilungiswa kuhle njalo iqholwa ngamakha njengalokho okwakulungiselelwa abesifazane; izinyanga eziyisithupha igcotshwa ngamafutha emure lezinye eziyisithupha iqholwa ngamakha lokunye okokuqhola, ingakayi eNkosini u-Ahasuweru. **13** Indlela intombi eyayisiya ngayo enkosini yile: loba yini intombi eyayiyifuna yayikuphiwa ukuze ihambe lakho esigodlweni senkosi isuka endlini yabesifazane. **14** Ntambama yayisiya

esigodlweni kuthi ekuseni ibuyele kweyinye indawo yabesifazane iyelondolozwa nguShahashigazi, umthenwa wenkosi owayegcina abafazi beceleni. Wayengabuyeli enkosini ngaphandle kokuba yona ithokoza ngaye njalo imbize ngebizo lakhe. **15** Kwathi lapho ithuba lika-Esta (intombazana eyayondliwe nguModekhayi, indodakazi kamalumakhe u-Abhiyahili) selifikile ukuthi aye enkosini, kacelanga lutho ngaphandle kwalokho okwakukhulunywe nguHegayi, umthenwa wenkosi owayelondoloza abesifazane. U-Esta wathakazelelwa yibo bonke abambonayo. **16** U-Esta wasiwa enkosini ngenyanga yetshumi, inyanga yeThebhethi, ngomnyaka wesikhombisa wokubusa kweNkosi u-Ahasuweru. **17** Inkosi yakhangwa ngu-Esta kakhulukazi okwedlula abanye bonke abesifazane, njalo yamthakazelela yathokoza ngaye okwedlula zonke ezinye izintombi ezigcweleyo. Ngakho yamethesa umqhele wobukhosi yamenza waba yindlovukazi endaweni kaVashithi. **18** Inkosi yasisenza idili elikhulu kakhulu, idili lika-Esta, isenzela izikhulu kanye leziphathamanda zayo. Yamemezela usuku lwekhefu kuzozonke izabelo, yapha lezipho ngesandla esikhululekileyo sobukhosi. **19** Kwathi izintombi ezigcweleyo sezihlangene okwesibili, uModekhayi wayehlezi esangweni lenkosi. **20** U-Esta wayekwenze kwaba yimfihlo okwemuli yakhe lalapho adabuka khona njengokutshelwa kwakhe nguModekhayi ukuba akwenze, njalo waqhubeka elandela imilayo kaModekhayi njengalokhu ayekwenza esamkhulisa. **21** Ngesikhathi uModekhayi ehlezi esangweni lenkosi, abathenwa benkosi ababili ababelinda emnyango, uBhigithani loThereshi, bathukuthela baseba ukuyibulala inkosi u-Ahasuweru. **22** Kodwa uModekhayi wakuzwa ababekuceba wasetshela iNdlovukazi u-Esta, owabika lokho enkosini, ebabaza isenzo esihle sikaModekhayi. **23** Kwathi lowombiko usuhlolisisiwe kwatholakala ukuthi uliqiniso, iziphathamanda lezo zombili zalengiswa endaweni yokulenga. Konke lokhu kwalotshwa ogwalweni lwezindaba phambi kwenkosi.

3 Ngemva kwalezo zehlakalo, inkosi u-Ahasuweru wenza uHamani indodana kaHamedatha um'Agagi waba lodumo ngokumphakamisa, wamupha isikhundla esiphakemeyo, esihloniphekayo ukwedlula esezinye zezikhulu zonke. **2** Zonke iziphathamanda zesigodlweni esangweni lenkosi zaguqa phansi zamkothamela uHamani, ngoba inkosi yayilaye lokho ngaye. Kodwa uModekhayi kazange amkothamele loba amkhonze. **3** Ngakho iziphathamanda zesigodlweni esangweni lenkosi zabuza uModekhayi zisithi, "Kungani ungalaleli umlayo wenkosi?" **4** Bakhuluma laye insuku ngezinsuku kodwa wala ukwenza lokho. Ngakho bamtshela uHamani ngalokho befuna ukubona kumbe isenzo sikaModekhayi sasizakwamukeleka, ngoba wayebatsheleli ukuthi yena ungumJuda. **5** Kwathi uHamani ebona ukuthi uModekhayi kamguqeli njalo kamkhonzi, wathukuthela kakhulukazi. **6** Kwathi ngoba esekwazi ukuthi uModekhayi udabuka ngaphi, wawulahla umqondo wokubulala uModekhayi yedwa. Kodwa uHamani wadinga indlela yokubulala bonke abomhlobo kaModekhayi, amaJuda, kuwo wonke umbuso ka-Ahasuweru. **7** Ngomnyaka wetshumi lambili wokubusa kuka-Ahasuweru, ngenyanga yakuqala, inyanga ethiwa nguNisani, benza inkatho ethiwa yiphuri phambi kukaHamani ukuze bakhethe usuku lenyanga. Inkatho yadla inyanga yetshumi lambili, inyanga ethiwa yi-Adari. **8** UHamani wasesithi eNkosini

u-Ahasuweru, "Kukhona abantu abathile abahlakazeke basabalala phakathi kwabantu abasezabelweni zonke zombuso wakho abalemikhuba eyehlukene leyabantu bonke, njalo abangalaleli imithetho yenkosi. Inkosi akumelanga ibayekelele kulokho. **9** Nxa lokhu kulungile enkosini, kakube lesimemezelo somthetho wokuba babhujiswe. Mina ngizafaka phakathi kwengecebo yesigodlweni amathalenta esiliva alitshumi lenkulungwane ukuphathisa amadoda azakwenza umsebenzi lo." **10** Ngakho inkosi yakhupha indandatho yophawu lwayo emunweni yayipha uHamani indodana kaHamedatha, um'Agagi, isitha samaJuda. Inkosi yathi kuHamani, **11** "Gcina imali le, wenze ebantwini njengokuthanda kwakho." **12** Kwathi ngosuku lwetshumi lantathu ngenyanga yokuqala onobhala besigodlweni babizwa. Babhala ngokulotshwa kwesabelo sinye ngasinye njalo ngolimi lwabantu balesosabelo, yonke imilayo kaHamani eyayisiya kuziphathamanda zenkosi, ababusi bezabelo ezehlukeneyo kanye lasezikhulwini ezaziphethe abantu abehlukeneyo. Yayibhalwe ngebizo leNkosi u-Ahasuweru ngokwakhe njalo yadindwa ngophawu lwendandatho yakhe. **13** Izincwadi zathunyelwa ngezithunywa kuzozonke izabelo zenkosi kulomlayo wokuba kubhujiswe, kubulawe njalo kutshabalaliswe wonke amaJuda, abatsha labadala, abesifazane labantwana ngelanga elilodwa, ilanga letshumi lantathu lwenyanga yetshumi lambili, enyangeni ethiwa ngu-Adari, njalo lokuphanga impahla yabo. **14** Amazwi esimemezelo leso ayezakhutshwa abe ngumthetho omisiweyo kuzozonke izabelo, aziswe bonke abantu bakuzo zonke izizwe ukuze bazilungiselele lolosuku. **15** Izithunywa zakhutshwa ngumlayo wenkosi, zaphuma zakupha umthetho omisiweyo esigodlweni saseSusa. Inkosi loHamani bahlala phansi banatha, kodwa abedolobho laseSusa badideka.

4 Kwathi uModekhayi esezwile ngakho konke okwasekwenziwe, wadabula iziqgoko zakhe, wagqoka amasaka okulila, wazihluka ngomlotha, waphuma wangena phakathi komuzi ekhala kakhulu njalo kabuhlungukazi. **2** Kodwa wahamba wayafika esangweni lenkosi, ngoba akulamuntu owayeyinyelwa ukungena egqoke amasaka okulila. **3** Kuzozonke izabelo lapho isimiso somthetho lomlayo wenkosi okwafika khona, kwaba lokulila okukhulu kubajuda, bazila ukudla, bakhala njalo belila. Abanengi balala emlotheni begqoke amasaka okulila. **4** Kwathi izinceku zika-Esta kanye labathenwa bakhe befika bemtshela ngoModekhayi, waba lokudabuka okukhulu. Wamthumela izembatho zokuthi agqoke endaweni yamasaka okulila, kodwa wala ukuzamukela. **5** U-Esta wasebiza uHathakhi, omunye wabathenwa benkosi owayekhethe ukuba yinceku yakhe, wamlaya ukuba ayedingisisa lokho okwakukhathaza uModekhayi lembangela yakho. **6** Ngakho uHathakhi waya kuModekhayi egcekeni ledolobho phambi kwesongo lenkosi. **7** UModekhayi wamtshela konke okwakwenzakale kuye, kugoqela inani lemali uHamani ayethembise ukulibhadala lingene enothweni yenkosi kusenzelwa ukubhujiswa kwamajuda. **8** Wamupha njalo amazwi esimemezelo leso ayesekhutshwa abe ngumthetho omisiweyo wokubhujiswa kwabo, owawumenyazelwe eSusa, ukuze awutshengise u-Esta njalo amchazele ngawo; njalo wamtshela ukuthi amkhuthaze ukuba aye enkosini ukuyacela isihawu sayo encengela abantu bakibo. **9** UHathakhi wabuyela wayamtshela u-Esta lokho okwakukhulunywe nguModekhayi. **10** Yena wasemlaya ukuba

athi kuModekhayi, **11** “Zonke iziphathamandla zenkosi kanye labasezigidlweni ezabelweni bayakwazi ukuthi inkosi ilomthetho owodwa zwi kuloba yiphi indoda loba owesifazane osondela enkosini angene endlini ephakathi engabizwanga; kufanele abulawe, ngaphandle kokuba inkosi yelule intonga yayo yegolide imkhombe ngayo ukuze impilo yakhe iphephe. Kodwa, sekwedule amalanga angamatshumi amathathu selokhu ngacina ukubizelwa enkosini.” **12** Kwathi amazwi ka-Esta ebikwa kuModekhayi, **13** waphendula wathi: “Ungacabangi ukuthi ngoba wena usendlini yenkosi nguwe wedwa kuwo wonke amaJuda ozaphepha. **14** Nxa ungala uthule ngalesisikhathi, usizo lokukhululwa kwamajuda kuzavela kwenye indawo, kodwa wena kanye lemuli kayihlo lizabhubha. Njalo kwazi bani, ukuthi uze kulesi sikhundla sobukhosi ngenxa yesikhathi esinjengalesi na?” **15** U-Esta wasethumela impendulo le kuModekhayi: **16** “Hamba uyebuthanisa ndawonye wonke amaJuda aseSusa, lingizilele ukudla. Lingaze ladla loba ukunatha okwensuku ezintathu, ebusuku lemini. Mina kanye lezincekukazi zami sizazila njengani. Nxa lokhu sekwenziwe, ngizakuya enkosini loba nje lokho kungekho emthethweni. Nxa ngisifa, ngiyabe ngifile.” **17** Ngakho uModekhayi wasuka wayakwenza lokho okwakulaywe ngu-Esta.

5 Ngelanga lesithathu u-Esta wagqoka izembatho zakhe zobukhosi wema enkundleni engaphakathi kwesigodlo phambi kwendlu yenkosi. Inkosi yayihlezi esihlalweni sayo sobukhosi endlini yayo, ikhangele emnyango. **2** Yathi ibona iNdlovukazi u-Esta imi enkundleni, yathokoza ngaye, yasiselula intonga yayo yegolide eyayisesandleni sayo, yamkhomba ngayo. U-Esta wasesondela wathinta isihloko sentonga. **3** Inkosi yasibuzisa yathi, “Kutheni Ndlovukazi Esta? Siyini isicelo sakho na? Uzanikwa loba yini, okungafika kungxenywe yombuso.” **4** U-Esta wathi, “Nxa inkosi ithokoza ngalokhu, bengicela ukuthi inkosi kanye loHamani beze lamhla edilini engililungise yona.” **5** Inkosi yathi, “UHamani keze khathesi, ukuze kwenziwe okucelwa ngu-Esta.” Inkosi loHamani baya edilini elalilungiswe ngu-Esta. **6** Kwathi besanatha iwayini, inkosi yambuzisa njalo u-Esta yathi, “Siyini isicelo sakho? Uzakukwamukeliswa. Kuyini okucelayo na? Uzanikwa loba yini okungafika kungxenywe yombuso.” **7** U-Esta waphendula wathi, “Isikhhalazo sami lesicelo sami yilokhu: **8** Nxa inkosi ingamukela ngomusa njalo nxa inkosi ithokoza ngokwamukela isikhhalazo sami njalo igcwalise isicelo sami, bengicela ukuthi inkosi kanye loHamani kusasa beze edilini engizabalungisela lona. Kulapho engizaphendula okubuzwe yinkosi.” **9** UHamani wasuka lapho mhlalokho ethabe kakhulukazi. Kodwa uthe ebona uModekhayi esesangweni lenkosi wananzelela ukuthi kamsukumeli loba ukutshengisa ukwesaba phambi kwakhe, wagcwalelana ngokumthukuthela uModekhayi. **10** Kodwa wazibamba waya emzini wakhe, wabiza abangane bakhe ndawonye kanye loZereshi umkakhe, **11** uHamani wasezincoma kubo ngenotho yakhe enengi, langamadodana akhe amanengi, kanye lazozonke izindlela inkosi eyayimhlonipha ngazo lokuthi imphakamise yambeka phezu kwezinye izikhulu leziphathamandla. **12** UHamani wengeza wathi, “Njalo akusikho kodwa lokhu. Yimi ngedwa zwi umuntu omenywe yiNdlovukazi u-Esta ukuba ngiphelekezele inkosi edilini elenzileyo. Njalo usenginxusile kanye lenkosi kusasa. **13** Kodwa konke lokhu akungisuthisi ikakhulu nxa ngilokhu ngibona umJuda loya onguModekhayi ehlezi esangweni

lenkosi.” **14** Umkakhe uZereshi kanye labangane bakhe bonke bathi kuye, “Yenza indawo yokulengisa abantu, ibe zingalo ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa lanhlanu ubude, ubusucela inkosi ekuseni ukuba ilengise uModekhayi lapho. Ube usuziyela edilini uchelesile.” Umcabango lo wamthokozisa kakhulu uHamani, yasisakhiwa indawo yokulengisa.

6 Ngalobobusuku inkosi yaswela ubuthongo; ngakho yalaya ukuba kulethwe kuyo ugwalo lwemiLando, imibhalo yombuso wayo, izobalelwa. **2** Kwatholalaka imibhalweni ukuba uModekhayi wayeveze ukuba uBhigithani loThereshi, abathenwa benkosi ababelinda entubeni, babecebe ukubulala inkosi u-Ahasuweru. **3** Inkosi yathi, “UModekhayi wazuza dumo bani lokwaziwa ngalokhu?” Izinceku zenkosi zathi, “Akulalutho alenzelwayo.” **4** Inkosi yasisithi, “Ngubani osenkundleni na?” UHamani wayesanda kungena enkundleni yangaphandle yesigodlo ezokhuluma lenkosi mayelana lokulengisa uModekhayi endaweni ayeyakhele lokho. **5** Izinceku zayo zathi, “UHamani umi enkundleni.” Inkosi yalaya yathi, “Mngeniseni.” **6** UHamani esengenile, inkosi yathi kuye, “Kuyini okungenzelwa umuntu inkosi ethokoza ngaye ukuba imuphe udumo?” UHamani wacabanga ngaphakathi wathi, “Kambe ngubani ongaphiwa udumo yinkosi ngaphandle kwami?” **7** Ngakho waphendula inkosi wathi, “Emuntwini inkosi ethokoza ngaye ukuba imuphe udumo, **8** kabamlethele isembatho sobukhosi esesake sagqoka yinkosi kanye lebhiza eselake lagadwa yinkosi, elilomqhele wobukhosi ekhanda lalo. **9** Isembatho lesi kanye lebhiza kakube sezandleni zesinye sezikhulu zenkosi ezihloniphekayo kakhulu. Umuntu lo inkosi ethokoza ngaye efuna ukumupha udumo kagqokiswe lezozembatho, abesekhokhela edabula phakathi kwemigwaqo yedolobho egade ibhiza, kumenyewe phambi kwakhe ukuthi, ‘Lokhu yikho okwenziwa emuntwini inkosi ethokoza ngaye ukuba imuphe udumo!’” **10** Inkosi yasilaya uHamani yathi, “Hamba khona manje uyethatha izembatho kanye lebhiza wenze njengokucebisa kwakho kuModekhayi umJuda ohlezi esangweni lenkosi. Ungaze watshiya loba yikuphi okuqambileyo.” **11** UHamani wasethatha izembatho kanye lebhiza. Wamgqokisa uModekhayi, wasemkhokhela ephezu kwebhiza, wadabula imigwaqo yedolobho, ehamba ememeza esithi, “Lokhu yikho okwenziwa emuntwini inkosi ethokoza ngaye ukuba imuphe udumo!” **12** Ngemva kwalokho uModekhayi wabuyela esangweni lenkosi. Kodwa uHamani watshitsha waya ngekheya, emboze ikhanda ngosizi, **13** watshela uZereshi umkakhe kanye labangane bakhe bonke ngakho konke okwakumehlele. Abeluleki bakhe lomkakhe uZereshi bathi kuye, “Njengoba uModekhayi osuqale ukuba phambi kwakhe engumJuda ngokwemvelo, awungeke umelane laye, uzatshabalala ngempela.” **14** Kwathi besakhuluma laye, kwafika abathenwa benkosi bamthatha masinyane ukuya edilini elalilungiswe ngu-Esta.

7 Inkosi loHamani basebesiyakudla leNdlovukazi u-Esta, **2** kwathi besanatha iwayini ngalelolanga lesibili, inkosi yabuzisa njalo yathi, “Ndlovukazi Esta, kuyini okucelayo na? Uzakukwamukeliswa. Kuyini okucelayo na? Uzanikwa loba yini okungafika kungxenywe yombuso.” **3** I Ndlovukazi yaphendula yathi, “Nxa ngifumene umusa kuwe nkosi, njalo nxa inkosi kuyithokozisa, bengicela ukuphila, yiso isicelo sami lesi. **4** Ngoba mina kanye labantu bakithi sithengisiwe ukuze sichithwe njalo sibulawe ukuze singabikhona emhlabeni. Ngabe

besimane sathengiswa njengezigqili zesilisa lezesifazane, bengizazithulela, ngoba akulahlupho olunje olungabangela ukuthi inkosi iphanjaniswe.” **5** Inkosi u-Ahasuweru wathi ku-Esta iNdlovukazi, “Ngubani lowo? Ungaphi umuntu obelesibindi sokwenza into enje?” **6** U-Esta wathi, “Isitha lomuntu ololunya nguyenalo uHamani olomona.” UHamani wasethuthumela phambi kwenkosi lendlovukazi. **7** Inkosi yasukuma igcwele ulaka yatshiya iwayini layo yaya phandle esivandeni sesigodlo. Kwathi uHamani ebona ukuthi inkosi yayisiyenze isinqumo ngempilo yakhe, wasala ngemuva ukuba azincengele impilo yakhe eNdlovukazini u-Esta. **8** Kwathi inkosi isiphendukile esivandeni sesigodlo ingena endlini yedili, yathola uHamani eziphosa esihlalweni lapho u-Esta ayehelezi khona. Inkosi yababaza yathi, “Kambe ungadlova indlovukazi ngikhonapha endlini na!” Kwathi ilizwi lelo liphuma emlonyeni wenkosi, bagubuzela ubuso bukaHamani. **9** Kwathi uHaribhona, omunye wabathenwa ababesenzela inkosi wathi, “Kulensika yokulengisa abantu ephakeme okuzingalo ezingamatshumi amahlanu emiswe eduze lendlu kaHamani. Yena ubeyenzele uModekhayi, owaveza icebo elibi ukusiza inkosi.” Inkosi yathi, “Mlengiseni kuyo!” **10** Bamlengisa kuleyonsika ayeyilungisele ukulengisa uModekhayi. Ulaka lwenkosi lwaseludeda.

8 Mhlalokho inkosi u-Ahasuweru yanika iNdlovukazi u-Esta impahla kaHamani, isitha samaJuda. UModekhayi weza phambi kwenkosi, ngoba u-Esta wayesechazile ngobuhlobo babo. **2** Inkosi yakhupha indandatho yayo yophawu lobukhosi, eyayisiyithathele uHamani, yayipha uModekhayi. U-Esta wamkhettha uModekhayi ukuba aphaathe impahla kaHamani. **3** U-Esta wabuye wancenga enkosini, eziwile ezinyaweni zayo njalo ekhala. Wayicela ukuba inqabele icebo elibi likaHamani um’Agagi, ayelicebe ngamaJuda. **4** Inkosi yasiselulela intonga yayo yegolide ku-Esta owasukuma wama phambi kwayo. **5** Wathi, “Nxa kuyithokozisa inkosi, njalo nxa ingamukela ngokuthokoza ibona kuyinto efanele ukwenziwa, njalo nxa ithokoza ngami, akubhalwe umlayo ozachitha izincwadi ezalotshwa nguHamani indodana kaHamedatha, um’Agagi, ezazibhalwe ngezimiso zokuchitha amaJuda kuzozonke izabelo zenkosi. **6** Kambe kungavuma njani ukubona incithakalo isehlela abantu bakithi? Kungavuma njani ukuba ngibone incithakalo yemuli yakithi?” **7** Inkosi u-Ahasuweru waphendula iNdlovukazi loModekhayi umjuda ngokuthi, “Ngoba uHamani ehlasela amaJuda, sengiphe u-Esta impahla yakhe, njalo sebemlengise esakhiweni sokulengisa. **8** Ngakho-ke bhala omunye umlayo ngebizo lenkosi usenzela amaJuda njengokubona kwakho, ubusuyingcina ngophawu lwendandatho yenkosi, ngoba awukho umbiko olotshwe ngebizo lenkosi wangcinwa ngophawu lwendandatho yayo ongadilizwa.” **9** Onobhala besigodlweni bahle babizwa masinyane, ngelanga lamatshumi amabili lantathu ngenyanga yesithathu, inyanga ethiwa nguSivana. Babhala yonke imilayo kaModekhayi kumaJuda, lakuziphathamandla, kubabusi lakuzikhulu kuzozonke izabelo ezilikhulu elilamatshumi amabili lesikhombisa kusukela e-Indiya kuze kuyefika eTopiya. Imilayo leyo yayibhalwe ngombhalo walelo lalelo lizwe ngolimi lwalababantu njalo lakubajuda ngombhalo wabo lolimi lwabo. **10** UModekhayi wabhala ngebizo lenkosi u-Ahasuweru, wangcina izincwadi lezo ngophawu lwendandatho yenkosi, wathuma izithunywa ezazigada amabhiza ayelesiqubu efuyelwe ukusetshenziswa yinkosi. **11** Isimiso somlayo

wenkosi sasinika amaJuda kuwo wonke amadolobho imvumo yokuhlangana lokuzivikela; ukuchitha, ukubulala babhubhise yonke impi ehlo mileyo eyaloba yisiphi isizwe loba isifunda esasingabahlasela kanye labesifazane labantwana; lokuthi baphange impahla yezitha zabo. **12** Ilanga elamiswayo ukuba amaJuda enze lokho kuzozonke izabelo zeNkosi u-Ahasuweru lalingelelthumi lantathu ngenyanga yetshumi lambili, inyanga ethiwa ngu-Adari. **13** Isimiso somlayo lowo sazizakhutshwa sibe ngumthetho kuzozonke izabelo, umenyezwe ebantwini bezizwe zonke ukuze amaJuda ahlafe elungele ngalelolanga ukuphindisela ezitheni zabo. **14** Izithunywa zaphuma ngokuphangisa zigade amabhiza esigodlweni, zifuzqwa ngumlayo wenkosi. Isimiso somlayo samenyezwele edolobheni laseSusa. **15** UModekhayi wasuka phambi kwenkosi egqoke izembatho zobukhosi ezilombala oluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka lomhlophe, umqhele wegolide omkhulu kanye lesembatho esiyibubende eselembu lenelini elihle. Kwaba ledili lentokozo edolobheni laseSusa. **16** Kwaba yisikhathi sokuthaba lokuthokoza, injabulo lodumo kubajuda. **17** Kuzozonke izabelo lakuwo wonke amadolobho, ingqe lapho isimiso somlayo wenkosi esaya khona, kwaba lentokozo lenjabulo kubaJuda, kwaba lamadili kwadliwa. Abantu abanengi bakwezinye izizwe baba ngabajuda ngenxa yokwesaba amaJuda.

9 Ngelanga letshumi lantathu ngenyanga yetshumi lambili, inyanga ethiwa ngu-Adari, isimemezelo somlayo wenkosi kwakufanele senziwe. Ngalelilanga izitha zamaJuda zazisithi zizakuwanqoba, kodwa akusayanga njengokucabangela kwabo ngoba amaJuda aba yiwo anqobayo. **2** AmaJuda abuthana emadolobheni awo kuzozonke izabelo zeNkosi u-Ahasuweru ukuhlasela labo ababefuna ukubachitha. Kakho owayengamelana labo, ngoba abantu bezizwe zonke ezinye babebesaba. **3** Ngakho zonke izikhulu zezabelo, iziphathamandla, ababusi kanye lezisebenzi zenkosi bancedisa amaJuda, ngoba besesaba uModekhayi. **4** UModekhayi wayesengumuntu omkhulu esigodlweni; udumo lwakhe lwamemetheka kuzozonke izabelo, waba lamandla amakhulu kakhulu. **5** AmaJuda acakaza izitha zabo zonke ngenkemba, enza intando yawo ezitheni ezaziwazonda. **6** Esigodlweni saseSusa, amaJuda abulala njalo achitha amadoda angamakhulu amahlanu. **7** Abulala njalo uPharishandatha, uDalifoni, u-Asiphatha, **8** u-Phoratha, u-Adaliya, u-Aridatha, **9** uPharimashitha, u-Arisayi, u-Aridayi loVayizatha, **10** amadodana alitshumi kaHamani indodana kaHamedatha, isitha samaJuda. Kodwa abazange bayithathe impango. **11** Inani lalabo ababulawayo esigodlweni saseSusa labikwa enkosini ngalelolanga. **12** Inkosi yathi eNdlovukazini u-Esta, “AmaJuda asebulale njalo achitha amadoda angamakhulu amahlanu kanye lamadodana kaHamani alitshumi angqbeni yaseSusa. Kuyini asebekwenze kwezinye izabelo zenkosi? Tshono, siyini isicelo sakho? Uzakunikwa. Kuyini okucelayo na? Lakho uzakwenzelwa.” **13** U-Esta wathi, “Nxa kuyithokozisa inkosi, phana imvumo kubajuda abaseSusa ukuthi benze isimiso somlayo lo kusasa njalo uvumele ukuba amadodana kaHamani alitshumi alengiswe esakhiweni sokulengisa.” **14** Inkosi yalaya ukuba kwenziwe lokho. Isimiso somlayo samenyezwele eSusa, alengiswa amadodana kaHamani alitshumi. **15** AmaJuda aseSusa ahlalanga ndawonye ngelanga letshumi lane ngenyanga ethiwa ngu-Adari, abulala amadoda

angamakhulu amathathu eSusa, kodwa abazange bayithinte impango. **16** Kusenjalo, amajuda ayesele ezabelweni zenkosi ahlanguka ukuba azivikele lokuthi athole ukuphumula ezitheni zawo. Abulala izinkulungwane ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa lanhlano kodwa kawazange ayithinte impango. **17** Lokhu kwenzakala ngelanga letshumi lantathu ngenyanga ethiwa ngu-Adari, kwathi ngelanga letshumi lane aphumula alenza ilanga lentokozo ledili. **18** Amajuda aseSusa wona ayehlangene ngelanga letshumi lantathu leletshumi lane, kwathi ngeletshumi lanhlano aphumula alenza laba lilanga lentokozo lokudla. **19** Yikho amajuda ahlala emaphandleni lemezini engelamithangala ethakazelela usuku lwetshumi lane olwenyanga ka-Adari njengenganga lentokozo ledili, ilanga lokuphana iziphohlo. **20** UModekhayi wabhala ngalezizinto, wasethumela izincwadi kuwo wonke amajuda kuzozonke izabelo zeNkosi u-Ahasuweru, eziseduze lezikhathshana, **21** ukuthi babeledili lokuthokoza minyaka yonke ngamalanga etshumi lane letshumi lanhlano enyangezeni ethiwa ngu-Adari **22** kube yisikhumbuzo sesikhathi lapho amajuda athola khona ukuphumula ezitheni zawo, njalo kuyinyanga lapho usizi lwaba yintokozo lokulila kwaba lilanga lokujabula. Wawabhalela ukuba akhumbule lawo malanga abe zinsuku zokuthokoza lamadili njalo aphanane iziphohlo zokudla kanye lokupha abayanga iziphohlo. **23** Ngakho amajuda avuma ukuqhubeka ngamadili entokozo ayewaqalile, esenza lokho uModekhayi ayewabhalele ngakho. **24** Ngoba uHamani indodana kaHamedatha, um'Agagi, isitha samaJuda wonke, wayecebe ukuwachitha amajuda njalo wayenze inkatho okuthiwa yiphuri eyadala ukubhujiswa lencithakalo yawo. **25** Kodwa kwathi icebo lelo selivelile enkosini, yathumela imilayo ebhaliweyo ukuthi amaqhinga amabi kaHamani ayekade ewamisele amajuda acine esephendukela yena, njalo yena lamadodana akhe balengiswe endaweni eyakhelwe lokho. **26** (Ngakho amalanga lawo athiwa yiPhurimi, kusuka ebizweni elithi phuri.) Ngenxa yakho konke okubhalwe encwadini le lakho konke ababekubonile lokwakwenzakale kubo, **27** amajuda akwenza umlandu wawo ukuthi aqalise umkhuba wokuthi wona kanye lezizukulwane zawo labo bonke abahlanganyela lawo kumele loba kutheni baphumule ngezinsuku lezi ezimbili minyaka yonke, ngendlela eyayimisiwe langesikhathi esasiqanjwe. **28** Amalanga la kumele akhunjulwe njalo alandelwe kuzozonke izizukulwane zezimuli zonke, ezifundeni zonke lemadolobheni wonke. Akumelanga amalanga ePhurimi la ayekelwe ukuthakazelelwa ngamajuda, loba ukuthi isikhumbuzo sawo sikhohlakale kumbe sitshabalale kuzizukulwane zawo. **29** Ngakho, iNdllovukazi u-Esta, indodakazi ka-Abhihayili, kanye loModekhayi umJuda, babhala ngegunya langamandla amakhulu beqinisekisa incwadi yesibili eyayimayelana lePhurimi. **30** UModekhayi wathumela izincwadi kubo bonke abangamajuda ezifundeni ezilikhulu elilamatshumi amabili lesikhombisa embusweni ka-Ahasuweru, amazwi okubafisela ukuthula lokubaqinisa, **31** ukuba lezinsuku zePhurimi ngezikhathi ezazimisiwe, njengokumemezela kukaModekhayi umJuda leNdllovukazi u-Esta, lanjengalokhu ababeziqalise khona kanye lezizukulwane zabo mayelana lezikhathi zokuzila lokulila. **32** Isimemezelo sika-Esta saqinisa imithetho le emayelana lePhurimi, kwalotshwa phansi emibhalweni.

2 Zonke izenzo zamandla akhe amakhulu, kanye lemibhalo elandisa ngobukhulu bukaModekhayi inkosi eyayimphakamise ngabo, akulotshwanga na egwalweni lwemiLando yamakhosi aseMediya lasePhezhiya? **3** UModekhayi umJuda wayelandela inkosi u-Ahasuweru esikhundleni embusweni, engumhlonitshwa omkhulu phakathi kwamajuda, njalo eqakathekiswa ngabanengi kubajuda bakibo, ngoba wayesebenzela ukuphila kule kwabantu bakibo njalo wayemela inhlalakahle yawo wonke amajuda.

10 Inkosi u-Ahasuweru wenza isinqumo sokuthelisa abantu kuwo wonke umbuso lasemikhunjini ekhathshana.

UJobe

1 Elizweni lase-Uzi kwakuhlala indoda eyayithiwa nguJobe. Indoda le yayingelasi, iqotho; yayimesaba uNkulunkulu njalo ikuxwaya okubi. **2** Yayilamadodana ayisikhombisa lamadodakazi amathathu, **3** ilezimvu eziyizinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa, amakamela azinkulungwane ezintathu, izipani zenkabi ezingamakhulu amahlanu labobabehmi abangamakhulu amahlanu, njalo ilezisebenzi ezinengi. Yayinothiile kulabo bonke abantu beMpumalanga. **4** Amadodana akhe ayesenza amazopho okwenza amadili okuthakazelela amalanga okuzalwa kwawo ezindlini zawo, anxuse odadewabo bobathathu ukuzakudla anathe labo. **5** Kwakusithi mhla idili liphela, uJobe wayewabiza azowahlambulula. Ekuseni kakhulu wayesenza umnikelo wokuthiswa wamunye ngamunye esithi, “Mhlawumbe abantwabami benzile isono bathuka uNkulunkulu ezinhliziyweni zabo.” Lo waba ngumkhuba wakhe uJobe. **6** Ngelinye ilanga izingilosi zeza ukuzezethula phambi kukaThixo, loSathane weza lazo. **7** UThixo wathi kuSathane, “Uvela ngaphi?” USathane wamphendula uThixo wathi, “Ngivela ekuzulazuleni emhlabeni, ngihambahamba ngisiya le lale.” **8** UThixo wasesithi kuSathane, “Usuke wayinanzelela yini inceku yami uJobe? Kakho emhlabeni onjengaye; kalasici, uqondile, indoda emesabayo uNkulunkulu, exwaya okubi.” **9** USathane waphendula wathi, “Kambe uJobe umesaba kungelasizatho na uNkulunkulu?” **10** Kawumbiyelanga ngothango yini yena lendlu yakhe, kanye lakho konke alakho? Uwubusisile umsebenzi wezandla zakhe kuze kuthi imihlambi yakhe yezimvu leyenkomo igcwalile ilizwe lonke. **11** Kodwa ake welule isandla sakho uchithe konke alakho, uzabona uzakuthuka ebusweni bakho.” **12** UThixo wathi kuSathane, “Kulungile, konke alakho kusezandleni zakho, kodwa yena ngokwakhe ungamthinti.” USathane wasesuka phambi kukaThixo. **13** Ngelinye ilanga amadodana kaJobe lamadodakazi akhe ayezitika ngokudla, enatha iwayini endlini yomnewabo omdala, **14** isithunywa safika kaJobe sathi, “Inkabi bezilima labobabehmi besidla eduze khonapho, **15** kwafika amaSabhini ahlasele aqhuba konke ahamba. Izisebenzi azicakazile ngenkamba kwasala mina ngedwa engisindileyo ukuzakubikela!” **16** Sisakhuluma esinye isithunywa safika sathi, “Umlilo kaNkulunkulu wehle uvela ezulwini wazitshisa izimvu lezisebenzi, kusele mina ngedwa engisindileyo ukuzakubikela!” **17** Elokhu esakhuluma kwafika esinye isithunywa sathi, “AmaKhaladiya abe ngamaqembu amathathu ehlela emakameleni akho awaqhuba ahamba lawo. Izisebenzi azicakazile ngenkamba kwasala mina ngedwa ukuzakubikela!” **18** Elokhu esakhuluma kwafika njalo esinye isithunywa sathi, “Amadodana lamadodakazi akho abesidla edilini enatha iwayini endlini yomnewabo omdala, **19** kwathi masinyane vungu isavunguzane siqhamuka enkangala saphekula amagumbi womane endlu. Yathi mbo phezu kwabo bahle bafa, kwasala mina ngedwa ukuzakubikela!” **20** Ekuzwa lokho uJobe wasukuma wadabula isembatho sakhe, waphuca ikhanda lakhe. Wazilahla phansi wakhonza **21** wathi: “Ngaphuma ngize esiswini sikamama, njalo ngizasuka ngize. UThixo wapha njalo usethe; kalidunyiswe ibizo likaThixo.” **22** Phakathi kwakho konke lokhu uJobe kazange enze isono ngokubeka umlandu wokuthi athi uNkulunkulu wonile.

2 Kwelinye ilanga njalo izingilosi zeza phambi kukaThixo, loSathane laye weza lazo ukuzezethula kuye. **2** UThixo wasesithi kuSathane, “Uvela ngaphi?” USathane wamphendula wathi, “Ngivela ekuzulazuleni emhlabeni, ngihambahamba ngisiya le lale kuwo.” **3** UThixo wasesithi kuSathane, “Usuke wayinanzelela yini inceku yami uJobe? Kakho emhlabeni onjengaye; kalasici, uqondile, indoda emesabayo uNkulunkulu, exwaya okubi. Ulokhu emi kubo ubuqotho bakhe lanxa wangiphoka ukuthi ngimdilize kungelasizatho.” **4** USathane waphendula wathi, “Isikhumba ngesikhumba! Umuntu anganikela loba yini alayo ukusiza impilo yakhe. **5** Kodwa yelula isandla sakho umtshaye inyama lamathambo akhe, uzabona uzakuthuka ebusweni bakho.” **6** UThixo wathi kuSathane, “Kulungile, usezandleni zakho, kodwa ungayithinti impilo yakhe.” **7** Ngakho uSathane wasesuka phambi kukaThixo wathela uJobe izilonda ezibuhlungu kusukela ngaphansi kwezinyawo zakhe kusiyafika esicholo sekhanda lakhe. **8** UJobe wasethatha ucezu lodengezi wazihwaya ngalo ehlezi esilontheni. **9** Umkakhe wathi kuye, “Ulokhu ubambelele kubo ubuqotho bakho na? Mthuke uNkulunkulu uzifele!” **10** Wamphendula wathi, “Ukhuluma njengomfazi oyiisiwula. Sizakwamukela okuhle kuNkulunkulu singalwamukeli uhluho na?” Kukho konke lokhu uJobe kenzanga isono ngakutshoyo. **11** Kwathi abangane bakajobe abathathu, u-Elifazi umThemani, uBhilidadi umShuhi loZofari umNahama sebezile ngazonke inhluho ezazimwele, basuka emakhaya abo bahlangana bavumelana ukuthi bahambe bayomqinisa njalo bamduduze. **12** Bathi bembona besebucwala kabaze bamazi; baqhinqa isililo, badabula izembatho zabo, bathela uthuli emakhanda abo. **13** Basebhlala phansi laye okwensuku eziyisikhombisa lobusuku obuyisikhombisa. Kakho kubo owatsho ulutho kuye ngoba babona ubuhlungu obukhulu ayephakathi kwabo.

3 Ngemva kwalokho uJobe wavula umlomo wakhe waliqalekisa ilanga azalwa ngalo. **2** Wathi: **3** “Sengathi ilanga lokuzalwa kwami lingatshabalala, labobobusuku okwathiwa, ‘Kuzelwe umfana!’ **4** Lolosuku sengathi lungaphenduka ubumnyama; sengathi uNkulunkulu opezulu angangalunazi; lokukhanya kucime ngalo. **5** Sengathi ubumnyama lethunzi elikhulu kungaluginya njalo; sengathi iyezi lingalusibekela; sengathi umnyama ungalugubuzela. **6** Lobobusuku, sengathi ubumnyama lungabuthi wjamu; sengathi bungayekelwa ukubalwa kanye lezinsuku zomnyaka futhi bungangeniswa lakuyiphi inyanga. **7** Sengathi lobobusuku bungaba yinyumba; sengathi kungeze kwezwakala umsindo wentokozo ngalo. **8** Sengathi labo abaqalekisa insuku bangaluqalekisa lolosuku, labo abazimisele ukuhlokoza uLeviyathani. **9** Sengathi izinkanyezi zalo zokusa zingafiphalu; lulindele imini kuye bize lungayiboni imisebe yokuqala yokusa, **10** ngoba kaluyivalanga iminyango yesibelethe ngisiza ukufihla uhluho emehlweni ami. **11** Kungani ngingafanga ngizalwa, ngahle ngacitsha ngisaphuma esiswini na? **12** Kungani kwaba lamadolo okungemukela lamabele okungimunyisa na? **13** Ngoba manje ngabe ngilele ekuthuleni; ngabe ngisebuthongweni ekuphumuleni **14** kanye lamakhosi lababusi bomhlaba, ababezakhele izindawo okwamanje sezingamanxiwa, **15** kanye lamakhosana ayelegolide, egcwalise izindlu zawo ngesiliva. **16** Kumbekungani ngingathukuzwanga emhlabathini njengomphunzo na, njengosane oluvele lungazange lubone ukukhanya kosuku? **17** Khonale ababi kabasaxokozeli, njalo khonale

abakhathelayo basekuphumuleni. **18** Abathunjiweyo labo bazuya ukukhululeka; kabasakuzwa ukuhaladwa ngumtshayeli wabathunjiweyo. **19** Abantukazana lezikhulu bakhonale, lesigqili siyakhululwa enkosini yaso. **20** Kungani ukukhanya kuphiwa labo abasosizini na, lokuphila kulabo abalobuhlungu emphefumulweni, **21** kulabo abakhalela ukufa okungafikiyo, abakuthingathayo ukwedlula ingcebo efihliweyo, **22** abaphuphuma ngenjabulo bathokoza nxa sebefika engcwabeni? **23** Kungani impilo iphiwa umuntu ondlela yakhe ifihliwe, uNkulunkulu amhonqolozelayo na? **24** Ngoba ukububela sokuphenduke ukudla kwami kwansukuzonke; ukugomela kwami kuthululeka njengamanzi. **25** Ebengikwesaba sekungehle, obekungitshayisa ngovalo sekwenzakele kimi. **26** Kangilakho ukuchelesa, kangilakho ukuthula; kangilakuphumula, kodwa ukuhlupheka kuphela.”

4 Wasephendula u-Elifazi umThemani wathi: **2** “Nxa umuntu angaphosa ilizwi nje kuwe uzacunuka na? Kodwa ngubani ongathula angakhulumi na? **3** Khumbula ukuthi sewabafundisa njani abanengi, ukuthi ubaqinise njani abalezandla ezibuthakatha. **4** Amazwi akho abasekele labo abakhubekayo; uwaqinisele amadolo axegayo. **5** Kodwa manje uhlupho luze kuwe, usuphela amandla; lukutshaya ubusudela ithemba. **6** Kungani ukukholwa kwakho kungabi yiso isibindi sakho na lezindlela zakho ezimsulwa zibe lithemba lakho na? **7** Khumbula manje: Ngubani owathi engelacala wabhubha na? Kungaphi lapho abaqotho abake babhujiswa khona na? **8** Ngokubona kwami labo abalima okubi lalabo abahlanyela ububi bavuna bona. **9** Ngokuphefumula kukaNkulunkulu bayabhubha; ngokukhwa kolaka lwakhe bayafa. **10** Izilwane zingabhonga zihwabhe, kodwa amazinyo ezilwane ezinkulu ayephuka. **11** Isilwane siyafa ngokuswela ukudla besekuthi imidlwane yesilwanekazi ihlakazake. **12** Kulethwe ilizwi kimi ngasese, indlebe zami zilizwile linyenyezwa. **13** Phakathi kwamaphupho adungayo ebusuku, lapho abantu belele obukabhuka, **14** ukwesaba lokuthuthumela kwangifikela kwenza wonke amathambo ami aqhaqhazela. **15** Kwathi tshazi umoya emehlweni ami, wahlasimula umzimba wami lenwele zami zema. **16** Umoya lowo wema, kodwa kangikwazanga ukuthi kuyini. Kwakumi into phambi kwamehlho ami, ngasengisizwa ilizwi elihlezayo: **17** ‘Kambe umuntu angalunga ukwedlula uNkulunkulu na? Umuntu angahlanzeka kuloMenzi wakhe na? **18** Nxa uNkulunkulu engazethembi izinceku zakhe, nxa ebeka izingilosi zakhe umlandu ngokona, **19** pho-ke kuzakuba njani kulabo abahlala ezindlini zodaka, ozisekelo zazo zisothulini, abahlifizeka lula njengenondo! **20** Phakathi kokusa lokuhlwa bayabhidliza babe yizincucu; bengananzwa langubani, bayabhubha kokuphela. **21** Izintambo zamatende abo kazidonswa na, bafe bengelalwazi?’”

5 “Memeza nxa uthanda, kodwa ngubani ozakuphendula na? Uzaphendukela kuwuphi wabangcwele na? **2** Ukucaphuka kuyasibulala isiwula lomhawu uyamqeda oyisithutha. **3** Mina ngokwami sengasibona isiwula siphumelela, kodwa masinyane nje indlu yaso yayisiqalekisiwe. **4** Abantwabaso kabavikelekanga lakancinyane, baphoselwa entolongweni bengelamvikeli. **5** Abalambileyo bayazidla isivuno sakhe, besithatha kanye lasemveni, labomileyo bahahabela inotho yakhe. **6** Ngoba ubunzima kabugobhozi emhlabathini, loba uhlupho luhlume phansi. **7** Kodwa umuntu uzalelwa ukuhlupheka njengoba ngeqiniso inhlansi zomlilo ziqhatshela

phezulu. **8** Kodwa aluba ubuyimi, bengizamncenga uNkulunkulu; bengizakwethula udubo lwami kuye. **9** Uyazenza izimanga ezingelakulinganiswa, imimangaliso engelakubalwa. **10** Uyanisa izulu emhlabeni; uthumela amanzi elizweni. **11** Abaphansi uyabakhweza phezulu, lalabo abakhalay abaphakamisela ekuphepheni. **12** Uyawafubisa amacebo amaqili, ukuze izandla zawo zingaphumeleli. **13** Uyababamba abahlakaniphileyo ebuqilini babo, kuthi amaqhinga eziphoxo achitheke. **14** Ubumnyama buyabehlela emini; phakathi kwemini bayaphumputha kungathi kusebusuku. **15** Uyabasindisa abaswelayo baphephe inkemba emlonyeni wabo; uyabasindisa ekubanjweni ngabalomanda. **16** Ngakho abayanga balalo ithemba, ukwahlulela kubi kuvala owakho umlomo. **17** Ubusisiwe umuntu oqondiswa nguNkulunkulu; ngakho ungaseyisi isijeziso sikaSomandla. **18** Ngoba uyagwaza, kodwa aphinde abophe amanxeba; uyalimaza kodwa izandla zakhe njalo ziyapholisa. **19** Uzakuhlenga ezinhlophekweni eziyisithupha; kwezizisikhombisa kawuyikwelwa yingozu. **20** Ngesikhathi sendlala uzakuhlenga ekufeni, lasempini akuhlenge ekugaleleni kwenkemba. **21** Uzavikelwa ekuhlethshweni, ungaze wesaba nxa kufika incithakalo. **22** Uzakuhleka ukuchithakala kanye lendlala, njalo ungaze wazesaba izilo zomhlaba. **23** Ngoba uzakuba lesivumelwano lamatshe eganga, lezinnyamazana zeganga zizahlalisana kuhle lawe. **24** Uzakwazi ukuthi ithente lakho livikelele; uzahlolisisa impahla yakho uthole kungelalutho olungekho. **25** Uzakwazi ukuthi abantwabakho bazakuba banengi, lesizukulwane sakho sibe ngangotshani bomhlaba. **26** Uzakuba engcwabeni usukuhlule okungcweleyo njengezikhwebu zamabele eziqoqwa seziphelile. **27** Sesikuhlolile lokhu, kuliqiniso. Ngakho kuzwisisa, ukulandele wena ngokwakho.”

6 Wasephendula uJobe wathi: **2** “Nxa ubuhlungu bami bungalinganiswa lokuhlupheka kwami konke kufakwe esikalini! **3** Ngempela bungasinda ukwedlula itshebetshebe yolwandle, akungamangalisi ukuthi amazwi ami abhede kanje. **4** Imithsho kaSomandla iphakathi kwami, umoya wami unatha ishefu yami; inhlupho zokuhlukuluza zikaNkulunkulu ziqondiswe kimi. **5** Kambe ubabhemi weganga uyakhala yini utshani bukhona, loba inkabi ikhonye yona ukudla ilakho? **6** Ukudla okuduma kuyadleka na kungelatswayi, kumbe okumhlophe kweqanda kuyanambitheka yini? **7** Ngiyala ukukuthinta; ukudla okunjalo kubuyisa inhliziyo yami. **8** Oh, aluba ngingazusa isicelo sami, uNkulunkulu angiphe lokho engikufisayo, **9** ukuthi uNkulunkulu avume ukungichoboza, ekele nje isandla sakhe singiqede! **10** Lalapho ngizabe ngilokhu ngilale induduzo intokozo yami ebuhlungweni obungadediyo, ukuthi bengingawaphikanga amazwi akhe oNgcwele. **11** Ngilamandla bani okuthi ngibe lokhu ngithemba? Ngisamelelwe yini ukuba ngibe ngilokhu ngibekezela? **12** Ngilamandla elitshe yini? Inyama yami ilitshisi na? **13** Ngilawo yini amandla okuzisiza, manje njengoba sengemukwe impumelelo? **14** Iloba ngubani ogodla umusa kumkhula wakhe udela ukwesaba uSomandla. **15** Kodwa abafowethu kabathenja njengemifula egeleza icitsha, njengemifula echithayo **16** ileliqhwa eselincibilika, njalo igcwele ngongqawqwane osencibilikile, **17** kodwa ikhawule ukugeleza ngesikhathi sokoma, kuthi sekutshisa amanzi anyamalale ezindleleni zawo. **18** Indwendwe zamakamela ziyaphambuka ezindleleni zazo; zintule enkangala zifele

khona. **19** Indwendwe zamakamela aseThema zidinga amanzi, abathengisi baseShebha balinde bethembile. **20** Bayadana ngoba bebekade bethembile; bayafika khonale bafike badane. **21** Lani selitshengise ukuthi kailancedo; libona into eyesabekayo beselisesaba. **22** Sengake ngatsho yini ukuthi, 'Ake lingihlawulele lokhu, ngihlangani ngempahla yenu, **23** ngikhululani esandleni sesitha, ngihlangani ekufithizelweni ngabalesihluku?' **24** Ngifundisani, ngizathula; ake lingitshengise lapho engiphambanise khona. **25** Abuhlungu kanganani amazwi eqiniso! Kodwa ukuphikisa kwenu kutshengisani? **26** Lizama ukuqondisa engikutshoyo, amazwi omuntu oselahlekelle lithemba liwathethe njengomoya nje na? **27** Lina lingenza inkatho ngezintandane, lithengise lomngane wenu. **28** Kodwa okwamanje wobani lomusa lingizwele. Ngingaqamba amanga phambi kwenu na? **29** Dedani, lingenzi okungaqondanga; khumbulani kutsha, phela ubuqotho bami busengozini. **30** Kukhona okubi na okusezindebeni zami? Kambe umlomo wami kawukwehlukani okubi na?"

7 "Umuntu kakho ekutshikathikeni okuzima yini emhlabeni? Insuku zakhe kazifani lezomuntu oqhatshiweyo na? **2** Njengesigqili siloyisa amathunzi okuhlwa, lanjengoqhatshiweyo elindele umholo wakhe, **3** kanjalo ngibekelwe izinyanga ezingelambadalo, lobusuku bosizi sebalwela mina. **4** Ngithi nxa ngilala ngicabange ngithi, 'Kuzakusa nini na?' Ubusuku buyadonsa ngiqwayize kuze kuse. **5** Umzimba wami uphilihika impethu lamathuthuva, isikhumba sami siyobukile siyabhibhidla. **6** Insuku zami ziyaphangisa kulosungulo lomaluki, zisuka ziphele kungekho ithemba. **7** Khumbula, Oh Nkulunkulu, ukuthi impilo yami ngumoya nje; amehlono ami kawayikufa akubona njalo ukuthokoza. **8** Ilihlo elingibonayo khathe alisayikuphinde lingibone futhi; lizangidinga, kodwa ngizakuba ngingasekho. **9** Njengeyezi elinyamalalayo liphele, kanjalo lowo ongena engcwabeni kaphenduki. (Sheol h7585) **10** Kasoze lanini aphinde angene endlini yakhe; indawo yakhe kayisayikubuye imazi lanini. **11** Ngakho-ke kangizukuthula; ngizakuhluma ubuhlungu obusemoyeni wami, ngizasola ngokudabuka komphumulo wami. **12** Ngilulwandle yini, kumbe ngiyisilo semanzini okungaze lihlale lingilindle? **13** Ngithi lapho ngicabanga ukuthi umbheda wami uzangiduduzela lecani lami liphungule ukusola kwami, **14** lakhona lapho liyangethusa ngamaphupho njalo lingethusele ngemibono, **15** okwenza ngiqome ukuklinya lokufa, kulalo umzimba wami. **16** Ngiyayeyisa impilo yami; kangiloyisi ukuphila okwaphakade. Ngiyekelani; insuku zami kazisatsho lutho. **17** Umuntu uyini ongaze uzihluphe kangaka ngaye, ongaze umnake kangaka, **18** uze umhlole ekuseni insuku zonke njalo umlinge imizuzwana yonke na? **19** Kawusoze uke ukhangele eceleni kwami na, loba uke ungixekele okomzuzwana yini? **20** Aluba ngenze isono, kuyini engikwenzileyo kuwe, wena mlindi wabantu? Kungani ukhethe ukuhlukuluza mina na? Sengingumthwalo kuwe na? **21** Kungani ungaxoleli iziphambeko zami na, uthethelele izono zami? Ngoba kakusekhatshana ukuthi ngilale othulini; uzangidinga, kanti ngizabe ngingasekho."

8 UBholidadi umShuhi wasephendula wathi: **2** "Koze kube nini ukhuluma izinto ezinjalo? Amazwi akho angumoya openqazayo. **3** Kambe uNkulunkulu uyakuhlanelela ukulunga na? Kambe uSomandla uyakuhlanelela okuhle na? **4** Lapho

abantwabakho besona kuye, wabapha isijeziso sokona kwabo. **5** Kanti nxa wena uzakhangela kuNkulunkulu uncenge kuSomandla, **6** nxa umsulwa ulungile, lamanje nje uzaphakama akusize akubuyisele esimeni sakho. **7** Lapho owaqalisa khona kuzakhanya sekukuncinyane, ngoba ngezinsuku ezizayo uzabe usuphumelela kakhulu. **8** Buza izizukulwane ezingaphambili udinga ukuthi okhokho babo bafundani, **9** ngoba thina sizelwe izolo nje, kasazi lutho, lezinsuku zethu emhlabeni zilithunzi kuphela. **10** Kambe kaziyikukulaya zikutshela na? Kaziyikuletha amazwi okuzwisisa na? **11** Konje imihlanga ingakhula ibe mide ingekho exhaphozini na? Imizi ingaphila kungelamanzi na? **12** Nxa leyonqodi isakhula ingakaqunywa imane ibune masinyane kulotshani. **13** Sinjalo isiphetho sabo bonke abakhohlwa uNkulunkulu; litshabalala kanjalo ithemba lalowo ongakholwayo. **14** Lokho akuthembayo kufohlozeka lula; lokho eyeme kukho yibulembu besayobe. **15** Uyezama kulobubulembu bakhe, kodwa bubhidlike; uyabambelela kubo, kodwa bukhithike. **16** Unjengesihlahla esithelelwa kakhulu sikhula elangeni, esisabalalisa ingatsha zaso esivandeni; **17** sinxibanise impande zaso enqunjini yamatshe, sizama ukuzaza ukugxila kuhle ematsheni. **18** Kodwa singasitshulwa kuleyondawo, leyon dawo isisilandula ithi, 'Angikaze ngikubone.' **19** Ngeqiniso impilo yaso iyabuna, ezinye izihlahla zibe zilokhu zikhula emhlabathini lowo. **20** Ngeqiniso uNkulunkulu kamlahli umuntu ongelasici futhi kaqinisi izandla zezigangi. **21** Usazogcwalisa umlomo wakho ngohleko lezindebe zakho ngokumemeza ngentokozo. **22** Izitha zakho zizakwembathiswa ngehlozo, lamathente ababi azatshabalala."

9 Wasephendula uJobe wathi: **2** "Ngeqiniso ngiyazi ukuthi lokhu kuliqiniso. Kodwa umuntu wenyama angalunga yini kuNkulunkulu? **3** Loba umuntu ubengafisa ukuphikisa laye neke amphendule lakanye emibuzweni eyinkulungwane. **4** Ukuhlakanipha kwakhe kujulile, amandla akhe makhulu. Ngubani kambe oke wamelana laye wasinda? **5** Uyazidudula izintaba zona zingazi lutho, azigenqule nxa esezondile. **6** Uyawunyikinya umhlaba endaweni yawo, axukuxe izinsika zawo. **7** Uyalitshela ilanga ukuba lingakhanyi; asibekele ukukhanya kwezinkanyezi. **8** Nguye kuphela owelula amazulu, ohamba phezu kwamagagasi olwandle. **9** UnguMenzi wezinkanyezi iNgulube leZinja, iSilimela lomthala waseningizimu. **10** Wenza imimangaliso engafinyelelekiyo, izimanga ezingelakubalwa. **11** Uthi nxa esedlula kimi, ngingamboni; ahambe khonapho ngingezwa lutho. **12** Nxa ehluthuna, ngubani ongamalela? Ngubani ongathi kuye, 'Wenzani wena?' **13** UNkulunkulu kalunqandi ulaka lwakhe; labasekeli bakaRahabi besaba bawela ezinyaweni zakhe. **14** Pho mina ngingaphikisana laye njani? Ngingawathatha ngaphi amazwi okujijana laye? **15** Laloba ngingelamlandu, neke ngimphendule; ngingancenga uMahluleli wami kuphela ukuthi angihawukele. **16** Lanxa bengingambiza asabele, angikhohla ukuthi ubengangilalela. **17** Ubengangicobodisa ngesiphapho andise amanxeba ami kungelasizatho. **18** Ubengasoze angiphele ithuba lokukhokha umoya kodwa bezahle angincindezele ngosizi. **19** Nxa kungokwamandla, alamandla amakhulu! Nxa kungokokwahlulela ngokulunga, ngubani ongamthonisisa? **20** Loba ngingabe ngimsulwa, umlomo wami ubungangilahla; lanxa ngimsulwa wona ubuzakuthi ngilecala. **21** Lanxa ngingelacala, angizihluphi

ngami; ngiyayeyisa impilo yami. **22** Kuyafanana konke; yikho ngisithi, 'Ubhubhisa bonke abangelacala lababi.' **23** Nxa isifo esibi sibulala ngokuphangisa, uyabahleka abangelacala ngokulahla kwabo ithemba. **24** Nxa ilizwe liwela ezandleni zababi, wembesa amehlo abahluleli balo. Nxa kungayisuye, pho ngubani? **25** Amalanga ami alesiqubu esidlula esesithunywa; ayaphapha anyamalale kungela mthonseलयana wokuthokoza. **26** Antweza edule njengezikepe zelala, njengenkozi zisehla zihwitha ezikudlayo. **27** Nxa ngingathi, 'Ngizakubeka eceleni ukusola kwami, ngicitshe ukunyukubala kwami, ngibobotheke,' **28** ngilokhu ngihemahema ngezinhlupho zami, ngoba ngiyazi ukuthi kawuzokungigeza. **29** Njengoba ngivele sengibekwe icala, ngizazihluphelani ngokulwela ize na? **30** Loba ngingaze ngigeze ngesepa lezandla zami ngesoda yokuhlambulula, **31** uzavele ungiphosele emgodini olodaka ngize ngenyanywe yizigqoko zami. **32** Akasumuntu njengami ukuthi ngingamphendula, ukuthi singamisana emthethwandaba. **33** Aluba ubengabakhona osilamulayo, abeke isandla sakhe phezu kwethu sobabili, **34** omunye nje ongasusa uswazi lukaNkulunkulu kimi, ukuze ngingatshukuniswa yikwesaba lokhu. **35** Lapho-ke bengizakuhluma ngingesabi yena, kodwa okwakhathi kunje, ngeke."

10 "Senginengwa yimpilo yami; ngakho sengizasola ngingasathikazi ngithulule ubuhlungu bomphfumulo wami. **2** Ngizakuthi kuNkulunkulu: Ungangilahli, kodwa ngitshela ukuthi ungethesa cala bani. **3** Kuyakuthabisa na ukungizwisa ubuhlungu, ukulahla umsebenzi wezandla zakho, ikanti uyahlekelela ngamacebo ababi? **4** Ulamehlo enyama na? Ubona njengokubona kwabantu na? **5** Insuku zakho ziyafanana lezabantu yini, kumbe iminyaka yakho njengeyomuntu yini, **6** osungaze uphenye iziphambeko zani njalo ulandelele isono sami, **7** loba wena ukwazi ukuthi angilacala lokuthi kakho ongangikhulula esandleni sakho? **8** Izandla zakho zangibumba zangenza. Pho usuzaphenduka engibhidlize na? **9** Khumbula ukuthi wangibumba njengomdaka. Pho usuzabuye unghendule uthuli na? **10** Kawungichithanga yini njengochago njalo wangijiyisa njengolaza, **11** wangiqokisa ngesikhumba lenyama, wangithungela ndawonye ngamathambo lemisisipha? **12** Wangipha ukuphila wangitshengisa umusa, ukunanza kwakho kwawelusa umoya wami. **13** Kodwa lokhu yikho owakufihla enhliziyweni yakho, njalo ngiyazi ukuthi lokhu kwakukhona engqondweni yakho: **14** Nxa ngona, ngabe wawungikhangele wawungeke wekela ukona kwami kungajeziswa. **15** Aluba ngilecala, maye mina! Loba ngimsulwa, akukho engingakwenza, ngoba ngiyafa ngenhloni njalo ngiyagalula ekhuluphekeni kwami. **16** Nxa ngingathi ngivusa ikhanda ungicwathela njengesilwane uphinde utshengise amandla akho esabekayo kimi. **17** Uletha ofakazi abatsha abangilahlayo, wandise ulaka lwakho kimi; amabutho akho angihlasela amaviyo ngamaviyo. **18** Pho kungani wangikhupha esibeletweni na? Ngifisa ukuthi ngabe ngafa ngingakabonwa laloba yiliphi ilihlo. **19** Aluba ngavele ngingabi ngophilayo, loba ngathwalwa ngisuka esibeletweni ngasiwa ethunenil! **20** Insuku zami ezilutshwane kaseziphelile nje? Akungifulathele ukuze ngizuze umuzwana wentokozo nje **21** ngingakayi lapho okungabuywa khona, elizweni lobumnyama lethunzi elikhulu, **22** elizweni lobusuku obujule ngempela, elethunzi elinzima lengxubevange, lapho lokukhanya kunjengobumnyama."

11 Uzofari umNahama wasephendula wathi: **2** "Uthi amazwi wonke la angayekelwa ukuphendulwa na? Uwawane lolu luyekelwe nje lubheda? **3** Umbhedo wakho lo ungenza abantu bathule na? Uthi ungangakhuzwa muntu wena ukhulumela eceleni? **4** Uthi kuNkulunkulu, 'Inkolo yami kayilansolo njalo ngimsulwa phambi kwakho.' **5** Oh, ngize ngifise ukuthi ngabe uNkulunkulu uyakhuluma, avule izindebe zakhe ekusola **6** akuvulele imfihlo zokuhlakanipha, ngoba inhlakanipho yeqiniso ikabili. Yazi lokhu: uNkulunkulu uvele usezikhothliwe ezinye izono zakho. **7** Kambe ungayifinyelela yini imfihlakalo kaNkulunkulu? Ungaziphanya iziphetho zikaSomandla na? **8** Ziqongile ngaphezu kwamazulu, ungenzani kambe? Zizikile kulokujula kolwandle, kuyini ongakwazi pho? (Sheol h7585) **9** Ukulinganiswa kwazo kude kulomhlaba njalo kubanzi kulolwandle. **10** Nxa engeza lapha akuphosele entolongweni abize inkundla, ngubani ongamphikisa na? **11** Liqiniso ukuthi uyababona abantu abakhohlisayo; njalo nxa ebona okubi, kananzeleli na? **12** Kodwa umuntu oyisithutha ngeke ahlakaniphe njengoba ubabhemi weganga engeke azalwa ngumuntu. **13** Kodwa nxa ugxilisa inhliziyo yakho kuye uphakamisele izandla zakho kuye, **14** nxa ulahla isono esisesandleni sakho ungavumeli bubuhlale ethenteni lakho, **15** lapho-ke uzabuveza ubuso bakho ungelanhloni; uzakuma uqine ungesabi. **16** Uzalukhohla ngempela uhlupho lwakho, lufike nje engqondweni njengezikhukhula ezadlulayo. **17** Impilo izakhanya kulemini enkulu, lobumnyama buzakuba njengasekuseni. **18** Uzavikeleka, ngoba ithemba likhona; uzakhangela ofuna khona uzuse ukuphumula uvikelekile. **19** Uzazilalela, kungekho okwethuzayo, njalo abanengi bazabe sebezisondeza kuwe. **20** Kodwa amehlo ababi azafiphala, behluleke lokubaleka; ithemba labo libe yikuhotsha umoya wokufa."

12 Wasephendula uJobe wathi: **2** "Wo, lina yini elizibona kuyini abantu, njalo lolwazi luzakufa lani! **3** Kodwa lami ngilayo ingqondo njengani; kalingedluli ngalutho. Ngubani ongazaziyo izinto zonke lezi? **4** Sengiyinto yokuhlekisa ebanganini bami, lanxa ngacela kuNkulunkulu waphendula, inhleka sibili, kodwa ngilungile, ngimsulwa! **5** Abantu abahlezi kuhle bayakweyisa ukwehlelwa ngumnyama, bathi kuyimfanelo yalabo onyawo zabo sezitshelela. **6** Amathente ezigebenga avikelekile, lalabo abamthukuthelisayo uNkulunkulu bavikelekile, uNkulunkulu ulabo ezandleni zakhe. **7** Kodwa ake ubuze izinyamazana, zizakufundisa, kumbe izinyoni zemoyeni, zizakutshela; **8** kumbe khuluma lomhlaba, uzakufundisa, loba uthi inhlanzi zolwandle zikwazise. **9** Yikuphi kwalezizinto okungaziyo na ukuthi yisandla sikaThixo esikwenzileyo lokhu? **10** Esandleni sakhe kulempilo yazo zonke izidalwa lokuphefumula kwabantu bonke. **11** Indlebe kayiwahloli yini wonke amazwi njengolimi lunambitha ukudla? **12** Angithi ukuhlakanipha kufunyanwa ebadaleni na? Angithi impilo ende iletha ukuzwisisa na? **13** NgokukaNkulunkulu ukuhlakanipha lamandla; ukweluleka lokuzwisisa kungokwakhe. **14** Lokho akubhidlizayo kungeke kwamiswa njalo; lowo amvalelayo ngeke avulelwe. **15** Angaze awavale amanzi, kuba lokoma; angawavulela kuba lomnakalo elizweni. **16** Angawakhe amandla lenhlakanipho; okhohliswayo lomkhohlisi ngabakhe bonke. **17** Abeluleki uyabakhupha bahambe beze enge abehluleli babe yiziphukuphuku. **18** Uyanyomula izibophe ezibotshwe ngamakhozi azibophe ngelembe ekhalweni. **19** Abaphristi uyabakhupha beze

awangenqule amadoda abesithi asengxilile. **20** Uyazithulisa izindebe zabeluleki abathenjwiweyo asuse ulwazi lwabadala. **21** Izikhulu uzihleka usulu abalamandla abathathele lawomandla. **22** Uyembula imifihlo ezenzeka emnyameni amathunzi azikileyo awalethe ekukhanyeni. **23** Wenza izizwe zikhulu, abesezidiliza; uyaziqhelisa izizwe, aphinde azichithe. **24** Abakhokheli basemhlabeni ubemuka ukuhlakanipha kwabo; ubenza bantule enkangala. **25** Bayaphumputha emnyameni kungelakukhanya; ubenza badiyazele njengezidakwa.”

13 “Amehlo ami asekwonile konke lokhu, indlebe zami zikuzwile zakuqedisisa lokhu. **2** Elikwaziyo lina lami ngiyakwazi; kalingcono ngalutho kulami. **3** Kodwa ngiloyisa ukukhuluma loSomandla, ngiphikisane loNkulunkulu ngendaba yami. **4** Kodwa lina lingigcona ngamanga; lonke lizinyanga ezingelamsebenzi! **5** Thulani lithi zwi lonke! Lokho kungaba yikuhlakanipha kini. **6** Zwaninike manje engikutshoyo; lalalani ukuncenga kwezindebe zami. **7** Lingakhuluma okubi limele uNkulunkulu na? Lingamkhulumela inkohliso na? **8** Limtshengisa ukuthi liyabandlulula yini? Yini elimkhulumelayo uNkulunkulu akutshoyo? **9** Kungallungela yini nxa engalihlola? Kambe lingamkhohlisa njengoba lingakhohlisa abantu na? **10** Ngempela angaligcona nxa lingabe litshengisa ukubandlulula. **11** Inkazimulo yakhe ingezake ilethuse na? Ukwesabeka kwakhe kungezake kulehlele na? **12** Izitsho zenu ziyizaga zomlotha; lezivikelo zenu yizivikelo zebumba kuphela. **13** Thulani ngikhulume mina; kungivelele loba kuyini okuvelayo. **14** Ngizifakelani engozini na ngiphathe impilo yami ezandleni zami? **15** Lanxa engangibulala kodwa ngizakwala ngimethemba; ngizazivikela izindlela zami phambi kwakhe. **16** Ngeqiniso lokhu kuzangihlenga, ngoba khamu umuntu ongakholwayo ongasondela kuye! **17** Ake lilalele kuhle amazwi ami; vulani indlebe zenu lizwe engikutshoyo. **18** Manje-ke njengoba sengiyilungisile indaba yami, ngiyabona ukuthi ngizakhululwa. **19** Ngubani kambe ongangethesa icala? Nxa ekhona, ngizathula ngife. **20** Akungiphe lezizinto ezimbili nje, Oh Nkulunkulu, lapho-ke angiyikukucatshele. **21** Sisusele khatshana lami isandla sakho, ukhawule ukungethusa ngokwesabeka kwakho. **22** Ubusungibizela ecaleni, ngizaphendula, kumbe ungyekele ngikhulume, lawe uphendule. **23** Sengenze iziphambeko lezono ezinganani na? Ngitshengisa isiphambeko sami lesono sami. **24** Kungani ufihla ubuso bakho ungithathe njengesitha sakho? **25** Uzahluhana lehlamvu eliphethulwa ngumoya na? Uzaxotshana lomule owomileyo na? **26** Ngoba ubhala izinto ezibuhlungu ngami ungenze ngivune izono zobutsha bami. **27** Ukhina inyawo zami ngezibopho; ulandelela zonke izindlela zami ngokudweba uphawu ezinyathelweni zezinyawo zami. **28** Yikho-ke umuntu ecikizeka njengento ebolileyo, njengesigqoko esidliwe yinondo.”

14 “Umuntu ozelwe ngumfazi ulensuku ezilutshwane njalo ezigcwele inhlupho. **2** Uyaqhakaza njengeluba aphinde abune; njengesithunzi esithi tshazi, akemi. **3** Onjalo ungala ulokhu umkhangele na? Ungamisa phambi kwakho umthonisise na? **4** Ngubani ongabeza okuhlambulukileyo kokungcolileyo na? Kakho! **5** Insuku zomuntu zimisise; uzibekile izinyanga zokuphila kwakhe wabeka lemikhawulo angeke ayeqe. **6** Ngakho-ke myekele ungazihluphi ngaye, aze aqede lesosikhathi sakhe njengomuntu oqhatshiweyo.

7 Kungaba lethemba ngesihlahla; singaganyulwa siyahluma njalo, amahlumela aso kawayikwehleleka ukukhula. **8** Impande zaso zingaguga phansi emhlabathini lesiphunzi saso sife emhlabathini, **9** kodwa singezwa amanzi siyahluma sikhuphe ingatsha njengesihlahla esitsha. **10** Kodwa umuntu uyafa alaliswe phansi; uphefumula okokucina angabe esabakhona. **11** Njengamanzi esitsha olwandle lanjengomfuzi ucitsha amanzi wome qha, **12** ngokunjalo umuntu ulala phansi angabe esavuka; kuze kutshabalale amazulu abantu kabayikuvuka kumbe baphatshanyiswe ebuthongweni babo. **13** Kube uyangifihla ethuneni ungethukuze ulaka lwakho luze ludlule! Kube ungibekela isikhathi ube usungikhumbula! (Sheol **h7585**) **14** Umuntu angafa uphinde aphile na? Zonke insuku zokutshikatsika kwami ngizalindela isikhathi sokuyekelwa kwami. **15** Uzabiza lami ngizasabela; uzasifisa lesosidalwa esenziwa yizandla zakho. **16** Ngeqiniso lapho uzabala izinyathelo zami kodwa kawuyikulandelela izono zami. **17** Iziphambeko zami zizanyekwa emgodleni; uzasigubuzela isono sami. **18** Kodwa njengentaba ikhumuzeka ize ibhidlike, lanjengedwala ligudluka endaweni yalo, **19** njengamanzi awagubhayo amatshe lezikhukhula zikhukhula umhlabathi, kanjalo uyalibhidliza ithemba lomuntu. **20** Umehlula kanye angaphindi abekhona, adlule; uyabuguqula ubuso bakho umxotsho. **21** Nxa amadodana akhe ezuzo udumo, kawakwazi; nxa izizukulwane zakhe zisehliswa, kazikuboni. **22** Bezwa kuphela ubuhlungu bemizimba yabo bazikhalele bona.”

15 Wasephendula u-Elifazi umThemani wathi: **2** “Kambe indoda ehlananiphileyo ingaphendula ngeze nje loba igcwalise isisu sayo ngomoya otshisayo wempumalanga na? **3** Ingadaza inkani ngamazwi angatsho lutho, ngezinkulumo ezingelasisindo na? **4** Wena uze weyise ukulunga njalo uphazame lokukhonza uNkulunkulu. **5** Isono sakho sikhuthaza umlomo wakho; usuthethe ulimi lwamaqili. **6** Umlomo wakho yiwo okulahlayo, hatshi owami; izindebe zakho zifakaza ububi bakho. **7** Nguwe yini umuntu wokuqala ukuzalwa? Wabakhona kuqala kulezintaba na? **8** Uyake ulalele yini enkundleni kaNkulunkulu? Nguwe wedwa yini ololwazi? **9** Kuyini okwaziyo wena thina esingakwaziyo? Ulemibono bani wena thina esingelayo? **10** Asebezimpunga lamakhehla bavumelana lathi, amadoda amadala kuloyihlo. **11** Induduzo zikaNkulunkulu kazikwanelisi yini, amazwi akhulunywa kamnandi kuwe? **12** Kungani uvumela ukufuqwa yinhliziyu na, kungani amehlo akho eqwayiza, **13** uze ubhodlise ulaka lwakho kuNkulunkulu ukhikhize amazwi anjalo ngomlomo wakho? **14** Umuntu uyini ukuthi abe ngohlazekileyo na, lozelwe ngowesifazane ongaba ngcwele? **15** Nxa uNkulunkulu engazethembi izingilosi zakhe, njalo lamazulu engathembekanga kuye, **16** pho umuntu ongcolileyo ke, oxhwalileyo, onatha ububi njengamanzi! **17** Lalela kimi ngikuchazele; notshi ngikutshole esengakubonayo, **18** lokho osekwafakazwa yizihlakaniphi, bengafihli lutho abaluthatha kubokhokho babo **19** (abayibo kuphela abaphiwa ilizwe njalo akwaze kwedlula muntu wezizweni phakathi kwabo): **20** Ngezininsuku zakhe zonke umuntu omubi uhlutshwa yizinhlungu, kube yisihluku seminyaka yonke ayibekelweyo. **21** Imisindo eyesabisayo iyagcwalisa ezindlebeni zakhe; nxa kusithi kuyalunga, izikliwi zimhlasele. **22** Ulahlekelwa lithemba lokuwuphepha umnyama; umiselwe inkemba. **23** Uyantula nje abe yikudla kwamanqeqe; uyazi ukuthi usuku lobumnyama selusondele. **24** Usizi lobuhlungu emoyeni bumlethela uvalo;

inhlupho ziyangabhela, njengenkosi isilungele ukuhlasela, **25** ngoba efumbathele uNkulunkulu inqindi, ezimisela ukulwa loSomandla, **26** aqholoze amhlasele ngesihlangu esiqinileyo, esilohlonzi. **27** Lanxa ezimuke ubuso bungaka, umkhaba ulenga ngedanga, **28** uzahlala emadolobheni angamanxiwa lezindlini ezingahlali muntu, izindlu eziwohlokayo zibe yinqumbi. **29** Kasayikumotha futhi lenotho yakhe kayiyikuma, lezifuyo zakhe kazisayikugcwala ilizwe lonke. **30** Kayikuphepha emnyameni; ilangabi lizabunisa amahlumela akhe lomoya wokuphefumula komlomo kaNkulunkulu uzamthwalela kude. **31** Makangazikhohlisi ngokuthemba okuyize, ngoba akazukuzwa lutho ngakho. **32** Singakapheli isikhathi sakhe uzajeziswa, lezingatsha zakhe kaziyikuhluma. **33** Uzaba njengevini eliphundlwe izithelo zalo zingakavuthwa, njengesihlahla se-oliva sikhithiza impoko zaso. **34** Ngoba ixuku labangamesabiyo uNkulunkulu kalizukuba lezithelo, lomlilo uzawahangula amathente alabo abathanda isivalamlomo. **35** Bazithwala uhlupho babelethe ububi; isibeletso sabo sibumba inkohliso.”

16 UJobe wasephendula wathi: **2** “Sengezwa izinto ezinengi ezifana lalezi; lingabaduduzi ababi lina lonke! **3** Zizaphela nini inkulumo zokubhuda kwenu lokhu? Kuyini okuluhluphayo laphikelela nje lidaza inkani? **4** Lami bengingakhuluma njengani aluba yini elisesikhundleni sami; ngabe ngikhupha inkulumo ezimnandi ngilisola ngize nginikane ikhanda lami. **5** Kodwa umlomo wami ngabe uyaliqinisa; induduzo yezindebe zami idedise inhlungu zenu. **6** Kodwa nxa ngikhuluma, ubuhlungu obukimi kabudedi; loba ngingaze ngithule, kabupheli. **7** Ngeqiniso, Nkulunkulu, usungiqede amandla; usuyitshabalalisile yonke imuli yami. **8** Usungibophile sekuyibo ubufakazi balokho; lokucikizeka kwami kuyakhula kungilahla. **9** UNkulunkulu uyanginxwanela angidlikize ngolaka lwakhe, angigedlele amazinyo; isitha sami singinyonkoloze ngamehlo ahlabayo. **10** Abantu bavula imilomo yabo bengihoza; bangimakala esihlathini bengihlamba babambane bangihlanganyele. **11** UNkulunkulu usenginikele ebantwini ababi wangiphosela ezandleni zezigangi. **12** Konke kwakukuhle kimi, kodwa wangibhidliza; wangixhakalaza ngentamo wangichoboza. Usengenze ngaba yinto yakhe yokunenjwa; **13** abacibi bemtshoko bakhe bangihanqile. Ungiciba izinso zami engelazwelo achithele inyongo yami phansi. **14** Ungisukela njalonjalo; angidumele njengebutho. **15** Sengithungele isembatho sesaka emzimbeni wami ngathukuza ibunzi lami othulini. **16** Ubuso bami sebubomvu ngokukhala, amathunzi anzima ahonqolozela amehlo ami; **17** kodwa izandla zami kaziluhelanga udlakela, lomkhuleko wami uhlanzekile. **18** Awu mhlaba, ungaligqibeli igazi lami; sengathi lokukhala kwami kungaze kwacitshwa lanini! **19** Lakhathesi ufakazi wami usezulwini; umeli wami uphezulu khonale. **20** Umeli wami ngumngane wami nxa amehlo ami empompoza inyembezi kuNkulunkulu; **21** uyamcengela umuntu kuNkulunkulu njengomuntu encengela umngane wakhe. **22** Kusasele iminyakana engemingaki andubana ngiye lapho kungabuywa khona.”

17 “Umoya wami udabukile, insuku zami ziqunyiwe, ithuna lingimelele. **2** Impela abaklodayo bangihanqile; amehlo ami asehlezi elinde ulaka lwabo. **3** Ngipha, Oh Nkulunkulu, lesosibambiso osifunayo. Kambe ngubani

omunye ongangezela lesosibambiso na? **4** Usuzivalile ingqondo zabo kabasazwisisi; ngakho kawuzukubayekela bagiye. **5** Nxa umuntu angaphika umngane wakhe ukuze ahlawulwe, amehlo abantwabakhe azafiphala. **6** UNkulunkulu usengenze ngaba yisiga ebantwini bonke, umuntu okhafulelwa ngabanye emehlweni. **7** Amehlo ami asethundubele ngosizi; umdumbu wami wonke usuyisithunzi nje. **8** Abantu abaqotho kuyabanenga lokhu; abangelacala bayacaphuka ngabangakhulwayo. **9** Kungenani, abalungileyo bazabambeleva ezindleleni zabo, kuthi labo abalezandla ezihlanzekileyo baqine. **10** Kodwa khathesi lina lonke ake lizame futhi! Kangiboni loyedwa ohlakaniphileyo kini. **11** Sezidlule insuku zami, amacebo ami asedilile, kunjalo lezifiso zenhliziyoyami. **12** Lababantu bathatha ubusuku njengemini; bathi bebona ubumnyama bathi, ‘Ukukhanya sekusondele.’ **13** Nxa ikhaya engilithembileyo lilingcwaba kuphela, nxa ngisendla umbheda wami emnyameni, (Sheol h7585) **14** nxa ngisithi ekuboleni, ‘Baba,’ ngithi emphethwini, ‘Mama’ kumbe ‘Dadewethu,’ **15** pho lingaphi ithemba lami na? Ngubani ongabona ithemba ngami? **16** Kuzakwehlela emasangweni okufa na? Sizakwehlela ndawonye othulini na?” (Sheol h7585)

18 Kwathi lapho uBhilidadi umShuhi waphendula wathi: **2** “Koze kube nini ulokhu uphethe emlonyeni? Nakana andubana sikhulume. **3** Kungani usithatha njengezinkomo kube ingathi siyizithutha kuwe na? **4** Wena ozidabudalayo ube yiziqa ngokuthukuthela kwakho, uthi sesingawudela umhlaba ngenxa yakho? Loba uthi amadwala agudlulwe ezindaweni zawo na? **5** Isibane somubi siyacima; ilangabi lomlilo wakhe liyaphela ukubhebeha. **6** Ukukhanya ethenteni lakhe kuyafiphala; isibane esiseceleni kwakhe siyacima. **7** Izisinde zakhe zamandla ziyadeda; lamacebo akhe yiwo amlahla phansi. **8** Inyawo zakhe zimbeke emambuleni acine esemthandele. **9** Umjibila umhwiphula ngesithende; isihitshela simuthi nki. **10** Isihitshela usifihlelwe phansi; umjibila uthukuziwe endleleni yakhe. **11** Uyethuka ngokwesaba inxa zonke kumlandelele langaphi aya khona. **12** Umonakalo umlambele; incithakalo imlindlele nxa esiwa. **13** Kudla ingxenye yesikhumba sakhe; izibulo lokufa lidla izitho zakhe. **14** Uyasuswa ekuvikelekeni kwethente lakhe aqhutshwe asiwe enkosini yokwesaba. **15** Umlilo uhlala ethenteni lakhe; isolufa evuthayo ichithachithwe emzini wakhe. **16** Impande zakhe ziyabuna ngaphansi lamagatsha akhe abune ngaphezulu. **17** Ukukhunjulwa kwakhe kuyaphela emhlabeni; kalabizo elizweni. **18** Uyasuswa ekukhanyeni aye ebumnyameni njalo axotshwe emhlabeni. **19** Kalabantwana loba isizukulwane ebantwini bakibo, kakho loyedwa owakhe lapho ake ahlala khona. **20** Abantu bentshonalanga bayanengwa yisiphetho sakhe; abantu bempumalanga bayatshaqeka. **21** Ngempela linjalo ikhaya lomuntu omubi; yiyo indawo yalowo ongamaziyoyuNkulunkulu.”

19 Wasephendula uJobe wathi: **2** “Koze kube nini lilokhu lingichukuluzela, lingicobodisa ngamazwi na? **3** Selingithethise amahlandla alitshumi manje; lingihlasela lingelanhloni. **4** Nxa kuliqiniso ukuthi ngiphambukile, isiphambeko sami ngumlandu wami ngedwa. **5** Nxa isibili liziphakamisa ngaphezulu kwami, lingicindezele ngokuyangeka kwami, **6** yazini ukuthi uNkulunkulu ungonile wangithandela ngomambule wakhe. **7** Loba ngingaze ngikhale ngithi, ‘Ngiyahlukuluzwa bo!’ angitholi mpendulo; loba ngicela

uncedo, kangahlulelwa ngokulunga. **8** Uyivalile indlela yami akudluleki; izindlela zami uzembese ngomyama. **9** Usengiphucile konke ukuhlonitshwa wangethula umqhele ekhanda lami. **10** Ungidabula inxa zonke ngize ngiphele du; usiphuna ithemba lami njengesihlahla. **11** Ulaka lwakhe luyavutha kimi; ungibalela phakathi kwezitha zakhe. **12** Amabutho akhe eza ngamandla; angakhela isihonqo sokungivimbezela amise egagqele ithente lami. **13** Usenze abafowethu bangihlamuka; abangane bami sebemelana lami. **14** Izihlobo zami sezihambile; abangane bami sebekhohliwe ngami. **15** Izethekeli zami lezincekuzazi zami zithi ngingowemzini; zingikhangela njengowezizweni. **16** Ngithi nxa ngibiza isisebenzi sami singasabeli, lokuba ngisincenga ngomlomo wami. **17** Ukuphefumula kwami kuyamukela umkami; ngiyenyanyeka kubafowethu. **18** Labafanyana bayangiklolodela; ngithi nxa ngiqhamuka bangihoze. **19** Bonke abangane bami abasekhwaphe bayanengeka ngami; labo engibathandayo sebengifulathele. **20** Angiselalutho ngaphandle kwesikhumba lamathambo kuphela; ngiphephe manayinayi. **21** Ngizwelani usizi, bangane bami, wobani losizi, ngoba isandla sikaNkulunkulu singitshayile. **22** Lingilandelani njengoNkulunkulu na? Lizakufa lasutha ngenyama yami na? **23** Oh, uthi ngabe amazwi ami ayalotshwa, ngabe abhaliwe emqulwini, **24** ngabe athwetshulwe ngensimbi phezu komnuso, loba agujwe edwaleni lanininini! **25** Ngiyazi ukuthi uMhlengi wami uyaphila, lokuthi ekupheleni uzakuma emhlabeni. **26** Kuzakuthi nxa isikhumba sami sesibhujisiwe, kodwa ngikuyo inyama yami ngizambona uNkulunkulu; **27** mina ngokwami ngizambona ngawami amehlo, mina hatsi omunye. Inhliziyo yami iyagubhazela ngokulangatha! **28** Lingaze lithi, 'Sizamingela qho ngoba nguye ozilethele ukuhlupheka,' **29** yini okumele liyesabe inkemba; ngoba intukuthelo izaletha isijeziso ngenkemba, lapho-ke lizakwazi ukuthi kulokwahlulela."

20 Wasephendula uZofari umNahama wathi: **2** "Imicabango yami ekhathazekileyo ingifuqa ukuthi ngiphendule ngoba sengikhubekile kakhulu. **3** Ngizwa kulokukhuzwa okungilulazisayo njalo ukuzwisisa kwami kungifuqela ukuthi ngiphendule. **4** Ngempela uyakwazi ukuthi kwakuvele kunjani lendulo, kusukela ukubekwa komuntu emhlabeni, **5** ukuthi injabulo yomubi imfritshane, intokozo yongakholwayo ngeyomuzuzwana nje. **6** Loba ukuzigqaja kwakhe kufika emazulwini lekhandla lakhe lithinta emayezini, **7** uzabhubha okwaphakade, njengobulongwe bakhe; labo abake bambona bazakuthi, 'Ungaphi kanti?' **8** Njengephupho uyanyamalala angabe esabonwa njalo, axotshwe njengombono webusuku. **9** Ilihlo elake lambona kalisayikumbona njalo; indawo yakhe ingeke ibe isambona. **10** Abantwabakhe bazazincengela ebayangeni ngezandla zakhe abuyisele inotho yakhe. **11** Amadlabuzane obutsha alawo emathanjeni akhe azalala kanye laye othulini. **12** Loba ububi bumnandi emloniyeni wakhe, ebufihla ngaphansi kolimi lwakhe, **13** loba esehluleka ukutshiyana labo abugcine emloniyeni wakhe, **14** kodwa ukudla kwakhe kuzahloba esiswini sakhe; kuzaphenduka kube yibuhlungu bezinyoka ngaphakathi kwakhe. **15** Uzayihlanza yonke inotho ayiginyayo; uNkulunkulu uzakwenza isisu sakhe sikuhlange konke. **16** Uzamunya ubuhlungu bezinyoka; amazinyo ebululu azambulala. **17** Akayikuyikhohisa imifula, leyomifula egeleza uluju lolaza. **18** Lokho akuginqeleyo kumele akubuyise engakudlanga;

akayikuyikhohisa inzuzo yokuthengiselana kwakhe. **19** Ngoba ubebancindezela abayanga basala bengelalutho; wathumba izindlu angazakhanga. **20** Ngempela akayikudeda kulobubuhwaba bakhe; ngeke azisindise ngenotho yakhe. **21** Akusela lutho angabe esaludla; ukuphumelela kwakhe kakuyikuma. **22** Phakathi kwenotho yakhe uzahlaselwa zinhlupho; ubuhlungu buzamehlela ngamandla. **23** Nxa esesigwalisile isisu sakhe, uNkulunkulu uzabhodlilela ulaka lwakhe oluvuthayo kuye akhwele ehle ngezdutshulo phezu kwakhe. **24** Lanxa angaze abalekele isikhali sensimbi umtshoko wethusi uzamciba. **25** Uyawuhwatsha emhlane wakhe, umcijo wawo acimulayo awuhwatshe esibindini. Uzangene yikwesaba okukhulu; **26** wunyama omkhulu uyilindele inotho yakhe. Umlilo ongungumayo uzamqeda utshise lokho okuseleyo ethenteni lakhe. **27** Amazulu azabembula ububi bakhe; umhlaba uzamvukela. **28** Isikhukhula sizayithwala indlu yakhe, kungamanzi azimpophoma mhla wosuku lolaka lukaNkulunkulu. **29** Sinjalo isiphetho uNkulunkulu asimisele ababi, ilifa abalikhethelwe nguNkulunkulu."

21 UJobe wasephendula wathi: **2** "Lalelani kuhle amazwi ami; lokhu akube yinduduzo elingipha yona. **3** Ake lingibezezele nxa ngisakhuluma, ngithi nxa sengikhulumile liklolode. **4** Ukusola kwami kuqonde umuntu yini? Ngingayekelelani ukucunuka pho? **5** Ngikhangelani, lizamangala; vulani imilomo yenu ngezandla. **6** Nxa ngikhumbula ngalokhu ngitshaywa luvalo; ngizwa umzimba wami uqhahazela. **7** Kungani ababi bephila impilo ende, baluphale nje amandla abo esanda? **8** Babona abantwababo bezinza benamile, inzalo yabo layo beyikhangele. **9** Imizi yabo ihlezi kayilakwesaba; induku kaNkulunkulu kayikho phezu kwabo. **10** Inkunzi zabo zikhuthele ziyazala; amankompezi abo azala kuhle kawaphunzi. **11** Abantwababo bayazihambela njengomhlambi; izingane zabo ziyazigidela zichelesile. **12** Bayahlabela betshaya izigubhu lamachacho; bayazithokozisa ngomsindo wemiqangala. **13** Yonke iminyaka yabo ngeyokuphumelela baze bayongena egodini belokuthula. (Sheol h7585) **14** Kodwa bathi kuNkulunkulu, 'Tshiyana lathi! Kasifisi ukuzazi izindlela zakho. **15** Ungubani yena uSomandla ofuna ukuthi simkhonze na? Sizazuzani nxa sikhuleka kuye na?' **16** Kodwa ukuphumelela kwabo kakukho ezandleni zabo, ngakho kangisondeli ezelulekweni zababi. **17** Kodwa kukangaki na isibane sababi sicinywa? Kukangaki beshelelwa ngamabhadi na, abawabelwa nguNkulunkulu ezondile? **18** Kukangaki besiba njengomule emoyeni na, njengamakhoba ephetshulwa yisivunguzane? **19** Kuthiwa, 'UNkulunkulu ulomba isijeziso somuntu asibekele amadodana akhe.' Kajezise yena umuntu ngokwakhe ukuze akwazi! **20** Amehlo akhe kawakubone ukuchithwa kwakhe; kalunathe ulaka lukaSomandla. **21** Ngoba uvele uzihlupha ngani ngemuli avele ezayitshiya nxa izinyanga zakhe azabelweyo seziphelile na? **22** Kambe ukhona ongefundisa uNkulunkulu ulwazi, njengoba yena esahlulela labaphezulu na? **23** Umuntu uyafa ephilile kuhle, kukuhle konke ekhululekile, **24** umzimba wakhe uzimukile, amathambo akhe egcwele umnkantsho. **25** Omunye ufa elobuhlungu emphefumulweni wakhe, evele engakaze akholise lutho oluhle. **26** Bobabili balaliswe ndawonye eceleni komunye othulini, impethu zinyakaze phezu kwabo bobabili. **27** Ngiyazi kamhlophe ukuthi licabangani, amacebo elidinga ukungilimaza ngawo. **28** Lithi, 'Ingaphi-ke manje indlu yesikhulu, amathente

okwakhulala kuwo abantu ababi? **29** Kalikaze libuze labo abahambayo na? Kalize lananzelela izinto abazilandisayo, **30** ukuthi umuntu omubi uyaphepha ngosuku lokubhujiswa na, ukuthi uyakhululwa ngosuku lwesiphithiphithi? **31** Kambe ngubani omtshela ngobubi bakhe ebusweni bakhe na? Ngubani ophindiselayo ngalokho akwenzileyo na? **32** Uthwalelwa engwabeni, lilindwe ingcwaba lakhe ngemfanelo. **33** Inhlabathi esigodini leso imnandi kuye; bonke abantu bayamlandela, banengi kakhulu njalo abahamba kuqala kulaye. **34** Pho-ke lingangiduduzana njani likhuluma ize nje? Akusalanga lutho elilutshoyo ngaphandle kwenkohliso.”

22 U-Elifazi umThemani wasephendula wathi: **2** “Umuntu angasiza uNkulunkulu na? Lesihlakaniphi uqobo kambe singamsiza na? **3** Bekungamupha ntokozi bani uSomandla ukulunga kwakho na? Ubengazuzeni ngabe kuthiwa kawulasici na? **4** Yikumesaba kwakho yini akukhuzela khona lakwethesela khona amacala na? **5** Kabubukhulu ububi bakho na? Lezono zakho angithi kazipheli na? **6** Wawubiza isibambiso kubafowenu kungelasizatho; uhluluba abantu iziqoko zabo basale beze. **7** Abakhatheleyo wawubancitsha amanzi, abalambileyo ungabaphi ukudla, **8** lanxa wena wawuyindoda elamandla, ulepulazi, indoda ehlonitshwayo, uphila kulo. **9** Abafelokazi wabaxotsha ungabaphanga lutho izintandane waziqeda amandla. **10** Kungenxa yalokho usuhanqwe yimijibila, usuhlukuluzwa luhlupho masinyane, **11** yikho kunmyama kangaka ungasaboni, njalo yikho ususibekelwa zimpophoma zamanzi. **12** UNkulunkulu kakho esiqongweni samazulu na? Ake ubone phela ukuthi ziphakeme njani izinkanyezi ezisesiqongweni! **13** Kodwa wena uthi, ‘UNkulunkulu wazini? Angahlulela phakathi komnyama onje? **14** Usithwe ngamayezi amakhulu, ngakho kasiboni nxa ehambahamba ezulwini eliphezulu.’ **15** Wena-ke uzakwalela endleleni endala na eseyahanjwa ngababi? **16** Bedluliswa singakafiki isikhathi sabo, izisekelo zabo zakhukhulwa nguzamcolo. **17** Bathi kuNkulunkulu, ‘Tshiyana lathi! USomandla angasenzani na?’ **18** Ikanti kunguye owagcwalisa izindlu zabo ngezinto ezinhle, ngakho kangingeni ezulekweni zababi. **19** Abalungileyo bayakubona lokho bathokoze; abangelacala bayabahlaka bathi, **20** ‘Ngempela izitha zethu zichithiwe, lokuseleyo kwenotho yazo sekubhuqwe ngumlilo.’ **21** Zehlise kuNkulunkulu ukuze uwelelane laye; ngaleyondlela ukuphumelela kuzakuba kuwe. **22** Yamukela iziqondiso eziphuma emlonyeni wakhe, amazwi akhe uwabeke enhliziyweni yakho. **23** Nxa ubuyela kuSomandla, uzavuselelwa; nxa ususa ububi bube kude lethente lakho **24** lomthuso wakho uwulahlele othuluni, igolide lakho lase-Ofiri ulilahlele emadwaleni ezifuleni, **25** lapho-ke uSomandla uzakuba ligolide lakho, lesiliva esikhethekileyo kuwe. **26** Ngempela uzazuka ukuthokoza kuSomandla uphakamisele ubuso bakho kuNkulunkulu. **27** Uzakhuleka kuye, yena akuzwe, njalo uzagcwalisa izifungo zakho. **28** Lokho okumisileyo kuzakwenziwa, lokukhanya kuzazikhanyisa izindlela zakho. **29** Nxa abantu besehliswa ubusuthi, ‘Baphakamiseni!’ lapho-ke uzabasiza abahlulukelweyo. **30** Uzabasiza lalabo abonayo, abazakhululwa ngenxa yokubamsulwa kwakho.”

23 Waphendula uJobe wathi: **2** “Lalamuhla ukusola kwami kulokhu kubuhlungu kabi, isandla sakhe siyasinda loba ngibubula kangaka. **3** Ngabe ngiyakwazi lapho engingamfumana khona; aluba nje bengingaya emzini

wakhe! **4** Bengizayibeka kuhle indaba yami phambi kwakhe ngigcwalise umlomo wami ngamazwi empikiswano. **5** Bengizakuzwa ukuthi yena uphendula athini, ngikuhlolisise lokho akutshoyo. **6** Kambe angangiphikisa ngamandla na? Hatshi, angazake angethese cala. **7** Lapho umuntu oqotho ubengendala indaba yakhe phambi kwakhe, njalo bengizakhululwa lanini kumahluleli wami. **8** Kodwa nxa ngisiya empumalanga, yena kakho khona; nxa ngisiya entshonalanga, kangimfumani khona. **9** Nxa esemsebenzini enyakatho, kangimboni; angaphendukela eningizimu, kangiboni lokuthi tshazi kwakhe. **10** Kodwa uyayazi indlela engihamba ngayo; nxa esengilingile, ngizaphuma senginjengolide. **11** Inyawo zami bezilokhu zilandelana lezinyathelo zakhe; ngalela endleleni yakhe angaze ngaphambuka. **12** Angigudlukanga emilayweni yezindebe zakhe; ngiwenze igugu amazwi omlomo wakhe ukwedlula isinkwa sami sansukuzonke. **13** Kodwa uzimele yedwa, ngubani ongaphikisana laye na? Uyenza loba yini ayifunayo. **14** Uyagcwalisa isimiso sakhe ngami, njalo manengi amacebo anjalo awagcinileyo. **15** Yikho-nje ngithuthumela ukuma phambi kwakhe; ngithi ngingakukhumbula konke lokhu ngimesabe. **16** UNkulunkulu usenze inhliziyoyi yami yaphela amandla; uSomandla usengethusile. **17** Kodwa kawuyikungithulisa umnyama lo, umnyama lo onzima ovala ubuso bami.”

24 “Kungani uSomandla engabeki izikhathi zokwahlulela na? Kungani labo abamaziyoyi belindela ize bengazazi lezinsuku na? **2** Abantu bayayiqulula imingcele ngokususa izikhonkwane; bayayelusa imihlambi entshontshiwewo. **3** Bayathatha bahambe lobabhemini wentandane, bathathe inkabi yomfelokazi ibe yisibambiso. **4** Abaswelayo bayabagudlula endleleni bancindezela abayanga belizweni baze bayocatsha. **5** Njengababhemini beganga enkangala, abayanga babhudula ukudla; egwaduleni kulapho okuzuzwa khona ukudla kwabantwababo. **6** Babutha ukudla kwenkomo emasimini badobhe okuseleyo ezivini zababi. **7** Ngoba bengelaziqoko balala beze ubusuku bonke; kabalalutho lokuzembesa emqandweni. **8** Bagxonxwa lizulu lezintabeni bakhusele emadwaleni beswele indawo yokuphepha. **9** Umntwana oyintandane uhluthunwa ebeleni; usane lomnyama luyathunjelwa isikwelede. **10** Ngoba bengelaziqoko bahamba nqunu; bathwala izikhwebu zamabele kodwa belambile. **11** Bahlula ama-oliva emigelweni; bagidagida esikhamelweni sewayini kodwa bomile. **12** Ukububula kwabafayo kuzwakala kuphuma edolobheni, lemiphfumulo yabalimeleyo ikhala icela uncedo. Kodwa uNkulunkulu kabeki muntu icala ngenxa yokona. **13** Bakhona labo abahlamukela ukukhanya, abangazaziyo izindlela zalokho kukhanya loba ukuhlala kuzo. **14** Nxa ukukhanya kwemini sekuhambile isigebenga siyaphuma sibulale bamfopo labaswelayo; ebusuku siyanyonyoba njengesela. **15** Ilihlo lesiphingi lilindela ukuhlwa; sikhumbula sithi, ‘Akulamuntu ozangibona,’ sihlala sibusithile ubuso baso. **16** Ebumnyameni abantu bayagqokeza izindlu, kodwa emini bayazivalela endlini; kabakufuni ukukhanya. **17** Bonke labo ubumnyama obukhulu buyikusa kubo; bathandana lezinto ezesabekayo ezobumnyama. **18** Ikanti baligwebu phezu kwamanzi; esabo isabelo selizwe siqalekisiwe, ukuze kungayi muntu ezivini. **19** Njengalokhu ukutshisa lokoma kuhangula ungqwaqwane oncibilikayo, kanjalo ingcwaba liyabahlwitha abenze isono. (Sheol h7585) **20** Isibeletho siyabakhohlwa,

impethu zizitike phezu kwabo; abantu ababi kabasakhunjulwa kodwa bayafohlozwa njengesihlahla. **21** Bancindezela owesifazane oyinyumba longelamntwana, kumfelokazi kabalamusa. **22** Kodwa uNkulunkulu uyazihudulela kude izikhulu ngamandla akhe. Noma bangaze bahlale bazinze kodwa kabalathemba lempilo. **23** Angabayekela bahlale besizwa bevikeleki, kodwa amehlo akhe ayazibona izindlela zabo. **24** Okwesikhatshana nje balodumo, baphinde banyamalale; bayehliswa njalo bafe njengabo bonke abanye; bayaqunywa njengezihloko zamabele. **25** Aluba lokhu kungenjalo, ngubani ongathi ngilamanga alulazise amazwi ami abe yize?”

25 Kwathi-ke uBhilidadi umShuhi waphendula wathi: **2** “Umbuso lesizotha kukuye uNkulunkulu; nguye omisa konke ngemfanelo ezulwini eliphezulu. **3** Amabutho akhe angabalwa na? Ngubani ongaphunyelwa yikukhanya kwakhe na? **4** Pho umuntu angaba ngolungileyo njani kuNkulunkulu na? Angenza njani ozelwe ngowesifazane ukuthi ahlanzeke na? **5** Khangela, nxa inyanga ngokwayo ingakhazimuli, lezinkanyezi zingahlanzekanga emehlweni akhe, **6** pho umuntu-ke usilela kanganan, oyimpethu nje, umuntu, oyinhlava nje kuphela!”

26 UJobe wasephendula wathi: **2** “Usumsize njani ongelamandla! Usuyilamulele njani ingalo ebuthakathaka! **3** Yiseluleko esinjani osusiphe lowo ongelakuhlakanipha! Njalo usubonise mbono bani! **4** Ngubani okuncedisileyo ukukhuluma amazwi la na? Ngokabani umoya okhulume ngomlomo wakho na? **5** Abaflelo basebuhlungwini obukhulu, labo abangaphansi kwamanzi labo abahlala kuwo. **6** UKufa kwamulekile phambi kukaNkulunkulu; ikhamisile indawo yokubhubha. (Sheol h7585) **7** Uyawendula umkhathi wenyakatho endaweni engelalutho; aphyanyeke umhlaba phezu kweze. **8** Ugoqele amanzi emayezini akhe, kodwa amayezi kawapatshaki yikusindwa ngamanzi. **9** Uyayigubuzela inyanga egcweleyo, endlale amayezi phezu kwayo. **10** Umisa umkhawulo wokwengama umkhathi emanzini kube ngumngcele phakathi kokukhanya lobumnyama. **11** Izinsika zamazulu ziyamazama, zisethuswa yikukhuza kwakhe. **12** Ngamandla akhe waluthulisa ulwandle; ngenhlakanipho yakhe waquma uRahabi waba yiziqu. **13** Ngomoya wakhe umkhathi wacethula; isandla sakhe sayigwaza inyoka ibaleka. **14** Njalo le yimisebenzi yakhe engaphandle nje ekucineni; esikuzwayo yilizwana nje lokunyenyeka kwakhe! Pho ngubani ongawuzwisisa umdumo wamandla akhe na?”

27 UJobe waqhubeka ngenkulumo yakhe wathi: **2** “Ngifunga ngoNkulunkulu ophilayo, ngubani ongithathele ilungelo lami lokwahlulelwa ngokulunga, uSomandla, ongizive ubuhlungu bomphfumulo, **3** nxa ngilokhu ngisilempilo ngaphakathi kwami, umphefumulo kaNkulunkulu usemakhaleni ami, **4** izindebe zami kazisoze zikhulume ububi, lolimi lwami kaluyikukhuluma inkohliso. **5** Kangisoze ngivume ukuthi lina lilungile ngelikutshoyo; ngizaze ngiyekufa ngingabulandulanga ubuqotho bami. **6** Ngizakugcina ukulunga kwami ngingakuyekeli; umzwangedwa wami kawuyikungihlupha empilweni yami. **7** Sengathi izitha zami zingaba njengababi, abaxabana lami babe njengabangaqondanga! **8** Ngoba ulethemba bani ongakholwayo nxa esefile, uNkulunkulu angathatha impilo yakhe na? **9** UNkulunkulu uyakulalela yini ukukhala kwakhe nxa usizi lumehlela na? **10** Uzakuthola yini ukuthokoza

kuSomandla? Uzacela kuNkulunkulu sonke isikhathi na? **11** Ngizalifundisa mayelana lamandla kaNkulunkulu; izindlela zikaSomandla kangiyikuzifihla. **12** Lonke lizibonele lokhu ngokwenu. Pho, ngeyeni inkulumo yonke le eyize na? **13** Nansi isabelo uNkulunkulu asiqumela ababi, ilifa elemukelwa ngumuntu olesihluku sivela kuSomandla: **14** Loba bebanengi njani abantwabakhe, isabelo saba yinkemba; lenzalo yakhe kayisoze lanini izuze ukudla okwaneleyo. **15** Isifo esibi sizabangcwaba labo abatshiywa nguye besaphila, labafelokazi babo kabayikubalilela. **16** Lokuba angaze abuthelele isiliva njengothuli lezigqoko zibe yinqwaba njengodaka, **17** lokho akubuthelaleyo abalungileyo bazakugqokela, labangelacala bazakwaba isiliva sakhe. **18** Indlu ayakhala injengesidleke sobulembu, njengedumba elenziwe ngumlindi. **19** Uthi esiyalala enothile, kodwa kasayikuphinda njalo; uthi esevula amehlo, konke sekuphelile. **20** Utshaywa lualo kungathi ufuqwa yisikhukhula; isiphepho siyamhwitha ebusuku. **21** Umoya wempumalanga udlula laye, anyamalale; uyamkhukhula endaweni yakhe. **22** Utshaya phezu kwakhe ngesihluku esithi uyabaleka ecambalele evika amandla awo. **23** Utshaya izandla umhleka ulunya uvunguza laye umsusa endaweni yakhe.”

28 Kulomgodi wesiliva lendawo lapho okucengwa khona igolide. **2** Insimbi ithathwa emhlabathini, lethusi lincibilikiswa emanyeleni. **3** Umuntu uyawuxotsha umnyama; uguduza ezinxoweni eziphansi kude edinga amanye emnyameni othe bhuqe. **4** Khatshana kwezindawo zabantu ugebha umgodi, ezindaweni lapho okungafiki nyawo lwamuntu; khatshana kwabantu uyalenga, azunguzeke. **5** Umhlaba, okuphuma kuwo ukudla, uyaguquka ngaphansi ingathi utshiswe ngomlilo; **6** amasafire amatshe amahle ayaphuma emadwaleni, uthuli lwawo lugcwele igolide. **7** Kakukho nyoni edla inyama eyaziyo leyondlela efihlekileyo, kakulalihlo laluphi ukhozi oselwake lwayibona. **8** Izilo ezizithembileyo kazilubeki unyawo kuyo, njalo kakulasilwane esizingela khona. **9** Isandla somuntu yiso esihlalela idwala eliyinsengsetshe siveze obala impande zezintaba. **10** Uyaligubha idwala angene; ilihlo lakhe liwabone wonke amagugu alo. **11** Uythungatha lapho okudabuka khona imifula aveze obala izinto ezifihlekileyo. **12** Kodwa ukuhlakanipha kungafunyanwa ngaphi na? Kuhlala ngaphi na ukuzwisisa? **13** Umuntu kakuzwisisa ukuqakatheka kwakho; kakufunyanwa elizweni labaphilayo. **14** Phansi ekujuleni kuthi, “Kakukho kimi”; ulwandle luthi, “Kangilakho mina.” **15** Kungeke kwathengwa ngegolide elicolekileyo, njalo lentengo yakho ingeke yalinganiswa ngesiliva. **16** Kungeke kwathengwa ngegolide lase-Ofiri, loba nge-onikisi kumbe isafire. **17** Kungazake kulinganiswe legolide loba amatshe akhazimulayo, njalo kakuzuzwa ngemiceciso yegolide. **18** Amatshe amahle ekhorali lejaspa lawo kawabalwa lapha; intengo yokuhlakanipha ingaphezulu kwamarubhi. **19** Ithophazi yaseKhusi ngeke ilinganiswe lakho; ngeke kuthengwe langegolide elicolekileyo. **20** Pho kuvela ngaphi ukuhlakanipha na? Kuhlala ngaphi ukuzwisisa? **21** Kufihliwe emehlweni ento yonke ephilayo, kucatshisiwe lakuzo izinyoni zasemoyeni. **22** INCithakalo loKufa kuthi, “Amahungahunga akho yiwo kuphela esiwезwayo.” **23** UNkulunkulu uyayizwisisa indlela yakho njalo nguye yedwa okwaziyo lapho okuhlala khona, **24** ngoba uyayikhangelala imikhawulo yomhlaba akubone konke okungaphansi kwamazulu. **25** Wathi emisa umfutho womoya,

elinganisa isimo samanzi, **26** wathi ebeka umthetho wezulu elinayo lendlela yezulu elilesiphepho, **27** wasekukhangela ukuhlakanipha wakuhlola butsha; wakukholwa wakuqinisa, wakulinga ukuthi kuqinile. **28** Wathi emuntwini, “Ukumesaba uThixo yikho ukuhlakanipha, lokuxwaya ububi yikho ukuzwisisa.”

29 UJobe waqhubeka ngenkulamo yakhe wathi: **2** “Ngiyaziyoisa lezozinyanga esezadlulayo, lezinsuku uNkulunkulu esangilinda, **3** lapho isibane sakhe sisakhanyisa phezu kwekhanda lami ngihamba ngokukhanya kwakhe emnyameni! **4** Oh, lezinsuku ngisazizwa ukuthi ngiyimi, lapho ubudlelwano obukhulu loNkulunkulu busesendlini yami, **5** lapho uSomandla eseselami labantwabami besaphila lami, **6** lapho indlela yami ifazwe ngolaza ledwala lingithululela impophoma zamafutha e-oliva. **7** Ekuyeni kwami emasangweni edolobho ngafika ngahlala enkundleni, **8** amajaha angibona agudluka ema eceleni, abadala baphakama bema ngezinyawo; **9** amadoda ayizikhulu athula akaze akhuluma avala imilomo yawo ngezandla zawo; **10** amazwi ezikhulu ehiselwa phansi, inlimi zazo zanamathela olwangeni lwazo. **11** Loba ngubani owangizwayo wakhuluma kuhle ngami, kwathi labo abangibonayo bangibuka, **12** ngoba ngalamulela abayanga abacela uncedo, lezintandane ezazingelamsizi. **13** Indoda eyayisifa yangibusisa; ngenza inhliziyi yomfelokazi yahlabelela. **14** Ngavunula ukulunga njengezigqoko zami; ukwahlulela ngokulunga kwaba yisembatho sami lengwane yami. **15** Ngangingamehlo kwabayiziphofu lezinyawo kwabaqhulayo. **16** Nganginguyise kwabaswelayo; ngayimela indaba yesihambi. **17** Ngawephula amazinyo ababi ngahluthuna labo ababebababile ngamazinyo abo. **18** Ngakhumbula ngathi, ‘Ngizafela endlini yami, insuku zami zinengi njengezinhlamvu zetshehetshebe. **19** Impande zami zizafinyelela emanzini, amazolo azalala emagatsheni ubusuku bonke. **20** Udumo lwami luzahlala lulutsha kimi, idandili lami lilitsha esandleni sami.’ **21** Abantu babengilalela belethamba, belindele ukwelulekwa behule zwi. **22** Nxa sekukhulume mina, kungakhulumi omunye njalo; amazwi ami ayengena kamnandi ezindlebeni zabo. **23** Babengilindela njengokulindela izulu, bawanathe amazwi ami njengezulu lentwaso. **24** Ngangisithi ngingababothekela, bathabe bangakholwa; ukukhanya kobuso bami kwakuligugu kubo. **25** Yimi engangibakhethela ukuthi benzeni ngoba ngisanduna kubo; ngangihlala njengenkosi phakathi kwamabutho ayo; ngangifana lomduduzi wabalilayo.”

30 “Kodwa manje bayangiklolodela, amadoda angabantwana kimi, oyise engangingabehlisha ngibelusise izimvu zami. **2** Amandla ezandla zabo ayengangisiza ngani mina, ngoba amadlabuzane abo ayesephelele; **3** sebejujukile ngokuswela langendlala, bazula elizweni elomileyo emangweni eyinkangala engelalutho ebusuku. **4** Enkotheni khonale bakha imibhida emunyu, ukudla kwabo kuzimpande zezihlahla. **5** Baxotshwa ebantwini bakibo, bathethiswa kungathi babengamasela. **6** Kwasekumele bahlale ezihotsheni zezifula ezomileyo, ezimbalwini emadwaleni lemilindini emhlabathini. **7** Bakhonya phakathi kwezihlahla baququbala ezixukwini. **8** Base bengabantu abaphansi abangaselabizo, sebexotshiwe elizweni. **9** Kodwa manje amadodana abo asengihaya ngengoma; sengiyisiga kubo. **10** Bayangenyanya njalo bamela khatshana lami;

kabathikazi ukungikhafuleka ebusweni. **11** Khathesi njengoba uNkulunkulu eselithukulele idandili lami wangitshaya ngezinhlupeko, sebeklamasa kabasazithinti. **12** Kwesokunene kwami ixuku liyangihlasela; bathiya inyawo zami ngemijibila bakhe imibundu yokungivimbezela. **13** Badiliza indlela yami; bayaphumelela ukungibhidliza besithi ‘Akekho ozamsiza.’ **14** Bahlasela ingathi bafohlale esikheleni esivulekileyo; beza behluleka phezu kwezinqwaba zamanxiwa. **15** Ukwesaba okukhulu kungiphethe; isithunzi sami sobuntu singathi siphethwe ngumoya, ukuvikeleka kwami kunyamalala njengeyezi. **16** Manje impilo yami isincipha; insuku zokuhlupheka zingabambe nko. **17** Ubusuku bugwaza amathambo ami; lokuqaqamba kobuhlungu bami kakupheli. **18** Ngamandla akhe amakhulu uNkulunkulu unjengelembu kimi; uyangikhama ngamabheqe entanyeni yami. **19** Ungivoxela edakeni, ngicina sengiluthuli lomlotha. **20** Ngikhala kuwe, Oh Nkulunkulu, kodwa kawuphenduli; ngiyasukuma, kodwa uyangikhangelaphela. **21** Ungisukela ngesihluku; unghlasela ngamandla esandla sakho. **22** Uyangihlwatha ngiphetsulwe ngumoya; ngiphoseke le lale phakathi kwesiphepho. **23** Ngiyazi ukuthi uzangilalisa phansi ekufeni, endaweni emiselwe konke okuphilayo. **24** Ngempela kakho ombeka isandla umuntu oswelayo nxa ekhalela ukusizwa esebunzimeni. **25** Kangibakhalelanga yini labo abahluphekileyo? Umoya wami kawubazwelanga usizi abayanga na? **26** Kodwa ngathi ngilindele ubuhle, kweza ububi; ngathi ngilindele ukukhanya kweza ubumnyama. **27** Ukudunguluka ngaphakathi kwami kakuhawuli; insuku zokuhlupheka zingijamele. **28** Ngihamba nje ngimnyama kubi, kungesikutshiswa lilanga; ngiyasukuma enkundleni ngicele uncedo. **29** Sengingumfowabo wamakhanka, umkhula wezikhova. **30** Isikhumba sami siba mnyama, siyaxathuka; umzimba wami uyatshisa ngomkhuhlane. **31** Ichacho lami selilungiselwe isililo, lomqangala wami ulindele umkhosi wokukhala.”

31 “Ngasenza isivumelwano lamehlo ami ukuthi angakhangele intombi ayihawukele. **2** Siyini isabelo somuntu asabelwe nguNkulunkulu ophezulu na, ilifa lakhe elivela kuSomandla phezulu? **3** Akusikubhujiswa kwababi lokutshabalaliswa kwalabo abenza okubi na? **4** Kanti kaziboni yini izindlela zami abale zonke izinyathelo zami? **5** Nxa ngike ngahamba ngokwamanga loba unyawo lwami lwakhuthalela inkohliso **6** uNkulunkulu akangikale esikalini sakhe esiqotho ukuze abone ukuthi angilasisi, **7** nxa izinyathelo zami zike zaphambuka endleleni, nxa inhliziyi yami ikhokhelwe ngamehlo ami, noma kumbe izandla zami zike zangcoliswa, **8** lapho-ke abanye kabazidlele lokho engikuhlanyeleyo, njalo amabele ami kawasitshunwe. **9** Nxa inhliziyi yami ike yakhangwa ngowesifazane, kumbe nxa ngike ngacathama ngasemnyango kamakhelwane, **10** lapho-ke owami umfazi kacholele enye indoda, njalo amanye amadoda kawalale laye. **11** Ngoba lokho bekuzakuba lhlazo, isono esifanele ukwahlulelwa. **12** Kungumliro otshisayo onguMaqothula; ngabe kwasiphuna isivuno sami. **13** Nxa ngingaphathanga kuhle izisebenzi zami, esesilisa lesesifazane nxa kukhona abakusolayo kimi, **14** ngizakuthini lapho uNkulunkulu esengibuza ngakho na? Ngizaphendula ngithini nxa sekumele ngichaze na? **15** Yena lowo owangenzayo esibeletshweni kabenzanga labo na? Kasuye yini yena kanye owasenzayo

sonke phakathi kwezisu zabomama na? **16** Nxa ngilahlele eceleni izifiso zabayanga loba ngayekela amehlo omfelokazi edinwa yizinyembezi, **17** nxa ngizidlele ngedwa isinkwa sami, ngingasabelani lezintandane, **18** kodwa ebutsheni bami ngabondla njengaboyise, njalo kusukela ekuzalweni kwami ngamkhokhela umfelokazi, **19** nxa ngike ngabona umuntu esifa ngokuswela izigqoko, loba umuntu oswelayo engelasivunulo, **20** njalo inhlizyo yakhe ayingibuisanga ngokumfudumeza ngoboya bezimvu zami, **21** nxa ngike ngaphakamisa isandla sami phezu kwentandane, kodwa mina ngikwazi ukuthi bayangilalele emthethwandaba, **22** nxa kunjalo kayikhumuke ingalo yami kusukela ehombe, kayephulwe endololwaneni. **23** Ngoba ngesaba ukubhubhisa kukaNkulunkulu, kwathi ngokwesaba inkazimulo yakhe, ngayekela ukwenza izinto ezinjalo. **24** Nxa ngifake ithemba lami phezu kwegolide, loba ngathi kulo igolide elicolekileyo, 'Ulithemba lami,' **25** nxa bengithokoziswa yinotro yami enengi, lenzuzo evele ngezandla zami, **26** nxa ngilikhangele ilanga libenyezela loba inyanga ihamba ngenkazimulo, **27** yaze yayengeka inhlizyo yami ngaphakathi nganga isandla sami ukuzikhonza, **28** lezi lazo yizono ebezifanele ukwahlulelwa, ngoba bengizabe ngingathembekanga kuNkulunkulu ophezulu. **29** Nxa ngike ngathokoza ngomnyama owehlele isitha sami kumbe ngagqabhaza ngohlupho olumehleleyo, **30** kangivumelanga umlomo wami ukuba wenze isono ngokuqalekisa ukuphila kwakhe, **31** nxa abantu bendlu yami bengakaze bathi, 'Ngubani ongazange azitike ngenyama kaJobe na?' **32** kodwa kakulasihambi esake salala emgawqweni, ngoba umnyango wami wawuhlala uvulelwe izihambi **33** nxa ngisithukuzile isono sami njengokwenziwa ngabantu, ngokufihla umlandu wami enhliziyweni yami **34** ngoba ngisesaba abantu ngithuthunyeliswa yikweyiswa ngabosendo ngazithulela ngaze ngala lokuphumela phandle. **35** (Oh, kube ukhona ongizwayo! Sengisayina incwadi yokuzivikela kwami, uSomandla kangiphendule; ongimangalelayo kabhale phansi icala angethesa lona. **36** Leyoncwadi ngingayithwala ehombe lami, ngingayithwala ekhanda njengomqhele. **37** Bengingamchazela ngokugcweleyo ngazozonke izinyathelo wami; ngisondele kuye njengenkosana.) **38** Nxa ilizwe lakithi lingiphika lemfolofalo yalo imanzi ngizinyembezi, **39** nxa ngike ngadla izithelo zalo angaze ngabhadala loba ngephula imimoya yabanikazi, **40** nxa kunjalo kakumile ameva esikhundleni sengqoloyi, lokhula esikhundleni sebhali." Aphela lapha amazwi kaJobe.

32 Amadoda la womathathu ema ukuphendula uJobe ngoba wayelungile ngokubona kwakhe. **2** Kodwa u-Elihu indodana kaBharakeli umBhuzi, owendlu kaRamu, wamzondela uJobe ngokuzigeza yena endaweni yokugezwa nguNkulunkulu. **3** Wayebazondele njalo labangane labo bobathathu ngoba babengayitholanga indlela yokuphikisa uJobe kodwa bemlahlile ngokumsola. **4** U-Elihu wayeke wema ukukhuluma loJobe ngoba babebadala kulaye. **5** Kodwa kwathi esebona ukuthi wonke amadoda womathathu ayengaselalutho ayengalutsho, ulaka lwakhe lwavutha. **6** Ngakho-ke u-Elihu indodana kaBharakeli umBhuzi wathi: "Ngimncinyane ngeminyaka, lina libadala; yikho bengisesaba, ngithikaza ukutsho engikwaziyo. **7** Ngikhumbule ngathi, 'Kukhulume ubudala; iminyaka yokukhula kayifundise ukuhlakanipha.' **8** Kodwa kungumoya osemuntwini, ukuphefumula kukaSomandla, okumupha ukuqedisa. **9**

Kakusibo bodwa abadala abahlakaniphileyo, njalo kakusibo bodwa abalupheleyo abakuzwisayo okulungileyo. **10** Ngakho ngithi: Lalelani kimi; lami ngizalitshela engikwaziyo. **11** Bengithule lisakhuluma, ngikulalele ukucabanga kwenu; lathi lisadinga amazwi, **12** ngalilalela ngokupheleleyo. Kodwa kakho lamunye kini othshengise ukuthi uJobe ulahlekile; kakho omunye wenu osephendule imibono yakhe. **13** Lingaze lathi, 'Sekutholile ukhulakanipha; uNkulunkulu kaveze ukuphosisa kwakhe, hatsi umuntu.' **14** Kodwa uJobe kakaqondisisi amazwi akhe kimi, futhi kangiyikumphendula ngendlela yenu yokuphikisa. **15** Sebededile kabaselakho okunye abangakutsho; sebesilela amazwi. **16** Ngike ngime na njengoba sebethule, sebemi nje laphayana bengaselampendulo? **17** Lami ngisake ngikhulume; lami ngizakutsho engikwaziyo. **18** Ngoba manengi amazwi engilawo, umoya ongaphakathi kwami uyangifuqa; **19** ngaphakathi ngiyafuthelana njengewayini elivalelwe embodleni; njengemixhaka yewayini esifuna ukudubuka. **20** Kumele ngikhulume ukuze ngibhodle; kumele ngivule indebe zami ngiphendule. **21** Kangizakutshengisa ubandlululo loba kukubani, futhi kangisoze ngiyenge muntu; **22** ngoba ngabe ngangiligabazi ekukhulumeni, uMenzi wami ubezangisusa masinyane."

33 "Khathesi-ke, Jobe, lalela amazwi ami; lalelisisa konke engikutshoyo. **2** Sengizawuvula umlomo wami; amazwi ami asesolimini lwami. **3** Amazwi ami aphuma enhliziyweni eqotho; izindebe zami zikhuluma ngokukholwa lokho engikwaziyo. **4** UMoya kaNkulunkulu wangenza; umphefumulo kaSomandla ungipha impilo. **5** Ngiphendula nxa usenelisa; zilungiselele ukuthi ungiphikise. **6** Lami nginjengawe phambi kukaNkulunkulu; lami njalo ngathathwa emhlabathini. **7** Ukungesaba kwakho makungakwethusi, njalo isandla sami masingasindi kuwe. **8** Kodwa ukhulumile ngisizwa, ngiwezile amazwi wona kanye, **9** 'Ngimsulwa njalo kangilasono; ngihlanzekile kangilamlandu. **10** Ikanti uNkulunkulu ubone okusolekayo kimi; ungithatha njengesitha sakhe. **11** Uyazikhina inyawo zami ngezibopho; uyaziqaphelisisa zonke izindlela zami.' **12** Kodwa ngiyakutshela ukuthi lapha uyalahleka, uNkulunkulu mkhulu kulomuntu. **13** Kungani umsola usithi kaphenduli amazwi omuntu na? **14** Ngempela uNkulunkulu uyakhuluma, khathesi akhulume ngale indlela, aphinde akhulume ngenye lokuba umuntu angaze akunanzelela. **15** Kungaba ngephupho, kube ngombono ebusuku lapho abantu belele befille bethe nya emibhedeni yabo, **16** angakhuluma ezindlebeni zabo, abethuse ngezixwayiso, **17** ukuze aguqule umuntu ekwenzeni okubi aqede ukuzikhukhumeza kwakhe, **18** ukulondolozela umphefumulo wakhe ungayi egodini, lempilo yakhe ingabhubhi ngenkamba. **19** Loba umuntu angajeziswa ngobuhlungu esembhedeni wakhe, langokuqaqamba okungathuliyo emathanjeni akhe, **20** aze ezwe umzimba wakhe usunengwa yikudla lomoya wakhe usenyanya lokudla okumnandi kakhulu. **21** Inyama yakhe iyacikizeka iphele, lamathambo akhe ayekade evaliwe abonakale egcekeni. **22** Umoya wakhe uyasondele egodini, lempilo yakhe kuzo izithunywa zokufa. **23** Kodwa nxa kulengilos eceleni kwakhe, engumeli, eyodwa phakathi kwenkulungwane, ukutshela umuntu okuyikho okumfaneleyo, **24** ukuba lomusa kuye isithi, 'Mxolele angayingena egodini; sengimzuzele inhlawulo yakhe yokumhlenga **25** bese inyama yakhe ivuselelwa njengeyomntwana; iyavuselelwa ibe njengezinsukwini zobutsha bakhe.' **26**

Uyakhuleka kuNkulunkulu amthokozele, abubone ubuso bukaNkulunkulu amemeze ngentokoza; uyabuyiselwa nguNkulunkulu esimeni sakhe sokulunga. **27** Kuthi-ke abesebuya ebantwini athi, 'Ngenza isono, ngahlanekela okulungileyo, kodwa kangisazuzanga obekungifanele. **28** Wawuhlanga umphefumulo wami ukuze ungayi egodini, ngakho ngizaphila ukuze ngikhohise ukukhanya.' **29** UNkulunkulu uyayenza zonke lezizinto emuntwini kabili, noma kathathu **30** ukubuyisa umphefumulo wakhe ungayi egodini, ukuthi isibane sokuphila sikhanye kuye. **31** Nanzelela, Jobe, ulalele kimi; thula kukhulume mina. **32** Nxa ululutho lokutsho, ngiphendula; khuluma sibili, ngoba ngifuna ukuthi ugezwe umlandu. **33** Kodwa nxa lungekho lalala kimi; thula zwi mina ngizakufundisa ukuhlakanipha."

34 U-Elihu waqhubeka esithi: **2** "Zwanini amazwi ami, lina madoda ahlakaniphileyo; lalalani kimi, lina madoda ayizifundiswa. **3** Phela indlebe iyawahlola amazwi njengolimi lunambitha ukudla. **4** Asizihluzeleni thina okulungileyo; kasifundeni ndawonye okuhle. **5** UJobe uthi, 'Kangilacala, kodwa uNkulunkulu kangahluleli ngokulunga. **6** Loba mina ngiqondile, kuthiwa ngilamanga; loba ngingelacala, umtshoko wakhe unghlaba isilonda esingelaphekiyo. **7** UJobe kanti ungumuntu bani, onatha ukuklolodela njengamanzi? **8** Uzwana labantu abenza ububi; uhambisana labantu ababi. **9** Ngoba uthi, 'Umuntu kakumsizi ngalutho ukuzama ukuthokozisa uNkulunkulu.' **10** Ngakho lalalani kimi lina madoda azwisayo. Kakube khatshana laye uNkulunkulu ukwenza ububi, khatshana kukaSomandla ukona. **11** Uyamphindisela umuntu ngalokho akwenzileyo; umehlisela lokho okufanele ukuziphatha kwakhe. **12** Kakungeni engqondweni ukuthi uNkulunkulu angenza ububi, ukuthi uSomandla angakutshila ukwahlulela ngokulunga. **13** Ngubani owambekayo phezu komhlaba na? Ngubani owathi kalawule umhlaba wonke na? **14** Aluba wayengathanda asuse umoya wakhe lokuphefumula, **15** bonke abantu babengatshabalala kanyekanye, umuntu wayezabuyela othulini. **16** Nxa lilokuzwisisa, zwanini lokhu; lalalani lokhu engikutshoyo. **17** Kambe lowo ozonda ukwahlulela ngokulunga angabusa na? Liyamlahla yini Yena oqotho njalo olamandla? **18** Kayisuye yini othi emakhosini, 'Kalisizi lutho,' athi kwabayizikhulu, 'Libabi,' **19** ongatshengisi ukwazisa amakhosana kulabanye loba athande abanothileyo kulabayanga, ngoba bonke bangumsebenzi wezandla zakhe? **20** Bayafa nje masinyane, loba phakathi kobusuku; abantu bayanyikinywa bedlule; abalamandla bayasuswa kungelasandla somuntu. **21** Amehlo akhe aphezu kwezindlela zabantu; ubona zonke izinyathelo zabo. **22** Akulandawo emnyama loba ithunzi elisithileyo, lapho abenzi bobubi abangacatsha khona. **23** UNkulunkulu kasweli ukuthi aphinde abahlolisise abantu, ukuze abalethe ekwahlulelweni phambi kwakhe. **24** Engaqalanga wahlola uyabaphahlaza abalamandla abeke abanye endaweni yabo. **25** Ngoba ezinanzelela izenzo zabo, uyabagenqula ebusuku bahlifizeke. **26** Uyabajezisa ngenxa yobubi babo kube segcekeni emuntwini wonke, **27** ngoba baphambuka ekumlandeleni abaze banaka layiphi indlela yakhe. **28** Benza ukukhala kwabayanga kweza phambi kwakhe, laye wakuzwa ukukhala kwabaswelelo. **29** Kodwa nxa elokhu ezithulele, ngubani ongamsola na? Angafihla ubuso bakhe ngubani ongambona na? Kanti uphezu komuntu lesizwe ngokufanayo, **30** ukwalela

ongamesabiyo uNkulunkulu ukuthi abuse, ukuze angafakeli abantu izifu. **31** Akesithi umuntu athi kuNkulunkulu, 'Ngilecala kodwa kangisayikona njalo. **32** Ngifundisa lokho engingakuboniyo; nxa ngenze okubi, kangisayikuphinda ngikwenze.' **33** Pho uNkulunkulu akuvuze ngokwentando yakho na, wena usala ukuphenduka? Kumele ukhethe wena, hatshi mina; ngakho ngitshela lokho okwaziyo. **34** Amadoda alokuqedisa azakutsho, amadoda ahlakaniphileyo abangizwayo ngisithi kini, **35** 'UJobe ukhuluma engelalwazi; amazwi akhe kawalambono.' **36** Oh, uJobe angasake alingwe ngokweqileyo ngoba uphendule njengomuntu omubi! **37** Phezu kwesono sakhe wengeza ukhulamuka; uyakloloda ngokuqakeza izandla zakhe phakathi kwethu andise amazwi akhe aphikisa uNkulunkulu."

35 U-Elihu wasesithi: **2** "Ukhumbula ukuthi lokhu kulungile yini? Uthi, 'Ngizagezwa nguNkulunkulu.' **3** Kodwa uyambuza uthi, 'Kungisiza ngani lokhu na, njalo ngizuzani ngokungenzi isono?' **4** Ngithanda ukukuphendula kanye labangane bakho abalapha. **5** Ake ukhangele emazulwini ubone; khangele amayezi aphakeme kangaka ngaphezu kwakho. **6** Ungamazenze isono, lokho kumthinta ngani na? Nxa izono zakho zizinengi, kwenzani lokho kuye na? **7** Nxa ulungile, kuyini omnika khona wena na, kumbe yena wamukelani esandleni sakho? **8** Ububi bakho bulimaza kuphela umuntu onjengawe, lokulunga kwakho kuthinta amadodana abantu kuphela. **9** Abantu bayakhala ngomthwalo wokuncindezela; bacela ukuphunyuzwa ezingalweni zalaba abalamandla. **10** Kodwa kakho othi, 'Ungaphi uNkulunkulu uMenzi wami na, opha amahubo ebusuku, **11** osifundisayo thina kulezinyamazana zalapha emhlabeni asenze sihlakaniphe kulezinyoni zasemoyeni?' **12** Kaphenduli nxa abantu beziba ngenxa yokuziphakamisa kwababi. **13** Ngempela uNkulunkulu kakulaleli ukuncenga kwabo kwamanga; uSomandla kayilaleli into enjalo. **14** Kuzakuba njani pho, angakulalela nxa usithi kawumboni, usithi indaba yakho iphambi kwakhe ngakho kuzamele ulinde yena, **15** njalo futhi, ukuthi ulaka lwakhe kalujezisi njalo akabananzi lakancane ububi. **16** Yikho uJobe evula umlomo wakhe ekhuluma ize; ngokuswela ulwazi wandisa amazwi."

36 U-Elihu waqhubeka esithi: **2** "Ake lingibekezelele okwesikhathshana ukuze ngilitshengise ukuthi kunengi okumele kutshiwo ngobuhle bukaNkulunkulu. **3** Ngiluzuzo kude ulwazi lwami; ngithi ukwahlulela okulungileyo ngokukaMenzi wami. **4** Yiba leqiniso ukuthi amazwi ami aqinisile; yena ophelelo elwazini ulawe. **5** UNkulunkulu umlandla, kodwa keyisi muntu; ulamandla njalo katshedi ezimisweni zakhe. **6** Ababi kabayekeli bephila kodwa abahluphekayo uyabapha okubafanelelo. **7** Kawasusi amehlo akhe kwabalungileyo; ubakhweza esihlalweni kanye lamakhosi abaphakamise nini lanini. **8** Kodwa nxa abantu bebotshe ngamaketa, bethiwe nko ngezibopho zezinhlupheko, **9** uyabatshele lokho abakwenzileyo, ukuthi benze isono ngokuziphakamisa. **10** Ubenza balalele ukuqondiswa abalaye ukuthi baphenduke ebubini babo. **11** Nxa bemlalela bamkhonze, zonke insuku zabo eziselelo zizaphumelela, leminyaka yabo ibe ngeyokusuthiseka. **12** Kodwa nxa bengalaleli, bazabhubha ngenkamba, bafe bengelalwazi. **13** Abangamesabiyo uNkulunkulu bagodle ukusola enhliziyweni; loba angaze ababophe kabaceli ukusizwa. **14** Bafa besesebatsha,

bephakathi kweziphingi ezingamadoda, ezihlala ezindaweni zokukhonzela. **15** Kodwa labo abahluphekayo uyabakhulula ekhuluphekeni kwabo; ukhuluma labo besezinkathazweni zabo. **16** Uyakulumukisa ukuthi uphume emihlathini yosizi uye endaweni ebanzi, ekhululekileyo njalo engelazibopho, ebumnandini betafula yakho igcwele izidlo ezimnandi. **17** Kodwa manje usindwa yikwahlulelwa okulungele ababi; ukuthonisiswa lokwahlulelwa ngokulunga yikho osekukuduba. **18** Qaphela kungabikhona okulingayo ngenotho; ungavumeli ukuthengwa ngemali kukususe endleleni. **19** Kambe inotho yakho loba konke ukutshikatshika kwakho kungakusekela ukuze ungenani osizini na? **20** Ungalangazeleli ubusuku, ukuze uyohudula abantu ezindaweni zabo. **21** Qaphela ungangeni kokubi, okukhanya ingathi uyakuthanda kulokuhlupheka. **22** UNkulunkulu uphakeme ngamandla akhe. Ngubani ongafundisa njengaye na? **23** Ngubani omisele izindlela zakhe na, loba othe kuye, 'Usuwenze okungalunganga?' **24** Khumbula ukukhulisa umsebenzi wakhe, abantu abawudumisileyo ngegoma. **25** Bonke abantu jikelele bakubonile lokhu; abantu bakukhangela bemi khatshana. **26** Ubukhulu bukaNkulunkulu bungaphezulu kokuzwisisa kwethu! Iminyaka yakhe ingezake yaziwe. **27** Uyawadonsa amathonsi amanzi, aqulungane abe lizulu elingena ezifuleni; **28** amayezi athulula amanzi awo kune izulu elikhulu ebantwini. **29** Ngubani ongakuzwisisa ukuthi uwendlala njani amayezi na, ukuthi ukhwaza njani esesiqongweni sakhe na? **30** Ake libone ukuthi uwuhlakaza njani umbane wakhe azizingezelele ngawo, abhuktshe ezizinkwi zolwandle. **31** Yiyo indlela abusa ngayo izizwe aziphe ukudla okwengi. **32** Ugcwalisa izandla zakhe ngombane awukhombise lapho omele utshaye khona. **33** Ukuduma kwakhe kubika isiphepho esizayo; lenkomo ziyatshengisa ukuza kwaso."

37 "Konke lokhu kwenza inhliziyoyami itshaye ize itshede endaweni yayo. **2** Lalela! Lalela ukubhonga kwelizwi lakhe, ukuzamazama okuphuma emlonjeni wakhe. **3** Yawukhulula umbane wakhe ngaphansi kwawo wonke amazulu awuthumele emikhawulweni yomhlaba. **4** Ngemva kwalokho kuza umdumo wokubhonga kwakhe; uduma ngelizwi lakhe lobukhosi. Nxa ilizwi lakhe seliqaqamba ulikhulula lonke angaligodli. **5** Ilizwi likaNkulunkulu liduma ngezindlela ezimangalisayo; wenza izinto ezinkulu ngaphezu kokuzwisisa kwethu. **6** Utshela ungwagwane athi, 'Khithika phezu komhlaba,' lezulu athi kulo, "Thululeka ube yisihlambo esikhulu." **7** Ukuze kuthi bonke abantu abadelayo bakwazi ukusebenza kwakhe, uyamisa umuntu wonke emsebenzini wakhe. **8** Izinyamazana ziyacatsha; zihlale ezikhundleni zazo. **9** Isiphepho siyaphuma ekamelweni laso, umqando uphume entshongolweni esikayo. **10** Ukuphefumula kukaNkulunkulu kukhupha iliqhwa, amanzi aluwaca ajiye abe yilitshe. **11** Ugcwalisa amayezi ngamanzi; ahlakaze umbane wakhe ngawo. **12** Ngokuqondisa kwakhe ayaqhela embese umhlaba wonke ukuze enze loba yini awalaya yona. **13** Uyaawaletha amayezi ajezise ngawo abantu, loba ukuthelezela umhlaba wakhe ukuze atshengise uthando lwakhe. **14** Lalela lokhu, Jobe; akume ukhumbule izimangaliso zikaNkulunkulu. **15** Uyakwazi na ukuthi uNkulunkulu uwalawula njani amayezi enze umbane wakhe ulavuke? **16** Uyakwazi na ukuthi amayezi emi njani elengile, leyomimangaliso yakhe yena lowo opheleleyo elwazini? **17** Wena ogingqiswa yikutshisa kwezizigqoko zakho nxa umhlaba uthule zwi kubetha umoya waseningizimu, **18**

ungamncedisa yini ukwendlala isibhakabhaka, esilukhuni njengesibuko sensimbi yethusi? **19** Ake usitshale ukuthi pho sithini kuye; ngeke siyimise kuhle indaba yethu ngoba kunnyama nje lapha kithi. **20** Atshelwe kambe ukuthi ngifuna ukukhuluma? Ukhona umuntu ongacela ukuthi aginywe? **21** Phela kakho ongalikhangela ilanga, njengoba licazimula kangaka esibhakabhakeni nxa umoya uwaphephule wonke amayezi kwacethula. **22** Esuka enyatho uqhamuka ngenkazimulo enjengogolide; uNkulunkulu uqhamuka ngobukhosi obesabekayo. **23** USomandla asingeke simfinyelele njalo uphakeme ulamandla; ekwahluleleni kwakhe okuhle lokulunga okukhulu kancindezeli. **24** Ngakho-ke abantu bayamhlonipha, ngoba kanti kabanaki yini bonke abahlakaniphileyo enhliziyweni?"

38 UThixo wasekhuluma loJobe ephakathi kwesiphepho. Wathi: **2** "Ngubani na lowo odunga amacebo ami ngamazwi okungazi? **3** Qina njengendoda; ngizakubuza, lawe uzangiphendula. **4** Wawungaphi lapho ngibeka izisekelo zomhlaba na? Ngitshela nxa uqedisisa. **5** Ngubani owamisa izilinganiso zawo na? Phela angithi uyazi! Ngubani owayidonsayo intambo yokulinganisa kuno na? **6** Izinsika zawo zamiswa phezu kwani na, loba ngubani owamisa ilitshe lawo lekheneni na? **7** Lapho izinkanyezi zokusa zazihlabelela kanyekanye lezingilosi zonke zamemeza ngentokozo? **8** Ngubani owavalela ulwandle ngemva kwezivalo lapho selufohla esiswini na? **9** Lapho ngisenza amayezi abo yisembatho salo na ngalugoqela ngomnyama omkhulu, **10** lapho ngalubekela imikhawulo ngamisa iminyango yalo lemigoqo endaweni yayo, **11** lapho engathi, 'Ungeza uze ufike lapha kodwa ungedluli; kulapha amagagasi akho azizqajayo aphelela khona?' **12** Sewake wabekela ikuseni umthetho na, loba watshengisa ukusa indawo yakho **13** ukuba kuphakamise umhlaba ngemiphetho kuthintithe ababi abakuwo? **14** Umhlaba ubumbeka isimo njengebumba ufakwe uphawu; imibala yawo ikhanye ithi bha njengelembu. **15** Ababi bayacitshelwa ukukhanya, lengalo yabo ephakanyisiweyo iyepulwa. **16** Sewake wahamba emithonjeni yolwandle na loba wahamba ezingoxweni zenzi yalo na? **17** Amasango okufa aseke abonakaliswa kuwe na? Usuke wawabona amasango ethunzi lokufa na? **18** Ubuqedisisile na ubukhulu bobubanzi bomhlaba? Ngitshela nxa ukwazi konke lokhu. **19** Yiphi indlela eya ekhaya elihlala ukukhanya na? Ubumnyama bona buhlala ngaphi? **20** Ungakusa ezindaweni zakho na? Uyazazi izindlela eziya emizini yazo na? **21** Ye uyakwazi, ngoba wawuvele usuzelwe! Usuphile iminyaka yonke le! **22** Sewake wangena eziphaleni zikangqawwane loba wabona iziphala zesiqhotho na, **23** engizilindisele izikhathi zohlupho, insuku zempi lokuhlalasa na? **24** Izulu elinayo liloyise na? Ngubani onguyise wamathonsi amazolo na? **29** Ngesikabani isisu esizala iliqhwa na? Ngubani ozala umtshazo ovela phezulu na? **30** Lapho amanzi abalukhuni njengelitshe, lapho iphezulu yolwandle jiyile? **31** Ungasibopha na isiLimela lesi esihle? Ungazithukulula yini izintambo zeziNja? **32** Ungawuletha na umThala ngesikhathi sawo loba

ukhuphe inkanyezi ethiwa yiNgulube lemidlwane yayo? **33** Uyayazi imithetho yasezulwini na? Ungawakha yini umbuso kaNkulunkulu emhlabeni? **34** Ungawamemeza yini amayezi uthi akunethise ngesihlambo samanzi? **35** Uyakuthuma yini ukuphazima kombane? Uyabika kuwe yini uthi, 'Ngilapha'? **36** Ngubani owapha inhliziyo ukuhlakanipha kumbe owapha ingqondo ukuzwisisa na? **37** Ngubani ololwazi lokubala amayezi na? Ngubani ongagenqula amaqhaga asezulwini na **38** nxa uthuli seluqina lamagade omhlabathi esebumbene? **39** Uyasizingelela na isilwanekazi ukudla kwaso, uyiqede indlala yezilwane **40** lapho zilele ezikhundleni zazo kumbe zizwathile ezixukwini? **41** Ngubani opha iwabayi ukudla lapho amatsiyane alo ekhala kuNkulunkulu ezulazula ehayila ngendlala na?"

39 "Uyakwazi na ukuthi amagogo azala nini? Uyawubukele yini nxa impalakazi izala izinyane layo? **2** Uyawuzibale yini izinyanga zize zizale? Uyasazi isikhathi ezizazala ngaso na? **3** Ziyalala phansi zizale abantwana bazo; kube sekuphela ubuhlungu bokuhelelwa kwazo. **4** Amazinyane azo ayaqina akhule abe lamandla enganeni; ayasuka ahambe angabuyi. **5** Ngubani owakuhlula ubabhemi weganga na? Ngubani owathukulula igoda lakhe na? **6** Ngamupha ngwadule lwaba likhaya lakhe, lenkangala yetswayi ibe ngumango wakhe. **7** Uyazincifela iziphithiphithi zedolobho; kakuzwa ukukhahlanyezwa ngumtshayeli. **8** Uyazihambela abhode izintaba emadlweni akhe edinga loba yini eluhlaza. **9** Inyathi kambe izavuma ukukusebenzela na? Izahlala esibayeni sakho ebusuku na? **10** Ungayibamba ngomchilo ulime ngayo na? Ingazilima na izigodi zakho? **11** Ungayithemba yini ngenxa yamandla ayo amakhulu na? Ungawuyekelela yona umsebenzi wakho onzima na? **12** Ungayithemba ukuthi izalayitsha amabele akho na iwase esizeni? **13** Impiko zentshe zitshaya kakuhle, kodwa ngeke zilinganiswe lempiko kanye lezinsiba zengabuzane. **14** Ibekela amaqanda ayo emhlabathini iwayekele afudumale etshebetshebeni, **15** inganakananga ukuthi unyawo oluthile lungawahlifiza, ukuthi inyamazana yeganga ethile ingawanyathela. **16** Amatsiyane ayo iyawakhahlameza, kube sengathi akusi wayo; ingakhathali ukuthi ukubekela kwayo kwaba yize, **17** ngoba uNkulunkulu kayiphanga ukuhlakanipha loba ingqondo yokubona okufaneleyo. **18** Kodwa nxa isiselula impiko zayo ukuthi igijime, iyalihleka ibhiza lomgadi walo. **19** Uyalipha na wena ibhiza amandla kumbe ugqokise intamo yalo ngomhlonga na? **20** Uyalenza leqe njengentethe na, lingethuse ngokuhwabha kwalo kokuziqenya? **21** Liyaphanda ngenkani, lithokoziswa ngamandla alo, lidlubulunde lihlasela isitha. **22** Liyakuhleka ukwesaba, kalesabi lutho; kaliyikhekhelezi inkemba. **23** Umxhaka wemitshoko ukhehlezele emhlubulweni walo, ndawonye lomkhonto obenzelayo kanye lomdikadika. **24** Liyafuthelana ngamadlabuzane ligijime limbe phansi; kakulivumeli ukuma nxa icilongo selikhala. **25** Konela ukuthi likhale icilongo lihwabhe lithi, 'Aha!' Lihle lilizwe iphunga lempi isekhatshana, ukukhwaza kwezinduna lomkhosi wempi. **26** Ukhozi luphatshiswa yikuhlakanipha kwakho na lwelule impiko zalo ziqonde eningizimu? **27** Ukhozi luntweza ngokutshelwa nguwe yini kanye lokwakhela isidleke salo esiqongweni? **28** Luhlala eliweni, lulale khona ebusuku; idwala elililiwa yilo inqaba yalo. **29** Ludinga ukudla kwayo lusuka khona; amehlo alo akubona ekude. **30** Amatsiyane alo azitika ngegazi, kuthi lapho okulokubuleweyo khona lalo lukhona."

40 UThixo wathi kujobe: **2** "Lowo ophikisana loSomandla angamqondisa na? Yena lowo obeka uNkulunkulu icala kamphendule!" **3** Ngakho uJobe wasephendula uThixo wathi: **4** "Kakungilingananga, ngingakuphendula njani na? Ngivala umlomo wami ngesandla sami. **5** Ngikhulumile kanye, kodwa kangilampendulo, kabili, kodwa kangisayikukhulema njalo." **6** UThixo wasekhuluma loJobe ephakathi kwesiphopho wathi: **7** "Qina njengendoda; ngizakubuzi, wena uzangiphendula. **8** Ungakusola na ukwahlulela kwami ngokulunga? Ungangilahla ukuze uzigeze na? **9** Ulayo ingalo enjengekaNkulunkulu na, njalo ilizwi lakho lingaduma njengelakhe yini? **10** Nxa kunjalo zicicise ngobukhosi langenkazimulo, uzembathise ngodume lobukhosi. **11** Khulula ukuvutha kolaka lwakho, khangela wonke umuntu ozigqajayo umthobise, **12** khangela wonke umuntu ozigqajayo umbeke phansi, ubacobodise ababi khonapho abakhona. **13** Bamebele bonke ndawonye othulini; goqela ubuso babo engcwabeni. **14** Lapho-ke lami ngizavuma kuwe ukuthi isandla sakho sokunene singakusindisa. **15** Khangela imvubu, engayidala kanye lawe njalo edla utshani njengenkomo. **16** Ilamandla amangalisayo okhalweni lwayo, amandla angaka emisipheni yesisu sayo! **17** Umsila wayo uyazunguza njengomsedari; imisipha yemilenze yayo yalukene. **18** Amathambo ayo alezimibobo zethusi, izitho zayo zinjengemiqwayi yensimbi. **19** Iyinqalwa yezidalwa zikaNkulunkulu, kodwa uMenzi wayo angayehlula ngenkemba yakhe. **20** Izintaba zimlethela izithelo zazo, kuthi zonke izilo zeganga zidlalele eduze. **21** Ilala ngaphansi kwezihlahla ezibukekayo, isithekile phakathi kwemihlanga exhaphozini. **22** Izihlahla ezinhle ziyayisitha ngemithunzi yazo; imidubu okhunjini lomfula iyihonqolozele. **23** Nxa umfula uthwele izikhukhula kayethuki; kayithi thiki lokuba ijodani ithululela impophoma emlonyeni wayo. **24** Ukhona yini ongayibamba ngamehlo, kumbe ayithiye ayibhoboze amakhala na?"

41 "Ungambamba na uLeviyathani ngewuka loba uhitshele ulimi lwakhe ngentambo na? **2** Ungawufaka umkhala yini emakhaleni akhe kumbe ubhoboze umhlathi wakhe ngewuka na? **3** Uzabe elokhu ekucenga yini ukuthi umzwele? Uzakhuluma lawe ngamazwi aphilileyo yini? **4** Uzakwenza isivumelwano lawe na ukuthi abe yisichaka sakho kokuphela? **5** Ungamenza abe yisifuyo sokudlalisa njengenyoni na kumbe umfaka umkhungo adlaliswe ngamantombazana na? **6** Abathengi bazabhejelana ngentengi yakhe na? Bazakwahlukaniselana ngaye na abathengi? **7** Ungasibhoboza yini isikhumba sakhe ngenhlendla loba ikhanda lakhe ngemikhonto yokuciba inhlanzi? **8** Ungabeka isandla phezu kwakhe, uzahlala ukukhumbula ukutshukana kwenu ungaphindi futhi! **9** Ukucabanga ukuthi ungamehlula kuyize; ukumbona nje kodwa kuqeda amandla. **10** Kakho ongaba lesibindi sokuthi alwe laye. Pho ngubani ongamelana lami na? **11** Ngubani engilomlandu kuye othi kangihlawule na? Konke okukhona ngaphansi kwezulu ngokwami. **12** Kangisoze ngikhawule ukubabaza izitho zakhe, amandla akhe langesimo sakhe esihle. **13** Ngubani ongaxebula isikhumba sakhe na? Ngubani ongasondela kuye ngamatomu na? **14** Ngubani ongaqunga isibindi avule iminyango yomlomo wakhe, ogqagqelwe zingavula zamazinyo na? **15** Umhlane wakhe ulezinhlu zamahawu abophene silikici; **16** yilelo lithe mba kwelinye okuthi kakungeni moya phakathi kwawo. **17** Anamathelele ndawonye; abambene okokuthi angeke ehlukaniswe. **18** Ukuthimula kwakhe kukhupha inhlanzi

zomlilo; amehlo akhe anjengemisebe yokusa. **19** Amalangabi omililo alavuka emlonyeni wakhe; inhlansi zomlilo ziqhatsha ziphuma khona. **20** Intuthu ithunqa iphuma emakhaleni akhe kungathi isuka embizeni ebilayo phezu komlilo wemihlanga. **21** Ukuphefumula kwakhe kulumathisa amalahle, njalo kulavuka amalangabi emlonyeni wakhe. **22** Amandla akhe asentanyeni yakhe; okuphambi kwakhe kuhle kuphele amandla. **23** Amavinqo enyama yakhe abambene nki; aqine nko kawehlukaniseki. **24** Isifuba sakhe silukhuni njengelitshe, siqine njengengaphansi kwembokodo. **25** Uthi nxa ephakama kwesabe amaqhawe ngokwawo; atshede ebalekela ukubhula komsila wakhe. **26** Inkemba leyo emfikelayo kayenzi lutho, kumbe umkhonto, loba umtshoko loba isijula. **27** Insimbi uyithatha njengotshani lethusi kungathi luluthi olubolileyo. **28** Imitshoko kayimenzi abaleke; lamatshe esavutha anjengomule kuye. **29** Induku kuye ingumuca wotshani; uyahleka esizwa ukukhenceza komdikadika. **30** Ingaphansi yomzimba wakhe injengendengezi ezibukhali, itshiya umzila odakeni kungathi yisileyi esizunguzekayo. **31** Udunga inziki zamanzi ayabuke njengembiza enkulu ibila, aluvube ulwandle njengembiza yamagcobo. **32** Ngemva kwakhe utshiya umzila okhazimulayo; umuntu angazathi ulwandle luloboya obumhlophe. **33** Kakukho emhlabeni okulingana laye, isidalwa esingesabiyo. **34** Ubakhangelela phansi bonke abathi bazithembile; uyinkosi phezu kwabo bonke abaziqqajayo.”

42 UJobe wasemphendula uThixo wathi: **2** “Ngiyazi ukuthi ungazenza zonke izinto; kalikho icebo lakho elingavinjwa. **3** Ubuzile wathi, ‘Ngubani lo ovala iseluleko sami engelalwazi na?’ Ngeqiniso ngikhulumile ngezinto ebengingazizwisisi, izinto ezimangalisayo engingeke ngizazi. **4** Wena uthe, ‘Lalela manje, mina ngizakhuluma; ngizakubuza, wena uzangiphendula.’ **5** Indlebe zami zasezizwile ngawe kodwa manje amehlo ami ase kubonile. **6** Ngakho sengizeyisa, sengiphenduka ngizilahla othulini lasemlotheni.” **7** Kwathi uThixo esetshilo lezizinto kuJobe wathi ku-Elifazi umThemani, “Ngikuzondele wena kanye labangane bakho bobabili, ngoba kalikhulumanga ngami okulungileyo njengenceku yami uJobe. **8** Ngakho manje thathani inkunzi eziyisikhombisa lenqama eziyisikhombisa liye encekwini yami uJobe liyekwenza umnikelo wenu wokutshiswa. Inceku yami uJobe izalikhulekela, mina ngizawamukela umkhuleko wayo ngingaze ngalijezisa okufanele ubuthutha benu. Kalikhulumanga ngami okulungileyo njengenceku yami uJobe.” **9** Ngakho u-Elifazi umThemani, uBhilidadi umShuhi loZofari umNahama benza lokho abakutshelwa nguThixo; njalo uThixo wawemukela umkhuleko kaJobe. **10** UJobe esebakhulekele abangane bakhe, uThixo wamenza waphumelela njalo wamupha okunengi okuphindwe kabili kulokho ayelakho kuqala. **11** Bonke abafowabo labodadewabo kanye lobani owayemazi ngaphambili weza ukuzakudla laye endlini yakhe. Bamkhalela, bamzwela ngakho konke ukuhlupheka uThixo ayemehlisele khona, kwathi ngulowo lalowo wamupha ulutho lwesiliva kanye lesongo legolide. **12** UThixo wayibusisa impilo yokucina kaJobe ukwedlula eyokuqala. Waba lezimvu eziyizinkulungwane ezilitshumi lane, izinkulungwane eziyisithupha zamakamela, inkulungwane yezipani zenkabi labobabhemi abayinkulungwane. **13** Waphinda njalo waba lamadodana ayisikhombisa lamadodakazi amathathu. **14** Indodakazi yokuqala wayetha ibizo elithi Jemima, eyesibili

yayinguKheziya, eyesithathu yaba nguKhereni-Haphutshi. **15** Kakuzange kube khona elizweni lonke abesifazane ababebahle njengamadodakazi kaJobe, njalo uyise wawabela ilifa kanye labanewabo. **16** Ngemva kwalokhu uJobe waphila iminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi amane; wababona abantwabakhe labantwababo kwaze kwaba yizizukulwane sesine. **17** UJobe wafa esemdala njalo eseluphele.

Amahubo

1 Ubusisiwe umuntu ongahambi ngezeluleko zababi; ongemiyo endleleni yezoni; ongahlaliyo esihlalweni sabaklodayo. **2** Kodwa ukuthokoza kwakhe kusemthethweni kaThixo, futhi unakana ngomthetho wakhe imini lobusuku. **3** Unjengesihlahla esihlanyelwe emifuleni yamanzi, esithela izithelo zaso ngesikhathi saso, ohlamvu laso kalibuni. Konke akwenzayo kuyaphumelela. **4** Ababi kabanjalo! Banjengamakhoba aphetshulwa ngumoya. **5** Ngakho ababi kabayikuma ekwahlulelweni, noma izoni enkundleni yabalungileyo. **6** Ngoba uThixo uyayilinda indlela yabalungileyo, kodwa indlela yababi iya ekubhujisweni.

2 Kungani izizwe zixokozela, labantu besakha amacebo ngeze? **2** Amakhosi omhlaba ayahloma ajame lababusi bahlangana ndawonye bemelana loThixo njalo lalowo ogcotshiweyo wakhe besithi; **3** “Kasiwaqamuleni amatetane abo, silahle izibopho zabo.” **4** Yena osesihlalweni ezulwini uyahleka; uThixo uyabahleka. **5** Abesebakhalmela ngolaka, abathuthumelise ngentukuthelo yakhe, esithi, **6** “Sengiyibekile eyami inkosi phezu kweZiyoni, intaba yami engcwele.” **7** Ngizasimezela isimiso sikaThixo: Wathi kimi, “UyiNdodana yami; lamhla sengibe nguyihlo. **8** Cela kimi, ngizakwenza izizwe zibe yilifa lakho, imikhawulo yomhlaba kube yinotho yakho. **9** Uzazibusa ngentonga yobukhosi eyensimbi, uzazibhidliza zicubuzeke njengebumba.” **10** Ngakho-ke lina makhosi, limukani, liyaxwayswa lina babusi bomhlaba. **11** Mkhonzeni uThixo ngokumesaba, lithokozele umbuso wakhe ngokuthumela. **12** Ikhothameleni iNdodana, funa ithukuthelwe beselibhujiswa endleleni yenu, ngoba intukuthelo yakhe ingavutha ngesikhathshana. Babusisiwe bonke abaphephela kuye.

3 Ihubo likaDavida ebalekela indodana yakhe u-Abhisalomu. Oh Thixo banengi kangaka abayizitha zami! Banengi kangaka abangihlaselayo! **2** Abanengi bathi ngami, “Unkulunkulu kayikumhlenga.” **3** Kodwa wena uyisihlangu sokungivikela, Oh, Thixo, inkazimulo yami, uphakamisa ikhanda lami. **4** Ngikhala kakhulu kuThixo uyangiphendula esentabeni yakhe engcwele. **5** Ngilala phansi ngijumeke; ngibuye ngiphaphame, ngoba uThixo uyangilondoloza. **6** Angiyikubesaba abangamatshumitshumi ezinkulungwane abangihlaselayo inxa zonke. **7** Phakama, awu Thixo Ngisindise, Oh Nkulunkulu wami. Zibethe zonke izitha zami emhlathini; akhumule amazinyo ababi. **8** KuThixo kuvela insindiso. Sengathi isibusiso Sakho singaba sebantwini Bakho.

4 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Ngeziginci. Ihubo likaDavida. Ngiphendula lapho ngikubiza, Oh Nkulunkulu wami olungileyo. Ake ungiphumuze ekuhlulukulweni engikukho; woba lomusa kimi njalo uzwe umkhuleko wami. **2** Koze kube nini, we bantu, koze kube nini inkazimulo yami liyenza ihlazo? Koze kube nini lithanda inkohliso njalo lidinga onkulunkulu bamanga? **3** Yazini ukuthi uThixo usezehlukanisele labo abathembekileyo, njalo uThixo uyezwa nxa ngikhala kuye. **4** Ekuthukutheleni kwenu lingoni; nxa lisemibhedeni yenu hlolani inhliziyo zenu, lithule. **5** Nikelani imihlatshelo eqondileyo, limethembe uThixo. **6** Abanengi bayabuza bathi, “Kuvele ngubani ongasitshengisa ukulunga na?” Sengathi

ukukhanya kobuso bakho kungakhazimula phezu kwethu, Oh Thixo. **7** Uyigcwalisile inhliziyo yami ngentokozo enkulu eyedlula ubunengi bamabele abo lewayini labo elitsha. **8** Ngizalala phansi ngijunywe yibuthongo ngilokuthula, ngoba wena wedwa, Oh Thixo, uhlezi ungilondolozile.

5 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Kwabemifece. Ihubo likaDavida. Zwana amazwi ami, Oh Thixo, hawukela ukububula kwami. **2** Lalela ukukhala kwami ngidinga uncedo, Nkosi yami loNkulunkulu wami, ngoba ngikhuleka kuwe. **3** Ekuseni, Oh Thixo, uyalizwa ilizwi lami; ekuseni ngibeka izicelo zami phambi kwakho ngilinde ngithembile. **4** Kawusuye uNkulunkulu othokoza ngobubi; ababi ngeke bahlale lawe. **5** Iziqholo ngeke zime phambi kwakho; uyabazonda bonke abenza okubi. **6** Uyababhubhisa labo abaqamba amanga; abomele igazi labakhohlisayo uThixo uyabenyanya. **7** Kodwa mina, ngomusa wakho omkhulu, ngizangena endlini yakho; ngizakhothamela phansi ngokuhlonipha ngikhangele ethempelini lakho elingcwele. **8** Ngikhokhele, Oh Thixo, ngokulunga kwakho; ngenxa yezitha zami yenza iqonde indlela yakho phambi kwami. **9** Kalikho lalinye ilizwi lomlomo wabo lithembekileyo; inhliziyo yabo igcwele ukubhidliza. Umphimbo wabo ulingcwaba elikhamisileyo; ngolimi lwabo bakhuluma inkohliso. **10** Tshono uthi balecala, Oh Nkulunkulu! Akuthi amacebo abo abe yikuwa kwabo. Baxotshela khatshana ngenxa yezono zabo ezinengi, ngoba bakhulamuwele wena. **11** Kodwa akuthi bonke abaphephela kuwe bathokoze; kabahlabelele njalonjalo ngenjabulo. Basibekela ngovikelo lwakho, kuthi labo abalithandayo ibizo lakho bajabule ngawe. **12** Ngoba ngempela, Oh Thixo, uyababusisa abalungileyo; uyabazungeza ngomusa wakho njengesihlangu.

6 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Ngeleziginci. Kulandelwa isheminithi. Ihubo likaDavida. Oh Thixo ungangikhalimeli ngolaka lwakho njalo ungangitshayi uthukuthelwe. **2** Woba lomusa kimi, Thixo, ngoba ngiphela amandla; Oh Thixo, ngisilisa, ngoba amathambo ami alobuhlungu. **3** Umoya wami udabukile. Koze kube nini, Oh Thixo, koze kube nini? **4** Phenduka, Oh Thixo, ungikhulule; ngihlenga ngenxa yothando lwakho olungehlekiyo. **5** Kakho okukhumbulayo nxa esefile. Ngubani okukhonzayo esengcwabeni lakhe? (Sheol h7585) **6** Ngikhathele ngokububula; ubusuku bonke umbheda wami uba manzi te ngikhala umendlalo wami ngiwugcwalise ngezinyembezi. **7** Amehlo ami ayafiphala ngenxa yosizi; ayanqundeka ngenxa yazo zonke izitha zami. **8** Xekani kimi lina lonke elenza okubi, ngoba uThixo usekuzwile ukulila kwami. **9** UThixo usekuzwile ukukhala kwami ngicela umusa; UThixo uyawamukela umkhuleko wami. **10** Zonke izitha zami zizayangeka zidaniswe; zizatshibilika zibuyele emuva masinyane sezilehlazo.

7 Ishigayoni kaDavida ayihlabelela uThixo mayelana loKhushi umBhenjamini. Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu wami, ngiphephela kuwe; ngisindisa ungikhulule kubo bonke abangizingelayo, **2** ngoba bazanginithiza njengesilwane bangikhelele iziqanyana kungekho ongangilamulela. **3** Oh Thixo, Nkulunkulu wami, nxa ngikwenzile lokhu izandla zami zilecala, **4** nxa ngenze okubi kulowo ohlalisene kuhle lami loba ngisuke ngaphanga isitha sami kungelasizatho, **5** nxa kunjalo akuthi isitha sami singihlasele; masigxobagxobele impilo yami emhlathini singibhuqabhuqele phansi ebhuqwini. **6** Vuka, Oh Thixo,

ngolaka lwakho; vuka uvimbele ukuthukuthela kwezitha zami. Vuka, Nkulunkulu wami, memezela ukwahlulela okuhle. **7** Akuthi abantu bebuthene bakuhanqe busa phezu kwabo usekuphakameni. **8** UThixo kahlulele bonke abantu. Ngahlulele, Oh Thixo ngokwanele ukulunga kwami, ngokwanele ubuqotho bami, wena oPhezukonke. **9** Oh Nkulunkulu olungileyo, ohlolisa imicabango lezinhliziyi, qeda udlakela lwababi ukuze abalungileyo bavikeleke. **10** Isihlangu sami nguNkulunkulu oPhezukonke, osindisa abaqotho ngenhliziyi. **11** UNkulunkulu ngumahluleli olungileyo, uNkulunkulu obonisa ulaka lwakhe insuku zonke. **12** Nxa umuntu engadeli ububi bakhe uzalola inkemba yakhe; uzaligoba alithiye idandili lakhe. **13** Usezilungisile izikhali zakhe ezibulalayo; uselungisa imitshoko yakhe evutha umlilo. **14** Lowo osuthiswe ngobubi akhulelwe yikona uzala ukuphumputhaka. **15** Lowo omba umgodi awuphalele uwela kulowomgodi awumbileyo. **16** Inkathazo ayidalileyo iyamphendukela; lesihluku sakhe sehlela phezu kwekhanda lakhe. **17** Ngizambonga uThixo ngenxa yokulunga kwakhe; ngizahlabelela indumiso egameni likaThixo oPhezukonke.

8 Kumqondisi wokuhlabelela. Ngendlela yegithithi. Ihubo likaDavida. Oh Thixo, Thixo wethu, ibizo lakho libabazeka kangaka emhlabeni wonke! Uyibekile inkazimulo yakho ngaphezulu amazulwini. **2** Ukumisile ukudunyiswa yizindebe zabantwana lensane ngenxa yezitha zakho, ukuze uthulise isitha lomphindiseli. **3** Nxa ngingakana ngamazulu akho, umsebenzi weminwe yakho, inyanga lezinkanyezi ozibeke endaweni yazo, **4** uyini umuntu osungaze uzihluphe ngaye na, indodana yomuntu ukuba uyananze? **5** Wamenza waba mncinyazana kulezingilosi, wamethesa umqhele wodumo lobukhosi. **6** Wamenza umbusi phezu kwemisebenzi yezandla zakho; wabeka zonke izinto ngaphansi kwezinyawo zakhe: **7** yonke imihlambi yezimvu leyenkomo lezinyamazana zeganga, **8** izinyoni zasemkhathini lenhlanzi zolwandle, konke okuntsheza emanzini olwandle. **9** Oh Thixo, Thixo wethu, ibizo lakho libabazeka kangaka emhlabeni wonke!

9 Kumqondisi wokuhlabelela. Ihlatshelwa njengengoma ethi “Ukufa kweNdodana.” Ihubo likaDavida. Ngizakudumisa, Oh Thixo, ngenhliziyi yami yonke; ngizafakaza ngazonke izimangaliso zakhe. **2** Ngizathokoza ngijabule ngawe, ngizahlabelela indumiso egameni lakho, wena oPhezukonke. **3** Izitha zami ziyafulathela zibaleke; ziyakhubeka zitshabalale phambi kwakho. **4** Ngoba ulisekele ilungelo lami; usuhlalile isihlalweni sakho sobukhosi wahlulela kakuhle. **5** Uzikhuzile ezizwe, wababhubhisa ababi; wawesula amabizo abo kuze kube nini lanini. **6** Ukubhidlika okungapheliyo kusehlele isitha sami, wawasiphuna amadolobho aso; lokukhunjulwa kwaso sekuphele nya. **7** UThixo uyabusa kuze kube nininini; usesimisile isihlalo sakhe sobukhosi ukuze ahlulele. **8** Uzabusa umhlaba ngokulunga njalo ukwahlulela abantu ngokufanele. **9** UThixo uyisiphelo sabancindezelweyo, uyingqaba ezikhathini zokuhlupheka. **10** Labo abalaziyo ibizo lakho bazathemba kuwe, ngoba wena, Thixo, kawubafulatheli abakudingayo. **11** Hlabelelani indumiso kuThixo esebukhosini eZiyoni; fakazani phakathi kwezizwe ngalokho akwenzileyo. **12** Ngoba yena ophindiselayo kulowo ochitha igazi uyakhumbula; akakudeli ukukhala kwabahlukuluzwayo. **13** Oh Thixo, ake ubone ukuthi izitha zami zingichukuluza njani! Yiba lesihawu ungenyule emasangweni

okufa, **14** ukuze ngifakaze indumiso yakho emasangweni eNdodakazi yaseZiyoni kuthi khonale ngithokoze ngokusindisa kwakho. **15** Izizwe ziwela emgodini eziumbuleyo; inyawo zazo zibanjwe emambuleni ezizwathiyileyo. **16** UThixo waziwa ngokwahlulela kwakhe okulungileyo; ababi babanjwa yizenzo zezandla zabo. **17** Ababi babuyela engcwabeni, zonke izizwe ezikhohlwa uNkulunkulu. (Sheol h7585) **18** Kodwa abaswelayo kabayikukhohlakala kokuphela, njalo lethemba labahlukuluzwayo kaliyikutshabalala. **19** Vuka Thixo, ungayekeli umuntu anqobe; akuthi izizwe zahlulelwe phambi kwakho. **20** Batshayise ngovalo, Oh Thixo; akuthi izizwe zikwazi ukuthi zingabantu nje.

10 Kungani, Oh Thixo, umela khatshana? Kungani uzifihla ngezikhathini zokuhlupheka? **2** Ngo buqholo bakhe umuntu omubi uzingela ababuthakathaka, abayengeka ngamacebo awakwazo. **3** Uzikhukhumeza ngezinkanuko zehliziyi yakhe; ubusisa abayizihwaba athuke uThixo. **4** Ngenxa yokuziqqaja kwakhe omubi kamdingi uThixo; kuyo yonke imicabango yakhe akulandawo kaNkulunkulu. **5** Izindlela zakhe ziyaphumelela; uyadelela njalo lemithetho yakho ikhatshana laye aneme lapho ebona izitha zakhe. **6** Uthi, “Akulalutho olungangixukuxa; ukuthokoza ngokwami lanini, angiyikufa ngahlupheka.” **7** Umlomo wakhe ugcwele amanga lenhlamba lezithuko; ulimi lwakhe luqukethe uhlupho lobubi. **8** Ucatthama ngaphandle kwemizi; avumbuluke lapho abulale abantu abamsulwa, ahlale ecatheme ekusithekeni. **9** Uyacathama njengesilwane ekusithekeni; ucathamela labo abangelamandla; uyabadumela abahudulele emambuleni akhe. **10** Ababambuleyo uyabachoboza baphangalale; uyabawisa ngamandla akhe. **11** Uzitshela athi, “UNkulunkulu usekhohlwe; uyabugubuzela ubuso bakhe angabe esabona.” **12** Vuka, Thixo! Phakamisa isandla sakho, Oh Nkulunkulu. Ungabakhohlwa abazihluphekelayo. **13** Kungani umuntu omubi ethuka uNkulunkulu na? Kungani na ezitshela esithi, “Kazukungithonisisa?” **14** Kodwa wena, Oh Nkulunkulu, uyalubona uhlupho losizi; uyakunanzelelo ukuze ulamule. Ongelamandla uzilahla kuwe; wena ungumsi zezintandane. **15** Yephula ingalo yomuntu oxhwalileyo; mthonisise ngokuganga kwakhe obekuzahlala kungaziwa. **16** UThixo ungumbusi kuze kube nini lanini; izizwe zizabhubha elizweni lakhe. **17** Uyazizwa, Oh Thixo, izifiso zabancindezelweyo; uyabaqinisa, ulalele ukukhala kwabo, **18** ulamulele izintandane labancindezelweyo, ukuze kuthi umuntu, ongowasemhlabeni, angabe esesabeka futhi.

11 Kumqondisi wokuhlabelela. ElikaDavida. Mina ngiphephela kuThixo. Pho ungatsho kanjani kimi ukuthi: “Balekela entabeni yakho njengenonyi. **2** Ngoba, khangelana, ababi sebewanwebile amadandili abo; imitshoko yabo sebeyixhume ezintanjani ukuthi batshoke becatshile emathunzini beciba labo abaqotho ezinhliziyweni. **3** Kambe nxa kubhidlizwa izisekelo, kuyini abangakwenza abalungileyo na?” **4** UThixo usehempeleni lakhe elingcwele; uThixo usesihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi basezulwini. Uyawakhangela amadodana abantu; amehlo akhe ayabahlala. **5** UThixo uyabahlala abalungileyo, kodwa ababi labalo abathanda udlakela uyabazonza ngomoya wakhe wonke. **6** Ababi uzabehlisela amalahlavuthayo lesalufa etshisayo; umoya othsisayo uzabahaqaza. **7** Ngoba uThixo ulungile, uthanda ukwahlulela okuhle; abaqotho bababubona ubuso bakhe.

12 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Ngendlela yesheminihi. Ihubo likaDavida. Siza Thixo, ngoba kabasekho abakholwayo; abathembekileyo sebenyamalele kabasekho ebantwini. **2** Bonke baqamba amanga kubomakhelwane babo; izindebe zabo eziyengayo zihlezi zikhuluma inkohliso esezinhliziyweni zabo. **3** Sengathi uThixo angaziquma zonke izindebe ezikhohlisayo kanye laluphi ulimi oluzikhukhumezayo **4** oluthi, “Sizanoqaba ngendimi zethu; izindebe zethu zizasilwela ngubani oyinkosi yethu na?” **5** “Ngenxa yokuncindezelwa kwabayanga lokububula kwabaswelayo, sengizavuka khathezi,” kutsho uThixo. “Ngizabavikela kulabo ababachukuluzayo.” **6** Njalo amazwi kaThixo amsulwa, njengesiliva esicengulwe esithandweni somlilo esebumba, njengegolide elihlanjululwe kasikhombisa. **7** Oh Thixo, uzahlala usiphaphisile njalo usivikele ebantwini ababi nini lanini. **8** Ababi bayaklamasa santando nxa bebona izinto ezilihlazo zidunyiswa ngabantu.

13 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Ihubo likaDavida. Koze kube nini, Oh Thixo? Uzangikhohlwa lanininini na? Koze kube nini ungifihlela ubuso bakho na? **2** Koze kube nini ngitshukumisana lemicabango yami, inhliziyi yami ihlale idabukile insuku zonke na? Koze kube nini isitha sami sitshakala phezu kwami? **3** Ngizwela ungiphendule, Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu wami. Khanyisela amehlo ami funa ngihle ngilale kokuphela; **4** isitha sami sizakuthi, “Sengimehlele,” labangizondayo bathokoze nxa ngisiwa. **5** Kodwa ngiyalwethemba uthando lwabo olungapheliyo; inhliziyi yami iyathokoza ngensindiso yakho. **6** Ngizahlabelela kuThixo, ngoba ungenzele ukulunga.

14 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. KaDavida. Isiwula sithi enhliziyweni yaso, “AkulaNkulunkulu.” Baxhwalile, izenzo zabo zibolile; kakho loyedwa owenza okuhle. **2** UThixo ukhangela phansi esezulwini emadodaneni abantu ingabe bakhona yini abazwisayo, abamdingayo uNkulunkulu. **3** Bonke baphambukile, bonke sebexhwalile; kakho loyedwa owenza okuhle, kakho lamunye. **4** Kanti lezizixhwalile kaziyikufa zafunda yini? Zona ezidla abantu bami ingathi zidla isinkwa, ezingamkhonziyo uThixo. **5** Kodwa yiyo abagubhazaliswa luvalo ngoba uNkulunkulu ukhona phakathi kwabalungileyo. **6** Lina benzi bobubi lifubisa amalungiselelo abayanga, kodwa uThixo uyisiphaphela sabo. **7** Awu, sengathi insindiso ka-Israyeli ingaqhamuka eZiyoni! Nxa uThixo esebuyisela impumelelo yabantu bakhe, kathokoze uJakhobe lo-Israyeli ajabule!

15 Ihubo likaDavida. Thixo, ngubani ongahlala endlini yakho engcwele na? Ngubani ongahlala entabeni yakho engcwele na? **2** Ngulowo okuhamba kwakhe kungelansolo njalo owenza okulungileyo, okhuluma iqiniso liphuma enhliziyweni yakhe, **3** ongachothziyo ngolimi lwakhe, ongoneli umakhelwane wakhe futhi ongagconeni umzalwane wakhe, **4** oweyisa umuntu oxhwalileyo kodwa ohlonipha labo abesaba uThixo, ogcina isifungo sakhe loba kubuhlungu ukwenzanjalo, **5** owebolekisa imali yakhe engadingi inzuzo njalo owalayo ukuthengwa ukuze kwetheswe umlandu kongelacala. Lowo owenza lezizinto akayikuzanyazanyiswa lanini.

16 Imikithamu kaDavida. Ngilondoloza, Oh Nkulunkulu, ngoba ngiphaphela kuwe. **2** Ngathi kuThixo,

“UnguThixo wami; ngaphandle kwakho angilakho okuhle.” **3** Labo abangcwele abakhona elizweni bangabakhazimulayo engithokoza ngabo. **4** Labo abagijimela abanye onkulunkulu inhlupho zabo zizakwanda. Angiyi kuyithulula iminikelo yegazi kubonkulunkulu labo njalo amabizo abo kawayikuphuma kwezami izindebe. **5** Thixo, usungahlukanisele isabelo sami kanye lenkezo yami; konke okwami usukumise kuhle. **6** Imingcele yesabelo sami idabula ezindaweni ezibukekayo; ngeqiniso elami ilifa liyathokoza. **7** Ngizamdumisa uThixo, ongye ongelulekayo; lasebusuku inhliziyi yami iyangqondisa. **8** Ngikhangele kuThixo kokuphela. Njengoba esesandleni sami sokunene angiyi kunyikinywa. **9** Ngakho-ke inhliziyi yami iyathokoza lolimi lwami luyajabula; lomzimba wami uzaphumula uvikelele, **10** ngoba kawuzukungiyekela ngize ngiye endaweni yabafuleyo, njalo kawusoze wekele othembekileyo wakho ezwe ukubola. (Sheol h7585) **11** Usungazisile indlela yempilo; uzangicwalisa ngokuthaba phambi kwakho, ngenjabulo engapheliyo kwesokunene sakho.

17 Umkhuleko kaDavida. Zwana, Oh Thixo, ukuncenga kwami okulungileyo; lalela ukukhala kwami. Zwana umkhuleko wami, kawusuki ezindebeni ezikhohlisayo. **2** Ukugezwa kwami ecaleni kakuwele kuwe; sengathi amehlo Akho angabona lokho okuqondileyo. **3** Udungulule inhliziyi yami wangihlola ebusuku wangilinga, kawuyikufumana lutho olubi engiluhleleleyo; sengizimisele ukuthi umlomo wami ungenzi sono. **4** Mayelana lenzeno zabantu, mina ngizazithiba ezindleleni zobudlwangulwangu ngeliziwi lezindebe zakho. **5** Izinyathelo zami zalela ezindleleni zakho; inyawo zami kazizange zitshelule. **6** Ngikhala kuwe, Oh Nkulunkulu ngoba uzangiphendula; ngilalela uzwe umkhuleko wami. **7** Tshengisa ukumangalisa kothando lwakho olukhulu, wena osindisa ngesandla sakho sokunene, labo ababalekela kuwe ezitheni zabo. **8** Ngilondoloza njengegugu lakho; ngifihla emthunzini wamaphiko akho **9** kwababi abangihlaselayo, ezitheni zami ezimbi ezingihanqileyo. **10** Bagcika inhliziyi zabo ezingelazwelo, lemilomo yabo ikhuluma iqholoza. **11** Sebeze bangithola, manje sebengihanqile bangiqhuzulele amehlo bafuna ukungilahla phansi. **12** Banjengesilwane silambe loba yini esingayidumela, njengesilwane esesabekayo siquthile sicatshile. **13** Phakama, Oh Thixo, basukele, balahle phansi; ngilamulela kwababi ngenkamba yakho. **14** Oh Thixo, ngisindisa ngesandla sakho ebantwini abanjalo, ebantwini bakulumhlaba omvuzo wabo ukuyonale impilo. Udedisa iphango labo obathandayo; amadodana abo akhomba ngophakathi; baqoqela abantwababo inotho. **15** Mina-ke ngenxa yokulunga ngizabubona ubuso bakho; ngizakuthi ekuvukeni kwami nganeliswe yikubona isimo sakho.

18 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. ErikaDavida inceku kaThixo Wahlabelela uJehova amazwi alelihubo lapho uJehova wamsindisa esandleni sezitha zakhe zonke lasesandleni sikaSawuli. Wathi: Ngiyakuthanda, Oh Thixo, Mandla wami. **2** UThixo ulidwala lami, inqaba yami, lomsindisi wami; uNkulunkulu wami ulidwala lami, lapho engiphaphela khona, isihlangu sami lophondo lokusindiswa kwami, inqaba yami. **3** Ngakhuleka kuThixo ofanele ukudunyiswa njalo ngikhululwe ezitheni zami. **4** Izibopho zokufa zangihlele; lezikhukhula zokubhubhisa zangikhulela. **5** Izibopho zengcwaba zangithandela; imijibila yokufa yangijamela.

(Sheol h7585) 6 Ekukhathazekeni kwami ngakhuleka kuThixo; ngakhala kuNkulunkulu wami ngicela usizo. Walizwa ilizwi lami esethempelini lakhe; ukukhala kwami kwafinyelela kuye, ezindlebeni zakhe. 7 Umhlaba wagedezela wazamazama, izisekelo zezintaba zanyikinyeka; zagedezela ngoba wayethukuthela. 8 Intuthu yalanquka emakhali Akhe umlilo ohangulayo waphuma elonyeni wakhe, amalahle avuthayo alavuka ephuma kuwo. 9 Waqhekeza amazulu wehlela phansi; amayezi amnyama ayengaphansi kwezinyawo zakhe. 10 Wagada amakherubhi waphapha; wantweza phezu kwamaphiko omoya. 11 Wenza umnyama isembeso sakhe, isigubuzelo esimhambileyo, amayezi ezulu amnyama asemkhathini. 12 Phakathi kokukhazimula kobukhona bakhe kwaqubuka amayezi, kulesiqhoho lezikhatha zombane. 13 UThixo wakhwaza esezulwini; ilizwi loPhezukonke lanqenqetha. 14 Waciba imitshoko wazihlakaza izitha, ngembane eminengi waziqothula. 15 Izigodi zolwandle zambulwa lezisekelo zomhlaba zavezwa obala ekukhuzeni kwakho Thixo, ngomfutho wokuphefumula kwamakhala akho. 16 Welula isandla Sakhe esezulwini wangibamba wangihlenga enzikini yamanzi. 17 Wangihlenga esitheni sami esilamandla, ezitheni zami ezazingigabhela ngamandla. 18 Zangijamela mhla ngisebunzimeni, kodwa uThixo waba yinsika yami. 19 Wangikhupha wangibeka endaweni ebanzi wangihlenga ngoba wayethokoza ngami. 20 UThixo ungenzele okulingene ukulunga kwami; wanginika umvuzo ngokufanele ukuhlanzeka kwezandla zami. 21 Ngoba ngizigcinile izindlela zikaThixo; angenzanga okubi ngokufathela uNkulunkulu wami. 22 Yonke imithetho yakhe ibiphambi kwami; angizifulathelanga izimiso zakhe. 23 Ngibe ngilokhu ngimsulwa phambi kwakhe njalo ngisixwayile isono. 24 UThixo unginike umvuzo ngokufanele ukulunga kwami, ngokufanele ukuhlanzeka kwezandla zami phambi Kwakhe. 25 Kwabathembekileyo lawe utsembekile, kwabamsulwa lawe umsulwa. 26 Kwabahlanzekileyo uziveza uhlanzekile kodwa kwabangaqondanga uziveza ukhaliphile. 27 Uyabasindisa abathobekileyo; kodwa uyabehlisela phansi labo abamehlo asisiphundu. 28 Wena, Oh Thixo, gcina isibane sami sibhebha; uNkulunkulu wami uguqula umnyama wami ube yikukhanya. 29 Ngosizo lwakho ngingaphuma ngimelane lebutho lempi; ngoNkulunkulu wami ngingaweqa umduli. 30 Izindlela zikaNkulunkulu uqobo lwakhe ziphelele; ilizwi likaThixo kalilasici. Ulihawu labo bonke abaphephela kuye. 31 Ngoba ngubani uNkulunkulu ngaphandle kukaThixo? Njalo ngubani oliDwala ngaphandle kukaNkulunkulu wethu na? 32 NguNkulunkulu ongihlomisa amandla enze indlela yami iphelele. 33 Wenza inyawo zami zibe njengezempala; ungenza ngime ezingqongweni. 34 Ufundisa izandla zami ukulwa impi; izingalo zami zingaligobisa idandili lethusi. 35 Wena uyanginika isihlangu sakho sokunqoba, lesandla sakho sokunene siyangiqinisa; uyazehlisela phansi ukuze ungenze ngibe mkhulu. 36 Uqhelisa indlela enginyathela kuyo, ukuze inqagala zami zingapheci. 37 Ngaxotshana lezitha zami ngazifika; kangiphendukanga ngingakazibhubhisi zonke. 38 Ngazichoboza, zazingeke zisavuka; zawela ngaphansi kwezinyawo zami. 39 Wangihlomisa ngamandla okulwa impi; wenza abaxabana lami bakhothama ezinyaweni zami. 40 Wenza izitha zami zafulathela zabaleka, njalo ngazibhubhisa izitha zami. 41 Bakhala becela uncedo, kodwa wayengekho owayengabalamulela kuThixo, kodwa

kaphendulanga. 42 Ngabatshaya bacholeka njengothuli luphetshulwa ngumoya; ngabathulula njengodaka ezindleleni. 43 Ungikhulule ekuhlaselweni yilababantu; usungenze ngaba yinhloko yezizwe; abantu engangingabazi sebebuswa yimi. 44 Bathi bengizwa nje ngendaba, bangilalele; abezizweni bayatshotshobala phambi kwami. 45 Bonke badelile; beza bethuthumela bevela ezinqabeni zabo. 46 UThixo uyaphila! Alidunyiswe iDwala lami! Kaphakanyiswe uNkulunkulu uMsindisi wami! 47 UnguNkulunkulu ongiphindiselelayo, onqoba izizwe zibe ngaphansi kwami, 48 ongisindisayo ezitheni zami. Wena wangikhuphula ngaphezu kwezitha zami; wangihlenga abantwini bodlakela. 49 Ngakho ngizakudumisa phakathi kwezizwe, Oh Thixo; ngizahlabelela indumiso yebizo lakho. 50 Uphu inkosi yakhe ukunqoba okukhulu; utshengisa umusa wakhe ongaphuthiyo kogcotshiweyo wakhe, kuDavida kanye lezizukulwane zakhe kuze kube nininini.

19 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Ihubo likaDavida. Amazulu afakaza inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu; lomkhathi lizhumayela umsebenzi wezandla zakhe. 2 Usuku ngosuku lezizinto ziyakhuluma; ubusuku lobusuku zibonisa ulwazi. 3 Akula nkulumo, akula mazwi ilizwi lazo alizwakali. 4 Kodwa ilizwi lazo lizwakala emhlabeni wonke, amazwi azo afika emikhawulweni yomhlaba. Emazulwini uNkulunkulu uselakhele ithente ilanga. 5 Lona linjengomyeni ephuma exhibili lakhe, njengentshantshu ethakazelela ukugijima ibanga layo. 6 Liphuma emkhawulweni wamazulu lihambe indlela yalo liyotshona ngakuloyana; kakukho okusithekileyo ekutshiseni kwalo. 7 Umthetho kaThixo uphelele uvuselela umphefumulo. Izimiso zikaThixo zithembekile, zihlakaniphisa izithutha. 8 Izinqondo zikaThixo zilungile, ziletha ukuthokoza enhliziyweni. Imidlayo kaThixo isobala, iletha ukukhanya emehlweni. 9 Ukumesaba uThixo kuhlanzekile, kumi kuze kube phakade. Izahlulelo zikaThixo ziqinisekile njalo zilungile ngokupheleleyo. 10 Ziligu gu okudlula igolide, okudlula igolide elinengi elicengekileyo; zimnandi kulolujuzi, ulujuzi ulujuzuka ohlangeni. 11 Ngazo inceku yakho iyacetshiswa; ukuzilandela kulomvuzo omkhulu. 12 Ngubani ongazizwisa iziphambeko zakhe? Thethelela iziphambeko zami ezisithekileyo. 13 Phephisa inceku yakho ezonweni zamabomo; sengathi zingeze zabusa phezu kwami. Lapho ngizakuba msulwa ngingabi lacala lokona okukhulu. 14 Sengathi amazwi omlo wami leminakano yenhliziyoyi yami kungathokozisa emehlweni akho, Oh Thixo, Dwala lami loMhlangi wami.

20 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Ihubo likaDavida. Sengathi uThixo angakuphendula nxa usenkathazweni; sengathi ibizo likaNkulunkulu kaJakhobe lingakuvikela. 2 Sengathi angakuthumela usizo luvela endlini engcwele njalo akunike ukuhlomulela kuvela eZiyoni. 3 Sengathi angakhumbula yonke imihlatshelo yakho njalo emukele iminikelo yakho yokutshiswa. 4 Sengathi angakupha isifiso senhliziyo yakho enze izimiso zakho zonke ziphumelele. 5 Sizameza ngokujabula lapho usunqobile, siphakamise uphawu lwethu egameni likaNkulunkulu wethu. Sengathi uThixo angakupha zonke izicelo zakho. 6 Manje sengisazi ukuthi uThixo uyamhlenga ogcotshiweyo wakhe; uyamphendula esezulwini lakhe elingcwele ngamandla Akhe asindisayo awesandla Sakhe sokunene. 7 Abanye bathemba izinqola zempi, abanye amabhiza, kodwa thina sithemba ibizo likaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu. 8 Bafuqelwa phansi baweni, kodwa thina siyaphakama

sime sigxile. 9 Oh Thixo, sindisa inkosi! Sabela lapho simemeza!

21 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Ihubo likaDavida. Yebo Thixo umbusi uyathokoza ngamandla akho. Kukhulu ukuthokoza kwakhe ngokuqoba akuphiwa nguwe! 2 Usumphile isiloyiso senhliziyo yakhe njalo kawumncitshanga isicelo sezindebe zakhe. 3 Wamemukela ngezibusiso ezinhle wamethesa umqhele wegolide elicengekileyo ekhanda lakhe. 4 Wacela kuwe ukusila, wamupha ubude bezinsuku kuze kube nini lanini. 5 Ngokunqoba akuphiwe nguwe lukhulu udumo lwakhe; usumqizise inkazimulo lobukhosi. 6 Ngempela usumuphe izibusiso ezingapheliyo wamenza wajabula ngentokozo yobukhona Bakho. 7 Ngoba umbusi uyamthamba uThixo; ngothando loPhezukonke olungaphuthiyo akayikuzanyazanyiswa. 8 Isandla Sakho sizabamba zonke izitha Zakho; isandla Sakho sokunene sizabaxhakalaza abakuzondayo. 9 Kuzakuthi lapho uqhamuka wena uzabenza babe njengomlilo wemvutho enkulu. Ngenxa yentukuthelo yakhe uThixo uzabaginya, umlilo wakhe uzabaqothula. 10 Wena uzabhubhisa izizukulwane zabo emhlabeni, inzalo yabo ebantwini. 11 Loba beceba okubi Ngawe besakha amaqhinga amabi, abangeke baphumelele; 12 ngoba uzabenza bafulathele babaleke nxa usubakhombela usulinwebile idandili. 13 Phakanyiswa, Oh Thixo ngamandla Akho; sizahlabela sibabaze amandla Akho.

22 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Kulandela itshuni ethi, “Impalakazi yekuSeni.” Ihubo likaDavida. Nkulunkulu wami, Nkulunkulu wami, kungani usungidilele na? Kungani ukhatskana kokungisindisa, khatskana kwamazwi okububula kwami? 2 Oh Nkulunkulu wami, ngiyakhala emini, kodwa kawuphenduli; ebusuku, kangithulanga. 3 Kanti usesihlalweni sobukhosi uNguye oNgcwele uyindumiso ka-Israyeli. 4 Obaba babeka ithemba labo Kuwe; bona bathemba wena wabakhulula. 5 Bakhala kuwe bakhululwa; bathemba kuwe kabaze badaniswa. 6 Kodwa ngiyimpethu nje kangisumuntu, ngihozwa ngabantu njalo abanengi bangeyise. 7 Bonke abangibonayo bayangihleka; bayangithethisa baze banyikinye amakhanda: 8 “Uthemba uThixo lowo Thixo kamkhulule. Kamsindise njengoba ethokoza ngaye.” 9 Kanti wena wangikhupha esiswini; wangenxa ngakuthemba kusukela ebeleni likamama. 10 Kusukela ekuzalweni kwami ngabekwa ezandleni Zakho; kusukela esiswini sikamama ulokhu unguNkulunkulu wami. 11 Ungabi khatskana kwami, ngoba uhlupho luseduze njalo kakho ongangisiza. 12 Inkunzi ezinengi zingihlanqile; inkunzi ezilamandla zaseBhashani zingihonqolozele. 13 Izilwane ezibhongayo ezibamba zidabudabude zingikhamisela imilomo yazo. 14 Ngiyathululeka njengamanzi, njalo amathambo ami wonke akhumukile. Inhliziyo yami isiphenduke yaba yingcino; isincibilikile ngaphakathi kwami. 15 Amandla ami asetshile qhu ingathi ludengezi, lolimi lwami luyanamathela elwangeni lwami; uyangilalisa othulini lokufa. 16 Izinja sezingihanqile; ixuku labantu ababi selingihonqolozele, sebengigwaze izandla lezinyawo. 17 Ngingawabala wonke amathambo ami; abantu bayanginyonkoloza bangiklolodele. 18 Behlukaniselana izembatho zami njalo benze inkatho ngezizqoko zami. 19 Kodwa wena, Thixo, ungabi kude lami. Ungamandla ami, woza masinyane uzongisiza. 20 Phepha impilo yami enkembeni, impilo yami eligugu emandleni azo izinja. 21 Ngilamulela emlonyeni wezilwane; ngisindisa empondweni

zезinyathi. 22 Ngizamemezela ibizo Lakho kubafowethu; emphakathini ngizakudumisa. 23 Lina elimesabayo uThixo, mdumiseni! Lani lina zizukulwane zikajakhobe, mbabazeni! Mhlonipheni, lina lonke zizukulwane zika-Israyeli! 24 Ngoba keyisanga loba adelele ukhulupheka kwalowo ohlukuluzwayo; kamfihlelanga ubuso bakhe kodwa walalela ukukhala kwakhe ecela ukusizwa. 25 Sivela kuwe isithathelo sokudumisa kwami emhlanganweni omkhulu; ngizagcwalisa izifungo zami phambi kwalabo abakwesabayo. 26 Abayanga bazakudla basuthe labo abamdingayo uThixo bazamdumisa sengathi inhliziyo zenu zingaphila nini lanini! 27 Yonke imikhawulo yomhlaba izakhumbula iphenduke kuThixo, njalo lezimuli zonke zezizwe zizakhothama phansi phambi kwakhe, 28 ngoba umbuso ungokaThixo njalo uyabusa phezu kwezizwe. 29 Zonke izinothi zomhlaba zizazitika ngokudla njalo zikhonze; bonke abangena othulini bazaguqa phambi Kwakhe labo abangeke baziphilise. 30 Abesikhathi esizayo bazamkhonza; izizukulwane zizakwaziswa ngoThixo. 31 Bazatshumayela ukulunga kwakhe, ebantwini abangakazalwa ngoba ukwenzile Yena.

23 Ihubo likaDavida. UThixo ungumelusi wami, angiyikuswela lutho. 2 Ungilalisa emadlweni aluhlaza, ungikhokhelela emanzini aphilileyo, 3 uvuselela umphefumulo wami. Uyangihola ezindleleni zokulunga ngenxa yebizo lakhe. 4 Loba ngidabula esigodini sethunzi lokufa, angiyikwesaba okubi ngoba wena ulami; intonga Yakho lodondolo Lwakho kuyangiduduzela. 5 Ulungisa itafula phambi kwami emehlweni ezitha zami. Ugcoba ikhanda lami ngamafutha; inkomitsho yami igcwele iyaphuphuma. 6 Impela okuhle lothando kuzangilandela zonke insuku zokuphila kwami, njalo ngizahlala endlini kaThixo kuze kube nininini.

24 Ihubo likaDavida. Umhlaba ngokaThixo, lakho konke okukuwo, ilizwe labo bonke abahlala kulo; 2 ngoba wenza isisekelo sawo phezu kolwandle wawumisa phezu kwamanzi. 3 Ngubani ongaqansa intaba kaThixo na? Ngubani ongema endaweni yakhe engcwele na? 4 Ngulowo olezandla ezihlanzekileyo lenhliziyo emhlophe, ongaphakamiseli umphefumulo wakhe kunkulunkulu wamanga loba afunge ngenkohliso. 5 Uzakwamukela isibusiso kuThixo lokukhululwa kuNkulunkulu uMsindisi wakhe. 6 Sinjalo isizukulwane salabo abamdingayo, abadinga ubuso Bakho, Oh Nkulunkulu kaJakhobe. 7 Phakamisani amakhanda enu, lina masango; phakamani, lina minyango yekadeni, ukuba iNkosi yenkazimulo ingene. 8 Ngubani iNkosi yenkazimulo? NguThixo oqinileyo olamandla, uThixo olamandla empini. 9 Phakamisani amakhanda enu, lina masango; aphakamisani, lina minyango yekadeni, ukuba iNkosi yenkazimulo ingene. 10 Ungubani na lowo Thixo wenkazimulo? NguThixo uSomandla iNkosi yenkazimulo.

25 ElikaDavida. Kuwe, Thixo, ngiphakamisela umphefumulo wami. 2 Ngethemba kuwe, ungangiyekeli ngiyangeka, futhi ungangiyekeli izitha zami zinginqobe. 3 Kakukho bani othemba lakhe likuwe ozayangiswa lanini, kodwa bazayangiswa abadinga ukulimaza kungelasizatho. 4 Ngibonisa izindlela Zakho, Oh Thixo, ngifundisa izindlela Zakho; 5 ngikhokhela eqinisweni Lakho ungfundise ngoba unguNkulunkulu, uMsindisi wami, lethemba lami likuwe insuku zonke.

6 Khumbula, Oh Thixo, isihawu Sakho esikhulu kanye lothando, ngoba konke kuvela ekadeni. 7 Ungakhumbuli izono zobutsha bami lezindlela zokuhlamuka kwami; ngikhumbula ngokufanele uthando Lwakho, ngoba ulungile, Oh Thixo. 8 UThixo ulungile, uqotho; ngakho weluleka izoni ngezindlela zakhe. 9 Uhola abathobekileyo kulokho okuqondileyo abafundise indlela yakhe. 10 Zonke izindlela zikaThixo zilothando, ziyathembeka kulabo abagcina izimiso zesivumelwano Sakhe. 11 Ngenxa yegama Lakho, Oh Thixo, thethelela ububi bami, loba bubukhulu. 12 Ngubani-ke umuntu omesabayo uThixo? Uzameluleka ngaleyondlela ayimiselweyo. 13 Uzaphila insuku zakhe ekhomba ngophakathi, lezizukulwane zakhe zizakudla ilifa lelizwe. 14 Bayathenjwa nguThixo labo abamesabayo; ubenza basazi isivumelwano Sakhe. 15 Amehlo ami ahlezi ekuThixo lanini, ngoba nguye kuphela ozakhumula inyawo zami esithiyweni. 16 Phendukela kimi ube lobubele lami, ngoba ngilesizungu, ngikhathazekile. 17 Inhlupheko zenhliziyo yami sezandile; ngikhulula ekudabukeni kwami. 18 Khangela ukukhathazeka kwami lokuhawula kwami, ususe zonke izono zami. 19 Ake ubone ukuthi izitha zami sezande kangakanani, lokuthi zingizonda kubi kanjani! 20 Linda impilo yami unghlengle; ungangiyekeli ngiyangeke, ngoba ngizua isiphophelo Kuwe. 21 Sengathi ubuqotho lokuqonda kungangivikela, ngoba ngizua isiphophelo Kuwe. 22 Hlenga u-Israyeli, Oh Nkulunkulu, kuzozonke inhlupheko zakhe.

26 ElikaDavida. Veza ukungabi lacala kwami, Thixo, ngoba sengiphile impilo engelansolo; ngihlezi ngimethemba uThixo ngingaxhamandi. 2 Ngilinga, Oh Thixo, ungzame, hlola inhliziyo yami lengqondo yami; 3 ngoba uthando Lwakho luhlezi luphambi kwami, njalo kokuphela ngihamba eqinisweni Lakho. 4 Kangidlelani labantu abakhohlisayo njalo kangiwelalani labazenzisi; 5 ngiyawenyanya umbuthano wezigang; njalo ngiyala ukuhlala lezixhwalu. 6 Ngigeza izandla zami ngokungelacala, bese ngilizungeza i-alithari Lakho, Oh Thixo, 7 ngimemezele ngamandla indumiso Yakho ngibatshela bonke ngemisebenzi Yakho eyisimanga. 8 Ngiyayithanda indlu ohlala kuyo, Oh Thixo, indawo lapho inkazimulo Yakho ehkala khona. 9 Ungamukisi umphefumulo wami ndawonye lowezoni, impilo yami kanye lalabo abomele igazi, 10 ozandla zabo zilamacebo amabi, ozandla zabo zokunene zifumbethe izivalamlomo. 11 Kodwa mina ngiphila impilo engelasici; ngihlenga ube lesihawu kimi. 12 Inyawo zami zimi emhlabathini ochayileyo; ngizamdumisa uThixo emhlanganweni omkhulu.

27 ElikaDavida. UThixo uyikukhanya kwami lensindiso yami ngizakwesaba bani na? UThixo uyingqaba yokuphila kwami ngubani engingamesaba na? 2 Nxa ababi bengihlasela bezodlithiza inyama yami, lapho izitha zami labangizondayo bengihlasela, bazakhubeka bawe. 3 Loba impi ingivimbezela, inhliziyo yami kayizukwesaba; loba ngivukelwa yimpi, loba kunjalo ngizakuma isibindi. 4 Yinye into engiyicelayo kuThixo, yilokhu engikudingayo: ukuba ngihlale endlini kaThixo zonke insuku zokuphila kwami, ngibuke ubuhle bukaThixo, lokuthi ngimdinge ethempelini lakhe. 5 Phela ngosuku lokuhlupheka uzangilondoloza emzini wakhe, ungangifihla esiphophelweni sethabanikeli lakhe angimise phezu lu kwedwala elisesiqongweni. 6 Lapho-ke ikhanda lami lizaphakanyiswa ngaphezu kwezitha ezingihanqileyo; ethabanikeleni lakhe ngizakwenza umhlatshe ngimemeza

ngentokozo; ngizahlabelela ingoma zendumiso kuThixo. 7 Zwana ilizwi lami lapho ngimemeza Oh Thixo; woba lomusa kimi unghlengule. 8 Ithi inhliziyo yami Ngawe, “Dinga ubuso bakhe!” Ubuso Bakho, Thixo ngizabudinga. 9 Ungangifihleli ubuso Bakho, ungangiyotshi inceku yakho ngokuthukuthela; wena ubungumsi wami. Ungangilahli loba unghdele, Oh Nkulunkulu, Msindisi wami. 10 Loba obaba lomama bengangidela, uThixo uzangemukela. 11 Ngifundisa indlela Yakho, Oh Thixo; ngihola endleleni eqondileyo ngenxa yabancindezeli bami. 12 Unganginikeli entandweni yabangizondayo, ngoba ofakazi bamanga bayangivukela bevutha ulaka. 13 Ngilokhu ngilesibindi ngalokhu: ngizakubona ukulunga kukaThixo emhlabeni wabaphilayo. 14 Lindela uThixo qina ume isibindi ulindele uThixo.

28 Ihubo likaDavida. Ngikhala Kuwe, Oh Thixo, Dwala lami; ungangivaleli indlebe Yakho. Phela nxa ulokhu uthule ngizakuba njengalabo asebengene egodini. 2 Zwana ukukhala kwami ngicela umusa, nxa ngikhala Kuwe ngicela usizo, nxa ngiphakamisela izandla zami eNdaweni Yakho eNgcwelengcwele. 3 Ungangihluli ndawonye lababi, labalo abenza ububi, abahulumana kamandni labomakhelwane kodwa begcine ububi ezinhliziyweni zabo. 4 Bajezisele izezo zabo kanye lemisebenzi yabo emibi; bajezisele imisebenzi yezandla zabo, ubaphindisele ngokubafaneleyo. 5 Njengoba benganani imisebenzi kaThixo lalokho okwenziwe yizandla zakhe, uzabahlidzela phansi angaphindi ababumbe futhi. 6 Udumo kalube kuye uThixo, ngoba ukuzwile ukukhala kwami ngicela umusa. 7 UThixo ungamandla ami lesihlangu sami; inhliziyo yami yethemba Kuye, ngiyancedwa. Inhliziyo yami iyaqolotsha ngentokozo njalo ngizambonga ngehobo. 8 UThixo ungamandla abantu bakhe, inqaba yensindiso yocgotshiyeyo wakhe. 9 Sindisa abantu Bakho ubusise ilifa lakho; woba ngumelusi wabo ubathwale lanininini.

29 Ihubo likaDavida. Mupheni uThixo, lina ziphakanyiswa, mupheni uThixo ubukhosi lamandla. 2 Mupheni uThixo ubukhosi obufanele ibizo lakhe; mkhonzeni uThixo ekukhazimuleni kobungcwele bakhe. 3 Ilizwi likaThixo liyazulazula phezu kwamanzi; uNkulunkulu wenkazimulo uyandindiza, uThixo uyandindiza phezu kwamanzi amanengi. 4 Ilizwi likaThixo lilamandla; ilizwi likaThixo lilobukhosi. 5 Ilizwi likaThixo lephula imisedari; uThixo uyiqamula ibe yizicucu imisedari yaseLebhanoni. 6 Wenza iLebhanoni itshakale njengethole, iSiriyyoni njengeguqa lenyathi. 7 Ilizwi likaThixo litshaya ngezikhatha zombane. 8 Ilizwi likaThixo liyayizamazama inkangala; uThixo uyayizamazama inkangala yaseKhadeshi. 9 Ilizwi likaThixo liyayitshila imikusu likhwebule izihlahla amagusa asale eze. Njalo ethempelini lakhe bonke bazamemeza bathi, “Inkazimulo!” 10 UThixo uhlezi ebukhosini phezu kwesikhukhula; uThixo unguMbusi lanininini. 11 UThixo unika amandla ebantwini bakhe; uThixo ubusisa abantu bakhe ngokuthula.

30 Ihubo. Ingoma. Elokunikela ithempeli. ElikaDavida. Ngizakuphakamisela, Oh Thixo, ngoba wangenyula ekujuleni awaze wavumela izitha zami zijabule phezu kwami. 2 Awu Thixo, Nkulunkulu wami, ngacela Kuwe uncedo wangisilisa. 3 Yebo Thixo wangenyula elibeni, wangisiza ngaphepha ukungena egodini. (Sheol h7585) 4 Hlabelalani kuThixo lina bathembekileyo bakhe; dumisani ibizo lakhe

elingcwele. **5** Ngoba ukuthukuthela Kwakhe ngokomzuzwana nje, kodwa umusa wakhe ukhona okwempilo yonke; ukulila kungaqhubeka ubusuku bonke, kodwa ukuthokoza kuyafika ekuseni. **6** Ngathi lapho ngizizwa ngihlezi kuhle ngathi, “Kangisoze ngafa ngahlukuluzeka.” **7** Yebo Thixo, wathi lapho usizwela wenza intaba yami yagxila qho; kodwa kwathi lapho usifihle ubuso Bakho ngaphelelwa lithemba. **8** Ngakhala kuwe, Thixo; ngacela umusa eNkosini: **9** “Kulenzuzo bani ngokubhujiswa kwami na, ngokutshona kwami egodini? Kambe uthuli luzakudumisa na? Lona luzafakaza na ngokuthembeka Kwakho? **10** Zwana, Oh Thixo, ube lomusa kimi; woba lusizo wami.” **11** Waguqula ukububula kwami kwaba ngumgido; wangihlulula izigqoko zamasaka wangigqokisa ukuthokoza, **12** ukuze inhliziyi yami ikuhlabelele ingathuli. Oh Thixo, Nkulunkulu wami, ngizakubonga nini lanini.

31 Kumqondisi wokuhlabelela. Ihubo likaDavida. Kuwe Thixo, sengithole isiphephelo; mangingayangiswa lanini; ngihlenga ngokulunga Kwakho. **2** Ngilalela, woza ngokuphangisa unghlengi; woba lidwala lami lokuphephela, inqaba eqinileyo yokungisindisa. **3** Njengoba ulidwala lami lenqaba yami, ngikhokhela unghole ngenxa yegama Lakho. **4** Ngikhulula emjibileni othiyelwe mina, ngoba uyisiphephelo sami. **5** Ezandleni Zakho nginikela umphefumulo wami; ngihlenga, Oh Thixo, Nkulunkulu weqiniso. **6** Ngiyabazonda labo abanamathela izithombe eziyize; ngithemba kuThixo. **7** Ngizathokoza ngijabule othandweni Lwakho, ngoba wakubona ukuhlupheka kwami wabazi ubuhlungu bomphefumulo wami. **8** Kawungifuqelanga esitheni kodwa ugxilise inyawo zami endaweni ebanzi. **9** Woba lomusa kimi, Oh Thixo, ngoba ngiyahlupheka; amehlo ami ayafiphala ngenxa yosizi, umphefumulo wami lomzimba wami ngokudabuka. **10** Impilo yami incitshiswa yikukhathazeka, leminyaka yami yikububula; amandla ami ayadeda ngenxa yokuhlupheka kwami, lamathambo ami aphela amandla. **11** Ngenxa yezitha zami, sengiyinhlekisa enjani kubomakhelwane; sengiyinhlekisa kubangane bami labo abangibonayo ezindleleni bayangibalekela. **12** Sebekhohliwe ngami kungathi sengafa; senginjengembiza yebumba ehlephukileyo. **13** Ngoba ngizwa izingoma zabanengi; kulezisono inxa zonke; bakha amasu okungilimaza, njalo baceba ukuchitha impilo yami. **14** Kodwa ngiyethemba Kuwe, Thixo; ngithi, “UnguNkulunkulu wami.” **15** Izikhathi zami zisezandleni Zakho; ngisindisa ezitheni zami lakulabo abangizingelayo. **16** Ubuso Bakho mabukhazimulele encekwini Yakho; ngisindisa ngothando Lwakho olungehlulekiyo. **17** Mangingahlaziswa, Oh Thixo, ngoba sengikhalile Kuwe; kodwa akuthi ababi bahlaziswe balale bathule zw eethuneni. (Sheol h7585) **18** Akuthi izindebe balo zamanga zithuliswe, ezikhuluma ngokuzigqaja lokweyisa bakhuluma ngobuqholo ngabantu abalungileyo. **19** Kukhulu kangakanani ukulunga Kwakho okugcinele labo abakwesabayo, okunika obala abantu bebona kulabo abaphephela Kuwe. **20** Uyabafihla ekusithekeni kobukhona Bakho emaqingeni ababi uyabagcina bevikelwe emzini wakhe ezilimini ezichothozayo. **21** Udumo alube kuThixo ngoba watshengisa uthando lwakhe olumangalisayo kimi ngisedolobheni elihanqweyo yimpi. **22** Ngiphakathi kokwethuka ngathi, “Sengisusiwe kangisabonakali Kuwe!” Kanti wakuzwa ukukhala kwami ngicela umusa, lapho ngangicela kuwe ukusizwa. **23** Mthandeni uThixo, lina bangcwele bakhe! UThixo uyabalondolozela abathembekileyo,

kodwa abazigqajayo uyabaphindisela ngokugcwele. **24** Qinani lime isibindi, lonke lina elithemba uThixo.

32 Ihubo likaDavida. Ubusiwe lowo oziphambeko zakhe zithethelelwe, ozono zakhe zisibekelwe. **2** Ubusiwe lowo ongasoze abalelwe isono sakhe nguThixo, njalo ongelankohliso emoyeni wakhe. **3** Ngathi lapho ngithule, amathambo ami ababuthakathaka ngenxa yokububula kwami ilanga lonke. **4** Ngoba imini lobusuku isandla Sakho sasingekelile, singisinda; amandla ami aphela kwafana lesikhudumezi sehlobo. **5** Lapho-ke ngasengisivuma isono sami Kuwe angabe ngisasibekela ububi bami. Ngathi, “Ngizazivuma iziphambeko zami kuThixo,” walithethelela icala lesono sami. **6** Ngakho akuthi wonke umuntu othembekileyo akhuleke kuwe usatholakala; ngeqiniso kuzakuthi lapho impophoma seziqubuka, kabayi kumfinyelela. **7** Uyindawo yami yokuphephela; uzangivikela enkathazweni ungizungeze ngezinyoma zensindiso. **8** Ngizakutshengisa ngikufundise indlela ofanele uhambe ngayo; ngizakweluleka ngikulinde. **9** Ungabi njengebhiza loba imbongolo, khona akulakuzwisisa kodwa kumele kukhokhelwa ngamatomu ukuze umuntu kumlalele. **10** Zinengi izikhazazo zababi, kodwa uthando lukaThixo olungaphuthiyo luyamazungeza umuntu othemba kuye. **11** Thokozani kuThixo, lithabe lina balungileyo; hlabelelani lonke lina eliqotho enhliziyweni!

33 Hlabelelani kuThixo ngentokozo, lina balungileyo; kubafanele abaqotho ukumdumisa. **2** Dumisani uThixo ngechacho; mhlabeleleni ngesiginci sezintambo ezilithumi. **3** Mhlabeleleni ingoma entsha; tshayani kamnandi lihlokomengentokozo. **4** Ngoba ilizwi likaThixo lilungile, liqinisele; uthembekile kukho konke akwenzayo. **5** UThixo uthanda ukulunga lokwahlulela okuqondileyo; umhlaba ugcwele uthando lwakhe olungaphuthiyo. **6** Ngelizwi likaThixo amazulu enziwa, ubunkanyankanya bezinkanyezi ngomoya womlomo wakhe. **7** Uyawaqoqa amanzi olwandle awathele enkonxeni; athululele inziki zolwandle eziphaleni. **8** Umhlaba wonke kawesaba uThixo; akuthi bonke abantu bomhlaba bazithobe phambi Kwakhe. **9** Ngoba wakhuluma, kwahle kwaba khona; wayala, kwema kwaqina nko. **10** UThixo uyawachitha amacebo ezizwe; uyazinyampisa izinhloso zabantu. **11** Kodwa amacebo kaThixo ami aqinile nini lanini, izinhloso zenhliziyi yakhe kuzozonke izizukulwane. **12** Sibusisekile isizwe uNkulunkulu waso onguThixo, abantu abakhethayo baba yilifa lakhe. **13** UThixo ukhangele phansi esezulwini ababone bonke abantu; **14** esemzini wakhe uyababona bonke abahlala emhlabeni **15** yena owenza inhliziyi zabo bonke, enanzelela konke abakwenzayo. **16** Akulankosi esizwa yibukhulu bebutho layo; akulaqhawe eliphunyuka ngamandla alo amakhulu. **17** Yikuthemba ize ukuthi ibhiza lingakusindisa; loba lona lilamandla amakhulu ngeke lisindise. **18** Kodwa amehlo kaThixo akulabo abamesabayo, kulabo othemba labo lisethandweni lwakhe olungapheliyo, **19** ukubakhulula ekufeni baphilise lwanxa kulendala. **20** Simlindele uThixo ngokwethemba; ulusizo lwethu lesihlangu sethu. **21** Inhliziyi zethu zithokoza Ngaye, ngoba sithembe ebizweni lakhe elingcwele. **22** Sengathi uthando Lwakho olungaphuthiyo, Thixo, lungaba phezu kwethu njengalokhu sibeka ithemba lethu kuwe.

34 ElikaDavida. Lapho azenza uhlanya ku-Abhimelekhi, owamxotshayo wahamba. Ngizamphakamisa uThixo

ngezikhathi zonke; indumiso yakhe izahlala isezindebeni zami. **2** Umphefumulo wami uzaziqhenya Thixo akuthi abahluphekileyo bezwe bajabule. **3** Bongani uThixo kanye lami; kasiphakamiseni ibizo lakhe sonke, ndawonye. **4** Ngamdinga uThixo wangiphendula; wangikhulula kukho konke engangikwesaba. **5** Labo abakhangele Kuye bayakhazimula; ubuso babo abungeke bembeswe lhlazo. **6** Isihlupheki lesi samemeza, uThixo wasizwa; wasisindisa kuzozonke inhlupeko zaso. **7** Ingilosi kaThixo iyabazungeza labo abamesabayo, ibakhulule. **8** Nambithani libone ukuthi uThixo ulungile; ubusisiwe umuntu ophephela Kuye. **9** Mesabeni Uthixo, lina bangcwele bakhe, ngoba labo abamesabayo kabasweli lutho. **10** Izilwane zingaphela amandla zilambe, kodwa labo abamdingayo uThixo kabasweli lutho oluhle. **11** Wozani, bantwabami, lalalani kimi; ngizalifundisa ukumesaba uThixo. **12** Lowo othanda ukuphila abone lezinsuku ezinhle kumele **13** anqande ulimi lwakhe kokubi lezindebe zakhe ekukhulumeni inkohliso. **14** Tshiya ububi wenze okulungileyo; funa ukuthula ukunxwanele. **15** Amehlo kaThixo akhangele abalungileyo lezindebe zakhe ziyezwa ukukhala kwabo; **16** ubuso bukaThixo bumelana lalabo abenza okubi, ukuba acitshe ukukhunjulwa kwabo emhlabeni. **17** Abalungileyo bayakhala kuThixo abezwe; uyabakhulula kuzozonke inhlupeko zabo. **18** UThixo useduze labo abalezinhliziyo eziphukileyo asindise labo abadabukileyo emoyeni. **19** Umuntu olungileyo angaba lezinhlupheko ezinengi, kodwa uThixo uyamkhulula kuzozonke. **20** Uyawavikela wonke amathambo akhe, kungephuki loba lalinye. **21** Ububi buzambulala iyisixhwali; izitha zolungileyo zizalahlwa. **22** UThixo uyazihlenga izinceku zakhe; kakho ozalahlwa ophephela kuye.

35 ElikaDavida. Xabana labo, Thixo abaxabana lami; lwana labo abalwa lami. **2** Thatha isihlangu lewisa; phakama uzongilamulela. **3** Phakamisa umkhonto lesijula, ukuqondise kwabangihlaselayo. Ngitshela ukuthi, “Ngiyikusindiswa kwakho.” **4** Sengathi labo abazingela impilo yami bangayangiswa bathelwe ngehlo; sengathi labo abazama ukungidiliza bangabuyiselwa emuva bedumazekile. **5** Sengathi bangaba njengamakhoba emoyeni, ingilosi kaThixo ibe ibadudula ibaxotsha; **6** sengathi indlela yabo ingaba mnyama itshelele, ingilosi kaThixo ibe ibahlezi ezithendeni. **7** Ngoba bangithiya ngamambule abo ngingonanga lutho, baphinda bangembela umgodi kungelasizatho, **8** sengathi bangadiliza belibele lawomambule abawathiyileyo abahilele, sengathi bangawela kulowomgodi babbhidlizwe. **9** Lapho-ke umoya wami uzathokoza kuThixo ujabule ekusindiseni Kwakhe. **10** Mina qobo lwami ngizamemeza ngithi, “Ngubani onjengawe, Oh Thixo? Uyabakhulula abahluphekayo kulabo abalamandla kulabo, abahluphekayo labaswelayo kulabo ababantshontshelayo.” **11** Ofakazi bolunya bayangivelela; bangibuza ngezinto engingazaziyo. **12** Bangiphindisela okuhle ngokubi umphefumulo wami usale usudabukile. **13** Ikanti kwathi bona begula ngembatha amasaka ngazithoba ngazila ukudla. Kwathi lapho imikhuleko yami ingaphendulwa **14** ngaba sesililweni kwangathi ngililela umngane wami loba umfowethu. Ngakhothamisa ikhanda lami ngokudabuka kwangathi ngililela umama. **15** Kodwa ngathi sengikhubekile baqwebana bokha insini; abahlaseli bangihlanganyela ngilibele. Bangichothoza okungapheliyo. **16** Bakloloda ngomona njengabangakholwayo; bangigedlela amazinyo abo.

17 Nkosi, uzakuma ubukele kuze kube nini na? Yeniyula impilo yami ekungilimazeni kwabo, impilo yami eligugu kulezizilwane. **18** Ngizakubonga phakathi komhlangano omkhulu; ngikudumise ngiphakathi kwamaxuku abantu. **19** Ungabayekeli abayizitha zami ngingabonelanga lutho, bantele phezu kwami. Ungayekeli labo abangizondayo kungelasizatho, banginyonkoloze ngomona. **20** Kabakhulumu okuqondileyo kodwa babumba amacala amanga, ngalabo abaphila ngokuthula elizweni. **21** Bangikhamisela imilomo bathi, “Hiya belo! Sizibonele ngawethu amehlo la.” **22** Oh Thixo, usukubonile lokhu; ungathuli. Ungabi khatshana kwami, Oh Nkosi. **23** Vuka, uphakame ungilamule! Ngilwela, Nkulunkulu Thixo wami. **24** Ngigeza ngokulunga Kwakho, Thixo, Nkulunkulu wami; ungabayekeli bantele phezu kwami. **25** Ungabayekeli bacabange bathi, “Ehe, yikho ebesikufuna!” loba bathi, “Sesiminyile.” **26** Sengathi bonke abantela ngokuhlupheka kwami bangathelwa ngehlozo basanganiseke; sengathi bonke abazikhukhumezayo phezu kwami bangembeswa ngokuyangeka langedhlazo. **27** Sengathi labo abathokoza ngokugezwa kwami bangahalalisa ngentokoza lenjabulo; sengathi bangatsho kokuphela bathi, “Makaphakanyiswe uThixo othokoza ngokuhlala kuhle kwenceku yakhe.” **28** Ulimi lwami luzakhluluma ngokulunga Kwakho langendumiso Yakho ilanga lonke.

36 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. ElikaDavida inceku kaThixo. Ngilenkanga enhliziyweni yami mayelana lokuxhwalwa kwesigang: Kakukho ukwesaba uNkulunkulu engondweni yaso. **2** Phela kweyaso ingqondo siyazikhohlisa size sehluleke ukubona kumbe ukuzonda isono saso. **3** Amazwi omlomo waso abolile alenkohliso; kasiselakho ukhulakaniphala lokulunga. **4** Kwala loba silele siceba ububi; sizinikela endleleni yobubi njalo kasikulahlali okubi. **5** Uthando Lwakho, Thixo, lufika emazulwini, ukuthembeka Kwakho esibhakabhakeni. **6** Ukulunga Kwakho kunjengezintaba ezesabekayo, ukwahlulela kuhle Kwakho njengolwandle olukhulu. Oh Thixo, uyamlondoloza umuntu kanye lenyamazana. **7** Luligugu elinganani uthando Lwakho olungaphuthiyo, Oh Nkulunkulu! Bonke abantu bazuza isiphephelo emthunzini wamaphiko Akho. **8** Bayazitika ngokudla okunengi endlini Yakho; ubapha okunathwayo okwemfuleni wakho wokuthokoza. **9** Ngoba kuwe kulomthombo wokuphila; kokwakho ukukhanya sibona ukukhanya. **10** Qhubeka ngothando Lwakho kulabo abakwaziyo, ukulunga Kwakho kubaqotho enhliziyweni. **11** Sengathi unyawa lwabazazisayo lungehluleka ukunginyathela, loba ukuthi isandla sababi singangixotshi. **12** Bonani-ke ukuthi izigangi sezithe daca ziwiselwe phansi, kazisavuki futhi!

37 ElikaDavida. Ungazikhathazi ngabantu ababi loba uhawukele labo abenza okungalunganga; **2** ngoba bazabuna masinyane njengotshani, njengezimila eziluhlaza bazakufa masinyane. **3** Themba kuThixo wenze okulungileyo; hlala elizweni ukholise amadlelo amahle. **4** Zithokoze kuThixo Yena uzakupha izifiso zenhliziyo yakho. **5** Nikela indlela zakho kuThixo; themba kuye, Yena uzakwenzela lokhu: **6** Uzakwenza ukulunga kwakho kukhazimule njengentathakusa, ubuqotho balokho okulwelayo njengelanga lemini enkulu. **7** Chuma phambi kukaThixo umlindlele ngesineke; ungakhathazeki nxa abantu bephumelela ngezindlela zabo, nxa bephutshisa amaqhinga abo amabi. **8** Xwayana lokuzonda njalo ufulathele intukuthelo; ungakhathazeki, kukhokhelela eubuni kuphela. **9**

Ngoba abantu ababi bazasuswa, kodwa labo abathemba uThixo bazakudla ilifa lelizwe. **10** Kuseyisikhathshana nje, ababi bazabe bengasekho; loba usubadinga kabasayikufunyanwa. **11** Kodwa abathobekileyo bazakudla ilifa lelizwe njalo bakholise ukuthula okukhulu. **12** Ababi baceba ukulimaza abalungileyo babagedlele amazinyo; **13** kodwa iNkosi iyabahlaka ababi, ngoba iyazi ukuthi usuku lwabo luyeza. **14** Ababi bakhokha inkemba, badonsa idandili ngenhloso yokulimaza abahluphekayo labaswelayo, lokubulala labo abahamba ngokulunga. **15** Kodwa izinkemba zabo zizagwaza ezabo inhliziyo, lamadandili abo azakwepulwa. **16** Kungcono ingcosana leyo abalayo abalungileyo kulenotho yababi abanengi; **17** ngoba amandla ababi azaqedwa, kodwa uThixo uyabaxhasa abalungileyo. **18** Insuku zabangelasici ziyaziwa nguThixo, ilifa labo lizakuma lanini. **19** Ngezikhathi zomonakalo abayikubuna; ngezikhathi zendlala bazasutha. **20** Kodwa ababi bazabhubha; izitha zikaThixo zinjengobuhle beganga, zizanyamalala, zinyamalale njengentuthu. **21** Ababi bayaboleka kodwa kababuyiseli, kodwa abalungileyo bayapha kakhulu; **22** labo uThixo ababusisayo bazakudla ilifa lelizwe; kodwa labo abathukayo bazasuswa. **23** Nxa uThixo ethokoziwa yikuhamba komuntu, uyaqinisa izinyathelo zakhe; **24** loba angakhubeka, kayikuwa, ngoba uThixo uyamsekela ngesandla sakhe. **25** Ngangimutsha, manje sengiluphele, kodwa angizange ngibone abalungileyo bedelwa loba abantwababo becela isinkwa. **26** Bayaphana kokuphela njalo bayebolekana nje; abantwababo bazabusiswa. **27** Phendukani ebubini lenze ukulunga lapho-ke lizahlala elizweni nini lanini. **28** Ngoba uThixo uthanda abalungileyo njalo kayikubadela abathembekileyo bakhe. Bazavikela kuze kube nini lanini kodwa inzalo yababi izalahlwa; **29** abalungileyo bazazuza ilifa lelizwe bahlale kulo lanini. **30** Umlomo womuntu olungileyo ukhuluma ukhulakani, lolimi lwakhe lukhuluma okuqondileyo. **31** Umthetho kaNkulunkulu wakhe usenhliziyweni yakhe; inyawo zakhe kazitsheli. **32** Ababi bacathamela abalungileyo befuna impilo yabo qobo lwayo; **33** kodwa uThixo kayikubayekela bazenzele abakuthandayo kubo kumbe balahlwe licala nxa bethonisiswa. **34** Lindelani uThixo ligcine indlela yakhe. Uzaliphakamisa lilithathe ilifa lelizwe; lizakubona lokhu nxa ababi sebesuswa. **35** Sengike ngabona umuntu omubi olesihluku kulokubhadala ehuma njengesihlahla, esikhula kuhle emhlabathini waso wemvelo, **36** kodwa waphanga wafa kabe esabakhona; ngathi loba sengindinga ngamswela. **37** Nanzelela abangelecala, qaphela abaqotho. Likhona ikusasa kumuntu wokuthula. **38** Kodwa zonke izoni zizabhujiwa; ikusasa lezizingi lizasuswa. **39** Ukusindiswa kwabalungileyo kuvela kuThixo; uyingqaba yabo ngesikhathi sokuhlupheka. **40** UThixo uyabasiza abakhulule; abakhulule kwababi abasindise, ngoba baphephela kuye.

38 Ihubo likaDavida. Isikhhalazo. Awu Thixo, ungangikhuzi ngolaka loba ungijezise uthukuthele. **2** Ngoba imitshoko yakho ingicibile, njalo wangibhansula kakhulu ngesandla sakho. **3** Ngenxa yokuthukuthela kwakho kangiselakuphila emzimbeni wami; amathambo ami kwasaqinanga ngenxa yesono sami. **4** Ukona kwami sekungisinda njengomthwalo onzima ongathwalekiyo. **5** Izilonda zami sezilobovu sezisenyananyeka ngenxa yobuthutha bami besono. **6** Ngiyanguye ngehliwa kakhulu; sengitshona ngilila ilanga lonke. **7** Ngiphethwe liqolo ngobuhlungu obuqumayo; umzimba wami kawuselampilo. **8** Sengibuthakathaka,

sengicikizekile; ngiyabubula ngobuhlungu benhliziyo. **9** Zonke iziloyiso zami zisobala kuwe, Oh Thixo, ukububula kwami kakufihlekanga kuwe. **10** Inhliziyo yami iyagubhazela, amandla ami ayaphela; lokukhanya sekufiphele emehlweni ami. **11** Abangane bami labakhula bami sebengibalekela ngenxa yamanxeba ami; omakhelwane bami sebhalekela khatshana. **12** Labo abafuna impilo yami sebethiyile, labo abafuna ukungilimaza bakhuluma ngokungidiliza; ilanga lonke batshonela ukwakha amacebo enkohliso. **13** Sengifana lesacuthe esingezwayo, njengesimungulu esehluleka ukuvula umlomo waso; **14** senginjengomuntu ongezwayo, olomlomo ongaphendulayo. **15** Ngikulindlele, Oh Thixo, uzaphendula, Oh Nkosi Nkulunkulu wami. **16** Ngoba ngathi, “Ungabayekeli baklolode kumbe bazikhukhumeze phezu kwami nxa unyawo lwami lutshelela.” **17** Ngoba sengiseduze lokuwa, lobuhlungu bungiphethe njalonjalo. **18** Ngiyabuvuma ububi bami; ngiyakhathazeka ngesono sami. **19** Banengi labo abayizitha zami ezitshisekayo, labo abangizonda bengelasizatho banengi. **20** Labo abangiphindisela okuhle ngokubi bayangigcona lapho ngisenza okulungileyo. **21** Oh Thixo, ungangideli; ungabi khatshana lami, Oh Nkulunkulu wami. **22** Woza masinyane uzongisiza, Nkosi yami loMsindisi wami.

39 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Elikajeduthuni. Ihubo likaDavida. Ngathi, “Ngizaziqaphela izindlela zami, ngiluthinte ulimi lwami esonweni; ngizawugcika umlomo wami nxa ababi bekhona phambi kwami.” **2** Kodwa kwathi lapho ngithule ngithe zwi, ngingatsho lutho loba lungoluhle ubuhlungu benhliziyo yami bakhula. **3** Inhliziyo yami yavutha ngaphakathi kwami; kwathi lapho ngizuliswa yimicabango, umlilo wavutha; ngasengikhuluma ngolimi lwami: **4** “Ngitshengisa, Thixo, isiphetho sempilo yami lobunengi bezinsuku zami; ngazisa ukuthi impilo yami igijima kanganani. **5** Usuwenze insuku zami zaba lobubanzi besandla; ububanzi beminyaka yami kabusilutho kuwe. Impilo yabantu ingumoya kuphela, kanye lalabo abakhanya behlasekile. **6** Umuntu uhamabamba njengesithunzi nje; uyatshikathshika, kodwa konke akwenzayo kuyize lodwa; ubuthelala inotho engazi ukuthi izakuba ngekabani. **7** Kodwa okwamanje, Thixo, ngisafunani kambe? Ithemba lami likuwe. **8** Ngisindisa kuzozonke iziphambeko zami; ungangenzi inhlekisa yezitha. **9** Ngathula; ngangingeke ngiwuvule umlomo wami, ngoba lokhu kwenziwe nguwe. **10** Susa uswazi lwakho kimi; sengikhulelwa yisidutshulo sesandla sakho. **11** Abantu uyabakhuza ubajezisele isono sabo; ucikiza inotho yabo njengenondo ngempela umuntu ngamunye ungomoya nje. **12** Zwana umkhuleko wami, Oh Thixo, lalala isikhhalazo sami ngicela uncedo; ungabi ligcikandele nxa ngikhala. Phela ngihlala lawe nginjengesihambi, ngiyisethekeli njengoba okhokho bonke babenjalo. **13** Ake ukhangele eceleni nje ukuze ngithokoze njalo, ngingakasuki lapha ngibe ngongasekho.”

40 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Elikajeduthuni. Ihubo. Ngamlindela ngesineke uThixo; waphendukela ngakimi wezwa ukukhala kwami. **2** Wangenyula emgodini otshonayo, wangikhupha edakeni lexhaphozini; wamisa inyawo zami edwaleni, wangipha indawo eqinileyo yokuma. **3** Wangipha ingoma entsha emlonyeni wami, ihubo lokudumisa kuNkulunkulu wethu. Abanengi bazabona besabe babeke ithemba labo kuThixo. **4** Ubusisiwe umuntu owenza uThixo abe lithemba lakhe, ongathembi abazigqajayo, lalabo

abaqambukela kubonkulunkulu bamanga. **5** Zinengi, Thixo, Nkulunkulu wami, izimangaliso ozenzileyo. Izinto owasilungiselela zona kakho ongazibala kuwe; aluba bengingakhuluma loba ngilandise ngazo, zingaba zinengi ngokweqileyo ukuzibalisa. **6** Kawufisanga imihlatshele leminikelo kodwa indlebe zami uziklelele; iminikelo yokutshiswa leminikelo yesono kawuzange uyidinge. **7** Lapho-ke ngasengisithi, “Ngilapha, sengifikile kulotshiwe ngami emqulwini. **8** Ngiyakunxwanela ukwenza intando yakho, Oh Nkulunkulu wami; umthetho wakho usenhliziweni yami.” **9** Ngiyafakaza ngokulunga ngisemhlanganweni omkhulu; angizivali izindebe zami, njengoba usazi, Oh Thixo. **10** Ukulunga kwakho kangikufihli enhliziweni yami; ngikhuluma ngokuthembeka kwakho lokusindisa kwakho. Kangilufihli uthando lwakho leqiniso lakho emhlanganweni omkhulu. **11** Ungasigodli isihawu sakho kimi, Oh Thixo; sengathi uthando lwakho leqiniso lakho kungahlala kungivikela. **12** Phela inhlupheko ezingelakubalwa zingihanqile; izono zami sezingificile, kangisaboni. Zinengi kulenwele zekhanda lami, njalo inhliziyo yami isiphela amandla. **13** Jabula, awu Thixo, ungsindise; awu Thixo, woza masinyane uzongisiza. **14** Sengathi bonke abafana ukuqeda impilo yami bangangiswa basanganiswe; sengathi bonke abafisa ukungidiliza bangabuyiselwa emuva beyangekile. **15** Sengathi bonke abathi kimi, “Ehe, Ehe!” banganengwa luhlazo labo. **16** Kodwa akuthi bonke abakudingayo bathokoze bajabule kuwe; akuthi labo abathanda insindiso yakho bahlale besithi, “UTHIXO kadunyiswe!” **17** Kodwa mina ngiyahlupheka, ngiyaswela; sengathi iNkosi ingangikhumbula. Ilusizo lwami lomkhulu wami; Oh Nkulunkulu wami, ungalibali.

41 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Ihubo likaDavida. Ubusiwe lowo onanza abahluphekayo; uThixo uyamkhulula ngezikhathi zokuhlupheka. **2** UThixo uzamvikela alondolozwe impilo yakhe; uzambusisa phakathi kwelizwe akasoze amnikele emandleni ezitha zakhe. **3** UThixo uzamqinisa lanxa elele egula njalo amsilise avuke ekuguleni kwakhe. **4** Ngathi, “Oh Thixo ake ungihawukele; ngisilisa, ngoba ngonile kuwe.” **5** Izitha zami ziyangqiconza zithi, “Uzakufa nini licitshe ibizo lakhe?” **6** Nxa omunye wabo efika ezongibona, ukhuluma kuhle angikhohlise, kodwa enhliziweni yakhe egaya izibozu; athi angaphuma ahambe esekhahliza ebantwini. **7** Bonke abangizondayo banyeyezelana ngami; bangicabangela wonke amanyala besithi, **8** “Usengenwe ngumkhuhlane omubi; kasoze asile avuke futhi.” **9** Lomngane wami osekhwapeni, ebengimthembile, lowo obesidla lami isinkwa usengihlamukele. **10** Kodwa wena, Oh Thixo ake ungihawukele; ake ungvuse ukuze ngibakhawulise. **11** Ngiyazi ukuthi uyathokoza ngami, ngoba isitha sami kasingehluli. **12** Ubuqotho bami busekelwa nguwe njalo ungamisa phambi kwakho nini lanini. **13** Udumo alube kuye uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, kusukela nininini kuze kube nininini.

42 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Ihubo lamaDodana kaKhora. Njengempala inxwanela imifula yamanzi, kunjalo umphefumulo wami uyakunxwanela, Oh Nkulunkulu. **2** Umphefumulo wami womela uNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu ophilayo. Ngizahamba nini ngiyohlanga laNkulunkulu? **3** Inyembezi zami sezizyikwla kwam imini lobusuku, lapho abantu besithi kimi ilanga lonke, “Ungaphi uNkulunkulu wakho?” **4** Lezizinto ngiyazikhumbula nxa ngizisola kakhulu

ngidabukile: Ngangihamba endlini kaNkulunkulu, ngaphansi kwempiko zikaSomandla sihlakoma ngentokozo langokubonga lexuku elithakazelela umkhosi. **5** Kungani wephukile na, wena mphefumulo wami? Kungani udungekile kanje ngaphakathi kwami? Beka ithemba lakho kuNkulunkulu, ngoba ngisezakumdumisa, uMsindisi wami loNkulunkulu wami. **6** Umphefumulo wami wephukile ngaphakathi kwami; ngakho ngizakukhumbula kusukela esifundeni seJodani, iziqongo zaseHemoni, kusukela entabeni iMizari. **7** Inziki imemeza inziki phakathi kwenhloko yezimpophoma zakho; wonke amavinqo lokukhaphaka sekugabhela phezu kwami. **8** Emini uThixo uyaluqondisa uthando lwakhe ebusuku ingoma yakhe ikhona kimi umkhuleko kuNkulunkulu wempilo yami. **9** Ngithi kuNkulunkulu iDwala lami, “Kutheni usungikhohlwe na? Kutheni sengizula ngingolilayo, ngincindezelwa yisitha na?” **10** Amathambo ami ezwa ubuhlungu obungiqedayo lapho izitha zami zingihloza, zisithi kimi ilanga lonke, “Ungaphi uNkulunkulu wakho?” **11** Kungani wephukile na, wena mphefumulo wami? Kungani udungekile kanje ngaphakathi kwami? Beka ithemba lakho kuNkulunkulu, ngoba ngisezakumdumisa, uMsindisi wami loNkulunkulu wami.

43 Ngigeza, awu Nkulunkulu, ungimele uphikise isizwe esingathembekanga; ngikhulula ebantwini ababi abalenkohliso. **2** UnguNkulunkulu inqaba yami. Usungilahlelani na? Kungani sengizula ngilala ngincindezelwa yisitha sami na? **3** Thumela ukukhanya kwakho leqiniso lakho, kakungikhokhele; kakungilethe entabeni yakho engcwele, endaweni lapho ohlala khona. **4** Lapho-ke ngizakuya e-alithareni likaNkulunkulu, kuNkulunkulu, intokozo yami lenjabulo yami. Ngizakudumisa ngechacho, Oh Nkulunkulu, Nkulunkulu wami. **5** Kungani wephukile, wena mphefumulo wami? Kungani udungekile kanje ngaphakathi kwami? Beka ithemba lakho kuNkulunkulu, ngoba ngisezakumdumisa, uMsindisi wami loNkulunkulu wami.

44 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Ihubo lamaDodana kaKhora. Sizizwele ngezethu indlebe, yebo Oh Nkulunkulu obaba basitshela owakwenzayo ensukwini zabo, ensukwini zekadeni. **2** Ngezakho izandla wazixotsha izizwe wagxumeka obaba; wabahlifiza abantu wenza obaba baphumelela. **3** Kwakungasinkemba zabo ezathumba ilizwe, njalo kakusingalo yabo eyaleta ukunqoba; kwaba yisandla sakho sokunene, ingalo yakho, lokukhanya kobuso bakho, ngoba wawubathanda. **4** UyiNkosi yami loNkulunkulu wami, ophayo ukunqoba kuJakhobe. **5** Ngawe siyazihlehlisa izitha zethu; ngebizo lakho siyazigxobaxoba izitha zethu. **6** Angilithembi idandili lami, inkemba yami kayingiletheli ukunqoba; **7** kodwa wena usipha ukunqoba phezu kwezitha zethu, abalwa lathi ubathela ihlazo. **8** Siyazincoma ngoNkulunkulu ilanga lonke, njalo sizalidumisa ibizo lakho nini lanini. **9** Kodwa manje ususilahlile wasiyangisa; kawusaphulekezeleli izimpi zethu. **10** Wasenza sahlela phambi kwesitha, abalwa lathi sebethe the impango. **11** Wasiyekela sadliwa njengezimvu wasichithachitha phakathi kwezizwe. **12** Wathengisa abantu bakho ngengcosana nje awazuza lutho ngalokho kuthengisa. **13** Ususenze saba lihlaho kubomakhelwane, inhlekisa lendumazo kwesihlalisenelabo. **14** Ususenze saba yisiga phakathi kwezizwe; abantu banyikinya amakhanda ngathi. **15** Ukuyangeka kwami kuyangilandela ilanga lonke, ubuso bami buhuqwe ngehlaho,

16 ngokuhozwa yilabo abangisolayo njalo abangenyanyayo, ngenxa yesitha esijonge ukuphindisela. 17 Konke lokhu kwenzakala kithi, lanxa sasingakulibalanga; asathembeka esivumelwaneni sakho. 18 Inhliziyo zethu zazingabuyelanga emuva; inyawo zethu zazingaphambukanga endleleni yakho. 19 Kodwa wasichoboza saba yikudla kwamaganyane, wasembesa ngomnyama omkhulu. 20 Aluba sasesilikhohlwe ibizo likaNkulunkulu wethu loba saphakamisela izandla zethu kunkulunkulu wezizweni, 21 kambe ngabe uNkulunkulu kakubonanga lokho na, njengoba esazi imfihlo zenhliziyo? 22 Ikanti ngenxa yakho wena sikhangelane lokufa ilanga lonke; sithatha njengezimvu ezizahlatshwa. 23 Vuka, Oh Thixo! Ulalelani na? Ziphaphamise! Ungasilahli kokuphela. 24 Ubufihlelani ubuso bakho na, ukhohlwe ukhulupheka kwethu lokuncindezela? 25 Sesibhuqwe phansi othulini; imizimba yethu isinamatele phansi. 26 Phakama usisize; sihlenge ngenxa yothando lwakho olungaphuthiyo.

45 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Njengengoma ethi “Izimbali.” Ihubo lamaDodana kaKhora. Ingoma yomtshado. Inhliziyo yami iyagubhazela ngendaba enkulu nxa ngivuma inkondlo yami ngiyihayela inkosi; ulimi lwami lusiba lomlobi lolwazi. 2 Uyilikhwa lamakhwa emadodeni wonke lezindebe zakho ziconjwe kuhle ngobunono, njengalokhu uNkulunkulu ekubusisile lanininini. 3 Hloma inkemba yakho okhalweni, wena omkhulu; zembathise ngokukhazimula langobukhosi. 4 Usebukhosini bakho khwela enqoleni ulokunqoba umele iqiniso lokuzithoba lokulunga; akuthi isandla sakho sokunene senze izimanga. 5 Akuthi imitshoko yakho ecijileyo icibe inhliziyo zezitha zenkosi; akuthi izizwe ziwe ngaphansi kwезinyawo zakho. 6 Isihlalo sakho sobukhosi, Oh Nkulunkulu, sizakuma nini lanini; intonga yokwahlulela okulungileyo izakuba yintonga yombuso wakho. 7 Uyakuthanda ukulunga njalo uyabuzonda ububi; ngakho uNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu wakho usekubeki ngaphezu kwabakhula bakho ngokukugcoba ngamafutha entokozi. 8 Zonke izembatho zakho ziqhohlwe ngemure, langenhlabane langekhasiya; ezigodweni eziceciswe ngempondo zendlovu kuqhamuka inhlokomo yeziginci ekuthokozisayo. 9 Amadodakazi amakhosi akhona kanye labanye abesifazane abahloniphekayo; kwesokunene sakho ngumlobokazi wesikhosini oceciswe ngegolide lase-Ofiri. 10 Lalela, ndodakazi, nanzelela uvule indlebe; khohlwa abakini, lendlu yakweni. 11 Inkosi iyaphelelwa ngobuhle bakho; yihloniphe, ngoba iyinkosi yakho. 12 Indodakazi yaseThire izakuza lesipho, amadoda anothileyo azazincengela kuwe. 13 Ngaphakathi exhibeni layo inkosazana yibucwacizwazi; isembatho sayo siceciswe ngegolide. 14 Iswi enkosini yembethe izivunulo ezelukiweyo; abakhaphi bayo bayayilandela balethwe kuwe. 15 Bangeniswa lapho ngentokozi lenjabulo; bangena esigodlweni senkosi. 16 Amadodana enu azathatha isikhundla saboyihlo; lizawenza abe ngamakhosana elizweni lonke. 17 Ibizo lakho ngizalenza likhunjulwe kokuphela yizizukulwane zonke; yikho-ke izizwe zizakudumisa nini lanini.

46 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. ElamaDodana kaKhora. Ingoma ngendlela ye-alamothi. UNkulunkulu uyisiphephelo sethu lamandla ethu, usizo oluhlezi lukhona nxa kulohlupho. 2 Ngakho kangiyikwesaba, umhlaba ungaze ubhidlike lezintaba zizele ekujuleni kolwandle, 3 loba amanzi alo ehlokoma agubhazele izintaba zivezele ngokuqubuka

kwalo. 4 Kukhona umfula ozifudlana zawo zithokozisa idolobho likaNkulunkulu, indawo engcwele okuhlala kuyo oPhezukonke. 5 UNkulunkulu ungaphakathi kwalo, kaliyikuwiswa; uNkulunkulu uzalisiza ngovivi lokusa. 6 Izizwe ziyahlokoma, imibuso iyachitheka; uphakamisa ilizwi lakhe umhlaba uncibilike. 7 UThixo uSomandla ulathi; uNkulunkulu kaJakhobe uyingqaba yethu. 8 Wozani libone imisebenzi kaThixo, incithakalo aseyenzile emhlabeni. 9 Uyathulisa izimpi kuze kube semikhawulweni yomhlaba; uyalephula idandili avadlaze lomkhonto, utshisa izinqola ngomlilo. 10 “Thulani, lazi ukuba mina nginguNkulunkulu; ngizaphakanyiswa phakathi kwezizwe; ngizaphakanyiswa emhlabeni.” 11 UThixo uSomandla ulathi, uNkulunkulu kaJakhobe uyingqaba yethu.

47 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. ElamaDodana kaKhora. Ihubo. Qakezani izandla zenu, zizwe zonke; hlokomani kuNkulunkulu ngomsindo wokuthokoza. 2 Wesabeka kangakanani uThixo oPhezukonke, iNkosi enkulu kuwo wonke umhlaba! 3 Wazehlula zonke izizwe zaba ngaphansi kwethu, abantu babangaphansi kwезinyawo zethu. 4 Wasikhethele ilifa lethu, igugu likaJakhobe amthandayo. 5 UNkulunkulu usekhuphukile phakathi komsindo wentokozi, uThixo uphakathi kokukhala kwamacilongo. 6 Hlabelalani indumiso kuNkulunkulu, hlabelalani indumiso; hlabelalani indumiso eNkosini yethu, hlabelalani indumiso. 7 Ngoba uNkulunkulu uyiniNkosi yomhlaba wonke; hlabelalani kuye ihubo lokudumisa. 8 UNkulunkulu uyazibusa izizwe; uNkulunkulu uhlezi esihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi esingcwele. 9 Izikhulu zezizwe ziyaqoqana njengabantu bakaNkulunkulu ka-Abrahama, ngoba amakhosi omhlaba angakaNkulunkulu; uphakeme kakhulukazi.

48 Ingoma. Ihubo lamaDodana kaKhora. Umkhulu uThixo, ufanele ngokuphindiweyo ukudunyiswa, emzini kaNkulunkulu wethu, intaba yakhe engcwele. 2 Muhle kakhulu ngokuphakama kwakhe, uyintokozi yomhlaba wonke. Njengeziqongo zeZafoni injalo intaba iZiyoni, umuzi weNkosi eNkulu. 3 UNkulunkulu usemithangaleni yawo; ubonisa ukuthi nguye oyingqaba yawo. 4 Kwathi lapho amakhosi ehlanganisa izimpi zawo, lapho ehlasela kanyekanye, 5 awubona umuzi lo ethuka aaphathake esetshaywa luvalo. 6 Ahle athuthumela khonapho, ezwa ubuhlungu obuzwiwa ngowesifazane ehelelwa. 7 Wena wabatshabalalisa njengemikhumbi yaseThashishi ibhidlizwa ngumoya wempumalanga. 8 Lokho esikuzwileyo yikho esikubonileyo emzini kaThixo uSomandla, emzini kaNkulunkulu wethu; uNkulunkulu uzawuvikela lanini. 9 Phakathi kwethempeli lakho, Oh Nkulunkulu, siyacabanga ngothando lwakho olungaphuthiyo. 10 Njengebizo lakho, Oh Nkulunkulu, udumo lwakho lufika emikhawulweni yomhlaba; isandla sakho sokunene sigcwele ukulunga. 11 Intaba iZiyoni iyathokoza, imizi yakoJuda iyathaba ngezahluwelo zakho. 12 Hambahamba eZiyoni, ibhode, bala izilindo zayo eziphezulu, 13 nanzelela kuhle imithangala yayo, hlola izinqaba zayo, ukuze ukwazi ukulandisela isizukulwane esizayo. 14 Ngoba uNkulunkulu lo nguNkulunkulu wethu nini lanini; uzakuba ngumholi wethu lasekupheleni.

49 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. ElamaDodana kaKhora. Ihubo. Zwanani lokhu lina bantu lonke; lalalani, lonke elihlala kulo umhlaba, 2 abantukazana lezikhulu, abanothileyo

labayanga ngokufanayo: **3** Umlomo wami uzakhuluma amazwi okuhlakanipha; amazwi aphuma enhliziyweni yami azanika ukuzwisisa. **4** Ngizabeka indlebe yami kuso isaga; ngechacho ngizaliquhaqha ilibho: **5** Ngingesabelani na nxa kufika insuku ezimbi, lapho abakhohlisi ababi bengihanqa, **6** labo abathembe inotho yabo abazitshaya isifuba ngenotho yabo enengi? **7** Kakho umuntu ongahlenga impilo yomunye kumbe amkhuphele inhlawulo kuNkulunkulu, **8** ngoba ukuhlanga impilo yomuntu kuyadula, akulambhadalo engakwenelisa, **9** ukuze aphile kokuphela angaboni ukubola. **10** Phela bonke bababona ukuthi izihlakaniphi ziyafa; ngokunjalo iziwula bayabangeneyo bayabhubha batshiye inotho yabo kwabanye. **11** Amangcwaba abo ayizindlu zabo zanininini, yimizi yabo okwezizukulwane ezingapheliyo, lokuba nje basebeqambe iziqinti ngamabizo abo. **12** Kodwa umuntu, lokuba elenotho, kaphili kokuphela; unjengezinyamazana ezibhubhayo. **13** Lesi yisiphetho salabo abazithemayo bona, labalandeli babo, abavumelana labakutshoyo. **14** Njengezimvu bamiselwe ingcwaba, ukufa kuzazitika kubo. Abaqotho bazabusa phezu kwabo ekuseni; izidumbu zabo zizabola engcwabeni, kude lemizi yabo efana leyamakhosi. (Sheol h7585) **15** Kodwa uNkulunkulu uzayihlenga eyami impilo engcwabeni; ngempela uzangithatha angise kuye. (Sheol h7585) **16** Ungasuki udangale kakhulu ngokubona omunye enotha; nxa indlu yakhe igcwala ngobunkentshenkentshe; **17** phela kazukuhamba lalutho mhla esifa, ubukhazikhazi lobo kayikwehla labo. **18** Loba wayesithi esaphila azibone engakubisiweyo abantu bayakukhonza nxa uphumelela, **19** uzakuyahlangana lesizukulwane sabokhokho bakhe, abangasayikuphinde bakubone ukukhanya kwempilo. **20** Umuntu olenotho kodwa engaqedisi unjengezinyamazana ezibhubhayo.

50 Ihubo lika-Asafi. USomandla, uNkulunkulu, uThixo, uyakhuluma, ubiza umhlaba kusukela okuphuma khona ilanga kuze kufike lapho elitshona khona. **2** EzeZiyoni, epheleleyo ngobuhle, uNkulunkulu uyakhazimula. **3** UNkulunkulu wethu uyeza, kayikuthula; umlilo uyahangula phambi kwakhe, emaceleni akhe kukhukhula isiphetho. **4** Ubiza amazulu ngaphezulu lomhlaba, ukuze ehluhle abantu bakhe: **5** “Qoqani kimi abahlanjululwiweyo bami, abenza isivumelwano lami ngemihlatshelo.” **6** Lamazulu atshumayela ukulunga kwakhe; ngoba uNkulunkulu ngumahluleli ngokwakhe. **7** “Zwanini, bantu bami, ngizakhuluma; yebo Israyeli, ngizafakaza ngimelane lawe; nginguNkulunkulu, Nkulunkulu wakho **8** Kangikukhuzi ngemihlatshelo yakho kumbe iminikelo yakho yokutshiswa, ehlezi ikhona phambi kwami. **9** Angisweli inkunzi ephuma esibayeni sakho kumbe imbuzi zesilungu sakho, **10** ngoba yiphi layiphi inyamazana eyanga ngeyami, lenkomo ezisemaqaqeni azinkulungwane. **11** Ngazi zonke izinyoni ezisezintabeni, lezidalwa zeganga ngezami. **12** Aluba ngangingolambayo ngangingekulitshela, ngoba umhlaba ngowami, lakho konke okukuwo. **13** Ngidla inyama yezinkunzi yini kumbe nginatha igazi lembuzi na? **14** Yenzani imihlatshelo yokubonga kuNkulunkulu, gcwalisani izifungo zenu koPhezukonke, **15** njalo lize kimi mhla lisekuhluphekeni; ngizalikhulula, lani lizangidumisa.” **16** Kodwa kwababi, uNkulunkulu uthi: “Lilelungelo bani ukukhuluma imithetho yami kumbe liphathe isivumelwano sami ezindebeni zenu na? **17** Liyazizona iziqondiso zami, lilahlela amazwi ami emuva kwenu. **18** Lithi lingabona

isela lihle libambane lalo; lisuka lingenelane lezifebe. **19** Lisebenzisa imilomo yenu ukukhuluma okubi lifundise ulimi lwenu inkohliso. **20** Linyeya umfowenu njalonjalo, limcone umntakanyoko uqobo. **21** Lizenzile lezizinto ngazithulela; lalikhumbula ukuthi ngifana lani. Kodwa ngizalikhuya ngilibonisa icala lenu obala. **22** Nanzelelani lokhu, lina elikhohlwa uNkulunkulu, funa ngilidabadubule, kungekho ongalilamulela: **23** Lowo onikela iminikelo yokubonga uyangidumisa, njalo ulungisa indlela ukuze ngimtshegense insindiso yami.”

51 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Ihubo likaDavida. Lapho umpfrofethi uNathani efike kuye emveni kokuba uDavida efebe loBhathisheba. Ake unghlambule, awu Nkulunkulu, ngenxa yothando lwakho olungaphuthiyo; ngenxa yesihawu sakho esikhulu yesula iziphambeko zami. **2** Hlanza wonke amanyala ami unghlambulule esonweni sami. **3** Phela ngiyazazi iziphambeko zami, isono sami sihlezi siphambi kwami. **4** Ngenzile isono kuwe, wena wedwa, ngenxa okubi phambi kwakho, ukuze kukhanye ukuthi wena uqondile nxa ukhuluma njalo kube kufanele nxa usahlulela. **5** Ngeqiniso ngavele ngazalwa ngilesono, ngaba yisoni ngiqalisa esiswini sikamama. **6** Ngempela wena ufuna iqiniso elisuka emibilini; uyangifundisa ukuhlakanipha ngaphakathi kwami. **7** Ngihlanza ngehisophi unghlambulule; ngigezisa ngibemhlophe kuleliqhwa. **8** Mangizwe intokozo lokuthaba; makuthi amathambo owacobozileyo ajabule. **9** Fihla ubuso bakho esonweni sami ucitshe nxa wonke amanyala ami. **10** Dala phakathi kwami inhliziyo ehlanzekileyo, Oh Nkulunkulu uvuselele ngaphakathi kwami umoya othembekileyo. **11** Ungangilahli ebusweni bakho kumbe ususe kimi uMoya oNgcwele. **12** Buyisela kimi intokozo yokusindisa kwakho njalo ungphe umoya ovumayo ukuthi ungisekele. **13** Lapho-ke ngizafundisa abonayo izindlela zakho, lezoni zizabuyela kuwe. **14** Ngikhulula ecaleni lokuchitha igazi, Oh Nkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu ongisindisayo, njalo ulimi lwami luzahlabelela ukulunga kwakho. **15** Oh Thixo, vula izindebe zami, umlomo wami uzamemezela indumiso yakho. **16** Kawuthokoziswa yimihlatshelo, ngoba bengizawuletha; kawuthakazeleli iminikelo yokutshiswa. **17** Imihlatshelo kaNkulunkulu iyinhliziyu edabukileyo; inhliziyo edabukileyo, ezisolayo, awu Nkulunkulu, kawuyikuyilahla. **18** Nxa kuyintando yakho phumelelisa iZiyoni; yakha imiduli yeJerusalem. **19** Lapho-ke kuzakuba lemihlatshelo elungileyo, iminikelo yokutshiswa egcwelelo elungileyo, lapho-ke inkunzi zizanelwa e-alithareni lakho.

52 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Ihubo likaDavida. Lapho uDoyegi um'Edomi wayeye kuSawuli wamtshela wathi, “UDavida uye wayangena endlini ka-Ahimeleki.” Kungani uncoma ngobubi, wena somandlase? Kungani utshona untela ilanga lonke, wena olihlazo emehlweni kaNkulunkulu? **2** Ulimi lwakho lubeba incithakalo; lumjengensingo elowiweyo, wena owenza inkohliso. **3** Uthanda ububi kulobuhle, amanga kulokukhuluma iqiniso. **4** Uyawathanda wonke amanga alimazayo, wena limi olukhohlisayo! **5** Ngeqiniso uNkulunkulu uzakwehlisela ukubhubha okungapheliyo; Uzakuhlwitha akukuphe ethenteni lakho; uzakuqaphula akususe elizweni labaphilayo. **6** Abalungileyo bazabona besabe; bazamhleka bathi, **7** “Nangu-ke manje umuntu lo ongenzanga uNkulunkulu inqaba yakhe kodwa wathemba

inotho yakhe enkulu wakhula waba lamandla ngokuwisa abanye!” **8** Kodwa mina nginjengesihlahla se-oliva esikhula endlini kaNkulunkulu; ngithembe uthando lukaNkulunkulu olungaphuthiyo nini lanini. **9** Ngizakudumisa lanini ngalokho okwenzileyo; ngizathemba ebizweni lakho, ngoba lihle ibizo lakho. Ngizakudumisa phambi kwabangcwele bakho.

53 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Ngendlela yemahlati. Ihubo likaDavida. Isiwula sithi enhliziyweni yaso, “AkulaNkulunkulu.” Baxhwalile, lezindlela zabo zibolile; kakho loyedwa owenza okuhle. **2** UNkulunkulu ukhangela phansi esezulwini emadodaneni abantu ingabe bakhona yini abazwisisayo, abamdingayo uNkulunkulu. **3** Abantu bonke baphambukile, bonke sebexhwalile; kakho loyedwa owenza okuhle, kakho lamunye. **4** Kanti lezixhwalazi kaziyikufa zafunda yini? Zona ezidla abantu bami ingathi zidla isinkwa, ezingamkhonziyo uNkulunkulu. **5** Kodwa yibo abagubhazeliswa luvalo khona kungelalutho olwesabekayo. UNkulunkulu wawahlakaza amathambo alabo abalihlaselayo; lina labayangisa ngoba uNkulunkulu wabeyisa. **6** Sengathi insindiso ka-Israyeli ingaqhamuka eZiyoni! Nxa uNkulunkulu esebuyisela impumelelo yabantu bakhe, kathokoze uJakhobe lo-Israyeli ajabule!

54 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Kutshaywa iziginci. Ihubo likaDavida. Lapho amaZifi aya kuSawuli afika athi, “Kanti uDavida kacatshanga yini phakathi kwethu?” Ngisindisa, awu Nkulunkulu, ngebizo lakho; ngigeza ecaleni ngamandla akho. **2** Zwana umkhuleko wami, Oh Nkulunkulu; lalela amazwi omlomo wami. **3** Ngihlaselwa ngabantu engingabaziyo; iziklwi zifuna impilo yami abantu abangamnazanga uNkulunkulu. **4** Ngeqiniso uNkulunkulu ulusizo lwami; uThixo nguye ongisizayo. **5** Akuthi ububi bubuyele phezu kwalabo abangigconayo; ngokuthembeka kwakho babhubhise. **6** Ngizakwenzela umhlatshelelo owomnikelo wokuzithandela; ngizalidumisa ibizo lakho, Thixo, ngoba lihle. **7** Ngoba ingikhulule kuzozonke inhlupeko zami, lamehlo ami akubonile ukunqotshwa kwezitha zami.

55 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Kutshaywa iziginci. Ihubo likaDavida. Lalela umkhuleko wami, Oh Nkulunkulu, ungafulatheli isikhazazo sami; **2** ngizwa ungiphendule. Imicabango yami iyangikhathaza, ngididekile **3** ngelizwi lesitha sami, lokunyonkolozwa ngababi; ngoba bangibangela inhlupeko bangithuka bethukuthele. **4** Inhliziyo yami iyatshiseka ngaphakathi kwami; ukwesaba ukufa kuyangiqinela. **5** Ukwesaba lokuthuthumela sekungihlasele; isithuli sesingigabhela. **6** Ngathi, “He, aluba ngangilamaphiko njengejuba! Ngangizaphapha ngizoziphumulela kude. **7** Ngangizabaleka ngiye kude ngiyehlala enkangala; **8** ngangizaphanga ngiye enqabeni yami, kude kwesikhukhula lesiphepho.” **9** Sanganisa ababi, Oh Thixo, sanganisa ukukhuluma kwabo, ngoba ngibona udlakela lengxabano edolobheni. **10** Emini lebusuku bayacathama emidulini yalo; umona lenzondo kugcwele lapho. **11** Imimoya yokubhidliza yiyo esibusa; izisongo lamanga akusasuki emigwaqweni. **12** Aluba ngithukwa yisitha ngingakubhensela lokho; aluba ongizondayo engivukela ngingamcatshela. **13** Kodwa nguwe, umuntu njengami, umkhula wami, umngane wami oseduze, **14** engake ngaba lobudlelwano obukhulu laye lapho sasihamba ndawonye labanengi endlini kaNkulunkulu. **15** Yekela

ukufa kuzijume izitha zami; yekela bagqitshelwe bephila engcwabeni, ngoba ububi buthe khoxo phakathi kwabo. **(Sheol h7585)** **16** Kodwa ngiyambiza uNkulunkulu, uThixo angisindise. **17** Kusihlwa, ekuseni lemini ngiyakhala ngisosizini, yena uyalizwa ilizwi lami. **18** Uyangihlenga ngingakalimali kuleyompi engihlaselayo, loba bebanengi abaxabana lami. **19** UNkulunkulu osesihlalweni sobukhosi lanininini, uzabezwa abachithachithe abantu abanguqukiyo ezindleleni zabo njalo abangamesabiyo uNkulunkulu. **20** Umkhula wami uyabahlasele abangane bakhe; wephula isivumelwano asenzayo. **21** Inkulumbo yakhe ibutshelazi njengolaza, kodwa kulempi enhliziyweni yakhe amazwi akhe alozela ukwedlula amafutha kodwa abukhali kulensungu. **22** Yethula inswelo zakho kuThixo yena uzakusekela; akazukuyekela abalungileyo bawe. **23** Kodwa wena, Nkulunkulu ababi uzabawisela egodini lokungcola; abantu abomele igazi njalo abakhohlisayo kabasoze bayiphile ingxenye yezinsuku zabo. Kodwa mina, ngithemba kuwe.

56 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Kulandelwa itshuni ethi, “Ijuba phezu kwemikusu ekude.” ElikaDavida. Imikithamu. Lapho wayesethunjwe ngamafilitiya eGathi. Woba lomusa kimi, Oh Nkulunkulu, ngoba abantu baxotshana lami kubi; ilanga lonke bayajujumezela bengihlasela. **2** Labo abangigconayo baxotshana lami ilanga lonke; abanengi bangihlasela bekloloda. **3** Nxa ngisesaba ngizathemba kuwe. **4** KuNkulunkulu, engidumisa ibizo lakhe, ngithemba kuye uNkulunkulu; angiyikwesaba. Umuntu wenyama angenzani kimi? **5** Ilanga lonke batshona behlanekela amazwi ami; beqoqa ukungibhidliza. **6** Bayabuthana bengicathamela balandele izinyathelo zami bethshisekela ukucitsha impilo yami. **7** Loba sekutheni ungabayekeli baphunyuke; ngokuthukuthela kwakho, Nkulunkulu, zidilize izizwe. **8** Bhala phansi isililo sami; bhala ithonsi ngalinye lezinyembezi zami emqulwini wakho kazikho yini emibhalweni yakho? **9** Lapho-ke izitha zami zizafulathela nxa sengicela uncedo. Ngalokhu ngizakwazi ukuthi uNkulunkulu ulami. **10** KuNkulunkulu, engidumisa ibizo lakhe, kuThixo engidumisa ibizo lakhe, **11** kuNkulunkulu ngiyathemba; angiyikwesaba. Umuntu angenzani kimi na? **12** Ngibanjwe yizifungo kuwe, Oh Nkulunkulu; ngizakwethula umnikelo wami wokubonga kuwe. **13** Ngoba ungikhulule ekufeni lezinyawo zami lapho ngikhubeka, ukuze ngihambe phambi kukaNkulunkulu ekukhanyeni kwempilo.

57 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Itshuni ethi, “Ungabhidlizi.” ElikaDavida. Imikithamu. Ngesikhathi ebalekele uSawuli watshisa ebhalwini. Woba lesihawu kimi, Oh Nkulunkulu, woba lomusa kimi, ngoba umphefumulo wami uphelela kuwe. Ngizaphephela ethunzini lamaphiko akho kuze kudlule incithakalo le. **2** Ngiyakhala kuNkulunkulu oPhezukonke, kuNkulunkulu ogcwalisa isimiso sakhe ngami. **3** Uyathamela esezulwini angisindise, abakhwazele labo abafuna ukungilimaza. UNkulunkulu uyehlisa uthando lwakhe lokwethembeka kwakhe. **4** Ngiphakathi kwezilwane; ngilala phakathi kwezilo eziqholozayo abantu abamazinyo abo yimikhonto lemitshoko, abanlimi zabo zinkemba ezibukhali. **5** Mawuphakanyiswe, Oh Nkulunkulu, ngaphezu kwamazulu; akuthi inkazimulo yakho ibesemhlabeni wonke. **6** Bangithiya ngamabule ezinyaweni ngaphela amandla ngokudabuka. Bangimbela igodi endleleni kodwa sebewele kulona bona. **7** Inhliziyo yami ibambebele, kayiguquki Oh Nkulunkulu, inhliziyo yami ibambebele; ngizahlabela ngenze iculo

elimnandi. **8** Vuka, mphefumulo wami! Vukani, chacho lomqangala! Ngizayivusa intathakusa. **9** Ngizakudumisa, Oh Thixo, phakathi kwezizwe; ngizahlabela ngawe phakathi kwabantu. **10** Ngoba lukhulu uthando lwakho, lufika emazulwini; ukuthembeka kwakho kufinyelela esibhakabhakeni. **11** Mawuphakanyiswe, Oh Nkulunkulu, ngaphezulu kwamazulu; akuthi inkazimulo yakho ibesemhlabeni wonke.

58 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Itshumi ethi, “Ungabhidlizi.” ElikaDavida. Imikithamu. Lina babusi, kambe likhuluma okuqondileyo na? Lahlulela ngobuqotho yini ebantwini? **2** Hatshi, ezinhliziyweni zenu lakha amacebo okubusa kubi, lezandla zenu zijezisa ngochuku emhlabeni. **3** Kwasekuzalweni ababi bayaphumputheka; kwasekuzalweni baxhwalile, beqamba amanga. **4** Itshefu yabo ifana letshefe yenyoka, ifana leyebululu elingezwa umsindo, **5** elingananzi lomculo wombumbi, loba lowombumbi eligabazi elinganani. **6** Khumula amazinyo emilonyeni yazo, awu Nkulunkulu; zikhumule, Oh Thixo, izingavula zezilwane! **7** Yekela zinyamalale njengamanzi agelezayo; zithi lapho zinweba idandili, kayithundubale imitshoko yazo. **8** Njengomenke uncibilika uphele ulokhu uhamba, njengomphunzo, kabangaliboni ilanga. **9** Imbiza zakho zingakaqalisi ukutshisa ngomlilo wenkuni zameva loba ngezimanzi kumbe ngezomileyo ababi bazakhukhulelwa khatshana. **10** Abalungileyo bazajabula nxa sebhendiselelwa, nxa sebezisa inyawo zabo egazini lababi. **11** Lapho-ke abantu bazakuthi, “Ngempela abalungileyo bajinge bathole umvuzo; ngempela ukhona uNkulunkulu owahlulela umhlaba.”

59 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Itshumi ethi, “Ungabhidlizi.” ElikaDavida. Imikithamu. Ngesikhathi uSawuli ethume amadoda ukuqaphela indlu kaDavida ukuze bambulale. Ngikhulule ezitheni zami, awu Nkulunkulu; ngivikela kulabo abangivukelayo. **2** Ngikhulula kubenzi bobubi ungisindise ebantwini abomele igazi. **3** Ake ubone ukuthi bangacathamela njani! Amadoda esabekayo angakhela amacebo kungelacala loba isono engisenzileyo, Oh Thixo. **4** Angonanga lutho, kodwa balungele ukungihlasela. Phakama ungisize; ake ubone umumo enguku! **5** Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu Somandla, Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, ake uzivuse wena ukuze uzijezise zonke izizwe; ungabazweli isihawu bonke abahlamuki ababi. **6** Bathi bephenduka kusihlwa babe behwabha njengezinja, bahwede bebhoda ledolobho. **7** Ake ubone ukuthi baphihlizani emilonyeni yabo: baphihliza izinkemba ezindebeni zabo, bese besithi, “Ngubani osizwono?” **8** Kodwa wena, Oh Thixo, uyabahleka; uyazigqabazela zonke lezozizwe. **9** Oh Mandla ami, ngiyakulindela; wena, Oh Nkulunkulu, uyingqaba yami, **10** Nkulunkulu wami olothando. UNkulunkulu uzahamba phambi kwami angenze ngiklolode nkuze kwalabo abangingcolisayo. **11** Kodwa ungababulali, Nkosi hawu lethu, funa abantu bakithi bakhohlwe. Ngamandla akho baphumputhekise njalo ubehlule wena Thixo, sihlangu sethu. **12** Ngenxa yezono zemilomo yabo, ngenxa yamazwi ezindebe zabo, kababanjwe belokhu bezigqaja benjalo. Ngenxa yezethuko lamanga abawaqambayo, **13** babhuqe ngolaka, babhuqe bangabi khona futhi. Lapho-ke kuzakwaziwa lasemikhawulweni yomhlaba ukuthi uNkulunkulu uyabusa phezu kukajakhobe. **14** Bathi bephenduka kusihlwa babe behwabha njengezinja, bahambahambe becathama edolobheni. **15** Bayazula bedinga

ukudla bahlabe umkhulungwane nxa begasuthanga. **16** Kodwa mina ngizahlabelela ngihaya amandla akho, ekuseni ngizahlabelela ngihaya uthando lwakho, ngoba wena uyingqaba yami, isiphophelo sami ezikhathini zokuhlupheka. **17** Oh wena Mandla ami, ngihlabelela indumiso kuwe; wena, Oh Nkulunkulu uyingqaba yami, Nkulunkulu wami olothando.

60 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Kulandelwa itshumi ethi, “Iluba lesiVumelwano.” Imikithamu kaDavida. Elokufundisa. Lapho alwa lo-Aramu Naharayimu lo-Aramu Zobha, njalo lapho uJowabi athi ekubuyeni kwakhe walahla phansi ama-Edomi azinkulungwane ezilithshumi lambili eSigodini seTswayi. Ususilahlile, Oh Nkulunkulu, wabhidliza izinqaba zethu; ubukade uthukuthelwe, manje ake usivuselele! **2** Usulizamamazisile ilizwe waliqhekeza; namathisela iminkenke yalo ngoba selivezelela. **3** Ubabonisele abantu bakho izikhathi ezilukhuni; usiphe iwiyini elisenza sidiyazele. **4** Kodwa kulabo abakwesabayu usuphakamise uphawu lokubahlanganisa ndawonye. **5** Sisindise, usisize ngesandla sakho sokumene, ukuze bonke labo obathandayo bakhululwe. **6** UNkulunkulu usukhulumile esendlini yakhe engcwele: “Ngokunqoba ngizayaba iShekhemu, ngihlale leSigodi saseSukhothi. **7** Ngeyami iGilyadi, loManase ngowami; u-Efrayimi yisivikelo sekhanda lami, uJuda uyintonga yami yobukhosi. **8** IMowabi ngumganu wami wokugezela, phezu kuka-Edomi ngiphosela amanyathelo ami; phezu kweFilistiya ngihalalisa umkhosi wokunqoba.” **9** Ngubani ozangisa emzini olenqaba na? Ngubani ozangiholela e-Edomi na? **10** Kakusuwe na, Oh Nkulunkulu, wena osusilahlile, ongasaphumi lathi ezimpini zethu? **11** Ake usisize ezitheni zethu, ngoba usizo lomuntu luyize. **12** Nxa siloNkulunkulu sizanqoba, njalo uzazinyathela phansi izitha zethu.

61 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Kutshaywa iziginci. ElikaDavida. Zwana ukukhala kwami, Oh Nkulunkulu; lalala umkhuleko wami. **2** Ngisemkhawulweni womhlaba ngiyakubiza, ngiyabiza lapho inhliziyi yami isiphela amandla; ngikhokhelela edwaleni eliphakeme kulami. **3** Ngoba ube uyisiphophelo sami, inqaba eqinileyo evikela esitheni. **4** Ngiyalangazethula ukuhlala ethentheni lakho laphakade ngizifihle emthunzini wamaphiko akho. **5** Phela usuzizwile izifungo zami, Oh Nkulunkulu; usungiphile ilifa labalo abalesabayu ibizo lakho. **6** Yandisa insuku zempilo yenkosi, iminyaka yayo okwezizukulwane ezinengi. **7** Sengathi ingaba sesihlalweni iphambi kukaNkulunkulu nini lanini; wabele uthando lwakho lokuthembeka Kwakho kuyivikela. **8** Lapho-ke ngizahlala ngihlabelela indumiso ebizweni Lakho ngicgwalise izifungo zami insuku ngensuku.

62 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. KuJeduthuni. Ihubo likaDavida. Umphefumulo wami ufumana ukuphumula kuNkulunkulu kuphela; ukusindiswa kwami kuvela kuye. **2** Yena yedwa uyilo idwala lami lensindiso yami; uyingqaba yami, kangisoze ngihlukunyezwe lanini. **3** Koze kube nini lilokhu lihlukuluza umuntu na? Lonke lizamlahla phansi na yena ongumdlu otshekileyo, oluthango oluthebhayo? **4** Bazimisele ukumqethula esikhundleni sakhe esiphazulu; bathokoziswa ngamanga. Ngemilomo yabo bayabusisa, kodwa ezinhliziyweni zabo bayaqalekisa. **5** Fumana ukuphumula, Oh mphefumulo wami, kuNkulunkulu kuphela; ithemba lami livela kuye. **6** Yena yedwa ulidwala lami lensindiso; uyingqaba

yami, kangisoze ngihlukunyezwe. 7 Insindiso yami lodumo lwami kweyeme kuNkulunkulu; ulidwala lami eliqinileyo, isiphephelo sami. 8 Thembani kuye ngezikhathi zonke, lina bantu; likhuphe konke okusezinhliziyweni zenu kuye, ngoba uNkulunkulu uyisiphephelo sethu. 9 Abantukazana bangumoya nje, izikhulu ziyinkohliso nje; aluba belinganiswa esikalini kabasilutho; bonke ndawonye bangumoya kuphela. 10 Lingathembi ukuqilibezela kumbe lizikhukhumeze ngempahla zokwebiwa; kungaze kube inotho yenu iyanda, lingabeki inhliziyi zenu kuyo. 11 Yinye into uNkulunkulu ayikhulumileyo, zimbili izinto engizwileyo, ukuthi amandla wonke ngawakho wena, Oh Nkulunkulu. 12 Lokuthi wena, Thixo, ulothando olojulileyo, umuntu ngamunye uzamupha umvuzo ngalokho akwenzileyo.

63 Ihubo likaDavida eseNkangala yakoJuda. Oh Nkulunkulu, unguNkulunkulu wami, ngiyakudinga ngitshiseka; umphefumulo wami uyakomela, umzimba wami uyakudinga, elizweni elomileyo eseligugile lapho okungelamanzi khona. 2 Ngikubonile endlini Yakho engcwele ngawabona amandla Akho lenkazimulo Yakho. 3 Ngoba uthando Lwakho lungcono kulempilo, izindebe zami zizakutsho inkazimulo Yakho. 4 Ngizakudumisa kokuphela nxa ngisaphila, ngebizo lakho ngizaphakamisa izandla zami. 5 Umphefumulo wami uzasuthiswa ngokudla okuhle okuphilisayo; ngezindebe ezihlabeleyo umlomo wami uzakudumisa. 6 Ngisembhedeni wami ngiyakhumbula; ngiyakukhumbula lanxa ngisemlindweni wasebusuku. 7 Ngoba ulusizo lwami, ngiyahlabelela ngisemthunzini wamaphiko Akho. 8 Umphefumulo wami unamathele Kuwe; isandla sakho sokunene siyangisekela. 9 Labo abazingela impilo yami bazabhujiswa; bazakwehla phansi ekujuleni komhlabathi. 10 Bazakwabelwa ukudliwa yinkemba babe yikudla kwamakhanka. 11 Kodwa inkosi izathokoza kuNkulunkulu; bonke abafunga ngebizo likaNkulunkulu bazamdumisa, ikanti imilomo yabaqamba amanga izathuliswa.

64 Kumqondisi wokuhlabelela. Ihubo likaDavida. Ake ungizwe, Oh Nkulunkulu, nxa ngiletha ukusola kwami; vikela impilo yami ekusongelweni yisitha. 2 Ngifihla emacebeni abantu ababi, kulokho kukoxozela kwezixhwalu. 3 Bayazilola inlimi zabo njengezinkemba bakhombele amazwi abo njengemitshoko ebulalayo. 4 Batshoka becathemele umuntu ongonanga lutho; bayaphanga ukumciba bengelavalo. 5 Bayakhuthazana ngamacebo amabi, bakhulumisana ngokufihla imijibila yabo; bathi, "Sizabonwa ngubani?" 6 Baceba ukona besithi, "Sesakhe icebo elihle kakhulu!" Ngempela ingqondo yomuntu lenhliziyi yakhe ilobuqili. 7 Kodwa uNkulunkulu uzabaciba ngemitshoko; ngokuphangisa nje bazalahlwa phansi. 8 Uzakwenza banyeyane bona bodwa bacine sebedilizana; bonke abababonayo bazanyikinya amakhanda babahleke. 9 Bonke abantu bomhlaba bazakwesaba; bazafakaza imisebenzi kaNkulunkulu banakane ngalokho akwenzileyo. 10 Akuthi abalungileyo bathokoze kuThixo baphephele kuye; akuthi bonke abaqotho ngenhliziyi bamdumise.

65 Kumqondisi wokuhlabelela. Ihubo likaDavida. Ingoma. Udumo lukulindele, Oh Nkulunkulu, eZiyoni; kuwe izifungo zethu zigagcaliseka. 2 Yebo, wena owuzwayo umkhuleko, bonke abantu bazakuza kuwe. 3 Kwathi lapho sisancindezelwa yizono, wazithethelela iziphambeko

zethu. 4 Babusisiwe labo obakhethayo ubasondeze bazohlala emagumeni Akho! Sigcalisiwe ngezinto ezinhle zendlu Yakho, ezethempeli lakho elingcwele. 5 Uyasiphendula ngezenzo zokulunga ezimangalisayo, Oh Nkulunkulu Msindisi wethu, themba lemikhawulo yonke yomhlaba lenlwandle ezikude, 6 owabumba izintaba ngamandla akho, lapho wena usuziqinisile ngamandla, 7 owathulisa ukuduma kolwandle, ukuduma kwamagasaki azo, lokuhlokoma kwezizwe. 8 Labo abahlala khatshana bayazesaba izimangaliso zakho; lapho okudabuka khona ukusa lokuhlwa okufiphala khona, uhlabelela izingoma zentokozo. 9 Uyawunakekela umhlaba uwuthelezele ngamanzi; uyawunothisa kakhulu. Imifula kaNkulunkulu igcalisiwe ngamanzi ukuze abantu bazuze amabele, ngoba ukumisile wena lokho. 10 Uyayigcalalisa imisele yawo ngamanzi uyendlele kahle imibundu yawo; uyawuthambisa ngemikhizo ubusise amabele awo. 11 Uyawuphelelisa umnyaka ngenala, izinqola Zakho ziphuphume ngokugcwalisa. 12 Amadlelo asenkangala ayaphuphuma; izintaba zigqokiswe ngenjlabulo. 13 Amadlelo agcwele imihlambi yezimvu lezigodi zisibekelwe ngamabele; ziyamemeza ngentokozo zihlabelela.

66 Kumqondisi wokuhlabelela. Ingoma. Ihubo. Memezani ngentokozo kuNkulunkulu mhlaba wonke! 2 Hlabelani ngobukhosi bebizo lakhe; yenzani udumo lwakhe lube lenkazimulo! 3 Yitshoni kuNkulunkulu lithi, "Imangalisa kangaka imisebenzi yakho! Izitha Zakho ziyethuka phambi Kwakho 4 Umhlaba wonke uyakhothama Kuwe; bahlabele udumo Kuwe, bahlabelela udumo ebizweni Lakho." 5 Wozani libone akwenzileyo uNkulunkulu, ukumangalisa kwemisebenzi yakhe ayenzela abantu! 6 Waguqula ulwandle lwaba ngumhlabathi owomileyo, badabula phakathi kwamanzi behamba ngezinyawo wozani sithokoze Kuye. 7 Uyabusa laphakade ngamandla Akhe, amehlo Akhe ayazikhangele izizwe sengathi abahlamuki. 8 Dumisani uNkulunkulu wethu, lina bantu lonke, akuthi inhloko yokudunyiswa kwakhe izwakale; 9 uzilondolozile impilo zethu wavikela inyawo zethu ukuze zingatshelile. 10 Ngoba wena, Oh Nkulunkulu, wasilinga; wasicenga njengesiliva. 11 Wasingenisa entolongweni waseleka ngemithwalo emihlani yethu. 12 Wayekela abantu bakhwela bazelele emakhanda ethu; sedlula phakathi komlilo lamanzi, kodwa wasiletha endaweni yenala. 13 Ngizakuza ethempelini Lakho lomnikelo wokutshiswa ngigcalise izifungo zami Kuwe. 14 Izifungo ezathenjiswa yizindebe zami lomlomo wami lapho ngisekohluphekeni. 15 Ngizakuhlabelela izifuyo ezinonileyo, lomnikelo wenqama; ngizanikela ngenkunzi kanye lembuzi. 16 Wozani lilalele, lina lonke elimesabayo uNkulunkulu; wothani ngilitshele lokho angenzele khona. 17 Ngakhala Kuye ngomlomo wami; indumiso yakhe yayisolimini lwami. 18 Aluba ngangigcine isono enhliziyweni yami, iNkosi ngabe kayizange ingilalele; 19 kodwa ngeqiniso uNkulunkulu walalele walizwa ilizwi lami ngikhuleka. 20 Kadunyiswe uNkulunkulu ongawulahlanga umkhuleko wami futhi ongagodllanga uthando lwakhe kimi.

67 Kumqondisi wokuhlabelela. Kutshaywa iziginci. Ihubo. Ingoma. Sengathi uNkulunkulu angaba lomusa kithi asibusise akhazimulise ubuso bakhe kithi, 2 ukuze izindlele zakho zaziwe emhlabeni, insindiso yakho kuzozonke izizwe. 3 Sengathi abantu bangakudumisa, Oh Nkulunkulu; sengathi bonke abantu bangakudumisa. 4 Sengathi izizwe zingajabula zihlabele ngentokozo, ngoba wena ubusa abantu ngokulunga

ukhokhele izizwe zomhlaba. 5 Sengathi bonke abantu bangakudumisa Oh Nkulunkulu; sengathi abantu bonke bangadumisa wena. 6 Lapho-ke umhlaba uzathela isivuno, uNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu wethu, uzasibusisa. 7 UNkulunkulu uzasibusisa, kuthi yonke imikhawulo yomhlaba izamesaba.

68 Kumqondisi wokuhlabelela. ElikaDavida. Ihubo. Ingoma. UNkulunkulu kaphakame, izitha zakhe azihlakazwe; izitha zakhe azimbalekele. 2 Njengentuthu iphetshulwa ngumoyo lawe baphephulele kude; njengengcino encibilikiswa ngumililo, ababi kababhube phambi kukaNkulunkulu. 3 Kodwa sekungathi abalungileyo bangajabula bathokoze phambi kukaNkulunkulu; sengathi bangathaba bathokoze. 4 Hlabelelani kuNkulunkulu, hlabelelani indumiso ebizweni lakhe, mphakamiseni yena ohlezi phezu kwamayezi lithokoze phambi kwakhe obizo lakhe nguThixo. 5 Uyise wezintandane, umlamuleli wabafelokazi, nguNkulunkulu emzini wakhe ongcwele. 6 UNkulunkulu uyabalungisela indawo ezimulini labo abalesizungu, ukhokhela elizibotshwa ngokuhlabelela; kodwa abahlamuki bahlala elizweni elomileyo. 7 Kwathi lapho ukhokhela abantu bakho, Oh Nkulunkulu, lapho wawudabula elizweni eliyinkangala, 8 umhlaba wanyikinyeka, umkhathi walithulula izulu, phambi kukaNkulunkulu, onguYena oweSinayi, phambi kukaNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. 9 Wanisa izulu elinengi, Oh Nkulunkulu; wavuselela ilifa lakho elaselikhathele. 10 Abantu bakho bahlala kulo bazinza, kwathi ngokuphana kwakho Nkulunkulu, wabaphakela abangabayanga. 11 INkosi yalikhupha ilizwi, kwaba labanengi kakhulu abalimemazelayo besithi, 12 “Makhosi lamabutho phangisani libaleke; ezihonqweni amakhosikazi abelana impango. 13 Khonapho lisalele phakathi kwemililo yezihonqo, impiko zejuba lami zihluqwe ngesiliva, izinsiba zalo ngegolide elikhazimulayo.” 14 Lapho uSomandla wawahlakaza amakhosi elizwe, kwakunjengongqwaqwane eqoqene phezu kweZalimoni. 15 Izintaba zeBhashani yizintaba ezilesithunzi; zilezindongandonga izintaba zaseBhashani. 16 Kungani linyonkoloza ngomona, lina zintaba ezindongandonga, leyontaba uNkulunkulu akhetha ukubusa kuyo, lapho uThixo ngokwakhe uzahlala khona lanini? 17 Izinqola zikaNkulunkulu zingamatshumi ezinkulungwane; lezinkulungwane zezinkulungwane; iNkosi isifikile ivela eSinayi yangena endlini yayo ongcwele. 18 Wathi ekuhphukeni kwakho uqansa, wakhokhela abathunjweyo; wemukela iziphoo ebantwini, lakulabo abahlamukayo ukuze wena, Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu, uhlale khona. 19 Udumo kalube kuThixo, kuNkulunkulu uMsindisi wethu, othwala imithwalo yethu insuku zonke. 20 UNkulunkulu wethu nguNkulunkulu oSindisiyo; kuThixo wobukhosi kuvela ukuphepha ekufeni. 21 Ngeqiniso uNkulunkulu uzawachobaza amakhanda ezitha zakhe, imiqhele eloboya yalabo abaqhubekayo ngezono zabo. 22 INkosi ithi, “Ngizabaletha besuka eBhashani; ngizabaletha besuka ekujeleni kolwandle, 23 ukuze ligxamuze inyawo zenu egazini lezitha zenu, lezilimi zezinja zenu zibe lesabele sazo.” 24 Udwendwe lwakho Nkulunkulu seluqhamuka, yebo udwendwe lukaNkulunkulu wami leNkosi lungena endlini ongcwele. 25 Phambili ngabahlabeleli, kulandele abamachacho; phakathi kwabo kulamantombazana atshaya amagedani. 26 Dumisani uNkulunkulu ebandleni elikhulu; dumisani uThixo embuthanweni ka-Israyeli. 27 Masinyane isizwana sakoBenjamini sibakhokhele, nantiyana ixuku elikhulu lamakhosana kaJuda, njalo nankayana

amakhosana kaZebhuluni lakaNafithali. 28 Veza amandla akho, Oh Nkulunkulu, sitshengise amandla akho Nkulunkulu, njengowakwenza endulo. 29 Ngenxa yethempeli lakho eliseJerusalema amakhosi azakulethela iziphoo. 30 Khuza isilo esiphakathi kwemihlanga umhlambi wenkunzi phakathi kwamathole ezizwe. Sezithotshisiwe kazilethe izibhebhedu zesiliva. Hlakaza izizwe ezithokoza ngempi. 31 Amanxusa azavela eGibhithe; iKhushi izazithoba kuNkulunkulu. 32 Hlabelelani kuNkulunkulu, awu lina mibuso yomhlaba, hlabelelani indumiso kuThixo, 33 kuye ohlala phezu kwesibhakabhaka sekadeni, okhwaza ngelizwi elikhulu. 34 Fakazani ngamandla kaNkulunkulu, obukhosi bakhe buphezu kuka-Israyeli; omandla akhe asesibhakabhakeni. 35 Uyamangalisa, Oh Nkulunkulu, usendlini yakho ongcwele; uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli upha amandla ebantwini bakhe. Indumiso kayibe kuNkulunkulu!

69 Kumqondisi wokuhlabelela. Itshuni ethi, “Amaluba.” ElikaDavida. Ngisindisa, Oh Nkulunkulu, ngoba umsinga wamanzi usugamexxe ngentamo yami. 2 Ngiyagalula ezinkizini ezitotayo, lapho okungekho ndawo yokugxila. Sengifike enzikini; impophoma sezingikhulela. 3 Sengidiniwe yikumemeza ngicela uncedo; umphimbo wami usome qha. Amehlo ami aseze ephelhe, edinga uNkulunkulu wami. 4 Labo abangizondayo kungelasizatho banengi okwedlula inwele zekhanda lami; banengi abayizitha zami kungelambangela, labo abafuna ukungidiliza. Ngiyaphoqelwa ukuhlawula engingakuntshontshanga. 5 Uyabazi ubuthutha bami, wena Nkulunkulu; isono sami kasifihlakalanga kuwe. 6 Akuthi labo abathemba kuwe bangayangiswa ngenxa yami, Oh Thixo, Thixo Somandla; akuthi labo abakudingayo, bangahlaziswa ngenxa yami, Oh Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. 7 Ngiyakubhensela ukugconwa ngenxa yakho, ihlazo lihuqiwwe ebusweni bami. 8 Ngingowemzini kubafowethu, ngingowemzini emadodaneni kamama; 9 ngoba ukutshisekela indlu yakho kufuthelene kimi, lezethuko zalabo abakuthukayo ziwela kimi. 10 Ngithi lapho ngilila ngizila ukudla, ngibhensele ukwetheswa inhlamba; 11 kuthi lapho ngivunula amasaka abantu badlale ngami. 12 Labo abalinda emasangweni bayangihleka, ngiyingoma nje yezidakwa. 13 Kodwa ngikhuleka kuwe, Oh Thixo, ngesikhathi somusa wakho; ngothando lwakho olukhulu, Oh Nkulunkulu, ngiphendula ngensindiso yakho eqinisekileyo. 14 Ngihlenga exhaphozini, ungangiyekeli ngigalule; ngikhulula kulabo abangizondayo, emanzini atshonayo. 15 Ungayekeli izikhukhula zingigalulise loba inziki zingiginye, loba umgodi uvaleke umlomo wawo phezu kwami. 16 Ngiphendula, Oh Thixo, ngenxa yokulunga kothando lwakho; emuseni wakho omkhulu phendukela kimi. 17 Ungayifihleli ubuso bakho ineku yakho; ngiphendula masinyane, ngoba ngiphakathi kohlupho. 18 Sondela ungikhulule; ngihlenga ngenxa yezitha zami. 19 Uyakwazi ukuthi ngigconwa njani, ngihlaziwa njalo ngiyangiswa; zonke izitha zami ziphambi kwakho. 20 Ukugconwa sekuyephule inhliziyo yami kwangitshiya esithubeni; ngadinga uzwele ngaluswela, abaduzi, kodwa ngabaswela. 21 Bathela inyongo ekudleni kwami banginathisa iviniga nxa ngomile. 22 Sengathi itafula eliphambi kwabo lingaba ngumjibila; sengathi lingaba yisijeziso lesithiyo. 23 Sengathi amehlo abo angafiphala ukuze bangaboni, lamaqolo abo akhokhobe kokuphela. 24 Thululela ulaka lwakho phezu kwabo; akuthi ulaka lwakho olwesabekayo lubehlele. 25 Sengathi indawo yabo ingaba ngamanxiwa;

akungabi lamuntu ozahlala emathenteni abo. **26** Ngoba bahlupha labo obalimazayo bakhulume ngobuhlungu balabo obalimazayo. **27** Bethese amacala phezu kwamacala; ungayekeli bazuze isabelo sensindiso yakho. **28** Sengathi bangesulwa encwadini yokuphila bangaze babalwa kanye labalungileyo. **29** Ngisebuhlungwini, ngikhathazekile; sengathi insindiso yakho, Oh Nkulunkulu ingangivikela. **30** Ngizalidumisa ibizo likaNkulunkulu ngengoma, ngilibabaze ngokubonga. **31** Lokhu kuzamthabisa uThixo okwedlula inkabi, okwedlula inkunzi yonke ilempondo lamangqina ayo. **32** Abayanga bazabona bajabule lina elimdingayo uNkulunkulu, sengathi inhliziyo zenu zingaphila! **33** UThixo uyabezwa abaswelayo, kabeyisi abantu bakhe abathunjiweyo. **34** Akuthi izulu lomhlaba kumdumise, inlwandle lakho konke okunyakaza kuzo, **35** ngoba uNkulunkulu uzayisindisa iZiyoni ayakhe kutsha imizi yakoJuda. Yikhona-ke abantu bazakwakha khona balithathe libe ngelabo; **36** abantwana bezinceku zayo zizakuba yilifa labo, labalithandayo ibizo lakhe bazahlala khona.

70 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. ElikaDavida. Isikhhalazo. Phangisa, Oh Nkulunkulu, ungisindise; Oh Thixo, woza masinyane uzongisiza. **2** Sengathi labo abafuna impilo yami bangayangiswa basanganiswe; sengathi bonke abafisa ukuwa kwami bangabuyiselwa emuva beyangekile. **3** Sengathi labo abathi kimi, "Ehe! Ehe!" bangafuthela ngenxa yehlazo labo. **4** Kodwa akuthi bonke abakudingayo bathokoze bajabule kuwe; akuthi labo abathanda insindiso yakho bahlale besithi, "uThixo kadunyiswe!" **5** Ikanti ngingumyanga ngiyaswela; woza masinyane kimi, Oh Nkulunkulu. Ulusizo lwami lomkhululi wami; Oh Thixo, ungaphuzi.

71 Kuwe Thixo, sengithole isiphephelo; mangiyangiswa lanini. **2** Ngihlenga ungikhulule ngokulunga kwakho; ngilalela, woza ngokuphangisa ungisindise. **3** Woba lidwala lami lokuphephela, lapho engingaya khona loba nini; tshono umlayo wokuba ngisindiswe, ngoba ulidwala lami lenqaba yami. **4** Ngikhulula, Oh Nkulunkulu, esandeni sababi, emandleni abantu ababi abalochuku. **5** Ngoba ube ulithemba lami, Oh Thixo Wobukhosi, ithemba lami kusukela ebutsheni bami. **6** Kusukela ekuzalweni kwami ngahle ngeyama kuwe; nguwe owangikhuphaye esiswini sikamama. Ngizakudumisa njalonjalo. **7** Senginjenjengomhlolo kwabanengi, kodwa wena uyisiphephelo sami esiqinileyo. **8** Umlomo wami ugcele udumo lwakho, umemezela inkazimulo yakho ilanga lonke. **9** Ungangilahleli kude nxa sengiluphele; ungangifulatheli lapho amandla ami esephelele. **10** Ngoba izitha zami zikhuluma kubi ngami; labo abalindele ukungibhala bahlangana ngami. **11** Bathi, "UNkulunkulu usemlahlile; xotshanani laye limbambe, ngoba kakho ozamlamulela." **12** Ungabi khatshana kwami, Oh Nkulunkulu; woza masinyane, Oh Nkulunkulu wami, uzongisiza. **13** Sengathi labo abangethesa amacala bangabhubha beyangekile; sengathi labo abafuna ukungilimaza bangabixwa ngehlahlo lokuyangeka. **14** Kodwa mina ngizahlala ngithembile; ngizakudumisa kakhulu. **15** Umlomo wami uzafakaza ngokulunga kwakho, langensindiso yakho ilanga lonke, lokuba ngingasazi isilinganiso sayo. **16** Ngizakuza ngifakaze ngemisebenzi yakho emikhulu, Oh Thixo Wobukhosi; ngizafakaza ngokulunga kwakho, okwakho wedwa. **17** Kusukela ebutsheni bami, Oh Nkulunkulu, wangifundisa, kuze kube lamuhla ngimemezela imisebenzi yakho emangalisayo. **18** Lokuba sengiluphele sengiyimpunga ungangideli, Oh

Nkulunkulu, ngize ngifakaze ngamandla akho esizukulwaneni esizayo, amandla akho kubo bonke abalandelayo. **19** Ukulunga kwakho kufika emkhathini, Oh Nkulunkulu, wena osuwenze izinto ezinkulu. Ngubani, Oh Nkulunkulu, onjengawe? **20** Loba usungenze ngabona inhlupheko ezinengi lezibuhlungu, uzangenyula njalo ekujuleni komhlabathi. **21** Uzalwandisa udumo lwami ungiduude futhi njalo. **22** Ngizakudumisa ngechacho ngenxa yokuthembeka kwakho, Nkulunkulu wami; ngizahlabelela indumiso kuwe ngomqangala, wena oNgcwele ka-Israyeli. **23** Izindebe zami zizamemeza ngentokozo lapho ngihlabelela indumiso kuwe mina ongisindisileyo. **24** Ulimi lwami luzatshona lukhuluma ngokulunga kwakho ilanga lonke, ngoba labo abafuna ukungilimaza sebeyangisiwe basanganiswa.

72 ElikaSolomoni. Yiphe inkosi ukwahlulela kwakho, Oh Nkulunkulu, lokulunga kwakho indodana yesikhosini. **2** Uzakwahlulela abantu bakho ngokulunga, labahluphekayo bakho ngemfanelo. **3** Izintaba zizaletsa ukuphumelela ebantwini, lamaqaqa azaletsa izithelo zokulunga. **4** Uzabavikela abahlukuluzwayo phakathi kwabantu asindise abantwana balabo abaswelayo afohloze uncmindzeleli. **5** Uzaphila kokuphela njengelanga, njengenyanga kuzozonke izizukulwane. **6** Uzakuba njengezulu lisina phezu kotshani obugundiweyo, njengemikhizo ithelezela umhlabathi. **7** Ngezinsuku zayo abalungileyo bazaphumelela; ukuphumelela kukazwanda inyanga ize itshabalale. **8** Uzabusa kusukela elwandle kusiya elwandle, njalo kusukela eMfuleni kusiya emikhawulweni yomhlaba. **9** Izizwe ezihlala enkangala zizakhothama kuye, izitha zakhe zizakhotha uthuli. **10** Amakhosi eThashishi lawemazweni akude azaletsa imithelo kuye; amakhosi aseShebha leSebha azayilethela izipho. **11** Wonke amakhosi azakhothama kuye lezizwe zonke zizakhotha kuye. **12** Ngoba uzabakhulula abaswelayo abakhalayo kuye, abahluphekayo abangelamsizi. **13** Uzabahawukela ababuthakathaka labaswelayo asindise abaswelayo ekufeni. **14** Uzabahlenga ekuncindezelweni lekhulukuluzweni, ngoba igazi labo liligugu kuye. **15** Mayibe lempilo end! Mayiphiwe igolide laseShebha. Abantu kabayikhulekele bayenzele izibusiso ilanga lonke. **16** Akuthi amabele ande elizweni lonke; azunguze eziqongweni zamaqaqa. Izithelo zalo kazikhihlize njengeLebhanoni; kaligcwele njengotshani egangeni. **17** Sengathi ibizo lakhe lingema njalo laphakade, kalibe khona lanini nxa lilokhu lisekhona ilanga. Zonke izizwe zizabusiswa ngaye, zizakuthi ubusisiwe. **18** Udumo alube kuye uThixo uNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, onguye yedwa owenza izinto ezimangalisayo. **19** Udumo kalube sebizweni lakhe elingcwele laphakade; sengathi umhlaba wonke ungangcwele inkazimulo yakho. **20** Lokhu yikho ukuphetha kwemikhuleko kaDavida indodana kaJese.

73 Ithubo lika-Asafi. Ngempela uNkulunkulu ulungile ku-Israyeli, kulabo abahlanzekileyo enhliziyweni. **2** Kodwa mina, inyawo zami zaphose zatshelala; ngaphose ngakuthisa ukunyathela. **3** Ngasuka ngahawukela abaklolo-dayo ngibona ukuphumelela kweziganzi. **4** Kabalazo inhlungu; imizimba yabo iphilile iqinile. **5** Kabalayo imithwalo enzima ejayelekileyo ebantwini; kabahlukuluzwa loba yini njengabanye abantu. **6** Ngakho-ke ukuziqhanya kuyisigqizo sabo entanyeni; bazigqokisa ngokwenza isihluku. **7** Ezinhliziyweni zabo ezingelazwelo kuphuma ububi; iminakano emibi yezingqondo

zabo ayilamikhawulo. **8** Bayakloloda, bakhulume ngomona; bayaqholoza basongele ukuncindezela. **9** Imilomo yabo ithi izulu selingelabo, lezilimi zabo zihle ziwuthathe umhlaba. **10** Yikho abantu bakibo bebakholwa, bawanathe amanzi kakhulukazi. **11** Bathi, “UNKulunkulu angakwazi kanjani? OPhezukonke ulalo ulwazi na?” **12** Yikho lokhu abayikho khona ababi bavele kabananzi, iyanda eyabo inotho. **13** Ngempela bekuyize ukugcina inhliziyo yami ihlanzekile; kube yize ukugeza izandla zami ngokungelacala. **14** Ilanga lonke ngitshona ngikhathazwa; ngiyajeziswa ekuseni zonke insuku. **15** Aluba ngangithe, “Ngizakhuluma ngitsho njalo,” ngabe ngangibakhohlisa abantwabakho. **16** Ngathi ngizama ukukuzwisisa konke lokhu ngezwa kungisinda, **17** ngaze ngangena endlini engcwele kaNKulunkulu; lapho-ke ngasengizwisisa isiphetho sabo. **18** Ngempela uyababeka endaweni etshelelayo; ubalahlela phansi ekubhujisweni. **19** Yeka, ukubhujisa kwabo lula nje, bakhuculwe nje yikwesaba! **20** Njengephupho nxa umuntu ephaphama kuzakuba njalo lapho usuvuka, Thixo, uzabeyisa njengemifanekiso yengqondo kuphela. **21** Lapho inhliziyo yami yayifuthelene lomoya wami uthukuthela, **22** ngangiyisithutha esingaziyo; ngangiyinyamazana yeganga kuwe. **23** Ikanti ngihlezi ngilawe; uyangibamba ngesandla sami sokunene. **24** Uyangikhokhela ngokweluleka kwakho kuthi ngemva kwalokho uzangithatha ungise ebukhosini. **25** Ngilobani na ezulwini ngaphandle kwakho? Lomhlaba kawulakho engikufisayo ngaphandle kwakho. **26** Inyama yami lenhliziyo yami kungehluleka kodwa uNKulunkulu ungamandla enhliziyi yami, uyisabelo sami laphakade. **27** Labo abakhatshana lawe bazabhubha; uyababhidliza bonke abangathembekanga kuwe. **28** Kodwa mina kimi kuhle ukuba seduze loNKulunkulu. Sengenze uThixo Wobukhosi isiphaphelo sami; ngizafakaza ngazozonke izenzo zakho.

74 Ihubo lika-Asafu Kungani ususilahlile kokuphela na, awu NKulunkulu? Kungani ulaka lwakho luvutha phezu kwezimvo zedlelo lakho na? **2** Khumbula abantu owabathengayo ekadeni, isizwe selifa lakho owasihlengayo iNtaba iZiyoni, owawuhlala khona. **3** Phenduka ungene emanxiweni aphakade la, incithakalo yonke le yenziwe yisitha endlini engcwele. **4** Izitha zakho zazibhonga endaweni owawuhlanguana lathi kuyo; zamisa impawu zazo njengeziboniso. **5** Zenza njengabantu abaphakamise amahlaka ukuphendla indlela yabo eguswini. **6** Zafohloza konke okubaziweyo ngamahlaka azo langezando. **7** Zatsisha indlu yakho engcwele yaphela nya; zangcolisa indawo ehlala iBizo lakho. **8** Zathi ngezinhliziyo zazo, “Sizababhuqa baphele nyal!” Zatsisha zonke izindawo zokukhonzela uNKulunkulu elizweni. **9** Kasisaboniswa mimangaliso; kakuselabuphrofethi, kakho kithi owaziyo ukuthi kuzaze kube nini kunjalo. **10** Koze kube nini isitha sikuklolodela na, awu NKulunkulu? Izitha zizalithuka kokuphela ibizo lakho na? **11** Kungani ufinyeza isandla sakho sokunene na? Sikhuphe ezingoxweni zezembatho zakho ubabhuhise. **12** Kodwa wena NKulunkulu uyiNkosi yami kwasekadeni; uletha insindiso emhlabeni. **13** Kwakunguwe owaqhekeza ulwandle ngamandla akho; wafohloza amakhanda esilo phakathi kwamanzi. **14** Kwakunguwe owachoboza amakhanda kaLeviyathani waba yikudla kwezidalwa zasenkangala. **15** Kwakunguwe owavula imithombo lemifula; womisa qha imifula eyayihlala igeleza. **16** Imini ngeyakho, ngobakho njalo lobusuku; walimisa ilanga

kanye lenyanga. **17** Kwakunguwe owamisa imingcele yonke yomhlaba; wenza ihlobo kanye lobusika. **18** Khumbula ukuthi isitha besikuklolodela, Thixo, ukuthi iziwula bezihlambaza ibizo lakho. **19** Ungaqhubeli umphefumulo wejuba lakho ezinyamazani; ngaze wakhohlwa kokuphela impilo yabantu bakho abahluphekayo. **20** Nanzelela isivumelwano sakho, ngoba izikhundla zobugebenga zigcwele kulonke ilizwe ezindaweni ezilamathunzi. **21** Ungayekeli abancindezelweyo babuyele beyangekile; sengathi abayanga labaswelayo bangalidumisa ibizo lakho. **22** Phakama, awu NKulunkulu, vikela okungokwakho; khumbula ukuthi iziwula zikhuleka njani ilanga lonke. **23** Ungakulibali ukuvungama kwalabo abalwa lawe, ukuxokozela kwezitha zakho, okuzwakala kokuphela.

75 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Iculo elithi, “Ungabhidlizi.” Ihubo lika-Asafi. Ingoma. Siletha ukubonga kuwe, Oh NKulunkulu, siletha ukubonga, ngoba iBizo lakho liseduze; abantu bakhuluma ngemisebenzi Yakho emangalisayo. **2** Wena uthi, “Ngikhethe isikhathi esimisiweyo; yimi engahlulela okuqondileyo. **3** Nxa umhlaba kanye labantu bawo kuzamazama, yimi engizibamba ziqine izisekelo zawo. **4** Ngithi kwabayiziqholo, ‘Lingabe lisazincoma,’ ngithi kwababi, ‘Lingaziphakamisi impondo zenu. **5** Lingaphakamisi uphondo lwenu phezulu ezulwini; lingakhulumi liziqhenya.’” **6** Kakho ovela empumalanga loba entshonalanga, kumbe ovela enkangala ongaphakamisa umuntu. **7** Kodwa nguNKulunkulu owhlulelayo: uyamehlisa omunye, amkheze omunye. **8** Esandleni sikaThixo kukhona inkezo egcwele iwayini eliphuphumayo elixutshwe ngeziyoliso; uyalithulula, kuthi bonke ababi bomhlaba balinathe kanye lenzece zalo. **9** Kodwa mina ngizamemezela lokhu lanini; ngizahlabelela indumiso kuNKulunkulu kajakhobe, **10** yena othi, “Ngizazithulisa zonke impondo zababi, kodwa impondo zabalungileyo zizaphakanyiswa.”

76 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Kusetshenziswa iziginci. Ihubo lika-Asafi. Ingoma. Uyaziwa uNKulunkulu kojuda ibizo lakhe likhulu ko-Israyeli. **2** Ithente lakhe liseSalema, indawo yakhe yokuhlala iseZiyoni. **3** Khonapho wayephula imitshoko ebenyezelayo, izihlangu lezinkemba, izikhali zempi. **4** Uyakhazimela ngokukhanya, ulobukhosi obudlula izintaba ezigcwele zinyamazana. **5** Amadoda alezibindi alele ucaca aphangiwe, alele ubuthongo bawo bokucina; kakho loyedwa wamabutho lawo ongaphakamisa izandla zakhe. **6** Uthi ungakhwaza wena, Oh NKulunkulu kajakhobe, ibhiza lenqola kuhle kulale phansi kuthi zwi. **7** Wena wedwa uyesatshwa. Ngubani ongema phambi kwakho nxa usuthukuthela? **8** Wathi usezulwini wehlisa ukwahlulela kwakho, ilizwe lesaba lathula, **9** lapho wena, Oh NKulunkulu, waphakama ukwahlulela, ukusindisa bonke abahluphekayo belizwe. **10** Ngempela ulaka lwakho ebantwini lukulethela indumiso, kuthi bonke abasilileyo elakeni lwakho bathotshiswe. **11** Yenzani izifungo kuThixo uNKulunkulu wenu lizigcwalise; akuthi wonke amazwe abomakhelwana alethe izipho kuye Yedwa omele esatshwe. **12** Uyephula ubuqholo bababusi; uyesatshwa ngamakhosi omhlaba.

77 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. KuJeduthuni, Elika-Asafi. Ihubo. Ngakhala kuNKulunkulu ngicela uncedo; ngakhala kuNKulunkulu ukuthi angizwe. **2** Ngathi ngikhathazekile

ngamdinga uThixo; ebusuku ngazelula izandla azazezadinwa lomphfumulo wami wala ukududuzeka. **3** Ngakukhumbula, Oh Nkulunkulu, ngabubula; ngacabanga, umoya wami wancipha. **4** Wala ukuthi amehlo ami avaleke; ngangikhathezakile ngisehluleka ukukhuluma. **5** Ngakhumbula ngezinsuku ezedulayo, insuku zakudala; **6** ngakhumbula izingoma zami ebusuku. Inhliziyo yami yacabanga lomoya wami wadinga: **7** “INKosi izakhalala kokuphela na? Ayisayikuphinde itshengise uthando lwayo njalo na? **8** Kanti uthando lwayo olungapheliyo selunyamalele kokuphela na? Kanti isithembiso sayo sesiphelile kokuphela na? **9** Kanti uNkulunkulu usekhohliwe ukuba lesihawu na? Usethe ngokuzonda wagodla uzwele lwakhe na?” **10** Ngasengikhumbula ngathi, “Yilokhu okunginqundayo, ukuthi isandla sokunene soPhezukonke kasisekho phezu kwami. **11** Ngizayikhumbula imisebenzi kaThixo; yebo, ngizayikhumbula imimangaliso yakho yekadeni. **12** Ngizacabanga ngayo yonke imisebenzi yakho nginakane ngazonke izenzo zakho ezinkulu.” **13** Izindlela zakho, Oh Nkulunkulu, zingcwele; nguphi unkulunkulu omkhulu njengoNkulunkulu wethu na? **14** Nguwe Nkulunkulu owenza izimanga; uyawathshengisa amandla akho ebantwini. **15** Ngengalo yakho elamandla wabakhulula abantu bakho, izizukulwane zikaJakhobe loJosefa. **16** Amanzi akubona wena, Oh Nkulunkulu, amanzi akubona atshotshobala; inziki zagonyuluka. **17** Amayezi awathulula amanzi, isibhakabhaka sandindiza ngokuduma; imitshoko yakho yaphazima yaya le lale. **18** Umdumo wakho wezwakala uphakathi kwesivunguzane, umbane wakho wawukhanyisa umhlaba; umhlaba wavezelela wanyikinyeka. **19** Indlela yakho yadabula olwandle, umkhondo wakho phakathi kwamanzi, kodwa izinyathelo zakho zazingabonakali. **20** Wabahola abantu bakho njengomhlambi wezimvu ngesandla sikaMosi lo-Aroni.

78 Ihubo ka-Asafa Zwanini imfundiso yami, bantu bami; lilalele amazwi omlomo wami. **2** Ngizavula umlomo wami ngemifanekiso, ngizakutsho izinto ezifihlekileyo, izinto zekadeni, **3** esakuzwayo lesikwaziyo esakutshelwa ngokhokho bethu. **4** Kasizukuzifihlela abantwana babo; sizasitshela isizukulwane esizayo ngemisebenzi emangalisayo kaThixo, amandla akhe, lemimangaliso aseyzenzile. **5** Wamisela uJakhobe imithetho wabeka umlayo ko-Israyeli, walaya okhokho bethu ukuthi bawufundise abantwababo, **6** ukuze aziwe yizizukulwane esilandelayo, kanye labantwana abazazalwa, kuthi labo batshele abantwababo. **7** Yikho-ke bazabeka ithemba labo kuNkulunkulu njalo abasoze bakhohlwa izenzo zakhe kodwa bagcine imilayo yakhe. **8** Kabayikuba njengabokhokho babo ababeyisizukulwana esilobuqholo lesihlamukayo, onhliziyo zabo zazingazinikelanga kuNkulunkulu omoya yabo yayingathembekanga kuye. **9** Amadoda ako-Efrayimi, loba ayehlomile ngemitshoko, afulathela mhla welanga lempi; **10** kabasigcinanga isivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu, bala ukuphila ngomthetho wakhe. **11** Bakhohlwa lokho ayekwenzile, izimanga ayeatshengise zona. **12** Wenza imimangaliso oyise bekhangele elizwengi laseGibhithe, esigodini saseZowani. **13** Walwahlukanisa ulwandle wabahola bachapha; wenza amanzi ema aqina saka njengomduli. **14** Wabahola ngeyezi emini njalo ngokukhanya komlilo ubusuku bonke. **15** Wawaqhekeza amadwala enkangala wabapha amanzi amanengi njengolwandle; **16** wantshazisa impophoma emadwaleni amawa wenza amanzi ageleza njengemifula. **17** Kodwa baqhubeka besona phambi kwakhe, bamhlamukela enkangala

yena oPhezukonke. **18** Bamlinga uNkulunkulu ngabomo ngokucela ukudla ababekutshisekela. **19** Bamchothoza uNkulunkulu besithi, “Kambe uNkulunkulu angendlala itafula lokudlela enkangala na? **20** Wathi lapho etshaya idwala, amanzi antshantshaza, kwageleza amanzi amanengi. Kodwa angasipha njalo lokudla na? Angabaletshela inyama abantu bakhe na?” **21** UThixo wathi ebezwa wathukuthela kakhulu; umlilo wakhe wavuthela kuJakhobe, ulaka lwakhe lwaqina ku-Israyeli, **22** ngoba kabamkholwanga uNkulunkulu njalo kabawathembanga amandla okuhlenga kwakhe. **23** Loba kunjalo walaya umkhathi ngaphezulu wavula iminyango yamazulu; **24** wanisa imana ukuthi badle abantu, wabapha amabele asezulwini. **25** Abantu badla isinkwa sezingilosi; wabathumela konke ukudla ababengakudla. **26** Wawukhulula umoya wempumalanga uvela emazulwini, wawukhulula umoya weningizimu ngamandla akhe. **27** Wanisela inyama kubo njengothuli, izinyoni eziphaphayo zaba njengetshebetshebe ogwini lolwandle. **28** Wazena zehlela phakathi kwezihongo zabo, indawana yonke emathenteni abo. **29** Bazitika baze bakhangelana, ngoba wayebaphe ababekade bekukhalela. **30** Kodwa bengakutshiyi lokho kudla ababekukhalela belokhu besakunambitha emilonyeni yabo, **31** ulaka lukaNkulunkulu lwavutha kubo; wabalula zona iziqwabalanda zabo, wawahemula amajaha ako-Israyeli. **32** Phezu kwakho konke lokhu baqhubeka besona; phezu kwezimanga zakhe, kabazange bakholwe. **33** Ngakho wenza insuku zabo zaphelile ezeni njalo leminyaka yabo yagcwala ukwesaba. **34** Kwakusithi uNkulunkulu angababulala, bamdinga; baphendukele kuye njalo ngokutshiseka. **35** Bakhumbula ukuthi uNkulunkulu wayelidwala labo, ukuthi uNkulunkulu oPhezukonke wayenguMhlengi wabo. **36** Kodwa ke kwakuyikumyenga ngemilomo yabo, beqamba amanga kuye ngendimi zabo; **37** inhliziyo zabo zazingabambelelanga kuye, babangathembekanga esivumelwaneni sakhe. **38** Kodwa wayelesihawu; wazithethelela izono zabo kaze ababuhisa. Isikhathi ngesikhathi waluthoba ulaka lwakhe akaze akuqubula konke ukuthukuthela kwakhe. **39** Wakhumbula ukuthi babeyinyama nje intshongolo eyedulayo nje ingabe isabuya. **40** Kodwa ukuthi bamhlamukela kanengi njani enkangala, bamdabukisa egwaduleni! **41** Baphindaphinda ukulunga uNkulunkulu; bamthukuthelisa oNgcwele ka-Israyeli. **42** Kabawakhumbulanga amandla akhe usuku abakhulula ngalo kumncindezeli, **43** usuku lapho aveza khona izibonakaliso zakhe ezimangalisayo eGibhithe, izimanga zakhe esigodini saseZowani. **44** Waguqula imifula yaba yaba ligazi; behluleka ukunatha ezifuleni zabo. **45** Wathumela imihlambi yezibawu zabantinya, lamaxoxo ababhuqayo. **46** Amabele abo wawathela izintethe, izithelo zabo isikhongwane. **47** Wathintitha amavini abo ngesiqhotho lemikhiwa yabo yesikhamore wayitshazisa ngongqwaqwane. **48** Inkomo zabo wazithela ngesiqhotho, izifuyo zabo zadliwa yizikhatha zombane. **49** Wabathululela ulaka lwakhe oluvuthayo, intukuthelo yakhe, ukucunuka lenzondo ixuku lezingilosi ezibhubhisayo. **50** Wayilungisa indlela yolaka lwakhe; kabaphephisa ekufeni kodwa wabanikela emikhuhlaneni. **51** Wawabulala wonke amazibulo aseGibhithe, izithelo zabo zokuqala zokuba ngamadoda emathenteni kaHamu. **52** Kodwa wabakhupha abantu bakhe njengomhlambi wezimvu; wabahola njengezimvu bedabula inkangala. **53** Wabakhokhela ngonanzelelo, ngakho babengesabi; kodwa ulwandle lwazigubuzela izitha zabo. **54** Kanjalo wabaletshela emngceleni welizwe lakhe elingcwele,

elizweni lamaqaqa ayelithethe ngesandla sakhe sokunene. **55** Wazixotsha izizwe phambi kwabo wabahlukanisela ilizwe lazo laba yilifa; wahlalisa izizwana zako-Israyeli emizini yazo. **56** Kodwa bamlinga uNkulunkulu, bamhlamukela oPhezukonke; kabayigcinanga imilayo yakhe. **57** Njengabokhokho babo babengathembekanga bengakholwa, ungeke wathemba njengedandili elenziwe kubi. **58** Bamvusa ulaka ngezindawo zabo eziphezulu; baqubula ubukhwele bakhe ngezithombe zabo. **59** Wathi uNkulunkulu ngokukuzwa lokho, wathukuthela kakhulu; wamlahla qobo lokumlahla u-Israyeli. **60** Walidela ithabanikeli lakhe eShilo, ithente ayelakhile phakathi kwabantu. **61** Umphongolo wakhe wamandla wawusa ekuthunjweni, inkazimulo yakhe ezandleni zesitha. **62** Abantu bakhe wabanikela ukudliwa yinkemba; wayethukuthele kakhulu ngelifa lakhe. **63** Umlilo waziqeda izinsizwa zabo, izintombi zabo zaswela izingoma zomtshado; **64** abaphristi babo babulawa ngenkemba, abafelokazi babo behluleka ukulila. **65** Inkosi yasiyuka njengokade esebuthongweni, njengomuntu ephaphama ekudakweni yiwayini. **66** Wazitshaya zahlehla izitha zakhe; waziyangisa okungapheliyo. **67** Khonapho-ke wawakhalala amathente kaJosefa, akaze asikhetha isizwana sika-Efrayimi; **68** kodwa waketha isizwana sikaJuda, iNtaba iZiyoni ayeyithanda. **69** Wakha indlu yakhe engcwele njengeziqongo, njengomhlaba awumisela ingunaphakade. **70** Wakhetha uDavida inceku yakhe wamthatha ezilugwini zezimvu; **71** wamsusa ekweluseni izimvu wamletha ukuba ngumelusi wabantu bakhe uJakhobe, baka-Israyeli ilifa lakhe. **72** Njalo uDavida wabelusa ngobuqotho behliziyo; wabakhokhela ngesandla sobungcitshi.

79 Ihubo lika-Asafi Oh Nkulunkulu, izizwe sezilingenele ilifa lakho; sezilingcolisile ithempeli lakho eligcwele, iJerusalemisa isibhidliziwe yaba luthuli. **2** Izidumbu zezinceku zakho sebezilahlele ukuba yikudla kwezinyoni zasemoyeni, inyama yabangcwele bakho yaba yikudla kwezilo zelizwe. **3** Balichithile igazi njengamanzi bahonqolozela ngalo iJerusalemisa, kasekho ozangcwaba abafileyo. **4** Siyizinto zokuchothzwa kubomakhelwane bethu, inhlekisa lokweyiswa yibo bonke esihlala labo. **5** Koze kube nini, Oh Thixo? Uzazonda kuze kube nininini na? Koze kube nini ubukhwele bakho butshisa njengomlilo na? **6** Thululela intukuthelo yakho kulezozizwe ezingakunanziyo, ezingalibiziyo ibizo lakho **7** ngoba zimchithile uJakhobe zalibhidliza ilizwe lakho. **8** Ungawethesi thina umlandu wabokhokho; sengathi isihawu sakho singeza masinyane ukuzasivikela, ngoba sesisebunzimeni obubi. **9** Sisize, awu Nkulunkulu Msindisi wethu, ngenxa yobukhosi bebizo lakho; sikhulule uthethelele izonu zethu, ngenxa yebizo lakho. **10** Kungani izizwe zisithi, “Ungaphi uNkulunkulu wabo?” Yenza emehlweni ethu, kwaziwe phakathi kwezizwe ukuthi uyaliphindisela igazi lezinceku zakho elachithwayo. **11** Sengathi ukububula kwezibotshwa kungafinyelela kuwe; ngamandla engalo yakho sindisa labo abagwetshelwe ukufa. **12** Baphindisele kasikhombisa omakhelwane bethu ngezinhlamba ababekuchaphaza ngazo, Thixo. **13** Kuzakuthi-ke thina abantu bakho, izimvu zedlelo lakho, sikudumise laphakade; kusuka esizukulwaneni kusiya esizukulwaneni sizabalisa udumo lwakho.

80 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Itshuni ethi, “Amaluba esiVumelwano.” Elika-Asafi. Ihubo. Sizwe, Oh Malusi ka-

Israyeli, wena okhokhela uJosefa njengomhlambi wezimvu; wena ohlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi uphahlwe ngamakherubhi, benyezela **2** phambi kuka-Efrayimi loBhenjamini loManase. Vusa amandla akho; woza usisindise. **3** Sivuselele, Oh Nkulunkulu; yenza ubuso bakho bukhanye phambi kwethu, ukuze sisindiswe. **4** Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu Somandla, koze kube nini ulaka lwakho luvutha phezu kwemikhuleko yabantu bakho? **5** Usubafunzile ngesinkwa sezinyembezi; ubenze banatha inyembezi ezigcwele umganu. **6** Ususenze saba yimbangela yengxabano kubomakhelwane bethu, lezitha zethu ziyasihleka. **7** Sivuselele, Oh Nkulunkulu Somandla; khanyisa ubuso bakho kithi, ukuze sisindiswe. **8** Waletha ivini ulusisa eGibhithe; wazixotsha izizwe waligxumeka, **9** walicentela indawo labamba emhlabathini lagcwalwa ilizwe. **10** Izintaba zagcwalwa umthunzi walo, imisedari emikhulu yathi silikici ngamagatsha alo. **11** Lakhulisa amagatsha alo anabela oLwandle, amahlumela alo afika kude eMfuleni. **12** Kungani na usudilize imiduli yalo ukuze bonke abedululayo baziqhululele izithelo zalo? **13** Ingulungunda ziyalivadlaza, lezidalwa zeganga zizitika ngalo. **14** Buya kithi, Oh Nkulunkulu Somandla! Khangela phansi usezulwini ubone! Nakekela ivini leli, **15** impande ehlaneyelwe yisandla sakho sokunene, indodana ozondlele yona wena. **16** Ivini lakho seliqunyiwe, selitshiswe ngomlilo; ngokukhuza kwakho abantu bayabhubha. **17** Yeyamisa isandla sakho emuntwini ongakwesokunene kwakho, indodana yomuntu ozondlele yona. **18** Yikho asiyikukufulathela, sivuselele, ukuze sibize ibizo lakho. **19** Sivuselele, Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu Somandla; khanyisa ubuso bakho kithi, ukuze sisindiswe.

81 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Ngendlela yegithithi. Elika-Asafi Hlabelelani ngentoko kuNkulunkulu ongamandla ethu; memezani kakhulu kuNkulunkulu kaJakhobe! **2** Qalisani ukuhlabela, tshayani isigubhu, khalisani ichacho elimnandi lomhubhe. **3** Khalisani uphondo lwenqama ekuThwaseni kweNyanga, lalapho inyanga isigcwele, ngelanga lomkhosi; **4** lesi yisimemezelo sika-Israyeli, umthetho kaNkulunkulu kaJakhobe. **5** Wakumisa njengesimiso kuJosefa lapho aphuma wavukela ilizwe leGibhithe, lapho ezwa khona ulimi esasingaluzwa. Ngezwa ilizwi engingalaziyo lisithi: **6** “Ngawethula umthwalo emahlombe abo; izandla zabo zakhululwa engebethwini. **7** Ekuhluphekeni kwenu lamemeza mina ngalikhulula. Ngaliphendula ngiphakathi komdumo weyezi; ngalilinga emanzini aseMeribha. **8** Zwanini, awu bantu bami, mina ngizalixwayisa aluba lingangilalela, Oh Israyeli! **9** Lingabi lonkulunkulu wezizweni phakathi kwenu; lingabokhothamela unkulunkulu ongaziwayo. **10** NginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, owalikhuphayo eGibhithe. Vulani kakhulu umlomo wenu ngizawugcwalisa. **11** Kodwa abantu bami kabangilalalanga; u-Israyeli wala ukungithobela. **12** Ngakho ngasengibayekela ngezinhliziyo zabo zobuqholo ukuthi balandele lokho abakufunayo. **13** Aluba abantu bami bengangilalela, aluba u-Israyeli engalandela izindlela zami, **14** masinyane nje ngingazibhuqa izitha zabo ngiphakamisele isandla sami ezitheni zabo! **15** Labo abamzondayo uThixo bangatshotshobala phambi kwakhe, kuthi isijeziso sabo sibe ngesaphakade. **16** Kodwa lina lingaphiwa ingqoloyi enhle kakhulu; ngilisuthise ngolujulu oluphuma edwaleni.”

82 Ihubo lika-Asafi UNkulunkulu usesihlalweni emhlanganweni omkhulu; nguye owahlulelayo phakathi

kwabo “nkulunkulu”: 2 “Koze kube nini livikela ababi na libonakala lithanda izigangi? 3 Lamlelani ababuthakathaka lezintandane; melani amalungelo abayanga labahlukuluzwayo. 4 Lamlelani ababuthakathaka labaswelayo; bephuleni esandleni sababi. 5 Onkulunkulu kabazi lutho, kabazwisisi lutho. Bayantula emnyameni; zonke izisekelo zomhlaba zixukuxiwe. 6 Ngathi, ‘Lingo “nkulunkulu”; lonke lingamadodana akhe oPhezukonke.’ 7 Kodwa lizakufa lingabantu nje; lizakuwa njengamanye amakhosi wonke.” 8 Phakama, Oh Nkulunkulu, yahlulela umhlaba, ngoba zonke izizwe ziyilifa lakho.

83 Ingoma. Ihubo lika-Asafi. Oh Nkulunkulu, ungathuli uthi zwi; ungangincitshi indlebe yakho, ungameli khatshana lami, Oh Nkulunkulu. 2 Akubone ukuthi ziphithizela kanjani izitha zakho, ukuthi zizwaqaphisa kangamani amakhanda azo. 3 Ngobuqili zakhela abantu bakho amacebo; zisongela labo obathembileyo. 4 Bathi, “Wozani kasibabhuqe du njengesizwe, ukuze ibizo lika-Israyeli lingaphindi likhunjulwe.” 5 Nghanhlizonye bakwaha amacebo ndawonye; bayahlangana beme ndawonye ukumelana lawe, 6 amathente ase-Edomi lama-Ishumayeli, awamaMowabi lawamaHagari, 7 amaGebhali, lama-Amoni lama-Amaleki, amaFilistiya labantu beThire. 8 Lama-Asiriya asebambene labo ukuqinisa izizukulwane zikaLothi. 9 Yenza kubo njengoba wenza eMidiyani, njengowakwenza kuSisera lojabhini emfuleni iKhishoni, 10 ababhubha e-Endo baba njengezibi emhlabathini. 11 Yenza izikhulu zabo zibe njengo-Orebhi loZebhi, wonke amakhosana abo abe njengoZebha loZalimuna, 12 abathi, “Kasiwathumbe amadlelo kaNkulunkulu.” 13 Benze babe njengenkunkuma, Oh Nkulunkulu wami, njengamakhoba ephetshulwa ngumoya. 14 Njengalokhu umlilo uhangua igusu kumbe ilangabi lilumathisa izintaba, 15 kanjalo basukele ngesivunguvungu sakho ubethuse ngesiphepho sakho. 16 Bahuqe ubuso babo ngehlozo ukuze abantu balidinge ibizo lakho, Oh Thixo. 17 Sengathi bangayangeka lanini badunyazwe; kungathi bangafa belehlazo. 18 Yenza bakwazi ukuthi wena, obizo lakho unguThixo ukuthi wena wedwa ungoPhezukonke emhlabeni wonke.

84 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Ngendlela yegithithi. Elabantwana bakaKhora. Ihubo. Yeka ubuhle bendlu yakho, Oh Thixo Somandla! 2 Umphefumulo wami uyalangazela, uze ungathi uyaphela, ngifuna amagama kaThixo; inhliziyi yami lenyama yami kukhalela uNkulunkulu ophilayo. 3 Intaka layo ilizuzile ikhaya, lenkonjane isidleke sayo, lapho ingazalela khona abantwana bayo indawo eduze kwe-alithari lakho, Oh Thixo Somandla, Nkosi yami loNkulunkulu wami. 4 Babusisiwe labo abahlala endlini yakho; bahlala bekudumisa kokuphela. 5 Babusisiwe labo abalamandla abo akuwe asebebeke inhliziyi zabo ekulagiseni kuwe. 6 Bathi nxa bedabula esiGodini seBhaka basenze sibe yindawo yemithombo; izulu lekwindla lalo ligcwalise iziziba. 7 Ayakhula amandla abo ande, ngulowo lalowo aze aqhamuke kuNkulunkulu eZiyoni. 8 Zwana umkhuleko wami, Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu Somandla; akungilalele, Oh Nkulunkulu kajakhobe. 9 Khangela isihlangu sethu, Oh Nkulunkulu; khangela ngomusa kogcotshiweyo wakho. 10 Lungcono usuku olulodwa emagumeni akho kulensuku eziyinkulungwane kwenye indawo; kungabangcono ngibe ngumlindimasango endlini kaNkulunkulu kulokuhlala emathenteni ababi. 11 Ngoba

uThixo ulilanga lesihlangu; uThixo uyapha umusa lodumo; kancitshani langaluphi ulutho oluhle kulabo ozinyathelo zabo zingelansolo. 12 Oh Thixo Somandla, ubusisiwe umuntu owethemba kuwe.

85 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. Elamadodana kaKhora. Ihubo. Ulithandile ilizwe lakho, Oh Thixo; uyibuyisile inhlanhla kajakhobe. 2 Wazithethelela iziphambeko zabantu bakho wazisibekela zonke izonzo zabo. 3 Walubuyisela eceleni lonke ulaka lwakho wakufuthela ukuthukuthela kwakho okwesabekayo. 4 Sivuselele njalo, Oh Nkulunkulu Msindisi wethu, ukubeke khatshana ukukucunula kwethu. 5 Uzasizondela kuze kube phakade na? Uzalugcina ulaka lwakho kuzozonke izizukulwane na? 6 Kawuzukusivuselela na, ukuze abantu bakho bathokoze kuwe? 7 Sitshengise uthando lwakho olungaphuthiyo, Oh Thixo, usinike insindiso yakho. 8 Ngizalalela lokho uNkulunkulu uThixo azakutsho; uthembisa abantu bakhe ukuthula, abangcwele bakhe kodwa kabangabuyeli ebufebeni babo. 9 Ngempela insindiso iseduze kulabo abamesabayo, ukuze inkazimulo yakhe ihlale elizweni lethu. 10 Uthando lokuthembeka kuyahlangana ndawonye; ukulunga lokuthula kuyangana. 11 Ukuthembeka kuqhamuka emhlabathini, ukulunga kukhanya phansi kusezulwini. 12 Ngeqiniso uThixo uzanika okulungileyo, lelizwe lethu lizathela isivuno salo. 13 Ukulunga kuhamba phambi kwakhe kulungisele izinyathelo zakhe indlela.

86 Umkhuleko kaDavida Zwana, Oh Thixo, ungiyiphendule, ngoba ngingumyanga ngiyaswela. 2 Vikela impilo yami, ngoba ngizinikele kuwe; sindisa inceku yakho ekuthembayo; UnguNkulunkulu wami. 3 Woba lesihawu kimi, Oh Thixo, ngoba ngitshona ngikubiza ilanga lonke. 4 Letha ukuthokoza encekwini yakho, ngoba kuwe, Oh Thixo, ngiphakamisela umphefumulo wami. 5 Uyathethelela njalo ulungile, Oh Thixo, ugcwele uthando kulabo abakhuleka kuwe. 6 Zwana umkhuleko wami, Oh Thixo; lalale ukukhala kwami ngicela umusa. 7 Mhla ngiphakathi kokuhlupheka ngizakhala kuwe, ngoba uzangiphendula. 8 Phakathi kwabonkulunkulu kakho onjengawe, Oh Thixo; kakulazenzo ezingalinganiswa lezakho. 9 Zonke izizwe owazenzayo zizakuza zikhonze kuwe, Nkosi; zizaetha udumo ebizweni lakho. 10 Ngoba umkhulu njalo wenza imisebenzi emangalisayo; wena wedwa unguNkulunkulu. 11 Ngifundisa indlela yakho, Oh Thixo, ukuze ngihambe eqiniseni lakho; ngipha inhliziyi engaxamalazanga, ukuze ngilesabe ibizo lakho. 12 Ngizakudumisa, Nkosi Nkulunkulu wami, ngenhliziyi yami yonke; ngizalidumisa ibizo lakho laphakade. 13 Ngoba lukhulu uthando lwakho kimi; ungenyule ekujuleni kwendawo yabafileyo. (Sheol h7585) 14 Iziqholo ziyangihlasela, Oh Nkulunkulu iqembu lamadoda alesihluku lizingela impilo yami abantu abangakananzayo wena. 15 Kodwa wena, Nkosi, unguNkulunkulu olozwelo, olobubelo, ophuza ukuzonda, owandayo ngothando lokuthembeka. 16 Phendukela ngakimi ube lesihawu kimi; veza amandla akho ngenceku yakho, ngisindise ngoba ngiyakukhonzisa, njengokwenziwa ngumama. 17 Ngipha isiboniso sokulunga kwakho, ukuze izitha zami zisibone ziyangeke, ngoba wena, Oh Thixo, usungisizile njalo wangiduduzela.

87 Elamadodana kaKhora. Ihubo. Ingoma. Usakhile isisekelo sakhe entabeni engcwele; 2 uThixo uyawathanda

amasango eZiyoni okudlula yonke imizi kajakhobe. **3** Izinto ezinhle okumangalisayo ziyatshiwo ngawe, we muzi kaNkulunkulu: **4** “Ngizabalisa uRahabi leBhabhiloni phakathi kwalabo abathi bayangazi iFilistiya leThire, kanye leKhusi ngibe sengisithi, ‘Lo wazalelwa eZiyoni.’” **5** Ngempela kuzathwa ngeZiyoni, “Lo laloyana bazalelwa khona, kuthi yena oPhezukonke uzaliqinisa.” **6** UThixo uzaloba eluhlwini lwamabizo abantu: “Lo wazalelwa eZiyoni.” **7** Bazakuthi betshaya amachacho bahlabele bathi, “Yonke imithombo yami ikuwe.”

88 Ingoma. Ihubo lamadodana kaKhora. Kumqondisi wokuhlabele. Itshuni ethi, Mahalathi leyanothi (Ukuhlupheka lokuchukuluzwa) Ihubo likaHemani um’Ezira. Oh Thixo, Nkulunkulu ongisindisayo, ebusuku lemini ngikhala kuwe. **2** Akuthi umkhuleko wami ufinyezele kuwe; phendula indlebe yakho izwe ukukhala kwami. **3** Ngoba umphefumulo wami ugcewele inhlupeko lempilo yami isilengela engcwabeni. (Sheol h7585) **4** Ngibalwa ndawonye laloba asebesiya egodini; senginjengendoda engelamandla. **5** Sengahlukaniselwe kwabafileyo, lezidumbu ezilele engcwabeni, wena ongasabakhumbuliyo njalo, abangasekho kulabo obanakekelayo. **6** Usungifake egodini elitshona okudlulayo, ekujuleni okumnyama buhqe. **7** Intukuthelo yakho iyangeleka; usungigalulisele ngawo wonke amagagasi akho. **8** Usungithathele abangane bami abasekhwapheni wangenza ngaba lesidina kubo. Ngivalelwe kangiselantuba; **9** amehlo ami asebona kalufifi ngenxa yosizi. Ngiyakubiza, Oh Thixo, insuku zonke; ngiphakamisela izandla zami kuwe. **10** Izimanga zakho uyazitshengisa kwabafileyo na? Kambe labo asebefile bangavuka bakudumise na? **11** Uthando lwakho luyamenezelwa engcwabeni yami, ukuthembeka kwakho endaweni yokuBhubha na? **12** Izimanga zakho ziyaziwa yini endaweni yobumnyama, kumbe izenzo zakho zokulunga elizweni lokungabikho na? **13** Kodwa ngikhala kuwe ngoncedo, Oh Thixo; ekuseni umkhuleko wami uyafika kuwe. **14** Kungani, awu Thixo, ungifulathela ungifihlela ubuso bakho? **15** Kusukela ebutheni bami ngavele ngahlupheka ngaba seduze lokufa; ngiphethwe yikwesatshiswa nguwe, sengize ngidangele. **16** Intukuthelo yakho isingigabhele; ukwesaba wena sekungiqedile. **17** Ilanga lonke kungihanqile njengesikhukhula; sekungigalulisa nya. **18** Usungithathele abakhula bami lengibathandayo; ubumnyama sebunguyena mngane wami oseduze.

89 Ihubo lika-Ethani um’Ezira Ngizahlabelela ngothando lukaThixo olukhulu lanininini; ngomlomo wami ngizakwenza ukuthembeka kwakho kwaziwe ezizukulwaneni zonke. **2** Ngizamezela ukuthi uthando lwakho lumi luqinile laphakade, ukuthi ukuthembeka kwakho wakugxilisa ezulwini uqobo. **3** Wathi, “Sengenze isivumelwano lalowo okhethiweyo wami, sengifungile kuDavida inceku yami, **4** ‘Ngizawumisa umndeni wakho laphakade, ngisiqinise isihlalo sakho sobukhosi kuzozonke izizukulwane.’” **5** Amazulu ayazidumisa izimanga zakho, Oh Thixo, lokuthembeka kwakho emhlanganweni wabangcwele. **6** Phela ngubani onjengoThixo phakathi kwabaphilayo ezulwini na? Ngubani onjengoThixo phakathi kwabaphilayo ezulwini na? **7** Enhlanganisweni yabangcwele uNkulunkulu uyesatshwa kakhulu; uyesabeka kulabo bonke abahlezi laye. **8** Yebo Thixo Nkulunkulu Somandla, ngubani onjengawe na? Ulamandla, Oh Thixo,

ukuthembeka kwakho kukuhonqolozele. **9** Uyabusa phezu kolwandle olugubhazelayo; lapho amavinqo alo equbuka, uyawathulisa. **10** Wamchoboza uRahabi njengomunye wababuleweyo; ngengalo yakho elamandla wazichitha izitha. **11** Ngawakho amazulu, ngowakho njalo lomhlaba; wawudala umhlaba lakho konke okukuwo. **12** Wayidala inyakatho kanye leningizimu; iThabhozi leHemoni zihlabelela ibizo lakho ngentokozo. **13** Ingalo yakho igcwele amandla; isandla sakho siqinile, esokunene siphakeme. **14** Ukulunga lokwahlulela kuhle yikho okuyinsika yesihlalo sakho sobukhosi; uthando lokuthembeka kuhamba phambili kwakho. **15** Babusisiwe labo asebekufundile ukukubabaza, abahamba ekukhanyeni kobukhona bakho, Oh Thixo. **16** Bayathokoza ngebizo lakho ilanga lonke; bayagubhazela ngokulunga kwakho. **17** Ngoba uyibukhosi babo lamandla abo, kuthi ngomusa wakho uphakamise uphondo lwethu. **18** Ngempela isihlangu sethu ngesikaThixo, inKosi yethu Kuye oYedwa oNgcwele ka-Israyeli. **19** Endulo wakhuluma ngombono, ebantwini bakho abathembekileyo wathi: “Sengiwehlisele amandla phezu kweqhawe; sengiphakamise insizwa phakathi kwabantu. **20** Sengifumane uDavida inceku yami; ngamafutha ami angcwele sengimgcobile. **21** Isandla sami sizamsekela; ngempela ingalo yami izamqinisa. **22** Akulasitha esizamncindezela ukuthi athele kuso; kakho umuntu omubi ozamcindezela. **23** Ngizazichoboza izitha zakhe phambi kwakhe ngibalahlale phansi abalwa laye. **24** Uthando lwami oluthembekileyo luzaba laye, ukuthi ngebizo lami luphakanyiswe uphondo lwakhe. **25** Ngizabeka isandla sakhe phezu kolwandle, isandla sakhe sokunene phezu kwemifula. **26** Uzameza kimi athi, ‘UnguBaba, Nkulunkulu wami, iDwala elinguMsindisi wami.’ **27** Njalo ngizamisa abe lizibulo lami, inkosi ephakeme ngaphezu kwawo wonke amakhosi omhlaba. **28** Ngizalugcina uthando lwami kuye laphakade, lesivumelwano sami laye kasiyikuphela. **29** Inzalo yakhe ngizayimisa nini lanini, lesihlalo sakhe sobukhosi kasiyikufa saphela. **30** Aluba amadodana akhe edela umlayo wami angalandeli izimiso zami, **31** nxa beseiphula izimemezelo zami behluleke ukugcina imiyalo yami, **32** ngizajezisa isono sabo ngoswazi, lesiphambeko sabo ngokubatsheya; **33** kodwa kangiyikulusiza uthando lwami kuye, njalo kangisoze ngiguqule ukuthembeka kwami. **34** Kangiyikusephula isivumelwano sami kumbe ngiguqule lokho okuphume ezindebeni zami. **35** Ngavele ngafunga kanye ngobungcwele bami angiyiquqamba amanga kuDavida, **36** ukuthi inzalo yakhe izaqhubeka laphakade lesihlalo sakhe sobukhosi sizakuma phambi kwami njengelanga; **37** sizakuma laphakade njengenyanqa, ufakazi othembekileyo yisibhakabhaka.” **38** Kodwa usumalile, usumahlile, ubumthukuthelale kakhulu ogcotshiweyo wakho. **39** Ususikhalele isivumelwano lenceku yakho wawubuhqela othulini umqhele wakhe. **40** Usuyibhidlizele yonke imiduli yakhe, izinqaba zakhe wazenza amanxwa. **41** Bonke abedlula khona bamphangile; useyinhlelisa yabomakhelwane. **42** Usuphakamisile isandla sokunene sezitha zakhe; usuwenze zonke izitha zakhe zathokoza. **43** Uyibuyisele emuva inkemba yakhe ebukhali awaze wamsekela empini. **44** Usuyiqedile inkazimulo yakhe wadilizele phansi isihlalo sakhe sobukhosi. **45** Uluqumile lwaba lufitshane usuku lobutsha bakhe; usumembese ingubo yehlazo. **46** Koze kube nini, Oh Thixo? Uzazifihla kokuphela na? Koze kube nini ulaka lwakho luvutha njengomlilo? **47** Khumbula ukwedlula masinyane kwempilo yami. Ngoba wabadalela

ize nje abantu! **48** Ngumuntu bani ongaphila angaze abona ukufa, loba azisindise emandleni eliba na? (**Sheol h7585**) **49** Oh Thixo, lungaphi uthando lwakho lwakudala olukhulu, okwathi ngokuthembeka kwakho wafunga ngalo kuDavida? **50** Khumbula, Thixo ukuthi inceku yakho iklolodelwa njani, ukuthi enhliziyweni yami ngithwele izigcono zezizwe, **51** izigcono izitha zakho eziklolode ngazo, Oh Thixo, okuthe ngazo zaklolodela ogcotshiweyo wakho kukho konke akwenzayo. **52** Udumo kalube kuThixo laphakade!

90 Umkhuleko kaMosi umuntu kaNkulunkulu. Thixo, wena ulikhaya lethu kuzozonke izizukulwane. **2** Izintaba zingakabikhona lalapho ungakawuvezi umhlaba kanye lizilwe, kusukela phakade kuze kube phakade unguNkulunkulu. **3** Ubuyisela abantu ethulini, usithi, “Buyelani othulini, lina madodana abantu.” **4** Ngoba iminyaka eyinkulungwane ekuboneni kwakho injengosuku olusanda kudlula, kumbe njengomlindo webusuku. **5** Uyabakhucula abantu ebuthongweni bokufa; banjengotshani obutsha obekuseni **6** lokuba ekuseni buhluma bututsha, kuthi ntambama sebomile sebunilwe. **7** Ulaka lwakho luyasitshabalalisa sithuthumelise yikucaphuka kwakho. **8** Usubuchayile ububi bethu phambi kwakho, izono zethu zensitha wazichaya ekukhanyeni kobukhona bakho. **9** Zonke insuku zethu ziyedlula ngaphansi kolaka lwakho; leminyaka yethu siyiphetha ngokububula. **10** Ubude bezinsuku zethu buyiminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa loba amatshumi ayisificaminwembili, nxa silamandla; kanti lelobanga layo liluhlupho losizi, ngoba iphanga yedlule, lathi siphaphe nje sedlule. **11** Ngubani owaziyo amandla olaka lwakho na? Ngoba intukuthelo yakho inkulu njengokwesatshwa okukufaneleyo. **12** Sifundise ukubala kuhle insuku zethu, ukuze sizuze inhliziyu yenhlakani. **13** Phola, Oh Thixo! Koze kube nini kulokhu kunjalo na? Woba lesihawu ezincekwini zakho. **14** Sisuthise ekuseni ngothando lwakho olungaphuthiyo, ukuze sihlabelele ngentokozi sijabule zonke insuku zethu. **15** Senze sijabule okwensuku ezilingana ukusihlupha kwakho, okwensuku ezilingana lalezo esesabona ngazo ukudubeka. **16** Sengathi imisebenzi yakho ingatshengiswa ezincekwini zakho, inkazimulo yakho ebantwaneni babo. **17** Sengathi umusa weNkosi uNkulunkulu wethu ungehlela kithi; uqinise umsebenzi wezandla zethu yebo, qinisa umsebenzi wezandla zethu.

91 Lowo ohlala ekusithekeni koPhezukonke uzaphumula emthunzini kaSomandla. **2** Ngizakuthi kuThixo, “Uyisiphophelo sami lenqaba yami, uNkulunkulu wami, engithemba kuye.” **3** Ngempela uzakuphephisa emjibileni womthiyi lasesifeni esibi esibulalayo. **4** Uzakusibekela ngezinsiba zakhe, uzuze isiphophelo ngaphansi kwamaphiko akhe; ukuthembeka kwakhe kuzakuba yisihlangu sakho lenqaba yakho. **5** Awuyikwesaba umnyama wobusuku, loba umtshoko ontweza emini, **6** kumbe ingozi ehabhela emnyameni, kumbe umkhuhlane obhubhisayo emini enkulu. **7** Abazinkulungwane bangawa eceleni lakho; itshumi lezinkulungwane esandleni sakho sokunene, kodwa kakusoze kusondele kuwe. **8** Uzaphosa nje amehlo akho ubukele ubone ukujeziswa kwababi. **9** Ugenza oPhezukonke abe likhaya lakho yena uThixo oyisiphophelo sami **10** lapho-ke akulangozi engakuwela, akulamonakalo ozasondela ethenteni lakho. **11** Ngoba uzayala izingilosi zakhe ngawe zikulinde

kuzozonke izindlela zakho; **12** zizakuphakamisa ezandleni zazo, ukuze ungakhubeki elitsheni. **13** Uzanyathela isilwane lephimpi; uzasigxoba isilwane esikhulu lenyoka. **14** “Ngoba uyangithanda,” kutsho uThixo, “ngizamkhulula; ngizamvikela, ngoba uyalinaka ibizo lami. **15** Uzangibiza, ngimphendule; ngizakuba laye ekhuluphekeni, ngizamkhulula ngimenzele udumo. **16** Ngizamsuthisa ngempilo ende ngimtshengise insindiso yami.”

92 Ihubo. Ingoma. Elosuku lweSabatha. Kuhle ukudumisa uThixo lokuhlabelela ebizweni lakho, wena oPhezukonke, **2** ukumemezela uthando lwakho ekuseni lokuthembeka kwakho ebusuku, **3** ukutshaya iziginci ngomhubhe wezintambo ezililtshumi lemvingamo emnandi yechacho. **4** Ngoba uyangijabulisa ngezenzo zakho, Oh Thixo; ngihlala ngentokozi ngomsebenzi wezandla zakho. **5** Mikhulu kangaka imisebenzi yakho, Oh Thixo, izikile imicabango yakho! **6** Umuntu ongelangqondo akazi, iziwula kazizwisi, **7** ukuthi loba ababi bemila njengotshani lezigangi zonke ziphumelela, zizabuhjiswa nini lanini. **8** Kodwa wena Thixo, uphakeme laphakade. **9** Ngoba ngempela izitha zakho, Oh Thixo, ngempela izitha zakho zizabhubha; zonke izigangi zizachithizwa. **10** Uluphakamisile uphondo lwami njengolwenyathi; ngagcotshwa ngamakha amnandi. **11** Amehlo ami abonile ukwehlulwa kwezitha zami; indlebe zami zizwile ngokuchithizwa kwezitha zami ezimbi. **12** Abalungileyo bazaqhela njengesihlahla selala, bazakhula njengomsedari waseLebanoni; **13** ngoba behlangyelwe endlini kaThixo, bazaqhela emagumeni kaNkulunkulu wethu. **14** Bazabe belokhu bethela izithelo lanxa sebedadala, bazahlala belokhu behluma beluhlaza, **15** bememezela besithi, “UThixo uqotho; uliDwala lami, kakukho ubi kuye.”

93 UThixo uyabusa, ugqoke ubukhosi; uThixo ugqoke ubukhosi njalo uzihlome ngamandla. Umhlaba ugxilile uqinile; ngeke ugudulwe. **2** Isihlalo sakho saqiniswa ekadeni; uNguwe kusukela phakade. **3** Inlwandle seziphakamisile, Oh Thixo, inlwandle ziphakamisile ilizwi lazo; inlwandle ziwaphakamisile amagagasi azo agubhuzelayo. **4** Ngamandla adlula umdumo wamanzi amanengi, ngamandla adlula awokugubhuza kolwandle uThixo ophezulu ulamandla. **5** Izimiso zakhe zimi ziqinile; ubungcwele bukhazimulisa indlu Yakho okwensuku ezingapheliyo, Oh Thixo.

94 Oh Thixo, uNkulunkulu ophindiselayo, Oh Nkulunkulu ophindiselayo, khanya uphele. **2** Phakama, awu Mahluli womhlaba; baphindisele abazigqajayo ngokubafaneleyo. **3** Koze kube nini ababi, Oh Thixo, koze kube nini ababi beklamasa na? **4** Bathulula amazwi okukloloda; zonke izigangi zifuthelele ngokuzikhukhumeza. **5** Ziyabanyathezela abantu bakho, Oh Thixo; zicindezela ilifa lakho. **6** Zibulala umfelokazi kanye lowezizweni; zibulala intandane. **7** Zithi, “UThixo kaboni; uNkulunkulu kaJakhobe kananzi.” **8** Limukani, lina elingelangqondo phakathi kwabantu; lina ziphukuphuku, lizahlakanipha nini? **9** Yena lowo owayigxumekayo indlebe kezwa yini? Yena lowo owabumba ilihlo kaboni na? **10** Yena lowo oqondisa izizwe kajezi yini? Yena lowo ofundisa umuntu kalalwazi na? **11** UThixo uyayazi imicabango yomuntu; uyayazi ukuthi iyize nje. **12** Ubusisiwe umuntu omqondisayo, Oh Thixo, umuntu omfundisa okomthetho wakho; **13** uyamphumuza ensukwini zokuhlupheka, kuze kuthi ababi bembelwe igodi. **14** Ngoba uThixo kazukwala abantu

bakhe; kasoze lanini afulathele ilifa lakhe. **15** Ukwahlulela kuzaphinda njalo kumiswe ngokulunga, kuthi bonke abaqotho ngenhliziyo bakulandele. **16** Ngubani ozangimela ekulweni lababi na? Ngubani ozangelekelela ekulweni lezigangi na? **17** Aluba uThixo wayengangelulekanga, ngabe ngahle ngahlala ngathula zwi ekufeni. **18** Lapho ngasengisithi, “Unyawo lwami selutshela,” uthando lwakho, Oh Thixo, lwangisekela. **19** Nxa ukunqineka kwase kungikhulela, induduzo yakho yaletha intokozo emphefumulweni wami. **20** Kambe isihlalo sobukhosi esixhwalileyo singema lawe yini leso esiletha inhlupheko ngezimezelo zaso? **21** Bayahlangana ukumelana labalungileyo ongelacala agwetshelwe ukufa. **22** Kodwa uThixo useyinqaba yami, loNkulunkulu wami ulidwala engiphephela kulo. **23** Uzabaphindisela ngenxa yezono zabo ababhuhise ngenxa yobubi babo; uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu uzababhuhisa.

95 Wozani sihlabelele ngentokozo kuThixo; kasihlokomeni kannandi kulo iDwala lokusindiswa kwethu. **2** Kasizeni phambi kwakhe ngokubonga simdumise ngamachacho langengoma. **3** Ngoba uThixo unguNkulunkulu omkhulu, iNkosi enkulu ngaphezu kwabonkulunkulu bonke. **4** Inziki zomhlaba zizezandleni zakhe, leziqongo zezintaba ngezakhe. **5** Ngolwakhe ulwandle ngoba walwenza, lezandla zakhe zawenza umhlaba owomileyo. **6** Wozani, kasikhothame simkhonze, kasiguqe phambi kukaThixo uMenzi wethu; **7** ngoba unguNkulunkulu wethu, thina singabantu bedlelo lakhe, umhlambi awunakekelayo. Lamhla, nxa lisizwa ilizwi lakhe, **8** lingazeni lukhuni inhliziyu zenu njengoba lenzenjalo eMeribha, njengelakwenza ngaleliyana ilanga eMasa enkangala, **9** lapho okhokho benu abangilinga khona bengizama, lanxa babekubonile engakwenzayo. **10** Okweminyaka engamatshumi amane ngangisizondele lesosizukulwane; ngathi, “Bangabantu onhliziyo zabo ziyahlahlatha, njalo kabazazanga izindlela zami.” **11** Ngakho ngamemezela ngesifungo ekuthukutheleni kwami ngathi, “Kabayikungena ekuphumuleni kwami.”

96 Hlabeleli kuThixo ingoma entsha; hlabeleli kuThixo mhlaba wonke. **2** Hlabeleli kuThixo, dumisani ibizo lakhe; memzelani insindiso yakhe insuku ngezinsuku. **3** Fakazani ngobukhosi bakhe ezizweni zonke, lemisebenzi yakhe emangalisayo phakathi kwabantu bonke. **4** Ngoba umkhulu uThixo, ufanele ukudunyiswa ngokuphindiweyo; kumele esatshwe ngaphezu kwabonkulunkulu bonke. **5** Ngoba bonke onkulunkulu bezizwe bayizithombe, kodwa uThixo wadala amazulu. **6** Inkazimulo lobukhosi kuphambi Kwakhe; amandla lobukhosi kusendlini yakhe engcwele. **7** Mnikeni uThixo, lina zizukulwane zezizwe. Mnikeni uThixo ubukhosi lamandla. **8** Mnikeni uThixo udumo olufanele ibizo lakhe. Lethani umnikelo libuye phambi kwakhe. **9** Mkhonzeni uThixo enkazimulweni yobungcele bakhe; thuthumelani phambi kwakhe mhlaba wonke. **10** Wothini phakathi kwezizwe, “UTHIXO uyabusa.” Umhlaba ugxilile, ungeke wagudluzwa; uzabehlulela abantu ngokubafaneleyo. **11** Amazulu kawathokoze, lomhlaba ujabule; ulwandle kaluhlokome, lakho konke okukulo; **12** amasimu kawathakazelele lakho konke okukuwo. Lapho-ke izihlahla zonke zeganga zizahlabela ngentokozo; **13** phambi kukaThixo, ngoba uyeza, uyeza ukuzakwahlulela umhlaba. Uzakwahlulela umhlaba ngokulunga, ahlulele abantu ngeqiniso.

97 UThixo uyabusa, umhlaba kawuthokoze; akuthi amakhumbi akude ajabule. **2** Amayezi lomnyama omkhulu kumsibekele; ukulunga lokwahlulela kuhle kuyisisekelo sesihlalo Sakhe sobukhosi. **3** Umlilo uhamba phambi Kwakhe uzihangule izitha zakhe inxa zonke. **4** Umbane wakhe ukhanyisa umhlaba; umhlaba ukubone lokho uthuthumele. **5** Izintaba zincibilika njengengcono phambi kukaThixo, phambi kweNkosi yomhlaba wonke. **6** Amazulu amemezela ukulunga kwayo, labantu bonke bayayibona inkazimulo yayo. **7** Bonke abakhonza izifanekiso bathelwa ihlazo, labo abazikhukhumeza ngezithombe mkhonzeni, lonke lina bonkulunkulu! **8** IZIXO iyezwa ithokoze lemizi yakojuda iyajabula ngenxa yokwahlulela Kwakho, Oh Thixo. **9** Ngoba wena, Oh Thixo ungoPhezukonke kuwo wonke umhlaba; uphakeme ngaphezulu kakhulu kwabonkulunkulu bonke. **10** Akuthi bonke abamthandayo, uThixo, bazonde okubi, ngoba uyazilinda impilo zabathembekileyo bakhe abakhulule esandleni sababi. **11** Ukukhanya kuyehliselwa kwabalungileyo lentokozo kwabaqotho enhliziyweni. **12** Thokozani kuThixo lina elilungileyo, lidumise ibizo lakhe elingcwele.

98 Ihubo Hlabeleli uThixo ingoma entsha, ngoba wenzile izinto ezimangalisayo; isandla sakhe sokunene lengalo yakhe engcwele sekumenzele insindiso. **2** UThixo useyenze yaziwa insindiso yakhe waveza ukulunga kwakhe ezizweni. **3** Uselukhumbule uthando lwakhe lokuthembeka Kwakhe endlini ka-Israyeli; yonke imikhawulo yomhlaba iyibonile insindiso kaNkulunkulu wethu. **4** Hlokomani ngentokozo kuThixo, mhlaba wonke, hlabeleli ingoma ngokujabula okukhulu, litshaya amachacho; **5** yenzani umsindo kuThixo ngomhubhe, ngomhubhe langomsindo wokuhlabela, **6** ngamacilongo langomsindo wophondo lwenqama hlokomani ngentokozo phambi kukaThixo, iNkosi. **7** Akuthi ulwandle luhlokome, lakho konke okuphakathi kwalo, umhlaba labo bonke abahlala kuwo. **8** Akuthi imifula iqakeze izandla zayo, akuthi izintaba zihlabele kanyekanye ngentokozo; **9** kazihlabele phambi kukaThixo, ngoba Uyeza ukuzakwahlulela umhlaba. Uzakwahlulela umhlaba ngokulunga labantu bonke ngokufaneleyo.

99 UThixo uyabusa, izizwe kazithuthumele; uhlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi phakathi kwamakherubhi, umhlaba kawuzamazame. **2** Mkhulu uThixo eZiyoni; uphakeme ngaphezu kwezizwe zonke. **3** Kabadumise ibizo Lakho elikhulu elesabekayo Yena ungcwele. **4** INKOSI ilamandla, ithanda ukwahlulela okuhle umisile ukwaba ngemfanelo; kujakhobe usuwenzile okuqondileyo lokulungileyo. **5** Dumisani uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu likhonze phansi kwesihlalo sakhe; yena ungcwele. **6** UMOsi lo-Aroni babephakathi kwabaphristi bakhe, uSamuyeli wayekulabo ababelibiza ibizo lakhe; bambiza uThixo Yena wabaphendula. **7** Wabakhulumisa ephakathi kwensika yeyezi; bagcina izimiso zakhe lezimemezelo azitshoyo kubo. **8** Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu wethu, wabaphendula; ku-Israyeli wawunguNkulunkulu othethelelayo, lanxa wabajezisa ngenxa yezono zabo ezimbi. **9** Phakamisani uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu, limkhonze entabeni yakhe engcwele, ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu ungcwele.

100 Ihubo. Elokubonga. Hlokomani ngentokozo kuThixo, mhlaba wonke. **2** Mkhonzeni uThixo ngenjabulo; wozani phambi Kwakhe ngezingoma zokuthokoza. **3** Yazini

ukuthi uThixo unguNkulunkulu. Nguye owasenzayo, singabantu bakhe, izimvu zedlelo lakhe. **4** Ngenani emasangweni akhe ngokubonga lemagumeni akhe ngokudumisa; mbongeni lidumise ibizo lakhe. **5** Ngoba uThixo ulungile lothando lwakhe lumi kuze kube phakade; ukuthembeka kwakhe kumi kuzozonke izizukulwane.

101 ElikaDavida. Ihubo. Ngizahlabelela ngothando lwakho lokwahlulela kwakho okuhle; kuwe, Oh Thixo, ngizahlabelela indumiso. **2** Ngizananzelela ukuthi ngiphile impilo engasolekiyo uzakuba nini kimi na? Ngizahamba endlini yami ngenhliziyo engasolekiyo. **3** Phambi kwamehlami angiyikubeka lutho olungcolileyo. Izenzo zabantu abangakhulwayo ngiyazinda; kazizukunginamathela. **4** Abantu abalenhliziyo exhwalileyo bazakuba khatshana lami; angiyikuhambelana lobubi. **5** Lowo okhothoza umakhelwane wakhe ngasese, lowo ngizamthulisa; olamehlo asesiphundu lenhliziyo ezigqajayo, lowo kanglasikhathi laye. **6** Amehlami azakuba kwabathembekileyo elizweni, ukuthi bahlale lami; lowo okuhamba kwakhe kakulansolo uzangisebenzela ekhonza kimi. **7** Kakho othanda ukwenza inkohliso ozahlala endlini yami; kakho okhuluma amanga ozakuma phambi kwami. **8** Zonke insuku ekuseni ngizabathulisa bonke ababi phakathi kwelizwe; ngizamahlala phansi wonke umuntu oyisigangi edolobheni likaThixo.

102 Umkhuleko womuntu okhathazekileyo. Lapho esephela umoya eseqhinqa isililo phambi kukaThixo. Zwana umkhuleko wami, Oh Thixo; ukukhala kwami ngicela uncedo kakufike kuwe. **2** Ungangifihleli ubuso bakho nxa ngikhathazekile. Ngipha indlebe yakho; nxa ngibiza ngiphendula masinyane. **3** Ngoba insuku zami ziyanyamalala njengentuthu; amathambo ami ayavutha njengamalahlale abhebhayo. **4** Inhliziyo yami yonakele, ibunile njengotshani; ngiyakhohlwa ukudla kwami. **5** Ngenxa yokububula kwami okukhulu sengiphelile, isikhumba sesinamathela emathanjeni. **6** Sengifana lesikhova senkangala, njengesikhova semanxiweni. **7** Ngilala ngikhangele; senginjengenyoni ehlezi yodwa ephahleni. **8** Ilanga lonke izitha zami ziyangichukuluza; labo abangichothozayo badlala ngebizo lami njengesethuko. **9** Ngoba ngidla umlotha njengokudla kwami, ngixube okunathwayo kwami ngezinyembezi. **10** Ngenxa yokuthukuthela kwakho okukhulu, ngoba angiqukule wangilahlela eceleni. **11** Insuku zami zifana lesithunzi sakusihlwa; ngiyabuna njengotshani. **12** Kodwa wena, Oh Thixo, uhlezi ebukhosini lanininini; udumo lwakho lumi ezizukulwaneni zakhe. **13** Uzaphakama uzwele iZiyoni isihawu, ngoba sekuyisikhathi sokutshengisa umusa kuyo, isikhathi esimisiweyo sesifikele. **14** Ngoba amatshe ayo aligugu ezincekweni zakho; othuli lwayo nje lubaethela usizi. **15** Izizwe zizalesaba ibizo likaThixo, wonke amakhosi omhlaba azahlonipha inkazimulo yakhe. **16** Ngoba uThixo uzayakha kutsha iZiyoni avela enkazimulweni yakhe. **17** Uzaphendula imikhuleko yabahluphekayo; kazukweyisa isicelo sabo. **18** Lokhu kakulotshwe phansi kube ngokwesizukulwane sakusasa, ukuze abantu abangakadalwa bamdumise uThixo: **19** “UThixo wakhangela phansi ephuzulu endlini yakhe engcwele, esezulwini wawuhlola umhlaba, **20** ukuze ezwe ukububula kwezibotshwa lokukhulula labo ababegwetselwe ukufa.” **21** Ngalokho-ke ibizo likaThixo lizamenyezela eZiyoni lodumo lwakhe eJerusalem, **22** lapha izizwe lemibuso sekuhlangana

ndawonye ukukhonza uThixo. **23** Wawanciphisa amandla ami ngisaphila; waziphungula insuku zami. **24** Yikho ngasengisithi, “Ungangithathi, Oh Nkulunkulu wami, ngilokhu ngisephakathi kwensuku zami; iminyaka yakho ihlala ikhona ezizukulwaneni zonke. **25** Ekuqaleni wabeka izisekelo zomhlaba, lamazulu angumsebenzi wezandla zakho. **26** Konke kuzabhubha, kodwa wena uzasala; konke kuzaguga njengesigqoko. Njengesivunulo uzakuguqula kucine sekulahlwa. **27** Kodwa wena uhlala unjalo, leminyaka yakho kayiyikuphela. **28** Abantwana bezinceku zakho bazahlala besemehlweni akho; izizukulwane zazo zizaqiniswa phambi kwakho.”

103 ElikaDavida. Dumisa uThixo, Oh mphefumulo wami; konke okuphakathi kwami, kakudumise ibizo lakhe elingcwele. **2** Dumisa uThixo, Oh mphefumulo wami, ungaze wakhoihwa konke okuhle okuthola kuye. **3** Othethelelayo zonke izono zakho akusilise kuzozonke izifo zakho, **4** ohlenga impilo yakho egodini akwethese uthando lesihawu, **5** osthisa izifiso zakho ngezinto ezinhle ukuze ubutsha bakho buvuselelwe njengengququlu. **6** UThixo ubenzela ukulunga lokwahlulela okuhle labo abancindezelweyo. **7** Izindlela zakhe wazazisa uMosi, izenzo zakhe wazazisa abantu bako-Israyeli; **8** uThixo ulesihawu njalo ulomusa, uyaphuza ukuthukuthela, kodwa uyanda ngothando. **9** Kahlali ebeka imilandu futhi kagcini ulaka lwakhe kokuphela; **10** kasiphathi ngokufanele izono zethu kumbe asijejise ngokulingene iziphambeko zethu. **11** Ngoba njengokuphakama komkhathi ngaphezu komhlaba, lukhulu kangako uthando lwakhe kulabo abamesabayo; **12** njengobukhatshana bempumalanga kuyo intshonalanga kanjalo ususile iziphambeko zethu kithi. **13** Ngendlela ubaba elozwelo ebantwaneni bakhe, kanjalo uThixo ulozwelo kulabo abamesabayo; **14** ngoba uyakwazi ukuthi sibunjwe njani, uyakhumbula ukuthi siluthuli. **15** Umuntu yena insuku zakhe zinjengotshani, ukhula amemetheke njengembali yeganga; **16** umoya uyayiphephetha ihle inyamalale, indawo yakhe ingabe isayikhumbula lanini. **17** Kodwa kusukela phakade kusiya phakade uthando lukaThixo lukulabo abamesabayo, lokulunga Kwakhe ebantwaneni babantwana. **18** Kulabo abagcina isivumelwano Sakhe njalo bakhumbule ukulalela izimiso zakhe. **19** UThixo usemisile isihlalo sakhe sobukhosi ezulwini, njalo ubukhosi bakhe buphezu kwakho konke. **20** Dumisani uThixo, lina zingilosi, lina zincku zakhe elenza intando yakhe, elilalela ilizwi lakhe. **21** Dumisani uThixo, lonke mabutho akhe asezulwini, lina zincku zakhe elenza intando yakhe. **22** Dumisani uThixo, imisebenzi yakhe yonke ezindaweni zonke embusweni wakhe. Dumisa uThixo, Oh mphefumulo wami.

104 Dumisa uThixo, Oh mphefumulo wami. Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu wami, umkhulu kakhulu; ugqoke inkazimulo lobukhosi. **2** Uyazigoqela ngokukhanya kungathi njengesivunulo; amazulu uyawelula njengethente. **3** anqumise intungo zezindlu zangaphezulu zilale phezu kwamanzi. Wenza amayezi inqola yakhe yamabhiza, undiza ngezimpiko zomoya. **4** Wenza izikhatha zomoya zibe yizithunywa zakhe, amalangabi omlilo zinceku zakhe. **5** Wawugxilisa umhlaba ezisekelweni zawo; ungeke wagudulwa. **6** Wawembesa ngolwandle njengesivunulo; amanzi ema ngaphezu kwezintaba. **7** Kodwa wathi ngokukhazwa amanzi abaleka, ngomsindo wokuduma kwakho asibathela; **8** ageleza phezu kwezintaba, ehlela ezigodini endaweni owamisele kuyo. **9** Wamisa

umkhawulo angeke aweqe; kasayikubuya awugubuzele njalo umhlaba lanini. **10** Wenza imithombo impompozele amanzi ezindongeni; ageleza phakathi kwezintaba, **11** zipha amanzi kuzozonke izinyamazana zeganga; labobabhemi beganga bacitsha lapho ukoma. **12** Izinyoni zomoya zakhela eduze kwamanzi; ziyatshiloza phakathi kwezingatsha. **13** Uyazitheleza izintaba esezindlini zakhe eziphezulu; umhlaba uyawusuthisa ngezithelo zomsebenzi wakhe. **14** Umilisela inkomo utshani, ahlanyebele abantu bona bahlakule kuzazakale ukudla emhlabathini: **15** iwayini elijabulisa inhliziyoyomuntu, amagcobo enza ubuso bakhe bukhazimule, lesinkwa esilumlisa inhliziyoyakhe. **16** Izihlahla zikaThixo ziyathelela okwaneleyo, imisedari yeLebhanoni ayihlanyelayo. **17** Izinyoni zakhela kuyo izidleke zazo; ingabuzane lakha indlu yalo ezihlahleni zephayini. **18** Izintaba eziphakemeyo ngezamagogo, amawa ayisiphophelo sezimbila. **19** Inyanga yehlukanisa izibanga zomnyaka, lelanga liyazi ukuthi litshona nini. **20** Uletha umnyama, kube sebusuku, lapho zonke izinyamazana zeganga zizingele. **21** Izilwane ziyabhonga zifuna inyama yazo zidinga ukudla kwazo kuNkulunkulu. **22** Ilanga liyaphuma, zibe sezicatsha; ziyabuyela ezikhundleni zazo zilale. **23** Umuntu abe esephuma aye emsebenzini wakhe, ayotshikatshika kuze kube ntambama. **24** Minengi kanganani imisebenzi yakho, Oh Thixo! Zonke wazenza ngenhlakanipho; umhlaba ugcwele izidalwa zakho. **25** Nantuyana ulwandle, uthwaca olungakaya, olunyakazela ngezidalwa ezingelakubalwa izinto eziphilayo ezinkulu lezincinyane. **26** Kulapho imikhumbi endenda khona isiyale lala, loleviyathani, isilo owasenza ukuthi sidlale khona. **27** Zonke lezi zikhangele kuwe ukuthi uziphe ukudla ngesikhathi esifaneleyo. **28** Uthi ungazipha bese zikubuthela ndawonye; uthi ungavula isandla sakho, zisuthiswe ngezinto ezinhle. **29** Uthi ungafihla ubuso bakho zitshaywe luvalo; uthi ungathatha umphefumulo wazo, zife zibuyele othulini. **30** Uthi ungathumela uMoya wakho zidalwe, uwenze ube muhle umhlaba. **31** Sengathi inkazimulo kaThixo ingama lanini; sengathi uThixo angathokoza ngemisebenzi yakhe **32** yena okhangela umhlaba uthuthumele, othinta izintaba zithunqe intuthu. **33** Ngizahlabelela kuThixo impilo yami yonke; ngizahlabelela indumiso kuNkulunkulu wami lanini nxa ngisaphila. **34** Sengathi iminakano yami ingamthokozisa, ngoba ngiyathokoza kuThixo. **35** Kodwa sengathi izoni zinganyamalala emhlabeni lezizangangi zingabe zisaba khona. Dumisa uThixo, Oh Mphfumulo wami. Dumisa uThixo, Oh Mphfumulo wami.

105 Bongani uThixo, memezani ibizo lakhe; lizazise phakathi kwabantu izenzo zakhe **2** Hlabelelani kuye, hlabelelani indumiso kuye; likhulume ngezenzo zakhe zonke ezimangalisayo. **3** Jabulani ebizweni lakhe elingcwele; kazithokoze inhliziyoyabo abamdingayo uThixo. **4** Dingani uThixo lamandla akhe, limdinge yena njalonzalo. **5** Khumbulani izenzo zakhe ezimangalisayo azenzayo, izimangalisayo azenzayo, lezihlulelo azikhulumayo, **6** lina zizukulwane zika-Abrahama inceku yakhe, lina madodana kajakhobe, abakhethiweyo bakhe. **7** UnguThixo uNkulunkulu wethu; izahlulelo zakhe zisemhlabeni wonke. **8** Uyasikhumbula isivumelwano sakhe nini lanini, ilizwi lomlayo wakhe, okwezizukulwane ezizinkulungwane, **9** isivumelwano asenza lo-Abrahama, isifungo asifungayo ku-Isaka. **10** Wakuqiniseka lokhu kuJakhobe kwaba yisimiso ku-Israyeli njengesivumelwano saphakade: **11** wathi “Ngizalnika ilizwe laseKhenani njengesabelo selifa

lenu.” **12** Kwathi besesebalutshwana, bebalutshwana kakhulu, beyizihambi kulo, **13** bezula kuzizwe ngezizwe besuka komunye umbuso besiya komunye. **14** Kavumelanga loba ngubani ukubancindezela; wawakhuza amakhosi ngenxa yabo: **15** “Lingabathinti abagcotshiweyo bami; lingahlukuluzi abaphrofethi bami.” **16** Waletha indlala elizweni wachitha zonke iziphala zokudla; **17** wathumela indoda yabandulela uJosefa owathengiswa waba yisigqili. **18** Bambhonxula inyawo zakhe ngezibopho, wabotshwa intamo ngezinsimbi, **19** kwaze kwathi lokho ayekutsho ngaphambili kwagcwaliseka, kwaze kwathi ilizwi likaThixo latshengisa ukuthi wayeqinisele. **20** Inkosi yathumela ukuthi akhululwe, umbusi wezizwe wamkhulula. **21** Wamenza umbusi wendlu yakhe, umbusi wakho konke okwakungokwakhe, **22** ukuqondisa amakhosana akhe njengokubona kwakhe lokufundisa abadala bakhe inhlanakipho. **23** Kwathi-ke u-Israyeli wayangena eGibhithe; uJakhobe wahlala njengwezizweni elizweni likaHamu. **24** UThixo wenza abantu bakhe banda kakhulu; wabenza baba banengi kakhulu bandela izitha zabo, **25** kwathi inhliziyoyabo wazenza zazonda abantu bakhe, bakha amacebo amabi ngezinceku zakhe. **26** Wathuma uMosi inceku yakhe, lo-Aroni ayebakhethile. **27** Benza iziboniso zakhe ezimangalisayo phakathi kwabo, izimanga zakhe elizweni likaHamu. **28** Wathumela umnyama wenza ilizwe laba mnyama kanti angithi babewahlamukele amazwi akhe? **29** Waguqula amanzi abo aba ligazi, okwenza inhlanzi zawo zafa. **30** Ilizwe labo lanyakazela ngamaxoxo, angena ezindlini zokulala ezababusi babo. **31** Wakhuluma, kwavela umtshitshi wezibawu, lenswintila elizweni labo lonke. **32** Wenza izulu labo laba yisiqhotho, laba lombane elizweni labo lonke; **33** wacacazela phansi amavini abo lemikhiwa, waphundla izihlahla zelizwe labo. **34** Wakhuluma zatheleka izintethe, izintethe ezingelakubalwa; **35** zadla yonke into eluhlaza elizweni labo, zadla izithelo zomhlabathi labo. **36** Ngemva kwalokho wasebulala amazibulo wonke elizweni labo, izithelo zokuqala zobulisa babo. **37** Wamkhupha u-Israyeli, ethwele esisithaka isiliva legolide, kakwaba lamunye phakathi kwezizwana zabo owehlulwa yikufa. **38** IGibhithe yathokoza ngokusuka kwabo, ngoba base bemesaba kubi u-Israyeli. **39** Wendlala iyezi lagubuzela, lomlilo ukukhanyisa ebusuku. **40** Bacela wabaethela izagwaca, wabasuthisa ngesinkwa sasezulwini. **41** Wavula ilitshe amanzi antshaza; njengomfula ageleza enkangala. **42** Ngoba wakhumbula isithembiso sakhe esingcwele esaphiwa inceku yakhe u-Abrahama. **43** Wabakhupha abantu bakhe ngokuthokoza, abakhethiweyo bakhe ngenhlokomo yentokozo. **44** Wabapha amazwe ezizwe, badla ilifa lalokho okwakuginqelwe ngabanye, **45** ukuze bagcine iziqondiso zakhe njalo balalele imithetho yakhe. Dumisani uThixo.

106 Dumisani uThixo, Bongani uThixo, ngoba ulungile; uthando lwakhe lumi lanini. **2** Ngubani ongamemezela imisebenzi emikhulu kaThixo loba atsho ngokugcweleyo udumo lwakhe na? **3** Babusisiwe labo abahlala besenza ngendlela enhle, abahlezi besenza okulungileyo. **4** Ungikhumbule, Thixo, nxa usuveza umusa ebantwini bakho, woza ungisize nxatshana usubasindisa, **5** ukuze lami ngikhulise ukuphumelela kwalabo obakhethileyo, ukuze ngabelwe entokozweni yesizwe sakho ngihlanganyele lelifa lakho ekudumiseni. **6** Sonile, njengalokho abakwenzayo okhokho bethu; senzile okubi senza izinto ezimbi. **7** Lapho okhokho

bethu beseGibhithe, kabayinakanga imimangaliso yakho; kabazikhumbulanga izezo zakho zomusa ezinengi, bahlamuka besolwandle, uLwandle oluBomvu. **8** Kodwa wabasindisa ngenxa yebizo lakhe, ukuze amandla akhe amakhulu aziwe. **9** Walukhuza uLwandle oluBomvu, loma qha; wabahola badabula ezinzikini njengasenkangala. **10** Wabasindisa esandleni sesitha; wabahlenga esandleni sesitha. **11** Amanzi asibekela izitha zabo, kakho loyedwa wazo owasindayo. **12** Lapho-ke base bezikholwa izithembiso zakhe bahlabelela indumiso yakhe. **13** Kodwa baphanga bakukhohlwa lokho ayekwenzile kabaze balindela ukweluleka kwakhe. **14** Enkangala bakhulelwa yizinkano zabo; khona emqothwini bamlinga uNkulunkulu. **15** Ngakho wabapha lokho abakucelayo, kodwa wabathela ngomkhuhlane ocikizayo. **16** Ezihonqweni basuka babalomhawu loMosi njalo lango-Aroni, owayengcwelisiwe kuThixo. **17** Umhlaba wavuleka waginya uDathani; wagqibela ixuku lika-Abhiramu. **18** Umlilo walavuzwa phakathi kwabalandeli babo; ilangabi labathisa ababi. **19** EHorebhi benza ithole, bakhonza isithombe esenziwe ngensimbi. **20** Badela ukuKhazimula kwabo bakhetha isithombe senkunzi edla utshani. **21** Bakhohlwa uNkulunkulu owabasindisayo, owayenze izinto ezinkulu eGibhithe, **22** imimangaliso elizweni likaHamu lezenzo ezibabazekayo ngasoLwandle oluBomvu. **23** Ngakho wathi uzababhubhisa aluba kungesuMosi, owakhetwayo wakhe, owama phambi kwakhe ukuvalela ulaka lwakhe ukuze angababhubhisi. **24** Kwathi njalo baleyisa ilizwe elihle; kabasikhohlwanga isithembiso sakhe. **25** Bakhonona besemathenteni abo kabaze bamlalela uThixo. **26** Ngakho wafunga kubo ephakamise isandla sakhe ukuthi wayezabazela bafele enkangala, **27** enze izizukulwane zabo ziqedwe ngabezizwe zihlakazake emazweni wonke. **28** Bazibopha ingathi kusejogweni kuBhali wasePheiyori badla imihlatshelo eyayinikelwe kubonkulunkulu abangaphiliyo; **29** bamthukuthelisa uThixo ngezenzo zabo ezimbi; kwavela isifo phakathi kwabo. **30** Kodwa uFimehisi wema wancenga isifo sadede. **31** Lokhu kwenza kuthiwe wayelungile kwaziswa izizukulwane zonke ezizayo. **32** Bamzondisa uThixo ngasemthonjeni weMeribha, uhlupho lwase lusehlela uMosi ngenxa yabo; **33** ngoba bahlamukela uMoya kaNkulunkulu, uMosi waze wakhupha amazwi amabi ngezindebe zakhe. **34** Kabababhubhisanga abantu bezizwe njengalokhu ababekulaywe nguThixo, **35** kodwa baphithikana labezizwe bathatha imikhuba yazo. **36** Bakhonza izithombe zabo, kwaba yisifo kubo. **37** Benza imihlatshelo ngamadodana abo lamadodakazi abo emadimonini. **38** Bachitha igazi elalingelacala, igazi lamadodana lamadodakazi abo, abenza ngabo imihlatshelo yezithombe zaseKhenani, ilizwe langcola ngegazi labo. **39** Bazingcolisa ngalokho abakwenzayo; ngezenzo zabo baziphatha njengeziphingi. **40** Ngakho uThixo wabathukuthelela abantu bakhe wanengwa yilifa lakhe. **41** Wabanikela kwabezizwe, izitha zabo zabusa phezu kwabo. **42** Izitha zabo zabancindezela zababeka ngaphansi kwamandla azo. **43** Izikhathi ezinengi wabakhulula, kodwa babezimisele ukuhlamuka bacikizeka ngenxa yesono sabo. **44** Kodwa wananzelela ukuhlupheka kwabo esezwile ukukhala kwabo; **45** ngenxa yokubahawukela wakhumbula isivumelwano sakhe, kwathi ngothando lwakhe olukhulu wadede. **46** Wenza bonke labo ababebathumbile ukuthi babelesihawu kubo. **47** Sisindise, Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu wethu, usiqoqe usikhulule phakathi kwezizwe, ukuze silibonge ibizo lakho elingcwele sijabule ekukudumiseni. **48** Kabongwe uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-

Israyeli, kusukela nini kuze kube nininini. Akuthi bonke abantu bathi, "Amenii!" Dumisani uThixo.

107 Mbongeni uThixo ngoba ulungile, uthando lwakhe lumi laphakade. **2** Akuthi abahlangiweyo bakaThixo batsho lokhu, labo abahlenga esandleni sesitha, **3** labo abaqoqa emazweni kusuka empumalanga kusiya entshonalanga, kusuka enyakatho laseningizimu. **4** Abanye bantula egwaduleni lwenkangala, baswela indlela eya emzini ababengahlala khona. **5** Balamba boma, impilo zabo zancipha. **6** Basebekhala kuThixo besekuhluphekeni kwabo, wasebakhulula osizini lwabo. **7** Wabahola ngendlela eqondileyo baya edolobheni lapho ababengahlala khona. **8** Ngakho kabambonge uThixo ngothando lwakhe olungaphuthiyo lezenzo zakhe ezimangalisayo azenzela abantu, **9** ngoba ubenza bakholwe abomileyo asuthise abalambileyo ngezingo ezinhle. **10** Abanye bahlala emnyameni lasehonzini elinzima beyizibotshwa ezihluphekayo zibotshwe ngamaketane ensimbi, **11** ngoba babewahlamukele amazwi kaNkulunkulu beyisa iseluleko soPhezukonke. **12** Ngakho wabathwalisa umsebenzi onzima; bawo kodwa kungekho ongabasiza. **13** Ngakho basebekhala kuThixo besekuhluphekeni kwabo wabasindisa osizini lwabo. **14** Wabakhupha emnyameni lethunzini elinzima waqamula amaketane abo. **15** Ngakho kabambonge uThixo ngothando lwakhe olungaphuthiyo lezenzo zakhe ezimangalisayo azenzela abantu, **16** ngoba uyawafohloza amasango ethusi ephule imigoqo yensimbi. **17** Abanye baba yiziwula ngenxa yezindlela zabo zokuhlamuka badiwa yizihlupheko ngenxa yokuxhwala kwabo. **18** Benyanya konke ukudla balengela emasangweni okufa. **19** Bakhala kuThixo besekuhluphekeni kwabo, wabasindisa osizini lwabo. **20** Wathumela ilizwi lakhe labasilisa; wabahlenga engcwabeni. **21** Kabambonge uThixo ngothando lwakhe olungaphuthiyo lezenzo zakhe ezimangalisayo ebantwini. **22** Kabenze imihlatshelo yeminikelo yokubonga bafakaze ngezenzo zakhe zonke ngezingoma zokuthokoza. **23** Abanye bawela olwandle ngemikhumbi; babengabathengisi emanzini abanzi. **24** Bayibona imisebenzi kaThixo, izenzo zakhe ezimangalisayo ekujuleni. **25** Ngoba wakhuluma kwaqubuka isiphetho esasukumisa amagagasi aba laphaya. **26** Akhwela athinta emazulwini, ehla ayatshona ezinzikini; bekuleyongozi isibindi sabo samemetheka saphela. **27** Bazixobagxoba badiyazela njengabantu abadakiweyo; baphelelwa lulwazi. **28** Basebekhala kuThixo besekuhluphekeni kwabo, wabakhupha esizini lwabo. **29** Wasethulisa isiphetho ngokunyenzeza; amagagasi olwandle aphola athi cwaka. **30** Bajabula bonke sekudedile, wabahola wabasa ethekweni ababelifuna. **31** Kabambonge uThixo ngothando lwakhe olungaphuthiyo lezenzo zakhe ezimangalisayo ebantwini. **32** Kabamphakamise emhlanganweni wabantu bamdumise enkundleni yabadala. **33** Waguqula imifula yaba yinkangala, imithombo egelezayo yaba ngumhlabathi owomileyo, **34** lomhlabathi olezithelo waba lugwadule olulethsway, ngenxa yobubi balabo ababehlala khona. **35** Waguqula inkangala yaba ngamachibi amanzi lomhlabathi owomileyo waba yimithombo egelezayo; **36** lapho waletha abalambileyo ukuba bahlale khona, khonapho basungula umuzi ababazahlala kuwo. **37** Bahlanyela amasimu, bagxumeka amavini athela isivuno esikhulu; **38** wababusisa banda baba banengi kakhulu, akaze ayekela imihlambi yabo inciphe. **39** Kwasekusithi ubunengi babo sebunciphile, bathotshiswa ngokucindezelwa,

ngokuhlupheka langosizi; **40** kwathi yena othela ihlazo ezikhulwini wabantulisa egwaduleni olungakhanyi mzila. **41** Kodwa abaswelayo wabakhupha ekuhluphekeni kwabo wandisa izimuli zabo njengemihlambi yezimvu. **42** Abaqotho bayabona bathokoze, kodwa bonke ababi bagcike imilomo yabo. **43** Lowo ohlakaniphileyo, kaqaphele lezizinto anakane ngothando olukhulu lukaThixo.

108 Ingoma. Ihubo likaDavida. Ihliziyoyami ibambelele, kayiguquki, Oh Nkulunkulu; ngizahlabela ngenze iculo elimnandi ngomoya wami wonke. **2** Vuka, mhuhle lechacho! Ngizayivusa intathakusa. **3** Ngizakudumisa, yebo Thixo, phakathi kwezizwe; ngizahlabela ngawe phakathi kwabantu. **4** Ngoba lukhulu uthando lwakho, luphakame kulamazulu; ukwethembeka kwakho kufinyelela emkhathini. **5** Kawuphakanyiswe, yebo Nkulunkulu, ngaphezu kwamazulu, akuthi inkazimulo yakho ibe khona emhlabeni wonke. **6** Sisindise usisize ngesandla sakho sokunene, ukuze kuthi laba obathandayo bakhululwe. **7** Nkulunkulu usekhulumile esendlini yakhe engcwele: “Ngokunqoba ngizayaba iShekhemu ngihlole leSigodi saseSukhothi. **8** Ngeyami iGilyadi, loManase ngowami; u-Efrayimi yisivikelo sekhanda lami, uJuda uyintonga yami yobukhosi. **9** IMowabi ngumganu wami wokugezela, phezu kuka-Edomi ngiphosela amanyathelo ami; phezu kweFilistiya ngihalalisa umkhosi wokunqoba.” **10** Ngubani ozangisa emzini olenqaba na? Ngubani ozangiholela e-Edomi na? **11** Kakuswe na, Oh Nkulunkulu, wena osusikhalele, engasaphumi lathi ezimpini zethu? **12** Ake usisize ezitheni zethu, ngoba usizo lomuntu luyize. **13** Nxa siloNkulunkulu sizanqoba, njalo uzazinyathelela phansi izitha zethu.

109 Kumqondisi wokuhlabela. ElikaDavida. Ihubo. Oh Nkulunkulu, wena engikudumisayo, ungali ulokhu uthule, **2** ngoba abantu ababi abalengkohliso bayivulile imilomo yabo bekhuluma ngami; bakhuluma bengigcoba ngendimi zabo zamanga. **3** Bangihonqolozela ngamazwi enzondo; bayangisukela nje kungelasizatho. **4** Ukubathanda kwami bakuphindisela ngokungisola, kodwa ngingumuntu womkhuleko. **5** Bangiphindisela okuhle ngokubi, langenzondo ukubathanda kwami. **6** Bathi, “Khethani umuntu omubi ozamelana laye; ombeka icala kame kwesokunene sakhe. **7** Nxa esethonisiswa kafunyanwe elecala, futhi sengathi imikhuleko yakhe ingamlahla. **8** Sengathi insuku zakhe zingabazilutshwana; kakube lomunye ozathatha isikhundla sakhe sobukhokheli. **9** Sengathi abantwabakhe bangaba zintandane lomkakhe abe ngumfelokazi. **10** Sengathi abantwabakhe bangaba zinzulane zeziceli; sengathi bangaxotshwa emizini yabo esingamxaniwa. **11** Sengathi lowo aboleke kuye angamemuka konke alakho; sengathi labezizweni bangaphanga izithelo zamandla akhe. **12** Akungabikhona omenzela umusa loba ozwela izintandane zakhe. **13** Sengathi izizukulwane zakhe zingaphela, amabizo abo esulwe esizukulwaneni esilandelayo. **14** Sengathi ububi bukayise bungakhunjulwa phambi kukaThixo, sengathi isono sikanina singacitshi lanini. **15** Sengathi izono zabo zingahlala zisobala phambi kukaThixo, ukuze aphelele du ukukhunjulwa kwabo emhlabeni. **16** Ngoba kazange akhumbule ukwenza umusa kodwa wabazingelela ukufa abayanga labaswelayo labadabukileyo enhliziyweni. **17** Wayekuthanda ukwethesa isithuko, sengathi singehlela kuye. Wayengakuthandi ukubusisa sengathi kungaba khatshana laye. **18** Wayevunula

ukuthuka njengesigqoko; kwangena emzimbeni wakhe njengamanzi, emathanjeni akhe njengamafutha. **19** Sengathi kungaba njengengubo athandelwe ngayo njengebhanti abotshwe ngalo lanini.” **20** Sengathi lokhu kungaba yisijeziso sikaThixo kulabo abangethesa amacala, labo abakhuluma okubi ngami. **21** Kodwa wena, Oh Thixo woBukhosi, ngenzela kuhle ngenxa yebizo lakho; ngenxa yokulunga kothando lwakho akungikhulule. **22** Ngoba ngingumyanga ngiyaswela, lenhliziyoyami ilimele ngaphakathi kwami. **23** Ngiyafiphala njengethunzi lakusihlwa; ngiyaphetshulwa njengentethe. **24** Amadolo ami asebuthakathaka ngokuzila ukudla; umzimba wami usuzacile usutshwabhene. **25** Sengiyinto yokuhlekisa kulabo abangibeka amacala; bathi bengibona banyikinye amakhanda abo. **26** Akungisize, Oh Thixo Nkulunkulu wami; ngisindisa ngokuya ngothando lwakho. **27** Kumele bakwazi ukuthi lokhu ngokwesandla sakho; wena, Oh Thixo, nguwe okwenzileyo. **28** Bangangiqalekisa, kodwa wena uzabusisa; bathi bayahlasele bayangiswe, kodwa inceku yakho izathokoza. **29** Abangivukelayo kabembeswe ihlazo bagoqelwe ngokuyangeka njengengubo. **30** Ngomlomo wami ngizambabaza kakhulu uThixo; ngisemphekathini ngizamdumisa. **31** Ngoba umi ngakwesokunene salowo oswelayo, ukusindisa impilo yakhe kulabo abamnikela ekufeni.

110 ElikaDavida. Ihubo. UThixo uthi enkosini yami: “Hlala ngakwesokunene sami ngize ngenze izitha zakho zibe yisinyathelo senyawo zakho.” **2** UThixo uzakwelula intonga yakhe elamandla eyobukhosi kusuka eZiyoni wena uzabusa phakathi kwezitha zakho **3** Amabutho akho azazinikela mhla uphuma impi. Wembethe ubukhosi obungcwele, phakathi komnyama wempondozankomo uzakwamukela amazolo obutsha bakho. **4** UThixo ufungile njalo kasoze ayiguqule ingqondo yakhe: “Wena ungumphristi kuze kube nini lanini emkhondweni kaMelikhizedekhi.” **5** Inkosi ikwesokunene sakho; izawachoboza amakhosi mhla wosuku lokuthukuthela kwayo. **6** Izazahlulela izizwe, yenze inqwaba yabafileyo njalo ibachoboze ababusi bomhlaba wonke. **7** Izanatha emfuleni oseceleni kwendlela; ngakho-ke izaliphakamisa ikhanda layo.

111 Dumisani uThixo. Ngizambabaza uThixo ngenhliziyoyami yonke enkundleni yabaqotho lasemhlanganweni. **2** Mikhulu imisebenzi kaThixo; isemicabangweni yabo bonke abathokoza ngayo. **3** Zilenkazimulo lobukhosi izenzo zakhe, lokulunga Kwakhe kumi kuze kube laphakade. **4** Wenzile ukuthi izimanga zakhe zikhunjulwe; uThixo ulomusa lesihawu. **5** Uyabapha ukudla labo abamesabayo; uyasikhumbula isivumelwano Sakhe lanini. **6** Ubatshengisile abantu bakhe amandla emisebenzi yakhe, ngokubapha amazwe ezinye izizwe. **7** Imisebenzi yezandla zakhe ithembekile, ilungile; zonke iziqondiso zakhe ziyathembeka. **8** Zimi kaziguquki nini lanini, zenziwa ngeqiniso langobuqotho. **9** Wathumela abantu bakhe isindiso; wasingcwelela isivumelwano Sakhe okwaninini lingcwele liyesabeka ibizo lakhe. **10** Ukumesaba uThixo kuyikuqala kwenhlanipho bonke abalandela iziqondiso zakhe balokuzwisisa okuhle. Kungokwakhe ukudunyiswa kwaphakade.

112 Dumisani uThixo. Ubusisiwe umuntu owesaba uThixo, othokoza kakhulu ngemilayo yakhe. **2** Abantwabakhe bazaba lamandla elizweni; isizukulwane soqotho sizabusiswa. **3** Inotho lenzuzo kusendlini yakhe, lokulunga kwakhe kumi laphakade. **4** Lasebumnyameni

kuyavela ukukhanya kwabaqotho, emuntwini olomusa, olesihawu lolungileyo. **5** Ubuhle buzakwehlela kuye ophanayo loweboleka ekhululekile, oqhuba zonke izinto zakhe ngemfanelo. **6** Ngeqiniso kayikunyikinyeka; umuntu olungileyo uzakhunjulwa lanininini. **7** Akayikwesaba imibiko emibi; inhliziyi yakhe ichumile, yethembele kuThixo. **8** Inhliziyi yakhe ikhululekile, akalakwesaba; ekucineni uzakhangela izitha zakhe ngokunqoba. **9** Uhlakazele izipho zakhe kubayanga ezindaweni zonke, ukulunga kwakhe kumi laphakade; uphondo lwakhe luzaphakanyiselwa phezulu ngenhlonipho. **10** Umuntu omubi uzakubona lokhu afuthelane, uzagedla amazinyo akhe, acikizeke emzimbeni; izinkanuko zababi zizaphetha ziyize.

113 Dumisani uThixo. Dumisani uThixo, lina zincuku zakhe, dumisani ibizo likaThixo. **2** Kalidunyiswe ibizo likaThixo, khona manje kanye laphakade. **3** Kusakela okuphuma khona ilanga kusiyafika lapho elitshona khona, kufanele lidunyiswe ibizo likaThixo. **4** UThixo uphakeme ngaphezu kwezizwe zonke, inkazimulo yakhe ngaphezulu kwamazulu. **5** Ngubani na onjengoThixo uNkulunkulu wethu, oNguye ohlezi ebukhosini phezulu, **6** okhothama akhangele phansi emazulwini lasemhlabeni? **7** Uyabavusa abampofu othulini, aphakamise abaswelayo esilotheni; **8** abahlalise lamakhosana, amakhosana abantu bakibo. **9** Lomfazi oyinyumba umenza ahlale kuhle emzini wakhe afane lawalo ongumina wabantwana. Dumisani uThixo.

114 Kwathi ekuphumeni kuka-Israyeli eGibhithe, indlu kaJakhobe isuka ebantwini bolimi lwezizweni, **2** uJuda waba yindlu engcwele kaNkulunkulu, u-Israyeli waba ngumbuso wakhe. **3** Ulwandle lwakubona lwabaleka, ijodani yabuyela emuva. **4** Izintaba zaqothuka njengenqama, amaqaqa enza njengamawundlu. **5** Kwakungani, we lwandle, kodwa wabaleka? Wena Jodani wabuyela emuva? **6** Lani zintaba laqolotsha njengenqama, lina maqaqa njengamawundlu? **7** Thuthumela, we mhlabani, phambi kukaThixo, phambi kukaNkulunkulu kaJakhobe, **8** owaphendula idwala laba lichibi, idwala eliqinileyo laba ngumthombo wamanzi.

115 Kakungabi kithi, Oh Thixo, hatshi kithi kodwa kwelakho ibizo kakube lenkazimulo, ngenxa yothando lokuthembeka Kwakho. **2** Kungani izizwe zisithi, “Ungaphi uNkulunkulu wabo na?” **3** UNkulunkulu wethu usezulwini; wenza loba yini ayithandayo. **4** Kodwa izithombe zabo yisiliva legolide, zenziwe ngezandla zabantu. **5** Zilemilomo, kodwa kazikhulumi, amehlo, kodwa kaziboni; **6** zilezindlebe, kodwa kazizwa, amakhala, kodwa kazinuki lutho; **7** zilezandla, kodwa kazenelisi ukuthinta, inyawo, kodwa kazihambi; njalo ngeke nje zenze umsindo ngemphimbo yazo. **8** Labo abazenzayo bazakuba njengazo, kube njalo lakulabo abathemba kuzo. **9** Oh ndlu ka-Israyeli, methembe uThixo lusizo lwabo lesihlangu sabo. **10** Oh, ndlu ka-Aroni, methembe uThixo ulusizo lwabo lesihlangu sabo. **11** Lina elimesabayo, thembani kuThixo ulusizo lwabo lesihlangu sabo. **12** UThixo uyasikhumbula njalo uzasibusisa: Uzayibusisa indlu ka-Israyeli, uzayibusisa indlu ka-Aroni, **13** uzababusisa labo abamesabayo uThixo abancinyane labakulu ngokufananayo. **14** Sengathi uThixo angalenza lande, lonke lina kanye labantwana benu. **15** Sengathi lingabusiswa nguThixo uMenzi wezulu lomhlaba. **16** NgakaThixo amazulu aphezu kwakho konke, kodwa umhlaba wawunika abantu. **17** Kakusibo abafileyo abadumisa uThixo,

labo abangena phansi ekuthuleni; **18** yithi esimbabazayo uThixo, khona manje kanye laphakade. Dumisani uThixo.

116 Ngiyamthanda uThixo ngoba walizwa ilizwi lami; wezwa ukukhala kwami ngicela umusa. **2** Ngoba wangiphila indlela yakhe, ngizambiza kokuphela nxa ngisaphila. **3** Izibopho zokufa zangithandela, ubuhlungu obukhulu bengcwaba bangehlela; ngagajelwa yikuhlupheka losizi. **(Sheol h7585)** **4** Ngasengibiza ibizo likaThixo: “Oh Thixo ake ungisindise!” **5** UThixo olomusa njalo ulungile; uNkulunkulu wethu ulesihawu. **6** UThixo uvikela abalenhliziyi ethobekileyo; ngathi ngihluphekile kakhulu wangisindisa. **7** Thumela njalo, we mphefumulo wami, ngoba uThixo ukwenzile ukulunga. **8** Ngoba wena Thixo, uwukhulule umphefumulo wami ekufeni, amehlo ami ezinyembezini, leziyawo zami azaze zakhubeka, **9** ukuze ngihambe phambi kukaThixo elizweni labaphilayo. **10** Ngathembela kuThixo; ngakho ngasengisithi, “Ngiyahlupheka kakhulu.” **11** Ngiphakathi kokulahla ithemba ngathi, “Bonke abantu balamanga.” **12** Ngingambonga ngani uThixo ngabo bonke ubuhle bakhe kimi? **13** Ngizayiphakamisa inkezo yensindiso ngimemeze ibizo likaThixo. **14** Ngizazigcwalisa izifungo zami kuThixo phambi kwabo bonke abantu bakhe. **15** Kuligugu emehlweni kaThixo ukufa kwabathembekileyo bakhe. **16** Oh Thixo, ngempela ngiyinceku Yakho, indodana yencekukazi yakho; usungikhulule emaketaneni ami. **17** Ngizakwenzela umhlatshele womnikelo wokubonga ngilize ibizo likaThixo. **18** Ngizazigcwalisa izifungo zami kuThixo phambi kwabo bonke abantu bakhe, **19** emagumeni endlu kaThixo phakathi kwakho, wena Jerusalema. Dumisani uThixo.

117 Dumisani uThixo lina zizwe zonke; mbabazeni lina bantu lonke. **2** Ngoba lukhulu uthando lwakhe kithi, lokuthembeka kukaThixo kumi kuze kube phakade. Dumisani uThixo.

118 Mbongeni uThixo ngoba ulungile; uthando lwakhe lumi laphakade. **2** U-Israyeli katsho athi: “Uthando lwakhe lumi laphakade.” **3** Kayithi indlu ka-Aroni: “Uthando lwakhe lumi laphakade.” **4** Akuthi bonke abamesabayo uThixo bathi: “Uthando lwakhe lumi laphakade.” **5** Ngathi ngidabukile ngakhala kuThixo, waphendula ngokungikhulula. **6** UThixo ulami, angiyikwesaba. Umuntu angenzani kimi na? **7** UThixo ulami; ungumsizi wami. Ngizazinyonkoloza ngegunya izitha zami. **8** Kungcono ukuphephela kuThixo kulokuthemba umuntu. **9** Kungcono ukuphephela kuThixo kulokuthemba amakhosana. **10** Zonke izizwe zangihanqa, kodwa ngegama likaThixo ngazichitha. **11** Zangihanqa inxa zonke kodwa ngegama likaThixo ngazichitha. **12** Zangiminyezela njengezinyosi kodwa zafa masinyane njengokungungoma komlilo wameva; ngebizo likaThixo ngazichitha. **13** Ngasunduzelwa emuva ngaphose ngawa, kodwa uThixo wangsiza. **14** UThixo ungamandla ami lengoma yami; yena useyikusindiswa kwami. **15** Imisindo yentokozo lokunqoba iphuma emathenteni abalungileyo: “Isandla sokunene sikaThixo senzile izinto ezinkulu! **16** Isandla sokunene sikaThixo siphakanyisiwe kakhulu; isandla sokunene sikaThixo senzile izinto ezinkulu!” **17** Angizukufa kodwa ngizaphila, ngizamemezela lokho akwenzileyo uThixo. **18** UThixo ungitshayile kakhulu, kodwa kanginikelanga ekufeni. **19** Ngivulela amasango okulunga; ngizangena ngimbonge uThixo. **20** Nanti isango likaThixo okungangena khona

abalungileyo. **21** Ngizakubonga, ngoba ungiphendulile; usuyisindiso yami. **22** Ilitshe ababelilahlele seliyilona ilitshe lekheneni; **23** uThixo ukwenzile lokhu; njalo kuyamangalisa emehlweni ethu. **24** Leli lilanga alenzileyo uThixo; kasithokoze sijabule ngalo. **25** Oh Thixo, sisindise; Oh Thixo, siphumelelise. **26** Ubusiwe lowo obuya ngebizo likaThixo. Siyakubusisa sisendlini kaThixo. **27** UThixo unguNkulunkulu, wenzile ukukhanya kwakhe kwehlela phezu kwethu. Liphethe izingatshana, ngenani edibini lomgido lize liyefika empondweni ze-alithare. **28** UnguNkulunkulu wami, ngizakubonga; unguNkulunkulu wami, ngizakuphakamisa. **29** Mbongeni uThixo ngoba ulungile; uthando lwakhe lumi kuze kube phakade.

119 Babusiwe labo abandlela zabo zingelansolo, abahamba ngomthetho kaThixo. **2** Babusiwe labo abagcina imilayo yakhe, abayidinga ngenhliziyo yabo yonke. **3** Kaboni lutho; bahamba ezindleleni zakhe. **4** Wena ubekile izimiso ukuthi zilandelwe ngokupheleleyo. **5** He, aluba izindlela zami zithembekile ekulaleleni izimemezero zakho! **6** Lapho-ke ngeke ngibe lenhloni nxa ngikhumbula yonke imilayo yakho. **7** Ngizakudumisa ngenhliziyo eqotho ngilokhu ngiyifunda imithetho yakho elungileyo. **8** Ngizalilalela izimemezero zakho; ungangikhalali ngempela. **9** Ijaha lingaphila njani impilo ehlabulukileyo? Ngokuphila ngendlela yelizwi lakho. **10** Ngikudinga ngenhliziyo yami yonke; ungangiyekeli ngiphambuke emilayweni yakho. **11** Ilizwi lakho ngilifihlile enhliziyweni yami ukuze ngingeni isono kuwe. **12** Udumo kalube kuwe, Oh Thixo; ngifundisa izimemezero zakho. **13** Ngezindebe zami ngiyayibala yonke imithetho ephuma emlonyeni wakho. **14** Kuyangithokozisa ukulandela izimiso zakho njengomuntu ethabela inotho enkulu. **15** Nginyanaka ngezimiso zakho ngikhumbule ngezindlela zakho. **16** Ngiyathokoza ngezimemezero zakho; angiyikulidela ilizwi lakho. **17** Yenzele okuhle inceku yakho ukuba ngiphile; ngizalilalela ilizwi lakho. **18** Vula amehlo ami ukuze ngibone izinto ezimangalisayo emthethweni wakho. **19** Ngiyisihambi emhlabeni; ungangifihleli imilayo yakho. **20** Umphefumulo wami uhgekile ngokulangazelela imithetho yakho ngezikhathi zonke. **21** Uyabakhuza abaklolodayo, abaqalekisiweyo abaphambukayo emthethweni yakho. **22** Susa kimi ihlazo lokweyisa, ngoba ngiyazigcina izimiso zakho. **23** Loba ababusi behlangana ngami bengigcna, inceku yakho izanakana ngezimemezero zakho. **24** Izimiso zakho ziyinjabulo yami; zingabacebisi bami. **25** Ngehliselwe phansi othulini; londoloza impilo yami njengokwelizwi lakho. **26** Ngabalisa izindlela zami wangiphendula; ngifundisa izimiso zakho. **27** Ngenza ngizwisise imfundiso yezimiso zakho; lapho-ke ngizanakana ngezimanga zakho. **28** Umphefumulo wami ukhathele ngosizi; ngiqinisa njengokwelizwi lakho. **29** Ngivikela ezindleleni zenkohliso; woba lobubele kimi ngokomthetho wakho. **30** Ngikhethe indlela yeqiniso; sengibeke inhliziyi yami emthethweni yakho. **31** Ngibambebele ezimisweni zakho, Oh Thixo; ungangiyekeli ngiyangeka. **32** Ngigijima ngendlela yemithetho yakho, ngoba uyikhulule inhliziyi yami. **33** Ngifundisa, Oh Thixo; ukulandela izimemezero zakho; ukuthi ngizigcine kuze kufike ekucineni. **34** Ngipha ukuzwisisa ukuze ngigcine umthetho wakho ngiwulalele ngayo yonke inhliziyi yami. **35** Ngiqondisa endleleni yemilayo yakho, ngoba khonapho

ngifumana ukuthokoza. **36** Phendulela inhliziyi yami ezimisweni zakho kungabi ngokokuzizuzela okungokwami. **37** Phendula amehlo ami asuke ezintweni ezingesilutho; londoloza impilo yami njengokwelizwi lakho. **38** Gcwalisa isithembiso sakho encekwini yakho, ukuze wesatshwe. **39** Susa ihlazo engilesabayo, ngoba imithetho yakho ilungile. **40** Ngizilangazelela kanjani izimiso zakho! Londoloza impilo yami ekulungeni kwakho. **41** Sengathi uthando lwakho olungaphuthiyo lungeza kimi, Oh Thixo, insindiso yakho ize njengokuthembisa kwakho; **42** lapho-ke ngizamphendula lowo ongithukayo, ngoba ngithembe ilizwi lakho. **43** Ungangemi emlonyeni ilizwi leqiniso, ngoba ithemba lami ngilibeke emithethweni yakho. **44** Ngizahlala ngiwulalela umthetho wakho, okwanini lanini. **45** Ngizazihambela ngikhululekile, ngoba ngiyidingisisile imithetho yakho. **46** Ngizakuhluma ngezimiso zakho phambi kwamakhosi ngingabi lamahloni, **47** ngoba ngithokoza ngisemilayweni yakho ngoba ngiyayithanda. **48** Ngizaphakamisa izandla zami emilayweni yakho engiyithandayo, nginakana ngezimemezero zakho. **49** Khumbula ilizwi lakho encekwini yakho, ngoba usungiphe ithemba. **50** Induduzo yami phakathi kokuhlupheka kwami yile: Isithembiso sakho sigcina impilo yami. **51** Abaklolodayo bangihleka baze bakholise, kodwa kangiphambuki emthethweni wakho. **52** Ngiyayikhumbula imithetho yakho yekadeni, Oh Thixo, ngifumana ukududuzeka kuyo. **53** Ngithukuthela ngife ngenxa yababi, asebedele umthetho wakho. **54** Izimemezero zakho ziyiyo injongo yengoma yami loba ngingabe ngihlala ngaphi **55** Ebusuku ngiyalikhumbula ibizo lakho, Oh Thixo, njalo ngizawugcina umthetho wakho. **56** Le yiyo injayelo yokwenza kwami: Ngiyayilalela imithetho yakho. **57** Uyingxenyeni yami, Oh Thixo, ngithembisile ukulalela amazwi akho. **58** Ngiyabudinga ubuso bakho ngenhliziyo yami yonke; woba lobubele kimi njengesithembiso sakho. **59** Sengizihlolile izindlela zami ngaphendula izinyathelo zami zaya ezimisweni zakho. **60** Ngizaphangisa ngingaphuzi ukulalela imilayo yakho. **61** Loba ababi bengangibopha ngentambo, angiyikukhohlwa umthetho wakho. **62** Phakathi kobusuku ngivumela ukukubonga ngemithetho yakho emihle. **63** Ngingumngane kubo bonke abakwesabayo, kubo bonke abalandela imithetho yakho. **64** Umhlaba ugcwele uthando lwakho, Oh Thixo; ngifundisa izimiso zakho. **65** Senzele okuhle isisebenzi sakho njengelizwi lakho, Oh Thixo. **66** Ngifundisa ulwazi lokwahlulela okufaneleyo, ngoba ngiyayikhohla imilayo yakho. **67** Ngingakabi sekuhluphekeni ngalahleka, kodwa manje sengilalela ilizwi lakho. **68** Ulungile njalo okwenzayo kulungile; ngifundisa izimiso zakho. **69** Lokuba abaklolodayo bengibhaceke ngamanga, ngiyazigcina izimiso zakho ngenhliziyo yami yonke. **70** Inhliziyi zabo zilolunya kazilazwelo, kodwa mina ngijabula ngomthetho wakho. **71** Kwakukuhle kimi ukuthi ngihluthshwe ukuze ngifunde izimiso zakho. **72** Umthetho ophuma emlonyeni wakho uligugu kimi okudlula inhlamvu zesiliva legolide eziyizinkulungwane. **73** Izandla zakho zangenza zangibumba, ngipha ukuzwisisa ukuze ngifunde imilayo yakho. **74** Sengathi labo abakwesabayo bangathokoza nxa bengibona, ngoba sengibeke ithemba lami elizwini lakho. **75** Ngiyazi, Thixo, ukuthi imithetho yakho ilungile, lokuthi unghlukuluzile ngenxa yokuthembeka kwakho. **76** Sengathi uthando lwakho olungaphuthiyo lungaba yinduduzo kimi, njengesithembiso sakho encekwini yakho.

77 Isihawu sakho kasize kimi ukuze ngiphile, umthetho wakho uyikuthokoza kwami. 78 Sengathi abaklolodayo bangayangiswa ngokungigcona ngingonanga lutho; kodwa mina ngizanakana ngemithetho yakho. 79 Sengathi labo abakwesabayo bangaphendukela kimi, bona abezwisisa izimiso zakho. 80 Sengathi inhliziyi yami ingaba msulwa ngezimiso zakho, ukuze ngingayangiswa. 81 Umphefumulo wami uyacikeza ngokulangazelela insindiso yakho, kodwa ngilibekile ithemba lami elizwini lakho. 82 Amehlo ami aseze efiphala ngokulinda isithembiso sakho; ngathi, "Uzaze ungiduduze nini na?" 83 Lanxa nginjengesixaxa sewayini esesikhumba sifuswe entuthwini, kangizilibili izimiso zakho. 84 Inceku yakho izalinda kuze kube nini na? Uzabazajisa nini abangihluphayo na? 85 Abaklolodayo bangigebhela amagodi, bephikisa umthetho wakho. 86 Yonke imilayo yakho ithembekile, ngisiza, ngoba abantu bayangichukuluza kungelasizatho. 87 Baphose bangesula emhlabeni, kodwa kangiyilahlanga imithetho yakho. 88 Ngivuselela ngomusa wakho olothanda, ukuze ngigcine izimiso zomlomo wakho. 89 Ilizwi lakho, Oh Thixo, kalipheli lanini; limi liqinile emazulwini. 90 Ukuthembeka kwakho kukhona kuzozonke izizukulwane; wawumisa umhlaba, uzakuma kokuphela. 91 Imithetho yakho imi lanamhla lokhu, ngoba zonke izinto zikhonza wena. 92 Aluba umthetho wakho ubungesiyo injabulo yami ngabe ngabhuhba ngiphakathi kokuhlupheka kwami. 93 Kangisoze ngafa ngayilabala imithetho yakho, ngoba ngayo uyilondolozile impilo yami. 94 Ngisindisa ngoba ngingowakho; ngiyidingisile imithetho yakho. 95 Ababi balindele ukungichitha, kodwa ngizanakana ngezimiso zakho. 96 Kukho konke ukuphelela ngibona kulomkhwawulo; kodwa imilayo yakho ayilamingcele. 97 Oh, ngiwuthanda kangakanani umthetho wakho! Ngikhumbula ngawo ilanga lonke. 98 Imilayo yakho iyangihlakaniphisa kulezitha zami, ngoba ngihlezi ngilayo. 99 Ngicacile ukuqedisisa kwami kulabafundi bami, ngoba ngiyanakana ngezimiso zakho. 100 Ngiyewwisisa okudlula abadala, ngoba ngiyayilalela imithetho yakho. 101 Inyawo zami kaziyinyathelanga layiphi indlela embi ukuze ngilalele ilizwi lakho. 102 Kangiphambukanga emithethweni yakho, ngoba wena ngokwakho ungifundisile. 103 Amazwi akho anambitheka kamnandi kimi, amnandi kulenyosi emlonyeni wami! 104 Ngiyazuza ukuqedisisa emithethweni yakho; ngakho ngiyayizonda loba layiphi indlela engalunganga. 105 Ilizwi lakho liyisibane ezinyaweni zami liyikukhanya kwendlela yami. 106 Sengenzele isifungo ngasiqinisa, ukuthi ngizalandela imithetho yakho elungileyo. 107 Sengihlupheke kakhulu; londoloza impilo yami, Oh Thixo njengokutshiwo yilizwi lakho. 108 Yamukela, Oh Thixo, indumiso epheleleyo ngomlomo wami, ungifundise imithetho yakho. 109 Loba ngihlezi ngizibona sengingene engozini, kangiyi kuwulibala umthetho wakho. 110 Ababi sebengithiye ngomjibila kodwa kangiphambukanga emithethweni yakho. 111 Izimiso zakho ziyilifa lami laphakade; ziyintokoze yenhliziyi yami. 112 Inhliziyi yami izimisele ukugcina imilayo yakho kuze kube sekupheleni. 113 Ngiyabazona abantu abangongqondombili, kodwa ngiyawuthanda umthetho wakho. 114 Uyisiphophelo sami lesihlango sami; sengibeke ithemba lami elizwini lakho. 115 Sukani kimi lina benzi bobubi, ukuze ngikwazi ukugcina imilayo kaNkulunkulu wami! 116 Ngisekela njengesithembiso sakho ukuze ngiphile; ithemba lami lingaze labhidlika. 117 Nginqinisa ukuze ngikhululwe;

ngizahlala ngizinanza izimiso zakho. 118 Uyabalahla bonke labo abaphambuka ezimisweni zakho, ngoba ukukhohlisa kwabo kuyize. 119 Bonke ababi bomhlaba uyabalahlala kude njengezibi; ngakho ngiyazithanda izimiso zakho. 120 Inyama yami iyathuthumela ngokukwesaba; ngizwa ngiyesaba imithetho yakho. 121 Ngenzile okulungileyo lokufaneleyo; ungangiyekeleli abancindezeli bami. 122 Qinisa implakahlale yencekuyo yakho; ungayekeli abaklolodayo bangincindezele. 123 Amehlo ami asefiphala elokhu ekhangele insindiso yakho, ekhangele isithembiso sakho esilungileyo. 124 Yenza encekwini yakho ngokothando lwakho, ungifundise izimiso zakho. 125 Ngiyinceku yakho; ngipha ukuqedisisa ukuthi ngizwisise izimiso zakho. 126 Sekuyisikhathi sakho sokuthi wenze okwakho, Oh Thixo umthetho wakho uyepfulwa nje. 127 Ngoba ngiyayithanda imilayo yakho kulegolide, kulegolide elicengekileyo, 128 njalo njengoba ngisithi imithetho yakho ilungile, ngiyayizonda yonke indlela engaqondanga. 129 Izimiso zakho ziyamangalisa; ngakho ngiyazilalela. 130 Ukwambulwa kwamazwi akho kuletha ukukhanya; kunika ukuzwisisa kwabayizithutha. 131 Ngivula umlomo wami ngikhefuzele, ngilangazelela imilayo yakho. 132 Phendukela kimi ube lomusa kimi, njengoba uhlezi ukwenza kwabathanda ibizo lakho. 133 Qondisa izinyathelo zami ngokwelizwi lakho; kakungabi lesono esingibusayo. 134 Ngihlenga ekuncindezelweni ngabantu, ukuze ngilalele imithetho yakho. 135 Yenza ubuso bakho bukhanye encekwini yakho, ungifundise izimiso zakho. 136 Imifula yezinyembezi iyajuluka emehlweni ami, ngoba umthetho wakho kawulalelwa. 137 Ulungile wena Thixo, lemithetho yakho ilungile. 138 Izimiso ozibekileyo zilungile; zithembekile ngokupheleleyo. 139 Ukutshiseka kwami kuyangicoba, ngoba izitha zami kaziwananzi amazwi akho. 140 Izithembiso zakho zihlolisisiwe kakhulu, inceku yakho iyazithanda. 141 Loba ngingumuntukazana ngiseyiswa, angiyikhohlwa imithetho yakho. 142 Ukulunga kwakho kumi laphakade njalo umthetho wakho uliqiniso. 143 Uhlupho losizi kuyakungehlele, kodwa imilayo yakho iyikuthokoza kwami. 144 Izimiso zakho zihlezi zilungile; ngipha ukuzwisisa ukuze ngiphile. 145 Ngiyamezeza ngayo yonke inhliziyi yami; ngiphendula, Thixo, mina ngizalalela imithetho yakho. 146 Ngiyakubiza, ngisindisa mina ngizagcina izimiso zakho. 147 Ngivuka emathathakusa ngikhale kuwe ngicela usizo; sengibeke ithemba lami elizwini lakho. 148 Amehlo ami alala ekhangele ngemilindo yonke yobusuku, ukuze ngicabange ngezithembiso zakho. 149 Zwana ilizwi lami ngokuya kothando lwakho; londoloza impilo yami, Oh Thixo ngokuya kwemithetho yakho. 150 Labo abakha amasu amabi baseduze, kodwa bakhatshana lomthetho wakho. 151 Ikanti useduze, wena Thixo, lemilayo yakho yonke iqinisile. 152 Sekukade ngafunda ezimisweni zakho ukuthi wazenzela ukuthi zime lanininini. 153 Khangela ukuhawula kwami ngikhulule, ngoba kangiwukhohlwanga umthetho wakho. 154 Ake ungimele ukuze ungihlenge; londoloza impilo yami njengesithembiso sakho. 155 Insindiso ikhatshana kwababi, ngoba kabazidingi izimiso zakho. 156 Isihawu sakho sikhulu, Oh Thixo londoloza impilo yami mayelana lemithetho yakho. 157 Zinengi izitha ezingihluphayo, kodwa kangiphambukanga ezimisweni zakho. 158 Ngikhangela abangakholwayo ngibenyanye, ngoba kabalilaleli ilizwi lakho. 159 Ake ubone ukuthi ngiyithanda kangakanani imithetho yakho; londoloza impilo yami, Oh Thixo, ngokothando

lwakho. **160** Wonke amazwi akho aqinisile; yonke imithetho yakho elungileyo ngeyaphakade. **161** Ababusi bayangihlupha kungelasizatho, kodwa inhliziyi yami iyaliqhuhela ilizwi lakho. **162** Isithembiso sakho siyangithokozisa ingathi ngumuntu othole impango enkulu. **163** Amanga ngiyawazonda njalo ngiyawenyanya kodwa umthetho wakho ngiyawuthanda. **164** Ngikudumisa kasikhombisa ngelanga ngenxa yemithetho yakho elungileyo. **165** Kukhulu ukuthula abalaxho labo abathanda umthetho wakho, kakulalutho olungabakhubekisa. **166** Ngiyilindele insindiso yakho, Oh Thixo njalo ngiyayilandela imilayo yakho. **167** Ngiyazilalela izimiso zakho, ngoba ngiyazithanda kakhulu. **168** Ngiyayilalela imithetho yakho lezimiso zakho, ngoba uyazazi zonke izindlela zami. **169** Sengathi ukukhala kwami kungafika kuwe, Oh Thixo ngipha ukuzwisisa njengelizwi lakho. **170** Sengathi ukuncenga kwami kungafika kuwe; ngikhulula njengesithembiso sakho. **171** Sengathi indebe zami zingageleza indumiso yakho, ngoba uyangifundisa imithetho yakho. **172** Sengathi ulimi lwami lungalihlabela ilizwi lakho, ngoba yonke imilayo yakho ilungile. **173** Sengathi isandla sakho singalungela ukungisiza, ngoba sengikhethe imithetho yakho. **174** Ngilangazelela insindiso yakho, Oh Thixo ngoba umthetho wakho uyinjabulo yami. **175** Kangiphile ukuze ngikudumise, sengathi njalo lemithetho yakho ingangisekela. **176** Ngiphambukile njengemvu elahlekileyo. Yidinge inceku yakho, ngoba kangikayikhohlwa imilayo yakho.

120 Ingoma yemiqanso. Ngiyambiza uThixo ngisisizini, laye angiphendule. **2** Ngisindisa, Oh Thixo, ezindebeni zamanga lezindimini zenkohliso. **3** Uzakwenzani kuwe, aphinde enzeni njalo, wena limi lwenkohliso? **4** Uzakujezisa ngomshoko obukhali owebutho, ngamalahlle avuthayo esihlahla. **5** Maye mina ngokuhlala kwami eMesheki, ngokuthi ngihlala emathenteni aseKhedari! **6** Sengihlale isikhathi eside kakhulu phakathi kwalabo abazonda ukuthula. **7** Ngingumuntu wokuthula; kodwa ngithi ngingakhuluma, sebefuna impi.

121 Ingoma yemiqanso. Ngiphakamisela amehlo ami ezintabeni usizo lwami luvela ngaphi na? **2** Usizo lwami luvela kuThixo, uMenzi wezulu lomhlaba. **3** Kayikuyekela unyawo lwakho lutshelela yena okulindayo kayikuwozela; **4** ngenpela yena olinda u-Israyeli akayikuwozela, akayikulala. **5** UThixo uyakulinda uThixo ungumthunzi wakho esandleni sakho sokunene; **6** ilanga kaliyikukutshisa emini noma loba inyanga ebusuku. **7** UThixo uzakuvikela kuzozonke izingozi uzalinda impilo yakho; **8** uThixo uzalondoloza ukufika kwakho lokusuka kwakho manje kuze kube phakade.

122 Ingoma yemiqanso. ElikaDavida. Ngathokoza lalabo abathi kimi, "Kasiye endlini kaThixo." **2** Inyawo zethu zimi ngaphakathi kwamasango akho, wena Jerusalema. **3** IJerusalema yakhiwe njengomuzi obambeneyo waqina. **4** Kulapho ezinqansela khona izizwana, izizwana zikaThixo, ukudumisa ibizo likaThixo njengalokho okwamisela u-Israyeli, ukuba abonge ibizo likaThixo. **5** Kulapho okumi khona izihlalo zobukhosi ezokwahlulela, izihlalo zobukhosi ezendlu kaDavida. **6** Khulekelani ukuthula kwaseJerusalema: "Sengathi labo abakuthandayo bangaphepha. **7** Sengathi kungaba lokuthula ngaphakathi kwemiduli yakho lokuvikela ngaphakathi kwezinqaba zakho." **8** Ngenxa yabafowethu

labangane bami, ngizakuthi, "Ukuthula akube ngaphakathi kwakho." **9** Ngenxa yendlu kaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu, ngizakhuthaza ukuphumelela kwakho.

123 Ingoma yemiqanso. Ngiphakamisela amehlo ami kuwe, wena osehlahlweni sobukhosi emazulwini! **2** Njengalokho amehlo ezisebenzi ekhangela isandla somqatshi wazo, lanjengoba amehlo encekukazi ekhangela isandla senkosikazi yayo, kanjalo amehlo ethu akhangela kuThixo uNkulunkulu wethu, aze abe lomusa kithi. **3** Woba lomusa kithi, Oh Thixo, woba lomusa kithi, ngoba sesidiniwe yikweyiswa. **4** Sesibhensele ukuhozwa okunengi ngabazizqajayo, ukweyiswa yilabo abaklolodayo.

124 Ingoma yemiqanso. ElikaDavida. Aluba uThixo ubengemanga lathi yekela u-Israyeli atsho njalo, **2** aluba uThixo ubengemanga lathi, lapho sasihlaselwa ngabantu, **3** lapho ulaka lwabo lwalutshisa ngathi ngabe basiginya siphila; **4** ngabe izikhukhula zasalulisa, umsinga wawuzasikhukhula, **5** amanzi ayabulayo ayezasisikhucula. **6** Udumo kalube kuThixo ongasiyekelanga sadlithizwa ngamazinyo abo. **7** Siphunyukile njengeniyoni emjibileni womthiyi; umjibila uqamukile sahle saphunyuka. **8** Usizo lwethu lusegameni likaThixo uMenzi wezulu lomhlaba.

125 Ingoma yemiqanso. Labo abamethembayo uThixo banjengentaba iZiyoni, yona enganyikinyekiyo, emi kuze kube laphakade. **2** Njengezintaba ezigombolozele iJerusalema, ngokunjalo uThixo uzungeza abantu bakhe manje kuze kube laphakade. **3** Intonga yobukhosi eyababi kayiyikusala ezweni elabelwe abalungileyo, ngoba abalungileyo bangaqabuka sebesebenzisa izandla zabo ukwenza okubi. **4** Yenza okuhle, awu Thixo, kulabo abalungileyo, kulabo abaqotho enhliziyweni **5** kodwa labo abaphambukela ezindleleni ezitshakileyo uThixo uzabaxotsha kanye labenzi bobubi. Ukuthula kakube ku-Israyeli.

126 Ingoma yemiqanso. Kwathi lapho uThixo ebuyisa izithunjwa eZiyoni, sasinjengabantu abaphuphayo. **2** Imilomo yethu yayigcwele ngohleko, lezindimi zethu zicula izingoma zentokozo. Basebesithi abezizwe, "UThixo ubenzele izinto ezimangalisayo." **3** UThixo usenzele izinto ezimangalisayo, ngakho siyathokoza kakhulu. **4** Buyisa ukuphumelela kwethu, Oh Thixo, njengemifula eseNegebi. **5** Labo abahlanyela ngezinyembezi bazavuna ngezingoma zentokozo. **6** Lowo ophuma ekhala, ethwele inhlayelo ukuba ayehlanyela uzabuya ngezingoma zentokozo, ethwele izinyanda.

127 Ingoma yemiqanso. ElikaSolomoni. Ngaphandle kokuba uThixo ayakhe indlu, abakhi bayo basebenzela ize. Ngaphandle kokuba uThixo awulinde umuzi, abalindi bawo balinda ize. **2** Kuyize ukuvuka kwenu ngovivi liphinde libambe kuze kuhlwe, lisebenzela ukudla kokufaka emloniyeni ngoba upha ubuthongo kulabo abathandayo. **3** Amadodana ayilifa elivela kuThixo, abantwana bangumvuzo ovela kuye. **4** Njengemitshoko esandleni sebutho anjalo amadodana azelwe ngumuntu esesemutsha. **5** Ubusisiwe umuntu omkhaka wakhe ugcwele wona. Kayikuyangeka nxa sebedibana lezitha entubeni.

128 Ingoma yemiqanso. Babusisiwe bonke abamesabayo uThixo, abahamba ngezindlela zakhe. **2** Lizakudla

izithelo zomsebenzi wenu; izibusiso lokuphumelela kuzakuba ngokwenu. **3** Umkakho wesifazane uzakuba njengevini elithela kakhulu phakathi kwendlu yakho; amadodana akho azakuba njengamahlumela e-oliva esetafuleni yakho. **4** Ibusisiwe kanjalo indoda eyesaba uThixo. **5** Sengathi uThixo angakubusisa eseZiyoni insuku zonke zokuphila kwakho; sengathi ungakubona ukuphumelela kweJerusalem, **6** njalo sengathi ungaphila uze ubone isizukulwane sakho. Ukuthula kakube ku-Israyeli.

129 Ingoma yemiqanso. Sebengihluphe kakhulu kusukela ebutsheni bami katsho njalo u-Israyeli, **2** sebengihluphe kakhulu kusukela ebutsheni bami, kodwa kabangehlulanga. **3** Abalimi bawulimile umhlane wami benza imifolo emide. **4** Kodwa uThixo ulungile; ungikhulule ezintanjeni zababi. **5** Akuthi bonke abayizondayo iZiyoni babuyiselwe emuva beyangekile. **6** Sengathi bangaba njengotshani obukhula ephahleni obubuna bungakakhuli; **7** umvuini angeke agcwalisa isandla sakhe ngabo, loba lowo obuthayo agcwalise izingalo zakhe. **8** Sengathi labo abadlulayo bangabokuthi, "Izibusiso zikaThixo mazibe kuwe; siyakubusisa ngegama likaThixo."

130 Ingoma yemiqanso. Ngingaphansi ekujuleni ngiyakhala kuwe, Thixo; **2** Thixo, zwana ilizwi lami. Indlebe zakho kazilalele ukukhala kwami ngicela umusa. **3** Aluba wena, Thixo ububhala phansi zonke izono, ngubani ongema na Nkosi? **4** Kodwa kuwe kulentethelelo; ngalokho uyesatshwa. **5** Ngiyamlindela uThixo, umphefumulo wami uyalinda, ngibeka ithemba lami elizwini lakho. **6** Umphefumulo wami ulindela uThixo okudlula abalindi bemelele ukusa, okudlula abalindi bemelele ukusa. **7** We Israyeli, beka ithemba lakho kuThixo, ngoba kuye uThixo kulothando olungaphuthiyo njalo kuye kulensindiso epheleleyo. **8** Yena ngokwakhe uzahlenga u-Israyeli kuzozonke izono zabo.

131 Ingoma yemiqanso. ElikaDavida. Inhliziyo yami kayizikhukhumezi, Oh Thixo, amehlo ami kawaziphakamisi; kangizihluphi ngezindaba ezinkulu loba ngezinto ezimangalisayo kimi. **2** Kodwa ngiwupholisile ngawuthulisa umphefumulo wami; njengomntwana okhutshwe ebeleni likanina, njengomntwana okhutshwe ebeleni unjalo umphefumulo wami uthule ngaphakathi kwami. **3** Oh, Israyeli, beka ithemba lakho kuThixo manje kuze kube phakade.

132 Ingoma yemiqanso. Oh Thixo, khumbula uDavida ngezinhlupheko zonke azibhenselayo. **2** Wafunga isifungo kuThixo wenza isithembiso kuMninimandla kaJakhobe: **3** "Angizukungena endlini yami loba ngiye embhedeni wami, **4** angiyikuwawumela amehlo ami ubuthongo, akukuba lakuwozela enkopheni zami, **5** ngize ngifumane indawo kaThixo, indawo yokuhlala uMninimandla kaJakhobe." **6** Sakuzwa lokhu e-Efrathi, sakubona emangweni waseJayari: **7** "Kasiye lapho ahlala khona; kasikhonze phansi kwesihlalo sakhe. **8** Phakama, Oh Thixo, ubuye endaweni yakho yokuphumula, wena umtshokotsho wesivumelwano elitshengisa amandla akho. **9** Sengathi abaphristi bakho bangembeswa ngokulunga; sengathi labathembekileyo bakho bangahlabelela ngentokozi." **10** Ngenxa yenceku yakho

uDavida, ungamfulatheli ogcotshiwewo wakho. **11** UThixo wenza isifungo kuDavida, isifungo esiqinileyo angakusaphula wathi: "Omunye wezizukulwane zakho ngizambeka esihlalweni sakho sobukhosi **12** aluba amadodana akho egcina isivumelwano sami lezimiso engibafundisa zona, lapho-ke amadodana abo azahlala esihlalweni sakho sobukhosi kuze kube nini lanini." **13** Ngoba uThixo uyikhethile iZiyoni, uyithandlele ukuba yindawo yakhe yokuhlala: **14** "Le yindawo yami yokuphumula lanini; lapha ngizahlala ngisebukhosini, ngoba ngiyithandlele **15** ngizayibusisa ngokudla okunengi; abayanga bayo ngizabasuthisa ngokudla. **16** Ngizavunulisa abaphristi bayo ngensindiso, labathembekileyo bakhe bazahlabelela ngentokozi nini lanini. **17** Lapha ngizakhulisa uphondo lukaDavida ngilungisele ogcotshiwewo wami isibane. **18** Ngizakwembathisa izitha ngehlozo, kodwa umqhele osekhanda lakhe uzakhazimula."

133 Ingoma yemiqanso. ElikaDavida. Bheka kuhle, kuyabukeka kangakanani nxa abazalwane behlezi ndawonye ngokuzwana! **2** Kunjengamafutha aliguqu athelwe ekhanda, ejuluka endevini, ejuluka endevini zika-Aroni, ehlele emabheqeni ezigqoko zakhe. **3** Kufana lokuthi amazolo aseHemoni akhithikela eNtabeni iZiyoni. Ngoba lapho uThixo wehlisela isibusiso sakhe, esiyikuphila okwaphakade.

134 Ingoma yemiqanso. Dumisani uThixo, lonke lina zinceku zikaThixo eliqhuba inkonzo endlini kaThixo ebusuku. **2** Phakamisani izandla zenu endlini engcwele lidumise uThixo. **3** Sengathi uThixo, uMenzi wezulu lomhlaba, angalibusisa eseZiyoni.

135 Dumisani uThixo. Dumisani ibizo likaThixo; mdumiseni lina zinceku zikaThixo, **2** lina eliqhuba inkonzo endlini kaThixo, emagumeni endlu kaNkulunkulu. **3** Dumisani uThixo ngoba uThixo ulungile; hlabelani indumiso ebizweni lakhe ngoba lokho kuhle. **4** Ngoba uThixo usemkhethile uJakhobe ukuba ngowakhe, u-Israyeli ukuba yinotho yakhe eligugu. **5** Ngiyazi ukuthi uThixo mkhulu, lokuthi iNkosi yethu inkulu kulabonkulunkulu bonke. **6** UThixo wenza loba yini ayifunayo, emazulwini lasemhlabeni, enlwanle lasezinzikini zazo. **7** Wenza amayezi aqubuka emikhawulweni yomhlaba; uthuma umbane kanye lezulu, avulele umoya oseziphaleni zakhe. **8** Wawalahlala phansi amazibulo aseGibhithe, amazibulo abantu lawezinyamazana. **9** Wathumela izibonakaliso lezimangaliso zakhe phakathi kwakho, wena Gibhithe, phezu kukaFaro lezinceku zakhe zonke. **10** Wazilahla phansi izizwe ezinengi wabulala amakhosi alamandla, **11** uSihoni inkosi yama-Amori, u-Ogi inkosi yaseBhashani lawo wonke amakhosi aseKhenani **12** wanika ilizwe labo laba yilifa, ilifa labantu bakhe, u-Israyeli. **13** Ibizo lakho, Oh Thixo, limi kuze kube nininini, udumo lwakho, Oh Thixo, ezizukulwaneni zonke. **14** Ngoba uThixo uzabalamulela abantu bakhe abe lesihawu ezincekweni zakhe. **15** Izithombe zezizwe ziyisiliva legolide, zenziwe ngezandla zabantu. **16** Zilemilomo, kodwa kazikhulumi, amehlo, kodwa kaziboni; **17** zilezindlebe, kodwa kazizwa, njalo kazilamphefumulo emilonyeni yazo. **18** Labo abazenzayo bazakuba njengazo, kube njalo lakulabo abathemba kuzo. **19** Wena ndlu ka-Israyeli, dumisa uThixo; wena ndlu ka-Aroni, dumisa uThixo; **20** wena ndlu kaLevi, dumisa uThixo lina elimesabayo, dumisani

uThixo. **21** Udumo alube uThixo lusuka eZiyoni, kuye ohlala eJerusalema. Dumisani uThixo.

136 Bongani uThixo, ngoba ulungile. **2** Bongani uNkulunkulu wabonkulunkulu. **3** Bongani uMbusi wababusi: **4** Kuye yedwa owenza izimanga ezinkulu, **5** Owathi ngokuzwisisa kwakhe wenza amazulu, **6** Owendlala umhlaba phezu kwamanzi, **7** Owenza izibane ezinkulu, **8** Ilanga ukubusa emini, **9** Inyanga lezinkanyezi ukubusa ebusuku, **10** Kuye owatshaya walalisa amazibulo aseGibhithe, **11** Wakhupha u-Israyeli phakathi kwabo, **12** Ngesandla esilamandla lengalo eyeluliweyo, **13** Kuye owadabula uWandle oluBomvu lwehlukana, **14** Wakhuphula u-Israyeli phakathi kwalo, **15** Kodwa wakhukhulela uFaro lempi yakhe elwandle oluBomvu, **16** Wahola abantu bakhe enkangala, **17** Owalahla phansi amakhosi amakhulu, **18** Wabulala amakhosi esabekayo, **19** uSihoni inkosi yama-Amori, **20** lo-Ogi inkosi yaseBhashani, **21** Wanikela amazwe abo njengelifa, **22** Abayilifa encekwini yakhe u-Israyeli, **23** Kuye Yedwa owasikhumbula singesibantu balutho, **24** Wasikhulula ezitheni zethu, **25** Njalo onika ukudla izidalwa zonke, **26** Bongani uNkulunkulu wasezulwini,

137 Ngasemifuleni yaseBhaphiloni sahlala phansi sakhalapho sasikhumbula iZiyoni. **2** Khona lapho ezihlahleni zemidubu saphanyeka amachacho ethu, **3** ngoba khonapho abathumbi bethu bacela izingoma kithi, labahlukuluzi bethu bafuna izingoma zentokozo; bathi, “Sihlabeleni enye yezingoma zaseZiyoni!” **4** Singazihlabela kanjani izingoma zikaThixo siselizweni le mzini na? **5** Aluba ngikukhohlwa, Oh Jerusalema, isandla sami sokunene kasilahlekelwe yibungcitsi baso. **6** Sengathi ulimi lwami lunganamathela elwanganeni lomlomo wami uba ngingakukhumbuli wena, uba ngingathathi iJerusalema njengentokozo yami ephezu konke. **7** Khumbula, Oh Thixo, ama-Edomi akwenzayo mhla iJerusalema ithunjwa. “Lidilizeni,” baklabalala, “lidilizeni kanye lezisekelo zalo!” **8** Wena Ndodakazi yaseBhaphiloni, oqunyelwe ukubhubha, ubusisiwe lowo okuphindiselayo ngalokho okwenzileyo kithi. **9** Ubusisiwe lowo othatha insane zakho, azisakazele ematsheni.

138 ElikaDavida. Ngizakudumisa, Thixo, ngenhliziyo yami yonke; phambi kwabo “nkulunkulu” ngizahlabelela udumo lwakho. **2** Ngizakhothama ngikhangele ethempelini lakho elingcwele ngidumise ibizo lakho, ngenxa yothando lwakho lokuthembeka kwakho, ngoba uphakamise ngaphezu kwezinto zonke ibizo lakho lelizwi lakho. **3** Ngabiza wena wangiphendula; wangenza ngaba lesibindi lenhliziyo eqinileyo. **4** Sengathi wonke amakhosi omhlaba angakudumisa, Oh Thixo, lapho esizwa amazwi omlomo wakho. **5** Sengathi bangahlabelela ngezindlela zikaThixo ngoba inkazimulo kaThixo inkulu. **6** Loba uThixo ephakeme, uyabananza abathobekileyo, kodwa abazigqajayo ubazi ekhatshana labo. **7** Loba ngihamba phakathi kohlupho uyayilondoloza impilo yami; uyaselula isandla sakho ukungivikela elakeni lwezitha zami, ngesandla sakho sokunene uyangisindisa. **8** UThixo uzagcwalisa icebo lakhe ngami; uthando lwakho, Oh Thixo, lumi laphakade ungawutshiyi umsebenzi wezandla zakho.

139 Kumqondisi wokuhlabelela. ElikaDavida. Ihubo. Oh Thixo, usungihloliwe usungazi. **2** Uyakwazi lapho ngihlala lalapho ngiphakama; uyayibona imicabango yami lanxa ukhatshana. **3** Uyananzelela ukuphuma kwami lokulala phansi kwami; uzazi kuhle zonke izindlela zami. **4** Ilizwi

lingakabi khona elimini lwami usulazi lonke, wena Thixo. **5** Uyagihonqolozela emuva laphambili; ubekile isandla sakho phezu kwami. **6** Ukwazi okunje kungumangaliso kimi, kuphakeme kakhulu ngeke ngikufinyelele. **7** Ngingaya ngaphi ngisuke eMoyeni wakho na? Ngingabalekela ngaphi ngisuke kuwe na? **8** Ngingakhuphukela emazulwini, ukhona lapho; nxa ngilala ezinzikini, ukhona lapho. (Sheol h7585) **9** Aluba ngindiza ngamaphiko okusa, aluba ngisehlela ngaphetsheya kolwandle, **10** lalapho isandla sakho sizangikhokhela, isandla sakho sokunene sizangibamba singiqinise. **11** Nxa ngisithi, “Ngempela ubumnyama buzangifihla ukukhanya kube yibusuku eduze kwami,” **12** labo ubumnyama kabukuba manyama kuwe; ubusuku buzakhanya njengemini, ngoba ubumnyama buyikukhanya kuwe. **13** Ngoba wadala ingaphakathi yobuyimi; wangiphetha kuhle ndawonye esiswini sikamama. **14** Ngiyakudumisa ngokuthi ngabunjwa ngesimanga esesabekayo; iyamangalisa imisebenzi yakho, lokho ngikwazi kamhlophe. **15** Isimo samathambo ami sasingafihlekanga kuwe lapho ngangisenziwa endaweni esithekileyo. Lapho ngangiselukelwa ndawonye ezinzikini zomhlaba, **16** amehlo akho awubona umzimba wami ungakabi lesimo. Zonke insuku ezamiselwa mina zabhalwa encwadini yakho lalunye lwazo lungakabi khona. **17** Iligugu elinganani kimi imicabango yakho, Oh Nkulunkulu! Bukhulu kanganani ubunengi bayo! **18** Aluba ngingayibala ingedlula ubunengi bezinhlamvu zetshebetshebe. Ngithi nxa ngivuka ngibe ngilokhu ngilawe. **19** Ungasake ubabulale ababi, awu Nkulunkulu! Sukani kimi lina bachithi begazi! **20** Bakhuluma ngawe beqonde ububi; abakuphikisayo badlala ngebizo lakho. **21** Kangibazondi yini abakuzondayo na Oh, Thixo, ngibenyanye labo abakuvukelayo na? **22** Ngiyabazonda ngenzondo yonke; ngithi bayizitha zami. **23** Ngihlola, Oh Nkulunkulu, uyazi inhliziyo yami; ngizama ukuze wazi ukunqineka kwemicabango yami. **24** Ake ubone ingabe kulendledlana embi kimi, ungihole ngendlela yaphakade.

140 Kumqondisi wokuhlabelela. Ihubo. LikaDavida. Ngilamulela, Oh Thixo, ebantwini ababi; ngivikela ebantwini bodlakela, **2** abakha amacebo amabi ezinhliziyweni zabo bahlokemise impi ukusa kwamalanga. **3** Benza izindimi zabo zicije njengezenyoka; ubuhlungu benhlangwana busezindebeni zabo. **4** Ngivikela, Oh Thixo, ezandleni zababi; ngiphephisa ebantwini bodlakela abacea ukungigwenxa. **5** Abantu abazigqajayo bangifihlele isifu; sebewanwebile amambule abo bangithiya lapha lalapha endleleni yami. **6** Oh Thixo, ngithi kuwe, “UnguNkulunkulu wami.” Zwana, ukukhala kwami ngicela umusa. **7** Oh Thixo wobukhosi, mhlengi wami olamandla, ovikela ikhanda lami ngelanga lempi **8** ungavumeli ababi izifiso zabo Oh Thixo; ungayekeli amacebo abo ukuthi aphumelele, funa bazigqaje. **9** Akuthi ingqondo zalabo abangihanqileyo zandelwe luhlupho oludalwe yizindebe zabo. **10** Akuthi amalahle avuthayo abakhithikele; sengathi bangaphoselwa emlilweni, emigodini ebhixa udaka, bangavuki futhi. **11** Akuthi abahlebayo bangatholi indawo elizweni; akuthi umnyama ubahlale izithende abantu bochuku. **12** Ngiyazi ukuthi uThixo ubenzela okulungileyo abayanga, ubamele abaswelayo. **13** Ngempela abalungileyo bazalidumisa ibizo lakho labaqqotho bazahlala phambi kwakho.

141 Ihubo likaDavida Oh Thixo, ngiyakubiza; woza masinyane kimi. Zwana ilizwi lami nxa ngikubiza. 2 Sengathi umkhuleko wami ungema phambi kwakho njengemphepha; kuthi ukuphakama kwezandla zami kube njengomhlatshelelo wakusihlwa. 3 Ngibekela umlindi womlomo wami, Oh Thixo, qaphela umnyango wezindebe zami. 4 Ungayekeli inhliziyi yami ihugwe ngokubi, ngingene ezenzweni ezimbi labantu abayizigangi; mangingadli izibiliboco zabo. 5 Ake ngitshaywe ngumuntu olungileyo, kungumusa; kake angikhuze, kungamafutha ekhanda lami. Ikhanda lami kaliyikukwala. Ikanti umkhuleko wami uhlezi umelana lezinko zezigangi. 6 Ababusi bazo bazaphoselwa phansi emaweni, lababi bazafunda ukuthi amazwi ami ayekhulunywe kühle. 7 Bazakuthi, “Njengalowo olimayo eqeqebula umhlabathi, kanjalo amathambo ethu achithizive emlonyeni weliba.” (Sheol h7585) 8 Kodwa amehlo ami agxile kuwe, Oh Thixo woBukhosi; kuwe ngiyaphela nganginikeli ekufeni. 9 Ngivikela emijilineni asebayethiyele mina, ezifini ezithiywe yizigangi. 10 Akuthi ababi bawele emambuleni abo, mina ngidlule kühle ngiphophile.

142 Ihubo likaDavida. Lapho esebhalwini. Umkhuleko. Ngiyamemeza kakhulu kuThixo; ngiphakamisela ilizwi lami kuThixo ngicela umusa. 2 Ngithululela ukusola kwami phambi kwakhe; phambi kwakhe ngichaza ukuhlupheka kwami. 3 Lapho umphefumulo wami uncipha ngaphakathi kwami, nguwe oyaziyo indlela yami. Endleleni engihamba ngayo abantu bangithiyile khona. 4 Khangela kwesokunene sami ubone; kakho lobani onginanzayo. Angilaso isiphophelo; kakho onakekela impilo yami. 5 Ngikhala kuwe, Oh Thixo; ngithi, “Uyisiphophelo sami, uyisabelo sami elizweni labaphilayo.” 6 Lalala ukukhala kwami, ngoba ngilezizwelo ezizikileyo, ngikhulula kulabo abaxotshana lami, ngoba balamandla kakhulu kulami. 7 Ngikhulula entolongweni yami, ukuze ngidumise ibizo lakho. Lapho-ke abalungileyo bazangibuthanela ngenxa yokulunga kwakho kimi.

143 Ihubo likaDavida Oh Thixo, zwana umkhuleko wami, zwana ukukhala kwami ngicela umusa; ngokuthembeka kwakho langokulunga kwakho woza uzongiphumuza. 2 Ungangeni inceku yakho ekwahlulelweni, ngoba kakho ophilayo ongabe ulungile kuwe. 3 Isitha siyangizingela, singincindezela phansi emhlabathini; singenza ngihlale emnyameni njengalabo abafa kudala. 4 Kanjalo umphefumulo wami uyaphela ngaphakathi kwami; inhliziyi yami ngaphakathi kwami idanile. 5 Ngiyazikhumbula insuku zekadeni; ngidla ingqondo ngayo yonke imisebenzi yakho nginakane ngalokho okwenziwe yizandla zakho. 6 Ngiyelula izandla zami kuwe; umphefumulo wami uyakomela njengomhlabathi owomileyo. 7 Ngiphendula masinyane, awu Thixo; umoya wami uyaphela. Ungangifihleli ubuso bakho funa ngibe njengalabo abaya egodini. 8 Akuthi ukusa kungilethele ilizwi lothando lwakho olungaphuthiyo, ngoba sengibeke ithemba lami kuwe. Ngitshengisa indlela okumele ngihambe ngayo, ngoba ngiphakamisela umphefumulo wami kuwe. 9 Ngikhulula ezitheni zami, Oh Thixo, ngoba ngizifihla kuwe. 10 Ngifundisa ukwenza intando yakho, ngoba unguNkulunkulu wami; sengathi uMoya wakho omuhle kakhulu ungangikhokhela emhlabathini ochayileyo. 11 Ngenxa yebizo lakho, Oh Thixo, londoloza impilo yami; ngokulunga kwakho ngikhupha ekuhluphekeni. 12 Ethandweni

lwakho olungaphuthiyo, thulisa izitha zami; bhubhisa bonke abangizondayo, ngoba ngiyinceku yakho.

144 ErikaDavida. Udumo kalube kuThixo iDwala lami, yena ofundisa izandla zami ukulwa impi, leminwe yami ukhulaselela. 2 UnguNkulunkulu wami othandekayo lenqaba yami, inqaba yami lomkhululi wami, isihlangu sami engiphophela kuso, othobisa abantu bami ngaphansi kwami. 3 Kambe Thixo, umuntu uyini ungaze umnanze, indodana yomuntu ukuthi uyikhumbule na? 4 Umuntu ungenophemfumulo; insuku zakhe zinjengesithunzi esidlulayo masinyane. 5 Yahlukanisa izulu lakho, Oh Thixo, wehlele phansi; thinta izintaba, ukuze zithunqe intuthu. 6 Thumela umbane uzihlakaze izitha; phosa imitshoko yakho zichitheke. 7 Yelula isandla sakho sisuka phezu; ngihlenga ungikhulule emanzini alamandla abezizweni 8 omilomo yabo igcwele amanga, ozandla zabo zokunene zilenkohliso. 9 Ngizakuhlabelela ingoma entsha, Oh Nkulunkulu; ngechacho lezintambo ezilitshumi ngizakutshayela ingoma, 10 kuye yedwa onika amakhosi ukunqoba, ohlenga inceku yakhe uDavida enkembeni ebulalayo. 11 Ngihlenga, ungikhulule ezandleni zabezizwe omilomo yabo igcwele amanga, ozandla zabo zokunene zilenkohliso. 12 Kuzakuthi amadodana ethu ebutsheeni bawo azakuba njengezihlahla ezikhuliswa kühle, kuthi amadodakazi ethu abe njengezinsika ezibazelwe ukuceca isigodlo. 13 Iziphala zethu zizagcwala ngemihlobo yonke yokudli. Izimvu zethu zizakwanda ngingekulungwane, ngamatshumi ezinkulungwane emadloleni ethu; 14 inkabi zethu zizadonsa imithwalo enzima. Akusayikuba khona ukubhidliza kwemiduli, ukuya ebugqilini, lokukhala kosizi emigwaqweni yakithi. 15 Babusisiwe lababantu lokhu okuzakwenzakala kubo; babusisiwe abantu oNkulunkulu wabo ngu Thixo.

145 Ihubo lokudumisa. ErikaDavida. Ngizaphakamisa wena, Nkulunkulu wami oyinKosi; ngizalidumisa ibizo lakho kuze kube phakade. 2 Zonke insuku ngizakudumisa ngibabaze ibizo lakho kuze kube phakade. 3 Umkhulu uThixo njalo ufanele kakhulu ukudunyiswa; ubukhulu bakhe kakho ongabulinganisa. 4 Yilesi laleso isizukulwane sizababaza imisebenzi yakho kwesinye; sizatshelana ngezenzo zakho ezinkulu. 5 Sizakhluma ngenkazimulo yakho ebenyezelayo ubukhosi bakho, lami ngizazidla ingqondo ngemisebenzi yakho emangalisayo. 6 Zizalandisa ngamandla emisebenzi yakho emangalisayo, lami ngizafakaza ngemisebenzi yakho emikhulu. 7 Bazakwenza umkhosi ngokulunga kwakho okukhulu bahlabele ngentokoze ngokulunga kwakho. 8 UThixo ulomusa njalo ulesihawu, uyaphuza ukuthukuthela, kodwa uyanda ngothando. 9 UThixo ulungile kubo bonke; ulesihawu kukho konke akwenzayo. 10 Konke owakwenzayo kuzakudumisa, wena Thixo; abathembekileyo bakho bazakubabaza. 11 Bazalandisa ngenkazimulo yombuso wakho bakhulume ngamandla akho, 12 kuze kuthi bonke abantu bazi ngezenzo zakho ezinkulu lokubenzela kwenkazimulo yombuso wakho. 13 Umbuso wakho ungumbuso ongapheleliyo, lobukhosi bakho bumi kuzozonke izizukulwane. UThixo uthembekile kuzozonke izithembiso zakhe njalo ulothando kukho konke akwenzayo. 14 UThixo uyabaxhasa bonke labo abawayo abaphakamisa bonke abacabayo. 15 Amehlo abo bonke akhangela kuwe, wena ubaphe ukudla kwabo ngesikhathi esifaneleyo. 16 Uyavula isandla sakho usuthise izidingo zakho konke okuphilayo. 17

UTHixo ulungile kuzozonke izindlela zakhe njalo uthembekile kukho konke akwenzayo. **18** UTHixo useduze kulabo abacela kuye, kubo bonke abacela kuye ngeqiniso. **19** Uyagcwalisa izidingo zalabo abamesabayo; uyezwa ukukhala kwabo abasindise. **20** UTHixo uyabalinda bonke abamthandayo, kodwa bonke ababi uzababhuhbisa. **21** Umlomo wami uzakhuluma ngokudumisa uTHixo. Akuthi izidalwa zonke zidumise ibizo lakhe elingcwele kuze kube nini lanini.

146 Dumisani uTHixo. Dumisa uTHixo mphefumulo wami. **2** Ngizamdumisa uTHixo impilo yami yonke; ngizahlabela indumiso kuNkulunkulu wami nxa ngisaphila. **3** Lingabeki ithemba lenu emakhosini, ebantwini benyama, abangeke basindise. **4** Kuthi umoya wabo ungaphuma, babuyele emhlabathini; mhlalokho nje amacebo ahle abhidlike. **5** Ubusiwe lowo osizo lwakhe lunguNkulunkulu kajakhobe, othemba lakhe likuTHixo uNkulunkulu wakhe. **6** UnguMenzi wamazulu lomhlaba, ulwandle lakho konke okulapho: uTHixo owala elokhu ethembekile laphakade. **7** Uyabalwela abancinzelwayo anike abalambileyo ukudla. UTHixo ukhulula izibotshwa, **8** uTHixo wenza iziphofu zibone, uTHixo uyabaphakamisa labo asebebhazalele, uTHixo uthanda abalungileyo. **9** UTHixo uyabalinda abezizweni asekele izintandane labafelokazi, kodwa anyampise izindlela zababi. **10** UTHixo uyabusa nini lanini, uNkulunkulu wakho, wena Ziyoni, ezizukulwaneni zonke. Dumisani uTHixo.

147 Dumisani uTHixo. Kuhle kangakanani ukuhlabela indumiso kuNkulunkulu wethu, kumnandi njalo kufanele ukumbonga! **2** UTHixo uyalakha iJerusalem; aqoqe labo abahlakazekileyo baka-Israyeli. **3** Uyabathoba abadabukileyo enhliziyweni abophe amanxeba abo. **4** Umisile ubunengi bezinkanyezi aziqambe leyo laleyo ngamabizo. **5** Inkosi yethu inkulu, njalo makhulu amandla ayo; ukuzwisisa kwayo kakulamkhawulo. **6** UTHixo uyabasekela abathobekileyo kodwa abaphosele phansi ababi. **7** Hlabelani kuTHixo ngokubonga; litshaye amachacho kuNkulunkulu wethu. **8** Uyembesa umkhathi ngamayezi; awuphe umhlaba izulu njalo akhulise utshani ezintabeni. **9** Unika inkomo utshani aphe lamatsiyane amawabayi nxa esekhala. **10** Ukuthokoza kwakhe kakukho emandleni ebhiza, loba injabulo yakhe ekuqineni kwemilenze yomuntu; **11** UTHixo uthokoza ngalabo abamesabayo, ababeka ithemba labo ethandweni lwakhe olungaphuthiyo. **12** Umbabaze uTHixo, Oh Jerusalem; dumisa uNkulunkulu wakho, Oh Ziyoni. **13** Ngoba uyaqinisa imigoqo yamasango akho, abusise labantu bakho ngaphakathi kwakho. **14** Wenza ukuthula emikhawulweni yelizwe lakho. Njalo ukusuthisa ngamabele amahle kakhulu. **15** Uthumela umlayo wakhe emhlabeni; ilizwi lakhe ligijima masinyane. **16** Wendlala ungqwaqwane njengoboya bezimvu ahaze iliqhwa njengomlotha. **17** Uphosela phansi isiqhotho sakhe njengamatshu. Ngubani ongamelana lomfutho wakhe olomqando na? **18** Uthumela ilizwi lakhe konke kuncibilike; aphephethise umoya wakhe amanzi ageleze. **19** Ulivezile ilizwi lakhe kujakhobe, imithetho yakhe lezuhlulelo ku-Israyeli. **20** Lokhu kazange akwenzele esinye isizwe; kaziyazi imithetho yakhe. Dumisani uTHixo.

148 Dumisani uTHixo. Dumisani uTHixo emazulwini, mdumiseni eziqongweni ngaphezulu. **2** Mdumiseni zingilosi zakhe zonke, mdumiseni lonke mabutho asezulwini.

3 Mdumiseni, langa lenyanga, mdumiseni lonke zinkanyezi ezikhazimulayo. **4** Mdumiseni lina ziqongo zamazulu lani manzi ngaphezulu komkhathi. **5** Konke kakudumise ibizo likaTHixo ngoba yena watsho ilizwi kwadaleka. **6** Wazibeka ezindaweni zazo okwanini lanini; wanika isahlulelo esingela kuguquka. **7** Dumisani uTHixo emhlabeni, lina zidalwa zasolwandle lezinziki zalo zonke, **8** umbane lesiqhotho, ungqwaqwane lamayezi, umoya wesiphepho owenza intando yakhe, **9** lina zintaba lamaqaqa wonke, zihlahla zezithelo lemisedari yonke, **10** zinyamazana zeganga lenkomo zonke, zinanakazana lezinyoni eziphaphayo, **11** makhosi omhlaba lelizwe zonke, lina makhosana lababusi bonke emhlabeni, **12** majaha lezintombi, maxhegu labantwana. **13** Kabalidumise ibizo likaTHixo, ngoba ibizo lakhe lodwa liphakeme; inkazimulo yakhe ingaphezulu komhlaba lamazulu. **14** Ubaphakamisele abantu bakhe uphondo, indumiso yabo bonke abathembekileyo bakhe, eka-Israyeli, abantu abasesifubeni sakhe. Dumisani uTHixo.

149 Dumisani uTHixo. Hlabelani uTHixo ingoma entsha, indumiso yakhe ebandleni labathembekileyo. **2** Akuthi u-Israyeli athokoze ngoMenzi wakhe; akuthi abantu baseZiyoni bajabule ngeNkosi yabo. **3** Kabadumise ibizo lakhe ngokusina, batshaye amagedla lamachacho. **4** Ngoba uTHixo uyathokoza ngabantu bakhe; abathobekileyo ubapha umqhele wensindiso. **5** Akuthi abathembekileyo bathokoze ngale inhlonipho, bahlabele ngentokozo besemibhedeni yabo. **6** Sengathi indumiso kaNkulunkulu ingaba semilonyeni yabo lenkema esika nxazonke ibe sezandleni zabo, **7** ukuthi benze impindiselo phezu kwezizwe lesijeziso phezu kwabantu, **8** babophe amakhosi azo ngentambo lezikhulu zabo ngezibopho zensimbi, **9** ukugcwalisa kubo isigwebo abasibhalelwayo. Lokhu kuyinkazimulo yabathembekileyo bakhe bonke. Dumisani uTHixo.

150 Dumisani uTHixo. Dumisani uNkulunkulu endlini yakhe engcwele; mdumiseni emazulwini Akhe amakhulu. **2** Mdumiseni ngenxa yezenzo zakhe zamandla; mdumiseni ngenxa yobukhulu bakhe obudlula konke. **3** Mdumiseni ngokutshaya icilongo, mdumiseni ngechacho langomhuhbe, **4** mdumiseni ngegedla langokusina, mdumiseni ngeziginci langomqangala, **5** mdumiseni ngamazenge akhencezayo; mdumiseni ngomsindo wamazenge ancencethayo! **6** Akuthi konke okuphefumulayo kumdumise uTHixo. Dumisani uTHixo.

Izaga

1 Izaga zikaSolomoni indodana kaDavida, inkosi yako-Israelyeli: **2** ukuba abantu bazuze ukuhlakanipha lokuzithiba; ukuba bazwisise amazwi okuqedisisa; **3** ukuba bazuze impilo yokuzithiba lobuqotho, besenza okulungileyo, okufaneleyo lokuqondileyo; **4** ukunika ulwazi kwabayizithutha, ulwazi lokukhetha okuqondileyo kwabatsha **5** ukuthi ohlakaniphileyo alalele engeze ukufunda kwakhe, kuthi obonisisayo azuze izeluleko, **6** ukuba abantu bazwisise izaga lemizekeliso, izitsho lamalibho abahlakaniphileyo. **7** Ukwesaba uThixo kuyikuqala kwenhlanipho, kodwa iziwula ziyakweyisa ukuqedisisa lokuzithiba. **8** Lalela, ndodana yami, izeluleko zikayihlo njalo ungadeli imfundiso kanyoko. **9** Kuzakuba ngumqhele omuhle ekhanda lakho lomgaxo wokucesisa intamo yakho. **10** Ndodana yami, aluba izoni zikuhuga, ungaze wavuma. **11** Nxa zisithi, “Woza sihambe; kasicathamele abantu sichithe igazi, kasicwathele omunye umuntu ongelacala; **12** kasibaginye bephila njengengcwaba, sibajwamule njengabawele emgodini; (Sheol h7585) **13** sizazua impahla ezinhle ezehlukeneyo sigcwalise izindlu zethu ngempango; **14** phathisana lathi ukuze sibelesikhwama sinye” **15** ndodana yami, ungahambi lazo, ungalugxobi olwakho ezindleleni zazo; **16** ngoba ezabo inyawo zigijima ekoneni, bachitha igazi lula. **17** Kakusizi ukuthiya ngembule lithe dandalazi emehlweni ezinyoni! **18** Abantu laba bacathamela ukuchitheka kwelabo igazi; bajuma okwabo ukuphila. **19** Sinjalo isiphetho salabo abadinga inzuzo ngobugebenga; kuyayichitha impilo yalabo abayitholayo. **20** Ukuhlakanipha kuyamemeza emgwaqweni, kuphakamisa ilizwi lakho ezinkundleni; **21** kuyanqongoloza lezindleleni okuxokozela khona, kuyatshumayela emasangweni omuzi kuthi: **22** “Koze kube nini lina zithutha lithanda ubuthutha benu na? Koze kube nini izideleli zikhulisa ukudelela leziphukuphuku zizonda ulwazi na? **23** Lalelani ukukhuza kwami liphenduke! Ngizalivulela isifuba sami, ngilivezele imicabango yami. **24** Kodwa ngenxa yokuthi langilulathela ngilibiza, kwangabi khona ongananzayo ngiselula isandla sami, **25** njengoba lala izeluleko zami njalo kalavuma ukukhuza kwami, **26** ngakho lami ngizahleka selihlupheka; ngizalikhululeka nxa lisehlelwa lusizi, **27** nxa usizi lulehla njengesiphetho; nxa incithakalo ilikhukhula njengesivunguzane, nxa usizi lezinhlupheko ziligabhela. **28** Lapho-ke bazangibiza kodwa kangiyikusabela; bazangidinga bangangitholi. **29** Ngoba babeluzonda ulwazi kabaze bakhetha ukwesaba uThixo **30** ngoba kabavumanga isetuleko sami, badelela ukukhuza kwami, **31** bazakudla izithelo zokuhamba kwabo basuthiswe ngezithelo zamacebo abo. **32** Phela ubuhlongandlebe bezithutha buzazibulala, lokungananzi kweziphukuphuku kuzazibhubhisa; **33** kodwa lowo ongilalelayo uzahlala evikelekile ekhululekile, engesabi lutho olungamlimaza.”

2 Ndodana yami, nxa usamukela amazwi ami ugcine imilayo yami ngraphakathi kwakho, **2** uvule indlebe yakho izwe ukuhlakanipha unikele inhliziyi yakho ukuthi izwisise, **3** njalo nxa ucela ukuqedisisa ukhalela kakhulu ukuzwisisa, **4** futhi ukudingisa njengokudinga isiliva ukuphenye njengento eligu ephilwiweyo, **5** lapho-ke uzakuzwisisa ukumesaba uThixo njalo uluzuze ulwazi lukaNkulunkulu. **6** Ngoba uThixo uyapha ukuhlakanipha,

emlonyeni wakhe kuphuma ulwazi lokuqedisisa. **7** Abaqotho ubapha ukunqoba, ulihawu lalabo abahamba bengasoleki, **8** ngoba uyayilinda indlela yabalungileyo avikele ukuhamba kwabathembekileyo bakhe. **9** Yikho uzazwisisa lokho okulungileyo lokuqondileyo lokufaneleyo zonke izindlela ezinhle. **10** Ngoba ukuhlakanipha kuzangena enhliziyweni yakho, lolwazi lube mmandi emphefumulweni wakho. **11** Ukwazi ukukhetha kuzakuvikela, lokuzwisisa kuzakulinda. **12** Ukuhlakanipha kuzakusindisa ezindleleni zabantu ababi, abantu abamazwi abolileyo, **13** abatshiya izindlela eziqondileyo, bahambe ngezindlela ezilamathunzi, **14** abathokoza ngokwenza okubi bajabule ngokungcola kokubi, abandlela zabo zitshekile lokuhamba kwabo kakuqondakali. **16** Kuzakukhulula njalo koyisiphingikazi, lasemfazini olamazwi akhohlisayo, **17** osetshiye indoda yakhe yobutsha bakhe wadela isifungo asenza phambi kukaNkulunkulu. **18** Ngoba indlu yakhe iholela ekufeni lezindlela zakhe zidonsela kwabafiseyo. **19** Kakho ongena kuye obuyayo kumbe aphinde azuze izindlela zokuphila. **20** Ngakho uzakhamba ezindleleni zabantu abalungileyo walele emikhondweni yabaqondileyo. **21** Ngoba abaqotho bazahlala elizweni, labangasolekiyo bazasala kulo; **22** kodwa izigangi zizasuswa elizweni, labangathembekanga bazakhutshwa kulo.

3 Ndodana yami, ungakhohlwa imfundiso yami, kodwa ugcine imilayo yami enhliziyweni yakho, **2** ngoba izakwandisa impilo yakho okweminyaka eminengi, ikuphe ukuthula. **3** Akungasuki kuwe loba nini uthando lokuthembeka; kubophele entanyeni yakho, ukubhale egwalibeni lenhliziyi yakho. **4** Ngalokho uzathandeka uzuze ibizo elihle emehlweni kaNkulunkulu laphambi kwabantu. **5** Thamba kuThixo ngenhliziyi yakho yonke, ungatebemi ekuzwisiseni kwakho; **6** mvume kuzozonke izindlela zakho, yena uzaqondisa zonke izindlela zakho. **7** Ungazenzi ohlakaniphileyo ngokubona kwakho; yesaba uThixo uxwaye okubi. **8** Lokho kuzawuphilisa umzimba wakho kuwaqinise lamathambo akho. **9** Dumisa uThixo ngenotho yakho; ngezithelo zakho zokuqala zonke; **10** ngalokho iziphala zakho zigagcwalisa ziphuphume, lezimbiza zakho zewayini zize zichitheke ngewayini elitsha. **11** Ndodana yami, ungeyisi ukulaya kukaThixo njalo ungacaphukeli ukukhuza kwakhe, **12** ngoba uThixo ulaya labo abathandayo, njengoyise elaya indodana yakhe ayithandayo. **13** Ubusiwe umuntu ozuza ukuhlakanipha, umuntu ozuza ukuqedisisa, **14** ngoba khona kulenzuzo eyedlula isiliva lenzuzo eyedlula igolide. **15** Kuligugu elidlula amarubhi; kakukho okuloyisayo okungalinganiswa kulo. **16** Impilo ende isesandleni sakho sokunene; kwesokhohlo kulenotho lodumo. **17** Izindlela zakhe zilokuthokoza, lemikhondo yakhe ilokuthula. **18** Kuyisihlahla sokuphila kulabo abakwamukelayo; labo abakuphathayo bazabusiwa. **19** Ngokuhlakanipha uThixo wabeka izisekelo zomhlaba, ngokuqedisisa wamisa izulu endaweni yalo; **20** ngolwazi lwakhe inlwandle zehlukaniswa, lamayezi athontisa amazolo. **21** Ndodana yami, gogosa ingqondo ehlela ngolwazi, ungayekeli kukucatshale; **22** kuzakuba yikuphila kuwe, kube ngumceciso omuhle entanyeni yakho. **23** Lapho-ke uzakhamba ngendlela evikelweyo unyawo lwakho lungakhubeki; **24** nxa ulala kawuyikwesaba; uzalala ubuthongo obumandni. **25** Ungabi lovalo nxa ujunywa ngumonakalo kumbe yikubhidlika lokho okwehlela ababi, **26** ngoba uThixo uzakuba lithemba lakho avikele unyawo lwakho emjibileni. **27** Ungaze wala ukusiza labo abadinga uncedo, wena ulakho ongabasiza

ngakho. **28** Ungabokuthi kumakhelwane wakho: “Ubobuya kwesinye isikhathi; ngizakunika kusaha” wena ulalo lololutho. **29** Ungacebi okubi ngomakhelwane wakho, ohlezi lawe ekwethemba. **30** Ungaxabani lomuntu kungelasizatho yena engakonelanga ngalutho. **31** Ungamhawukeli umuntu othanda ukulwa loba nje ufise lakuphi ukwenza kwakhe, **32** ngoba uThixo uyamenyanya umuntu oxhwalileyo kodwa oqotho umbeka ekhwapheeni lakhe. **33** Isiqalekiso sikaThixo sehlela endlini yababi, kodwa uyayibusisa indlu yabalungileyo. **34** Uyabahleka usulu abayizideleli ezizithembayo, kodwa abe lomusa kwabathobekileyo. **35** Abahlakaniphileyo baphiwa udumo kodwa abayizwula ubathela ihlazo.

4 Zwanini, madodana ami, izeluleko zikayihlo; lalalani lizuze ukuqedisisa. **2** Ngilipha izifundo ezipheleleyo; ngakho lingalahli imfundiso yami. **3** Ngathi ngisengumfana emzini kababa, ngisebuthakathaka, ngiyimi ngedwa ingane kamama, **4** wangifundisa ubaba wathi, “Abambe amazwi ami ngenhliziyo yakho yonke; gcina imilayo yami ukuze uphile. **5** Zuza ukuhlakanipha, zuza ukuqedisisa; ungawakhohlwa amazwi ami, kumbe ugudluke kuwo. **6** Ungafulatheli ukuhlakanipha, kuzakuvikela; kuthande, kuzakulinda. **7** Ukuhlakanipha kuyinqaba; ngakho zuza ukuhlakanipha. Zuza ukuqedisisa loba kungathatha konke olakho. **8** Kugogose, kuzakuphakamisa; kugone, kuzakunika udumo. **9** Kuzakwethesa umqhele wamaluba omusa ekhanda lakho kukwethese umqhele wenkazimulo.” **10** Zwana mntanami, yamukela lokho engikutshoyo, ukuze insuku zokuphila kwakho zibe zinengi. **11** Ngiyakukhokhela endleleni yokuhlakanipha, ngikuqondise ezindleleni eziqondileyo. **12** Nxa uhamba kawuyikuthikaza; nxa ugijima kawuyikukhubeka. **13** Bambelela iziqondiso, ungayekethisi; zigcine kuhle ngoba ziyikuphila kwakho. **14** Ungayingeni indlela yababi njalo ungahambi endleleni yezigangi. **15** Ixwaye, ungahambi ngayo; itshiye uqhubeke ngeyakho indlela. **16** Phela kabalali bengenzanga ukuganga; badela ubuthongo ukuze baqale balimaze omunye umuntu. **17** Badla isinkwa sobubi banathe iwayini lobudlwangudlwango. **18** Indlela yabalungileyo injengovivi lokusa, kukhule ukukhanya kwalo kuze kuphelele emini. **19** Kodwa indlela yababi ifana lomnyama omkhulu; kabazi ukuthi kuyini okubakhubayo. **20** Ndodana yami, zwana lokhu engikutshoyo; lalalisisa amazwi ami. **21** Ungawasusi emehlweni akho, agcine enhliziyweni yakho; **22** ngoba ayikuphila kulabo abawafumanayo; lokuqina komzimba wonke womuntu. **23** Phezu kwakho konke, gcina enhliziyi yakho, ngoba ingumthombo wokuphila kwakho. **24** Lahla izibozi zamazwi emlonyeni wakho; ungakhuphi inkulumo yokuxhwalala ezindebeni zakho. **25** Khangelisa amehlo akho nta phambili, uwathi nhlo amehlo akho kulokho okuphambi kwakho. **26** Lungisa izindlela ukuze inyawo zakho zinyathele kuhle, uhambe ngezindlela ezizimileyo kuphela. **27** Ungaphambukeli kwesokunene loba kwesokhohlo; ugcine unyawo lwakho lunganyatheli okubi.

5 Ndodana yami, nanzelela ukuhlakanipha kwami, ulalele kuhle amazwi ami alombono, **2** ukuze uhlale ukwazi ukukhetha okuqondileyo lokuze izindebe zakho zigcine ulwazi. **3** Phela izindebe zesifebekazi zithonta uluju, lenkulumo yaso iyatshelala kulamafutha; **4** kodwa ekucineni iyababa ingathi yinyongo, ibukhali njengenkamba esika nxa zombili. **5** Inyawo zaso zehlela ekufeni; izinyathelo zaso ziqonda nta elibeni. (Sheol h7585) **6** Kasikhathali

ukuthi kuphilwa njani; izindlela zaso ziyazombeza, kodwa kasikuboni lokho. **7** Ngalokho-ke, madodana ami, ngilalalani; lingaphambuki kulokho engikukhulumayo. **8** Hambani ngendlela ekhatshana kwaso, lingasondeli emnyango wendlu yaso, **9** funa unikele kwabanye amandla akho wonke lobudala bakho kulowo olesihluku, **10** funa abemzini bazitike ngenotho yakho lokusebenza kwakho kunothise umuzi wenye indoda. **11** Ekupheleni kokuphila kwakho uzabubula, lapho inyama yakho lomzimba wakho sekugugile. **12** Uzakuthi, “Uthi ngangikuzonda yini ukulaywa! Inhliziyo yami yayikuzonda njani ukuqondiswa! **13** Ngangingafuni ukulalela abafundisi bami kumbe ukulalela abeluleki bami. **14** Ngacina sengisenkgeni enkulu ngiphakathi kwabantu bakaNkulunkulu.” **15** Natha amanzi kowakho umgqomo, amanzi agelezayo kowakho umthombo. **16** Kambe imifudlana yakho ingayekelwa igelezela emigwaqweni, lezifula zakho zamanzi zigelezela ezinkundleni zabantu na? **17** Kazibe ngezakho wena wedwa, ungazabelani labafokazana nje. **18** Sengathi ungabusiwa umthombo wakho njalo sengathi ungathokoza ngomfazi wobutsha bakho. **19** Oyimpalakazi ethandekayo, imbabala ebutshelezi amabele akhe sengathi angakusuthisa lanini, nini lanini ukhangwe luthando lwakhe. **20** Kungani ndodana yami, uthonjwa yisifebekazi? Kungani ugona iqolo lomfazi wenye indoda? **21** Phela izindlela zomuntu zisobala kuThixo, uyazihlola zonke izindlela zakhe. **22** Izenzo ezimbi zomuntu omubi ziyamthiya; izibopho zesono sakhe zimuthe nko. **23** Uzabhubha ngoba engalayeki, elahlekiswa yibuphukuphuku bakhe.

6 Ndodana yami, nxa wenzele umakhelwane wakho isibambiso, nxa libambene izandla ukuba uzamhlawulela imilandu yakhe, **2** aluba usuzihilele ngalokho okutshiloyo, wazibambisa ngamazwi omlomo wakho, **3** lapho-ke yenza lokhu, ndodana yami, ukuzikhulula, njengoba usuwele ezandleni zakhe umakhelwane wakho: Hamba ufike uzehlise; mncengcenge umakhelwane wakho! **4** Ungabuvumeli ubuthongo emehlweni akho, ungavumeli ukuwozela enkopheni zakho. **5** Zikhulule njengempala ezandleni zomzingeli, njengenyoni esifini somthiya. **6** Khangela ubunyonyo, wena vila; hlolisisa ukwenza kwabo uhlakaniphe! **7** Kabulamphathi, kabula mkhangeli loba umbusi, **8** kodwa buyaqaqa umphako wabo ehlobo bubuthe ukudla kwabo nxa kuvunwa. **9** Uzalala khonapho kuze kube nini, vila ndini? Uzavuka nini ebuthongweni bakho? **10** Ukulala okuncane, ukuwozela okuncane, ukugoqa izandla kancane uphumula, **11** ubuyanga buzafika kuwe njengesela lokuswela njengesigebenga. **12** Isigangi lesixhwalali esihamba sikhuluma amanyala, **13** esiqhwaba ngelihlo sithshengise ngezinyawo zaso njalo sithshengise ngenimwe yaso, **14** esiceba ububi ngenkohliso enhliziyweni yaso sithanda ukuvusa inkani kokuphela. **15** Ngakho lowo uzawelwa yingozi ngokuphazima; uzabhidliwa ngokuphangisa kungasekho okungenziwa. **16** Ziyisithupha izinto uThixo azizondayo, eziyisikhombisa eziyisengiso kuye: **17** amehlo atshengisa ukudelela, ulimi oluqamba amanga, izandla ezichitha igazi elingelacala, **18** enhliziyi egaya izibozi, inyawo eziphangisa ukuya ebubini, **19** umfakazi wamanga, okhuluma inkohliso lomuntu oletha ukuxabana kubazalwane. **20** Ndodana yami, gcina imilayo kayihlo ungadeli imfundiso yanako. **21** Kubophele enhliziyweni yakho nini lanini; kugcize entanyeni yakho. **22** Nxa uhamba, lezinto zizakukhokhela; lanxa ulele zizakulinda; uthi uvuka zikukhulumise. **23** Ngoba

imilayo le iyisibane, imfundiso le iyikukhanya, leziqondiso zokuzithiba ziyindlela yokuphila, **24** zikuvikela kowesifazane ongaziphathanga, laselimini olumnandi lomfazi ongelambeko. **25** Ungasuki umfise ngenhliziyo yakho ngenxa jobuhle bakhe kumbe akuhuge ngamehlo akhe. **26** Ngoba isifebe siyakululazisa ufane lesinkwa, kodwa umfazi womuntu uyayibhidliza impilo yakho uqobo. **27** Kambe umuntu angokhela umlilo emathangazini akhe na zingaze zatsha izigqoko zakhe? **28** Kambe umuntu angahamba phezu kwamalahle inyawo zakhe zingaze zatsha na? **29** Kunjalo kulowo olala lomfazi wenye indoda; kakho omthintayo ongayikuyeziswa. **30** Abantu kabalithuki isela nxa lintshutsha ngoba lifuqwa liphango. **31** Kodwa lingabanjwa lihlawuliswa kasikhombisa, lanxa inhlawulo ilithathela yonke impahla yendlu yalo. **32** Kodwa indoda efebayo kayilangqondo; lowo okwenzayo lokho uyazibulala yena ngokwakhe. **33** Izidutshulo lehlazo kuyisabelo sakhe, ukuyangeka kwakhe kakusoze kwafa kwaphela. **34** Ngoba ubukhwe bendoda yalowomfazi buyiqubula ulaka, ingabe isaba lozwelo lapho isiphindisela. **35** Kayizukuvuma inhlawulo; kayiyikwamukela isivalamlomo loba singakanani.

7 Ndodana yami, agcine amazwi ami ulondolozile imilayo yami ngaphakathi kwakho. **2** Gcina imilayo yami ukuze uphile; ulinde imfundiso yami njengegugu lakho elikhulu. **3** Ibhophle eminweni yakho; uyilobe enhliziyweni yakho. **4** Tshela ukhulakanipha uthi, “Ungadawethu wena,” uthi ukuqedisisa kuyisihlobo sakho; **5** lezizinto zizakuvikela emfazini oyisifebe, lakumkakho ongelambeko ngamazwi akhe adukisayo. **6** Ngema ewindini lendlu yami ngalunguza ngesikhala. **7** Ngabona phakathi kwabayizithutha, ngananzelela phakathi kwamajaha ngabona ijaha elingelangqondo. **8** Lalisehla ngomgwaqo liseduze lejiko, liqonda endlini yowesifazane **9** ntambama sekunqunda amehlo, umnyama wobusuku usujija. **10** Khonokho nje kwaqhamuka owesifazane elihlangabeza egqoke okwesifebe ngoba eqophile. **11** (Umfazi lowo, ngumuntu womsindo uyisiqhelo, inyawo zakhe kazihlali phansi; **12** khathesi nangu emgwaqweni, njalo nangu enkundleni, utshobatsheba izindawana zonke.) **13** Wafika waligona lelijaha walanga wakhuluma engelanhloni wathi: **14** “Ngenzile umnikelo wobudlelwano ngekhyaya; lamuhla ngizicwalisile izifungo zami. **15** Yikho ngilapha ukukhlangabeza; sengikudinga ngaze ngakuthola! **16** Sengiwendlele umbheda wami ngamalineni eGibhithe awemibalabala. **17** Sengiwoqholile umbheda wami ngemure, ngenhlaba langesinamoni. **18** Woza sizitike ngothando kuze kuse; kasizijabulise ngothando! **19** Indoda yami kayikho ekhya; ihambile iye khatshana. **20** Ithwele isikhwama sayo sigcwele imali, ngakho kayibuyi kuze kube phakathi kwenyanga.” **21** Ngamazwi akhe amnandi waledukisa ijaha lelo; walihuga ijaha lelo ngolimi olumnandi. **22** Khonokho nje lahle lamlandela njengenkabi idonselwa ukuyabulawa, njengomziki uzinzenisa emjibileni, **23** umtshoko uze uyehlabisa ibindi, njengenyonni ithothela ngaphansi kwesifu, ingaboni ukuthi isizingenise ekufeni. **24** Ngakho-ke madodana ami, ngilalelani; zwanini lokhu engikutshoyo. **25** Lingayivumeli inhliziyo ikhangwe yizindlela zakhe, langabe iphumpethekele emikhubeni yakhe. **26** Banengi labo asebadilizile; zinkubela zakhe zilucaca olwesabekayo. **27** Indlu yakhe ingumgudu oya engcwabeni, iholela phansi ezindongeni zokufa. (Sheol h7585)

8 Ukhulakanipha kakumemezi yini? Ukuqedisisa kakuphakamisi ilizwi lakho na? **2** Emiqolweni yezindlela, emahlanganweni ezindlela kulapho okujame khona; **3** emasangweni angena phakathi kwedolobho, ezintubeni kuyamemeza kakhulu kusithi: **4** “Ngimemeza lina, madoda; ilizwi lami libiza bonke abantu. **5** Lina eliyizithutha, zuzani ukuqonda; lina ziphukuphuku, zuzani ukuqedisisa. **6** Lalelani ngoba ngilitshele izinto eziqakathekileyo; ngivula izindebe zami ngikhuluma okuqondileyo. **7** Umlomo wami ukhuluma okuliqiniso, ngoba izindebe zami ziyabenyanya ububi. **8** Wonke amazwi omlomo wami aqondile; kalikho lelilodwa elitshekileyo loba elingcolileyo. **9** Kulowo ozwisayo wonke alungile; akulankohliso kulabo abalolwazi. **10** Khetha iseluleko sami kulesiliva, ulwazi kulegolide elikhethiweyo, **11** ngoba ukhulakanipha kuligugu okudlula amarubhi, njalo akulanto ongayifisa ezifisweni zakho okulingana lakho. **12** Mina, kuhlakanipha, ngihlala ndawonye lokuqondisisa; ngilolwazi lokukhetha kühle. **13** Ukwesaba uThixo yikuzonda ububi; ngiyakuzonda ukuzazisa lobuqholo, ukuziphatha kubi lenkulumo ebolileyo. **14** Ukweluleka lokwahlulela okuhle kungokwami; ngilokuzwisisa lamandla. **15** Amakhosi abusa ngenxa yami lababusi balakho ukutshaya imithetho elungileyo; **16** amakhosana abusa ngami, lazozonke izikhulu ezibusa emhlabeni. **17** Ngiyabathanda labo abangithandayo, labo abangidingayo bayangithola. **18** Kimi kukhona inotho lodumo, inotho engapheliyo lokuphumelela. **19** Izithelo zami zingcono kulegolide elicengiweyo; okuphuma kimi kwedlula isiliva sekhethelo. **20** Ngihamba ngendlela yokulunga, ngilandela umkhondo wokuqonda, **21** ngiyabela inotho kulabo abangithandayo ngigcwalise iziphala zabo. **22** UThixo wangenza ngaba khona ngaqalela konke okukhona, kuqala kokwenza ezinye izinto; **23** ngaba khona ekudabukeni kwezinto, kwasekuqaleni, umhlaba ungakabi khona. **24** Kungakabi lezilwandle, ngasengizelwe, kungakabi khona izihotsha ezigcwele amanzi; **25** izintaba zingakamiswa ensikeni zazo, ungakabi khona amaqqa, ngasengizelwe, **26** uThixo ungakawenzi umhlaba lamaganga, loba lonke uthuli lomhlaba. **27** Ngangikhona uThixo ehlela kühle izulu, ephawula kühle imingcele yomkhathi lolwandle, **28** esenza amayezi emkhathini wazinzinisa izinki zolwandle, **29** ebeka imingcele yolwandle ukuze amanzi angedluli izimiso zakhe, ngesikhathi lapho emisa izisekelo zomhlaba. **30** Ngalesosikhathi ngangingumbumbi eceleni kwakhe. Ngeingelenjabulo enkulu insuku, ngithokoza ukuba laye kokuphela, **31** ngithokoza ngomhlaba wakhe wonke ngijabuliswa yibukhona babantu. **32** Ngakho-ke, madodana ami, ngilalelani; babusisekile labo abalondolozela izindlela zami. **33** Lalelani imfundiso yami ukuze lihlaniphe; lingaqali ukuyidela. **34** Ubusisiwe lowomuntu ongilalelayo, olinda imihla yonke eminyango yami, elindelel entubeni yami. **35** Ngoba lowo ongifumanayo uzuzo ukuphila emukelisiwe ukuthandwa nguThixo. **36** Kodwa lowo owehlulekayo ukungifumana uyazilimaza; bonke abangizandayo bathanda ukufa.”

9 Ukhulakanipha sekuzakhele indlu yakho, imisiwe ngezinsika eziyisikhombisa. **2** Isiphekiwe inyama yakho kwalungiswa lewayini; konke sekudekiwe etafuleni. **3** Usewathumile amantombazana, uyanxusa emi ezindaweni eziphakemeyo zedolobho. **4** “Akuthi bonke abayizithutha beze

lapha!” Esitsho kulabo abangaqedisisiyo. **5** “Wozani lidle ukudla kwami linathe iwayini esengililungisile. **6** Lahlani izindlela zenu zobuthutha lizaphila; hambani ngendlela yokuzwisisa.” **7** Lowo oweluleka oklolodayo ubiza inhlamba; okhuza umuntu oxhwalileyo ucina ethethiswa. **8** Ungakhuzi isiqhelo ngoba sizakuzonda; khuza ohlakaniphileyo uzakuthanda. **9** Yeluleka umuntu ohlakaniphileyo uzakwandisa ukhlahkanipha kwakhe; fundisa umuntu olungileyo, uzakwengeza ulwazi lwakhe. **10** Ukumesaba uThixo kuyikuqala kwenhlanakipho, njalo ulwazi ngaLowo oNgcwele luyikuqedisisa. **11** Ngoba ngami zizakuba zingeni insuku zakho, kwandiswe iminyaka yokuphila kwakho. **12** Nxa uhlakaniphile, ukhlahkanipha kwakho kuzakusiza; aluba uyisiqhelo, uzahlfhaka wedwa. **13** Umfazi othiwa nguBuwula ulomsindo; kagobeki njalo kazi lutho. **14** Uthanda ukuhlala emnyango wendlu yakhe, esihlalweni endaweni esesiqongweni sedolobho, **15** abe ehuga labo abedululayo, abahamba beqonde lapho abaya khona. **16** “Abeze lapha bonke abayizithuthal!” Esitsho kulabo abangacabangayo. **17** “Ulutho lokuntshontshwa lumnandi; ukudla okudlelwa ensitha kuyahlabusali” **18** Kodwa kabazi ukuthi kuyafiwa, kuleyondawo, ukuthi izethekeli zalowmfazi sezaphelala ekujuleni kwengcwaba. (Sheol h7585)

10 Izaga zikaSolomoni: Indodana ehlanakiphileyo iletha ukuthokoza kuyise, kodwa indoda eyisiwula iletha ukudabuka kunina. **2** Inotho ezuzwe ngobuqili kayisizi lutho, kodwa ukulunga kukhulula ekufeni. **3** UThixo kayekeli abalungileyo belambile kodwa uyavimbela izinkanuko zezixhwalu. **4** Izandla ezivilaphayo ziletha ubuyanga, kodwa izandla ezikhuthelweyo ziletha inotho. **5** Lowo obutha amabele ngesikhathi sawo yindodana ehlanakiphileyo, kodwa olalayo ngesikhathi sokuvuna yindodana ehlazisayo. **6** Izibusiso zingumqhele womuntu olungileyo. Kodwa ubudlwangu dlwangu bugcwele emlonyeni womubi. **7** Umkhumbulo ngomuntu olungileyo ubusisekile kodwa ibizo lesigangi lizabola. **8** Abahlakaniphileyo enhliziyweni bayalalela izeluleko, kodwa isiphukuphuku esivala ngomsindo siyadilika. **9** Umuntu oqotho uhamba engelakwesaba, kodwa ohamba ngezindlela ezigobileyo uzadaluleka. **10** Lowo oqwayiza ngomona uletha usizi, lesiphukuphuku esivala ngomsindo siyadilika. **11** Umlomo womuntu olungileyo ungumthombo wokuphila, kodwa ubudlwangu dlwangu bugcwele emlonyeni womubi. **12** Inzondo idunga ingxabano, kodwa uthando lusibekela bonke ububi. **13** Ukhlahkanipha kufunyanwa ezindebeni zalowo oqedisisayo; kodwa uswazi lwehla emhlane walowo ongezwayo. **14** Abantu abahlakaniphileyo bayaluqoqa ulwazi, kodwa umlomo wesiwula ugwegwa ukubhidlika. **15** Inotho yezikhulu ingumuzi wazo ovikelweyo; kodwa ubuyanga buyikudilika kwabampofu. **16** Inzuzo yabalungileyo iyabaphilisa, kodwa umholo wababi ubaithela ukujeziswa. **17** Lowo olalela ukuqondiswa utshengisa indlela yokuphila, kodwa lowo oyala ukwelulekwa wedukisa abanye. **18** Lowo ofihla inzondo yakhe ulendebe ezilamanga, kuthi lowo onyeyayo yisiwula. **19** Lapho okwande khona amazwi, isono kasisweleki, kodwa lowo ogcina ulimi lwakhe uhlakaniphile. **20** Ulimi lomuntu olungileyo luyisiliva esikhethiweyo, kodwa inhliziyo yesigangi kayisilutho. **21** Izindebe zolungileyo ziphilisa abanengi; kodwa iziwula ziyafa ngokuswela ingqondo. **22** Izibusiso sikaThixo siletha inotho, leyonotho ingabi lahlupho. **23** Isiwula siyajabula ezenzweni zobubi, kodwa umuntu ozwisisayo utshokoza ngokuhlakanipha. **24** Lokho akwesabayo omubi kuzamfumana; kodwa lokho akuloyisayo olungileyo

uzakuphiwa. **25** Nxa isiphepho sesikhukhule sedlula, ababi sebedule, kodwa abalungileyo bagxilile lanini. **26** Njengeviniga emlonyeni, lentuthu emehlweni, unjalo olesidensi kulabo abamthumayo. **27** Ukumesaba uThixo kuyengeza ubude bempilo, kodwa iminyaka yababi iyafinyezwa. **28** Ikusasa yabalungileyo iyikuthokoza, kodwa amathemba ababi aphelela ezeni. **29** Indlela kaThixo yisiphepho sabalungileyo, kodwa iyikubhidlika kwalabo abenza okubi. **30** Abalungileyo kabasiphuleki, kodwa ababi kabayikusala elizweni. **31** Umlomo womuntu olungileyo ukhupha inhlakanipho, kodwa ulimi oluxhwalileyo luzaqunywa. **32** Izindebe zabalungileyo ziyakwazi okufaneleyo, kodwa umlomo wezizangi ukhupha izibozu.

11 UThixo uyazenyanya izilinganiso zokudleleza, kodwa uthokoza ngezilinganiso eziqondileyo. **2** Nxa kungena ukuziqqaja kungena lokweyisa, kodwa ukuzithoba kuhamba lenhlanakipho. **3** Ubuqotho kwabaqondileyo buyabakhokhela, kodwa abangathembekanga babulawa yibumenemene babo. **4** Inotho kayisizi lutho ngosuku lweziphithiphithi kodwa ukulunga kuyaphephisa ekufeni. **5** Ukulunga kwabangelalaca kuqondisa indlela yabo, kodwa ababi bawiswa yibubi babo. **6** Ukulunga kwabaqondileyo kuyabakhulula, kodwa abangathembekanga bagwenxwa yizinkanuko zabo ezimbi. **7** Umuntu omubi angafa ithemba lakhe liyaphela; konke abesithi uzakuzuzwa ngamandla akhe kuphelela ezeni. **8** Umuntu olungileyo uyakhululwa enkathazweni, kusuke kuyewela komubi. **9** Ngomlomo wakhe umuntu ongakholwayo uyamchitha umakhelwane, kodwa ngolwazi abalungileyo bayaphepha. **10** Nxa kuphumelela abalungileyo umuzi uyathokoza; nxa kusifa omubi kuba lokujabula. **11** Ngokubusiswa ngabalungileyo omubi ubalodumo, kodwa ngomlomo wezizangi uyachitheka. **12** Umuntu ongelangqondo weyisa umakhelwane wakhe, kodwa umuntu ozwisisayo uthiba ulimi lwakhe. **13** Onyeyayo wehluleka ukuvala isifuba sakhe, kodwa othembekileyo uyayigcina imfihlo. **14** Isizwe esingelabukhokheli obuqondileyo siyachitheka, kodwa ngobunengi babeluleki siyanqoba. **15** Lowo okhuphela omunye umuntu isibambiso zahalupheka, kodwa owalayo ukupha isibambiso uvikelekile. **16** Umfazi olomusa uyahlonitshwa, kodwa amadoda alesihluku azuza inotho kuphela. **17** Umuntu olomusa uyazisiza, kodwa umuntu ololunya uyazilimaza. **18** Umuntu omubi uhola umvuzo wobuqili, kodwa lowo ohlanayela ukulunga uvuna umvuzo omuhle. **19** Lowo omiyo ekulungeni uzuza ukuphila, kodwa oxotshana lobubi uya ekufeni. **20** UThixo uyabazonda abantu abalenziziyi embi, kodwa uyathokoza ngalabo abandlela zabo zilungile. **21** Kodwa yazi lokhu, ababi bazajeziswa kodwa abalungileyo bazahlala bekhululekile. **22** Njengesongo legolide lifakwe emakhaleni engulube, unjalo umfazi omuhle kodwa ongelambeko. **23** Izifiso zabalungileyo zizuza okuhle kodwa ithemba lababi liphelela osizini. **24** Ophayo ngesihle uyazuza okunengi kulakuqala, lowo ogodlayo ungenelwa yibuyanga. **25** Lowo ophayo uzaphumelela; owonga abanye laye uzakongiwa. **26** Abantu bayamqalekisa lowo ogodla amabele, kodwa izibusiso zingumqhele walowo ovuma ukuwathengisa. **27** Lowo odinga ukulunga uzuza umusa, kodwa okubi kwehlela lowo okudingayo. **28** Othembele enothweni yakhe uzakuwa; kodwa olungileyo uzaphila njengehlamvu eliluhlaza. **29** Oletela abendlu yakhe uhlupho ilifa lakhe yize, lesihawu sizakuba

yinceku yohlakaniphileyo. **30** Izithelo zolungileyo ziyisihlahla sokuphila, njalo lowo ozuza imiphefumulo uhlakaniphile. **31** Nxa abalungileyo bezuza ukujeziswa emhlabeni pho kuzakuba njani kwabangakhohwayo labayizoni!

12 Othanda ukuqondiswa uthanda ulwazi, kodwa ozonda ukukhuzwa uyisithutha. **2** Umuntu olungileyo uthola umusa kuThixo, kodwa uThixo uyamhlala owakha amacebo amabi. **3** Umuntu angazake amiswe yibubi, kodwa olungileyo angeke aqphuke. **4** Umfazi olesimilo ungumqhele womkakhe, kodwa umfazi oyangisayo unjengokubola kwamathambo akhe. **5** Izimiso zabalungileyo ziqondile, kodwa izeluleko zababi ziyinkohliso. **6** Amazwi ababi alindele ukuchitha igazi, kodwa inkulomo yabalungileyo iyabakhulula. **7** Abantu ababi bayachithwa bangabe besaba khona, kodwa indlu yolungileyo imi izinzile. **8** Umuntu udunyiswa ngokuhlakanipha kwakhe, kodwa abantu abalengqondo ezimbi bayeyiswa. **9** Kungcono ukungabi ngubani kodwa ulesisebenzi, kulokuzitshaya ulutho kodwa uswela lokudla. **10** Umuntu olungileyo uyayinanzelela imfuyo yakhe kodwa okuhle komuntu omubi yilunya. **11** Lowo osebenza nzima emasimini akhe uzathola ukudla okunengi, kodwa lowo ophika ngezifiso eziyize akalangqondo. **12** Ababi bahawukela impango yezigangi, kodwa impande yabalungileyo imi iqinile. **13** Umuntu omubi uthiyeka ngenkulumo yakhe yesono, kodwa umuntu olungileyo uyaphepha enkathazweni. **14** Umuntu uzuza okuhle ngamazwi omolomo wakhe, umsebenzi wezandla zakhe umnika inzuzo. **15** Indlela yesiwula ikhanya iqondile kuso, kodwa umuntu ohlakaniphileyo uyalalela izeluleko. **16** Isiwula siyaphangisa ukuthukuthela, kodwa umuntu olengqondo kananzi loba ethukwa. **17** Umfakazi oleqiniso upha ubufakazi obuqondileyo, kodwa umfakazi ongathembekanga ukhuluma amanga. **18** Amazwi okubhuda agwaza njengenkamba, kodwa ulimi lohlakaniphileyo luyelapha. **19** Izindebe zeqiniso zimi lanini, kodwa ulimi olulamanga luma umzuzwana nje. **20** Inhliziyo zabaceba ububi zigcwele inkohliso, kodwa kulokuthokoza kwabaletla ukuthula. **21** Akukho ngozi ewela abalungileyo, kodwa izigangi zikhulelwa zinhluho. **22** UThixo uyazenyanya izindlela ezilamanga, kodwa uyathokoza ngabantu abaleqiniso. **23** Umuntu olengqondo kazitshengiseli ulwazi lwakhe, kodwa iziwula ziyabutshengisela ubuthutha bazo. **24** Izandla ezikhutheleyo zizaletla inhlahlakhe, kodwa ubuvila budonsela ekugqilazweni. **25** Inhliziyo ekhathazekileyo iyamcakisa umuntu, kodwa ilizwi elilomusa liyamthokozisa. **26** Umuntu olungileyo ukhetha abangane ngonanzelelo, kodwa indlela yababi iyabaphumputhekisa. **27** Umzingeli olivila kazuzi nyama yokosa, kodwa umuntu okhuthaleyo uyazibula ngenotho yakhe. **28** Endleleni yokulunga kulokuphila, kuleyondlela kulokuphila okungaphileyo.

13 Indodana ehlakaniphileyo iyemukela izeluleko zikayise, kodwa ihlongandlebe kalilaleli nxa likhuzwa. **2** Umuntu uzuza okuhle ngamazwi omolomo wakhe, kodwa ababi batshisekela udlakela. **3** Lowo olinda izindebe zakhe ulinda impilo yakhe, kodwa lowo osuka abhede nje uyazibulala. **4** Ivila liyafisa kodwa lingazuzi lutho, kodwa izifiso zokhuthaleyo ziyagcwaliseka. **5** Abalungileyo bayakuzinda okungamanga, kodwa izigangi ziletha ihlazo lesigcono. **6** Ukulunga kuyaminda umuntu oqotho, kodwa ububi buyamchitha oyisoni. **7** Umuntu angazenza onothileyo, yena engalalutho, omunye azitshaye umyanga, kanti elenotho enengi. **8**

Inotho yomuntu ingahlenga impilo yakhe, kodwa umyanga uvele kasongelwa muntu. **9** Isibane sabalungileyo sikhanya sithi kla! Kodwa isibane sezigangi siyafiphala ngentuthu. **10** Ukuziqakisa kukhokhelela engxabanweni, kodwa ukuhlakanipha kufunyanwa kwabemukela ukwelulekwa. **11** Imali ezuzwe ngobuqili iyanyamalala, kodwa lowo oyizuza ngokuqogelela uyayandisa. **12** Ithemba eliphuzayo ligulisa inhliziyo, kodwa isifiso esigcwalisweyo siyisihlahla sokuphila. **13** Lowo oweyisa izeluleko uzibizela ingozi, kodwa othobela umlayo uzaphiwa umvuzo. **14** Imfundiso yabahlakaniphileyo ingumthombo wokuphila, iphephisa umuntu emijibileni yokufa. **15** Ukuzwisisa okuhle kuletha ukuthandeka, kodwa indlela iyabakhohlisa inzima. **16** Wonke umuntu ohlakaniphileyo wenza konke ngolwazi, kodwa isiwula sitshengisa ubuthutha baso. **17** Isithunywa esibi siwela phakathi kohlupho, kodwa isithunywa esithembekileyo siletha ukusila. **18** Onganzani ukuqondiswa wehlelwa yibuyanga lehlazo, kodwa onanza ukukhuzwa uyadunyiswa. **19** Simnandi emphefumulweni isifiso singagcwaliseka, kodwa iziwula kazifuni ukutshiya ububi. **20** Ohamba lezihlakaniphi uyahlakanipha, kodwa othandana leziwula uwela engozini. **21** Umyama ulandelana loyisoni, kodwa impumelelo ingumvuzo wabalungileyo. **22** Umuntu olungileyo utshiyela izizukulwane sakhe ilifa, kodwa inotho yesoni ibekelwa abalungileyo. **23** Insimu yomyanga ingathela ukudla okunengi, kodwa umona wabalamanla uyayikhukhula. **24** Lowo ongasebenzisi uswazi uyayizonda indodana yakhe, kodwa lowo oyithandayo unqinokela ukuyiqondisa. **25** Olungileyo uyasula asuthe ntintinini, kodwa isisu somubi sihlala silamabile.

14 Umfazi ohlakaniphileyo uyakha indlu yakhe, kodwa lowo oyisiwula uyayibhidliza ngezandla zakhe. **2** Lowo ohamba ngobuqotho uyamesaba uThixo, kodwa lowo ondlela zakhe zigobile uyameyisa. **3** Inkulomo yesiwula isikhothisa ngoswazi emhlabeni, kodwa indebe zalowo ohlakaniphileyo ziyamvikela. **4** Lapho okungelankabi khona isibaya siyize, kodwa amandla enkabi aletha isivuno esinengi. **5** Umfakazi oleqiniso kakhohlisi, kodwa umfakazi ongelagqiniso uhutsha amanga. **6** Oweyisayo uyakudanga ukuhlakanipha kodwa kakutholi, kodwa ulwazi luyazizela koqondisayo. **7** Suka emuntwini oyisiwula, ngoba awuyikuthola ulwazi ezindebeni zakhe. **8** Ukuhlakanipha kwabaqondayo yikuthi bayacabanga ngalokho abakwenzayo, kodwa ubuthutha beziwula buyinkohliso. **9** Iziwula zikwenza ubuthutha ukuphenduka ezonweni, kodwa abaqotho bafisa ukwenza uxolo. **10** Inhliziyo leyo lalayo iyakwazi ukudabuka kwayo, njalo kakho ongakwazi ukuthokoza kwayo. **11** Indlu yomubi izadlizwa, kodwa ithente loqotho lizaphumelela. **12** Kukhona indlela ebonakala ilungile emuntwini, kodwa isiphetho sayo siyikufa. **13** Ukuhleba kungabe kufihle ubuhlungu benhliziyo, lokuthokoza kucine sekulusizi. **14** Abangelakho bazavuzwa ngokubafaneleyo, lomuntu olungileyo laye avuzwe ngokwakhe. **15** Umuntu oyisithutha ukholwa loba yini, kodwa olengqondo uyakucabangisisa konke akwenzayo. **16** Umuntu ohlakaniphileyo uyamesaba uThixo, axwaye okubi, kodwa isiwula siliphikankani kodwa sizizwa sivikelekile. **17** Umuntu olicaphucaphu wenza izinto zobuthutha, lomuntu oliqili uyazondwa. **18** Abangazi lutho ilifa labo yibuwula, kodwa abalengqondo betheswa umqhele wolwazi. **19** Abantu ababi bazilahlala phansi phambi kwabalungileyo, lezixhwalu ziguqa emasangweni abalungileyo.

20 Abayanga bahlanyukelwa langabomakhelwane babo, kodwa izinothi zilabangane abanengi. 21 Lowo oweyisa umakhelwane wenza isono, kodwa ubusisiwe olomusa kwabaswelayo. 22 Kabalahleki yini abaceba ububi? Kodwa abamisa ukwenza okuhle bafumana uthando lokuthembeka. 23 Ukusebenza nzima konke kuletha inzuzo, kodwa ukuqina ngomlomo kuthlela ubuyanga. 24 Inothi yabahlakaniphileyo ingumqhele wabo, kodwa ubuphukuphuku beziwula buzala ubuthutha. 25 Umfakazi oqiniso uyabakhulula abantu, kodwa umfakazi wamanga uyakhohlisa. 26 Lowo owesaba uThixo ulenqaba eqinileyo, uzakuba yisiphophelo senzalo yakhe. 27 Ukumesaba uThixo kungumthombo wokuphila, kuvikelela umuntu emijibileni yokufa. 28 Ubunengi babantu elizweni kuludumo enkosini, kodwa nxa kungelabantu umbusi kasilutho. 29 Umuntu obekezelayo uyazwisisa kakhulu, kodwa ophanga ukuthukuthela veza ubuthutha. 30 Inqondo elokuthala iletha ukuphila emzimbeni, kodwa umhawu ubolisa amathambo. 31 Lowo oncindezela abayanga weyisa uMenzi wabo, kodwa olomusa kwabaswelayo udumisa uNkulunkulu. 32 Nxa kufika ubunzima ababi bayadilika, kodwa abalungileyo balesiphophelo lasekufeni. 33 Ukuhlakanipha kuzinzile enhliziyweni yabaqedisisayo, kuyaziveza kanye lakwabayizwila. 34 Ukulunga kuyasiphakamisa isizwe, kodwa isono silihlazo lakubaphi abantu. 35 Inkosi iyathokoza ngenceku ehlananiphileyo, kodwa inceku ehlazisayo iyayithukuthelisa.

15 Ipendulo ethobekileyo iyaludedisa ulaka, kodwa ilizwi elilukhuni livusa ulaka. 2 Ulimi lomuntu ohlakaniphileyo lukhulisa ulwazi, kodwa umlomo wesiwula uphikela ubuphukuphuku. 3 Amehlo kaThixo asezinaweni zonke, alinde ababi labalungileyo. 4 Ulimi oluletha ukuphila luyisihlahla sokuphila, kodwa ulimi olukhohlisayo luyawephula umoya. 5 Isiwula siyakulahlala ukulaya kukayise, kodwa owemukela ukuqondiswa uveza ukuhlakanipha. 6 Indlu yolungileyo igcwele inothi, kodwa inzuzo yababi ibehlisela uhlupho. 7 Izindlela zabahlakaniphileyo ziyalandisa ulwazi, kodwa kazenzi njalo inhliziyo zeziwula. 8 UThixo uyawenyanya umhlathshelo wababi, kodwa umkhuleko wabaqotho uyamthokozisa. 9 UThixo uyawenyanya indlela yababi, kodwa uyabathanda labo abalandela ukulunga. 10 Ukujeziswa okubuhlungu kumlindele ophambuka endleleni; ozonda ukuqondiswa uzakufa. 11 UKufa lokuBhujiswa kusobala phambi kukaThixo kangakanani ke inhliziyo zabantu! (Sheol h7585) 12 Isideleli siyakuzonda ukuqondiswa; kasibuzi kwabahlakaniphileyo. 13 Inhliziyo ethokozayo yenza ubuso buchelese, kodwa inhliziyo ebulungu yephula umoya. 14 Inhliziyo eqedisayo idinga ulwazi, kodwa umlomo wesiwula wongwa ngobuthutha. 15 Zonke insuku zabancindezelweyo zilukhuni, kodwa inhliziyo ethokozileyo ihlezi iminza. 16 Kungcono ukuba lokulutshwana umesaba uThixo kulokuba lenothi enengi uluhlupho. 17 Kungcono ukutsheba ngemibhida lapho okuluthando khona, kulokudla inyama enonileyo okugcwele khona inzondo. 18 Olokala oluvuthayo ubanga ukuxabana, kodwa umuntu obekezelayo uqeda inkani. 19 Indlela yevila igcwele ameva, kodwa indlela yomuntu olungileyo ikhamisile. 20 Indodana ehlananiphileyo iletha intokozo kuyise, kodwa indoda eyisiwula yeyisa unina. 21 Ubuthutha bujabulisa umuntu ongelangqondo, kodwa umuntu olokuzwisisa uhamba ngendlela eqondileyo.

22 Amaqhinga ayehluleka nxa kungelazeluleko, kodwa ayaphumelela ngabeluleki abanengi. 23 Umuntu uyathokoza ngokupha impendulo eqondileyo yeka kuhle kangakanani ukuzwa ilizwi elifaneleyo! 24 Indlela yempilo iyimpumelelo kohlakaniphileyo ukuze angalengeli engcwabeni. (Sheol h7585) 25 UThixo uyayibhidliza indlu yomuntu oziphakamisayo, kodwa indawo yomfelokazi kayiyikuncitshiswa. 26 UThixo uyayizonda imicabango yababi, kodwa leyo eyabalungileyo iyamthabisa. 27 Indoda eyisihwaba iluhlupho kwabendlu yayo, kodwa lowo ozonda ukufunjathiswa uzaphila. 28 Olungileyo uyayihlolisa impendulo engakaphenduli, kodwa umlomo womubi ukhikhiza okubi. 29 UThixo ukhatshana kwababi, kodwa uyezwa umkhuleko wabalungileyo. 30 Ubuso obubobothekayo buletha intokozo enhliziyweni, lezindaba ezinhle ziqinisa umzimba. 31 Lowo olalela ukukhuzwa okumphilisayo, uzahlala kuhle labahlakaniphileyo. 32 Lowo onganaki ukulaywa uyazeyisa yena ngokwakhe, kodwa onanza iziqondiso uzuzwa ukuzwisisa. 33 Ukumesaba uThixo kufundisa umuntu ukuhlakanipha, njalo ukuzithoba kwandulela udumo.

16 Umuntu angawabumba amacebo ngenhliziyo yakhe, kodwa uThixo nguye omupha amazwi okuwachaza. 2 Umuntu angabona sengathi zonke izindlela zakhe ziqondile, kodwa uThixo uyazihlolisa zonke injongo zomuntu. 3 Nikela kuThixo konke okwenzayo, kuzaphumelelisa wonke amacebo akho. 4 UThixo uzilungisele isiphetho sakho konke kanye lababi usuku lokubhujiswa. 5 UThixo uyabazonda konke abazikhukhumezayo. Ngempela kabayikuphepha ukujeziswa. 6 Isono siyahlawulelwa ngothando langokwethembeka; ngokwesaba uThixo umuntu uyaphepha ebubini. 7 Nxa izindlela zomuntu zimthokozisa uThixo, uyenza lezitha zakhe zihlalane laye ngokuthula. 8 Kungcono ukuzuka okuluthwana ngendlela elungileyo kulokuzusa okunengi ngobuqili. 9 Umuntu angalungisa indlela yakhe engqondweni yakhe, kodwa uThixo nguye olawula izinyathelo zakhe. 10 Izindebe zombusi zikhuluma kungathi lidlozi ngakho umlomo wakhe kawungaphambuli umthetho. 11 Izilinganiso eziqondileyo zivela kuThixo; zonke izisindo ezisemgodleni zenziwa nguye. 12 Amakhosi ayakuzonda ukwenza okubi, ngoba isihlahlo sobukhosi sakhelwe phezu kokulunga. 13 Amakhosi athokoziswa yizindebe ezithembekileyo; ayamazisa umuntu okhuluma iqiniso. 14 Ulaka lwenkosi luyisithunyo sokufa, kodwa umuntu ohlakaniphileyo uyaxolisa. 15 Nxa ubuso benkosi bulentokozo, kukhomba ukuphila; ukuthandwa yiyo kunjengeyezi lezulu entwasa. 16 Kungcono kangakanani ukuzusa ukuhlakanipha kulegolide, ukukhetha ukuzwisisa kulesiliva! 17 Umgwaqo womuntu oqotho uceza ububi; lowo onanzelelwa indlela yakhe unanzelela impilo yakhe. 18 Ukuziqqaja kwandulela ukubhujiswa, umoya omubi ulandelwa yikufa. 19 Kungcono umoya othobekileyo lokuhlala kwabancindezelweyo kulokwabelana impango labaziqqajayo. 20 Lowo olalela izeluleko uyaphumelela, njalo ubusisiwe lowo othemba uThixo. 21 Abahlakaniphileyo enhliziyweni kuthiwa bayaqedisisa, njalo amazwi amnandi aqinisa izeluleko. 22 Ukuzwisisa kungumthombo wokuphila kulabo abalako, kodwa ubuwula buletha isijeziso ezizwuleni. 23 Inhliziyo yomuntu ohlakaniphileyo ikhokhela umlomo wakhe, kanti lezindebe zakhe zikhuthaza izeluleko. 24 Amazwi amahle alikhekheba loluju, amnandi emphefumulweni njalo ayelapha emathanjeni. 25 Kukhona indlela ebonakala ilungile

emuntwini, kodwa isiphetho sayo siyikufa. **26** Isisebenzi sifuqwa liphango ukusebenza kakhulu; ukulamba yikho okusikhuthazayo. **27** Isixhwali siceba ububi, lenkulumo yaso injengomlilo ohaqazayo. **28** Umuntu ongelangqondo udaza inkani, njalo lomuntu onyeyayo wehlukana abangane. **29** Umuntu wodlakela uhuga umakhelwane wakhe amholele endleleni engalunganga. **30** Lowo ofica ngelihlo lakhe uceba izibozu; lowo oluma indebe zakhe uqonde ububi. **31** Inwele ezimhlophe zingumqhele wobukhulu, zizuzwa ngempilo elungileyo. **32** Ungcono umuntu obekezelayo kuleqhawe, umuntu ozingandayo ulaka lwakhe kulalowo othumba idolobho. **33** Inkatho iphoshelwa enkundleni, kodwa isinqumo sayo sisemandleni kaThixo.

17 Lungcono uqweqwe lwesinkwa umuntu elokuthula kulendlu egcwele amaqibhagqibha okudla kodwa kulengxabano. **2** Isisebenzi esihlakaniphileyo sizabusa indodana eyangisayo, sizakwabelwa ilifa njengomunye wamadodana. **3** Isiliva sincibilikiselwa embizeni, imvutho ngeyegolide kodwa uThixo uhlola inhliziyi. **4** Umuntu oxhwalileyo uyazilalela izindebe ezimbi; lomqambimanga uyualulela ulimi olulomona. **5** Lowo ohleka umyanga weyisa uMenzi wakhe; okolodayo nxa konakele kayikuphepha isijeziso. **6** Abazukulu bangumqhele wabalupheleyo, njalo labantwana baziqhenya ngabazali babo. **7** Izindebe zokutshinga azisifanelanga isiwula zimbi kangakanani ke izindebe zamanga kumbusi! **8** Isivalamlo sinyintelezi kulowo osinikayo; uyaphumelela kukho konke. **9** Ofihla ukona komunye uqinisa uthando, kodwa okhuluma ngakho kokuphela wehlukana abangane abasekhwapheni. **10** Ukukhuza kuyamqondisa umuntu olengqondo kulokutshaya isiwula imvimvinya ezilikhulu. **11** Umuntu omubi udinga ukuhhlamuka kuphela; uzathunyelwa inxusa elisesihluku. **12** Kungcono ukuqondana lebbhele elithathelwe imidlwane yalo kulokuhlangana lesiwula ebuthutheni baso. **13** Nxa umuntu ephindisela okuhle ngobubi, ububi kabusoze basuka endlini yakhe. **14** Ukusungula inkani kunjengokubhidliza umduli wedamu; ngakho yekela indaba ingakadaleki inkani. **15** Ukukhulula olecala lokugweba omsulwa uThixo uyakuzonda kokubili. **16** Isizani imali esandleni sesiwula, sivele singatshisekeli ukuzuzwa ukuhlakanipha? **17** Umngane ulothando ngezikhathi zonke, lomzalwane uzalelwa izikhathi zenhlopheko. **18** Umuntu onganzeleliyo uyazizwisela anike isibambiso enceda umakhelwane wakhe. **19** Lowo othanda inkani uthanda isono; lowo owakha isango eliphakemeyo udinga ukubhidlizwa. **20** Umuntu olenhliziyi exhwalileyo kaphumeleli; lowo olimi lwakhe luyakhohlisa uwela ekuhluphekani. **21** Ukuba lendodana eyisiwula kuthelela usizi; akulakuthokoza kuyise wesiwula. **22** Inhliziyi ethokozayo ingumuthi omuhle, kodwa umoya owephukileyo womisa amathambo. **23** Umuntu omubi wamukela isivalamlo ensitha ukuze ahlanekele indlela yokwahlulela. **24** Umuntu ohluzisisayo izinto ukhokhela yikuhlakanipha, kodwa amehlo esiwula asabalala afike ekucineni komhlaba. **25** Indodana eyisiwula ithelela uyise usizi lokudabuka kulowo owayizalayo. **26** Kakukuhle ukujezisa umuntu ongelacala, loba ukufaka uswazi izisebenzi ngenxa yobuqotho bazo. **27** Umuntu ololwazi ubeka amazwi akhe ngokunanzelela, njalo umuntu oqedisisayo kathukutheli ngokuphangisa. **28** Lesiwula kuthiwa sihlakaniphile nxa sithule, kuthiwe siyaqedisisa nxa sibamba ulimi lwaso.

18 Umuntu ongelamusa uzifunela okwakhe; uyazilahla zonke iziqondiso ezinhle. **2** Isiwula kasikuthakazeleli ukuzwisisa kodwa sithokoza ngokutsho eyaso imibono. **3** Nxa kufika ububi kufika lokweyisa, njalo ihlazo liza lokudumazeka. **4** Amazwi omlomo womuntu ayinziki yamanzi, kodwa umthombo wokuhlakanipha ngumfudlana ontuntuzayo. **5** Kakukuhle ukulungisela ababi loba ukungehluleli kuhle abangelacala. **6** Izindebe zesiwula zisilethela ingxabano, lomlomo waso unxusa ukutshaywa. **7** Umlomo wesiwula yiwo osidilizayo, lezindebe zaso zingumjibila womphefumulo waso. **8** Amazwi omuntu onyeyayo anjengezibiliboco; angena ekujuleni kwenhliziyi yomuntu. **9** Lowo ovalaphayo emsebenzini wakhe ungumfowabo walowo odilizayo. **10** Ibizo likaThixo liyinqaba eqinileyo; abalungileyo babalekela kulo baphephe. **11** Inotho yezikhulu ingumuzi wazo ovikelweyo; zicabanga ukuthi imiduli yawo ayikhweleki. **12** Umuntu uyazikhukhumeza ngenhliziyi yakhe, mandulo kokuba awe, ikanti ukuzithoba kwandulela udumo. **13** Lowo ophendulayo engaqaqali alalele loba yibuwula bakhe lehlazo lakhe. **14** Umphefumulo womuntu uyamqinisa nxa egula, kodwa ngubani ongapbila elomoya owephukileyo na? **15** Inhliziyi yabaqedisisayo izuza ulwazi; indlebe zabahlakaniphileyo ziyakudina. **16** Isipho siyamvulela indlela ophayo azuze ithuba lokubonana labakhulu. **17** Ecaleni okhuluma kuqala ubonakala enguye olungileyo, kuze kuqhamuke omunye ambuzisise. **18** Ukwenza inkatho kuyakuqeda ukulwisana, kubehlukanise abaxabanayo. **19** Umzalwane owonelweyo uba lukhuni kulomuzi ohonqolozelweyo, lezingxabano zinjengamasango enqaba avaliyeyo. **20** Isisu somuntu sigwaliswa yizithelo zomlomo wakhe; usuthiswa yisivuno sezindebe zakhe. **21** Ulimi lulamandla okuphila lokufa, njalo labo abaluthandayo bazakudla izithelo zalo. **22** Lowo ozuzwa umfazi ufumana okuhle, athole umusa kuThixo. **23** Umyanga uyancenga ukuthi axolelwe, kodwa isinothi siphendula ngolaka. **24** Umuntu olabangane abanengi ucina kubi, kodwa kuba khona umngane othembeke okudlula umfowenu.

19 Ungcono umyanga ohamba ngobuqotho kulesiwula esilezindebe ezingcolileyo. **2** Kakulunganga ukutshiseka kodwa ungelalwazi, loba ukuwalazela uze ulahlekelwe yindlela. **3** Ubuwula bomuntu budliza impilo yakhe, ikanti inhliziyi yakhe ithukuthela uThixo. **4** Inotho iletha abangane abanengi, kodwa umyanga ufulathelwa ngumngane wakhe weduze. **5** Umfakazi wamanga uthola isijeziso, lalowo ohutshuza amanga kayikuphunyuka. **6** Banengi abazincengela ukuthandwa ngumbusi, njalo wonke umuntu ngumngane walowo ophanayo. **7** Umyanga uhlanyukelwa yizihlobo zakhe zonke, pho abangane bakhe bona bammnina kangakanani! Lanxa ebancenga kangakanani, ngeke esabathola. **8** Lowo ozuze ukuhlakanipha uthanda umphefumulo wakhe; lowo ogogosa ukuzwisisa uyaphumelela. **9** Umfakazi wamanga uthola isijeziso, njalo lowo ohutshuza amanga uzabhubha. **10** Kakusifanelanga isiwula ukuthi sihlale enothweni kubi kangakanani ukuthi isigqili sibuse amakhosana. **11** Ukuhlakanipha komuntu kumupha isineke; kumupha udumo ukunganaki ukuqalwa. **12** Ukuthukuthela kwenkosi kunjengokubhonga kwesilwane, kodwa ukuthandwa yiyo kunjengamazolo etshanini. **13** Indodana eyisiwula iyamchitha uyise, lomfazi olenkani unjengamanzi athonta epahlani njalonde. **14** Izindlu lenotho yilifa elizuzwa ebalalini,

kodwa umfazi ozwisisayo uvela kuThixo. **15** Ubuwila buletha ubuthongo obukhulu, njalo umuntu owehleleka ukuzenwaya uyalamba. **16** Lowo olalela izeluleko uvikela impilo yakhe, kodwa lowo ozedeleyo uzakufa. **17** Olomusa kubayanga upha uThixo, uzamupha umvuzo ngalokho kwenzayo. **18** Qondisa indodana yakho, ngoba lokho kuzayiswa; ungabi lengenye yokuyibulala. **19** Umuntu ololaka oluphuphumayo luyamtshayisa, ungamlamulela, usuzahlala uamlamulela njalo. **20** Lalela ukucetshiswa, wamukele ukwondiswa, ngoba ekucineni uzahlakanipha. **21** Inhliziyo yomuntu igcwele amacebo amanengi, kodwa yisimiso sikaThixo esimayo. **22** Umuntu uloyisa uthando olungaqamukiyo; kungcono ukuba ngumyanga kulokuba lamanga. **23** Ukumesaba uThixo kuholela ekuphileni: olakho uhlala esuthisekile, engathintwa yizinhlupheko. **24** Ivilavoxo litshonisa isandla salo emganwini, liyehluleke ukubuyisa isandla emlonyeni lidle. **25** Thela uswazi isideleli, abathobekileyo bazafunda ukwahlakanipha; khuya umuntu oqedisisayo, uzazua ulwazi. **26** Lowo ontshontshela uyise, axotshe unina yindodana ethelela inhloni lehlazo. **27** Nxa uyekela ukulandela izeluleko, ndodana yami, uzalahleka utshiye amazwi okwazi. **28** Umfakazi oxhwalileyo uyawudelela umthetho, lomlomo womubi uminza ububi. **29** Izijeziso zilungiselwe izideleli, loswazi ngolwemihlane yeziwula.

20 Iwayini lenza ukudelela lotshwala buyaxabanisa, okhohliswa yilezi izinto kahlakaniphanga. **2** Ulaka lwenkosi lunjengokubhonga kwesilwane; lowo oyizondisayo udela impilo yakhe. **3** Kumupha udumo umuntu ukubalekela ukuxabana, kodwa iziphukuphuku zonke ziphangisa ukuthenga inkani. **4** Ivlala kalilimi ngesikhathi esifaneleyo; kuthi ngesikhathi sokuvuna liswele amabele. **5** Izifiso zenhliziyoyomuntu zingamanzi azikileyo, kodwa umuntu ozwisisayo uyazifinyelela. **6** Banengi abathi balothando olungapheliyo, kodwa ngubani ongamthola umuntu othembekileyo na? **7** Umuntu olungileyo uphila impilo encomekayo; babusisiwe abantwabakhe abamfuzayo. **8** Inkosi nxa ihlezi esihlalweni sayo isahlulela, iyakuhlungula konke okubi ngamehlo ayo. **9** Ngubani ongathi, “Ngiyigcinile inhliziyoyami imhlophe; ngihlanzekile kangilasono?” **10** Izisindo ezitshiyanyayo lezilinganiso ezitshiyanyayo uThixo uyakuzonda kokubili. **11** Lomntwana waziwa ngezenzo zakhe, ngokuthi isimilo sakhe sihle, siqotho. **12** Indlebe ezizwayo lamehlano abonayo kokubili kwenziwa nguThixo. **13** Ungathandani lobuthongo uzakuba ngumyanga, hlala uvukile uzakuba lokudla okunengi. **14** “Kubi, kubi!” kutsho umthengi; esuka lapho usezincoma ngakuthengileyo. **15** Likhona igolide lamatshe aligugu amanengi, kodwa izindebe ezikhuluma ulwazi zilivelakancane. **16** Thatha isembotho salowo owenzela owezweni isibambiso; sigcine nxa ebambisela owesifazane ongaziphathanga. **17** Ukudla okuzuzwe ngenkohliso kumnandi emuntwini, kodwa kucingana sekungathi udla itshebetshebe. **18** Nxa usenza amacebo dinga izeluleko; nxa usiyahlasela zuka ukwondiswa. **19** Onyeyayo uyeuhluleka ukugcina imfihlo, ngakho yehlukana lomuntu okhuluma angathuli. **20** Nxa umuntu ethuka uyise loba unina, isibane sakhe sizacinywa abesemnyameni omubi. **21** Ilifa elizuzwa lula ekuqaleni alilakubusiswa ekucineni. **22** Ungabokuthi, “Lami ngizakulungisa ngalokhu ongenze khona!” Yekela, uThixo nguye ozakusiza. **23** UThixo uyazonda izilinganiso eziguququkwelayo, njalo kathokoziswa yizikalizokudlelelela. **24** Izinyathelo zomuntu zikhokhelwa nguThixo. Pho umuntu angayazi kanjani na indlela yakhe?

25 Yikuzithiya ukuthembisa ngokuphangisa ukupha ulutho, phambili umuntu aphinde azisole ngalesosifungo. **26** Inkosi ehlakaniphileyo iyabahlungula ababi; iyabahadla njengelitshe lokuchola. **27** Isibane sikaThixo siyawuhlolisisa umphefumulo womuntu; sihlolisisa ekujuleni kwemibilini yakhe. **28** Uthando lokwethembeka kuyayivikela inkosi; ngothando isihlalo sayo sobukhosini sivikelekile. **29** Udumo lwamajaha lusemandleni awo, izimvu zekhanda ziyinkazimulo yabadala. **30** Izidutshulo lamanxeba kugezisa okubi, lezibhaxulo zihlambulula ingaphakathi.

21 Inhliziyo yenkosi isezandleni zikaThixo, uyiholela lapho athanda khona njengomsele wamanzi. **2** Umuntu ubona kungathi zonke izindlela zakhe zilungile, kodwa uThixo uhlola inhliziyoyomuntu. **3** Ukwenza okulungileyo lokufaneleyo kuyathandeka kuThixo kulomhlatshe. **4** Amehlo okuzikhukhumeza lenhliziyo ezigqajayo, okuyikho okukhokhela ababi, konke yizono! **5** Amalungiselelo abakhutheleyo anika umvuzo njengoba nje amawala eletha ubuyanga. **6** Inotho ezuzwe ngendlela yamanga iyinkungu ememethekayo lomjibila wokufa. **7** Ukuhlukuluzwa kwababi kuzabakhukhula, ngoba bayala ukwenza okulungileyo. **8** Indlela yomuntu olecala iyathubezela, kodwa ukwenza kongelalo kuqondile. **9** Kungcono ukuhlala ekhulusini lophahla lwendlu kulokuhlala ndlu yinye lomfazi olomlomo. **10** Umuntu omubi utshisekela ububi; kalasihawu ngomakhelwane wakhe. **11** Nxa kujeziswa isideleli isithutha sizusa ukwahlakanipha; nxa ohlakaniphileyo eqondiswa uzuza ulwazi. **12** Olungileyo uyayinazelela indlu yesigangikuthi lesosigangisibhubhise. **13** Nxa umuntu egcika indlebe zakhe ukuze angezwa ukukhala kwabayanga, laye uzakuthi esekhala angalalelwa muntu. **14** Isipho esiphwa ensitha siyaludedisa ulaka, lesivalamlomo esifihlwe emajazini siyakudedisa ukuthukuthela. **15** Ukwahlulela kuhle kuthokozisa olungileyo kodwa izigangikuzitshayisa uvalo. **16** Umuntu ophambuka endleleni yokuzwisisa ucina esendawonye labafuleyo. **17** Lowo othanda ukuzithokozisa uzakuba ngumyanga; laloba ngubani othanda iwayini lezibondlo ngeke anotho. **18** Ababi baba ngumhlawulelo wabalungileyo, labangathembekanga bangumhlawulelo wabaqotho. **19** Kungcono ukuhlala enkangala kulokuhlala lomfazi olenkani lothethayo. **20** Indlu yohlakaniphileyo igcwele amaqubaquba ezibiliboco lamafutha, kodwa umuntu oyisithutha udla aqede du konke alakho. **21** Lowo odinga ukulunga lothando uzuza ukuphila, ukuphumelela lodumo. **22** Umuntu ohlakaniphileyo uhlaselelwa umuzi wabalmandla adilizela phansi inqaba abayithembileyo. **23** Lowo oqaphela umlomo wakhe lolimi lwakhe uyaziphaphisa ezingozini. **24** Umuntu ozigqajayo loyisiquhlo ibizo lakhe ngu “Sideleli,” wenza izinto ngokuziqakosa okukhulu. **25** Izinkanuko zevila yizo ezililimazayo, ngoba izandla zalo ziyala ukusebenza. **26** Ilanga lonke litshona lifisa okungapheliyo, kodwa abalungileyo bayapha bengagodli. **27** Umhlatshe wababi uyisinengiso kambe mubi kangakanani nxa ulethwa ngenhliziyo embi. **28** Umfakazi wamanga uzabuhba, kuthi lowo omalelelo uzabhujiwa lanini. **29** Umuntu omubi utshengisa isibindi samanga, kodwa umuntu oqotho uyananzelela izenzo zakhe. **30** Akulakuhlakanipha, akulambono, akulacebo okunganqoba uThixo. **31** Ibhiza liyalungiselelwa usuku lwempi, kodwa ukunqoba kulawulwa nguThixo.

22 Ibizo elihle liyathandeka kulenotho enengi; ukuhlontitshwa kungcono kulesiliva kumbe igolide. **2** Abanothileyo labayanga bayafanana ngalokhu: UThixo unguMenzi wabo bonke. **3** Umuntu olengqondo uthi ebona ingozi acatshe, kodwa isithutha siyaphikelela singena enkathazweni. **4** Ukuzithoba lokwesaba uThixo kuletha inotho lodumo lokuphila. **5** Endleleni yababi kugcwele ameva lemjibila, kodwa onanzelela umphefumulo wakhe unqenqela khatshana. **6** Fundisa umntwana indlela amele ahambe ngayo, kuzakuthi esemdala kayikuphambuka kuyo. **7** Abanothileyo babusa abayanga, lalowo owebolekayo uyisichaka salowo omebolekayo. **8** Lowo ohlanye ububi uvuna ukhulupheka, njalo uswazi lolaka lwakhe luzakwephulwa. **9** Umuntu ophanayo uzabusiswa, ngoba wabela abayanga ukudla kwakhe. **10** Xotsha isideleli, lenkani ihle iphume; ukuxabana lokuthukana kuyaphela. **11** Othanda inhliziyoy ehlanzekileyo, okulumo yakhe ipholile uzakuba ngumngane wobusi. **12** Amehlo kaThixo ayaluvikela ulwazi kodwa uyawadiliza amazwi abangathembekanga. **13** Ivilavoxo lithi, “Kulesilwane phandle! Ngizabulawa ezindleleni!” **14** Umlomo wesifebekazi unjengomgodi otshonayo; lowo othukwe nguThixo uzawobokela kuwo. **15** Ubuwula bugxilile enhliziyweni yomntwana, kodwa uswazi lokuqondisa luzabuxotshela khatshana. **16** Lowo oncindezela abayanga ukuze anotho ngabo, lalowo oncenga abanothileyo ngeziphoo, bonke bacina sebengabayanga. **17** Lalela uzwe amazwi ezihlakaniphi; nikela inhliziyoy yakho ezifundweni zami, **18** ngoba kuyathokoza nxa uzicigna enhliziyweni yakho, uzitsho kalula ngezindebe zakho. **19** Ukuze ithemba lakho lihale kuThixo, yikho ngikufundisa lamuhla wena ngokwakho. **20** Kangikulobelanga yini izitsho ezingamatshumi amathathu, izitsho zokweluleka lolwazi, **21** ezikufundisa amazwi eqiniso athembekileyo, ukuze ukwazi ukupha impendulo ezilesisindo kulowo okuthumileyo na? **22** Ungagegeleli abayanga ngoba bengabayanga njalo ungapheleli abaswazoy entolongweni, **23** ngoba uThixo uzakuba ngumeli wabo abahlukuluzo labo ababahlukuluzayo. **24** Ungabi ngumngane womuntu lolaka, ungapheleli lomuntu ozonda masinyane, **25** funa ufunde izindlela zakhe uzingenise emjibileni. **26** Ungabi ngumuntu ophanayo ukwenza izithembiso kumbe onika isibambiso ngezikwelede; **27** ungayiswela inhlawulo uzakwemukwa noma ngumbheda wakho olala kuwo. **28** Ungasusi ilitshe lakudala elomngcele elabekwa ngokhokho bakho. **29** Uyambona umuntu oyingcitshi emsebenzini wakhe na? Uzasebenzela amakhosi; akayikusebenzela abantukazana.

23 Nxa uhla phansi usidla lombusi, nanzelela ukuthi kuyini okuphambi kwakho, **2** ungzizifaki ingqamu entanyeni nxa uhugwa yibuhwaba. **3** Ungahawukeli izibiliboco zakhe ngoba lokho kudla kuyakhohlisa. **4** Ungazihlukuluzi uzigugise ngomsebenzi uzama inotho; hlakanipha wazi ukuzikhuza. **5** Ungayibona manje inotho, masinyane isinyamalele, ngoba ngempela izamila impiko iphapheli emkhathini njengengqungulu. **6** Ungakudli ukudla komuntu oncitshanyayo, ungzizihawukeli izibiliboco zakhe; **7** ngoba yena uhlezi ebalisa ngendleko. Angathi kuwe, “Dlana unathe,” kodwa kungasuki enhliziyweni yakhe. **8** Uzakuhlanza okuncane lokho okudlileyo ube udlalise amazwi akho okubonga. **9** Ungakuhlami lesithutha ngoba sizakweyisa inhlanipha yamazwi akho. **10** Ungasusi ilitshe lakudala elomngcele loba uzithathele amasimu ezintandane, **11** ngoba umHlengi

wazo ulamandla; uzakuba ngumeli wazo aphikisane lawe. **12** Nikela inhliziyoy yakho ekufundisweni lezindlebe zakho emazwini olwazi. **13** Ungayekeli ukumlaya umntwana; ukumtshaya ngoswazi akuyikumbulala. **14** Mjezise ngoswazi ukuze uphephise umphefumulo wakhe ekufeni. **(Sheol h7585)** **15** Ndodana yami, aluba inhliziyoy yakho ihlakaniphele, inhliziyoy yami layo izathokoza; **16** ingaphakathi yami izajabula lapho izindebe zakho zikhuluma okulungileyo. **17** Inhliziyoy yakho mayingahawukeli izoni, kodwa hlala utshisekela ukwesaba uThixo. **18** Ngeqiniso lihle ikusasa lakho, lethemba lakho kaliyikucitshwa. **19** Lalela, ndodana yami, uhlaniphe, ubeke inhliziyoy yakho endleleni elungileyo. **20** Ungahlangani lezimzini zewayini labazitika ngenyama, **21** ngoba izidakwa lezihwaba ziba ngabayanga, ukuwozela kwazo kuzembese amadabudabu. **22** Lalela uyihlo owakuletha emhlabeni, njalo ungeyisi unyoko nxa eseluphele. **23** Thenga iqiniso ungalithengisi; zuka ukhlanipha lokuzikhuza lokuzwisa. **24** Uyise womuntu olungileyo uyathokoza kakhulu; lowo olendodana ehlanipheleyo uyathokoza ngayo. **25** Sengathi uyihlo lonyoko bangathokoza; sengathi lowo owakuzalayo angajabula! **26** Ndodana yami, ngipha inhliziyoy yakho, amehlo akho ahla ezindleleni zami, **27** ngoba isifebe singumgodi otshonayo lomfazi olibeke lendlela ungunthombo oyingozi. **28** Uyacathamela njengesigebenga, andise amadoda angathembekanga. **29** Ngubani ohlaba umkhosi? Ngubani olosizi na? Ngubani otshingayo? Ngubani olensolo na? Ngubani omahluzuhluza ngeze? Ngubani omehlo abomvu gebhu na? **30** Yilabo abalibala ngenwayini, abahamba bedinga inziswa yewayini elidibanisiweyo. **31** Ungahugwa liwayini ulibona libomvu, nxa likhazimula enkomitshini, lapho lisehla kamnandi! **32** Ekucineni liluma njengenyo libe lobuhlungu obubulalayo njengenhlangwana. **33** Amehlo akho azabona izinto ezingaqedakaliyo lengqondo yakho icabange izinto ezididayo. **34** Uzakuba njengomuntu ondendayo phakathi kolwandle, olele esiqongweni sensika yomkhumbi. **35** Uzakuthi, “Bangitshayile kodwa kangilimalanga! Bangibethile kodwa kakubuhlungu! Ngizavuka nini bo ngiyodinga obunye utshwala?”

24 Ungabahawukeli abantu abaxhwalileyo, ungfasi ubungane labo; **2** ngoba ezingqondweni zabo bahlose udlakela, lezindebe zabo zikhuluma ngokuvusa umisingo. **3** Indlu yakhiwa ngokuhlakanipha, imiswe ngokuzwisisa; **4** amakamelo ayo agcwaliswe ngolwazi, agcwaliswe ngemicciso yakude eligugu. **5** Umuntu ohlakanipheleyo ulamandla amakhulu, njalo umuntu lolwazi uyandisa amandla; **6** ukuthi unqobe empini kufunakala izeluleko, lokunqoba kudinga abeluleki abanengi. **7** Ukuhlakanipha kuphakeme kakhulu koyisiwula; enkundleni kadalutho angalukuluma. **8** Lowo ocebaba ububi uzakwaziwa njengomacebomabi. **9** Amacebo obuwula ayisono, njalo abantu bayasizonda isideleli. **10** Nxa uthikaza ngezikhathi zehlpheke, mancingane kangamani amandla akho! **11** Bahlangule labo abaholelwa ekufeni; banqande labo abadayizela besiya ekubulaweni. **12** Nxa usithi, “Angithi besingazi lutho ngalokhu,” kambe lowo ohlala inhliziyoy kakuboni lokho na? Kakwazi lokho yini onguye olinda ukuphila kwakho na? Akayikuvuza ubani lobani ngakwenzileyo na? **13** Dlana uluju ndodana yami, ngoba lungile; uluju olujuluka ekhekhebeni lumnandi luyanambitheka. **14** Yazi njalo ukuthi ukuhlakanipha kumnandi emphefumulweni wakho, aluba ukuzo ikusasa lakho lilethemba elihle, njalo ithemba

lakho aliyikudaniswa. **15** Ungacathamelu indlu yomuntu olungileyo njengesigebenga, ungawuhlaseli umuzi wakhe; **16** ngoba loba angaze awe kasikhombisa umuntu olungileyo uyavuka futhi, kodwa ababi babhazalalisa yizinhlupheko. **17** Ungathatshiswa yikuwa kwesitha sakho; nxa sikhubeka ungavumeli inhliziyu yakho ithokoze, **18** ngoba uThixo uzakubona lokho asole abeseholisa ulaka lwakhe kuso isitha. **19** Ungazikhathazi ngenxa yabantu ababi loba ubahawukele abaxhwalileyo, **20** ngoba umuntu omubi akalalo ithemba lakusasa, njalo isibane sezixhwalu sizacinywa. **21** Yesaba uThixo lombusi, ndodana yami, ungangenelani labahlamuki, **22** ngoba laba bobabili bazakwehlisa ulaka lubabhuhise, ngoba phela ngubani kambe okwaziyo ukubhuhisa abangakwehlisa? **23** La ngamanye amazwi ezihlakaniphi: Ukwahlulela ngobandlululo kakulunganga: **24** Loba ngubani othi kolecala, “Umsulwa,” abantu bonke bazamqalekisa lezizwe zonke zizamhlamukela. **25** Kodwa kuzabalungela labo abamlahlayo olecala, lezibusiso ezinengi zizabehlela. **26** Impendulo eqotho injengokwangiwa ezindebeni. **27** Qeda umsebenzi wakho waphandle ulungise lamasimu akho; kuthi-ke usuqedile wakhe indlu yakho. **28** Ungafakazi ngokubethela umakhelwane kungelamlandu, kumbe usebenzise izindebe zakho ukhohlisa. **29** Ungabokuthi, “Ngizakwenza kuye njengoba enze kimi; ngizahlawulisa ngalokho angenze khona.” **30** Ngedlula esimini yevilavoxo, ngedlula esivini somuntu ongelangqondo; **31** ameva ayesekhula indawo yonke, indawo yonke isithe phethu ukhula, lomduli wamatshe usudilikile. **32** Ngakunanzelela konke engangikubona ngafunda isifundo kulokho engakubonayo: **33** Ukulala okuncane, ukuwozela okuncane, ukugoba izandla kancane uphumula, **34** ubuyanga buzafika kuwe njengesela lokuswela njengesigebenga.

25 Lezi ngezinye njalo izaga zikaSolomoni, ezabhalwa yizinceku zikaHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda: **2** Kuyinkazimulo kaNkulunkulu ukufihla indaba; ukuchwayisisa indaba ludumo lwababusi. **3** Njengalokhu izulu liphakeme lomhlaba ujulile, kunjalo imicabango yamakhoi kayifinyelelwa. **4** Susa amakhafutha ahlalange lesiliva umkhandi athole ukulungisa isitsha sihle; **5** susa abantu ababi phambi kwenkosi, isihlalo sayo sizaqiniswa ngokulunga. **6** Ungaziphakamisi phambi kwenkosi, ungaziphendleli indawo phakathi kwezikhulu; **7** kuba ngcono ukuthi yona ithi, “Woza uhlahle ngapha,” kulokuthi yona ikwehlise phambi kwezikhulu. Lokho okubonileyo ngawakho amehlo **8** ungaphangisi ukukubika emthethwandaba, ngoba uzathini nxa umakhelwane wakho esekuyangisa? **9** Nxa ungaya edale lomakhelwane wakho ungahambi usuhlabela imfihlo yenu, **10** funa lowo okuzwayo akuyangise uhlahle usungumuntu olebizo elibi. **11** Ilizwi elikhulunywe ngesikhathi esifaneleyo linjengama-aphula egolide ananyekwe emkheni wesiliva. **12** Njengecici legolide kumbe umceci wegolide elicengiweyo kunjalo ukukhuza komuntu ohlakaniphileyo, kolalelayo. **13** Njengokuqanda kongqwaqwane ngesikhathi sokuvuna sinjalo isithunywa esithembekileyo kwabasithumileyo; sivuselela imphefumulo yabaphathi baso. **14** Njengamayezi lomoya okungalethi izulu unjalo umuntu ozikhukhumeza ngamandla angelawo. **15** Ngokubekezela inkosi ingancengwa ize ivume, lolimi oluthambileyo lungalephula ithambo. **16** Nxa uthole inyosi, dlana okwaneleyo ungedlulisi amalawulo, uzazihlanza. **17** Ungabi ngunsukuzonke endlini kamakhelwane wakho

uzacina usumdaka abesekuzonda. **18** Unjengesagila loba inkemba kumbe umshoko obukhali umuntu ofakaza amanga ngomakhelwane wakhe. **19** Njengezinyo elibhulungu loba unyawo olwenyeleyo kunjalo ukweyama emuntwini ongathembekanga ngesikhathi sokuhlupheka. **20** Njengomuntu okhumula ibhatshi mhla kumakhaza, loba njengokuthela iviniga phakathi kwesoda unjalo ohlabelela izingoma emuntwini odabukileyo. **21** Nxa isitha sakho silambile siphe ukudla sidle; nxa somile siphe amanzi sinathe. **22** Ngokwenza lokho, umokhela amalale avuthayo ekhanda, njalo uThixo uzakubusisa. **23** Njengomoya wasenyakatho uletha izulu, unjalo ulimi olubomqili luvusa ulaka. **24** Kungcono ukuhlala ekhulusini lophahla lwendlu kulokuhlala ndlu yinye lomfazi olomlomo. **25** Njengamanzi aqandayo emuntwini okhatheleyo, zinjalo zindaba ezimnandi ezivela elizweni elikude. **26** Njengesiziba esidungekileyo loba umthombo ongolileyo unjalo umuntu olungileyo odedela umuntu omubi. **27** Kakukuhle ukudla inyosi wedlulise, njalo kakulasithunzi ukuzidingela ukudunyiswa. **28** Njengedolobho eselidilikelwe ngumthangala walo unjalo umuntu ongazithintayo.

26 Njengongqwaqwane ehlobo loba izulu ebusika kanjalo udumo alusifanelanga isiwula. **2** Njengentaka ephaphazelayo loba inkonjane entwezayo, sinjalo isigalekiso esingelasitho kasinamatheli. **3** Isiswebhu ngesebhiza, amatomu ngakababhemi, loswazi ngolwemihlana yeziwula! **4** Ungabophendula isiwula ngendlela yobuwula baso, funa ubenjengaso wena ngokwakho. **5** Phendula isiwula ngendlela yobuwula baso, sizabona kungathi sihlakaniphile. **6** Njengokuziquma inyawo zakho loba ukunatha itshefu, kunjalo ukuthumela umlayezo ngesiwula. **7** Njengemilenze eqhugazelayo eyomuntu oqhulayo sinjalo isaga emlonyeni wesiwula. **8** Njengokubophela ilitshe esavutheni kunjalo ukupha udumo koyisiwula. **9** Njengogatsha lwameva luphethwe yisidakwa sinjalo isaga emlonyeni wesiwula. **10** Njengomtshoko ociba loba ngubani odlulayo unjalo oqhatsha isiwula loba umuntu ozedlulayo. **11** Njengenja ebuyela emahlanzweni ayo kanjalo isiwula siyabuphinda ubuthutha baso. **12** Uyambona yini umuntu ozibona engohlakaniphileyo? Kulethemba elingcono ngesiwula kulay. **13** Ivilavoxo lithi, “Kulesilwane endleleni, kulesilwane emigwaqweni!” **14** Njengesivalo esitshibilika ngamabhanti aso kanjalo ivila liphenduka embhedeni walo. **15** Ivilavoxo litshonisa isandla salo emganwini; livilaphe ukusa isandla emlonyeni lidle. **16** Ivila lizibona lhlakaniphile kakhulu okwedlula abantu abayisikhombisa abangaphendula ngokuhlakanipha. **17** Njengomuntu odonsainja ngendlebe unjalo umuntu othi edlula angenele ingxabano ingesiyakhe. **18** Njengohlanya luphosa izikhuni zomlilo kumbe imitshoko ebulalayo, **19** injalo indoda ephoxa umakhelwane wayo ibisisithi, “Bengizidlalela nje!” **20** Nxa kungaselankuni umlilo uyacima; nxa kungaselakunyeya ukuxabana kuyaphela. **21** Njengamalale avuthayo loba njengenkuni emlilweni, unjalo umuntu othanda ingxabano ekuvuseni inkani. **22** Amazwi omuntu onyeyayo anjengezibiliboco; angena ekujuleni kwenhliziyo yomuntu. **23** Njengesiliva egcotshwe esitsheni sebumba sikhazimule kunjalo ukuthakazelela kwezindebe zenhliziyo elobubi. **24** Umuntu olenhliziyo embi uvala ngezindebe ezimnandi, kodwa enhliziyweni yakhe ufihle inkohliso. **25** Loba ukukhuluma kwakhe kumnandi, kodwa ungaze wamkholwa, ngoba inhliziyo

yakhe igcwele izithuko eziyisikhombisa. **26** Inzondo yakhe angayivala ngobuqili, kodwa ububi bakhe buzavezwa obala ebantwini. **27** Umuntu angagebha umgodi, uzawela kuwo; umuntu angagiqi ilitshe, lizaphenduka ligiqikele phezu kwakhe. **28** Ulimi oluqamba amanga luyabazonza labo olubalimazayo, lomlomo okhohlisayo uletha incithakalo.

27 Ungazincomi ngelakusasa, ngoba kawukwazi ukuthi liza lithweleni. **2** Yekela omunye akudumise, hatshi owakho umlomo; akube ngomunye, kungabi ngezakho izindebe. **3** Ilitshe liyasinda, itshehetshebe ngumthwalo onzima, kodwa ukucatshulwa yisiwula kunzima okudlula kokubili. **4** Ulaka lulolunya lentukuthelo iyagabha, kambe ngubani ongema phambi komhawu na? **5** Kungcono ukuthukwa obala lukuthandwa ngokufihlakeleyo. **6** Okulinyazwa ngumngane kakwesabeki, kodwa isitha sikwanga sedlulwa amalawulo. **7** Osuthiyo kathakazeleli uluju oluvela ekhekhebini, kodwa kolambileyo lokubabayo kunambitheka mnandi. **8** Njengenyonni elahleka esidlekeni sayo, unjalo umuntu otshiya umuzi wakhe. **9** Amakha lempepha kuletha intokozo enhliziyweni, lobumnandi bomngane busuka ezulelakeni zakhe eziqinileyo. **10** Ungadeli umngane wakho lomngane kayihlo, futhi ungayi endlini yomfowenu nxa wehlelwe yizinhlupheko ungcono umakhelwane eduze kolomfowenu okhatsana. **11** Hlakanipha, ndodana, ulethe intokozo enhliziyweni yami; lapho ngizakwazi ukumphendula ongeyisayo. **12** Umuntu olengqondo uthi ebona ingozi acatsha, kodwa isithutha siyaphikelela singena enkathazweni. **13** Thatha isigqoko salowo owenzela owemzini isibambiso; sigcine njengesithembiso aluba esenzela umfazi ongelasimilo. **14** Uba umuntu evukisa umakhelwane wakhe ngokumnqolanga ekuseni kakhulu, kuzathiwa uyamqalekisa. **15** Umfazi olenkani unjengamathonsi angapheliyo mhlanga kusina; **16** ukumkhuza kufana lokukhuza umoya loba lokubamba okulamagcobo ngesandla. **17** Njengensimbi ilola insimbi, kanjalo indoda ikhaliphisa enye. **18** Lowo onakekela isihlahla somkhiwa uzakudla izithelo zawo, kuthi lowo olondolozayo umqhatshi wakhe abelodumo. **19** Njengamanzi etshengisa ubuso bomuntu, kanjalo inhliziyu yomuntu itshengisa ayikho khona. **20** UKufa leNcithakalo kakusuthi, anjalo lamehlo omuntu. (Sheol h7585) **21** Isiliva sincibilikiselwa embizeni imvutho ngeyegolide, kodwa abantu bahlolwa ngodumo lwabo. **22** Ungaze uchole isiwula elitsheni, usichole njengamabele ngembokodo kawusoze ubususe ubuwula baso. **23** Woba leqiniso ukuthi uhlala usazi kuhle isimo sezifuyo zakho, nanzelela imihlambi yakho; **24** ngoba inotho kayiyikhulala kokuphela, lomqhele wobukhosi kawuyikuba ngowezizukulwane zonke. **25** Uthshani bungaqunywa kuqalise ukuhluma obunye kuthi bonke obusikiweyo ezintabeni sebubuthiwe, **26** amawundlu azakupha oboya bezigqoko, lembuzi zikuphe imali elingana intengo yesiqinti. **27** Uzakuba lochago lwembuzi olunengi olwakho lolwendlu yakho lusuthise lezincedu zakho.

28 Umuntu omubi uyabaleka loba engaxotshaniswa muntu, kodwa abalungileyo balesibindi njengesilwane. **2** Nxa ilizwe lihlamuka liba lababusi abanengi, kodwa umuntu ozwisayo lololwazi ugcina ukuthula. **3** Umbusi oncinezela abayanga unjengezulu elinengi elikhukhula amabele. **4** Labo abaphikisa umthetho bakhuthaza izigangi, kodwa labo abawugcinayo bayazenqabela. **5** Abantu ababi kabakuzwisisi ukwahlulela kuhle, kodwa labo abamdingayo

uThixo bayakuzwisisa kakhulu. **6** Ungcono umyanga ohamba ngokulunga kulesinothi esilezindlela zokungcola. **7** Lowo ogcina umthetho yindodana eqedisayo, kodwa umngane wezixhwali uyangisa uyise. **8** Lowo owandisa inotho yakhe ngenzaliso uyibuthela omunye ozaba lomusa kubayanga. **9** Loba ngubani angawalaleliyo umthetho, lemikhuleko yakhe izakuba yisinengiso. **10** Lowo oholela olungileyo endleleni embi uzawela emjibileni wakhe, kodwa ongelacala uzakwamukela ilifa elihle. **11** Umuntu onothileyo angazibona ingathi uhlakaniphile, kodwa umyanga oqedisayo uhle abone ukuthi kasumuntu. **12** Nxa olungileyo engoba kulokujabala okukhulu; kodwa nxa omubi ethatha umbuso abantu bayacatsha. **13** Lowo ofihla iziphambeko zakhe kayikuphumelela, kodwa lowo ozivumayo azitshiye ufumana umusa. **14** Ubusisiwe umuntu ohlala emesaba uThixo, kodwa lowo oyenza lukhuni inhliziyu yakhe uwela enkathazweni. **15** Njengesilwane esibhongayo loba ibhele elihlaselayo unjalo umuntu omubi nxa ebasa abantu abangelamandla. **16** Umbusi oncinezelayo wehluleka ukwahlulela kuhle, kodwa lowo ozonda inzuzo yokuganga uzakuba lempilo ende. **17** Umuntu odliwa ngumzwangedwa wokubulala omunye uzaba ngohlala ebaleka aze ayokufa; akungabi lomuntu omsekelayo. **18** Lowo ompilo yakhe ingelacala uvikelekile, kodwa ondlela zakhe zixhwaliwe uzakuba masinyane. **19** Lowo osebenza nzima emasimini akhe uzathola ukudla okunengi, kodwa lowo ophika ngezifiso eziyize uzakuba ngumyanga onukayo. **20** Umuntu othembekileyo uzabusiwa ngokuphumelela, kodwa ogijimela ukunotha kayikuphepha ekujizweni. **21** Ukubandlulula abantu kakulunganga ikanti umuntu uyona ukuze azuze ucezu lwesinkwa. **22** Umuntu oncitshanayo utshisekela ukunotha kodwa kaboni ukuthi unyenyelwa yibuyanga. **23** Lowo okhuza umuntu uzacina esethandeka kulalowo ololimi olukhohlisayo. **24** Lowo onthontshela uyise loba unina athi, "Akusinto embi" ungumngane lomuntu obhidlizeyo. **25** Umuntu olomhawu ubanga ingxabano, kodwa lowo omethembayo uThixo uzaphumelela. **26** Lowo ozithembayo yena uyisiwula, kodwa lowo ohamba ngenhlakanipho uvikelekile. **27** Lowo opha abayanga kayikuswela lutho, kodwa ovala amehlo ingathi kababoni uzuzo iziqalekiso ezinengi. **28** Lapho izigangi zisiba yiziphathamandla abantu bayacatsha; kodwa nxa kusifa izixhwali abalungileyo bayaphumelela.

29 Umuntu oqinisa intamo phezu kokukhuzwa kanengi uzabhujiwa ngesikhatsana kungabi lokuphepha. **2** Lapho kuphumelela abalungileyo abantu bayajabula; nxa kubusa izixhwali abantu bayabubula. **3** Umuntu othanda ukuhlakanipha uletha intokozo kuyise, kodwa ohamba lezifebe utshaphaza inotho yakhe. **4** Ngokubusa kuhle inkosi iyaliqinisa ilizwe layo, kodwa leyo elihaga lezivalamlomo iyalibhidliza. **5** Loba ngubani okhohlisa umakhelwane wakhe uzendlelela umambule wokuzithiya. **6** Umuntu omubi uthiywa yisono sakhe, kodwa umuntu olungileyo angahlabela athokoze. **7** Olungileyo uyawananza amalungelo abayanga, kodwa ababi kabazidubi ngalokho. **8** Izideleli zingalidungwa idolobho, kodwa abantu abahlakaniphileyo bayaludedisa ulaka. **9** Nxa umuntu ohlakaniphileyo esiya emthethwandaba lesiwula, isiwula siyatshinga sibhede kube lomsindo. **10** Abadinga ukuchiitha igazi bayamzonda umuntu oqotho njalo badinga ukubulala abalungileyo. **11** Isiwula siyalukhihliza lonke ulaka lwaso, kodwa umuntu ohlakaniphileyo uyazithiba. **12** Nxa

umbusi elalela amanga, zonke izikhulu zakhe ziba zimbi. **13** Umyanga lomncindezeli bakanye kulokhu: UThixo uvula amehlo abo bobabili. **14** Nxa inkosi isahlulela abayanga kungelabandlululo, isihlalo sayo sobukhosi sizaqina. **15** Uswazi lokuqondisa lunika ukuhlakanipha, kodwa umntwana oyekelwayo uhlazisa unina. **16** Nxa ababi bephumelela, lesono laso siyaphumelela, kodwa abalungileyo bazabawisa. **17** Qondisa indodana yakho, izakupha ukuthula; izaletsa injabulo emphefumulweni wakho. **18** Lapho okungekho khona isambulelo, abantu badela ukuzithiba; kodwa ubusiswe lowo ogcina umlayo. **19** Inceku kayiqondiswa ngamazwi nye wodwa, loba izwisisa kayiyikuzenza ekutshelwayo. **20** Uyambona umuntu owalazela ukukhuluma? Kulethamba elingcono esiwuleni kulaye. **21** Umuntu ototoza inceku yakhe isakhula, leyonceku izamthwalisa nzima ekucineni. **22** Umuntu othukuthelayo udala ingxabano, kodwa lowo oliphucaphu wenza izono ezinengi. **23** Ukuzigqaja komuntu kuyamehlisa, kodwa umuntu ozehlisa uza udu. **24** Osizana lesela uyazizonda yena; usezifungise kulo ngakho ngeke afakaze iqiniso. **25** Ukwesaba abantu kuba yizithiyo, kodwa lowo othamba uThixo uzaphepha. **26** Abanengi bazama ukuzisondeza kumbusi, kodwa ukwahlulela okuhle kuvela kuThixo. **27** Abalungileyo bayabenyanya abangathembekanga; abaxhwalileyo bayabenyanya abalungileyo.

30 Amazwi ka-Aguri indodana kaJakhe, amazwi ahlakaniphileyo: Umuntu lo wathi ku-Ithiyeli: “Ngikhathele, Oh Nkulunkulu, kodwa ngizophumelela. **2** Angilalwazi okudlula bonke abantu; angilakho ukuzwisisa komuntu. **3** Angikufundanga ukuhlakanipha njalo kangilalwazi ngaye oNgcwele. **4** Ngubani oseke waya ezulwini waphinda wehla na? Ngubani oseke wafumbatha umoya ngesandla sakhe na? Ngubani oseke wagoqela amanzi ngesigqoko sakhe na? Ngubani omise yonke imikhawulo yomhlaba na? Lingubani ibizo lakhe, lebizu lendodana yakhe? Ngitshela nxa usazi! **5** Wonke amazwi kaNkulunkulu akalamposiso; uyisihlangu kulabo abacatsha kuye. **6** Ungengezeleli emazwini akhe, funa akukhuzi akwenge umqambimanga. **7** Zimbili izinto engicicela kuwe, Oh Thixo; ungangincitshi zona ngingakafi: **8** Susa kimi inkohliso lamanga; ungangiphi ubuyanga loba inotho, kodwa ungphe kuphela ukudla kwami kwansukuzonke. **9** Phela ngingaba lokunengi kakhulu ngikuphike wena ngithi, ‘Ngubani uThixo?’ loba ngibngumyanga ngintshontshe; ngalokho ngiliyangise ibizo likaNkulunkulu wami. **10** Ungahlebi inceku enkosini yayo, ngoba izakuqalekisa ungene enkathazweni. **11** Bakhona abathuka oyise, abangababusiyo onina; **12** labo abazibona belungile ikanti kabahlambululwanga emanyaleni abo; **13** labo abamehlo abo ahlezi egcwele ulaka, abakhangela ngokudelela; **14** labo omazinyo abo zinkemba, omihlathi yabo inanyathiselwe izingqamu ukuze baginye abayanga baphele emhlabeni, labaswelayo abaphakathi kwabantu. **15** Umkhaza ulamadodakazi amabili; ayamemeza athi, ‘Siphe! Siphe!’ Zintathu izinto ezingasuthiyo, zine ezingakaze zithi, ‘Sekwanele!’ **16** lingcwaba yisisu senyumba, lomhlabathi ongasuthiyo amanzi, lomlilo ongezukufa wathi, ‘Sekwanele!’ (Sheol h7585) **17** Ilihlo elihleka uyise, elidelela ukulalela unina, lizakotsholwa ngamawabayi asesigodini, lizadliwa ngamanqe. **18** Kukhona izinto ezintathu ezingimangalisayo kakhulu, ezine engingazizwisisiyo: **19** indlela yengqungqulu emkhathini,

umzila wenyoka edwaleni, indlela yomkhumbi olwandle, lendlela yejaha lentombi. **20** Le yindlela yesiphingikazi: siyadla sesule umlomo waso besesisithi, ‘Angenzanga lutho olubi.’ **21** Zintathu izinto ezizamazama umhlaba, zine ongeke uzithwale: **22** yinceku ebayinkosi, yisiwula esisuthiyo, **23** ngumfazi owendileyo ongathandwayo, lencekuzi ethathela inkosikazi indoda. **24** Kukhona emhlabeni izinto ezine ezincinyane, ikanti-ke zihlakaniphile kakhulu: **25** Ubunyonyo kabulamandla anganani, kodwa buyabuthelala ukudla kwabo ehlobo; **26** lezimbila ziyizidalwa ezilamandla angatsho lutho, kodwa zenza izikhundla zazo ezingoxweni zamadwala; **27** izintethe kazi, kodwa zimanda ziludibi olwesabekayo; **28** umbankwa ungabanjwa ngesandla, kodwa ungena lasezigodlweni zamakhosi. **29** Kulezinto ezintathu ezihamba zinqekuzi kamnandi, zine ezihamba zibeka kamnandi: **30** yisilwane, esilamandla esabekayo phakathi kwezilo, esingabalekeli lutho; **31** liqhude eliditshazelayo, yimpongo, njalo lenkosi nxa ihanqwe libutho layo. **32** Nxa ube yisithutha waziphakamisa, kumbe nxa wakhe amacebo okwenza okubi, vala umlomo wakho ngesandla sakho. **33** Ngoba njengokuphehla uchago kudala iphehla, lanjengoba ukugubha amakhala kubanga umungula, kunjalo ukuvusa ulaka kudala ingxabano.”

31 Amazwi enkosi uLemuweli, amazwi enhlakanipho awafundiswa ngunina: **2** Oh, ndodana yami! Oh ndodana yethumbu lami! Oh, ndodana yezifungo zami, **3** ungadlalisi amandla akho ebafazini, izifutho zakho kulabo abadiliza amakhosi. **4** Kakusikho kwamakhosi, bakithi Lemuweli kakusikho kwamakhosi ukunatha iwayini, kakusikho kwababusi ukunxwanela utshwala, **5** funa badakwe bakhohlwe izimiso zomthetho, behluleke ukumisela kuhle abahluphekayo amalungelo abo. **6** Phana utshwala kulabo abavele sebezifele, iwayini kulabo abalozisi olukhulu; **7** kabanathe bakhohlwe ubuyanga babo bakhohlwe nya usizi lwabo. **8** Bamele labo abehlulekayo ukuzikhulumela, uwavele amalungelo alabo abangelalutho. **9** Khuluma njalo wahluhle ngokulunga; alwele amalungelo abayanga labaswelayo. **10** Ngubani na ongathola umfazi olesimilo? Uligugu elidlula kakhulu amatshe amahle. **11** Indoda yakhe iyamthamba ngokupheleleyo njalo kayisweli lutho oluqakathekileyo. **12** Uyenzela okuhle, hatshi okubi, impilweni yakhe yonke. **13** Uyakhetha kuhle iwulu lesikusha akweluke kuhle ngezandla ezikhutheleyo. **14** Unjengemikhumbi yabathengisi, eletha ukudla okuvela kude. **15** Uvuka ekuseni kusesemnyama; alungisele abomuzi wakhe ukudla abele lezincekukazi zakhe. **16** Uyayihlolisisa insimu mandulo kokuyithenga; ngalokho akuzuzayo uyahlanyela isivini sakhe. **17** Uwubamba ngokukhuthala umsebenzi wakhe; aqinise izingalo zakhe emsebenzini. **18** Uyananzelela ukuthi ukuthengisa kwakhe kulenzuzo, lokuthi isibane sakhe kasicimi ebusuku. **19** Uphatha uluthi lokuphotha ngesandla sakhe abesebamba ngeminwe yakhe isigudugudu sokweluka. **20** Welulela izandla zakhe kubuyanga njalo ulezandla ezilula kwabaswelayo. **21** Lapho kukhithika unqwaqwane, kalakwesaba ngabendlu yakhe; ngoba bonke bagqoke ezibomvu. **22** Wendlala amaambu ombheda wakhe; agqoke ilineni elihle lezigqoko eziyibubende. **23** Indoda yakhe iyahlonitshwa enkundleni lapho efika ihlale khona ndawonye labadala belizwe. **24** Uthunga izigqoko zelineni azithengise, abathengi bemigaxo bayizuzi kuye. **25** Wembethe amandla lesithunzi; uyahleka loba kusiza insuku ezimbi. **26** Ukhuluma

ngenhlakani pho, lezeluleko eziqondileyo zisolimini lwakhe. **27** Unqinokela ezomuzi wakhe njalo kadli isinkwa sobuvila. **28** Abantwabakhe bayambonga bathi ubusisiwe; lendoda yakhe layo iyamdumisa ithi, **29** “Banengi abafazi abenza izimangaliso zobuhle, kodwa wena uyabedlula bonke.” **30** Ukubukeka kuyakhohlisa, lobuhle buyaphela; kodwa umfazi owesaba uThixo kadunyiswe. **31** Kaphiwe umvuzo wobuhle abenzayo, imisebenzi yakhe imlethele udumo enkundleni.

UmTshumayeli

1 Amazwi oMtshumayeli, indodana kaDavida inkosi yaseJerusalema: **2** “Ize! Ize!” kutsho uMtshumayeli. “Ize elipheleleyo! Konke kuyize.” **3** Umuntu uzuzani ngawo wonke umsebenzi wakhe awusebenza nzima ngaphansi kwelanga? **4** Izizukulwane ziyafika, izizukulwane ziyedlula, kodwa umhlaba umi lanini. **5** Ilanga liyaphuma njalo ilanga liyathshona, liphinde liphange libuyele lapho eliphuma khona. **6** Umoya uphephethela eningizimu ujike uye enyakatho; uyabhoda, ubhode njalo ujinge ubuyela endleleni yawo. **7** Zonke izifula zigelezela olwandle, kodwa ulwandle kalugcwali. Endaweni lapho izifula ezidabuka khona zicina zibuyela khona njalo. **8** Zonke izinto ziyadina, lobhe okungelandiswe muntu. Ilihlo kalidinwa yikubona, lendlebe layo kayigcwali ngokuzwa. **9** Lokho okwake kwaba khona kuzakuba khona njalo; okwake kwenziwa kuzakwenziwa njalo; akulalutho olutsha ngaphansi kwelanga. **10** Kukhona yini umuntu angathi ngakho, “Khangela! Lolulutho lutsha?” Selwake lwaba khona ngaphambili, kudala; lwalukhona singakabi khona. **11** Kayikho imikhumbulo ngabantu bakudala, njalo lalabo abezayo abayikuhunjulwa yilabo abalandelayo. **12** Mina Mtshumayeli, ngangiyinkosi yako-Israyeli eJerusalema. **13** Ngazinikela ekufundeni lokudingisisa ngolwazi konke okwenziwayo ngaphansi kwezulu. Unzima kangakanani umthwalo uNkulunkulu awethese abantu! **14** Sengizibonile zonke izinto ezenziwayo ngaphansi kwelanga; zonke kazitsho lutho, kuyikuxotshana lomoya. **15** Okutshileneyo kungaze kwaqondiswa; okungekho kungaze kwabalwa. **16** Ngacabanga ngedwa ngathi, “Khangela, sengikhulile njalo kwanda ukuhlakanipha kwami okudlula bonke asebake babusa eJerusalema ngaphambi kwami; sengibe lakho ukuhlakanipha okukhulu lolwazi.” **17** Ngasengizimisela ukuzwisisa ukuhlakanipha, njalo lokuphambana ingqondo lobuwula, kodwa ngafunda ukuthi lokhu lakho kuyikuxotshana lomoya. **18** Phela ngokwanda kokuhlakanipha kuyanda lokukhathazeka; ukwandisa ulwazi yikwandisa usizi.

2 Ngacabanga ngenhliziyo ngathi, “Kulungile, ake ngizame ukuzithokozisa ngibone ingabe kuhle yini.” Kodwa lokho lakho kwakhanya kuyize. **2** Ngathi, “Ukuhleka kuyibuthutha. Ukuzithokozisa khona kusizani?” **3** Ngazama ukuzithabisa ngewayini, ngisenza ubuwula kodwa ingqondo yami ilokhu ingikhokhela ngokuhlakanipha. Ngangifuna ukubona ukuthi kuyini okumlungeleyo umuntu ukuthi akwenze lapha ngaphansi kwezulu ngezinsukwana lezo zokuphila kwakhe. **4** Ngaqalisa imisebenzi emikhulu: ngazakhela izindlu ngahlanyela amavini. **5** Ngasungula izivande lezigcawu zokubukwa ngahlanyela kuzo yonke imihlobo yezihlahla lezithelo. **6** Ngenza iziziba zamanzi okuthelala izihlahla ezazikhula kuhle. **7** Ngathenga iziqqili zesilisa lezesifazane, ngilezinye futhi iziqqili ezazalelwa emzini wami. Ngaba lemihlabihlambi yenkomo lezimvu okwedlula bonke abake babakhona eJerusalema ngaphambi kwami. **8** Ngabuthelala isiliva legolide, kanye lempahla yamakhosi eligugu ivela ezigodini. Ngazidingela abahlabeleli besilisa labesifazane, lesithembo esikhulu, khona okujabulisa inhliziyoyendoda. **9** Ngaba mkhulu ngokwedlulelo kulaloba ngubani owaba seJerusalema ngaphambi kwami. Phakathi kwayo yonke inyakanyaka le ukuhlakanipha kwami kwahlala kukhona. **10**

Angizincitshanga lutho olwalufiswa ngamehlo ami; inhliziyoyami angiyalelanga layiphi intokozo. Inhliziyoyami yathokoza ngawo wonke umsebenzi wami, lokhu kwaba ngumvuzo wezithukuthuku zami. **11** Kanti lanxa ngahlolisisa konke okwenziwa yizandla zami lalokho engangibhensela ukukuzuzwa, konke kwakuyize, yikuxotshana lomoya; kwakungela nzuzo ngaphansi kwelanga. **12** Ngasengixilisa imicabango yami ekuhlolisiseni ukuhlakanipha, njalo lobuhlanya kanye lobuwula. Kambe angenzani othatha isikhundla senkosi ngaphandle kwalokho obekuvele sekwenziwe? **13** Ngabona ukuhlakanipha kungcono kulobuwula, njengokukhanya kungcono kulomnyama. **14** Umuntu ohlakaniphileyo ulamehlo ekhanda, ikanti isiwula sihamba ebumnyameni; kodwa ngacina sengibona ukuthi isiphetho sabo bonke sinye. **15** Ngasengicabanga enhliziyweni yami ngathi, “Isiphetho sesiwula sizangehlela lami. Pho, ngizuzani ngokuhlakanipha?” Ngathi ngenhliziyo yami, “Lokhu lakho kuyize.” **16** Ngoba umuntu ohlakaniphileyo, njengesiwula, akazukuhunjulwa kokuphela; ngezinsuku ezizayo bobabili bazakhohlakala. Njengesiwula, umuntu ohlakaniphileyo laye uzakufa! **17** Yikho-ke ngasengikuzonda ukuphila, ngoba umsebenzi owenziwayo ngaphansi kwelanga wawubuhlunga kimi. Wonke uyize, yikuxotshana lomoya. **18** Ngazizona zonke izinto engangizinqele ngaphansi kwelanga, ngoba ngimele ngitshiyele lowo oza ngemva kwami. **19** Njalo ngubani owaziyo ingabe uzakuba ngumuntu ohlakaniphileyo loba isiwula? Kodwa nguye ozalawula wonke umsebenzi wamaginqo ami lobungcithsi bami. Lokhu lakho kuyize. **20** Ngalokho inhliziyoyami yaqalisa ukuphela amandla ngikhumbula konke lokho engakuginqelayo ngaphansi kwelanga. **21** Ngoba umuntu angenza umsebenzi wakhe ngokuhlakanipha, ngolwazi langamasu, kodwa utshiyela konke alakho komunye ongazange akusebenzele. Lokhu lakho kuyize, kungumnyama. **22** Umuntu uzuzani ngakho konke ukusebenza nzima langokutshikatika kabuhlungu lapha emhlabeni? **23** Ubuhlungu umsebenzi wakhe awenzayo kuzozonke insuku zokuphila kwakhe; kwala kanye lebusuku umkhumbulo wakhe kawuphumuli. Lokhu lakho kuyize. **24** Akukho okungekho emuntwini ngaphandle kokuthi adle, anathe njalo azuze ukusuthiseka ngomsebenzi wakhe. Lokhu lakho ngiyakubona ukuthi kuvela kuNkulunkulu, **25** ngoba ngaphandle kwakhe ngubani ongadla kumbe azuze intokozo? **26** Kulowo omtshokozisayo uNkulunkulu umupha ukuhlakanipha, ulwazi lokuthaba, kodwa koyisoni umupha umsebenzi wokuqoqa lokulonda inotho ukuze ayiphe lowo othokozisa uNkulunkulu. Lokhu lakho kuyize, yikuxotshana lomoya.

3 Zonke izinto zilesikhathi sazo, konke okwenziwayo ngaphansi kwelanga kulesibanga sakho: **2** isikhathi sokuzalwa lesikhathi sokufa, isikhathi sokuhlanyela lesikhathi sokusiphuna, **3** isikhathi sokubulala lesikhathi sokuphilisa, isikhathi sokubhidliza lesikhathi sokwakha, **4** isikhathi sokukhala lesikhathi sokuhleka, isikhathi sokulila lesikhathi sokugida, **5** isikhathi sokuchithiza amatshe lesikhathi sokuwabutha, isikhathi sokogona lesikhathi sokunina, **6** isikhathi sokudinga lesikhathi sokukhalala, isikhathi sokungcina lesikhathi sokulahla, **7** isikhathi sokudabula lesikhathi sokuthunga, isikhathi sokuthula lesikhathi sokukhuluma, **8** isikhathi sokuthanda lesikhathi sokuzonda, isikhathi sempile lesikhathi sokuthula. **9** Umuntu osebenzayo uzuzani

na ngokusadalala kwakhe? 10 Sengiwebonile umthwalo uNkulunkulu awethese abantu. 11 Yonke into uyenze yabanhle ngesikhathi sayo. Wamupha umuntu iphakade enhliziyweni yakhe; kodwa abantu bangeke bafinyelele kulokho uNkulunkulu asakwenzayo kwasekuqaleni kusiya ekupheleni. 12 Ngiyakwazi ukuthi kakukho okungcono ebantwini kulokuthi bajabule njalo benze okuhle besaphila. 13 Ukuthi wonke umuntu adle, anathe asuthiseke ekusebenzeni kwakhe gadalala, lokhu kuyisipho sikaNkulunkulu. 14 Ngiyazi yonke into eyenziwa nguNkulunkulu izakuba khona kokuphela; akulalutho olungengezwa kukho loba kususwe kukho. UNkulunkulu uyenza lokho ukuze abantu bamkhonze. 15 Loba yini ekhona seyake yaba khona, kulalokho okuzakuba khona sekwaba khona ngaphambili; njalo uNkulunkulu uzakubalisa okwedlulayo. 16 Njalo ngabona okunye ngaphansi kwelanga: endaweni yokwahlulela, ububi babukhona, endaweni yokulungisa, ububi babukhona. 17 Ngacabanga ngenhliziyweni yami, “UNkulunkulu uzabehlulela bonke abalungileyo lababi, ngoba sizaba khona isikhathi sezenzakalo zonke, isikhathi sawo wonke umsebenzi.” 18 Ngacabanga njalo ngathi, “UNkulunkulu uyabahlola abantu ukuze babone ukuthi banjengezinyamazana. 19 Isiphetho somuntu siyafana lesezinyamazana; isiphetho sinye sibalindele bonke: njengoba lokhu kuyafa, kanjalo lokunye kuyafa. Konke kokubili kulomphefumulo munye; umuntu kangcono kulenyamazana. Konke kuyize. 20 Konke kuya ndawo yinye; konke kuvela othulini, yikho konke kubuyela othulini. 21 Ngubani owaziyo ingabe umphefumulo womuntu uyakhwela uye phezulu kuthi owenyamazana wehlele phansi phakathi emhlabathini?” 22 Yikho ngabona ukuthi kakukho okungcono emuntwini ngaphandle kokuthi akholise umsebenzi wakhe ngoba lesi isabelo sakhe. Ngoba kambe ngubani ongamenza ukuthi abone lokho okuzakwenzakala yena esedule?

4 Ngakhangele njalo ngabona konke ukuncindezelwa okwakukhona ngaphansi kwelanga: Ngabona inyembezi zabancindezelwayo babengelabaduuzi; amandla ayekubala abancindezelwayo abalaye umduduzi. 2 Ngangifakaza ukuthi abafileyo, abavele sebefile, bayathokoza kulabaphilayo, abalokhu besaphila. 3 Kodwa okungcono kulakho kokubili ngulowo ongakabikhona, ongakaboni ububi obenziwayo ngaphansi kwelanga. 4 Ngasengibona ukuthi konke ukusebenza lokuphumelela konke kuvela emhawini womuntu ngomakhelwane wakhe. Lokhu lakho kuyize, kuyixotshana lomoya. 5 Isiwula sigoqa izandla zaso sidilize impilo yaso. 6 Kungcono isandla esisodwa esigcweleyo silokuthula kulezandla ezimbili ezingagcwalanga ezilomtshikatshika lokuxotshana lomoya. 7 Njalo ngabona okunye okuyize ngaphansi kwelanga: 8 Kwakulendoda eyayiyodwa zwi; yayingelandedana loba umfowabo. Yayisebenza gadalala ingaphumuli, kodwa amehlo ayo ayengasuthiswa yinotho yayo. Yabuza yathi, “Ngingqela bani kangaka, njalo kungani ngizincitsha intokozo?” Lokhu lakho kuyize umsebenzi othelela usizi! 9 Ababili bangcono kuloyedwa, ngoba balomvuzo obonakalayo ngomsebenzi wabo. 10 Omunye angawa, umngane wakhe uyamncedisa amvuse. Kodwa maye lowomuntu owayo kungelamuntu ongamsiza amvuse! 11 Njalo nxa ababili belala ndawonye bazakhudumezana. Kanti umuntu angakhudumala kanjani eyedwa na? 12 Loba umuntu engehlulwa nxa eyedwa, ababili bangazivikela. Intambo elemicu emithathu kayiqamuki lula. 13 Lingcono ijaha elingumyanga kodwa lihlakaniphile kulenkosi

endala eyisiwula eyalayo ukwamukela izixwayiso. 14 Ijaha lelo kungabe ngeliphuma ejele libe yinkosi, loba lingelazalelwa ebuyangeni elizweni lalowombuso. 15 Ngabona ukuthi bonke ababephila behamba ngaphansi kwelanga baliandela lelojaha elathatha isikhundla sobukhosi. 16 Amakhosi la (endala lencinyane) kungabe ayeludomo elandelwa ngabantu abangelakubalwa. Kodwa izizukulwane ezilandelayo azimthandanga lowo owathatha ubukhosi. Lokhu lakho kuyize, yikuxotshana lomoya.

5 Qaphela izinyathelo zakho nxa usiya endlini kaNkulunkulu. Sondela ulalele kulokuthi wenze imihlatshelo yeziwula ezingaziyo ukuthi ziyona. 2 Ungawalazeli ngomlomo wakho, ungabi lephaphu uphange uthemise kuNkulunkulu. UNkulunkulu usezulwini ikuthi wena usemhlabeni, ngakho kawabe malutshwana amanzi akho. 3 Njengephupho elifika nxa kulezinkathazo ezinengi, injalo inkulomo yesiwula nxa ilamazwi amanengi. 4 Nxa usenza isifungo kuNkulunkulu, ungaphuzi ukusigcwalisa. Kathokozi ngeziwula; gcwalisa isifungo sakho. 5 Kungcono ukungafungi kulokwenza isifungo ungabe usisigcwalisa. 6 Ungavumeli umlomo wakho ukungenise esonweni. Njalo ungathingeli isithunyuwa sethempelini usithi, “Isifungo sami besiyisiphosiso.” UNkulunkulu angakuthukuthelelani lokho okutshoyo abesebhidliza umsebenzi wezandla zakho na? 7 Ukuphupha kanengi lamazwi amanengi kuyize. Ngakho mesabe uNkulunkulu. 8 Nxa ubona abayanga esiqintini bencindezelwa, bencitshwa ukwahlulelwa okuhle kanye lamalungelo, ungamangaliswa yilezozinto; ngoba phela induna nganye ikhangelwe ngomunye ongaphezu kwayo, kuthi ngaphezu kwabo bonke kube labanye njalo abangaphezu. 9 Inala elizweni ngeyomuntu wonke; inkosi ngokwayo ithola inzuzo ngalokho okuvela emasimini. 10 Lowo othanda imali akaneliswa yiloba yimalini; lowo othanda inotho akasuthiswa yilokho akuzuzayo. Lokhu lakho kuyize. 11 Nxa inotho isanda, bayanda lalaba abayisebenzisayo. Imisa ngani umniniyo ngaphandle kokuyithapha ngamehlo nje kuphela! 12 Bumnandi ubuthongo besisebenzi, loba sisidla okuncane loba okunengi, kodwa isinothi asilali ngenxa okuncane yaso. 13 Sengibone ububi obudanisayo ngaphansi kwelanga: ubuhaga ngenotho okulimaza umnikazi, 14 loba inotho esuke yachitheka ngomnyama othile, okuthi nxa umuntu elendodana ayisayikuthola lutho. 15 Umuntu uphuma esiswini sikanina engelalutho, njengokufika kwakhe ubuyela enjalo. Kazuzi lutho olusuka emsebenzini wakhe angaluphatha ezandleni zakhe. 16 Lobu labo yibubi obudanisayo: Njengokufika kwakhe, umuntu uzabuyela enjalo, ngakho uzuzani, njengoba esebenza esadalalela umoya? 17 Zonke insuku zakhe udlela emnyameni, ekhathazekile, ehlupekile, ezondile. 18 Ngasengibona ukuthi kuhle kuqondile ukuthi umuntu adle njalo anathe, njalo azuze ukusuthiseka ekutshikatshikeni kwakhe ngomsebenzi ngaphansi kwelanga ngalezonsuku ezilutshwane ezokuphila uNkulunkulu asamuphe zona ngoba lesi yisabelo sakhe. 19 Kunjalo futhi ukuthi nxa uNkulunkulu esipha umuntu inotho lempahla, amvumele ukuthi akholise ngazo, emukele isabelo sakhe athokoze emsebenzini wakhe, lesi yisipho sikaNkulunkulu. 20 Kahlali ekhumbula ngezinsuku zempilo yakhe ngoba uNkulunkulu umenza ahlele ngenjabulo enhliziyweni.

6 Sengibone obunye ububi ngaphansi kwelanga engibona ukuthi bunzima kakhulu ebantwini: **2** UNkulunkulu upha umuntu inotho lempahla lodumo ukuze angasileli lutho oluloyiswa yinhliziyoy yakhe, kodwa uNkulunkulu kamniki amandla okuthi azikhohise lezozinto, zikhohiswa ngowemzini. Lokhu kuyize, ububi obudanisayo. **3** Umuntu angaba labantwana abalikhulu aphile okweminyaka eminingi; ikanti loba angaze aphile kanganani kodwa nxa engeke akholise inotho yakhe njalo angangcwatshwa ngendlela eqondileyo, ngithi umphunzo ungcono kulaye. **4** Ufika ungasilutho, unyamalale emnyameni lebezilo lawo liphelele emnyameni. **5** Loba lomophunzo ungazange ulibone ilanga loba wazi ulutho usekuphumuleni okungcono kulalowomuntu **6** loba angaze aphile okweminyaka eyinkulungwane iphindwe kabili kodwa angaze akholise inotho yakhe. Kabayi ndawonye bonke na? **7** Yonke imizamo yomuntu iya emlonyeni wakhe, kodwa iphango lakhe kaligcwala. **8** Umuntu ohlakaniphileyo ungcono ngani kulesiwula? Umuntu ongumyanga uzuzani ngokwazi ukuziphatha kuhle phambi kwabanye na? **9** Kungcono okubonwa lilihlo kulokuhwaywa liphango. Lokhu lakho kuyize, yikuxotshana lomoya. **10** Loba yini ekhona seyavele yethiwa ibizo, laloba yini umuntu ayiyo yona kuvele sekusaziwa; akalumuntu ongaphuthumana lomunye olamandla kulaye. **11** Ngokwanda kwamazwi siyancipha lesisindo sawo; pho kumsiza ngani umuntu? **12** Kambe ngubani okwaziyo okulungele umuntu ekuphileni kwakhe ngensuku ezimbalwa ezingatsho lutho adlula kuzo njengethunzi na? Ngubani ongamtshela okuzakwenzeka ngaphansi kwelanga yena esedlule?

7 Ibizoy elihle lingcono kulamakha amnandi, lelanga lokufa lingcono kulelanga lokuzalwa. **2** Kungcono ukuya endlini yesililo kulokuya endlini yamadili, ngoba ukufa kuyisiphetho somuntu wonke; abaphilayo kabakananzelele lokho. **3** Usizi lungcono kulokuhleka, ngoba ubuso obudanileyo buyayisiza inhliziyoy. **4** Inhliziyoy yabahlakaniphileyo isendlini yokulila, kodwa inhliziyoy yeziwula isendlini yokuzithokozisa. **5** Kungcono ukulalela izixwayiso zomuntu ohlakaniphileyo kulokulalela ingoma yeziwula. **6** Njengokuchachamba kwameva ngaphansi kwembiza, lunjalo uhleko lweziwula. Lokhu lakho kuyize. **7** Ukuzilibezela kwenza ohlakaniphileyo abe yisiwula, lesivalamlomo siyayona inhliziyoy. **8** Isiphetho sendaba singcono kulokuqala kwayo, lokubekezela kungcono kulokuqinisa intamo. **9** Ungaphangisi ukufuthelana ngaphakathi, ngoba ulaka luhlezi lugonwe yiziwula. **10** Ungaze wathi, “Kungani insuku yayizolo zazingcono kulalezi?” Ngoba kakukuhle ukubuza imibuzo enjalo. **11** Ukuhlakanipha, njengelifa, kuyinto enhle njalo kuyabasiza bonke abaphilayo. **12** Ukuhlakanipha kuyisiphetho njengoba imali iyisiphetho, kodwa ubungcono bolwazi yilobo: ukuthi ukuhlakanipha kuyayilondoloza impilo yalowo olakho. **13** Nakana ngalokho uNkulunkulu akwenzayo: Ngubani ongakuqondisa lokho akwenze kwagoba na? **14** Ngezikhathi konke kukuhle, thokoza; kodwa ngezikhathi zobubi, cabanga ukuthi: uNkulunkulu ukwenzile lokhu kanye lalokhuyana njalo. Ngakho-ke umuntu ngeke akwazi ukuthi ikusasa lakhe lizakuba yini. **15** Kuyonale impilo yami eyize sengizibonile izinto lezi zombili: umuntu olungileyo uyafa elungile enjalo, lomuntu omubi uba lempilo enhle emubi enjalo. **16** Ungalungi wedlulise, futhi ungabi lokuhlakanipha okweqileyo kambe uzibulalelani na? **17** Ungaxhwalile okudlulisileyo, njalo ungabi yisiwula kambe ufelani singakafiki isikhathi

sakho? **18** Kuhle ukuthi uthi ubambe lokhu ungayekeli uphunyukwe ngokunye. Umuntu owesaba uNkulunkulu kedlulisi amalawulo. **19** Ukuhlakanipha kwenza umuntu ohlakaniphileyo oyedwa abe lamandla kulababusi abalitsumi edolobheni. **20** Akulamuntu loyedwa olungileyo emhlabeni owenza okungileyo ongazake enze isono. **21** Ungaphiki ngokulalela wonke amazwi akhulunywa ngabantu, funa uzwe incele yakho ikuthuka. **22** Ngoba uyakwazi enhliziyweni yakho ukuthi wena ngokwakho uyawubathuke abanye. **23** Konke lokhu ngakuhlolisisa ngokuhlakanipha ngathi, “Ngizimisele ukuhlakanipha” kodwa lokhu kwakungaphezu kwami. **24** Ukuhlakanipha okungabe kukhona, kukhatshana kakhulu njalo kuzikile kakhulu: ngubani ongakufinyelela na? **25** Ngasengibeka ingqondo yami ukuthi ngizwise, ngidingisise njalo ngichwayisise ukuhlakanipha kanye lesimo sezinto lokuzwisisa ubuphukuphuko bokuxhwalala lobuhlanya lobuwula. **26** Ngibona ukuthi uyingozi eyedlula ukufa umfazi ongumjibila, onhliziyoy yakhe iyisithiyoy njalo ozandla zakhe zingamaketane. Indoda eyesaba uNkulunkulu izaphepha kuye, kodwa isigangiy uzasihlela. **27** Uthi uMtshumayeli, “Khangela, nanku esengikunanzelele: Ngihlanganisa lokhu lalokhu ngizama ukubona isimo sezinto **28** ngilokhu ngisachwayisisa kodwa ngingatholi ngafumanisa indoda eyedwa elungileyo kwabayinkulungwane, kodwa ngitsho loyedwa umfazi oqondileyo kubo. **29** Yilokhu kuphela esengikufumene: UNkulunkulu wamenza umuntu wabaqotho, kodwa abantu basuka bazenzelele okwabo.”

8 Ngubani onjengomuntu ohlakaniphileyo na? Ngubani oyaziyo ingcazelo yezinto na? Ukuhlakanipha kuyabukhanyisa ubuso bomuntu njalo kuguqula ukunyukubala kwabo. **2** Ngithi hlonipha umlayo wenkosi ngoba wenza isifungo phambi kukaNkulunkulu. **3** Ungawalazeli ukusuka phambi kwenkosi. Ungalumeli ulutho nxa lungaqondanga ngoba yona ingenza loba yini eyithandayo. **4** Njengoba ilizwi lenkosi lingaphikiswa ngubani ongathi kuyo, “Kanti wenzeni?” **5** Lowo ohlonipha imilayo yayo akayikwehlelwa ngokubi, lenhliziyoy ehlakaniphileyo iyasazi isikhathi lendlela yokwenza. **6** Ngoba into yonke ilesikhathi esiqondileyo lendlela yokwenza eqondileyo, lanxa umuntu eyabe esindwa yizinkathazo zakhe. **7** Njengoba kungekho muntu olaziyo ikusasa, ngubani pho ongamtshela okuzayo na? **8** Njengoba kungelamuntu olamandla phezu komoyoy ovunguzayo Akulamuntu olamandla phezu kosuku lwakhe lokufa. Njengoba ibutho lingakhululwa ngesikhathi sempu, kunjalo ukuxhwalala akuyikubakhululala labo abaphila ngakho. **9** Konke lokhu ngakubona lapho ngangihlolisisa ngingqondo yami konke okwenzwayo ngaphansi kwelanga. Kukhona isikhathi lapho umuntu aphatha khona abanye ngochuku kanti uyazilimaza yena. **10** Ngabona njalo ababi bengcwatshwa, labo ababehlala befika bahambe endaweni engcwele bazuze udumo kulelodolobho ababeganga khona. Khona lakho kuyize. **11** Nxa isigwebo secala singenziwanga masinyane, abantu basuka bacabange ukuqhubeka ngokuganga kwabo. **12** Loba umuntu ogangileyo engenza amacala alikhulu ajinge aphile okwesikhathi eside, ngiyazi ukuthi kuzakuba ngcono kulabo abamesabayo uNkulunkulu, abazithobayo kuNkulunkulu. **13** Kodwa ngenxa yokuthi izixhwalali zazimesabali uNkulunkulu, kakuzokuzilingela, lezinsuku zazo kaziyukweluleka njengesithunzi. **14** Kukhona njalo enye into eyize eyenzakalayo emhlabeni: abantu

abalungileyo abazuya okufanele ababi, labantu ababi abazuya okufanele abalungileyo. Ngithi lokhu lakho kudida ingqondo. **15** Ngakho-ke ngikhuthaza ukuzithokozisa empilweni ngoba kakukho okungcono emuntwini ngaphansi kwelanga kulokuzitika, unathe, uthokoze. Lapho-ke injabulo izahlala injalo kuye emsebenzini wakhe zonke insuku zokuphila kwakhe aziphiwe nguNkulunkulu lapha emhlabeni. **16** Ngathi ngibeka ingqondo yami ekwazini ukuhlakanipha lokunanzelela imisebenzi yabantu emhlabeni, umuntu engalali imini lobusuku, **17** ngasengibona konke uNkulunkulu akwenzileyo. Kakho ongaqedisisa okwenzakalayo ngaphansi kwelanga. Loba umuntu ohlakaniphileyo angazitshaya owaziyo, kodwa angeke akuqedisise.

9 Yikho ngakucabanga konke lokhu ngabona ukuthi abalungileyo labahlakaniphileyo labakwenzayo kusezandleni zikaNkulunkulu, kodwa kakho owaziyo ingabe ulindelwe luthando langabe yinzondo. **2** Bonke balesiphetho sinye, abaqondileyo labaxhwalileyo, abalungileyo lababi, abahlambulukileyo labangcolileyo, abenza imihlatshelo labangayenziyo. Njengoba kunjalo emuntwini olungileyo, kunjalo lakoyisoni; njengoba kunjalo kwabenza izifungo, kunjalo lakulaba abesaba ukuzenza. **3** Lobu yiyo ububi obuvelela zonke izinto ngaphansi kwelanga: Konke kulesiphetho sinye. Njalo inhliziyi zabantu zigcwele izibozu futhi kulokubhedha phakathi kwazo nxa besaphila, ikanti emva kwakho konke baya kwabafileyo. **4** Loba ngubani oলেখেমা nxa esahlezi kwabaphilayo, yebo kambe phelainja ephilayo ingcono kulesilwane esifileyo! **5** Ngoba abaphilayo bayakwazi ukuthi bazakufa, kodwa abafileyo kabazi lutho; kabaselawo omunye umvuzo, ngitsho lokukhumbula ngabo kuyaphela. **6** Uthando lwabo, inzondo yabo lomona wabo sekwedlula nya; nini lanini kabasayikuba lengxenye loba kukuphi okwenzakalayo ngaphansi kwelanga. **7** Hamba nje uyездлеla ukudla kwakho uchelesile, unathe iwayini lakho ngenhliziyi emhlophe, ngoba uNkulunkulu usakuvumele okwamanje. **8** Gqoka ezimhlophe ngezikhathi zonke, ugcoke ikhanda lakho ngamafutha. **9** Kholisa impilo lomfazi wakho omthandayo kuzozonke insuku zale impilo eyize uNkulunkulu akumike yona ngaphansi kwelanga, zonke insuku zakho eziyize. Phela lesi yiso isabelo sakho empilweni phakathi kokutshikatshika kwakho ngaphansi kwelanga. **10** Lokho isandla sakho esingakwenza kwenze ngamandla akho wonke, ngoba engcwabeni lapho oya khona akusetshenzwa, akulakulungiselela, kakulalwazi kumbe ukuhlakanipha. **(Sheol h7585)** **11** Ngikubonile okunye njalo ngaphansi kwelanga: Ukutshiya abanye kakuyi ngesiqubu kumbe ukunqoba impi kuye ngamandla; kakutsho ukuthi ukudla kuya kwabahlakaniphileyo kumbe inotho kwabakhaliphileyo loba okuhle kwehlele abafundileyo; kodwa kuya ngesikhathi langenhlalanha kubani lobani. **12** Futhi kakho owaziyo ukuthi isikhathi sakhe sizafika nini: Njengezinhlanzi ezigolwa kabuhlungu ngamambule loba izinyoni zibanjwa esifini, kanjalo abantu bafikelwa yizikhathi ezimbi ezibafikela belibele. **13** Ngaphinda ngabona ngaphansi kwelanga lesisibonelo sokuhlakanipha esagxila engqondweni yami: **14** Kwake kwaba khona idolobho elincinyane elalilabantu abalutshwana kulo. Kwasuka inkosi elamandla yalihlasela, yalihonqolozela yakha amadundulu amakhulu okuvimbezela. **15** Kulelodolobho kwakuhlala indoda ethile engesulutho

kodwa ihlakaniphile, ngakho yawusindisa umuzi lowo ngokuhlakanipha kwayo. Kodwa kakho loyedwa owaphinde wayikhumbula leyondoda eyayingebani. **16** Yikho-ke ngasengisithi, “Ukuhlakanipha kungcono kulamandla.” Kodwa ukuhlakanipha komuntukazana kuyeyiswa lamazwi akhe akasanakwa. **17** Amazwi apholileyo abahlakaniphileyo afanele alalelwe ngcono kulokumenza kombusi weziwula. **18** Ukuhlakanipha kungcono kulezikhali zempi, umoni oyedwa uyabuchitha bonke ubuhle.

10 Njengoba impukane ezifele phakathi kwamakha ziwenza anuke kubi, kunjalo lobuwula obuncinyane bugabhela ukuhlakanipha lodumo. **2** Inhliziyi yolungileyo ikhungathekela ekulungeni, kodwa inhliziyi yesiwula ikhungathekela ebubini. **3** Loba ehamba nje emgwaqweni oyiwiwula kalangqondo, utshengisa loba ngubani ubuphukuphuku bakhe. **4** Aluba umbusi ekuthukethelela, ungasuki esikhundleni sakho; ukuthobeka kungathoba umonakalo obungaba khona. **5** Bukhona ububi esengibubonile ngaphansi kwelanga, kuliphutha elenziwa ngumbusi: **6** Iziwula ziphakanisiselwa ezikhundleni ezinengi eziphezulu, kodwa abanothileyo belezikhundla eziphansi. **7** Sengibone izichaka zigade amabhiza, kuthi amakhosana ahambe ngezinyawo njengezichaka. **8** Lowo ogebha umgodi angawela kuwo; odiliza umduli angalunywa yinyoka. **9** Oqhekeza amatshe angalinyazwa yiwo; obanda inkuni angaba sengozini yalo. **10** Lapho ihloka libuthundu ubukhali balo bungalolwanga, kudingeka amandla amanengi kodwa ubungcitshi buyaphumelelisa. **11** Nxa inyoka ihle ilume ingakalunjwa, umlumbi kaselanzuzo. **12** Amazwi aphuma emlonyeni wesihlakaniphi amnandi, kodwa isiwula sichithwa ziyindebe zaso. **13** Ekuqaleni amazwi aso ayibuwula; ekucineni aseiyikwumana okubi **14** njalo isiwula sanda ngamazwi. Kakho okwaziyo okuzayo ngubani ongamazisa okuzakwenzakala ngemva kwakhe na? **15** Umtshikatshika wesiwula uyasidinisisa; kasiyazi indlela eya edolobheni. **16** Maye kuwe, wena lizwe onkosi yalo yayiyisichaka, amakhosana akho azitika ngamadili ekuseni. **17** Ubusiwe wena, wena lizwe onkosi yalo izalwa esikhosini amakhosana alo adla ngezikhathi eziqondileyo edlela ukuqina hatshi ukudakwa. **18** Nxa indoda ilivila intungo ziyabhensa; nxa izandla zayo ziyekethisa indlu iyavuzi. **19** Idili lenzelwa ukujabula, lewayini lenza impilo ibe mnandi, kodwa imali yiyo impendulo yakho konke. **20** Ungayithuki inkosi lasemicabangweni yakho, loba uqalekise abanothileyo loba usendlini yakho yokulala, ngoba mhlawumbe inyoni yasemoyeni ingawathwala amazwi akho, loba inyoni ephaphayo ingayabika okutshoyo.

11 Phosela isinkwa sakho phezu kwamanzi, ngoba ngemva kwensuku ezinengi uzasifumana futhi. **2** Yabela abayisikhombisa, yebo abayisificaminwembali, ngoba kawuwazi umonakalo ongehlela elizweni. **3** Nxa amayezi ethwele, anisa izulu emhlabathini. Aluba isihlahla singawela eningizimu loba enhla, silala khonapho esiwela khona. **4** Lowo onanzelela umoya kayikuhlanyela; lowo okhangela amayezi akazukuvuna. **5** Njengoba ungayazi indlela yomoya, loba ukubunjwa komzimba esiswini sikanina, yikho ungeke uzwise umsebenzi kaNkulunkulu, uMenzi wezinto zonke. **6** Hlanyela inhlangelo yakho ekuseni, kuthi ntambama uphumeze izandla zakho, ngoba kawukwazi okuzaphumelela, kumbe yilokhu loba yilokhuyana, langabe kokubili kuzalunga ngokufananayo. **7**

Ukukhanya kumnandi, njalo kuhle emehlweni ukubona ilanga. **8** Umuntu angaze aphile iminyaka emingaki, kayikholise yonke. Kodwa makakhumbule insuku zobumnyama, ngoba zizabe zizingeni. Konke okuzakuza kuyize. **9** Jabula nsizwa usesemutsha, uvumele inhliziyo yakho ikuthokozise ensukwini zobutsha bakho. Landela izindlela zenhliziyi yakho lakho konke amehlo akho akubonayo, kodwa yazi ukuthi ngenxa yazo zonke lezizinto uNkulunkulu uzakumisa ekwahluleni. **10** Ngakho-ke, susa ukukhathazeka enhliziyweni yakho ulahlele kude inhlupheko zomzimba wakho, ngoba ubutsha lamadlabuzane kuyize.

12 Khumbula uMdali wakho ngezinsuku zobutsha bakho, kungakafiki insuku zokuhlupheka njalo kusondele leminyaka lapho ozakuthi, “Angizuzi kuthokoza kuyo” **2** andubana ilanga lokukhanya kanye lenyanga lezinkanyezi kufiphale, lamayezi achitheke ngemva kwezulu; **3** lapho abalindi bendlu bezathuthumela, amadoda aqinileyo akhokhobe, labacholi batshiye umsebenzi ngoba sebebalutshwana, kuthi labalunguzayo ngamawindi sebebona lufifi; **4** lapho iminyango ephumela emigwaqweni isivaliwe lomsindo wokuchola usufiphala; lapho abantu besethuswa yikukhala kwenyoni, lezingoma zazo zincipha; **5** lapho abantu sebesesaba izindawo eziphakemeyo lezingozi emigwaqweni; lapho isihlahla se-alimondi sesiqhakaza lentethe isihamba ngokuzihudula nje njalo kungasekho ukulangazelela. Lapho-ke umuntu usesiya ekhaya lakhe laphakade njalo abalilayo bagcwale emigwaqweni. **6** Mkhumbule intambo yesiliva ingakaqamuki, kumbe umganu wegolide ungakabhidlizwa; lodiwo lungakahlizwa emthonjeni, loba ivili lephulwe emgodini wamanzi, **7** kuthi umhlabathi ubuye emhlabathini lapho owavela khona, lomphfumulo ubuye kuNkulunkulu onguye owawuphayo. **8** “Ize! Ize!” kutsho uMtshumayeli, “Konke kuyize!” **9** UMtshumayeli wayehlakaniphile, njalo esabela abantu ulwazi. Wazidla ingqondo wadingisisa wamisa kuhle izaga ezinengi. **10** UMtshumayeli wadingisisa ukuze azuze amazwi ayiwonawona, kwathi-ke konke akulobayo kwaqonda njalo kuliqiniso. **11** Amazwi abahlakaniphileyo anjengenswazi zokwethusa izimvu, izitsho zabo eziqoqiweyo zinjengezipikili ezibethelwe zatshona, zivela kuMalusi munye. **12** Limuka, ndodana yami, loba kuyini okudlula lapho. Ukulotshwa kwezincwadi ezinengi akulamkhawulo, njalo ukufunda kakhulu kuhlukuluza umzimba. **13** Manje-ke konke sekuzwakele; nansi isiphetho sendaba: Mesabe uNkulunkulu ugcine imiyalo yakhe, ngoba lo yiwo wonke umlandu womuntu. **14** Ngoba uNkulunkulu uzazahlulela zonke izenzo, lalokho okufihliweyo loba kuhle loba kubi.

Ingoma Yezingoma

1 Ingoma yezingoma kaSolomoni. **2** Kangange ngezangiwo zomlomo wakhe ngoba uthando lwakho lumnandi kulewayini. **3** Limnandi iphunga lamagcobo akho; ibizo lakho linjengamakha atheliweyo. Yikho izintombi zikuthanda kangaka! **4** Ngithatha uhambe lami, kasiphangise! Inkosi kayingingenise endlini yayo. Abangane Siyathokoza njalo siyajabula ngawe; sizalubabaza uthando lwakho okudlula iwayini. Umlobokazi Kabazenzi ukuba bakuthande! **5** Ngimnyama kodwa ngiyabukeka, lina madodakazi aseJerusema ngimnyama okwamathente aseKhedari, okwamakhetheni amathente kaSolomoni. **6** Linganginyonkoloji ngoba ngimnyama, ngimnyama ngenxa yokutshiswa lilanga. Abanewethu bangizondela bangenza umlindi wesivini; angabe ngisanaka esami isivini. **7** Akungitshela, wena engikuthandayo, uyelusela ngaphi imihlambi yezimvu zakho lokuthi ziphumula ngaphi izimvu zakho emini? Kungani ngisiba njengomfazi ombozileyo eceleni kwemihlambi yabangane bakho na? **8** Nxa ungazi, wena omuhle okudlula bonke abesifazane, landela umkhondo wezimvu udlisele amazinyane embuzi zakho eduze lamathente abelusi. **9** Sithandwa sami, ngikufanisa lebhiza elisikazi elibotshwe enqoleni kaFarao. **10** Izihlathi zakho zinhle ngokuceciswa, intamo yakho ngobuhlalu obucazimulayo. **11** Sizakwenzela amacici egolide, ebalazwe ngesiliva. **12** Khonapho inkosi isetafuleni amakha ami enadi alanquza iphunga lawo elimnandi. **13** Kimi isithandwa sami sinjengemfuko yemure ithe khoxo phakathi kwamabele ami. **14** Kimi isithandwa sami sinjengelixha lempoko zehena eliphuma esivini se-Eni-Gedi. **15** Bakithi, umuhle njani sithandwa sami! Ngeqiniso umuhle! Amehlo akho angamajuba. **16** Umuhle ngempela, sithandwa sami! Bakithi, uyabukeka! Umbheda wethu butshani obuluhlaza tshoko. **17** Izinsika zendlu yethu ngezomsedari lezintungo ngezefire.

2 Ngililuba laseSharoni, imbali yasezigodini. **2** Njengembali phakathi kwameva sinjalo isithandwa sami phakathi kwezintombi. **3** Njengesihlahla se-aphula phakathi kwezihlahla zeganga sinjalo isithandwa sami phakathi kwamajaha. Kumnandi kimi ukuhlala emthunzini waso, lezithelo zakhe ziyahlabusa kimi. **4** Useke wangisa endlini yedili, lohpawu lwakhe kimi luthando. **5** Ngiqinisani ngamavini awonyisiweyo, lingivuselele ngama-aphula, ngoba sengiyathiswa luthando. **6** Ingalo yakhe yobunxole ngiyiqamele, kuthi ingalo yakhe yokunene ingigonile. **7** Madodakazi aseJerusema, ngiyaliqonqosela ngezimpala langezimpalakazi zeganga. Lingalunyakazisi loba liluvuse uthando luze luzifunele lona. **8** Zwanini! Yisithandwa sami! Khangelani! Nansi siyeza, siseqa ezintabeni siqolotsha emaqaqeni. **9** Isithandwa sami sinjengempala loba ithole lomziki. Khangelal! Nansiyana simi ngale komdlu wakwethu, sikhangele sibona emawindini, silunguza ngezimboshana. **10** Isithandwa sami sakhuluma sathi kimi, "Sukuma, sithandwa sami, wena omuhle, woza sihambe. **11** Khangelal! Ubusika sebudlulile; isikhathi sezulu sesidlule. **12** Amaluba asebonakala emangweni; isikhathi sokuhlalelela kwezinyoni sesifikile, ukukhala kwamajuba sekhuzwakala elizweni lakithi. **13** Umkhwiwa usuthela izithelo zawo zakuqala; amavini aqhakazayo aseletha iphunga elimnandi. Sukuma, woza sithandwa sami; wena omuhle

wami, woza sihambe." **14** Juba lami elisezingoxweni zedwala, ekusithekeni kwamawa entaba, akungitshengise ubuso bakho, akungizwise ilizwi lakho; ngoba limnandi ilizwi lakho, lobuso bakho buyabukeka. **15** Sibambeleni amakhanka, amakhanka amancinyane onayo ezivinini, izivini zethu esezithela. **16** Isithandwa sami ngesami lami ngingowakhe; uzithokozisa ngoba phakathi kwamaluba. **17** Akuze kube emadabukakusa lapho kunyamalala khona izithunzi, phenduka sithandwa sami, ube njengempala loba njengegogo elisengumntwana phezu kwezintaba ezilamakhelekethe.

3 Ubusuku bonke ngisembhedeni wami ngamdinga lowo othandwa yinhliziyoyami; ngamdinga kodwa kangimfumananga. **2** Sengivuka manje ngizulazule phakathi kwedolobho, emigwaqweni lasemagcekeni alo; ngizalibhudula ngidinga othandwa yinhliziyoyami. Kanjalo ngamdinga kodwa angaze ngamthola. **3** Abalindi bangifika belokhu benquma phakathi kwedolobho. "Like lambona yini lowo othandwa yinhliziyoyami?" **4** Ngathi ngisedlula kubo ngabe ngimbona othandwa yinhliziyoyami. Ngambamba angaze ngamyekela ukuba ahambe ngaze ngamletha endlini kamama, endlini yakhe lowo owangizalayo. **5** Madodakazi aseJerusema, ngiyaliqonqosela ngezimpala langezimpalakazi zeganga. Lingalunyakazisi loba liluvuse uthando luze luzifunele lona. **6** Ngubani lo ozayo eqhamuka enkangala kungathi yisikhatha sentuthu, eziqhole ngamakha emure lenhla eyenziwe ngemihlobo yonke yezinongo zomthengisi? **7** Khangelal! Yinqola kaSolomoni, isekelwe ngamabutho angamatshumi ayisithupha, angabathenjwa abayingqaba ko-Israyeli, **8** bonke begqize izinkemba enqulwini, bonke sebake bazilwa izimpi, ngulowo lawo inkemba yakhe eceleni kwakhe, elungele ukuhlathsha komkhosi ebusuku. **9** Inkosi uSolomoni yanzela inqola leyo; yayenza ngezigodo zeLebhanoni. **10** Imijabo yayo yayenza ngesiliva, isisekelo sayo yasenza ngegolide. Isihlalo sayo yasithungela ilembu eliyibubende ingaphakathi yayo yaceciswa ngothando ngamadodakazi aseJerusema. **11** Phumani phandle madodakazi aseZiyoni, libone inkosi uSolomoni ithwele umqhele, umqhele ewetheswa ngunina mhla welanga atshada ngalo, ilanga inhliziyoyakhe yathokoza ngalo.

4 Kayisibuhle bakho, sithandwa sami! Awu, ayisibuhle, bakithi! Amehlo akho embeswe liveli, angamajuba. Inwele zakho zinjengomhlambi wembuzi zisehla entabeni iGilyadi. **2** Amazinyo akho anjengomhlambi wezimvu zisanda kugundwa, zivela geziswa yileyo ihamba laleyo efanana layo; kayikho ethe qekele yodwa. **3** Izindebe zakho zinjengowezwe olubomvu; muhle umlomo wakho. Izihlathi zakho ezembeswe liveli lakho ezinjengephomegranathi elidatshulwe phakathi. **4** Intamo yakho injengomphotshongo wokulinda kaDavida, owakhiwa waba muhle kakhulu; kulengiswe kuwo amahawu ayinkulungwane, wonke angamahawu amaqhawe. **5** Amabele akho omabili anjengamazinyane amabili, njengamaphahla amazinyane empala adla utshani phakathi kwezimbali. **6** Nxa kusesemadabukakusa izithunzi zingakabaleki emuntwini, ngizakuya entabeni yemure laseqaqeni lwamakha amnandi. **7** Umuhle kakhulukazi, ntokazi yami; kakulanto engenhle kuwe. **8** Woza, mlombokazi wami, sisuke eLebhanoni, woza sisuke eLebhanoni. Yehla emaweni ase-Amama, wehle esiqongweni saseSeniri, isiqongo seHemoni, ezimbalwini zezingonyama lezintabeni okuhlala ingwe kuzo. **9** Uyithumbile inhliziyoyami,

yami, dadewethu, mlobokazi wami; uyithumbile inhliziyi yami ngokungithi jeqe ngamhlo akho, langengqongqo elilodwa lobuhlalu bakho. **10** Luthokozisa kanganani uthando lwakho, dadewethu, mlobokazi wami! Lumnandi kakhulu kulewayini, lephunga lamakha akho kulawo wonke amafutha! **11** Izindebe zakho ziconsa ubumnandi njengololu, mlobokazi wami; uchago lolu kungaphansi kolimi lwakho. Iphunga lezivunulo zakho linjengeLebhanoni. **12** Uyisivande esibiyelweyo, dadewethu, mlobokazi wami; ungumthombo obiyelweyo, lesiphethu esihquelweyo sagcikwa. **13** Izilimo zakho ziyisivande samaphomegranathi alezithelo ezinhle zilehena lenadi, **14** inadi lesafuroni, ikhalamu lesinama, lemihlobo yonke ziyehlala zempepha, imure lenhlaba lazozonke iziyoliso zekhethelo. **15** Uyisiphethu sesivandeni, umthombo ogeleza amanzi ugeleza usehla eLebhanoni. **16** Vuka moya wenyakatho, woza moya weningizimu! Phephetha esivandeni sami, ukuze amakha aso agcwele indawo yonke. Akuthi isithandwa sami size esivandeni saso sikhulise izithelo zaso zekhethelo.

5 Sengingenile esivandeni sami, dadewethu, mlobokazi wami; sengiyibuthile imure yami lesiyoliso sami. Sengizidlile inhlanga zami lolu lwami; sengiyinathile iwayini yami lochago lwami. Abangane Dlanini, bangane, linathe; nathani lizidele, lina zithandani. **2** Ngalala kodwa inhliziyi yami ivukile. Zwana! Isithandwa sami siyaqoqoda: “Ngivulela, dadewethu, sithandwa sami, juba lami, wena ongelasiyinga. Ikhanda lami ligcwele amazolo, inwele zami zilobumanzi bobusuku.” **3** Sengisikhulule isigqoko sami ngisigqoke futhi na? Sengizigezile inyawo zami ngibuye ngizingcolise futhi na? **4** Isithandwa sami sangenisisa isandla saso embotsheni yomnyango; inhliziyi yami yagubhazela ifuna sona. **5** Ngavuka ngayasivulela isithandwa sami, izandla zami zijuluka imure, iminwe yami igeleza imure, phezu kwezibambo zekhiye. **6** Ngasivulela isithandwa sami, kodwa isithandwa sami sasesisukile, sasesihambile. Inhliziyi yami yadangala ngoba sesihambile. Ngasithalaza kodwa ngasiswela. Ngasimemeza kodwa kasisabelanga. **7** Abalindi bangibona ngesikhathi bebhodabhoda, behlola idolobho. Bangitshaya bangilimaza; bangihlulubula bathatha ibhatshi lami, labobalindi bemiduli! **8** Lina madodakazi aseJerusalem, ngiyaliquqosela nxa lisithola isithandwa sami lizasitshelani? Sitsheleni ukuthi mina sengiyathiswa luthando. **9** Isithandwa sakho singcono ngani kulezinye izithandwa wena omuhle okudlula bonke abesifazane? Singcono ngani isithandwa sakho kulezinye osungaze usiqongosele kangaka? **10** Isithandwa sami siyakhazimula sincwaba, siyabonakala laphakathi kwezinkulungwane ezilithumi. **11** Ikhanda laso liligolide elicengwe kakhulu; inwele zaso ziyibulembu, zimnyama okwewabayi. **12** Amehlo aso anjengamajuba esezifuleni ezilimathi, agezwe ngochago, amiswa njengamatsho engebo. **13** Izihlathi zaso zinjengendima ziyoliso ezilephunga lamakha. Izindebe zaso zinjengezimbal, ziconsa imure. **14** Izingalo zaso yimiqwayi yegolide elixutshwe ngekhrosolitho. Umzimba waso unjengophondo lwendlovu olulolongiweyo lwaceciswa ngamasafire. **15** Imilenze yaso yizinsika zelitsheli eliqinileyo elibutshelezi elimiswe ezisekelweni zegolide elicengwekileyo. Isithombo saso sinjengeLebhanoni, njengemisedari yakhona eyebanga laphezulu. **16** Umlomo waso uyibumnandi qobo lwabo; siyabukeka ngokupheleleyo. Lesi yiso isithandwa sami, yena umngane wami, we madodakazi aseJerusalem.

6 Sesiye ngaphi isithandwa sakho wena omuhle kulabo bonke abesifazane? Siqonde ngaphi isithandwa sakho ukuze sikudingise sona? **2** Isithandwa sami sehle ngesivandeni saso, endimeni yamaluba eziyoliso, ukuzulazula ezivandeni lokuqunta izimbali. **3** Ngingowaso isithandwa sami, laso singesami; uzithokozisa ngoba phakathi kwamaluba. **4** Umuhle, sithandwa sami, njengeThiza, uthandeka njengeJerusalem, ulesithunzi njengamabutho ephethe uphawu lwempi. **5** Susa amehlo akho kimi; angihubula igwebu. Inwele zakho zinjengomhlambi wembuzi zisehla eGilyadi. **6** Amazinyo akho anjengomhlambi wezimvu zivela geziswa yileyo ihamba lalayo efanana layo; akula ehamba yodwa. **7** Izihlathi zakho ezivalwe liveli lakho zinjengezingxenye zesithelo sephomegranathi. **8** Kungabe kukhona amakhosikazi angamatshumi ayisithupha, labanye abafazi beceleni abangamatshumi ayisificaminwembali, lezintombi eziphelelyo ezingelakubalwa; **9** kodwa ijuba lami, ophetheleyo wami, wehlukene, nguye yedwa kunina, uyintandokazi yalowo owamzalayo. Izintombi zambona zathi ubusisiwe; amakhosikazi labafazi beceleni bambabaza. **10** Ngubani lo oqhama njengokusa, omuhle njengenyanga, okhazimula njengela, olobukhosi njengezinkanyezi ziludwendwe? **11** Ngehle esivandeni esilezithelo ezilenkeli ngisiyabona amahlumela esigodini, ngisiyabona ingabe amavini ayesenunkula yini langabe amaphomegranathi ayeseqhakazile na. **12** Ngisalibele nje isifiso sami sangibeka ezinqoleni zobukhosi ezabantu bakithi. **13** Phenduka, phenduka, wena mShulamithi; phenduka, phenduka, ukuze sikubuke! Umyeni Liyaba limbukelani umShulamithi kungathi libuka umgido kaMahanayimi?

7 Zinhle kakhulu inyawo zakho emanyathelweni, awu ndodakazi yenkosana! Amathebe mahle anjengamatsho aligugu, ingathi abunjwa kuhle yingcitshi. **2** Inkaba yakho yindingilizana yesiphathelo esihle esihlala sigcwele iwayini elixutshiweyo. Ukhalo lwakho luyinqunjana yengqoloyi ezingelezwe yizimbali. **3** Amabele akho anjengamazinyane amabili, njengamaphala empala. **4** Intamo yakho injengomphotshongo wempondo zendlovu. Amehlo akho ayiziziba zeHeshibhoni eduze lesango laseBhathi Rabhimi. Impumulo yakho injengomphotshongo waseLebhanoni ukhangele eDamaseko. **5** Ikhanda lakho lingumqhele kuwe njengentaba iKhameli. Inwele zakho zingumceciso wobukhosi; inkosi ithunjwe ngamagoda azo. **6** Wamuhle bantu njalo uyathokozisa, wena sithandwa, ngezintokozo zakho! **7** Uluthi lwakho luthe klwi, njengesihlahla sephamu, lamabele akho anjengelixha lezithelo. **8** Ngathi, “Ngizakhwela esihlahleni sephamu; ngizaziphatha lezozithelo zalo.” Sengathi amabele akho angaba njengamaxha evini, amakha okuphefumula kwakho abe njengama-aphula, **9** lomlomo wakho ube njengewayini elidlula wonke. Umlobokazi Sengathi iwayini lelo lingaya kusithandwa sami, ligeleze kakuhle ezindebeni lasemazinyweni. **10** Ngingowaso isithandwa sami, silangathela mina. **11** Woza, sithandwa sami, kasihambe siye emaphandeni, kasiyolala emizini. **12** Kasihambe ekuseni ezivini ukuyabona ingabe amavini asenunkula na, ingabe amaluba amaphomegranathi awo aseqhakazile lapho ngizakupha uthando lwami. **13** Izihlahla zamamandraki zikhupha iphunga elimnandi, kuthi emnyango wakwethu

kube lezibiloboco zonke ezintsha lezindala, engikubekele zona, sithandwa sami.

8 Aluba nje unjengomfowethu kimi, owondliwa emunya emabeleni kamama! Lapho-ke, nxa ngikufica phandle, ngithi loba ngikwanga, angabikhona ongisolayo. **2** Ngabe ngiyakudonsa ngikuse endlini kamama yena owangikhulisayo. Ngabe ngikupha iwayini elixutshiweyo unathe, uluju lwamaphomegranathi ami. **3** Ingalo yakhe yobunxele ngiyiqamele kuthi ingalo yakhe yokunene ingigonile. **4** Madodakazi aseJerusema, ngiyaliquqosela: Lingalunyakazisi loba liluvuse uthando luze luzifunele lona. **5** Ngubani lo oqhamukayo evela enkangala na, eyeme isithandwa sakhe? Umlobokazi Ngikuvusile ngaphansi kwesihlahla se-aphula; kulapho unyoko akumithela khona, kulapho ahelelwa wakuzalela khona. **6** Ngibeka ngibe njengesidindo enhliziyweni yakho, njengesidindo engalweni yakho; ngoba uthando lulamandla njengokufa, ubukhwele balo kabuyekethisi njengengcwaba. Luyatshisa njengomlilo obhebha kakhulu, njengelangabi elivuthayo. **(Sheol h7585)** **7** Impophoma zamanzi ngeke zilucime uthando; imifula ngeke ilukhukhule. Nxa umuntu enganika yonke inotho yomuzi wakhe ngenxa yothando kungaba yinhlekisa. **8** Silentombazana engumnawethu, njalo kayikaphuhli. Sizamenzelani kambe umnawethu mhla sekuthiwa uyacelwa? **9** Uba engumduli, sizakwakha imiphotshongo yesiliva phezu kwakhe. Uba engumnyango, sizamvala ngamapulanka esihlahla somsedari. **10** Ngingumduli, lamabele ami anjengemiphotshongo. Yikho-nje emehlweni akhe sengifana lalowo olette ukusuthiseka. **11** USolomoni wayelesivini eBhali Hamoni; wasiqhatshisela ebalimini isivini sakhe. Munye ngamunye kwakumele athele umthelo wezithelo zawo ongamashekeli esiliva ayinkulungwane. **12** Kodwa esami isivini ngesami ukupha santando; amashekeli lawo ayinkulungwane ngawakho, bakithi Solomoni, lamakhulu amabili amashekeli ngawalabo abalondoloza izithelo zawo. **13** Wena ohlala ezivandeni labangane bekususa isizungu, ake ngilizwe ilizwi lakho! **14** Masihambe, sithandwa sami, woba njengembabala kumbe njengejongosana lomziki ezintabeni ezigwele amakha.

U-Isaya

1 Umbono omayelana ngoJuda JeJerusalem owabonwa ngu-Isaya indodana ka-Amozi ensukwini zokubusa kuka-Uziya, loJothamu, lo-Ahazi loHezekhiya amakhosi akoJuda. **2** Zwanini, mazulu! Lalelani, mhlaba! Ngoba uThixo usekhulumile: “Ngondla abantwana ngabakhulisa, kodwa sebengihlamukele. **3** Inkabi iyamazi umniniyo, lobabhemu uyasazi isibaya somnikazi wakhe, kodwa u-Israyeli kazi, abantu bami kabaqedisizi.” **4** Meye kuso isizwe esonayo, abantu abathwele amacala, inzalo yabenza okubi, abantwana abaxhwalileyo! Sebehlahlile uThixo; bamdelele ngoCwele ka-Israyeli, bamfulathela. **5** Kungani kumele litshaywe futhi? Kungani liqhubeka ngokuhlamuka? Ikhanda lakho lonke lilimele, yonke inhliziyo yakho ihlukuluziwe. **6** Kuskukela ngaphansi kwentende yonyawo lwakho kusiya esicholo sekhanda lakho akukho kuphelela, kodwa izilonda lemivivinya kuphela, kanye lamanxeba; akugeziswanga, akubotshwanga kumbe kwathanjiswa ngamafutha. **7** Ilizwe lenu lichithekile, amadolobho enu atshiswa ngomlilo, umhlaba wenu uphundlwa ngabezizweni, phambi kwenu uqobo, uchitheka njengalapho udilizwa ngabezizweni. **8** Indodakazi yaseZiyoni isele njengedumba esivinini, njengendwana ensimini yamajodo, njengedolobho elihonqozelweyo. **9** Aluba uThixo uSomandla kasitshiyelanga abalutshwana abasandayo, sasizakuba njengeSodoma; sasizafana leGomora. **10** Zwanini ilizwi likaThixo, lina babusi baseSodoma, lalalani umthetho kaNkulunkulu wethu, lina bantu baseGomora! **11** “Ubunengi bemihlatshelo yenu buyini kimi?” kutsho uThixo. “Ngileminikelo yokutshiswa edlula efunekayo, eyenqama lamahwaha ezifuyo ezinonisiweyo; igazi lenkunzi, lelamawundlu lelembuzi kalingithokozisi. **12** Lapho lisiza phambi kwami, ngubani othe linyathele amagama ami na? **13** Yekelani ukuletha iminikelo eyize! Impepha yenu iyisinengiso kimi. Angingeke ngibezezelele imbuthano yenu yobubi, eyokuThwasa kweNyanga, amaSabatha lemihlangano. **14** Umphefumulo wami uyawazonda amadili enu okuthwasa kwezinyanga lemikhosi yenu emisiweyo. Sekube ngumthwalo kimi; sengikhathele ngokukuthwala. **15** Lapho lichaya izandla zenu likhuleka, ngizalifihlela amehlo ami; loba selikhuleka imikhuleko eminengi, angiyikulalela. Izandla zenu zigcwele igazi! **16** Gezani libe ngabahlambulukileyo. Susani izenzo zenu ezimbi phambi kobuso bami; yekelani ukwenza okubi. **17** Fundani ukwenza okulungileyo; funani ukwahlulela okuhle. Khuthazani abancindezelweyo. Vikelani izintandane; lamulelani umfelokazi. **18** Wozani, siqondisane sindawonye,” kutsho uThixo. “Lanxa izono zenu zibomvu gebhu, zizakuba mhlophe njengonqwaqwa, loba zibomvu njengegazi, zizakuba njengoboya bezimvu. **19** Nxa livuma njalo lilalela, lizakudla okuhle kwelizwe; **20** kodwa nxa liinqaba, lihlamuka, lizadliwa yinkemba.” Ngoba umlomo kaThixo usukhulumile. **21** Khangelani ukuthi idolobho elithembekileyo seliphenduke laba yisifebe kanjani! Lake lagcwalala ngokufanelelo; ukulunga kwakuhlala kulo, kodwa khatheki sekuhlala abekalali! **22** Isiliva senu sesingamanye, iwayini lenu elihle selihlanganiswe lamanzi. **23** Ababusi benu bangabahlamuki, abangane bamasela; bonke bathanda izivalamlomo, bafune izipho. Izintandane kabazivikeli; indaba yomfelokazi kayifiki kibo. **24** Ngakho-ke iNkosi, uThixo uSomandla, uMninimandla ka-

Israyeli, uthi: “Yebo! Ngizabodlisa ezitheni zami, ngibuye ngiphindisele kwabayizitha zami. **25** Ngizaphakamisela isandla sami kini; ngizawahlambulula ngokuphelelelo amanye enu, ngisuse lakho konke ukungcola kwenu. **26** Ngizabuyisa abehluleli benu njengezinsukwini zakudala, labeluleki benu njengesequaleni. Muva uzabizwa ngokuthi iDolobho Lokulunga, iDolobho Elithembekileyo.” **27** IZiyoni izahlengwa ngemfanelo, abaphendukayo bayo bahlengwe ngokulunga. **28** Kodwa abahlamuki lezoni bazachithwa, lalabo abalahlala uThixo bazabhutha. **29** “Lizayangeka ngenxa yezihlahla zom’okhi ezingcwele elazithokozisa ngazo. Lizadana ngamasimu elawakhethayo. **30** Lizafana lom’okhi olamahlamvu asebuna, lanjengensimu engelamfani. **31** Indoda elamandla izafana lencwathi, umsebenzi wayo ufane lenhlansi; kokubili kuzakutsha kanyekanye, kungekho ozacitsha umlilo.”

2 Lokhu yikho okwabonwa ngu-Isaya indodana ka-Amozi mayelana loJuda JeJerusalem: **2** Ngezinsuku zokucina intaba yethempeli likaThixo izamiswa njengenhloko phakathi kwezintaba; izaphakanyiselwa phezu kwezintaba njalo izizwe zonke zizabekelile zisiya kuyo. **3** Abantu abanengi bazakuba bathi, “Wozani siye phezu kwentaba kaThixo, siye ethempelini likaNkulunkulu kaJakhobe. Uzazifundisa izindlela zakhe, ukuze sihambe emikhondweni yakhe.” Umthetho uzavela eZiyoni, ilizwi likaThixo livele eJerusalem. **4** Uzakwahlulela phakathi kwezizwe, alamule ingxabano zabantu abanengi. Bazakhanda izinkemba zabo zibe yimihlati yamakhuba, lemikhonto yabo ibe ngamahlaka okuthena izihlahla. Isizwe asiyikuhlomela isizwe ngenkemba loba sifundele ukulwa impi futhi. **5** Woza, ndlu kaJakhobe, kasihambe ekukhanyeni kukaThixo. **6** Wena, Thixo, usubalahlele abantu bakho, isizukulwane sikaJakhobe. Bagcwele ukhoho oluyize lwaseMpumalanga benza lemisebenzi yobungoma njengamaFiliti, njalo babambana izandla labangakhohlwayo. **7** Ilizwe labo ligcwele isiliva legolide; inotho yabo ayilakuphela. Ilizwe labo ligcwele amabhiza; izinqola zabo zempi kaziqhelile. **8** Ilizwe labo ligcwele izithombe; bakhothamela umsebenzi wezandla zabo, lakulokho okwenziwa yiminwe yabo. **9** Ngakho abantu bazakwehliselwa phansi bonke bazehliswa ungabathetheleli. **10** Ngenani ezimbalwini zamatshe lasemhlabathini, licatshela ukwesabeka kukaThixo lenkazimulo yobukhosi bakhe! **11** Amehlo omuntu oziphakamisayo azathotshiswa, lokuziphakamiswa kwabantu kwehliselwe phansi; uThixo kuphela nguye ozaphakanyiswa ngalolosuku. **12** UThixo uSomandla ulosuku alubekele bonke abazaziqqajayo labazikhukhumezayo; lakho konke okuphakemeyo (kuzathotshiswa), **13** olwazo zonke izihlahla zemisedari zaseLebanoni ezinde leziphakemeyo, lazozonke izihlahla zom’Okhi zaseBhashani, **14** olwazo zonke izintaba ezindekazi lomaqoqa wonke aphakemeyo, **15** olwazo yonke imiphotshongo ephakemeyo layo yonke imiduli eyinqaba, **16** olwemikhumbi yonke yaseThashishi layo yonke imikolo emihle. **17** Ukuziphakamiswa kwabantu kuzakwehliselwa phansi, ukuzazisa kwabantu kuthobekiswe; uThixo kuphela nguye ozadunyiswa ngalolosuku, **18** izithombe zizanyamalala zithi nya. **19** Abantu bazabalekela ezimbalwini zamatshe lasemilindini emhlabathini bebalakela ukwesabeka kukaThixo lenkazimulo yobukhosi bakhe lapho ephakama ukuba anyikinye umhlaba. **20** Ngalolosuku abantu bazazilahlala emvukuzaneni lababomalulwane izithombe zabo zesiliva lezelegolide abazenzela ukuba bazikhonze. **21** Bazabalekela

ezimbalwini zamatshe lasezingoxweni zamawa bebalekela ukwesabeka kukaThixo lenkazimulo yobukhosi bakhe, lapho ephakama ukuba anyikinye umhlaba. **22** Yekelani ukwethemba umuntu olomphefumulo nje kuphela emakheleni akhe. Ngoba uyini yena na?

3 Khangelani khathesi UThixo, uThixo uSomandla usezasusa eJerusalemela lelizweni laJoJuda okufunekayo losizo: konke ukudla lamanzi, **2** iqhawe lebutho, umahluleli lomphrofethi, isangoma lomuntu omdala, **3** induna yebutho labangamatshumi amahlanu lamadoda ayizikhulu, umeluleki, ingcitshi yemisebenzi, lesanuse esihlakaniphileyo. **4** “Ngizakwenza abafana babeyizikhulu zabo; abantwana nje bazababusa.” **5** Abantu bazancindezelana, umuntu avukele umuntu, umakhelwane avukele umakhelwane. Abatsha bazavukela abadala, abeyisekayo bavukele abahlonitshwa. **6** Indoda izabamba omunye wabafowabo emzini kayise ithi, “Ulesebatho, woba ngumkhokheli wethu, inqwaba yamanxiwa le izakuba ngaphansi kombuso wakho.” **7** Kodwa ngalolosuku uzakhala athi, “Angilamasiza. Endlini yami akulakudla loba izigqoko; ugangenzi umkhokheli wabantu.” **8** IJerusalemela liyadiazela, uJuda uyawa; amazwi abo lezenzo zabo kuphambene loThixo, kweyisa ubukhosi bakhe. **9** Ukukhangeleka kobuso babo kufakaza kubi ngabo; babukisa izono zabo njengeSodoma; kabazifihli. Maye kubol Bazilethele incithakalo phezu kwabo. **10** Tshela abalungileyo ukuthi kuzakuba kuhle kubo, ngoba bazakholisa izithelo zezenzo zabo. **11** Maye kwababi! Incithakalo isiphezu kwabo! Bazaphindiselwa ngalokho izandla zabo ezikwenzileyo. **12** Abatsha bancindezela abantu bami, abesifazane bayababusa. Awu, bantu bami, abakhokheli benu bayaliduhisa; bayaliphambula endleleni. **13** UThixo uphakama ukuba afakaze indaba yakhe, uyasukuma ukuba ahlulele abantu. **14** UThixo uqalisa ukwahlulela abadala labakhokheli babantu esithi, “Yini elitshabalalise isivini sami; elikuthumbe kubayanga kusezindlini zenu. **15** Litshoni ngokuchoboza abantu bami langokuchola ubuso babayanga?” kutsho iNkosi, uThixo uSomandla. **16** UThixo uthi, “Abesifazane baseZiyoni bayaziphakamisa, bahamba belule izintamo, behuga ngamehlo abo, begwenxeka ngamanyathelo amancane, izigqizo zikhencezela enqagaleni zabo. **17** Ngakhoke uThixo uzakwenza amakhanda abesifazane baseZiyoni abe lezilonda; uThixo uzakwenza isikhumba samakhanda abo siphuceke.” **18** Ngalolosuku uThixo uzahluthuna imiccesiso yabo: amasongo, imincwazi, lemigaxo yentanyeni **19** amacici, izigqizo lezimombozo, **20** amaqhiye, izigetsho lamabhanti; amambodlela amakha lezintebe, **21** indandatho ezilophawu lamasongo empumulo, **22** izembatho ezinhle lezingubo lezigqoko, izikhwama **23** lezibuko, lezigqoko zelineni, imiqhele lamaveli. **24** Endaweni yephunga elimnandi kuzakuba lomnuko omubi; endaweni yebhanti kuzakuba legoda, endaweni yenwele ezilungiswe kuhle kuzakuba lempabanga, endaweni yezigqoko ezinhle kuzakuba ngamasaka, endaweni yobuhle, kuzakuba lihlahla. **25** Amadoda akini azakuwa ngenkemba, kanjalo lamabutho akini empini. **26** Amasango aseZiyoni azakhala alile, kuthi yona ihlale phansi ichithekile.

4 Ngalolosuku abesifazane abayisikhombisa bazabamba indoda yinye bathi, “Sizakudla ukudla kwethu sigqoke izigqoko zethu; sivumele kuphela nje ukuba sibizwe ngebizo lakho. Susa ihlazo lethu.” **2** Ngalolosuku uGatsha lukaThixo luzakuba luhle lube yinkazimulo, lezithelo zelizwe

zizakuba ligugu lenkazimulo kwabasindayo ko-Israyeli. **3** Labo abatshiywe eZiyoni, abasele eJerusalemela, kuzathiwa bangcwele, labo bonke abalotshiweyo phakathi kwabaphilayo eJerusalemela. **4** INkosi izagezisa ingcekeza yabesifazane baseZiyoni, izahlambulula amachatha egazi eJerusalemela ngomoya wokwahlulela langomoya womlilo. **5** Lapho-ke, phezu kwayo yonke iNtaba iZiyoni langaphezulu kwabo bonke abahlangana khona, uThixo uzakwenza iyezi lentuthu emini, lokukhanya kwamalanganbi omlilo ebusuku; ngaphezu kwenkazimulo yonke kuzakuba lesivikelo esinjengophahla. **6** Sizakuba yisisitho lomthunzi wokuvika ukutshisa kwemini, isiphophelo lendawo yokucatshela isiphopho lezulu.

5 Ngizahlabelela lowo engimthandayo ingoma ngesivini sakhe: Othandwa yimi wayelesivini eqaqeni oluvundileyo. **2** Wasigebha, wasusa amatsho kuso, wahlanyela kuso amavini amahle. Wakha umphothshongo ophakemayo phakathi kwaso njalo wagebha lesikhanelo sewayini kuso. Walindela izithelo ezinhle, kodwa amavini athela ezimbi kuphela. **3** “Manje-ke lina abahlala eJerusalemela lani madoda akoJuda, yahlulelani phakathi kwami lesivini sami. **4** Kuyini okudlula lapho okwakumele kwenziwe esivini sami engingakwenzanga kuso na? Lapho ngangilindele izithelo ezinhle kungani sona sathela ezimbi kuphela na? **5** Khathesi-ke sengizalitshela engizakwenza esivini sami: Ngizasusa uthango lwaso; sizadilizwa. Ngizabhidliza umduli waso, sizagxotshwa ngezinyawo. **6** Ngizasenza sibe liganga kungabikho ukuthenwa kumbe okuhlakulwa; inkotha lameva kuzakhula kuso. Ngizalaya amayezi anganisi zulu kuso.” **7** Isivini sikaThixo uSomandla yindlu ka-Israyeli; abantu bakoJuda bayinsimu eligugu kuye. Wayelindele okufaneleyo, kodwa wabona ukuchitheka kwegazi; endaweni yokulunga, wezwa ukukhala kosizi. **8** Maye kini elengeza izindlu ngezindlu lihlanganise insimu ensinimbi kuze kusweleke indawo eseleyo, njalo lihlahla lodwa elizweni. **9** UThixo uSomandla usetshilo ngisizwa wathi: “Ngeqiniso izindlu ezinengi zizakuba ngamanxiwa; ezinkulu ezinhle zisale zingaselamuntu ohlala kuzo. **10** Izindima ezilithshumi zesivini zizathela ifatshi elilodwa lewayini, ihomeri lenhlanyelo lithele izefa lamabele.” **11** Maye kulabo abavuka ngovivi ekuseni begijimela ukunatha utshwala; abaqhubekayo kuze kube phakathi kobusuku baze badakwe butshwala. **12** Balamachacho lemihubhe emadilini abo, amageda, imihlanga, lewayini, kodwa kabazinaki izenzo zikaThixo, akukho nhlonipho yomsebenzi wezandla zakhe. **13** Ngakho-ke abantu bami bazakuya ekuthunjweni ngenxa yokungazwisisi; izikhulu zabo zizabulawa yindlala lenengi labo lizakoma ngomhawu wamanzi. **14** Ngakho indawo yabafileyo izakwelula imihlathi yayo, ikhamise umlomo wayo okungelamkhawulo; izikhulu zabo lenengi labo bawele phakathi labo bonke abaxokozelayo labazithokozisayo. (Sheol h7585) **15** Abantu bazakwehliselwa phansi, abantu bazathobekiswa, amehlo abaziphakamisayo athotshiswe. **16** Kodwa uThixo uSomandla uzaphakanyiswa ngokwahlulela kwakhe okuhle; ubungcwele bukaNkulunkulu buzabonakala ngokulunga kwakhe. **17** Lapho-ke izimvu zizakudla angathi kusemadlelweni azo, amazinyane adle emanxwini ezinothi. **18** Maye kulabo abahudula isono ngentambo zenkohliso lobubi kungathi kungamagoda enqola, **19** kulabo abathi, “UNkulunkulu kaphangise, kaphangisise umsebenzi wakhe ukuze siwubone. Kalisondele icebo loNgcwele ka-Israyeli langize ukuze silazi.”

20 Maye kulabo abathi okubi kuhle bathi okuhle kubi, ababeka umnyama esikhundleni sokukhanya; ukukhanya esikhundleni somnyama; ababeka okubabayo esikhundleni sokumnandi, okumnandi esikhundleni sokubabayo. 21 Maye kulabo abahlakaniphileyo emehlweni abo njalo besile ekuboneni kwabo. 22 Maye kulabo abangamaqhawe ekunatheni iwayini njalo bezintsantsu ekuhlanganiseni okunathwayo, 23 abakhulula abalamacala ngenxa yokufunjathiswa. Kodwa banqabele abamsulwa imfanelo yabo. 24 Ngakho-ke, njengalokhu umlilo utshisa inhlanga, utshani obomileyo buphelela phakathi kwamalanganabi, ngokunjalo impande zabo zizabola. Lamaluba abo aphephuke njengothuli; ngoba bawalile umthetho kaThixo uSomandla balidelela ilizwi loNgcwele ka-Israyeli. 25 Ngakho ulaka lukaThixo luzavutha ebantwini bakhe; isandla sakhe siphakeme njalo uyabatsheya. Izintaba ziyanyikinyeka, izidumbu zabafileyo zinjengezibi ezindleleni. Ikanti kukho konke lokhu ulaka lwakhe kaluphelanga, isandla sakhe silokhu siphakanyisiwe. 26 Uphakamisela izizwe ezikude uphawu, ubatshayela ikhwelo abasemaphethelweni omhlaba. Nampa besiza ngokuphangisa langejubane! 27 Kakho omunye wabo odinwayo loba okhubekayo, kakho owozelayo kumbe olalayo, akukho bhanti elixegiswayo ekhalweni, akukho ntambo yenyathelo equmekileyo. 28 Imitshoko yabo ibukhali, wonke amadandili abo agotshisiwe; amasondo amabhiza abo afana lelitse elilukhuni, amavili ezinqola zabo zokulwa anjengesivunguzane. 29 Ukubhonga kwabo kufana lokwesilwane, babhonga njengezilwane ezikhulayo, bayabhawama lapho bebamba inyamazana edliwayo, babaleke layo kungekho ngabemuka. 30 Ngalolosuku bazabhavumela phezu kwayo njengokubhavuma kolwandle. Njalo nxa umuntu ekhangela ilizwe, uzabona umnyama losizi; lelanga lizakwenziwa libe mnyama ngamayezi.

6 Ngomnyaka inkosi u-Uziya eyafa ngawo, ngabona uThixo ehlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi esiphazulu esiphakemeyo, injobo yesembatho sakhe igcwele ithempeli. 2 Ngaphezu kwakhe kwakulamaserafimu, elinye lelinye lilempiko eziyisithupha. Ayegubuzele ubuso bawo ngezimpiko ezimbili, egubuzele inyawo zawo ngezimbili, ephapha ngezimbili. 3 Elinye lamemezela kwelinye lisithi: “Ungcwele, ungcwele, ungcwele uThixo uSomandla, umhlaba wonke ugcwele inkazimulo yakhe.” 4 Ekuzwakaleni kwamazwi awo imigubazi lombundu kwanyikinyeka, kwathi ithempeli lagcwalisa intuthu. 5 Mina ngakhala ngathi, “Maye mina! Sengibhujisiwe! Ngoba ngingumuntu olezindebe ezingcolileyo, njalo ngihlala phakathi kwabantu abalezindebe ezingcolileyo, lamehlo ami asebone iNkosi, uThixo uSomandla.” 6 Lapho-ke elinye lamaserafimu laphaphela kimi liphetha ilahle elivuthayo esandleni salo elalithethe ngodlawu e-alithareni. 7 Lathinta umlomo wami ngalo lathi, “Khangela, lokhu sekuthintela izindebe zakho; icala lakho selisusiwe, njalo lesono sakho sesihlawulelwe.” 8 Ngasengisizwa ilizwi leNkosi lisithi, “Ngizathuma bani na? Ngubani na ozasihambela?” Mina ngathi, “Ngilapha. Ngithuma!” 9 Yasisithi, “Hamba uyethela abantu uthi: ‘Zwanini kokuphela, kodwa lingaqedisisi; libone kokuphela, kodwa lingabonisi.’” 10 Yenza inhliziyi yalababantu ibe lukhuni; wenze indlebe zabo zibe buthundu, uvale amehlo abo. Hlezi babone ngamehlo abo, bezwe ngezindebe zabo, baqedisise ngezinhliziyi zabo, baphenduke basilisiwe.” 11 Ngasengisithi, “Koze kube nini, Nkosi?” Yona yaphendula yathi: “Amadolobho aze achitheke njalo kungaselabantu kuwo,

izindlu zize zisale zingaselabantu, lamasimu ephundleke abhuquzeka, 12 uThixo aze axotshele umuntu wonke khatshana njalo ilizwe lidelwe ngokupheleleyo. 13 Lanxa ingxenye eyodwa etshumini isala elizweni izachithwa futhi. Kodwa njengezihlahla zetherebhinti lemi-okhi zitshiya izidindi lapho seziganyulwe, ngokunjalo inhlangalelo engcwele izakuba yisidindi elizweni.”

7 Kwathi u-Ahazi indodana kaJothamu, indodana ka-Uziya, eyinkosi yakoJuda, uRezini inkosi yase-Aramu loPhekha indodana kaRemaliya inkosi yako-Israyeli basuka bayahlasela iJerusalem, kodwa kabalingqobanga. 2 Indlu kaDavida yatshelwa kwathiwa, “I-Aramu isimanyene lo-Efrayimi,” inhliziyi ka-Ahazi lezabantu bakhe zanyikinyeka njengezihlahla zegusu zinyikinywa ngumoya. 3 UThixo wasesithi ku-Isaya, “Hamba wena lendodana yakho uSheyari-Jashubi ukuba lihlangabeze u-Ahazi ekucineni komgelo wamanzi oweChibi Elingaphezulu, emgwaqweni oya Ensimini Yomgezisi. 4 Lithi kuye, ‘Nanzelela, hlala ngokuthula, njalo ungesabi. Inhliziyi yakho kayingadeli ngenxa yolaka olwesabekayo lukaRezini lo-Aramu lolwendodana kaRemaliya.’” 5 U-Aramu lo-Efrayimi lendodana kaRemaliya sebeco ukukutshabalalisa besithi, 6 “Kasihlaseleni ilizwe lakoJuda; kasilidabuleni phakathi silabelane, senze indodana kaThabheli ibe yinkosi yalo.” 7 Kodwa-ke lokhu yikho okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi ukuthi: “Akuyikuphumelela, akuyikwenzakala, 8 ngoba inhloko ye-Aramu yiDamaseko, inhloko yeDamaseko nguRezini kuphela. Phakathi kweminyaka engamatshumi ayisithupha lanhlano u-Efrayimi uzakuba esetshabalele engaseyiso sizwe. 9 Inhloko ka-Efrayimi yiSamarिया, inhloko yeSamarिया yindodana kaRemaliya kuphela. Nxa lingami liqhine okholweni lwenu alisoze levele lime.” 10 UThixo wakhlumana njalo ku-Ahazi wathi, 11 “Cela isibonakaliso kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakho, ingabe ekujuleni kwezulu loba phezu lengqongweni.” (Sheol h7585) 12 Kodwa u-Ahazi wathi, “Angiyikucela. Angiyikulinga uThixo.” 13 U-Isaya wasesithi, “Khatshesi-ke zwana wena lendlu kaDavida. Akwenelanga na ukulinga ukubekezela kwabantu? Uzalinga lokubekezela kukaNkulunkulu wami njalo na? 14 Ngakho-ke iNkosi ngokwayo izanika isibonakaliso: Intombi egcweleyo izakhulelwa izale indodana bayibize ngokuthi ngu-Emanuweli. 15 Uzakudla amasi lolu lapho eselolwazi olwaneleyo ukuba ale okubi akhethe okulungileyo. 16 Kodwa-ke umfana engakazi okwaneleyo ukuba ale okubi akhethe okulungileyo, ilizwe lamakhosi amabili owesabayo lizachithwa. 17 UThixo uzakwehlisela phezu kwakho laphezu kwabantu bakho, laphezu kwendlu kayihlo, isikhathi esingafani lesinye kusukela u-Efrayimi ebhazuka kuJuda, uzaletsha inkosi yase-Asiriya.” 18 Ngalololanga uThixo uzatshaya ikhwelo ebiza impukane ezisekudabukeni kwezifula zaseGibhithe lezinyosi eziselizweni lase-Asiriya. 19 Zizakuza zonke zihlale ezingoxweni ezingamawa, ezimbalwini zamadwala, ezihlahleni zonke zameva kuwo wonke amagodi amanzi. 20 Ngalolosuku iNkosi izasebenzisa impuco ebokwelelwe enkosini yase-Asiriya ngaphethsheya koMfula iYufrathe ukuphuka ikhanda lakho loboya obusembaleni yakho, lokugunda indevu zakho lazo. 21 Ngalolosuku umuntu uzafuya ithokazi elilodwa lembuzi ezimbili. 22 Ngenxa yobunengi bochago oluzavela kuzo, uzakuba lamasi azawadla. Bonke abazasala elizweni bazakudla amasi lolu. 23 Ngalolosuku, ezindaweni zonke lapho

okwakulamavini ayinkulungwane alingana amashekeli esiliva ayinkulungwane, kuzakuba lokhula lameva kuphela. **24** Abantu bazakuya khona belamadandili lemitshoko ngoba ilizwe lizakuba seligcwele ukhula lameva. **25** Emaqaneni wonke ake alinywa ngekhuba kawasayikuya khona ngenxa yokwesaba ukhula lameva, azakuba yindawo yokwelusela inkomo lamadlelo ezimvu.

8 UThixo wathi kimi, “Thatha isibhebhedu selitshe esikhulu ulobe kuso ngolimi olujwayelekileyo ukuthi: Maheri-Shalali-Hashi-Bhazi (okutsho ukuthi: abaphanga ukuhquluza okuphangisweyo). **2** Ngizabiza u-Uriya umphristi loZakhariya indodana kaJebherekhiya njengabofakazi bami abathembekileyo.” **3** Ngemva kwalokho ngaya kumphrofethikazi, wathatha isisu, wazala indodana. UThixo wasesithi kimi, “Mbize ngokuthi nguMaheri-Shalali-Hashi-Bhazi. **4** Kuzakuthi umfana engakakwazi ukuthi ‘Ubaba’ loba ‘Umama,’ inotho yaseDamaseko lempahla ethunjwe eSamariya kuzathathwa yinkosi yase-Asiriya.” **5** UThixo wakhuluma kimi futhi wathi: **6** “Ngenxa yokuthi abantu laba sebewalile amanzi ageleza kuhle aseShilowa bethokozela uRezini lendodana kaRemaliya, **7** ngakho-ke iNkosi isiseduze ukubalethela izikhukhula zamanzi ezilamandla, eziyinkosi yase-Asiriya lobukhosi bayo bonke, zivela eYufurathe. Azachithekela ngaphandle kwayo yonke imigelo yawo, ageleze phezu kwamakhumbi ayi wonke, **8** afohlele kojuda, agcwale kulo, adlule phakathi kwalo efika entanyeni. Impiko zawo ezelulweyo zizakwembesa ububanzi belizwe lakho, Awu, Emanuweli!” **9** Hlabani umkhosi wempi lina zizwe, lichithwe! Lalelani lonke lina mazwe akude. Lungiselani impi, lichithwe! Lungiselani impi lichithwe! **10** Lungisani icebo lenu, kodwa kalisoze liphumelele: bumbani isu lenu, kodwa kaliyikuma, ngoba uNkulunkulu ulathi. **11** UThixo wakhuluma kimi isandla sakhe esilamandla siphezu kwami, engixwayisa ukuba ngingalandeli indlela yalabantu. Wathi: **12** “Ungabokuthi kungamacebo amabi konke abantu laba abathi kungamacebo amabi; ungakwesabi abakwesabayo njalo ungakuqhushi. **13** UThixo uSomandla nguye okumele limazi engongcwele, nguye okumele limesabe, nguye okumele limqhuqhe. **14** Uzakuba yisiphephelo; kodwa kuzo zombili izindlu zako-Israyeli uzakuba yilitshe elikhubekisa abantu ledwala elibenza bawe. Ebantwini baseJerusalema uzakuba yisifu lomjibila. **15** Inengi labo lizakhubeka; bazakuwa bephuke, bazathiywa bathunjwe.” **16** Bopha ubufakazi besixwayiso, uqinise umthetho phakathi kwabafundi bakaNkulunkulu. **17** Ngizamlindela uThixo, ofihlela indlu kaJakhobe ubuso bakhe. Ngizabeka ithemba lami kuye. **18** Mina ngilapha, kanye labantwana uThixo angiphe bona. Siyizibonakaliso lempawu ku-Israyeli ezivela kuThixo uSomandla, ohlala entabeni iZiyoni. **19** Nxa abantu bektshela ukuthi buza abalamadlozi labalemimoya yobuthakathi, labanyenyeyayo bengunguza, kambe abantu akumelanga babuzisise uNkulunkulu wabo na? Kungani abaphilayo libabuzela kwabafayo na? **20** Emthethweni lakubo ubufakazi! Nxa bebaghulumi ngokumayelana lelizwi leli, kabalako ukukhanya kosa. **21** Bazzalwe lizizwe behlulukelwe, belambile. Lapho sebhazwe yindlala, bazathukuthela, bathuke inkosi yabo loNkulunkulu wabo bekhangele phezu. **22** Emva kwalokho bazakhangela emhlabeni babone usizi kuphela, lomnyama owesabekayo, njalo bazaphoselwa emnyameni opheleleyo.

9 Kodwa-ke akusayikuba khona ukudangala kulabo ababesosizini. Ensukwini ezedlulayo walithobisa ilizwe likaZebhuluni lelizwe likaNafithali. Kodwa ensukwini ezizayo uzayipha udumo iGalile yabezizweni, eNdeleleni eya olwandle elandela iJodani: **2** Abantu abahamba emnyameni sebhone ukukhanya okukhulu; kulabo abahlala elizweni lethunzi lokufa ukukhanya sekukhanyisile. **3** Usikhulisile isizwe wandisa intokozo yabo, bayathokoza phambi kwakho njengabantu bethokoza ekuvuneni, njengempi ithokoza isaba impango. **4** Ngoba njengamhla wokwehlulwa kukaMidiyani usulephule ijigwe elibasindayo, umgoqo onqume emahlombe abo, intonga yomncindezeli wabo. **5** Lonke inyathela lebutsho elisetsheziwe empini, kanye lazonke izigqoko ezigqwe egazini kuzakuya ekutshisweni; kuzakuba ngokokubasisa umlilo. **6** Ngoba sizalelwe umntwana, siphewe indodana, umbuso uzakuba phezu kwamahlombe akhe. Uzabizwa ngokuthi uMeluleki Omangalisayo, uNkulunkulu uSomandla, uBaba Waphakade, inkosana yokuThula. **7** Ukunda kombuso wakhe lokuthula akuyikuba lomkhawulo. Uzabusa esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaDavida laphezu kombuso wakhe, ewumisa njalo ewuqinisa ngokufaneleyo langokulunga, kusukela ngalesisikhathi kuze kube nini lanini. Ukutshiseka kukaThixo uSomandla kuzakufeza lokhu. **8** Inkosi isithumele ilizwi lesixwayiso kujakhobe lizakwehlela phezu kuka-Israyeli. **9** Abantu bonke bazakwazi u-Efrayimi labakhele eSamariya, abathi ngokuziqqaja langokuzikhukhumeza kwenhliziyo, **10** “Izitina sezidilikele phansi, kodwa sizakwakha njalo ngamatshe abaziweyo; imikhiwa isiganyulelwe phansi, kodwa sizafaka imisedazi endaweni yayo.” **11** Kodwa uThixo usebaqinisele izitha zikaRezini, njalo usetshotshozele izitha zabo. **12** Ama-Aramu avela empumalanga lamaFilistiya avela entshonalanga asedle u-Israyeli ngomlomo ovulekileyo. Kodwa kukho konke lokhu, ukuthukuthela kwakhe akupheli, isandla sakhe silokhu siphakanyiwe. **13** Kodwa abantu abakabuyeli kuye owabatshayayo. Loba badinge uThixo uSomandla. **14** Ngakho uThixo uzaquma ko-Israyeli ikhanda lomsila, ugatsha lwelala lomhlanga ngasuku lunye; **15** abadala lezikhulu balikhanda, abaphrofethi abafundisa amanga bangumsila. **16** Labo abakhokhela abantu laba bayabalahlekisa, labo abakhokhelwayo bayedukiswa. **17** Ngakho iNkosi kayiyikuthokoza ngezinsizwa zabo, izintandane labafelokazi kayiyikuba lozwelo kubo, ngoba bonke bayameyisa uNkulunkulu, njalo babi; imilomo yonke ikhuluma amanyala. Kodwa kukho konke lokhu, ukuthukuthela kwayo akupheli, isandla sayo silokhu siphakanyiwe. **18** Ngeqiniso ububi butshisa njengomlilo, budla ukhula lameva, buthungela izixuku zehlathi zivuthe amalangabi izikhatha zentuthu ziqonga zisiya phezu. **19** Ngolaka lukaThixo uSomandla ilizwe lizatshiswa, abantu bazakuba zinkuni zomlilo, kakho ozaphephisa umfowabo. **20** Bazaqeda kwesokudla kodwa babe belokhu belambile; bazakudla kwesokhohlo, kodwa bangasuthi. Omunye lomunye uzakudla abantwabakhe: **21** UManase uzakudla u-Efrayimi, u-Efrayimi adle uManase; bobabili bazamelana loJuda. Kukho konke lokhu, ukuthukuthela kwakhe akupheli, isandla sakhe silokhu siphakanyiwe.

10 Maye kulabo abenza imithetho emibi, lakulabo ababhala izimiso ezincindezelayo, **2** ukuba kwamukwe abayanga amalungelo abo lokugodla okufaneleyo kwabantu bami abancindezelayo; bazingela abafelokazi baqhwaye izintandane. **3** Lizakwenzani ngosuku lokuthoniswa lapho

incithakalo isiza ivela khatshana? Lizabalekela kubani ukuba lithole usizo na? Lizayitshiya ngaphi inotho yenu? **4** Akukho okuzasala, kodwa ukuba baquthe phakathi kwabathunjweyo loba bafe lababuleweyo. Ikanti kukho konke lokhu, ukuthukuthela kwakhe akupheli, isandla sakhe silokhu siphakanyiwise. **5** “Maye kum’Asiriya, intonga yentukuthelo yami, esandleni sayo kulesagila solaka lwami! **6** Ngimthumela ukuyamelana lesizwe esingelankulunkulu, ngimthumela ukuyamelana labantu abangithukuthelisayo, ukuba athumbe ahluthune impahla yokuthunjwa, lokubanyathelela phansi njengodaka ezindleleni. **7** Kodwa lokhu akusikho akujongileyo, lokhu akusikho okusengqondweni yakhe; kunjongo yakhe yikutshabalalisa, abhuhise izizwe ezinengi. **8** Uthi, ‘Izinduna zami zebutho kazisimakhosi zonke na? **9** IKhalino kaliphumelelanga njengeKharikhemishi na? IHamathi kalinjenge-Ariphadi na? LeSamariya kayinjengeDamaseko na? **10** Lanjengoba isandla sami sabamba imibuso yezithombe, imibuso ezifanekiso zayo zedlula ezeJerusalem lezeSamariya, **11** angiyikuliphatha iJerusalem lezithombe zalo ngendlela engaphatha ngayo iSamariya lezithombe zayo na?” **12** Lapho uThixo esewuqedile wonke umsebenzi wakhe mayelana lentaba iZiyoni leJerusalem azakuthi, “Ngizayijezisa inkosi yase-Asiriya ngenxa yokuzigqaja kwayo lokuzazisa okubonakala emehlweni ayo.” **13** Ngoba uthi: “Ngamandla esandla sami langokuhlakanipha kwami sengenze lokhu ngoba ngilokuqedisa. Ngayisusa imingcele yezizwe, ngathumba inotho yazo; njengolamandla nganqoba amakhosi azo. **14** Njengomuntu efinyelela isidleke senyoni, ngokunjalo isandla sami safinyelela enothweni yezizwe, njengabantu bebutha amaqanda atshiyiweyo, kanjalo ngaqoqa amazwe wonke; akukho okwaphaphazelisa amaphiko loba okwavula umlomo wakho kwatshiyozwa.” **15** Konje ihloka liyaziphakamisela ngaphezu kwalowo olizulisayo na, loba isaha izincome imelane lalowo oyisebenzisayo na? Njengangathi induku izanyikinya lowo oyiphakamisayo, kumbe isagila sinyikinye lowo ongasiso sigodo! **16** Ngakho-ke, iNkosi, uThixo uSomandla, uzathumela isifo esicikizayo emabuthweni ayo aqinileyo; ngaphansi kobukhosi bayo kuzaphembeka umlilo njengelangabi elibhebhayo. **17** Ukukhanya kuka-Israyeli kuzakuba ngumlilo, oNgcwele wabo abe lilangabi, ngosuku olulodwa lizatshisa liqede ameva akhe lokhula lwakhe. **18** Ubuhle bamahlathi akhe lamasimu akhe avundileyo, uzakuqeda ngokupheleleyo njengalapho umuntu ogulayo ecikizeka. **19** Izihlahla zamahlathi ezisalayo zizakuba zilutshwana, okungathi lomntwana azibale. **20** Ngalolosuku insalela yako-Israyeli, abendlu kaJakhobe abasindayo, kabasayikwethemba kuye owabatshayayo wababhuhisa kodwa ngeqiniso bazathembela kuThixo, oNgcwele ka-Israyeli. **21** Insalela izabuyela, insalela kaJakhobe izabuyela kuSomandla uNkulunkulu. **22** Loba abantu bakho, we Israyeli, benjengetshebetshebe olwandle, kuzabuya insalela kuphela. Incithakalo isimenyazelwe, iyabakhulela kodwa ilungile. **23** Inkosi, uThixo uSomandla, uzasifeza isimemezelo sokubhujiswa elizweni lonke. **24** Ngakho-ke lokho yikho iNkosi, uThixo uSomandla akutshoyo: “Awu bantu bami abahlala eZiyoni, lingawesabi ama-Asiriya alitshaya ngentonga njalo lawo aliphakamisela isagila njengokwenziwa yiGibhithe. **25** Masinyane ukulithukuthela kwami kuzaphela, ulaka lwami luzaqondiswa ekubhujisweni kwabo.” **26** UThixo uSomandla uzabathatha ngomchilo njengalapho atshaya

iMidiyani edwaleni lase-Orebi, njalo uzaphakamisela intonga yakhe ngaphezu kwamanzi njengalokhu akwenza eGibhithe. **27** Ngalolosuku imithwalo yabo izasuswa emahlombe enu, lejogwe labo entanyeni zenu; ijogwe lizakwephulwa ngoba selizimukile. **28** Bayangena e-Ayathi; badabula phakathi kweMigironi; bagcina impahla eMikhimashi. **29** Badlula emkhandlwini bathi, “Ebusuku sizalala eGebha.” IRama liyathuthumela; iGibhiya likaSawuli liyabaleka. **30** Hlaba umkhosi, We! Ndodakazi kaGalimi, lalela we Layisha! Anathothi ozihawulelayo! **31** IMadimena iyabaleka; abantu baseGebhimu bazacatsha. **32** Ngalolosuku bazakuma kancane, kancane eNobhi, bazakhomba ngezingqindi zabo intaba yeNdodakazi yeZiyoni, eqaqeni lwaseJerusalem. **33** Khangelani, iNkosi, uThixo uSomandla, uzaquma ingatsha ngamandla amakhulu. Izihlahla ezidephileyo zizaqunywa. Ezinde zazo zizakwehliselwa phansi. **34** Ngehloka uzagamula izixuku zehlathi; iLebhanoni izakuwa phambi kwakhe olaMandla.

11 Ihlumela lizavela esidindini sikajese; uGatsha oluhlume empanzeni zakhe luzathela izithelo. **2** UMoya kaThixo uzakuba phezu kwakhe, uMoya wokuhlakanipha lowokuqedisa, uMoya wokweluleka lowamandla, uMoya wokwazi lowokwesaba uThixo, **3** njalo uzathokoziswa yikwesaba uThixo. Kayikwahlulela ngalokho akubona ngamehlo akhe, loba aqume ngalokho akuzwa ngendlebe zakhe; **4** kodwa abaswelayo uzabehlulela ngokulunga athathe izinqumo ngabayanga basemhlabeni ngokulunga. Uzatsihaya umhlaba ngentonga yomlomo wakhe; ngomoya wendebe zakhe uzabulala ababi. **5** Ukulunga kuzakuba libhanti lakhe, ukwethembeka kube luzwezwe ekhalweni lwakhe. **6** Impisi izahlala lezinyane lemvu, ingwe izalala phansi lembuzi, ithole kanye lesilwane kudle ndawonye; umntwana omncane akukhokhele. **7** Inkomokazi izakudla lebhede, amankonyane akho alale ndawonye; njalo isilwane sizakudla utshani njengenkabi. **8** Usane luzadlalela phansi komlindi webululu, umntwana omncane angenise isandla sakhe emlonyeni womlindi wenhlangwana. **9** Abayikulimaza loba badilize kuyo yonke intaba yami engcwele, ngoba umhlaba uzagcwalisa ngolwazi lukaThixo njengamanzi egcwalisa ulwandle. **10** Ngalolosuku iMpande kaJese izakuma njengophawu ebantwini; izizwe zizabuthana kuye, indawo yakhe yokuphumula izakuba lodumo. **11** Ngalolosuku uThixo uzakwelula isandla sakhe okwesibili ukuba abuyise insalela zabantu bakhe abasala e-Asiriya, eGibhithe, ePhathrosi, eTiyopiya, eKhushi, e-Elamu, eShinari, eHamathi lasezihlangeni zolwandle. **12** Uzaphakamisela izizwe uphawu aqoqe abaxotshwayo ko-Israyeli. Uzahlanganisa abantu bakoJuda abahlakazekileyo bevela emagumbini amane umhlaba. **13** Ubukhwele buka-Efrayimi buzaphela, izitha zikaJuda zizaqunywa; u-Efrayimi akayikukhwelezela uJuda, kumbe uJuda abe lobutha ku-Efrayimi. **14** Bazahwitha phansi emithezukweni yaseFilistiya ngasentshonalanga; bebonke bazaphanga abantu basepumpalanga. Bazanqoba i-Edomi leMowabi lama-Amoni azakuba ngaphansi kwabo. **15** UThixo uzacitsha usele wolwandle lwaseGibhithe, ngomoya otshisayo uzadlulisa isandla sakhe phezu komfula uYufrathe. Uzawhlukana ube yizifula eziyisikhombisa ukuze abantu bawuchaphe befake amanyathelo. **16** Kuzakuba lomgwaqo omkhulu wezinsalela zabantu bakhe abasele e-Asiriya, njengoba kwakunjalo ko-Israyeli ekubuyeni kwabo bevela eGibhithe.

12 Ngalolosuku wena uzakuthi: “Ngizakubonga Oh Thixo. Lanxa wawungithukuthethelele ulaka lwakho seluphelile, njalo usungiduduzile. **2** Ngeqiniso uNkulunkulu uyinsindiso yami; ngizathemba ngingesabi. UThixo, uThixo ngokwakhe ungamandla lengoma yami; usebe yinsindiso yami.” **3** Ngentokozo uzakukha amanzi emithonjeni yensindiso. **4** Ngalolosuku uzakuthi: “Mbonengi uThixo, bizani ibizo lakhe, zaziseni izizwe ngalokhu akwenzileyo, limemezele ukuthi ibizo lakhe liphakeme. **5** Hlabelelani kuThixo, ngoba wenze izinto ezinhle kakhulu; lokhu kwenzeni kwazakale emhlabeni wonke. **6** Memezani kakhulu lihlabele ngokuthokoza, bantu baseZiyoni, ngoba mkhulu oNgcwele ka-Israyeli phakathi kwenu.”

13 Leli yilizwi elimayelana leBhabhiloni elaboniswa u-Isaya indodana ka-Amozi: **2** Phakamisa uphawu phezu koqaqa oluligceke, umemezele kubo, ubaqhwebe ngesandla ukuba bangene emasangweni asesikhosini. **3** Sengibalayile abangcwele bami, sengiwalayile amaqhawe ami ukuba afeze ulaka lwami, lawo athokozela ukunqoba kwami. **4** Lalelani, umsindo phezu kwazitaba, onjengowexuku elikhulu. Lalelani, ukuxokozela phakathi kwemibuso njengezizwe zibuthana ndawonye! UThixo uSomandla ubutha ibutho elibuthela impi. **5** Bavela emazweni akude, emikhawulweni yamazulu, uThixo lezikhali zolaka lwakhe, ukuba kuchithwe ilizwe lonke. **6** Lilani ngoba usuku lukaThixo seluseduze. Luzafika njengokuchithakala okuvela kuSomandla. **7** Ngenxa yolokhu izandla zonke zizakuba buthakathaka, inhlizyo zabantu bonke zizaphela amandla. **8** Bazakuba lokwesaba okukhulu, baphathwe yibuhlungu losizi; bazabhinjika njengowesifazane ehelelwa. Bazakhangelana bemangele, ubuso babo bungamalangabi. **9** Khangelani usuku lukaThixo lubeza, usuku lwesihluku, ulaka lokuthukuthela okukhulu, ukwenza ilizwe litchitheke, kubhujiswe izoni eziphakathi kwalo. **10** Izinkanyezi zezulu lemithala yazo akuyikukhanyisa. Ilanga eliphumayo lizafiphazwa lenyanga ayiyikukhanyisa. **11** Umhlaba ngizawujezisa ngenxa yobubi bawo, lababi ngenxa yezono zabo. Ngizaqeda ukuloloda kwabazikhuhumeyayo, ngehise ukuzigqaja kwabalasihluku. **12** Ngizakwenza abantu basweleke okudlula igolide elicengekileyo, basweleke okudlula igolide lase-Ofiri. **13** Ngakho-ke ngizakwenza amazulu anyikinyeke; lomhlaba uzamazame endaweni yawo ngokuthukuthela kukaThixo uSomandla, ngosuku lolaka lwakhe oluvuthu. **14** Njengempala ezingelwayo, lanjengezimvu ezingamelusi, omunye lomunye uzabuyela ebantwini bakibo, omunye lomunye uzabalekela elizweni lakibo. **15** Lowo ozathunjwa uzagwazwa; bonke abazabanjwa bazabulawa ngenkamba. **16** Izingane zabo zizamahlazelwa phambi kwamhelo abo; izindlu zabo zizakhuthuzwa, omkabo babanjwe ngodlakela. **17** Khangelani, ngizabavusela amaMede angelandaba lesiliva, njalo engalijabuleli legolide. **18** Imitshoko yawo izabulala izinsizwa; kawayikuba lozwelo ezinganeni loba abe lesihawu ebantwaneni. **19** IBhabhiloni, igugu lemibuso, ubukhazikhazi bokuziqhenya kwamaKhaladiya, lizachithwa nguNkulunkulu njengeSodoma leGomora. **20** Akuyikuhlalwa kulo futhi loba kwakhiwe kulo kuzozonke izizukulwane; akulama-Arabhu azamisa amathente awo khona, loba umelusi ozaphumusa imihlambi yakhe khona. **21** Kodwa izinyamazana zeganga zizahlala khona, amakhanka azahlala ezindlini zakhona lezikhova zizahlala khona, lamagogo aqolotshe khona.

22 Impisi zizakhala ezinqabeni zakhona, amakhanka ezindlini ezinhle zobukhosi. Isikhathi salo sesizafika njalo insuku zalo kaziyikwandiswa.

14 UThixo uzakuba lesihawu kujakhobe; uzamkhethe njalo u-Israyeli, abahlalise elizweni labo. Abezizwe bazahlangana labo bamanyane lendlu kaJakhobe. **2** Izizwe zizabathatha zibase endaweni yabo. Indlu ka-Israyeli izathumba izizwe zibe yizisebenzi zesilisa lezesifazane elizweni likaThixo. Bazakwenza abathumbi babo babe yizigqili, babuse abancindezeli babo. **3** Ngosuku uThixo azaliphumusa ngalo ekuhluphekeni, ekutshikatshikeni, lasebugqilini obulesihluku, **4** lizakutsho la amazwi okukloloda enkosini yaseBhabhiloni lithi: Umcindezeli usefikile ekucineni, ukuthukuthela kwakhe sekuphelile! **5** UThixo useyephule intonga yababi, induku yobukhosi eyababusi, **6** abatshaya abantu ngokuthukuthela, langokugalela okungapheliyo, banqoba izizwe ngenkuthelo langokuncindezela okungapheliyo. **7** Amazwe wonke alokuphumula lokuthula; aphahluka ahlabelele izingoma. **8** Lezihlahla zamaphayini lemisedari yaseLebhanoni ziyathokoza ngawe zithi, “Njengoba khathesi usuwiselwe phansi akula okuzazasigamula.” **9** Ithuna ngaphansi liyanyakaza ukuba likuhlangabeze ekufikeni kwakho. Livusa imimoya yabafayo ukuba ikubingelele, bonke labo ababengababusi emhlabeni; libenza basukume ezihlalweni zabo zobukhosi, bonke labo ababengamakhosi ezizwe. **(Sheol h7585)** **10** Bazaphendula bonke, bazakuthi kuwe, “Lawe usubuthakathaka njengathi, usube njengathi.” **11** Bonke ubukhosi bakho sebhiliselwe phansi ethuneni, kanye lomsindo wamachacho akho. Impethu zendaliwe ngaphansi kwakho, inhlavane zikwembesile. **(Sheol h7585)** **12** Yeka ukuwa kwakho uvela ezulwini, wena nkanyezi yekuseni, ndodana yokusa! Uphoselwe phansi emhlabeni, wena owake wehlisela izizwe phansi! **13** Wathi enhliziyweni yakho, “Ngizakwenyukela ezulwini, ngizaphakamisela isihlalo sami sobukhosi ngaphezu kwezinkanyezi zikaNkulunkulu; ngizahlala ebukhosini phezu kwentaba yombuthano, ezingqongweni zentaba engcwele. **14** Ngizakwenyukela phezu kwezindawo eziphakemeyo emayezini; ngizazenza ngibe njengePhezukonke.” **15** Kodwa ulethwe phansi ethuneni, ekuzikeni kwegodi. **(Sheol h7585)** **16** Labo abakubonayo bakudonsela amehlo, bayacabanga ngowakudalelwayo bathi: “Nguye lo na umuntu owanyikinya umhlaba wenza imibuso yaqhaqhazela, **17** umuntu owenza umhlaba waba lugwadwa, owadiliza amadolobho awo, kazawumela abathunjwayo bakhe ukubuyela ekhaya na?” **18** Wonke amakhosi ezizwe alele ebukhosini, enye lenye ethuneni layo. **19** Kodwa wena uphoselwe ngaphandle kwethuna lakho njengogatsha olulahlwayo; welekle ngababulawayo, lalabo abagwazwa ngenkamba, labo abehlela ematsheni egodi. Njengesidumbu esinyathelwe ngezinyawo, **20** kawuyikuhlangana labo ekungcwatshweni; ngoba usulichithile ilizwe lakho wabulala labantu bakini. Inzalo yababi kakungakhulunywa ngayo futhi. **21** Lungisa indawo yokubulalela abantwabakhe ngenxa yezono zabokhoko babo. Kabamelanga bavuke ukuba bathathe ilizwe bagcwalise umhlaba ngamadolobho abo. **22** “Ngizabavukela,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. “Ngizakwesula iBhabhiloni labasindayo abantwabakhe lezizukulwane,” kutsho uThixo. **23** “Ngizalenza libe yindawo yezikhova lelizwe elixhaphozi. Ngizalithanyela ngomthanyelo wencithakalo,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **24** UThixo uSomandla ufungile wathi, “Ngeqiniso,

njengoba sengilungisile, kuzakuba njalo, njalo njengoba ngikumisile kuzakuma kanjalo. 25 Ngizamchoboza um'Asiriya elizweni lami; ezintabeni zami ngizamnyathelela phansi. Ijogwe lakhe lizasuswa ebantwini bami, umthwalo wakhe ususwe emahlombe abo." 26 Lokhu yikho okumiselwe umhlaba wonke, lesi yisandla eselulelwe phezu kwezizwe zonke. 27 Ngoba uThixo uSomandla usenze isimiso, ngubani ongamvimbela na? Isandla sakhe siphakanyisiwe, ngubani ongasibuyisela emuva na? 28 Ilizwi leli lafika nyakana kusifa inkosi u-Ahazi: 29 Lingathokozi, lonke lina maFalistiya, lisithi intonga eyalitshayayo yephukile; ngoba empandeni yenyoka leyana kuzavale inhlanguwana, inzalo yayo izakuba yinyoka elobuthi obutshokayo. 30 Abangabayanga kubayanga bazathola amadlelo, abaswelayo bazalala phansi bevekelekile. Kodwa impande yakho ngizayitshabalalisa ngendlala; izabulala abaseleyo bakho. 31 Lila wena sango! Bubula wena dolobho! Chithekani lonke lina maFalistiya! Iyezi lentuthu livela enyakatho; njalo akulamathida eviyweni lalo. 32 Yimpundulo bani ezanikwa izithunywa zalesosizwe na? "UTHixo useyakhile iziyoni, abantu bakhe abahluphekileyo bazaphephela kuye."

15 Isiqalekiso esimayelana leMowabi: I-Ari eMowabi itshabalalisiwe, idilizwe ngobusuku obubodwa. IKhiri eMowabi itshabalalisiwe; idilizwe ngobusuku obubodwa. 2 IDibhoni iya phezulu ethempelini layo; ezindaweni zayo eziphakemayo ukuyalila; iMowabi ililela iNebho leMedebha. Amakhanda wonke aphucisiwe; indevu zonke zigeliwe. 3 Ezindleleni bagqoka amasaka, phezu kwezimpahla zezindlu lasezindaweni zabantu bonke, bayalila bonke, baphele amandla ngokulila. 4 IHeshibhoni le-Eliyale kuyakhala, amazwi akho azwakala laseJhazi. Ngakho-ke amabutho aseMowabi ayakhala, inhliziyi zawo zidangele. 5 Inhliziyi yami ikhalela iMowabi, ababalekayo bayo babaleka baze bayefika kude eZowari; kude njengase-Egilathi Shelishiya. Bahamba ngendlela eya eLuhithi, bakhala ohanjweni lwabo; endleleni eya eHoronayimi balilela ukubhujiswa kwabo. 6 Amanzi aseNimirimi acitshile, utshani bubunile, uhlasa kalusekho, akukho lutho oluluhlaza oluseleyo. 7 Ngakho inotho abayizuzileyo bayigcina, bayithwalela ngaphetsheya kweSifula semiDubu. 8 Ukuklabalala kwabo kuzwakele emngceleni waseMowabi, ukukhala kwabo kufika kude e-Egilayimi, ukulila kwabo kufika eBheri-Elimi. 9 Amanzi aseDimoni agcwele igazi kodwa ngizajinge ngilethe okunengi phezu kweDimoni, isilwane phezu kwababalekayo baseMowabi, lakulabo abazasala elizweni.

16 Thumelani izimvu njengendlela yokuhlonipha kumbusi welizwe evela eSela, edabula enkangala, esiya entabeni yeNdodakazi yeZiyoni. 2 Njengenyoni ephaphazelayo isuswe esidlekeni, banjalo abesifazane baseMowabi emazibukweni ase-Arinoni. 3 UMowabi uthi, "Zinzisani ingqondo zenu lenze isinqumo. Yenzani isithunzi senu sibe njengobusuku emini enkulu; bafihlani ababalekayo, linganikeli iziphepheli. 4 Vumelani iziphepheli zamaMowabi zihlale kini; libe yisiphephelo sazo kubachithi." Umncindezeli uzakufa, ukuchitheka kuzaphela, umhlaseli uzanyamalala elizweni. 5 Ngothando, kuzamiswa isihlalo sobukhosi; ngokwethembeka, indoda izahlala kuso, ivela endlini kaDavida, yona ethi ekwahluleleni ifune imfanelo, njalo iphangasisa indlela yokulunga. 6 Sizwile ngokuziqqaja kumaMowabi. Ukuziqqaja kwakhe kokuzikhukhumeza lokuzazisa, ukuziqqaja kwakhe

lobuqholo bakhe, kodwa ukuzikhukhumeza kwakhe kuyize. 7 Ngakho-ke abaseMowabi bayalila, balilela iMowabi bonke. Khalani libubulele izinkwa ezilezithelo zevini eKhiri-Haresethi. 8 Amasimu aseHeshibhoni ayabuna, anjalo lamavini aseSibhima. Ababusi bezizwe sebewanyathelele phansi amavini amahle kuqala ayefika eJazeri, njalo anda kusiya ngasenkangala. Amahlumela awo anaba aze ayafika ngasolwandle. 9 Ngakho ngiyakhala njengalokhu iJazeri ikhala, ngikhalela amavini aseSibhima. Awu Heshibhoni lawe Eliyale, ngilithambisa ngezinyembezi. Ukuklabalalela izithelo zenu esezivuthiwe ngentokoze lezivuno zenu sekuqhelile. 10 Ukuthokoza lokuthaba akusekho ezivinini; kakho ohlabelayo loba amenze ezivinini; kakho onyathela iwayini ezikhamelweni ngoba umsindo sengiwuqedile. 11 Inhliziyi yami ikhalela uMowabi njengechacho, ingaphakathi yami ikhalela iKhiri-Haresethi. 12 Lapho uMowabi evela endaweni yakhe ephakemayo uyazidinisisa nje kuphela; lalapho esiya endaweni yakhe yokukhonzela ukuba akhuleke akusizi lutho. 13 Leli yilizwi uThixo avele esikhulumile ngoMowabi. 14 Kodwa khathesi uThixo uthi: "Phakathi kweminyaka emithathu, njengesisebenzi esibotshe yisivumelwano singayibala, udumo lukaMowabi labantu bakhe bonke abanengi kuzakweyiswa, njalo abazasinda bakhona bazakuba balutshwana kakhulu njalo bengelamandla."

17 Isiqalekiso esimayelana leDamaseko: "Khangela iDamaseko kayisayikuba lidolobho kodwa izakuba yinqumbi yamanxiwa. 2 Amadolobho ase-Aroyeri azatshiywa, etshiyelwa imihlambi ezalala phansi kungekho ozayenza yesabe. 3 Idolobho elivikelweyo lizanyamalala ko-Efrayimi lamandla obukhosi eDamaseko; insalela ka-Aramu izakuba njengodumo lwaboko-Israyeli," kutsho uThixo uSomandla. 4 "Ngalolusuku udumo lukaJakhowe luzakwehla; amafutha asemzimbeni wakhe azancipha. 5 Kuzakuba njengalapho umvuni evuna amabele amiyo evuna amabele ngengalo yakhe, njenganxa umuntu edobha izikhwebu zamabele eSigidini saseRefayi. 6 Ikanti ezinye izikhwebu zizasala, njengalapho isihlahla se-oliva sibhuliwe, kusale ama-oliva amabili loba amathathu ezingatsheni eziphezulu kakhulu, amane loba amahlanu ezingabeni zezithelo," kutsho uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. 7 Ngalolusuku abantu bazathembela kuMenzi wabo amehlo abo aphendukele koNgcwele ka-Israyeli. 8 Abayikuthembela ema-alithareni, umsebenzi wezandla zabo, njalo kabayikuzinza izinsika zika-Ashera lama-alithare empepha enziwa yiminwe yabo. 9 Ngalolusuku amadolobho abo aqinileyo, abawatshiyayo ngenxa yama-Israyeli azafana lezindawo ezatshiyelwa izixukwana lezihlahlanyana. Konke kuzakuba yincithakalo. 10 Selimkhohliwe uNkulunkulu uMsindisi wenu, kalilikhumbulanga iDwala, inqaba yenu. Ngakho lanxa ligxumeka izihlahla ezinhle, lihlaneye lamavini avela ezizweni, 11 lanxa lingawenza akhule ngelanga elizawagxumeka ngalo, loba liwenze ahlume ngekuseni eliwahlanyele ngayo, kodwa isivuno sizakuba yize ngosuku lwesifo lobuhlungu obungelaphekiyo. 12 Maye, ukhulomka kwezizwe ezinengi, zihlorkoma njengokuhlokoma kolwandle! Yeka ukuxokozela kwezizwe, zihuba njengokuhuba kwamanzi amanengi! 13 Lanxa izizwe zihuba njengokugubhuza kwamanzi, nxa ezikhza zibalekela khatshana, njengamakhoba ephetshulwa ngumoya emaqaqeni, lanjengothuli olubangwa yisivunguzane. 14 Kusihlwa kuba lokuthuthumela. Kungakasi,

kabasekho. Lesi yiso isabelo salabo abasikhuthuzayo, isabelo salabo abasihlaselayo.

18 Maye ngelizwe elilokuphaphazela kwempiko emifuleni yaseKhushi, 2 elithuma izithunywa zihamba olwandle ngezikepe zemihlangu phezu kwamanzi. Hambani, zithunywa ezilejubane, liye ebantwini abade abalejwabu elibutshelazi, ebantwini abesatshwayo ezindaweni zonke, isizwe esilolaka, esilolimi olungaziwayo, esilizwe laso lehlukaniwe yimifula. **3** Lonke lina bantu bomhlaba, lina elihlala emhlabeni, lapho uphawu luphakanyiswa phezu kwezintaba lizalubona, lalapho uphondo lukhala lizaluzwa. **4** Lokhu yikho uThixo akutshoyo kimi: “Ngizakwala ngithule, ngikhangele ngisendaweni yami yokuhlala, njengokucwebezela kokutshisa ekukhanyeni kwelanga, lanjengenkungu yamazolo ngesikhathi sokuvuna.” **5** Ngoba kungakavunwa, lapho ukukhahlela sekudle, amaluba esesiba livini elivuthiweyo, uzaquma amahlumela ngamahlaka okuthena, aqume lengatsha ezinabayo, azisuse. **6** Zonke zizatshiyelwa izinyoni zasezintabeni ezidla inyama, lezinnyamazana zeganga; izinyoni zizakudla ihlobo lonke, izinyamazana zeganga ubusika bonke. **7** Ngalesosikhathi izipho zizalethwa kuThixo uSomandla zivela ebantwini abade abalamajwabu abutshelazi, zivela ebantwini abesatshwayo ezindaweni zonke. Isizwe esilolaka, esilolimi olungaziwayo, esilizwe laso lehlukaniwe yimifula, izipho zizalethwa entabeni iZiyoni, endaweni yeBizo likaThixo uSomandla.

19 Isiphrofethi esimayelana leGibhithe sithi: Khangela uThixo ukhwele phezu kweyezi elisesiqubu esiza eGibhithe. Izithombe zaseGibhithe ziyathuthumela phambi kwakhe, njalo inhlizyo zamaGibhithe ziba buthakathaka ngaphakathi kwawo. **2** “Ngizadunga umGibhithe alwe lomGibhithe, umuntu uzakulwa lomfowabo, umakhelwane alwe lomakhelwane, idolobho lilwe ledolobho, umbuso ulwe lombuso. **3** AbaseGibhithe bazaphelelwa lithemba, njalo ngizakwenza amacebo abo abe yize; bazazuba izithombe lemimoya yabafayo, amadlozi zayanuse. **4** AbaseGibhithe ngizabanikela enkosini elesihluku, inkosi eyesabekayo izababusa,” kutsho iNkosi, uThixo uSomandla. **5** Amanzi omfula azakutsha, umfula uzacitsha, wome. **6** Imigelo izanuka, izifula zaseGibhithe zizakwentsha zitshe. Imihlangu lebhuma kuzabana, **7** kanjalo lezihlahlanyana emakhunjini kaNayili lapho umfula othela khona. Konke okuhlanyelwe eduzane loNayili Kuzakoma, kuphephukele khatshana Kungabikhona. **8** Abagoli benhlazi bazabubula balile, bonke abaphosa amawuka kuNayili, loba abajika amambule emanzini bazaphela amandla. **9** Labo ababenzisa isikusha bazadangala, abeluka ilineni elihle bazaphelelwa lithemba. **10** Izisebenzi zasemalenjini zizadana, njalo bonke abahola imiholo bazakuba lusizi. **11** Izikhulu zaseZowani azisilutho kodwa izithutha nje; abaluleki bakaFaro abahlakaniphileyo banika izeluleko zobuwula. Ungatsho kanjani kuFaro uthi, “Mina ngingomunye wamadoda ahlakaniphileyo, umfundi wamakhois endulo?” **12** Khatshi bangaphi abantu bakini abahlakaniphileyo? Kabalitshengise balazise ngalokhu uThixo uSomandla asecebe ukukwenza emelana leGibhithe. **13** Izikhulu zaseZowani sezibe yizithutha, abakhokheli baseMemfisi bakhohlisiwe, abazinsika zabantu bakhona sebedukise iGibhithe. **14** UThixo usethele umoya wesiyenzi phakathi kwabo; benza iGibhithe ibhadazele kukho konke ekwenzayo, njengesidakwa sidiyazela emahlanzweni aso. **15** Akulalutho iGibhithe engalwenza, ikhanda loba umsila,

ugatsha lwelala loba umhlanga. **16** Ngalolosuku abaseGibhithe bazafana labesifazane. Bazathuthumela ngokwesaba isandla esiphakanyisiweyo uThixo uSomandla abaphakamisele sona. **17** Lelizwe lakoJuda lizaletha ukwesaba kwabaseGibhithe. Bonke okuzakhulunywa kubo ngoJuda bazathuthumela, ngenxa yalokho uThixo uSomandla aceba ukukwenza kubo. **18** Ngalolosuku amadolobho amahlanu aseGibhithe azakuhluma ulimi lwaseKhenani, afungele ukwethembeka kuThixo uSomandla. Elinye lawo lizathiwa liDolobho leNcithakalo. **19** Ngalolosuku kuzakuba le-alithari likaThixo phakathi kwelizwe laseGibhithe, lelitsheshe lesikhumbuzo sikaThixo emngceleni walo. **20** Lizakuba yisibonakaliso lobufakazi kuThixo uSomandla elizweni laseGibhithe. Lapho bekhalaza kuThixo ngenxa yabancindezeli babo, uzabathumela umsindisi lomvikieli, abahlenge. **21** Kanjalo uThixo uzakwenza ukuba azakale kwabaseGibhithe, njalo ngalolosuku bazamvuma uThixo. Bazakhonza ngemihlatshelo langemnikelo yamabele; bazakwenza izifungo kuThixo, bazigcine. **22** UThixo uzatshaya iGibhithe ngesifo; uzabatshaya aphinde abasilise. Bazaphendukela kuThixo, njalo uzakuzwa imikhuleko yabo abasilise. **23** Ngalolosuku bazakuba lomgwaqo osuka eGibhithe usiya e-Asiriya. Abase-Asiriya bazakuya eGibhithe, abeGibhithe labo baye e-Asiriya. AbaseGibhithe labase-Asiriya bazakhonza ndawonye. **24** Ngalolosuku i-Israyeli izakuba ngeyesithathu kanye leGibhithe le-Asiriya kube yisibusiso emhlabeni. **25** UThixo uSomandla uzababusisa esithi, “Kayibusiswe iGibhithe abantu bami, i-Asiriya umsebenzi wezandla zami le-Israyeli ilifa lami.”

20 Ngomnyaka indunankulu yebutho eyafika ngawo e-Ashidodi, ithunywe nguSagoni inkosi yase-Asiriya, yahlasela i-Ashidodi yayithumba, **2** ngalesosikhathi uThixo wakhuluma ngo-Isaya indodana ka-Amozi wathi kuye, “Susa isaka oligqokileyo emzimbeni wakho ukhuphe lamanyathela ezinyaweni zakho.” Wenza njalo, wahamba nqunu njalo engagqokanga lutho ezinyaweni. **3** UThixo wasesithi, “Njengoba inceku yami u-Isaya ihambe nqunu njalo ngagqokanga lutho ezinyaweni okweminyaka emithathu njengesibonakaliso lomhlolo kwabaseGibhithe labaseKhushi, **4** ngokunjalo inkosi yase-Asiriya izabaqhuba benqunu njalo bengafakanga manyathela ezinyaweni abaseGibhithe abathunjweyo labaseKhushi abaxotshwayo elizweni lakibo, abatsha labadala, izibunu zisegekeni, kube lihlazo eGibhithe. **5** Labo ababethembe iKhushi bezincoma ngeGibhithe, bazakwesaba bayangiswe. **6** Ngalolosuku abantu abahlala kulelicele eliseduze kolwandle bazakuthi, ‘Khangelani osokwenzakale kulabo ebesingwaba ngabo, labo esabalekela kubo ukuba sithole usizo lokukhululwa enkosini yase-Asiriya! Pho sizaphepha kanjani na?’”

21 Isiphrofethi mayelana leNkangala engasoLwandle: Njengesivunguzane sidlula eNegebi, umhlasele uvela enkangala evelela elizweni elesabekayo. **2** Ngitshengiswe umbono owesabekayo. Umthengisi uyathengisa, umkhuthuzi uthatha impahla. Elamu, hlasela! Mediya, vimbezela! Mina ngizakuqeda konke ukububula akudalileyo. **3** Ngalokhu umzimba wami uyafuthelwa, ngiphethwe yibuhlungu obufana lobowesifazane ehelelwa. Ngithithibaliswa yilokhu engikuzwayo, ngidideka ngalokhu engikubonayo. **4** Inhlizyo yami iphela amandla, ukwesaba kungenza ngiqhaqhazele; ukuhlwa engibe ngikufisa, sekusesabeka kimi. **5** Itafula

bayilungisile, bendlala amalembu bayadla, bayanatha. Sukumani lina zikhulu, ligcobe amahawu! **6** Lokhu yikho uThixo akutshoyo kimi: “Hamba uyefaka umlindi ukuze abike akubonayo. **7** Angabona izinqola zempi, kulemihlambi yamabhiza, abagadi phezu kwabobabhem i loba abagadi phezu kwamakamela, kaqaphele; aqaphelisisa sibili.” **8** Umlindi wasememeza esithi, “Nkosi yami, usuku ngosuku ngiyema phezu komphotshongo wokulinda; ubusuku ngabunye ngihlala ensikeni yami. **9** Khangela, nangu umuntu esiza esenqoleni yempi lomhlambi wamabhiza. Uphendula esithi, “IBhahliloni isidilikile, isidilikile! Zonke izifanekiso zezithombe zayo zihlakazekele phansi!” **10** Awu bantu bami elihlulelwe esizeni, ngilitshele engkuzwileyo kuvela Thixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israelyeli. **11** Isiphrofethi esimayelana leDuma: Umuntu othile uyangimemeza eseSeyiri, esithi, “Mlindi, kuyini okwebusuku okusaseleyo? Mlindi, kuyini okwebusuku okusaseleyo?” **12** Umlindi uphendula esithi, “Ukusa kuyeza, kodwa lobusuku buyeza. Nxa ufuna ukubuya, buza; uphinde ubuye futhi.” **13** Isiphrofethi esimayelana le-Arabhiya: Lina zindwendwe zabakoDedani ezimise emahlabathini ase-Arabhiya, **14** lethelani abomileyo amanzi; lina elihlala eThema, lethelani ababalekayo ukudla. **15** Babalekela inkemba, inkemba eqhatshliweyo, babalekela idandili eligotshiweyo, lokutshisa kwempi. **16** Lokhu yikho uThixo akutshoyo kimi ukuthi: “Phakathi komnyaka owodwa nje, njengendlela isisebenzi esiqhatshiweyo esingawubala ngayo, lonke udumo lweKhedari luzaphela. **17** Abasindayo kwabemitshoko, amabutho aseKhedari, bazakuba balutshwana.” UThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israelyeli, usekhulumile.

22 Isiphrofethi ngesiGodi soMbono: Kuyini okukukhathazayo khathezi, wena sewakhwela phezu kwezimpahla zezindlu, **2** wena dolobho eligcwele iziphithiphithi, wena dolobho lokuxokozela lokuthokoza? Abafayo bakho ababulawanga ngenkemba, njalo kabafelanga empini. **3** Bonke abakhokheli bakho babaleke bebonke, bathunjwe bengazange basebenzise mtshoko. Lonke lina elabanjwayo lathathwa ukuba libe yizibotshwa ndawonye, libalekile isitha sisesekhatshana. **4** Ngakho ngathi, “Sukani kimi; lingiyekele ngikhale kabuhlungu. Lingazami ukungiduduzana ngenxa yokuchithwa kwabantu bakithi.” **5** INkosi, uThixo uSomandla, ulosuku lokuxokozela lokugxoba lokwesaba eSigidoni soMbono, usuku lokudiliza imiduli lokumemezela ezintabeni. **6** I-Elamu ithatha isikhwama semitshoko, labatshayeli balo beziinqola zempi, lamabhiza; iKhiri lambula ihawu. **7** Izigodi zakho ezinhle kakhulu zigcwele izinqola zempi, abagadi bamabhiza bamiswe emasangweni edolobho. **8** Ukuvikeleka kukaJuda kususiwe, Ngalolosuku wathemba izikhali eziseSigidlweni seHlathi, **9** wabona ukuthi iDolobho likaDavida lalilezikhala ezinengi ezivikelweni zalo; wagcina amanzi eSizibeni esingaPhansi. **10** Wabala izindlu zaseJerusalema, wazidiliza ukuze kuqinise umduli. **11** Phakathi kwemiduli yomibili wakha indawo yokugcinela amanzi eSiziba esiDala. Kodwa kawukhangelanga kuLowo owasenzayo, kumbe umnake Lowo owaceba ukusenza kudala. **12** Ngalolosuku iNkosi, uThixo uSomandla, wakubiza ukuba ukhale ulile, usiphune inwele zakho, ugqoke isaka. **13** Kodwa khangela, kulokuthaba lokuthokoza, ukuhlathwa kwezinkomo lokubalwa kwezimvu, ukudliwa kwenyama lokunathwa kweyayini! Lithi, “Kasidleni sinathe, ngoba

kusasa sizakufa!” **14** UThixo uSomandla usekuzezile lokhu ngisizwa: “Lesisono kasiyikuthethelelwa kuze kube lusuku lwakho lokufa,” kutsho iNkosi, uThixo uSomandla. **15** Lokhu yikho okutshiwo yiNkosi, uThixo uSomandla, uthi: “Hamba, uthi encekwini le, kuShebhina ongumphathi wesigodlo: **16** Wenzani lapha, njalo ngubani okuphe imvumo ukuba uzimbele ingcwaba lapha, ugubha ingcwaba lakho endaweni ephezulu, ugubha indawo yakho yokuphumula edwaleni?” **17** Qaphela, sekuseduze ukuthi uThixo akubambe aqinise, akuphosele khatshana, wena ndoda elamandla. **18** Uzakugoga ngokuqinisa akubumbe njengebhola akuphosele elizweni elikhulu. Uzafela khonapho. Lezigqoko zakho zempi ezinhle zizasala khonapho, wenza ihlazo endlini yenkosi yakho! **19** Ngizakusasa esikhundleni sakho, njalo uzaxotshwa emsebenzini wakho. **20** Ngalolosuku ngizabiza inceku yami, u-Eliyakhimu indodana kaHilikhiya. **21** Ngizamgqokisa izembatho zakho, ngimbophe ngebhanti lakho, ngimnike amandla akho. Uzakuba nguyise walabo abahlala eJerusalema lakwabendlu kaJuda. **22** Ngizabeka phezu kwamahlombe akhe isivulo sendlu kaDavida; akuvulayo kakho ongakuvala. **23** Ngizambethela njengesikhonkwane endaweni eqinileyo; uzakuba yisihlalo sobukhosi sasendlini kayise. **24** Lonke udumo lwakwabo luzakuba kuye, inzalo yakhona lezizukulwane zonke, izitsha zakhona ezincinyane, kusukela emiganwini kusiya enkonxeni zonke. **25** “Ngalolosuku,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla, “isikhonkwane esabethelwa endaweni eqinileyo sizakhumuka; sizaqunywa siwe, umthwalo ophezu kwaso uzawela phansi.” UThixo usekhulumile.

23 Isiqalekiso esimayelana leThire: Khalani lina mikhumbi yaseThashishi! Ngoba iThire selichithiwe lasala lingaselandlu kumbe indawo yokungenisa imikhumbi. Ilizwi selifikile kibo livela elizweni laseKhitshimi. **2** Thulani lina bantu basesihlengeni lani bathengi baseSidoni, asebanothiswa ngabahambi bolwandle. **3** Amabele aseShihori eza ephezu kwamanzi, isivuno saseNayili sasiyinzuzo yeThire, njalo yaba yindawo yezizwe yokuthengiselana. **4** Woba lenhloni wena Sidoni, lawe wena nqaba yasolwandle ngoba ulwandle selukhulumile lwathi: kangizange ngihlelelwe kumbe ngizale; “Kangizange ngondle amadodana kumbe ngikhulise amadodakazi.” **5** Lapho ilizwi lifika eGibhithe bazakuba lusizi ngombiko ovela eThire. **6** Khuphukelani ngaseThashishi; khalani lina bantu basesihlengeni. **7** Leli yilo na idolobho lenu lentokoza, idolobho elidaladala, elinyawo zalo zalithatha ukuyalihalisa emazweni akude? **8** Ngubani ocebe lokhu ngeThire, umethesi wemiqhele, abathengisi bayo bangamakhosana, abathengisi bayo badumile emhlabeni? **9** UThixo uSomandla wakuwaba lokhu, ukwehlisa ukuzigqaja kwenkazimulo yonke lokuthobisa bonke abalodumo emhlabeni. **10** Lima insimu yakho malungana leNayili wena Ndodakazi yaseThashishi ngoba kawuselayo indawo yokungenisa imikhumbi. **11** UThixo useselulele isandla sakhe phezu kolwandle wenza imibuso yalo yanyikinyeka. Usekhphe umlayo ngeKhenani ukuba izinqaba zayo zidilizwe. **12** Wathi, “Akusekho ukuthokoza kwakho wena Ndodakazi Egwelelo yaseSidoni esichoboziwe! Vuka ukhuphukele ngaseKhitshimi; lakhona awuyikuthola ukuphumula.” **13** Khangela elizweni lamaKhaladiya, abantu lina kha khathesi abangasulutho! Abase-Aseriya sebelenze laba yindawo yezidalwa zeganga; bakhe imiphotshongo yabo yokuzivikela, bazibhidlize izinqaba zalo balenza laba lunxiwa. **14** Khalani lina mikhumbi yaseThashishi,

inqaba yenu idilizwe! **15** Ngalesikhathi iThire izakhohlakala okweminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa, ibanga lokuphila kwenkosi. Kodwa ekupheleni kwaleyominyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa, eThire kuzakwenzakala okunjengokutshwo yingoma yewule ukuthi: **16** “Thatha ichacho, uhambahambe phakathi kwedolobho wena wule elikhohlakeyeni. Litshaye kuhle ichacho, uhlabele izingoma ezinengi, ukuze ukhunjulwe.” **17** Ekupheleni kweminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa uThixo uzakhumbula iThire. IThire lizabuyela ekuthengiseni kwalo njengesifebe, njalo lizabuyela emsebenzini walo wokuthengiselana lemibuso yonke esemhlabeni. **18** Inzuzo lemihlo yalo kuzakwahlukaniselwa uThixo; kakuyikulondolozwa loba kubuthelelwe. Inzuzo yalo izakuya kulabo abahlala loThixo ukuba babe lokudla okunengi lezigqoko ezinhle.

24 Khangela, uThixo uzabhidliza umhlaba utshabalale; uzawuchitha, ahlakaze abahlala kuwo. **2** Kuzafanana okuzenziwa kumphristi kuzenziwa lasebantwini, okuzenziwa enkosini kuzenziwa lasencekwini, okuzenziwa enkosikazini kuzenziwa lasencekukazini, okuzenziwa kumthengisi kuzenziwa lakumthengi, okuzenziwa kowebolekayo kuzenziwa lakumebolekisi, okuzenziwa kokweledayo kuzenziwa lakokweledisayo. **3** Umhlaba uzatshabalaliswa nya uphangwe uqedwe du. UThixo uselikhulumile ilizwi leli. **4** Umhlaba uyoma ubone, umhlaba uyahodoza ubone, abaphakemeyo bomhlaba bayahodoza! **5** Umhlaba uncoliswa ngabantu bawo. Kabayilalelana imithetho, beqe imilayo bephula isivumelwano esingapheliyo. **6** Ngakho-ke umhlaba uchithwa yisiqulele; abantu bawo kumele bahlupheke ngenxa yokona kwabo. Ngakho abantu abahlala emhlabeni bayatshiswa, njalo balutshwana kakhulu abaseleyo. **7** Iwayini elitsha liyaphela, amavini ayabuna; bonke abenza umsindo bejabula bayabubula. **8** Ukukhala kwamagedla kuthulisiwe, umsindo wabajabulayo usuphelile, ichacho lentokozo selithule. **9** Kabasanathi iwayini behlabela, utshwala buyababa kubanathi babo. **10** Idolobho elidilikelayo litshabalele; iminyango yezindlu zonke ivalekile. **11** Emigwaqweni bakhalela iwayini, yonke intokozo iba yikudana, ukujabula konke kuphelile emhlabeni. **12** Idolobho lisele selingamanxiwa, isango lalo libhidlizwe laba yizicucu. **13** Kuzakuba njalo emhlabeni laphakathi kwezizwe, njengalapho isihlahla som’oliva sinyikinywa, loba njengezithelo ezitholwa emva kokuvunwa kwamavini. **14** Baphakamisa amazwi abo, bahlabele ngentokozo; bememezela ubukhosi bukaThixo bengasentshonalanga. **15** Ngakho-ke dumisani uThixo empumalanga; phakamisani uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, ezihlengi zolwandle. **16** Sizwa ukuhlabelela okuyela emikhawulweni yomhlaba: “Udumo kalube koLungileyo.” Kodwa mina ngathi, “Ngiyacikizeka, ngiyacikizeka! Maye mina! Abakhohlisi bayaceba! Ngenkohliso abakhohlisi bayaceba!” **17** Ukwesaba, igodi lomjibila kulilindele, lina bantu basemhlabeni. **18** Loba ngubani obalekela umsindo wokwesaba uzawela egodini; loba ngubani ophumayo egodini uzabanjwa ngumjibila. Amasango asezulwini avuliwe, izisekelo zomhlaba ziyanyikinyeka. **19** Umhlaba usubhidlikile, umhlaba usudabuke phakathi, umhlaba usunyikinywe impela. **20** Umhlaba udiyazela njengesidakwa, uzunguzeka njengendlu kulesiphepho; siwusinda kangaka isono sokuhlama kawa uze uwe, awuyikuvuka futhi. **21** Ngalolosuku uThixo uzajezisa amabutho asemazulwini

phezulu lamakhosi emhlabeni ngaphansi. **22** Bazabuthelwa ndawonye njengezibotshwa zibotshiwe emgodini oyintolongo. Bazavalelwa entolongweni bajeziswe emva kwensuku ezinengi. **23** Inyanga izayangeka, ilanga libelenhloni; ngoba uThixo uSomandla uzabusa ngenkazimulo phezu kweNtaba iZiyoni laphakathi kweJerusalema, laphambi kwabadala bakhona.

25 Oh Thixo, wena unguNkulunkulu wami; ngizakudumisa ngibabaza ibizo lakho ngoba ngokuthembeka okupheleleyo, wenze izinto ezimangalisayo, izinto ezamiswa endulo. **2** Wenze idolobho laba yinqwaba yemfucuzi; idolobho elivikelweyo laba lunxiwa, inqaba yabezizweni kayiseyilo dolobho; kayiyikwakhiwa futhi. **3** Ngakho-ke abantu abalamandla bazakudumisa, amadolobho ezizwe ezilolunya azakwesaba. **4** Ubuyisiphephelo sabayanga, isiphephelo soswelayo osizini lwakhe, isivikelo phakathi kwesiphepho lomthunzi ekutshiseni kwelanga. Ngoba umoya wabalesihluku unjengesiphepho sitshayeka emdulini. **5** Lanjengokutshisa kwasenkangala. Wena uthulisa umsindo wabezizweni; njengokutshisa kusehliswa ngumthunzi weyezi, ithuliswa kanjalo lengoma yaba lesihluku. **6** Phezu kwale intaba uThixo uSomandla uzakwenzela abantu bonke idili lokudla okumnandi, idili lewayini elidala, inyama enhle kakhulu lewayini elihle kakhulu. **7** Phezu kwale intaba uzadiliza isembeso esimboze abantu bonke, ilembu elembese izizwe zonke; **8** uzakuginya kokuphela ukufa. UThixo Wobukhosi uzakwesula inyembezi ebusweni babantu bonke; uzasusa ihlazo labantu bakhe emhlabeni wonke. UThixo usekhulumile. **9** Ngalolosuku bazakuthi, “Ngempela lo nguNkulunkulu wethu; sethema kuye, wasikhulula. Lo nguThixo, sethema kuye; kasithokozeni sithabe ngokusisindisa kwakhe.” **10** Isandla sikaThixo sizahlala phezu kwaintaba; kodwa uMowabi uzanyathelelwa ngaphansi ezweni lakhe njengotshani bunyathelelwa phansi emqubeni. **11** Bazakwelulela izandla zabo kuye, njengenhlabi iselula izandla zayo ukuba intsheze. UNkulunkulu uzakuqeda ukuziqgaja kwabo phezu kokuhlakanipha kwezandla zabo. **12** Uzadiliza izinqaba zenu eziphakemeyo azibhidlizele phansi; uzadilizele phansi emhlabathini, kulo kanye uthuli.

26 Ngalolosuku ingoma le izahlatselwa elizweni lakoJuda: Siledolobho eliqinileyo; uNkulunkulu wenza ukusindisa kube yimiduli yalo lezivikelo. **2** Vulani amasango ukuze isizwe esilungileyo singene, isizwe esigcina ukuthembeka. **3** Lizamemeza abe lokuthula okupheleleyo lowo olengqondo ebambelelayo, ngoba wethemba kuwe. **4** Thembani uThixo kokuphela, ngoba uThixo, uThixo ngokwakhe, uliDwala laphakade. **5** Ubehlisela phansi abahlala engqongeni; ulehlisela phansi idolobho eliphakemeyo, ulidilizele emhlabathini, aliphosele phansi othulini. **6** Inyawo zilinyathelela phansi, inyawo zabancindezweyo, amanyathelo abayanga. **7** Indlela yabalungileyo iqondile; awu wena oOtho, wenza indlela yabalungileyo ibe butshelezi. **8** Yebo, Thixo, sihamba endleleni yemithetho yakho, siyakulindela; ibizo lakho lodumo lwakho kulangathelelwa zinhliziyi zethu. **9** Umphefumulo wami uyakulangazelela ebusuku, ekuseni umoya wami uyakuhumbula. Lapho ukwahlulela kwakho kufika emhlabeni, abantu basemhlabeni bayakufunda ukulunga. **10** Lanxa ababi betshengiswa umusa, kabakufundi ukulunga; laselizweni lokulunga baqhubeka besenza okubi, ngabunaki ubukhosi bukaThixo. **11** Oh Thixo, isandla sakho siphakanyiselwe

phezulu, kodwa kabasiboni. Babonise ukutshisekela kwakho abantu bakho bayangiswe; umlilo olungiselwe izitha zakho kawubaqede. **12** Thixo, usilethela ukuthula; konke esesikufezile sikwenzelwe nguwe. **13** Oh Thixo, Nkulunkulu wethu, amanye amakhosi ngaphandle kwakho ake asibusa, kodwa ibizo lakho yilo lodwa esilidumisayo. **14** Khathezi asafa, kwasaphili; imimoya leyana eyahambayo kayivuki. Wawajezisa, wawatshabalalisa; wesula konke ukukhunjulwa kwawo. **15** Usandisile isizwe, Oh Thixo; usandisile isizwe. Uzilethele udumo; uyiqhelisile yonke imikhawulo yelizwe. **16** Thixo, beza kuwe ekuhluphekeni kwabo; kwathi lapho usubajezisile banelisa ukunyenyeza umkhuleko. **17** Njengowesifazane okhulelweyo lapho esezabeletha uyabhinjika ekhaliswa yibuhlungu, lathi sabanjalo phambi kwakho, Oh Thixo. **18** Sasikhulelwe, sabhinjika ebuhlungwini, kodwa sazala umoya. Kasilethanga nsindiso emhlabeni; kasibazalelanga lutho abantu basemhlabeni. **19** Kodwa abafileyo bakho bazaphila Thixo, imizinda yabo izavuka. Lina elihlala othulini, vukani lihlabelele ngentokozo. Amazolo enu afana lamazolo ekuseni; umhlaba uzabaveza abafileyo bawo. **20** Hambani bantu bami, ngenani ezindlini zenu, lizivalele phakathi; lizifihle okwesikhatshana ulaka lwakhe luze luphele. **21** Khangelani, uThixo uyaphuma lapho alhala khona ukuba ajezise abantu basemhlabeni ngenxa yezono zabo. Umhlaba uzaveza igazi elachithwa kuwo; kawusayikubafihla ababulawayo bawo.

27 Ngalolosuku, uThixo uzajezisa ngenkamba yakhe, inkamba yakhe eyesabekayo, enkulu njalo elamandla, uLeviyathani inyoka endizayo, uLeviyathini inyoka egoqanayo; uzayibulala inunu yasolwandle. **2** Ngalolosuku: “Hlabelani ngesivini esithela izithelo. **3** Mina Thixo, ngiyasilinda; ngiyasithelezela kokuphela. Ngisilinda emini lebusuku ukuze kungabikhona owenza okubi kuso. **4** Angithukuthelanga. Sengathi kungabe kulokhula lameva okumelana lami! Bengizakulanda ngilwe lakho empini; bengizakutshisa konke ngomlilo. **5** Loba phela kabenze bazephela kimi; kabenze ukuthula lami, yebo, kabenze ukuthula lami.” **6** Ensukwini ezizayo uJakhobe uzagxila, u-Israyeli uzahluma akhahlele agcwalise umhlaba wonke ngezithelo. **7** UThixo usemtshayile na njengokutshaya kwakhe abamtshayayo? Usebulele na njengokubulawa kwalabo abambulalayo? **8** Ngempi langokumxotsha elizweni ulwe laye, ngesiphepho sakhe esesabekayo umsulula phandle, njengamhla kuvunguza umoya wasempumalanga. **9** Ngalokhu-ke ukona kukaJakhobe kuzahlawulelwa, njalo lokhu kuzakuba yisithelo esigcweleyo esokususwa kwesono sakhe: Lapho esenza wonke amatshe e-alithare abe njengamatshe ekalaga avuthuzwe izicucu, akulazisika zika-Ashera kumbe ama-alithare empepha azatshiywa emi. **10** Idolobho elivikelweyo libhidlikile, indawo yokuhlala etshiyiweyo, yadelwa njengenkangala; lapho asesidla khona amathole lapho alala khona phansi; aphundla ingatsha zalo zisale zize. **11** Lapho ingatsha zalo sezomile, ziyephulwa kuze abesifazane babase umlilo ngazo. Ngoba laba ngabantu abangelakuzwiswa; ngakho uMenzi wabo kalasihawu kubo, loMdali wabo akayikuba lomusa kubo. **12** Ngalolosuku uThixo uzabhula kusukela kuYufrathe ogelezayo kusiya eMhotsheni waseGibhithe, njalo lina abako-Israyeli libabuthwa munye ngamunye. **13** Njalo ngalolosuku kuzakhaliswa icilongo elikhulu. Labo ababelahlekele elizweni lase-Asiriya

lababexotshelwe elizweni laseGibhithe bazabuya bakhonze uThixo phezu kwentaba engcwele eJerusalem.

28 Maye kulowomqhele wamaluba, iqhono lezidakwa zako-Efrayimi, kulaba elibunayo, ubuhle obukhazimulayo, obubekwe ngaphezulu kwesigodi esivundileyo, kulelodolobho, iqhono lababo asebelaliswe liwayini phansi! **2** Khangelani, uThixo ulaye olamandla oqinileyo. Njengesiqhotho lomoya odilizayo, njengezulu lesiphepho lesihlambi esilamandla, uzakuphosa phansi ngamandla amakhulu. **3** Umqhele lowo wamaluba, iqhono lezidakwa zako-Efrayimi kuzanyathelwa ngaphansi kwenzinyawo. **4** Leliyaluba elibunayo, ubuhle bakhe obukhazimulayo, kuhlanyelwe ngaphezu kwesigodi esivundileyo, lizakuba njengomkhiwa ovuthiweyo kungakavunwa okuthi khonokho nje omunye ewubona awukhe ngesandla awunye. **5** Ngalolosuku uThixo uSomanandla uzakuba ngumqhele okhazimulayo, umqhele wamaluba omuhle kulabo abayizinsalela zabantu bakhe. **6** Uzakuba ngumoya wokulunga kulowo owahlulelayo, umthombo wamandla kulabo ababuyisela impi emuva isisesangweni. **7** Lalaba bayadiyazela ngenxa yewayini, babhadazele ngenxa yotshwala. Abaphristi labaphrofethi bayadiyazela ngenxa yotshwala, njalo baphambene ngenxa yewayini; bayabhadazela ngenxa yotshwala, bayadiyazela, lapho bebona imibono, bayakhininda lapho besenza izinqumo. **8** Amatafula wonke agcwele amahlanzo njalo akulandawo engelamanyala. **9** “Ngubani lowo ozama ukumfundisa? Umbiko wakhe uwuchazela bani na? Abantwana abangasamuni, kumbe abalunyuliweyo na? **10** Ngoba kumi kanje: Yenza lokhu, yenza lokhuya, umthetho walokhu, umthetho walokhuya; ingcosana lapha, lengcosana laphayana.” **11** Kungaseni, ngezindebe zabezizweni langolimi olungaziwayo, uNkulunkulu uzakhluma lababantu, **12** atshoyo kubo wathi, “Le yindawo yokuphumula, abadiniweyo kabaphumule”; njalo, “Le yindawo yokucambalala,” kodwa kabalalalanga. **13** Ngakho ilizwi likaThixo kubo lizakuba ngelithi: Yenza lokhu, yenza lokhuya, umthetho walokhu, umthetho walokhuya, ingcosana lapha, ingcosana laphaya, ukuze bahambe bawe nyovane, balimale, bathiywe, bathunjwe. **14** Ngakho-ke zwanini ilizwi likaThixo lina bantu abaklodayo, ababusa abantu laba eJerusalem. **15** Lizitshaya izifuba lisithi, “Senze isivumelwano lokufa, senza isivumelwano lethuna. Nxa isijeziso esikhulu sifika, kasiyikusithinta, ngoba senze amanga aba yisiphephelo sethu lenkohliso yaba yindawo yethu yokucatsha.” (Sheol h7585) **16** Ngakho lokhu yikho okutshiwo nguThixo woBukhosi: “Khangelani, ngibeka ilitshe eZiyoni, ilitshe elihloliweyo, ilitshe lengosi eliligugu; elesisekelo esiqinisekileyo, lowo othembayo akayikuphela amandla. **17** Ngizakwenza okufaneleyo kube yintambo yokulinganisa, ukulunga kube yintambo yokuqondisa; isiqhotho sizakhukhula isiphephelo senu, amanga, lamanzi azagabhela indawo yenu yokucatsha. **18** Isivumelwano senu lokufa sizakwesulwa; isivumelwano senu lengcwaba kasiyikuma. Lapho isijeziso esikhulu sifika sizalilahla phansi. (Sheol h7585) **19** Ngazonke izikhathi esizafika ngazo sizalithatha; ukusa ngokusa, emini lebusuku, sizalikhukhula.” Ukulizwiswa ilizwi leli kuzaletha ukwesaba khona ngokwakho. **20** Umbheda mfitshane kakhulu ukuba unabe kuwo, ingubo incane kakhulu ukuba ugoqelwe ngayo. **21** UThixo uzavuka njengalokho akwenzayo entabeni iPherazimu; uzathukuthela njengaseSigodini seGibhiyoni,

ukuba enze umsebenzi wakhe, umsebenzi oyisimanga, enze umsebenzi wakhe, umsebenzi ongaziwayo. **22** Khathesi-ke yekelani ukukloloda kwenu funa amaketane elibotshwe ngawo alisinde kakhulu; iNkosi, uThixo uSomandla usengitshela ngesimiso sokutshabalalisa ilizwe lonke. **23** Lalelani lizwe ilizwi lami; lalelani lizwe engikutshoyo. **24** Lapho umlimi elima ukuba ahlanyele, ulima kokuphela na? Uqhubeka elima umhlabathi ewubhuqa kokuphela na? **25** Nxa umhlabathi esewendlale kuhle, kahlanyeli ikharawayi ahlanyele lekhumini na? Kahlanyeli ingqoloyi endaweni yayo; ibhali ensimini yayo, lespelithi ensimini yaso na? **26** UNkulunkulu wakhe uyamfundisa, amfundise indlela eqondileyo. **27** Ikharawayi kayibhulwa ngesileyi; lenqola kayihanjiswa phezu kwekhumini, kodwa ikharawayi ibhulwa ngentonga, kuthi ikhumini ibhulwe ngombhulo. **28** Amabele kumele acholwe ukuba kwenziwe isinkwa, ngakho umuntu kawabhuli kokuphela. Lanxa ehambisa inqola yakhe yokubhula phezu kwawo, amabhiza akhe kawawacholi. **29** Konke lokhu lakho kuvela kuThixo uSomandla omangalisayo ngokweluleka, njalo olenhlakanipho emangalisayo.

29 Maye kuwe Ariyeli, Ariyeli, idolobho uDavida ahlala kulo! Yengezelela umnyaka emnyakeni Wenze ukulandelana kwemikhosi yakho kuqhubeke. **2** Ikanti i-Ariyeli ngizalivimbezela, lizakhala lilile, kimi lizafana leziko le-alithari. **3** Ngizakuhlasela amacele wonke, ngizakuzungeza ngemiphotsongu ngikuvimbezela ngemisebenzi yokukuhlasela. **4** Nxa usudilizelwe phansi, uzakhuluma uphansi, inkulumo yakho ayiyikuzwakala ivela othulini. Ilizwi lakho lizafana lelethonga liphuma phansi emhlabathini. Ilizwi lakho lizanyenyeza liphuma othulini. **5** Kodwa izitha zakho ezinengi, zizakuba njengothuli olucolekileyo, amaxuku alesihluku afane lamakhoba aphephukayo. Masinyazana, ngesikhatshana nje, **6** UThixo uSomandla uzafika ngomdumo langokunyikinyeka komhlaba langomsindo omkhulu; ngesiphepho langesivunguzane langamalangabi omlilo oqothulayo. **7** Lapho-ke amaxuku ezizwe zonke ezilwa le-Ariyeli, ayihlaselayo kanye lezinqaba zayo, njalo eyizungezile, azakuba njengephupho, lilombono webusuku, **8** njengomuntu olambileyo ephupha esidla, kodwa aphaphame ukulamba kwakhe kulokhu kunjalo, lanjengalapho umuntu owomileyo ephupha enatha kodwa aphaphame engelamandla, ukoma kwakhe kungaphelanga. Kuzakuba njalo lakumaxuku ezizwe zonke ezilwa leNtba iZiyoni. **9** Thithibalani limangale, zenzeni iziphofu lingabe lisabona; dakwani kodwa kungabi ngenxa yotshwala. **10** UThixo ulehlixele ubuthongo obukhulu: uwavalile amehlo enu (abaphrofethi); wagubuzela amakhanda enu (izanuse). **11** Kini umbono wonke lo kawusilutho kodwa amazwi nje avalelwe encwadini egoqiweyo. Njalo nxa incwadi leyo liyiqhubela umuntu okwaziyo ukubala lithi kuye, “Ake ubale lokhu,” uzaphendula athi, “Anganelisi, ngoba ivaliwe.” **12** Loba nxa incwadi leyo liyiqhubela umuntu ongakwaziyo ukubala lithi kuye, “Ake ubale lokhu,” uzaphendula athi, “Angikwazi ukubala.” **13** UThixo uthi: “Abantu laba basondela kimi ngemilomo yabo bangikhonze ngezindebe zabo, kodwa inhlizyo zabo zikude lami; ukungikhonza kwabo kwenziwa kuphela nje ngemilayo abayifundiswa ngabantu. **14** Ngakho-ke abantu laba ngizaphinda ngibethuse ngesimanga phezu kwesimanga; inhlakanipho yabahlakaniphileyo izaphela,

ulwazi lwezazi lunyamalale.” **15** Maye kulabo abatshona phansi ukuba bafihlele uThixo amacebo abo, abenzela imisebenzi yabo emnyameni bacabange bathi, “Ngubani osibonayo? Ngubani ozakwazi?” **16** Lina lihlanekela izinto kube sengathi kucatshangwa ukuthi umbumbi unjengebumba. Okubunjweyo kungatsho yini kokubumbileyo kuthi, “Kangibumbanga?” Imbiza ingatsho na kumbumbi ithi, “Kazi lutho?” **17** Ngesikhatshana esifitshane nje, iLebhanoni kayiyikuphendulwa ibe yinsimu evundileyo, kuthi insimu evundileyo ifane legusu na? **18** Ngalolosuku izacuthe zizawezwa amazwi omqulu, njalo ekukhanyeni lebunyameni amehlo eziphofu abone emnyameni omkhulu. **19** Abathobekileyo bazathokoza futhi kuThixo, abaswelayo bazathokoza koNgcwele ka-Israyeli. **20** Abalesihluku bazanyamalala, abahleka usulo abayikuba khona, bonke abathanda ukwenza okubi bazabhujiswa, **21** labo abenza umuntu abe lecala ngokufakaza amanga, abathiya umviki enkundleni yamacala, kuthi ngobufakazi obungamanga benze omsulwa angehlukelwa ngemfanelo. **22** Ngakho-ke lokhu yikho uThixo owahlenga u-Abrahama akutshoyo kwabendlu kaJakhobe: “UJakhobe kasayikuba lenhloni, ubuso bakhe kabusayikudana. **23** Lapho bebona abantwana babo, umsebenzi wezandla zami, bazakwenza ibizo lami libengcwele; bazabubona ubungcwele boNgcwele kaJakhobe, njalo bazamesaba uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. **24** Abalahlekileyo emoyeni bazakuba lokuzwisisa; abasolayo bazavuma ukufundiswa.”

30 “Maye ebantwaneni abalobuqholo,” kutsho uThixo, “kulabo abafeza amacebo angasiwami, abenza isivumelwano, kodwa kungesi ngoMoya wami, besengeza isono phezu kwesono; **2** labaya eGibhithe bengabuzanga kimi; abadinga usizo lokuvikelwa nguFaro, lomthunzi wokuphephela eGibhithe. **3** Kodwa-ke ukuvikelwa nguFaro kuzakuba lihlazo kini, umthunzi weGibhithe uzalinyangisa. **4** Lanxa belabameli eZowani, lezithunywa zabo sezifikile eHanesi, **5** bonke bazayangeka ngenxa yabantu abangalaziso kubo, abangaletshi sizobala inzuzo, kodwa ihlazo lokuyangeka kuphela.” **6** Isiphrofethi mayelana lezinnyamazana zeNegebi sithi: kulolonke ilizwe lobunzima losizi, elezilwane lezilwanekazi, elamabululu lezinyoka ezeqayo izithunywa zithwala inotho yazo ngemihlane yabobabhemi, impahla yazo eligugu ziyithwale ngamalunda amakamela, zikusa ebantwini abangayikuba losizo kuzo. **7** Zisiwa eGibhithe osizo lwayo lungelamsebenzi. Ngakho ngiyibiza ngokuthi nguRahabi ivilavoxo. **8** Hamba khathesi nje, ubalobe khona esibhebhedwini, kulobe emqulwini, ukuze kuthi ensukwini ezizayo kube yibufakazi obungapheliyo. **9** Laba ngabantu abangabahlamuki, abantwana abangabakhohlisi, abantwana abangafuniyo ukulalela imfundiso kaThixo. **10** Bathi kwabayizanuse, “Lingabe lisahlalula futhi.” Kubaphrofethi bathi, “Lingasitsheli imibono ngalokho okuqondileyo. Sitssheleni izinto ezinhle, liphrofethi inkohliso. **11** Tshiyani indlela le, phambukani kulo umkhondo liyekele ukusibesela ngoNgcwele ka-Israyeli!” **12** Ngakho okutshwo ngoNgcwele ka-Israyeli yilokhu: “Njengoba lilalile ilizwi leli, lathembela ekuncindezelweni, lagwaba ngokukhohliswa, **13** isono lesi kini sizafana lomduli ophakemeyo, olomnkenke njalo ohlephukayo, odilika masinyane, ngesikhatshana nje. **14** Uzadilika ube yizicucu, njengembiza yombumbi ephahazeke kakubi akwaze kwatholakala lesihlephu sokokha amalahlle eziko ezicucwini zayo kumbe ukukha amanzi

emgqonyeni.” **15** Lokhu yikho okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi, oNgcwele ka-Israyeli, ukuthi: “Ukusindiswa kwenu kusekuphendukeni lekuphumuleni, amandla enu asekuhluleni lekwithembeni, kodwa likwalile lokhu. **16** Lithe, ‘Hatshi, sizabaleka ngamabhiza.’ Ngakho lizabaleka! Lithe, ‘Sizagada amabhiza alejubane.’ Ngakho abalixotshayo bazakuba lejubane! **17** Abayinkulungwane bazabaleka besongelwe ngoyedwa nje; ekusongeni kwabahlanu, lizabaleka lonke, lize lisale linjengensika yophawu lwelizwe elisengqongeni yentaba, lanjengesiboniso phezu koqaqa.” **18** Kodwa uThixo ulangatha ukuba lomusa kini; uyavuka ukuba alitshengise isihawu. Ngoba uThixo unguNkulunkulu wokulunga. Babusiwe bonke abamlindeleyo! **19** Awu bantu baseZiyoni, abahlala eJerusalem, alisayikulula. UThixo uzakuba lomusa kini nxa licela usizo. Uzaliphendula khonkoho nje ekulizweni kwakhe. **20** Lanxa nje uThixo elinika isinkwa sokuhlupheka lamanzi osizi, abalifundisayo kabayikucatsa futhi; lizababona ngamehlo enu. **21** Loba liphambukele kwesokudla kumbe kwesenxele lizalizwa ilizwi ngemva kwenu lisithi, “Le yiyo indlela; hambani ngayo.” **22** Lapho-ke lizangcolisa izithombe zenu ezihluqwe ngesiliva lezifanekiso zenu ezinanyekwe ngegolide; lizalilahlela khatshana njengelembu lowesifazane obesikhathini, lithi kuzo, “Sukani lapha!” **23** UThixo uzalehlisela izulu lenhlanyelo yenu eliyihlanyele emhlabathini, lamabele azavela emhlabathini azakuba mahle njalo emanengi. Ngalolosuku inkomo zenu zizakudla emadlweni abanzi. **24** Inkabi labobabhemi elilima ngakho emhlabathi zizakudla utshani lamabele ahlukulwe ngefologwe langefotsholo. **25** Ngosuku lokubulawa okukhulu, lapho imiphotshongo isiva, izifula zamanzi zizageleza kuzozonke izintaba ezinde lakuwo wonke amaqaqa adephileyo. **26** Inyanga izakhanya njengelanga, ukukhanya kwelanga kukhanye ngokuphindwe kasikhombisa, njengokukhanya kwensuku eziyisikhombisa ezicgweleyo, lapho uThixo esebopha amanxeba abantu bakhe, epholisa lezilonda ezabangwa nguye. **27** Khangelani, ibizo likaThixo livela khatshana, lolaka oluvuthayo kanye lokuthunqa kwentuthu enkulu; izindebe zakhe zigcwele intukuthelo, ulimi lwakhe lungumlilo ohangulayo. **28** Umoya awuphefumulayo unjengesifula esigcwele amanzi afika entanyeni. Uhlukula izizwe ngesefa yokubhubhisa; ufaka emihlathini yabantu amatomu abasa ekulahlekeni. **29** Lizahlabela njengasebusuku bokuthakazelela umkhosi ongcwele; inhliziyo zenu zizathokoza njengalapho abantu besiya entabeni kaThixo, eDwaleni lika-Israyeli, belemihubhe. **30** UThixo uzakwenza abantu balizwe ilizwi lakhe lobukhosi, njalo uzakwenza bayibone ingalo yakhe isehla ngokuthukuthela okukhulu langomlilo oqothulayo, langesihlambo esikhulu, lomdumo kanye lesiqhotho. **31** Ilizwi likaThixo lizayichitha i-Asiriya; abatshaye ngenduku yakhe yobukhosi. **32** Imvimvinya yinye uThixo abatshaya yona ngentonga yakhe yokujezisa, uzakuba ukanye lokutshaywa kwamagedla lemihubhe, lapho esilwa labo impi ngezidutshulo zengalo yakhe. **33** IThofethi sekukade yalungiswa; seyenziwa yalungela inkosi. Igodi layo lomlilo selenziwa latshona njalo laba banzi, lomlilo lenkuni ezinengi; umphefumulo kaThixo, utshisa njengokugeleza komlilo wesolufa, uyawulumathisa.

31 Maye kulaba abaya eGibhithe ukuyafuna usizo, abathemba amabhiza, abathembe ubunye bezinqola zabo zempi lamandla amakhulu abagadi bamabhiza abo, kodwa bengathembeli koNgcwele ka-Israyeli, kumbe bacele

usizo kuThixo. **2** Ikanti laye uhlakaniphile njalo angaleta incithakalo; ilizwi lakhe kalibuyeli emuva. Uzavukela abendlu yababi lalabo abasiza abenza okubi. **3** Kodwa amaGibhithe ngabantu kawasiNkulunkulu; amabhiza awo yinyama kawasimoya. Lapho uThixo eselula isandla sakhe, lowo osizayo uzakhubeka, lowo osizwayo uzakuba, bobabili bazabhubha. **4** Lokhu yikho okutshiwo nguThixo kimi, ukuthi: “Njengesilwane sihwabha; isilwane esikhulu sibhongela esikubambileyo, lanxa ixuku lonke labelusi libizwa ukuba lisihlasele, kasethuswa yikukhalala kwabo kumbe sithikanyezwe ngumsindo wabo, unjalo-ke uThixo uSomandla uzakwehla ukuba alwe entabeni iZiyoni laseziqongweni zayo. **5** Njengezinyoni zitshaya amaphiko emoyeni, uThixo uSomandla uzavikela iJerusalem, uzalivikela alikhulule, uzadlula ‘ngaphezu’ kwalo alihlenge.” **6** Awu bantu bako-Israyeli, buyelani kulowo elamhlamukela kakubi. **7** Ngoba ngalolosuku lonke lizalilahlela izithombe zenu zesiliva lezegolide elizuke ngezandla zenu ezonayo. **8** “I-Asiriya izachithwa ngenkamba engesiyabantu, inkamba engasiyo yabantu izababhubhisa. Bazayibalekela inkamba, izinsizwa zabo zizakwenziwa izigqili. **9** Inqaba yabo izadilika ngenxa yokwesaba; lapho bebona uphawu lwempi izinduna zabo zempi zizatshaywa luvalo,” kutsho uThixo omililo wakhe useZiyoni, osithando sakhe siseJerusalem.

32 Khangelani, inkosi izabusa ngokulunga lababusi bazabusa ngemfanelo. **2** Umuntu ngamunye uzakuba njengesihonqo sokuvikela umoya, lesiphephelo sokucatshelela isiphepho, njengezihotsha zamanzi enkangala njengomthunzi wedwala elikhulu elizweni elomileyo. **3** Lapho-ke amehlo alabo ababonayo kawasayikuvaleka, lezindlebe zalabo abezwayo zizalalela. **4** Ingqondo yowalazelayo izakwazi, iqedisise, ogagasayo ulimi lwakhe luzatshwaphutuka luzwakale kuhle. **5** Isithutha kasisayikuthiwa ngumhlonitshwa, lesigangi kasiyikuhlonitshwa. **6** Ngoba isithutha sikhuluma ubuwula, ingqondo yaso isebenza ububi: Senza imisebenzi yenkohlakalo, siqambe amanga ngoThixo; abalambayo kasibaniki lutho, abomileyo sibancitsha amanzi okunatha. **7** Izindlela zesigangi zimbi, senza amacebo amabi ukuba sichithe abayanga ngamanga, lanxa isikhalazo sabaswelayo siqotho. **8** Kodwa umuntu ohloniphekayo wenza amacebo ahloniphekayo, njalo uma ngezenzo ezihloniphekayo. **9** Lina besifazane elingakhathazeki ngalutho, vukani lilalele kimi; lina madodakazi elizizwa livikelekile, lalalani engikutshoyo! **10** Ngesikhathshana nje esedlula umnyaka lina elizizwa livikelekile lizathuthumela; ukuvunwa kwevini akuyikuphumelela, lokuvunwa kwezithelo akuyikuba khona. **11** Thuthumelani lina madodakazi azizwa evikelekile; qhaqhalani lina madodakazi azizwa evikelekile! Kuhlulani izigqoko zenu, lithandele inkalo zenu ngamasaka. **12** Zitshayeni izifuba zenu ngenxa yamasimu amahle, langenxa yezivini ezithela izithelo, **13** langenxa yelizwe labantu bami, ilizwe eligcwele ukhula lameva, yebho, lilelani zonke izindlu zenjabulo ledolobho lokuzitika lentokoze. **14** Inqaba enkulu izatshiswa, idolobho elilomsindo lizatshiywa; inqaba lomphotshongo wokulinda kuzakuba ngumhlabathi ongatheli lutho kokuphela, kube yintokoze yabobabhemi lamadlelo emihlambi, **15** umoya uze uthelwe phezu kwethu uvela phezulu, inkangala ibe ngumhlaba ovundileyo, umhlaba ovundileyo ube njengenhlabathi. **16** Ukwahlulela kuhle kukaThixo kuzakuba khona enkangala, ukulunga kube khona emhlabeni ovundileyo. **17** Izithelo zokulunga zizakuba yikuthula; okufaneleyo kuzaletha ukuthula

zwi lethemba kuze kube nininini. **18** Abantu bami bazahlala ezindaweni ezilokuthula, emakhaya avikelekileyo, ezindaweni zokuphumula ezingelahlupho. **19** Lanxa isiqhotho sitshabalalisa ihlathi ledolobho lidilizwe laphela nya, **20** yeka ukubusiswa elizakuba yikho, lihlangela inhlanyelo yenu emaceleni ezifula zonke, njalo liyekela inkomo zenu labobabhemu benu ukuba kusabalale.

33 Maye kuwe, wena mchithi, wena ongachithwanga! Maye kuwe, wena mthengisi, wena ongacethswanga! Lapho uyekela ukuthengisa, lawe uzacethswa. **2** Awu Thixo, woba lomusa kithi; siyakulangazelela. Woba ngamandla ethu ekuseni konke, ube yinsindiso yethu esikhathini sosizi. **3** Ekukhazeni kwelizwi lakho, izizwe ziyabaleka; lapho uphakama izizwe ziyahlakazeka. **4** Elakuthumbayo, lina zizwe, kubuthwa sengangathi kuqoqwa yisikhongwane, abantu beqela kukho njengomshitsi wentethe. **5** UThixo uphakeme ngoba uhlala phezu, uzagcwalisa iZiyoni ngokufaneleyo langokulunga. **6** Uzakuba yisisekelo esithembekileyo sesikhathi senu, isiphala esigcwele usindiso, ukuhlakanipha lokwazi; ukumesaba uThixo kuyisiqoqela sokuzuzwa ingcebo le. **7** Khangelani, amaqhawe akibo ahlala umkhosi emigwaqweni! Izithunywa zokuthula ziyakhala kakhulu. **8** Imigwaqo emikhulu ibetha umoya, akulazihambi kuyo. Isivumelwano sephulwe, ofakazi baso beyisiwe, kakho ohlonitshwayo. **9** Ilizwe liyalila njalo liyachitheka. Ilebhanoni iyangekile njalo iyabuna; iSharoni injengenkangala, iBhashani leKhameli akhithizwa amahlamvu awo. **10** UThixo uthi, “Khathezi sengizavuka, khathezi sengizadunyiswa, khathezi sengizaphakanyiswa. **11** Liquekethe ngamakhoba, lizale izibi; umoya wenu eliwuphefumulayo unguumlilo oliqedayo. **12** Abantu bazatshiswa bafane lekalaga; bazathungelwa ngomlilo njengamahlaha ameva aganyuliweyo.” **13** Lina elikhatshana, zwanini engikwenzileyo; lina abaseduze, vumani amandla ami! **14** IZoni zaseZiyoni ziyathuthumela; abangamesabiyo uNkulunkulu bayaqhaqha: “Ngubani owakithi ongahlala lomlilo oqothulayo na? Ngubani owakithi ongahlala lokutshisa okungapheliyo na?” **15** Ngulowo owenza okulungileyo, ekulumu okuqotho oyalayo inzuzo yokuncindecizela, ale ukwamukela isivalamlomo, owalayo ukulalela amaqhinga okubulala, avale amehlo akhe ukuze angaboni okubi, **16** lo nguye umuntu ozahlala ekuphakameni, osiphephelo sakhe sizakuba yinqaba yasentabeni. Uzalethelela isinkwa sakhe, lamanzi kayikufaswele. **17** Amehlo enu azayibona inkosi ebuhleni bayo, abuke lelizwe elibanzi. **18** Ezingqondweni zenu lizakhumbula ukwesaba kwakuqala lithi: “Ingaphi induna yezikhulu leyana? Ungaphi owayethatha imali yemithelo? Singaphi isikhulu esigcina imiphotshongo na?” **19** Abantu labayana abalokodayo kalisayikubabona futhi, abantu labayana abolimi olungazwakaliyo, abolimi olungaziwayo, olungaqondakaliyo. **20** Khangelani iZiyoni, idolobho lemikhosi yethu; amehlo enu azabona iJerusalem indawo yokuhlala elokuthula, ithente elingeke lisuswe; izikhonkwane zalo kaziyikusitshunwa lezintambo zalo kaziyiquqamuka. **21** Khonapho uThixo uzakuba ngolaMandla wethu. Kuzafana lendawo elemifula ebanzi kanye lezifula. Akukho mkhumbi wempi ozagwedlwa khona, akukho mkhumbi olamandla ozahamba khona. **22** Ngoba uThixo ungumahluleli wethu, uThixo usinika imithetho, uThixo yinkosi yethu; nguye ozasikhulula. **23** Izintambo zakho zeseyili ziyaxega. Insika

kayiqiniswanga; iseyili kayivulekanga. Lapho-ke impango enengi izakwabiwa kuthi labaqlulayo labo bazazuzwa impango. **24** Akulamuntu ohlala eZiyoni ozakuthi, “Mina ngiyagula”; labantu abahlala khona bazathethelelwa izono zabo.

34 Sondelani lina zizwe, lilalele; zwanini lina bantu! Umhlaba kawulalele, lakho konke okukiwo, umhlaba, lakho konke okuvela kuwo! **2** UThixo uthukuthelele izizwe zonke, ulaka lwakhe luphezu kwezitha zabo zonke. Uzazibhubhisa ngokupheleleyo, uzazinikela ekubulaweni. **3** Ababuleweyo bakibo bazaphoselwa ngaphandle, izidumbu zabo zizanuka; izintaba zizacwila egazini labo. **4** Zonke izinkanyezi zasemazulwini zizanyamalala, umkhathi ugoqwe njengomqulu; wonke amaxuku ezinkanyezi azakuba njengamahlamvu abunileyo evinini lanjengomkhwa oswabileyo usiwa esihlahleni somkhwa. **5** Inkemba yami isinathe yanela emazulwini; khangelani yehlela phezu kwe-Edomi ukulahlulela, abantu esengibabhubhise baphela. **6** Inkemba kaThixo igxanyuzwe egazini, igcwele amafutha igazi lezimvu lelembuzi, amafutha ezinzo zenqama. Ngoba uThixo ulomhlatshele eBhozira lokubulawa okukhulu kwezifuyo e-Edomi. **7** Inyathi zizakufa kanye lazo, amathole azinkunzi kanye lenkunzi ezinkulu. Ilizwe labo lizagcwala igazi, umhlabathi uzakuba manzi ngamafutha. **8** Ngoba uThixo ulosuku lokuphindiselela, umnyaka wokujezisa, ukuqinisa injongo yeZiyoni. **9** Izifula zase-Edomi zizaphendulwa zibe yingcino, umhlabathi wakhona ube ngumlilo wesolufa, ilizwe lakhona lizakuba yingcino etshayo! **10** Aliyikucitshwa ebusuku lemini; intuthu yalo izathunqa kokuphela. Lizakuba ngelichithiweyo kusukela kusizukulwane kusiya kwesinye; kakho ozadabula phakathi kwalo futhi. **11** Isikhova senkangala lomandukulo kuzakwakhala kulo; isikhova esikhulu lewabayi kuzakwakhala izidleke zakho kulo. UNkulunkulu uzakwelulela phezu kwe-Edomi intambo yokulinganisa incithakalo lentambo yokulinganisa ukutshabalala. **12** Izikhulu zalo kaziyikuba lalutho olungathiwa ngumbuso, wonke amakhosana alo azanyamalala. **13** Izinqaba zalo zizagcwala ameva, imbabazane lokhula kugcwele kuziphaphelo zalo. Lizakuba yindawo yamakhanka, lomuzi wezikhova. **14** Izinyamazana zenkangala zizahlngana lezimpisi, amagogo azakhalelana; izidalwa zebusuku zizalala khona zizifunele izindawo zokuphumula. **15** Isikhova sizakwakhala isidleke khona sibekele amaqanda, sizawachamisela, sifukamele abantwana baso ngaphansi komthunzi wempiko zaso, lemizwazwa izabuthana khonapho, yilowo lalowo lomngane wawo. **16** Khangelani encwadini kaThixo lifunde okuthi: Akukho lakunye kwalokhu okuzasweleka; akukho okuzaswela umngane wakho. Ngoba nguThixo onike umlayo, loMoya wakhe uzazigoqela ndawonye. **17** Uzakwahlukanisela izabelo zakho; isandla sakhe sizakwabela ngesilinganiso. Isabelo sizakuba lilifa lakho kokuphela, njalo sizahlala khona kusukela kusizukulwane kusiya kusizukulwane.

35 Inkangala lelizwe elomileyo kuzathokoza; inkangala izajabula iqhakaze. Njengeluba **2** izakhahlela, ithokoze kakhulu, ihlabele isithi. Inkazimulo yaseLebhanoni izanikezwa kuyo ubuhle beKhameli leSharoni, kuzabona inkazimulo kaThixo lobukhosi bukaNkulunkulu wethu. **3** Qinisani izandla ezibuthakathaka, liqinise lamadolo axegayo; **4** tshonini kulabo abalezinhlizyo ezilokwesaba lithi: “Qinani, lingesabi; uNkulunkulu wenu uzakuza, uzakuza ezophindiselela, ajezise

ngokulungela uzakuba alikhulule.” 5 Lapho-ke amehlo eziphofu azavuleka, lezindlebe zezacuthe zivuleke. 6 Lapho-ke abaqhulayo bazakweqa njengempala, izimungulu zihlabele ngokuthokoza. Amanzi azampompoza ogwaduleni, izifula zigeleze enkangala. 7 Itshehetshebe elitshisayo lizakuba yiziziba, umhlabathi owomileyo ube yimithombo echaphaka amanzi. Ezindaweni amakhanka ake ahlala kuzo, utshani lemihlanga lebhuma kuzakhula khona. 8 Njalo kuzakuba lomgwaqo omkhulu: uzathiwa yiNdelela yobuNgcwele, izakuba ngeyalabo abahamba ngokuqonda. Abangcolileyo kabayikuhamba kuwo; uzakuba ngowalabo abahamba kuleyoNdelela lezithutha ezonayo kaziyikuhambahamba kuwo. 9 Akuyikuba lesilwane khona, loba esinye isilo esilolaka; sivuke kuwo kaziyikutholwa khona. Kodwa abahlengiweyo yibo kuphela abazahamba lapho, 10 njalo labahlengiweyo bakaThixo bazabuyela. Bazangena eZiyoni behlabelela, intokozo engapheliyo izakuba ngumqhele emakhanda abo. Bazakuba lokuthula lenjabulo, usizi lokububula kuzaphela.

36 Ngomnyaka wethsumi lane wokubusa kwenkosi uHezekhiya, uSenakheribhi inkosi yase-Asiriya wahlasela wonke amadolobho avikelweyo aKujoda wawathumba. 2 Emva kwalokho inkosi yase-Asiriya yathuma umlawuli wayo lebutsho elikhulu lisuka eLakhishi lisiya enkosini uHezekhiya eJerusalem. Kwathi umlawuli webutho esemi emgelweni wechibi elingaphezulu, elisendleleni eya eNsimini yoMgezisi, 3 u-Eliyakhimu indodana kaHilikhiya umgcinu wesigodlo, loShebhina umabhalane kanye loJowa indodana ka-Asafi umbhali, baya kuye. 4 Umlawuli webutho wathi kubo, “Tshelani uHezekhiya ukuthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo yinkosi enkulu, inkosi yase-Asiriya ithi: Uthembeni ngalesisibindi sakho na? 5 Uthi ulamaqhinga lamandla ebutho kodwa ukhuluma amazwi ayize. Uthembe bani uze unghlamukela nje? 6 Khangela, ngiyazi uthembe iGibhithe, yona enjengomhlanga ozimvava osika isandla somuntu umlimaze nxa eweyamile. Unjalo uFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe kubo bonke abathembele kuye. 7 Njalo nxa lisithi kimi, ‘Thina sithembe uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu,’ kasuye yini uHezekhiya asusa izindawo zakhe eziphakemayo lama-alithare akhe, esithi kujoda leJerusalem, ‘Kumele likhonzele phambi kwaleli i-alithari?’ 8 Khathezi woza wenze isivumelwano lenkosi yami, inkosi yase-Asiriya: Ngizakunika amabhiza azinkulungwane ezimbili nxa bekhona abazawagada! 9 Pho ungayehlula njani induna eyodwa yezikhulu ezincane zenkosi yami, lanxa uthembele eGibhithe ekutholeni izinqola zempi labagadi bamabhiza na? 10 Phezu kwalokho, kanti ngizehlasele lokuzochitha ilizwe leli kungatshongo uThixo na? UThixo uqobo nguye othe ngizohlasele ilizwe leli ngilichithe.” 11 Ngakho u-Eliyakhimu loShebhina loJowa bathi kumlawuli webutho, “Ake ukhulume ezincekweni zakho ngesi-Aramayikhi ngoba siyasizwa. Ungasikhulumisi ngesiHebheru lababantu abasemdulini besizwa.” 12 Kodwa umlawuli webutho waphendula esithi, “Inkosi yami ingithume ukuba izinto lezi ngizitsho kuphela enkosini yenu lakini, hatshi ebantwini abahlezi emdulini okuzakuthi labo njengani badle ubulongwe babo banathe lomchamo wabo na?” 13 Umlawuli webutho wasukuma wasememeza ngesiHebheru esithi, “Zwanini amazwi enkosi enkulu, inkosi yase-Asiriya! 14 Lokhu yikho okutshiwo yinkosi: Lingamvumeli uHezekhiya ukuba alikhohlise. Angeke alikhulule. 15 Lingamvumeli uHezekhiya elincenga ukuba lithembele

kuThixo lapho esithi ‘Ngempela uThixo uzasikhulula; idolobho leli kaliyikuphiwa esandleni senkosi yase-Asiriya.’” 16 Lingamlaleli uHezekhiya. Nanku okutshiwo yinkosi yase-Asiriya: Yenza isivumelwano sokuthula lami, uphume uze kimi. Lapho-ke omunye lomunye uzakudla esivinini sakhe lasemikhiweni yakhe, anathe lamanzi emthonjeni wakhe, 17 ngize ngifike ngilithathe, ngilise elizweni elifanana lelakini, ilizwe lamabele lewayini elitsha, ilizwe lesinkwa lezivini. 18 “Lingamvumeli uHezekhiya ukuthi alikhohlise esithi, ‘UThixo uzasikhulula.’ Kulonkulunkulu wesinye isizwe osewaka wakhulula ilizwe lakhe esandleni senkosi yase-Asiriya na? 19 Bangaphi onkulunkulu baseHamathi le-Ariphadi na? Bangaphi onkulunkulu baseSefavayimi na? Bayikhulule iSamariya esandleni sami na? 20 Nguphi kubo bonke onkulunkulu bamazwe la oke wenelisa ukukhulula ilizwe lakhe kimi na? Pho uThixo angayikhulula njani iJerusalem esandleni sami na?” 21 Kodwa abantu bathula kabazange batsho lutho, ngoba inkosi yayilaye yathi, “Lingamphenduli.” 22 U-Eliyakhimu indodana kaHilikhiya umgcinu wesigodlo loShebhina umabhalane loJowa indodana ka-Asafi umbhali, baya kuHezekhiya izigqoko zabo zidabukile bamtshele okwakutshiwo ngumlawuli webutho.

37 Kwathi lapho uHezekhiya, inkosi, esezwe lokhu, wadabula izigqoko zakhe wagqoka amasaka, wasesiya ethempelini likaThixo. 2 Wathuma u-Eliyakhimu umphathi wesigodlo, uShebhina umabhalane labaphristi abangabakhokheli, bonke begqoke amasaka, baya kumphrofethi u-Isaya indodana ka-Amozi. 3 Bathi kuye, “UHezekhiya uthi: ilanga lanamhla lusuku losizi lokusolwa kanye lehlazo njengalapho abantwana sekufike isikhathi sokuthi bazalwe kodwa amandla okubeletha engekho. 4 Mhlawumbe uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho izawezwa amazwi omlawuli webutho, onkosi yakhe, inkosi yase-Asiriya, emthume ukuba athuke uNkulunkulu ophilayo, lokuthi uzamthuka ngenxa yamazwi uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho ewazwileyo. Ngakho-ke khulekela insali elokhu iphila.” 5 Kwathi izithunywa zenkosi uHezekhiya sezifikile ku-Isaya, 6 u-Isaya wathi kuzo, “Tshelani inkosi yenu lithi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: Ungesabi lokhu okuzwileyo, amazwi lawana izinceku zenkosi yase-Asiriya ezingithuke ngawo. 7 Lalela! Ngizafaka umoya ozamenza athi nxa esizwa umbiko othile, afune ukubuyela elizweni lakhe, athi angafika khonale ngenze ukuba abulawe ngenkomba.” 8 Kwathi lapho umlawuli webutho esezwile ukuthi inkosi yase-Asiriya yayisisukile eLakhishi, laye wasuka wayathola inkosi isilwa leLibhina. 9 USenakheribhi wemukela umbiko othi uThirihaka inkosi yaseKhushi, wayesiza ukuba amhlasele. Esezwe lokho wathumela izithunywa kuHezekhiya lombiko othi: “Tshela uHezekhiya inkosi yakujoda ukuthi: Ungavumi ukuthi unkulunkulu omthembileyo akukhohlise esithi, ‘IJerusalem kaliyikunikelwa enkosini yase-Asiriya.’ 11 Ngempela usukuzwile okwenziwa ngamakhozi ase-Asiriya emazweni wonke, ewabhidliza okupheleleyo. Wena-ke uzaphepha na? 12 Onkulunkulu bezizwe ezatshabalaliswa ngokhokho bami bake bazikhulula na, onkulunkulu beGozani, iHarani, iRezezi kanye labantu base-Edeni ababeseTheLasari? 13 Ingaphi inkosi yaseHamathi, inkosi yase-Ariphadi, angaphi amakhosi aseLayiri leSefavayimi, loba eyaseHena kumbe eyase-Iva?” 14 UHezekhiya wemukela incwadi eyeza lezithunywa wayibala. Emva kwalokho waya ethempelini lenkosi, wayichaya phambi kukaThixo. 15 UHezekhiya wakhuleka kuThixo esithi: 16

“Thixo Somandla, Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli osebukhosini phakathi kwamakherubhi, wena kuphela nguwe onguNkulunkulu wemibuso yonke yasemhlabeni. Nguwe owenza izulu lomhlaba. **17** Beka indlebe Thixo, uzwe; vula amehlo akho Thixo, ubone. Lalela uzwe wonke amazwi uSenakheribhi awathumele ukuzathuka uNkulunkulu ophilayo. **18** Kuliqiniso, Thixo, ukuthi amakhosi ase-Asiriya abatshabalalisa bonke lababantu kanye lamazwe abo. **19** Aphosele onkulunkulu bawo emlilweni abatshabalalisa, ngoba kungesibo onkulunkulu kodwa yizigodo lamatshe kuphela, okubunjwe ngezandla zabantu. **20** Khathezi, Thixo, Nkulunkulu wethu, sikhulule esandleni sakhe, ukuze imibuso yonke emhlabeni ibekwazi ukuthi wena Thixo, nguwe wedwa onguNkulunkulu.” **21** U-Isaya indodana ka-Amozi wathumela ilizwi kuHezekhiya elithi, “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli: Ngenxa yokuthi ukhulekile kimi mayelana ngoSenakheribhi inkosi yase-Asiriya, **22** nanti ilizwi uThixo aselikhulume ngaye wathi: INDODAKAZI eGcwelelo iZiyoni iyakweyisa njalo iyakuklodela. INDODAKAZI iJerusalema inqekuzi ikhanda layo lapho wena ubaleka. **23** Ngubani lowo omthukileyo wamhlazisa? Ngubani lowo omphakamisele ilizwi lakho wamphakamisela lamehlo akho ngokuziqqaja na? NgoNgcwele ka-Israyeli! **24** Ngezithunywa zakho umthukile uThixo. Utshilo njalo ukuthi, “Ngezinqola zami ezinengi ngikhwelile eziqongweni zezintaba iziqongo eziphezulu kakhulu zaseLebhanoni. Sengigamule ngawisa izihlahla ezinde zemisedari, izihlahla ezikhethiweyo zamaphayini. Ngifikile eziqongweni zalo ezikhatshana, emaguwini alo amahle kakhulu. **25** Ngigebhile imithombo ezizweni nganatha amanzi khona. Ngezinyawo zami ngomisile zonke izifula zaseGibhithe.” **26** Kawuzwanga na? Lokhu ngakumisa endulo. Ngakuceba ensukwini zasendulo; khathezi sengenze ukuba kufezeke, ukuthi usudilize amadolobho avikelweyo aba yizinqwaba zamatshe. **27** Abantu bakhona, abangaselamandla, badangele njalo bayangekile. Banjengezilimo ensimini, njengamahlumela aluhlaza, lanjengotshani obuhluma ephahleni lwendlu bubuye butshe bungakakhuli. **28** Kodwa ngiyakwazi lapho okhona, lalapho usiza uphinde uhambe; kanye lokuthi ungthukuthelela kangakanani. **29** Ngenxa yokungithukuthelela kwakho langenxa yokuthi ubuqholo bakho sebufikile ezindlebeni zami, ngizafaka umkhala wami emakheleni akho lamatomu ami emlonyeni wakho, njalo ngizakwenza ubuyele ngendlela eze ngayo. **30** Lokhu kuzakuba yisibonakaliso kuwe, Hezekhiya: Lonyaka lizakudla okuzikhulela kodwa, ngomnyaka wesibili lidle umkhukhuzela wakhona. Kodwa ngomnyaka wesithathu hlanyelani livune, hlanyelani izivini lidle izithelo zazo. **31** Futhi insali yendlu kaJuda izagxilisa njalo impande phansi ithele izithelo ngaphezulu. **32** Ngoba eJerusalema kuzavela insali, kuthi entabeni iZiyoni kuphume izuku labasindayo. Ukutshiseka kukaThixo uSomandla kuzakwenza ukuba lokhu kufezeke. **33** Ngakho-ke mayelana lenkosi yase-Asiriya uThixo uthi: Kasoze angene kulelidolobho loba atshoke umtshoko lapha. Kasoze eze kulo elehawu kumbe akhe umdlu wokulivimbezela. **34** Uzabuyela ngendlela eza ngayo; kasoze angene kulelidolobho, kutsho uThixo. **35** Idolobho leli ngizalivikela ngilihlenge, ngenxa yami langenxa kaDavida inceku yami! **36** Lapho-ke ingilosi kaThixo yasuka yayabulala abantu abalikhulu elilamatshumi ayisificaminwembili lanhlano lezinkulungwane ezihonqweni

zama-Asiriya. Kwathi lapho abantu bevuka ekuseni kwakhona bonke kwasekuyizidumbu kuphela! **37** Ngakho uSenakheribhi inkosi yama-Asiriya wasuka ezihonqweni wahamba. Wabuyela eNiniva wahlala khona. **38** Kwathi ngolunye usuku ekhonza ethempelini likaNisirrokhi onkulunkulu wakhe, amadodana akhe u-Adrameleki loShareza ambulala ngenkamba asebakela elizweni lase-Ararathi. U-Esarihadoni indodana yakhe yaba yinkosi esikhundleni sakhe.”

38 Ngalezonsuku uHezekhiya wagula eselengela ekufeni. Umphrofethi u-Isaya, indodana ka-Amozi waya kuye wathi, “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: Lungisa indlu yakho ngoba uzakufa, awuyikusila.” **2** UHezekhiya waphenduka wakhangele emdulini wakhuleka kuThixo esithi, **3** “Khumbula, Thixo, ukuthi ngihambe phambi kwakho ngokuthembeka langokuzinikela ngenhliziyo yami yonke, njalo ngenze okuhle emehlweni akho.” UHezekhiya wakhala kabuhlungu. **4** Emva kwalokho kwafika ilizwi likaThixo ku-Isaya lisithi: **5** “Yana kuHezekhiya uthi kuye, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo, uNkulunkulu kayihlo uDavida, uthi: Ngwuzwile umkhuleko wakho, njalo ngizibonile lezinyembezi zakho. Ngizakwenzelela iminyaka elitshumi lanhlano ekupheleni kwakho. **6** Njalo ngizakukhulula wena, kanye ledolobho leli ezandleni zenkosi yase-Asiriya. Ngizavikela idolobho leli. **7** Lesi yisibonakaliso sikaThixo kuwe sokuthi uThixo uzakwenza njengokuthembisa kwakhe: **8** Ngizakwenza umthunzi obangelwe ilanga ubuaye emuva amanyathelo alitshumi umthunzi owehle ngawo emakhwelweni ka-Ahazi.” Ngakho ukukhanya kwelanga kwabuyela emuva ngamanyathela alitshumi elaselikhothame ngawo. **9** La ngamazwi alotshwa nguHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda emva kokuba esesilile ekugeleni kwakhe: **10** Ngathi, “Ebhuleni bokuphila kwami kumele ngedlule emasangweni okufa ngamukwe iminyaka yami eseleyo na?” (Sheol h7585) **11** Ngathi, “Angiyikumbona futhi uThixo ngokwakhe elizweni labaphilayo; angisayikubabona futhi abantu bakithi loba ngibe labalo abahlala kulumhlaba. **12** Njengethente lomeliso indlu yami idilizwe ngayithathelwa. Njengomaluki impilo yami ngiyigoqile, ungisusile osungulweni; emini lebusuku ungenze ngaphela. **13** Ngalinda ngokubekezela kwaze kwasa, kodwa amathambo ami uwephule wonke njengesilwane; emini lebusuku ungenze ngaphela. **14** Ngakhala njengenkonjane kumbe ihemu, ngabubula njengejuba elililayo. Amehlo ami afiphele ngokukhangela phezulu. Awu Thixo, ngikhathazekile, woza ungisizel!” **15** Kodwa ngingathini na? Ukhulumile kimi, wena ngokwakho ukwenzile lokhu. Ngizahamba ngokuzithoba ekuphileni kwami konke ngenxa yobuhlungu bomoya wami. **16** Thixo, abantu baphila ngezinto ezinje; lomoya wami uthola ukuphila kuzo. Wangibuyisela empilweni wangenza ngaphila. **17** Ngeqiniso kwaba lusizo kimi ukuzwa ubuhlungu obungaka. Ngothando lwakho wangivikela emgodini wokutshabalaliswa; izono zami zonke uzibeke ngemva kwakho. **18** Ngoba ingcwaba alingeke likubonge lokufa akungeke kukudumise; labo abangena emgodini abangeke bathemba ubuqotho bakho. (Sheol h7585) **19** Abaphilayo, ngempela abaphilayo, bayakudumisa njengalokhu engikwenzayo lamuhla; abazali batshela abantwababo ngobuqotho bakho. **20** UThixo uzangisindisa; njalo sizahlabelela ngamachacho kuzozonke insuku zokuphila kwethu ethempelini likaThixo. **21** U-Isaya wayethe, “Lungisani isigaqa semikhiwa usifake phezu

kwethumba, uzasila.” 22 UHezekhiya wayebuze wathi, “Kuyini okuzakuba yisibonakaliso sokuthi ngizakhwela ngiye phezulu ethempelini likaThixo na?”

39 Ngalesosikhathi uMerodakhi-Bhaladani indodana kaBhaladani inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, wathumela izincwadi lesipho kuHezekhiya, ngoba wayezwile ngokugula kwakhe lokusila kwakhe. 2 UHezekhiya wazamukela izithunywa ngokuthaba, wazitshengisa okwakusendlini yakhe yokugcinela impahla, isiliva, igolide, iziyoliso, amafutha acengekileyo, izikhali zakhe zonke, lakho konke okwakukhona enozhweni yakhe. Akulalutho esigodlweni sakhe loba embusweni wakhe wonke angazitshengisanga khona. 3 Ngakho u-Isaya umphrofethi waya kuHezekhiya inkosi wambuza wathi, “Atheni amadoda lawana, njalo avela ngaphi?” UHezekhiya waphendula wathi, “Avela elizweni elikhatshana. Aze kimi evela eBhabhiloni.” 4 Umphrofethi wabuza wathi, “Aboneni esigodlweni sakho?” UHezekhiya wathi, “Abone konke okusesigodlweni sami. Akulalutho phakathi kwempahla zami eziligugu engingawatshengisanga khona.” 5 Ngakho u-Isaya wasesithi kuHezekhiya, “Zwana ilizwi likaThixo uSomandla lithi: 6 Isikhathi sizafika sibili lapho konke okusesigodlweni sakho lakho konke oyihlo abakugcinayo kusiyafika lolosuku, kuzathwalelwa eBhabhiloni. Akuyikusala lutho, kutsho uThixo. 7 Njalo abanye besizukulwane sakho, abenyama legazi lakho, abazalawa nguwe, bazathathwa bayekuba ngabathenwa esigodlweni senkosi yaseBhabhiloni.” 8 UHezekhiya waphendula wathi, “Ilizwi likaThixo olikhulumeleyo lilungile.” Ngoba wayenakana esithi, “Kuzakuba lokuthula lokuvikeleka ekuphileni kwami.”

40 Duduzani, libaduduze abantu bami, kutsho uNkulunkulu wenu. 2 Khulumani ngomusa kulo iJerusalem, limemezele kulo ukuthi ukusebenza kwalo nzima sekuphelile, ukuthi isono salo sihlawulwe, ukuthi selumakele okuvela esandleni sikaThixo kuphindwe kabili kuzozonke izono zalo. 3 Ilizwi lomemezayo lithi: “Enkangala lungiselani uThixo indlela, lenzele uNkulunkulu wethu umgwaqo oqondileyo enkangala. 4 Zonke izigodi zizaphakanyiswa, izintaba zonke lamaqaqa kuzakwehliselwa phansi. Umhlabathi ongamakhilikithi uzakwendlaleka, izindawo ezimadundulu zizakuba yisigcawu. 5 Inkazimulo kaThixo izabonakaliswa, abantu bonke bazambona kanyekanye, ngoba umlomo kaThixo usukhulumile.” 6 Ilizwi lithi, “Memeza!” Mina ngathi, “Ngimemeze ngisithini na?” “Abantu bonke banjengotshani njalo ubuhle babo bunjengamaluba eganga. 7 Utshani buyabuna amaluba ayakhithika, ngoba umoya kaThixo uyakuphephetha. Ngempela abantu babutshani. 8 Utshani buyabuna, amaluba ayakhithika, kodwa ilizwi likaNkulunkulu limi kuze kube nininini.” 9 Wena oletha izindaba ezinhle eZiyoni, khwela entabeni ende. Wena oletha izindaba ezinhle eJerusalem, phakamisa ilizwi lakho ngokumemeza; liphakamise, ungesabi, tshono emadolobheni akajuda uthi: “Nangu uNkulunkulu wenu!” 10 Khangelani, uThixo Wobukhosi uza elamandla, isandla sakhe sizabusa. Khangelani, umvuzo wakhe ulawo, lenhlawulo yakhe uhamba elayo. 11 Welusa umhlambi wakhe njengomelusi: ubuthelela amawundlu ezingalweni zakhe awathwale eseduzane lenhliziyi yakhe; awakhokhele kuhle lawo alamazinyane. 12 Ngubani olinganise amanzi entendeni yesandla sakhe, loba walinganisa amazulu ngobubanzi besandla sakhe na? Ngubani owaphatha uthuli lomhlabathi

ngesitsha loba walinganisa izintaba ezilinganisweni lamaqaqa esikalini na? 13 Ngubani osezawzawisa imicabango kaThixo, kumbe wamfundisa njengomeluleki wakhe na? 14 Ngubani owake wacelwa nguThixo ukuba ameluleki, njalo ngubani owamfundisa indlela elungileyo na? Ngubani lowo owamfundisa ukwazi, loba owamtshengisa indlela yokuqedisisa na? 15 Ngeqiniso izizwe zinjengezithoni emgqonyeni; zibalwa njengothuli ezilinganisweni; uThixo ulinganisa izihlengi angathi ziluthuli oluculekileyo. 16 ILebhanoni kalaneli imililo ye-alithare, lezinyamazana zalo kazaneli iminikelo yokutshiswa. 17 Phambi kwakhe zonke izizwe zinjengeze; yena uzikhangela njengento engasi yalutho njalo zingaphansi kweze. 18 Pho ngubani elingamfanisa loNkulunkulu na? Yisifanekiso bani elingasilinganisa laye na? 19 Isithombe sibunjwa yingcwehi, umkhandi wegolide asinameke ngegolide asenzele imigaxo yesiliva. 20 Umuntu ongumyanga ongelanisiyo ukunikela ngomnikelo onjalo ukhetha isigodo esingaboliyo. Udinga ingcithi elolwazi ukuba imise isithombe esingayikubhidlika. 21 Kalazi yini? Kalizwanga na? Kalikutshelwanga kwasekuqaleni na? Kalizwisisanga na selokhu umhlaba wadalwayo? 22 UThixo uhlezi ebukhosini ngaphezu kwendingiliza yomhlaba, njalo abantu bakhe banjengezintethe. Welula amazulu njengekhettheni, awendlele njengezintethe lokuhlala kulo. 23 Udiliza amakhosana, enze ababusi bomhlaba lo babe yize. 24 Banele ukugxunyekwa nje, banele ukuhlanyelwa nje, banele ukugxila impande emhlabathini abe ephetha phezu kwabo, babune, isavunguzane sibakhukhulele khatshana njengamakhoba. 25 “Ngubani elizangilinganisa laye na? Loba ngubani olingana lami na?” kutsho yena oNgcwele. 26 Phakamisani amehlo enu likhangele phezulu: Ngubani owadala konke lokhu na? Yena okhupha amaxuku ezinkanyezi ngalinye ngalinye, awabize ngalinye ngamaziso awo. Ngenxa yamandla akhe amakhulu lokuqina okulamandla, akukho lalinye elingekho. 27 Kungani usithi, we Jakhobe, usole usithi, we Israyeli, “Indlela yami ifihlakele Thixo; ilungelo lami kalinanzwa nguNkulunkulu wami na?” 28 Kalazi yini? Kalizwanga na? UThixo unguNkulunkulu waphakade, uMdali wemikhawulo yomhlaba. Kayikudinwa kumbe akhathale, ukuqedisisa kwakhe kakho ngakulungelana. 29 Abakhathelelo uyabanika amandla, andise amandla ababuthakathaka. 30 Labatsha baphelelwa ngamandla bakhathale, lamajaha ayakhubeka awe, 31 kodwa labo abathemba uThixo bazavuselelwa amandla abo. Bazaqonga ngempiko njengezinkozi, bazagijima kodwa bangadinwa, bazahamba kodwa bangapheli amandla.

41 “Thulani lithi zwi phambi kwami lina zihlengi! Izizwe kazivuselele amandla azo! Kazisondele phambili zikhulume; kasihlanganeni sonke endaweni yokwahlulela. 2 Ngubani osevuse lowo ovela empumalanga, embizela emsebenzini wakhe ngokulunga na? Unikela izizwe kuye, anqobe amakhosi phambi kwakhe. Ngenkamba yakhe uwenza abe luthuli, ngedandili lakhe awenze abe ngamakhoba aphethulwa ngumoya. 3 Uyawaxotsha yena adlule engathintwanga lutho, endleleni angakaze ahambe ngayo. 4 Ngubani owenze lokhu wakuphumelelisa, ebiza izizukulwane kusukela ekuqaleni na? Mina uThixo, kusukela kwesokuqala sazo kanye lesokucina, nginguye.” 5 Izihlengi zikubonile njalo ziyesaba; imikhawulo yomhlaba iyathuthumelana, iyasondela izwe ngaphambili; 6 yilowo lalowo usiza omunye athi kumfowabo, “Woba lesibindii!”

7 Umbazi ukhuthaza umkhandi wegolide, lalowo olonga ngesando utshotshozela otshaya ihandila. Mayelana lokunusela uthi, “Kulungile.” Ubethelela isithombe phansi ngezikipili ukuze singawi. **8** “Kodwa wena we Israyeli, nceku yami, Jakhobe, wena engikukhethileyo, wena nzalo ka-Abrahama, umngane wami, **9** ngakuthatha emikhawulweni yomhlaba, ngakubiza usemakhoni akhatshana kakhulu. Ngathi, ‘Wena uyinceku yami’; ngikukhethile njalo angikulahlanga. **10** Ngakho ungesabi, ngoba ngilawe; ungakhathazeki, ngoba nginguNkulunkulu wakho. Ngizakuqinisa, ngikusize; ngizakusekela ngesandla sami sokudla esiqotho. **11** Bonke abakuthuketheleleyo, ngoqotho bazayangeka babe lenhloni; labo abakuphikisayo bazakuba njengeze, babhubhe. **12** Lanxa izitha zakho uzidinga, awuyikuzithola. Labo abalwa impi lawe bazakuba yize. **13** Ngoba mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wakho, okubamba ngesandla sakho sokudla athi kuwe: Ungesabi; ngizakusiza. **14** Ungesabi, wena mpethu engujakhobe, wena Israyeli omcinyazana, ungesabi, ngoba mina ngokwami ngizakusiza,” kutsho uThixo, uMhlengi wakho, oNgcwele ka-Israyeli. **15** “Khangela, ngizakwenza ube yisileyi sokubhula esitsha njalo esibukhali esilenhlemdla ezinengi. Uzabhula izintaba uzibhidlize. Wenze amaqaba abe ngamakhoba. **16** Uzawahlungula, umoya uwathathe, isavunguzane siwaphephulele khatshana. Kodwa wena uzathokoza kuThixo njalo uzibule koNgcwele ka-Israyeli. **17** Abayanga labaswelayo badinga amanzi, kodwa kawakho; inlimi zabo sezitshile ngokoma. Kodwa mina Thixo ngizabaphendula; mina, Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, angiyikubalaha. **18** Ngizakwenza amanzi ageleze emiqolweni engelalutho lemithombo phakathi kwezigodi. Ngizaguqula inkangala ibe yiziziba zamanzi, lomhlabathi owomileyo ube yimithombo yamanzi. **19** Enkangala ngizamalisa khona imisedari lemi-akhakhiya, amamithili kanye lama-oliva. Ogwaduleni ngizamisa izihlahla zamaphayini, ndawonye lemifiri kanye lemisphezi, **20** ukuze abantu babone njalo bazi, bacabange bazwisise ukuthi isandla sikaThixo yiso esenza lokhu, lokuthi oNgcwele ka-Israyeli ukudalile. **21** Bikani indaba yenu,” kutsho uThixo. “Bekani izizatho zenu,” kutsho iNkosi kaJakhobe. **22** “Lethani izithombe zenu zisitshile okuzakwenzakala. Sitsheleni izinto zendulo ukuthi zazi yini ukuze sizihlole, sazi isiphetho sazo. Loba sitsheleni izinto ezizayo, **23** lisazise okuqukethwe yizinsuku ezizayo, ukuze sazi ukuthi lingonkulunkulu. Yenzani okuthile, okuhle kumbe okubi, ukuze sithuthumele, sibe lokwesaba. **24** Kodwa lina liyize, lemisebenzi yenu kayisilutho, okhetha lina uyisinengiso. **25** Sengithukuthile omunye enyakatho, njalo uyeza omunye ovela empumalanga obiza ibizo lami. Lowo unyathela phezu kwababusi kube sengathi baludaka, kube angathi ngumbumbi evoxa ibumba. **26** Ngubani owabika lokhu kwasekuqaleni, ukuze sazi, kumbe ngaphambilini ukuze sazi, ‘Wayeqinisele na?’ Kakho owabika ngalokhu, kakho owakutsho ngaphambilini, kakho owake wezwa amazwi aphuma kuwe. **27** Mina yimi engaba ngowokuqala ukutshela iziyoni ukuthi, ‘Khangela, nampa lapha!’ Nganika iJerusalem isithunywa sezindaba ezinhle. **28** Ngiyakhangela kodwa akulamuntu, kakho phakathi kwabo onganika iseluleko, kakho onghendulo lapho ngibabuza. **29** Khangela, bonke bayize! Izenzo zabo kazisilutho; izithombe zabo ezibunjiweyo zingumoya lensambatheka.”

42 “Nansi inceku yami engiyisekelayo, okhethiweyo wami, engithokoza ngaye. Ngizabeka umoya wami phezu kwakhe, uzaletsha ukulunga ezizweni. **2** Kayikumemeza kumbe aklabalale, loba aphakamise ilizwi lakhe emigwaqweni. **3** Umhlanga ohluzukileyo akayikuwuquma, lentambo yesibane etsha kancane akayikuyicima. Ngokwethembeka uzaletsha ukulunga; **4** akayikudinwa kumbe ephulwe inhliziyi aze alethe ukulunga emhlabeni. Izihlenge zizakwethemba umthetho wakhe.” **5** Lokhu yikho okutshiwo nguNkulunkulu uThixo, yena owadala amazulu wawelula, yena owendlala umhlaba lakho konke okuphuma kuwo, yena onika abantu abakuwo ukuphefumula, kuthi abahamba kuwo abanike ukuphila: **6** “Mina, uThixo ngikubizile ngokulunga; ngizabamba isandla sakho. Ngizakulondoloza ngikwenze ube yisivumelwano sabantu lokukhanya kwabeZizwe; **7** uvule amehlo eziphofu, ukhuphe abathunjiweyo entolongweni, ubakhulule emigodini yezibotshwa labo abahlala emnyameni. **8** Mina nginguThixo, lelo yilo ibizo lami! Ubukhosi bami angiyikubunika omunye loba nginike izithombe udumo lwami. **9** Khangela, izinto zakuqala sezenzakele, njalo ngimemezela izinto ezintsha; zingakaveli ukuba zibe khona ngiyakutshela ngazo.” **10** Hlabelelani uThixo ingoma entsha, udumo lwakhe kusukela emikhawulweni yomhlaba, lina eliya phansi olwandle, lakho konke okukulo, lina zihlenge, labo bonke abahlala kini. **11** Inkangala lamadolobho ayo kakuphakamise amazwi akho; imizi uKhedari ahlala kuyo kayijabule. Abantu baseSela kabahlabele ngentokoza; kabaklabalale besezinqongweni zezintaba. **12** Kabamdumise uThixo, amemezele udumo lwakhe ezihlengeni. **13** UThixo uzaphuma njengendoda elamandla, njengebutho uzavuthela ukutshiseka kwakhe; ngokuklabalala uzakhuza isaga sempi azinqobe izitha zakhe. **14** “Bengithule okwesikhathi eside kakhulu, bengithule ngizithiba. Kodwa khathezi, njengowesifazane ebelethe, ngiyakhala, ngiyakhefuzela ngiphefuzela. **15** Ngizabhidliza izintaba lamaqaba; ngilomise lonke uhlobo lwabo; ngizaphendula imifula ibe yizihlenge ngomise lamachibi. **16** Ngizakhokhela iziphofu ngezindlela ezingazaziyo, ngizihole ngezindledlana ezingajwayelekanga. Ngizaphendula umnyama ube yikukhanya phambi kwazo; ngenze izindawo ezimakhilikithi zibe butshelezi. Lezi yizo izinto engawenza; angiyikuziyekela. **17** Kodwa labo abathemba izithombe, abathi kuzifanekiso, ‘Lingonkulunkulu bethu,’ bazabuyiselwa emuva beyangeke impela.” **18** “Zwanini, lina zacuthe; khangelani, lina ziphofu, libone! **19** Ngubani oyisiphofu ngaphandle kwenceku yami, loyisacuthe njengesithunywa engisithumayo na? Ngubani oyisiphofu njengalowo ozinikele kimi, oyisiphofu njengenceku kaThixo na? **20** Selabona izinto ezinengi, kodwa kalinakanga; indlebe zenu zivulekile, kodwa kalizwa lutho.” **21** Kwamthokoziisa uThixo ngenxa yokulunga kwakhe ukuba akhulise umthetho wakhe ube mkhulu njalo ulodumo. **22** Kodwa laba ngabantu abaphangiweyo bathunjwa; bonke bavalelwe emiwlweni, loba bafihlwa ezintolongweni. Sebenziwe baba yimpahla yokuthunjwa, kungela ozabasindisa; sebhendulwe baba yinto yokuthunjwa kungekho othi, “Babuyiseleni emuva.” **23** Ngubani wenu olalela lokhu, kumbe asinake isikhathi esizayo na? **24** Ngubani owanikela uJakhobe ukuba abe yinto yokuthunjwa wanikela lo-Israyeli kubaphangi na? Kwakungasuye uThixo, esamonelayo thina na? Njengoba babengeke balandele izindlela zakhe; kabalalelanga umthetho wakhe. **25** Ngakho wathela ulaka lwakhe oluvuthayo phezu

kwabo, ukutshisa kwempi. Wabamboza ngamalangabi, kodwa kabezwisisinga. Wabaqothula, kodwa kabakhathalanga.

43 Kodwa khathesi, nanku akutshoyo uThixo uthi, yena owakudalayo, wena Jakhobe, yena owakubumbayo, wena Israyeli: “Ungesabi, ngoba ngikuhlengile; ngikubize ngebizo lakho; ungowami. **2** Lapho udabula phakathi kwamanzi ngizakuba lawe; lalapho udabula emifuleni, kayiyikukukhukhula. Lapho uhamba phakathi komlilo, kawuyikutsha; amalangabi kawayikukubhebhisa. **3** Ngoba mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wakho, oNgcwele ka-Israyeli, uMsindisi wakho. Ngizanikela iGibhithi njengenhlawulo yakho, iKhushi leSebha ime esikhundleni sakho. **4** Njengoba wena uligugu njalo udumile ebusweni bami, futhi ngenxa yokuthi ngiyakuthanda, ngizanikela abantu esikhundleni sakho, labantu esikhundleni sempilo yakho. **5** Ungesabi, ngoba ngilawe; ngizakulethela inzalo yakho ivela empumalanga ngikubuthe kusukela entshonalanga. **6** Ngizakutsho kuyo inyakatho ngithi, ‘Bakhulule!’ Ngitsho kuyo iningizimu ngithi, ‘Ungabagodli.’ Buyisani amadodana ami akude lamadodakazi ami asemikhawulweni yomhlaba, **7** wonke umuntu obizwa ngebizo lami, engamadalela udumo lwami, engambumbayo, ngenzenza.” **8** Phumani labalo abayiziphofu amehlo belawo, abayizacuthe indlebe belazo. **9** Izizwe zonke kaziqoqane ndawonye labantu babuthane. Nguphi wabo owaphrofitha lokhu wamemezela kithi ngezinto zendulo? Kabalethe ofakazi babo babonakalise ukuthi baqinisele, ukuze abanye bezwe, batsho bathi, “Kuqotho.” **10** UThixo uthi, “Lina lingofakazi bami, lenceku zami engizikhethileyo, ukuze lazi, likholwe kimi, njalo lizwisise ukuthi mina nginguye. Ngaphambi kwami kakho unkulunkulu owake wabakhona, njalo kakho ozakuba khona emva kwami. **11** Mina, mina uqobo, nginguThixo, ngaphandle kwami kakho omunye umsindisi. **12** Ngivezile ngasindisa, ngamemezela, mina ngokwami, hatshi unkulunkulu wezizweni ophakathi kwenu. Lingofakazi bami, ngokuthi mina yimi unkulunkulu” kutsho uThixo. **13** “Ye, kusukela ensukwini zasendulo nginguye. Kakho ongakuhulula esandleni sami. Lapho ngisenza, ngubani ongakuyiqula na?” **14** Lokhu yakho okutshiwo nguThixo, uMhlengi wenu, oNgcwele ka-Israyeli, uthi, “Ngenxa yenu ngizathumela impi eBhabhiloni ilethe bonke abaseBhabhiloni, njengeziphepheli ngemikhumbi ababazigqaja ngayo. **15** Mina nginguThixo, oNgcwele wenu, uMdali ka-Israyeli, iNkosi yenu.” **16** Nanku akutshoyo uThixo, yena owenza indlela olwandle lomkhondo emanzini alamandla, **17** yena owakhupha izinqola zempi lamabhiza, ibutho, lamanye awokulinqinisa endawonye; njalo lalala lapho, kalaze lavuka futhi; licitshe, liqunywe njengentambo yesibane: **18** “Khohlwani izinto zamandulo, linganakani ngosekwedlulayo. **19** Khangelani, ngenza okutshali Khathesi kuyavela ngokuphangisa; kalikuboni na? Ngenza indlela enkangala lezifula ogwaduleni. **20** Izinyamazana zeganga ziyangidumisa; amakhanka lezikhova, ngoba ngenza kube lamanzi enkangala lezifula ogwaduleni ukuze ngingathise abantu abakhethiweyo, **21** abantu engazenzela bona ukuba bangidumise. **22** Kodwa kawukhalazanga kimi wena Jakhobe, kodwa ukhathele ngami wena Israyeli. **23** Kawungilethelanga izimvu zomnikelo wokutshiswa, kumbe wangidumisa ngemihlatshelo yakho. Angikuhluphanga ngeminikelo yamabele kumbe ngakudinisa ngokufuna imphepha. **24** Kawungithengelanga amakha ekhane anuka

mnandi, kumbe wangisuthisa ngamahwahwa emihlatshelo yakho. Kodwa ungikhathazile ngezono zakho njalo wangidumisa ngezinengiso zakho. **25** Mina, mina uqobo, nginguye owesula iziphambeko zakho ngenxa yami, ngingabe ngisazikhumbula futhi izono zakho. **26** Ngikhumbuzwa ngesikhathi esedlulayo, sibonisa ngeleyondaba ulandise ngoba msulwa kwakho. **27** Ukhokhe wakho wokuqala wona; labakhulumeli bakho bangihlamukela. **28** Ngakho izikhulu zethempelini lakho ngizaziyangisa; nginikele uJakhobe ekubhujisweni lo-Israyeli ekweyisweni.”

44 “Kodwa khathesi lalela, wena Jakhobe, nceku yami, Israyeli, engikukhethileyo. **2** Nanku akutshoyo uThixo, yena owakwenzayo, owakubumba esiswini, njalo yena ozakusiza, uthi: Ungesabi, wena Jakhobe, nceku yami, Jeshuruni engikukhethileyo. **3** Ngoba ngizathela amanzi elizweni elomileyo, lezifula emhlabathini owomileyo. Ngizathela uMoya wami phezu kwenzalo yakho lezibusiso zami phezu kwezizukulwane zakho. **4** Zizahluma njengotshani emadlelweni, lanjengeminyezane ezifuleni ezigelezayo. **5** Omunye uzakuthi, ‘Mina ngingokaThixo’; lomunye azibize ngebizo likaJakhobe; omunye laye uzaloba esandleni sakhe ukuthi, ‘OkaThixo,’ azinike ibizo lika-Israyeli.” **6** “Nanku akutshoyo uThixo, iNkosi loMhlengi ka-Israyeli, uThixo uSomandla: Mina ngingowokuqala njalo ngingowokucina; ngaphandle kwami kakho unkulunkulu. **7** Pho ngubani onjengami? Kakumemezele lokho. Katsho, achaze phambi kwami okwenzakalayo kusukela ekubekeni kwami abantu bami bendulo; akutsho lokuzakwenzakala; yebo, kakuqambe okuzayo. **8** Lingaqhaqhaqazi, lingesabi. Lokhu angikutshongo ngabika ngakho kudala na? Lina lingofakazi bami. Kulomunye unkulunkulu ngaphandle kwami na? Hatshi, kalikho elinye iDwala; kalikho engilaziyo.” **9** Bonke abenza izithombe kabisilutho, lezinto abaziqakathekisayo ziyize. Labo abangabakhulumela bayiziphofu, kabazi lutho, kulihlazo kubo. **10** Ngubani obaza unkulunkulu abume isithombe, okungeke kumsize ngalutho? **11** Yena labanjengaye bazayangiswa; izingcitshi zazisilutho, ngabantu nje. Kaziqoqane zonke zime ndawonye; bazakuba lokwesaba kanye lehlazo. **12** Umkhandi uthatha insimbi ayifake emalahleni; enze isithombe ngezando, asikhande ngengalo yakhe elamandla. Uyalamba aphelelwe ngamandla. Anganathi manzi, amandla aphele. **13** Umbazi welula intambo yokulinganisa asidwele ngesongulo, asibaze ngetshizela, asidwebe ngensimbi ecijileyo, abaze umfanekiso womuntu, umuntu olobuhle bonke, ukuba sihlale endlini yokukhonzela. **14** Ugamula isihlahla somsadari, loba athathe umsayiphresi kumbe um’Okhi. Uyasikhulisa phakathi kwezihlahla zegusu, kumbe ahlayele iphayini, izulu lisikhulise. **15** Lapho-ke siba zinkuni zomuntu zokubasa; okunye kwaso uyathatha othe, ubasa umlilo abhekhe izinkwa. Kodwa, njalo, wenza unkulunkulu amkhonze; abaze isithombe asikhothamele. **16** Ingxenye yezinkuni ubasa ngayo umlilo, apheke ngawo ukudla kwakhe. Ose inyama yakhe adle asuthe. Njalo uyotha umlilo athi, “Ha! Ngiyafudumala; ngiyawubona umlilo.” **17** Ngeziseleyo wenza unkulunkulu, isithombe sakhe; uyasikhothamela, asikhonze. Uyakhuleka kuso athi, “Ngisindisa, ungunkulunkulu wami.” **18** Kabazi lutho, kabaqedisisi lutho; amehlo abo abhadiwe ukuze bangaboni lezingqondo zabo zivalekile ukuze bangaqedisisi. **19** Kakho oke ame acabange, kakho olokwazi loba ukuzwisisa ukuba athi, “Ingxenye yazo ngabasa ngayo umlilo; nguze ngabhekha

izinkwa emalahleni awo, ngosa inyama ngayidla. Ngokuseleyo ngizakwenza into enengisayo na? Ngizasisikhothamela na isigodo nje?” **20** Udla umlotha, inhliziyi ekhohlisekileyo iyamlahla, angeke azihlenge, kumbe athi, “Into le esesandleni sami sokudla kayisimanga na?” **21** “Khumbula lezizinto, wena Jakhobe, ngoba uyinceku yami, wena Israyeli. Ngakubumba, uyinceku yami; wena Israyeli, angiyikukukhohlwa. **22** Ngesule iziphambeko zakho njengeyezi, ngesula izono zakho njengenkungu yekuseni. Buyela kimi, ngoba ngikuhlengile.” **23** Hlabelalani ngentokoza, lina mazulu, ngoba uThixo usekwenzile lokhu; hlaba umkhosi, wena mhlaba ngaphansi. Tshayani ingoma lina zintaba, lina mahlathi lazozonke izihlahla zenu, ngoba uThixo usemhlengile uJakhobe, ubonakalisa udumo lwakhe ko-Israyeli. **24** “Nanku akutshoyo uThixo, uMhlengi wakho, owakubumbayo esiswini: Mina nginguThixo, owenza izinto zonke, owenza amazulu eyedwa, owendlala umhlaba eyedwa, **25** ofubisa izibonakaliso zabaphrofethi bamanga, enze izanuse zibe yizithutha, ochitha ulwazi lwezihlakaniphi alwenze lube yibuthutha, **26** ofeza amazwi ezinceku zakhe aphelelise amacebo ezithunywa zakhe. Athi kulo iJerusalem, ‘Kuzahlalwa kulo,’ ngamadolobho akoJuda athi, ‘Azakwahiwa.’ Ngamanxiwa awo uthi, ‘Ngizawavusa,’ **27** athi enzikini yamanzi, ‘Cima, ngizakomisa izifula zakho,’ **28** athi ngoKhurosi, ‘Ungumelusi wami, uzafeza konke engikufunayo; uzakuthi ngeJerusalem, ‘Kalakhiwe futhi,’ ngethempeli athi, ‘Izisekelo zalo kazakhiwe.’”

45 “Nanku akutshoyo uThixo kogcotshiewo wakhe, uKhurosi, engibamba isandla sakhe sokudla ukuba nginqobe izizwe eziphambi kwakhe, ngithathele amakhosi izihlangu zawo, ngivule iminyango phambi kwakhe ukuze amasango angavaleki: **2** Ngizahamba phambi kwakho ngenze izintaba zenddaleke. Ngizadiliza amasango ethusi, ngifohle emigoqweni yensimbi. **3** Ngizakupha inotho yobumnyama, lenotho egcinwe ezindaweni ezifihlakeleyo ukuze wazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, okubiza ngebizo. **4** Ngenxa kaJakhobe inceku yami, lo-Israyeli okhethiweyo wami, ngikubiza ngebizo ngikunike ibizo lokuhlolonipha, lanxa wena unganginakanga. **5** Mina nginguThixo, njalo kakho omunye; ngaphandle kwami akulaNkulunkulu. Ngizakuqinisa, lanxa wena unganginakanga, **6** ukuze kuthi kusukela empumalanga kusiya entshonalanga, abantu bakwazi ukuthi kakho omunye ngaphandle kwami. Mina nginguThixo, njalo kakho omunye. **7** Ngenza ukukhanya njalo ngidale umnyama, ngiletha ukuphumelela njalo ngidale incithakalo; mina Thixo ngiyazenza zonke lezizinto. **8** Lina mazulu angaphezulu, nisani ukulunga; amayezi kawakuthululele phansi. Umhlaba kawuvuleke kabanzi kuhlume ukusindiswa, ukulunga akukhule lakho; mina, uThixo, ngikudalile. **9** Maye kulowo ophikisa uMdali wakhe, kulowo oludengezi nje phakathi kwendengezi emhlabathini. Ibumba liyatsho na kumbumbi lithi, ‘Kuyini okubumbayo?’ Umsebenzi wakho uyatsho na uthi, ‘Kalazandla?’ **10** Maye kulowo othi kuyise, ‘Kuyini owakuzalayo?’ loba athi kunina, ‘Kuyini okububelethayo?’ **11** Nanku okutshoyo nguThixo, oNgcwele ka-Israyeli, loMdali wakhe uthi: Mayelana lezinto ezizayo, uyangibuza ngabatwabami na, loba uyangilawula emsebenzini engiwenzayo na? **12** Yimi engadala umhlaba, ngenza labantu abahlala kuwo. Ezami izandla yizo ezananabula amazulu; ngahlela amaxuku ezinkanyezi zawo. **13** Ngizamvusa

uKhurosi ngokulunga kwami, ngenze izindlela zakhe zonke ziqonde. Uzalakha futhi idolobho lami, akhulule abami abaxotshwayo elizweni, kodwa kungekho nhlawulo kumbe umvuzo, kutsho uThixo uSomandla.” **14** Nanku akutshoyo uThixo: “Izithelo zaseGibhithe lempahla ethengiswayo yaseKhushi lamaSebhina lawana amade, bazakuza kuwe babengabakho, bazakhasabula ngemva kwakho, beze kuwe bebotshe ngamaketane. Bazakukhothamela bakuncenge besithi, ‘Ngempela uNkulunkulu ulawe, kakho omunye, kakho omunye uNkulunkulu.’” **15** Ngeqiniso unguNkulunkulu ozifihlayo, Nkulunkulu loMsindisi ka-Israyeli. **16** Bonke ababaza izithombe bazayangiswa badumazeki; bonke bazahamba beyangekile. **17** Kodwa u-Israyeli uzasindiswa nguThixo ngensindiso engapheliyo; kaliyikuyangiswa kumbe libe lehlazo kuze kube nininini. **18** Ngoba nanku okutshiwo nguThixo yena owadala amazulu, unguNkulunkulu, yena owabumba umhlaba wawenza, wawusekela; kawudalanga ukuba ungabi lalutho, kodwa wawenza ukuba kuhlalwe kuwo, uthi: “Mina nginguThixo, kakho omunye. **19** Angikhulumanga ensitha kwenye indawo elizweni lomnyama; angizange ngithi kuzizukulwane zikaJakhobe, ‘Ngidingani lingangitholi.’ Mina Thixo ngikhuluma iqiniso; ngitsho okuqotho. **20** Qoqanani ndawonye lize kimi; buthanani lina elibaleka ezizweni. Labo abahamba bethwele izithombe zezigodo kabazi lutho; labo abakhuleka kubonkulunkulu abangeke babasize.” **21** Memezelani okufanele kube yikho, likubike, kabemukele izeluleko ndawonye. Ngubani owabika lokhu endulo, ngubani owamemezela ngakho kudala le? Kwangangayisimi mina Thixo na? Njalo kakho uNkulunkulu ngaphandle kwami, uNkulunkulu olungileyo onguMsindisi; kakho omunye, yimi kuphela. **22** “Phendukelani kimi lisindiswe, lonke lina mikhawulo yomhlaba; ngoba mina nginguNkulunkulu, njalo kakho omunye. **23** Ngifunge ngami, ngobuqotho bonke umlomo wami ukhulume ilizwi elingayikwesulwa. Amadolo wonke azaguqa phambi kwami; izindimi zonke zizafunga ngami. **24** Zizakutsho ngami zithi, ‘Ukulunga lamandla kuThixo kuphela.’” Bonke abamthukuthelelayo bazakuza kuye bayangiswe. **25** Kodwa Thixo yonke inzalo ka-Israyeli izafunyanwa ilungile, ithokoze iziqhenya ngaye.

46 UBheli uyakhothama, uNebho uyaguqa; izithombe zabo zithwelwe yizifuyo zokuthwala. Izifanekiso ezithwelweyo ziyasinda, umthwalo osindayo kodiniweyo. **2** Bayakhothama baguqe ndawonye; benganelisi ukuhlenga umthwalo, labo uqobo baya khona ekuthunjweni. **3** “Ngilalela wena ndlu kaJakhobe, lonke lina eliseleyo abendlu ka-Israyeli, lina engalisekelayo selokhu lemulwayo, ngalithwala selokhu lalalwayo. **4** Lasebudaleni benu, inwele zenu sezimhlophe, mina nginguyeyi, nginguyeyi ozaliquinisa. Sengilenzile njalo ngizalithwala; ngizaliquinisa ngilihlenge. **5** Ngubani elingangilinganisa laye kumbe limbale njengolingana lami na? Ngubani elingangifananisa laye ukuba siqathaniswe na? **6** Abanye bathulula igolide emigodleni yabo balinganise isiliva ezikalini; baqathshe abakhandi begolide ukuba benze unkulunkulu ngalo, bakhothame, bamkhonze. **7** Bayamphakamisela emahlombe abo bamthwale; bayambeka endaweni yakhe, ame khonapho. Angeke asuke kuleyondawo. Lanxa umuntu ememeza, kaphenduli; angeke amsize ekhuluphekeni kwakhe. **8** Khumbulani lokhu, likufake ezingqondweni zenu, kukhumbuleni lina bahlamuki. **9** Khumbulani izinto zakuqala ezendulo. Mina

nginguNkulunkulu, kakho omunye; mina nginguNkulunkulu, kakho onjengami. **10** Mina ngenza isiphetho sazakale kusukela ekuqaleni lokuzakwenzakala, kusukela ezikhathini zasendulo. Ngithi: 'Injongo yami izakuma kokuphela, njalo ngizakwenza konke engikufunayo.' **11** Epumalanga ngibiza inyoni edla ezinye; elizweni elikhathshana ngibiza umuntu ukuba afeze injongo yami. Lokho engikutshiloyo ngizakufeza; lokho engikucebileyo ngizakwenza. **12** Ngilalelani lina elilezinhliziyoz ezilukhuni, lina elikhathshana lokulunga. **13** Ngiletha ukulunga kwami eduzane, akukho khatshana; lokusindisa kwami akuyikuphuziswa. **14** Ziyoni ngizayinika ukusindiswa, u-Israyeli inkazimulo yami."

47 "Yehla uhlale othulini Ndodakazi emsulwa yaseBhabhiloni, hlala emhlabathini ungelasihlalo sobukhosi, ndodakazi yamaBhabhiloni. Akusayikuthiwa ubuthakathaka loba kuthiwe uthambile. **2** Thatha amatshane okuchola uchole impuphu; ukhuphe isimbombozo sakho. Phakamisa izidwaba zakho, uveze imilenze yakho, ugxabhaze udabule ezifuleni. **3** Ubunqunu bakho buzavezwa, ihlazo lakho lambuleke. Ngizaphindisela, kakho engizamyekela." **4** Umhlengi wethu uThixo uSomandla libizo lakhe ungoNgcwele ka-Israyeli. **5** "Hlala ngokuthula, yana emnyameni, ndodakazi yamaKhaladiya; awuyikubizwa ngokuthi ndlovukazi yemibuso futhi. **6** Ngabathukuthelela abantu bami, ngangcolisa ilifa lami, ngabanikela ezandleni zakho, kawaze waba lesihawu kubo. Lasebeluphele, wabetha ezigwe elinzima. **7** Wathi, 'Ngizaqhubeka kokuphela ngiyindlovukazi nini lanini.' Kodwa kawuzinakanga lezizinto, kumbe unakane ngokungenzakala. **8** Khathesi-ke lalela, wena sidalwa esingazibekanga, wena ocambaleleyo uvikelekile usithi ngenhliziyoz yakho, 'Mina yimi, njalo kakho omunye ngaphandle kwami, angisoze ngaba ngumfelokazi kumbe ngifelwe ngabantwana.' **9** Kodwa lokhu kokubili kuzakwehlela ngokuphangisa, ngasuku lunye ukufelwa ngabantwana lobufelokazi. Lokhu kuzakwehlela phezu kwakho ngokugcweleyo, bungakhathelekile ubuthakathi bakho layo yonke imilingo yakho elamandla. **10** Wethembele ebubini bakho, njalo watsho wathi, 'Kakho ongibonayo.' Inhlakanipho yakho lolwazi lwakho kuyakukhohlisa lapho usithi kuwe, 'Mina yimi, njalo kakho omunye ngaphandle kwami.' **11** Incithakalo izakwehlela phezu kwakho, njalo awuyikwazi ukuyivikela ngemilingo. Umonakalo izakwehlela phezu kwakho, ongeke uwuvimbe ngenhlawulo, lengozi ongeke uyikhumbulele izakujuma. **12** Qhubeka-ke ngemilingo yakho, langobuthakathi bakho obunengi okusebenza kusukela ebantwaneni bakho. Mhlawumbe uzaphumelela, kumbe njalo wenze kube lokwesaba. **13** Zonke izeluleko owazitholayo zikucobile. Izazi zezinkanyezi kazisondele, labahloli bezinkanyezi ababika ngokuzakwenzakala inyanga ngenyanga. Kabakuhenge kulokhu okuzakwehlela. **14** Impela banjengamahlanga; umlilo uzabatshisa futhi bangeke bazihlenga emandleni amalangabi. Lapha akulamalahle okothiwa ngumuntu; lapha akulamliho wokotha. **15** Lokho yikho abangakwenzela khona labo owasebenza labo, uthengiselana labo kusukela ebuntwaneni. Omunye lomunye wabo uyaqhubeka ngesiphosiso sakhe; kakho ongakusindisa."

48 "Zwana lokhu, wena ndlu kajakhobe, lina elibizwa ngebizo lika-Israyeli elingabosendo lukajuda, lina elifunga ngoThixo, licele usizo kuNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli,

kodwa kungasingeqiniso loba ngokulunga, **2** lina elibizwa ngokuthi lingabasedolobheni elingcwele, lethembe uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uThixo uSomandla yilo ibizo lakhe: **3** Ngamemezela ngezinto zakuqala endulo, ngazitsho ngomlomo wami, ngenzenza zazakala. Ngenzenza ngokuphangisa, izahle zenzakala. **4** Ngoba ngangikwazi ukuthi ulenkani, imisipha yentamo yakho zinsimbi, ibunzi lakho lithusi. **5** Ngakho-ke ngakutsho kudala ngalezizinto, ngakwazisa ngazo zingakenzakali ukuze wena ungaze wathi, 'Izithombe zami yizo ezazenzayo; izithixo zami zezigodo lonkulunkulu wensimbi yibo abakumisayo.' **6** Usuzizwile lezizinto; zikhangele zonke. Awuyikuzivuma na? Kusukela khathesi ngizakutshela ngezinto ezintsha, izinto ezifihlakeleyo wena ongazaziyo. **7** Zidalwe khathesi nje, hatshi endulo; awuzange uzwe ngazo mandulo. Ngakho awungeke uthi, 'Yebo, kade ngizazi.' **8** Kawuzange uzwe kumbe uqedisise; kusukela endulo indlebe yakho ibingavulekanga. Ngikwazi kuhle ukuthi wena uyingozi; kwathiza ungumhlamuki kusukela ekuzalweni kwakho. **9** Ngenxa yebizo lami, ngiyaluphuzisa ulaka lwami; ngenxa yodumo lwami ngiyalubamba ukuba lungehleli kuwe, ukuze ngingakubhubbhisi. **10** Khangela, ngikulungisile lanxa kunganjengesiliva; ngikulhlole emlilweni wokuhlupheka. **11** Ngenxa yami, ngenxa yami, ngenza lokhu. Ngingavuma njani ukuba ibizo lami ligconwe na? Angiyikunika omunye udumo lwami." **12** "Ngilalela wena Jakhobe, Israyeli, engikubizileyo: Mina nginguyey; ngingowokuqala njalo ngingowokucina. **13** Isandla sami sabeka izisekele zomhlaba, isandla sami sokudla sendlala amazulu; lapho ngikubiza, kuyasukuma konke kanyekanye. **14** Buthanani ndawonye lonke lilalele: Yisiphi sezithombe esamemezela ngalezizinto ngaphambilini na? Umsekeli kaThixo okhethiweyo uzafeza inhloso yakhe yokuhlaselelana amaKhaladiya; ingalo yakhe izamelana lamaKhaladiya. **15** Mina, mina ngokwami, sengikhulumile; yebo ngimbizile. Ngizamletha, njalo uzaphumelela kuyo inhloso yakhe. **16** Sondelani kimi lizwe lokhu: Kusukela esimemezeleni sakuqala angikhulumelanga ensitha; lapho kusenzakala, mina ngikhona." Khathesi uThixo Wobukhosi ungithumile ngoMoya wakhe. **17** Nanku uThixo akutshoyo, uMhlengi wakho, oNgcwele ka-Israyeli: "Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wakho, okufundisa lokho okuhle kakhulu kuwe, ekutshengisa indlela okumele uhambe ngayo. **18** Aluba wawulalele imilayo yami nje, ukuthula kwakho kwakuzakuba njengomfula, ukulunga kwakho kunjengamagagasi olwandle. **19** Inzalo yakho yayizakuba ngengetshebetshebe, abantwabakho babe ngangezinhlamvu zalo ezingeke zibalwe; ibizo labo belingayikwesulwa kumbe lidilizwe phambi kwami." **20** Sukani eBhabhiloni, libalekele amaBhabhiloni! Bikani lokhu lihlabala umkhosi ngentoko njalo likumemezele. Kufikiseni emikhawulweni yomhlaba; lithi, "UTHIXO uyihlengile ineku yakhe uJakhobe." **21** Kabomanga ekubaholeni kwakhe bedabula ezinkangala; wabenzela amanzi agelezayo ephuma edwaleni, wadabula idwala amanzi ampompoza. **22** UThixo uthi, "Akukho ukuthula kwababi."

49 Ngilalelani lina zihlengi; zwanini lokhu lina zizwe ezikude: uThixo wangibiza ngingakazalwa; kusukela ekuzalweni kwami ubelutsho ibizo lami. **2** Wenza umlomo wami waba njengenkamba eloliweyo, wangifihla emthunzini wesandla sakhe. Wangenza ngaba ngumtshoko ooliweyo,

wangifihla emxhakeni wakhe wemitshoko. **3** Wathi kimi, “Wena Israyeli uyinceku yami, engizabonakalisa inkazimulo yami ngayo.” **4** Kodwa mina ngathi, “Mina ngisebenzele ize; amandla ami ngiwachithele ize lobala, ikanti okufanele mina kusesandleni sikaThixo, lomvuzo wami ukuNkulunkulu.” **5** Khathesi uThixo uthi, yena owangibumbayo esiwini ukuba ngibe yinceku yakhe ukuze ngibuyisele ujakhobe kuye lokuqoqela u-Israyeli kuye, ngoba ngiphakanyisiwe emehlweni kaThixo njalo uNkulunkulu wami ubengamandla ami **6** uthi: “Kuyinto encane kakhulu kuwe ukuba yinceku yami ukuze uvuselele izizwe zikajakhobe ubuyise labako-Israyeli engibalondolozileyo. Ngizakwenza ube yikukhanya kwabeZizwe, ukuze ufikise usindiso lwami emikhawulweni yomhlaba.” **7** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo, uMhlengi loNgcwele ka-Israyeli, utsho kuye oweyiswa, wenyanywa yizizwe, kuyo inceku yababusi: “Amakhosi azakubona asakume, amakhosana azakubona akhothame, ngenxa kaThixo othembekileyo, oNgcwele ka-Israyeli okukhethileyo.” **8** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: “Ngesikhathi esifaneleyo kimi ngizakuphendula, langosuku lwensindiso ngizakusiza. Ngizakulondoloza ngikwenze ube yisivumelwano sabantu, ukubuyisela ilizwe lokwaba kutsha amafa abo achithekayo, **9** uthi kwabathunjweyo, ‘Phumani,’ kulabo abasemnyameni uthi, ‘Khululekani!’ Bazadlala emaceleni emigwaqo bathole amadlelo kuwo wonke amaqqa alugwadule. **10** Kabayikulamba kumbe bome, lokutshisa kwasenkangala kumbe okwelanga kabayikukuzwa. Lowo obawzela isihawu uzabakhokhela abase emithonjeni yamazi. **11** Izintaba zami zonke ngizazenza zibe yizindlela, imigwaqo yami izaphakemela phezulu. **12** Khangelani, bazakuza bevela khatshana, abanye bevela enyakatho, abanye bevela entshonalanga labanye bevela emangweni wase-Asiwani.” **13** Hlabelelani ngentokozo lina mazulu; jabula lawe mhlaba; tshayani ingoma lina zintaba. Ngoba uThixo uyabaduduzo abantu bakhe njalo uzakuba lesihawu kwabahluphekayo bakhe. **14** Kodwa iZiyoni yathi, “UThixo ungilahle, uThixo usengikhohliwe.” **15** “Owesifazane angamkhohlwa umntanake omunyayo na, angabi lesihelo emntwaneni amzelelo na? Lanxa engamkhohlwa, mina angiyikukhohlwal!” **16** Khangela, sengikudwebe ezintendeni zezandla zami; imiduli yakho ihlezi iphambi kwami. **17** Amadodana akho aphanga emuva, lalabo abakuchithayo bayasuka kuwe. **18** Phakamisa amehlo akho ukhangele emaceleni wonke, wonke amadodana akho ayaqoqana eze kuye. UThixo uthi, “Ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngiphila, bonke uzabagqiza njengezigqizo, ucece ngabo njengomlobokazi. **19** Lanxa nje wadilizwa waba lunxiwa lelizwe lakho lachithwa, khathesi uzakuba mncane kakhulu ebantwini bakho; lalabo abakuchithayo bazakuba khatshana. **20** Abantwana abazalwa ngesikhathi sokufelwa kwakho bazakutsho lawe usizwa bathi, ‘Indawo le incinyane kakhulu kithi; siphe enye njalo indawo yokuhlala.’ **21** Lapho-ke uzakuthi enhliziyweni yakho, ‘Ngubani owangizalela laba na? Ngafelwa njalo ngaba njengongazalanga; ngaxotshwa elizweni, ngalahlwa. Laba bondliwa ngubani? Mina ngangisele ngedwa, kodwa laba-ke, bavele ngaphi?’” **22** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: “Khangela, ngizaqhweba abeZizwe. Ngizaphakamisela uphawu lwami ebantwini; bazaletsa amadodana akho bewagonile, amadodakazi akho bewathwele ngamahlombe abo. **23** Amakhosi azakuba ngoyihlo bokukukhulisa, amakhosikazi awo abe ngonyoko bokukondla. Bazakhothama phambi kwakho ubuso babo buphansi,

emhlabathini, bazakhotha uthuli ezinyaweni zakho. Lapho-ke uzakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo; labo abangithembayo abayikudaniswa.” **24** Amabutho angemukwa impango na, kumbe abathunjweyo bahlengwe kwabesabekayo na? **25** Kodwa nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: “Yebo, abathunjweyo bazathathwa emabuthweni lempango izahluthunwa futhi kwabesabekayo, ngoba ngizamelana lalabo abamelana lawe, abantwabakho ngizabahlenga. **26** Ngizakwenza abancindezeli bakho badle inyama yemizimba yabo; bazadakwa ngelabo igazi njengewayini. Lapho-ke izizwe zonke zizakwazi ukuthi mina Thixo, nginguMsindisi wakho, uMhlengi wakho, uMnimimandla kaJakhobe.”

50 Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: “Ingaphi incwadi kanyoko yokuchitha umtshado engamxotsha ngayo na? Kumbe nguphi kwababelezikwelede zami engamthengisayo na? Lathengiswa ngenxa yezono zenu, lonyoko waliwa ngenxa yokona kwenu. **2** Ekufikeni kwami, kungani kwakungelamuntu na? Ekubizeni kwami, kungani kungekho muntu owasabelayo na? Ingalo yami yayimfitshane kakhulu ukuba ilihlengi na? Angilamandla okulikhulula na? Ngokukhuza nje kuphela, ngiyalomisa ulwandle, ngiphendule imifula ibe yinkangala; inhlanzi zayo zibole ngenxa yokuswela amanzi, zife ngenxa yokoma. **3** Ngembathisa umkhathi ngomnyama. Ngenze amasaka abe yisembeso sawo.” **4** UThixo wobukhosi unginike ulimi olufundisiweyo ukuba ngazi ilizwi lokuqinisa abadiniweyo. Uyangivusa ekuseni kwansukuzonke, avuse indlebe yami ukuba ilalele njengofundiswayo. **5** UThixo Wobukhosi uvule indlebe zami, njalo angizange ngibe ngohlamukayo; angibuyelanga emuva. **6** Nganikela umhlana wami kulabo ababengitshaya, lezihlathi zami kulabo abacutha indevu zami; ubuso bami angibufihlanga ekugconweni lekukhazulelweni. **7** Ngenxa yokuthi uThixo Wobukhosi uyangisiza angiyikuyangeka. Ngakho-ke sengiqinise ubuso bami babanjengelitshe lomlilo; njalo ngiyazi ukuthi angiyikuyangeka. **8** Lowo ongimelayo useduzane. Ngubani-ke ongangethesa amacala? Kasiqondane. Ngubani ongimangalelayo na? Kangiqonde! **9** NguThixo Wobukhosi ongisizayo. Ngubani lowo ongathi ngilecala na? Bonke bazaguga njengesigqoko, inondo izabadla. **10** Ngubani phakathi kwenu omesabayo uThixo elalela ilizwi lenceku yakhe na? Lowo ohamba emnyameni, ongelakho ukukhanya, kathembe ebizweni likaThixo abambebele kuThixo wakhe. **11** Kodwa khathesi, lonke lina eliphemba imililo lizenzele amalangabi okukhanyisa, sukani, lihambe ekukhanyeni kwemililo yenu, lokwezibane elizikhanyisileyo. Elizakwamukela esandleni sami yilokhu: Lizalala phansi lisebuhlungwini.

51 “Lalalani kimi lina elilandela ukulunga lidinga loThixo: Khangelani edwaleni elacezulwa kulo lasegodini lamatshe elambiwa kulo; **2** khangelani ku-Abrahama, uyihlo, lakuSara owalizalayo. Ekumbizeni kwami wayemunye, ngambusisa ngamandisa. **3** Ngeqiniso uThixo uzaduduzo iZiyoni abe lesihawu kuwo wonke amanxiwa alo; uzakwenza izinkangala zalo zibe njenge-Edeni, amazwe alo alugwadule afane lesivande sikaThixo. Ukuthaba lentokozo kuzafunyanwa kulo, kanye lokubonga lelizwi lokuhlabela. **4** Lalalani kimi, bantu bami; ungizwe lawe sizwe sami: Kuzaphuma umthetho uvela kimi; ukulunga kwami kuzakuba yikukhanya

ezizweni. **5** Ukulunga kwami kusondela ngokuphangisa, insindiso yami iyeza, ingalo yami izaletsha ukulunga ezizweni. Izihlengi zizakhangela kimi, zilinde zithembe amandla ami. **6** Phakamiselani amehlo enu phezulu emazulwini, likhangele lasemhlabeni phansi; amazulu azanyamalala njengentuthu; umhlaba uzagaba njengesigqoko abakhe kuwo bafe njengempukane. Kodwa insindiso yami izakuba khona kuze kube nininini, ukulunga kwami akuyikuphela. **7** Ngizwani lina elikwaziyo okulungileyo lina bantu abagcina umthetho wami ezinhliziyweni zenu: Lingakwesabi ukugconwa ngabantu, kumbe lethuswe yizithuko zabo. **8** Ngoba inondo izabandla njengesigqoko; impethu ibadle njengewulu. Kodwa ukulunga kwami kuzakuba khona kuze kube nininini; lensindiso yami ikhona kuzizukulwane zonke.” **9** Vuka, vuka, wena ngalo kaThixo; uzizigokise ngamandla akho! Vuka njengasezinsukwini zendulo, lanjengabazizukulwane zakudala. Kayisuye yini owaquma uRahabi waba yiziqu, wagaza lesilo lesiyana na? **10** Kawusuye yini owomisa ulwandle, amanzi atshona kakhulu, wenza umgwaqo ezinzikini zolwandle ukuze abahlengiweyo bachaphe na? **11** Labahlengiweyo bakaThixo bazabuyela. Bazangena eZiyoni behlabelela, intokozo engapheliyo izakuba ngumqhele emakhanda abo. Bazakuba lokuthula lenjabulo, usizi lokububula kuzaphela. **12** “Mina, mina uqobo, nginguye oliduduzayo. Ungubani wena ukuba wesabe abantu abafayo, amadodana abantu, abutshani nje, **13** uze ukhohlwe uThixo, uMenzi wakho, owendlala amazulu wabeka lezisekelo zomhlaba, ukuthi uhlale ngokwesaba okungapheliyo nsuku zonke ngenxa yolaka lomncindezeli, ohlose ukuchitha na? Ngoba lungaphi na ulaka lomncindezeli? **14** Izibotshwa ezitshotshobeleyo zizakhululwa masinyazana, aziyikufela emajele azo, kumbe ziswele ukudla. **15** Ngoba mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wakho, ophella ulwandle ukuze amagagasi alo ahlokomle, ibizo lakhe nguThixo uSomandla. **16** Ngifake amazwi ami emlonyeni wakho ngakwembesa ngomthunzi wesandla sami, mina engabeka amazulu endaweni yawo, ngabeka izisekelo zomhlaba, njalo othi kuZiyoni, ‘Lina lingabantu bami.’” **17** Vuka, vuka! Phakama wena Jerusalema, wena onathe enkezeweni esandleni sikaThixo inkezo yolaka lwakhe, wena oyikhoze wafika enzeceni zayo; inkezo eyenza amadoda adiyazele. **18** Kuwo wonke amadodana eliwazeleyo, kayikho eyayingalikhokhela; kuwo wonke amadodana elawondlayo, kayikho eyayingalibamba ngesandla. **19** Lezizingozi ezimbili zikwehlele; ngubani ongakududuza na? Incithakalo lokubhujiswa, indlala lenkamba, ngubani ongakududuza na? **20** Amadodana akho asephele amandla, aselala ezihlokweni zemigwaqo yonke njengebhalabhala elibanjwe ngumambule. Agcwele ulaka lukaThixo lokukhuza kukaNkulunkulu wakho. **21** Ngakho-ke zwana lokhu wena ohluphekayo, lodakisiweyo kodwa kungasingewayini. **22** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi bakho, uNkulunkulu wakho okwela abantu bakhe: “Khangela, sengiyisusile esandleni sakho inkezo ekwenza udiyazele; leyonkezo engeyolaka lwami, awuyikunatha ngayo futhi. **23** Ngizayibeka ezandleni zabakuhluphayo, abathi kuwe, ‘Cambalala ukuze sihambe phezulu kwakho.’ Wena-ke wenza umhlane wakho waba njengenhlabathi, lanjengomgwaqo okungahanjwa kuwo.”

52 Vuka, vuka, wena Ziyoni, uzembese ngamandla! Gqoka izigqoko zakho zenkazimulo, wena Jerusalema, muzi ongwele. Ongasokanga longcolileyo akayikungena kuwe futhi. **2** Thintitha uthuli lwakho; sukuma, uhlale ebukhosini, wena

Jerusalema. Zikhulule izibopho ezisentanyeni yakho, wena Ndodakazi ethunjweyo yaseZiyoni. **3** Ngoba nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: “Lathengiswa ngeze, njalo lizahlengwa kungekho mali.” **4** Ngoba nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: “Ekuqaleni abantu bami baya eGibhithe besiyahlala khona; muva i-Asiriya yabancindezela. **5** Khathesi kuyini engilakho lapha?” kubuza uThixo. “Ngoba abantu bami bathunjwa kungekho sizatho, njalo labo abababusayo bayakloloda,” kutsho uThixo. “Ilanga lonke ibizo lami lihlanjaza wokuphela. **6** Ngakho-ke abantu bami bazalazi ibizo lami, ngakho-ke ngalolosuku bazakwazi ukuthi yimi engamemezela lokho ngaphambilini. Yebo, yimi.” **7** Yeka ubuhle phezu kwezintaba, bezinyawo zalabo abaletha izindaba ezinhle, abamemezela ukuthula, abaletha izindaba ezinhle, abamemezela insindiso, abathi kulo iZiyoni, “UNkulunkulu wakho uyabusala!” **8** Lalela! Abalindi bakho baphakamisa amazwi abo, bonke bahlaba umkhosi ngokuthokoza. Lapho uThixo ebuyela eZiyoni bazayibona iZiyoni ngamheho abo. **9** Hlokomani ndawonye ngezingoma zokuthokoza, lina manxiwa aseJerusalema, ngoba uThixo usebaduduzile abantu bakhe, uselihlengile iJerusalema. **10** UThixo uzaveza ingalo yakhe engcwele phambi kwezizwe zonke, njalo yonke imikhawulo yomhlaba izabona insindiso kaNkulunkulu wethu. **11** Sukani, sukani, phumani lapho! Lingathinti lutho olungcolileyo! Phumani kulo libe ngabahlambulukileyo, lina eliphatha izitsha zikaThixo. **12** Kodwa kaliyikusuka ngokuphangisa, kumbe libaleka; ngoba uThixo uzahamba phambi kwenu, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uzakuba ngumvikeli wenu emva kwenu. **13** Khangelani, inceku yami izakwenza ngokuhlakanipha, izaphakanyiswa ikhwezwe, iphiwe lodumo olukhulu. **14** Njengoba babebanengi abanengwayo yiyo, ubuso bayo babulimele okudlula okwabantu bonke, lesimo sayo sonakele singase njengesomuntu, **15** ngakho-ke izachela izizwe ezinengi, amakhosi azavala imilomo yawo ngenxa yayo. Ngoba lokho abangakushelwanga bazakubona, labangakuzwanga, bazakuqedisisa.

53 Ngubani olikholiweyo ilizwi lethu, njalo amandla kaThixo abonakaliswe kubani na? **2** Wakhula phambi kwakhe njengehlumela, lanjengempande emhlabathini owomileyo. Wayengelabuhle lobukhosi ukuba asikhange, kungelalutho esimeni sakhe olungenza simfuno. **3** Weyiswa njalo waliwa ngabantu, umuntu wezinsizi, njalo ekujayeke ukuhlupheka. Lowo abantu abangafuniyo ukukhangelana laye weyiswa, asimhloniphanga. **4** Ngempela wathatha inhlungu zethu wathwala insizi zethu, kodwa thina sathi utshaywe nguNkulunkulu, ebethwe nguye, njalo uhlutshiwe. **5** Kodwa wagwazwa ngenxa yezono zethu, wachobozwa ngenxa yokona kwethu, ukuhlutshwa kwakhe kwasilethela ukuthula, njalo sasiliswa ngamanxeba akhe. **6** Thina sonke silahlakile njengezimvu, munye ngamunye wethu uphambukele endleleni yakhe; njalo uThixo ubeke phezu kwakhe ukona kwethu sonke. **7** Wancindezelwa wahlutshwa, kodwa kawuvulanga umlomo wakhe; wakhokhelwa ukuyabulawa njengewundlu, njalo njengemvu ithule phambi komgundi wayo, laye kawuvulanga umlomo wakhe. **8** Ngokuncindezelwa langokwahlulela wathathwa. Ngubani ongakhuluma ngesizukulwane sakhe na? Ngoba wasuswa elizweni labaphilayo; watshaywa ngenxa yeziphambeko zabantu bami. **9** Wabelwa ingcwaba kanye lababi, kanye labanothileyo ekufeni kwakhe, lanxa kungeladlakela alwenzayo njalo kungekho inkohliso emlonyeni

wakhe. **10** Ikanti kwakuyintando kaThixo ukumchoboza lokumenza ahlupheke, njalo lanxa uThixo esenza ukuphila kwakhe umnikelo wecala, uzabona inzalo yakhe, andise insuku zokuphila kwakhe, lentando kaThixo izaphumelela ngaye. **11** Emva kokuhlupheka komoya wakhe, uzabona ukukhanya kokuphila asuthiseke; ngokwazi kwayo inceku yami elungileyo izalungisa abanengi, ithwale izono zabo. **12** Ngakho-ke ngizamnika isabelo phakathi kwabakhulu, njalo uzakwabelana impango labalamandla ngoba wanikela ukuphila kwakhe ekufeni, wabalwa ndawonye lezoni; ngoba wathwala izono zabanengi, wancengela izoni.

54 “Hlabela wena mfazi oyinyumba, wena ongazange uzale umntwana; susa ingoma, umemeze ngentokozo, wena ongakaze uhelelwe ngoba abantwana bomfazi olahliweyo banengi kulabalowo olendoda,” kutsho uThixo. **2** Qhelisa indawo yethente lakho, yelula amakhetheni ethente lakho abe banzi, ungathikazi, yelula izintambo zakho, uqinise izikhonkwane zakho. **3** Ngoba uzazhela usiya kwesokudla lesenxele; inzalo yakho izazixotsha izizwe yakhe emadolobheni azo adilikayo. **4** “Ungesabi, ngoba awuyikwehlelwa luhlazo. Ungesabi ukuyangeka, ngoba awuyikudumazeka. Uzalikhohlwa ihlazo lasebutsheni bakho, ungakhumbuli lesithuko sobufelokazi bakho. **5** Ngoba uMenzi wakho engumyeni wakho, uThixo uSomandla libizo lakhe oNgcwele ka-Israyeli wenguMhlengi wakho; ubizwa ngokuthi nguNkulunkulu womhlaba wonke. **6** UThixo uzakubiza njengowesifazane olahliweyo, odabukileyo emoyeni, owesifazane owenda esesemncane, waphanga waliwa,” kutsho uNkulunkulu wakho. **7** “Ngakutshiya okomzuzwana omncane, kodwa ngesihawu esikhulu ngizakubuyisa. **8** Ngomfutho wokuthukuthela, ngakufihlela ubuso bami okomzuzwana, kodwa ngothando olungapheliyo, ngizakuba lesihawu kuwe,” kutsho uThixo uMhlengi wakho. **9** “Kimi lokhu kunjengasezinsukwini zikaNowa, lapho engafunga khona ngathi amanzi kaNowa kawayikugcwala umhlaba futhi. Ngakho khathesi sengifungile ngathi angiyikukuthukuthela futhi; angiyikukusola njalo. **10** Lanxa izintaba zinganyikinyiswa, lamaqaqa asuswe, kodwa uthando lwami olungapheliyo kuwe kaluyikunyikinyiswa, kumbe isivumelwano sami sokuthula sisuswe,” kutsho uThixo olesihawu kuwe. **11** Wena dolobho elihluphekileyo, elitshaywa yiziphelo alaze ladudzwa, ngizakwaka ngamatshe amahle, izisekelo zakho ngizakhe ngamasafire. **12** Izakhiwo zakho zokuvikela ngizazenza ngamarubhi, amasango akho ngiwenze ngamatshe akhazimulayo, yonke imithangala yakho ngiyenze ngamatshe aligugu. **13** Wonke amadodana akho azafundiswa nguThixo, njalo kuzakuba kukhulu ukuthula kwabantwana bakho. **14** Uzaqiniswa ngokulungela: uchuku luzakuba khatshana lawe, awuyikwesaba lutho. Ukwesaba kuzasuselwa khatshana, akuyikusondela phansi kwakho. **15** Nxa ekhona ozakuhlasele, kobe kungayisimi; loba ngubani okuhlaseleyo uzazinikela kuwe. **16** “Khangela, yimi engadala umkhandi wensimbi ovuthela amalahlabe abe lilangabi, akhande isikhali esilungele umsebenzi waso. Njalo yimi engadala umchithi ukuba enze umonakalo; **17** akulasikhali esikhandelwe wena esizaphumelela, njalo bonke abakumangalelayo uzabelhula. Leli yilifa lezincedu zikaThixo, lokhu yikho ukwenaniswa kwazo yimi,” kutsho uThixo.

55 “Wozani, lonke lina abomileyo, wozani emanzini, lani lina elingelamali, wozani, lithenge, lidle! Wozani,

thengani iwayini lochago ingekho imali lendleke. **2** Lichithelani imali kokungasikho kudla, lokusebenza kwenu kulokho okungasuthisiyo na? Lalelani, lalelani kimi, lidle okuhle, umoya wenu uzathokoziswa yizibiliboco. **3** Lalelani, lize kimi; lingilalele ukuze umphefumulo wenu uphile. Ngizakwenza isivumelwano esingapheliyo lani, uthando lwami oluqotho olwathenjiswa uDavida. **4** Khangelani, ngimenze waba ngufakazi ebantwini, umkhokheli lomlawuli wabantu. **5** Ngeqiniso libabiza izizwe elingazaziyo, lezizwe ezingalaziyo zizagijimela kini, ngenxa kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, oNgcwele ka-Israyeli, ngoba uselinike inkazimulo.” **6** Mdingeni uThixo esatholalaka, mbizeni eseseduzane. **7** Omubi kayekele indlela yakhe loxhwalileyo alahle imicabango yakhe. Kaphendukele kuThixo, uzakuba lesihawu kuye, lakuNkulunkulu wethu ngoba uzamthethelela ngesihle. **8** “Ngoba imicabango yami kayisiyo eyentu, lezindlela zenu kayisiko ezami,” kutsho uThixo. **9** “Njengomkhathi uphakeme kulomhlaba, ngokunjalo izindlela zami ziphakeme kulezindlela zenu, lemicabango yami iphakeme kulemicabango yenu. **10** Njengoba izulu longqwaqwane kusehla kuvela phezu, kungaphindi kubuyele khonale kungathambisanga umhlaba kuwenze ununlike ube lamahlumela, ukuze unike umhlanyeli inhlanyelo, lodlayo umnike ukudla, **11** linjalo lelizwi lami eliphuma emlonyeni wami: kaliyikubuya kimi lize, kodwa lifafeza engikufunayo liphumelelise lokho engilithume khona. **12** Lina lizaphuma ngokuthokoza likhokhelwe ngokuthula; izintaba lamaqaqa kuzasusa ingoma phambi kwenu, njalo zonke izihlahla zeganga zizaqakeza izandla zazo. **13** Endaweni yesihlahla sameva kuzamila iphayini, lendaweni yokhula kuzamila isihlahla somithili. Lokhu kuzakwenza uThixo adunyiswe, kube yisibonakaliso esingapheliyo, esingayikudilizwa.”

56 Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: “Londoloza ukulunga wenze okuqondileyo, ngoba ukusindisa kwami kuseduze lokulunga kwami kuzabonakaliswa masinyane. **2** Ubusisiwe umuntu okwenzayo lokhu, umuntu obambelela kukho, ogcina iSabatha engalingcolisi, athibe isandla sakhe ekwenzeni okubi.” **3** Akungabi lowezizweni okuThixo othi, “Ngeqiniso uThixo uzangehlukana labantu bakhe.” Njalo lomthenwa kangavunyelwa ukusola athi, “Mina ngiyisihlahla esomileyo.” **4** Ngoba uThixo uthi: “Abathenwa abagcina amaSabatha ami bakhethe okungithokozisayo, babambelele kusivumelwano sami, **5** ngizabanika, phakathi kwethempeli lami lemiduli yalo, isikhumbuzo lebizo elingcono kulamadodana lamadodakazi. Ngizabanika ibizo elingapheliyo. Elingayikukhohlakala. **6** Labezizwe abazinikela kuThixo ukuba bamkhonze, bathande ibizo likaThixo, njalo bamkhonze, bonke abagcina iSabatha bengalingcolisi, babambelele kusivumelwano sami, **7** laba ngizabaletha entabeni yami engcwele, ngibaphe intokozo endlini yami yokuhulekela. Iminikelo yabo yokutshiswa, lemihlatshelo, kuzakwamukelwa e-alithareni lami; ngoba indlu yami izithaziwa yindlu yokuhuleka yezizwe zonke.” **8** UThixo Wobukhosi, yena oqoqa abaxotshwayo elizweni abako-Israyeli uthi: “Ngizaqoqela abanye kubo futhi ngaphandle kwalabo abavele sebeqoqiwe.” **9** Wozani lonke lina zilo zeganga; wozani lidle, lonke lina zilo zamagusu! **10** Abalindi bako-Israyeli bayiziphofu, bonke kabazi lutho; bonke bayimigaxa, izinja ezingakhonkotho; balala nje baphuphe; bathanda ukulala. **11** Bayizinja ezihlala zilomdlozela wokufuna ukudla, azisuthi. Bangabelusi abangaqedisisiyo, bonke bazazenzela

abakufunayo, lowo lalowo udinga inzuzo yakhe. **12** Lowo lalowo uthi, “Wozani, ngilethe iwayini. Kasinatheni utshwala sibusuthe. Kusasa kuzafana lanamuhla, loba kube ngcono kakhulu.”

57 Abalungileyo bayabhubha, kodwa kakho ocabanga ngakho enhliziyweni yakhe. Abantu abazinikele ekukhonzeni bayasuswa, njalo kakho okuzwisayo ukuthi abalungileyo basuswa ukuba baphetshiswe ebubini. **2** Labo abahamba ngokulunga bayangena ekuthuleni; bathola ukuphumula belele ekufeni. **3** “Kodwa lina wozani lapha lina, madodana esanusekazi lina nzalo yezifebe leziphingi! **4** Ngubani elimkholodelayo na? Ngubani elimnemelayo limkhuphela inlimi zenu? Kalisinzalo yabahlamuki, labantwana babaqamba amanga na? **5** Liyatshiseka ngenkanuko ezihlahleni zom’Okhi, langaphansi kwezihlahla zonke eziyizithingithingi; lenza umhlatshe ngabantwabenu emakhelekehleni langaphansi kwamawa. **6** Izithombe eziphakathi kwamatshe abutshelazi emakhelekehleni yiso isabelo senu, yizo, yizo eziyisabelo senu. Yebo, kuzo lithele iminikelo yokunathwayo lanikela leminikelo yamabele. Ngenxa yalezizinto ngingaba lowelo na? **7** Wenze umbheda wakho phezu koqaqa oluphakemeyo, wakhwela wayanikela imihlatshelo yakho khona. **8** Ngemva kwezivalo zakho langemva kwezinsika zomnyango wakho ubeke izifanekiso zakho zobuhedeni. Wathi ungilahla wembula umbheda wakho, wakhwela kuwo wawuvula waba banzi, wawumelana labo othanda imibheda yabo, wakhangele ubunqunu babo. **9** Uye kuMoleki ulamafutha e-oliva, wandisa lamakha akho. Uthume izithunywa zakho khatshana wangena ethuneni lona ngokwalo! (Sheol h7585) **10** Wadiniswa yizindlela zakho zonke, kodwa wawungeke uthi, ‘Akusizi ngalutho.’ Wathola ukuvuselelwa kwamandla akho. Ngakho kawuphelanga amandla. **11** Ngubani omesabe kangaka waze waba lamanga kimi, njalo kawaze wangikhumbula loba ukucabanga lokhu enhliziyweni yakho na? Akusingenxa yokuthi sengathula okwesikhathi eside kakhulu waze wangangesabi na? **12** Ukulunga kwakho lemisebenzi yakho ngizakuveza obala, njalo akuyikukusiza ngalutho. **13** Lapho usukhalela ukusizwa, iqoqo lezithombe zakho kalikuhlenge. Umoya uzazithatha zonke, lokuphephetha nje kuziphephulele khatshana. Kodwa umuntu owenza mina isiphephelo sakhe ilizwe lizakuba yilifa lakhe lentaba yami engcwele ibe ngeyakhe.” **14** Njalo kuzathiwa: “Candani, candani, lungisani indlela! Susani izikhubekiso endleleni yabantu bami.” **15** Ngoba ophakemeyo ongaPhezulu, yena ophila kokuphela, obizo lakhe lingcwele uthi: “Ngihlala endaweni ephakemeyo lengcwele, kodwa laye ozisolayo lothobekileyo emoyeni, ukuba kuvuselelwe umoya wabathobekileyo, kuvuselelwe lezinhliziyo zabazisolayo. **16** Angiyikulisola kokuphela kumbe ngihlale ngithukuthele, ngoba umoya womuntu ungaphela phambi kwami, umoya womuntu engawudalayo. **17** Ngathukutheliswa yibuhwaba bakhe obubi; ngamjezisa, ngafihla ubuso bami ngithukuthele, kodwa waqhubeka ngezindlela zakhe zenkani. **18** Izindlela zakhe sengizibonile, kodwa ngizamsilisa. Ngizamkhokhela, ngimduduze futhi, **19** ngenze ukubonga ezindebeni zabalilayo ko-Israyeli. Ukuthula, ukuthula kwabakhatshana labaseduze,” kutsho uThixo. “Ngizabasilisa.” **20** Kodwa ababi banjengolwandle olugubhazelayo, olungeke luphumule, amagagasi alo ephosa

udaka lengcekeza phezulu. **21** “Akukho kuthula kwababi,” kutsho uNkulunkulu wami.

58 “Memeza kakhulu, ungathuli. Phakamisa ilizwi lakho njengecilongo. Tshela abantu bami ngokuhlumuka kwabo, lendlu kaJakhobe uyitshelile ngezono zabo. **2** Ngoba usuku ngosuku bayangidinga; bafuna ukwazi izindlela zami, sengathi bayisizwe esenza okulungileyo esingalahlanga imilayo kaNkulunkulu waso. Bacela izinqumo ezilungileyo kimi bafune ukuthi uNkulunkulu asondele kubo. **3** Bathi, ‘Kungani sizilile, kodwa wena wangakuboni na? Kungani sizithobile kodwa wangakunaki na?’ Ikanti ngosuku lokuzila kwenu lenza elikuthandayo, lincindezele lezisebenzi zenu zonke. **4** Ukuzila kwenu kucina ngengxabano lokulwa, langokutshayana kubi ngenqindi. Alingeke lizile njengelikwenzayo lamhla lithembe ukuthi ilizwi lenu lizawakala phezulu. **5** Lokhu yikho ukuzila engikukhethileyo na, ukuthi umuntu azithobe okosuku olulodwa nje? Yikuthi umuntu akhothamise ikhanda lakhe njengomhlanga nje, lokulala esakeni lemlotheni na? Lokho yikho elithi yikuzila, usuku olwamukelekayo kuThixo na? **6** Lokhu akusikho yini ukuzila engikukhethileyo: ukukhulula izibopho zokungalenzi lokuthukulula imichilo yejogwe, kukhululwe abancindezelweyo, kwepulwe amajogwe wonke na? **7** Akusikwabela abalambayo ukudla kwakho lokunika umnyanga ongumhambuma indawo yokuhlala, lapho ubona abanqunu ubagqokise, lokungafulatheli izihlobo zakho zegazi na? **8** Lapho-ke ukukhanya kwakho kuzavela njengokusa, lokusila kwakho kuzabonakala masinyane, kuthi ukulunga kwakho kuhambe phambi kwakho, inkazimulo kaThixo izakuba yisivikelo ngemva kwakho. **9** Lapho-ke uzabiza, uThixo asabele; uzacela usizo, yena uzakuthi: Ngilapha. Nxa ungalahla ijogwe lokuncindezela lokukhomba ngomunwe kanye lezinkulomo ezimbi; **10** njalo nxa unika abalambayo ukudla kwakho, wanelise lenswelo zabancindezelweyo, ukukhanya kwakho kuzavela emnyameni, ubusuku bakho buzakuba njengemini. **11** UThixo uzakukhokhela kokuphela; uzakwanelisa inswelo zakho elizweni elitshiswa lilanga, aqinise amathambo akho. Uzakuba njengesivande esithelezela kuhle, lanjengomthombo olamanzi angacitshiyi. **12** Abantu bakho bazawavusa amanxiwa amadala, bavuse lezisekelo zakudala. Uzabizwa ngokuthi uMakhi Wemiduli Eyadilikayo, loMvuseleli wemiGwaqo leMizi. **13** Nxa ugcina inyawo zakho zingephuli iSabatha, njalo ungenzi intando yakho ngosuku lwami olungcwele, nxa iSabatha ulibiza ngokuthi yintokozo njalo usuku lukaThixo olungcwele usithi lulodumo, njalo nxa uluhluloniha ngokungahambi ngendlela yakho, langokungenzi intando yakho loba ukukhuluma amazwi ayize, **14** lapho-ke uzathola intokozo kuThixo, njalo ngizakukhweza emiqolweni yelizwe, ngikwenze udle ilifa likayihlo uJakhobe.” Umlomo kaThixo usukhulumile.

59 Ngeqiniso ingalo kaThixo kayimfitshane ukuba isindise, lendlebe yakhe kayibuthundo ukuba izwe. **2** Kodwa ububi benu sebuhlukanise loNkulunkulu wenu; lezono zenu sezisithe ubuso bakhe kini ukuze angezwa. **3** Ngoba izandla zenu zingcolisiwe ngegazi, leminwe yenu ingcolisiwe yibubi. Izindebe zenu zikhulume amanga lolimi lwenu luhlebeza izinto ezimbi. **4** Kakho odinga ukwahlulela okuhle, kakho okhuluma ecaleni lakhe ngobuqotho. Bathembe ukuphika ngeze bekhuluma amanga; bemula uluphlo, bazale ububi. **5** Bachamisela amaqanda ezinhlanguwana, beluke

ubulembu besayobe. Langabe ngubani odla amaqanda azo uzakufa, njalo nxa elinye lawo lichanyiselwe kuphuma ibululu. **6** Ubulembu babo kabusizi ekugqokeni; abangeke bazimboze ngabakwenzayo. Izenzo zabo yizenzo ezimbi, izenzo zodlakela zisezandleni zabo. **7** Inyawo zabo zigijimela ukona; bayaphangisa ukuchitha igazi elimsulwa. Imicabango yabo yimicabango emibi; ukuchitha lokubhubhisa kubonakalisa izindlela zabo. **8** Indlela yokuthula kabayazi; akukho kulunga ezindleleni zabo. Sebenze zaba yimigwaqo ezombelezayo, kakho ohamba ngazo ozakwazi ukuthula. **9** Ngakho-ke ukwahlulela okuhle kukhatshana lathi, lokulunga akufiki kithi. Sidinga ukukhanya, kodwa kulobumnyama kuphela; sidinga ukucacimula, kodwa sihamba emathunzini amnyama. **10** Njengeziphofu siphumputha silandela umduli, siphumputha indlela yethu njengabantu abangelamehlo. Sikhubeka emini ingathi kukusihlwa; kwabalamandla, sinjengabafileyo. **11** Sonke siyahwabha njengamabehe, sibubale ngosizi njengamajuba. Sidinga ukwahlulela okuhle, kodwa kasikutholi; sidinga ukuhlengwa, kodwa kukhatshana. **12** Ngoba ukona kwethu kuwe kunengi, lezono zethu zifakaza okubi ngathi. Ukona kwethu kuhlezi kulathi; siyabuvuma ububi bethu, **13** ukuhlamuka lokungathembeki kuThixo, ukufalathela uNkulunkulu wethu, ukukhuthaza uncindezelo lomvukela, ukukhuluma amanga esiwacabange ngezinhliziyi zethu. **14** Ngakho ukwahlulela okuhle kufuqelwa emuva, ukulunga kume khatshana; iqiniso likhubekile ezindleleni, ubuqotho bungeke bungene. **15** Iqiniso kalitholwa ndawo; oxwaya ububi uyahlaselwa. UThixo kwahangela wadumisa yikuswelakala kokwahlulela okuhle. **16** Wabona ukuthi kwakungelamuntu, wanengwa yikuthi kakho owayengalamula; ngakho waletsa ukukhululwa ngamandla akhe, ukulunga kwakhe kwamqinisa. **17** Wagqoka ukulunga njengesivikelo sakhe sasesifubeni, lengowane yensindiso ekhanda lakhe; wagqoka izembatho zokuphindisela njalo wazigoqela ngokutshiseka njengokuzigoqela ngengubo. **18** Uzaphindisela ulaka ezitheni zakhe, kusiya ngalokho abakwenzileyo; lokujeziswa kwabamelana laye; izihlenge uzaziphindisela ngemfanelo yazo. **19** Kusukela entshonalanga abantu bazalesaba ibizo likaThixo, njalo kusukela ekuphumeni kwelanga bazadumisa ubukhosi bakhe. Ngoba uzafika njengesikhukhula esifutheleneyo esifuqwa ngumoya kaThixo. **20** “Umhlangi uzafika eZiyoni, kwabakajakhobe abavuma izono zabo,” kutsho uThixo. **21** “Mina lesi yiso isivumelwano sami labo,” kutsho uThixo. “Umoya wami kuwe, lamazwi ami engiwabeke emlonyeni wakho akuyikusuka emlonyeni wakho, kumbe emlonyeni yabantwabakho, loba emlonyeni yezizukulwane zabo kusukela ngalesisikhathi kuze kube nininini,” kutsho uThixo.

60 “Vuka, khazimula, ngoba ukukhanya kwakho sekufikile, lenkazimulo kaThixo iyavela phezu kwakho. **2** Khangela, umnyama wembese umhlaba, umnyama omkhulu usibekele abantu. Kodwa uThixo uyakhanya phezu kwakho lenkazimulo yakhe iyabonakala phezu kwakho. **3** Izizwe zizakuba ekukhanyeni kwakho, lamakhosi alande ukuqhama kokusa kwakho. **4** Phakamisa amehlo akho ukhangele amacele akho wonke: bonke babuthana beze kuwe; amadodana akho avela khatshana, lamadodakazi akho athwelwe ngengalo. **5** Ngakho uzakhangela ubothenke ngokujabula, inhliziyo yakho izatshaya ikhukhumale ngenxa yentokozo; inotho

yasolwandle izaletswa kuwe, lenotho yezizwe izakuba kuwe. **6** Imihlambi yamakamela izagcwala elizweni lakho, amakamela asakhulayo aseMidiyani lase-Efa. Wonke avela eShebha azakuba ethwele igolide lempepha ememezela udumo lukaThixo. **7** Yonke imihlambi yaseKhedari izabuthelwa kuwe; inqama zaseNebhayothi zizakusiza; zizakwamukelela njengeminikelo e-alithareni lami, njalo ngizahllobisa ithempeli lami elidudumo. **8** Ngobani laba abandiza njengamayezi lanjengamajuba esiya ezidlekeni zawo na? **9** Ngeqiniso izihlenge zithembe mina; ekhokhelelo yimikhumbi yaseThashishi, iletha amadodana akho avela khatshana, lesiliva sawo kanye legolide ukuba kudunyiswe uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho, oNgcwele ka-Israyeli, ngoba ukunike inkazimulo. **10** Abezizwe bazayakha futhi imiduli yakho, lamakhosi abo azakukhonza. Lanxa ekuthukutheleni kwami ngakutshaya, kodwa ngomusa wami ngizakuba lesihawu kuwe. **11** Amasango akho azahlala evulekile; kawayikuvalwa emini loba ebusuku ukuze abantu bakulethele inotho yezizwe, amakhosi azo ekhokhelwe ludwendwe lokunqoba. **12** Ngoba isizwe kumbe umbuso ongayikukukhonza uzatshabalala; uzachitheka uphele nya. **13** Udumo lwaseLebhanoni luzakuba kuwe; zonke izihlahla ezamaphayini, umfiri lomshipresi, ukuzehlobisa indlu yami engcwele; lendawo yezinyawo zami ngizayenza ikhazimule. **14** Amadodana abancindezeli bakho azakuba akhothame phambi kwakho; bonke abakweyisayo bazakhothamela phansi ezinyaweni zakho, njalo bazakubiza ngokuthi iDolobho likaThixo, iZiyoni yakhe oNgcwele ka-Israyeli. **15** Lanxa ubulahlwiwe, uzondakala, kungekho ohamba edabula phakathi kwakho, ngizakwenza ube ligu elingapheliyo, uthokozise izizukulwane zonke. **16** Uzanatha uchago lwezizwe, umunyiswe emabeleni asesikhosini. Lapho-ke uzakwazi ukuthi nginguThixo, uMlisi wakho, uMhlangi wakho, uMninimandla kajakhobe. **17** Esikhundleni sethisi ngizakulethela igolide, lesiliva esikhundleni sensimbi. Esikhundleni sezigodo ngizakulethela ithusi, lesimbi esikhundleni samatshe. Ngizakwenza ukuthula kube ngumbusi wakho, lokulunga kube yinkosi yakho. **18** Akusayikuba lodlakela elizweni lakho, akusayikuba khona ukuchitheka loba ukutshabalala phakathi kwelizwe lakini, kodwa uzakuthi imiduli yakho yiNindiso, lamasango akho uthi yiNdumiso. **19** Ilanga kalisayikuba yikukhanya kwakho emini loba ukukhanya kwenyanga kukukhanyise, ngoba uThixo uzakuba yikukhanya kwakho okungapheliyo, loNkulunkulu wakho abe yinkazimulo yakho. **20** Ilanga lakho kaliyikutshona futhi, lenyanga yakho ayisayikufiphala njalo. UThixo uzakuba yikukhanya kwakho okungapheliyo, lezinsuku zakho zezinsizi zizaphela. **21** Lapho-ke bonke abantu bakho bazakuba ngabalungileyo, lelizwe lizakuba lilifa labo kokuphela. Bangamahlumela engawahlanyelayo, umsebenzi wezandla zami, ukuba ngibonakalise inkazimulo yami. **22** Ingosana yakho izakuba yinkulungwane, abancinyane bazakuba yizizwe esilamandla. Mina nginguThixo; ngesikhathi esifaneleyo lokhu ngizakwenza ngokuphangisa.”

61 Umoya kaThixo Wobukhosi uphezwe kwami, ngoba uThixo ungicobile ukuba ngitshumayeze izindaba ezinhle kwabampofu. Ungithumile ukuba ngibophe inhliziyo ezidabukileyo, ngimemezele ukukhululwa kwabathunjweyo, lokukhululwa kwezibotshwa emnyameni, **2** lokumemezela umnyaka womusa kaThixo, losuku lokuphindisela

kukaNkulunkulu wethu; ukududuza abalilayo, 3 lokunakelala labo abadabukileyo eZiyoni, ukubapha umqhele wobuhle esikhundleni somlotha, amafutha okujabula esikhundleni sokulila, lengubo yokudumisa esikhundleni somoya wokulahlala ithemba. Bazabizwa ngokuthi yim'okhi yokulunga, ehlanyelwe nguThixo ukuba abonakalise inkazimulo yakhe. 4 Bazavuselela njalo amanxiwa asendulo bavuse lezindawo ezadilizwa kudala. Bazavuselela amadolobho adilikayo aleminyaka emineni adilika. 5 Abezizwe bazakwelusa imihlambi yenu; abezizwe bazalima amasimu enu lezivini zenu. 6 Lizabizwa ngokuthi abaphristi bakaThixo, kuzathiwa liyizikhonzi zikaNkulunkulu. Lizakudla inotho yezizwe, lizincome ngenotho yazo. 7 Esikhundleni sehlazo labo abantu bami bazaphiwa isabelo esiphindwe kabili, njalo esikhundleni sokuyangeka bazathokoza ngelifa labo; ngakho isabelo selifa labo elizweni sizaphindwa kabili, lentokozo engapheliyo izakuba ngeyabo. 8 "Ngoba mina, uThixo, ngithanda ukulunga, ngizonda ubugebenga lobubi. Ngobuqotho bami ngizabanika umvuzo ngenze isivumelwano esingapheliyo labo. 9 Izizukulwane zabo zizakwaziwa phakathi kwezizwe, lenzalo yabo yaziwe phakathi kwabantu. Bonke abababonayo bazavuma ukuthi bangabantu ababusiswe nguThixo." 10 Ngiyathokoza kakhulu kuThixo; umphefumulo wami uyajabula ngoNkulunkulu wami. Ngoba ungigqokise izigqoko zokusindiswa, wangicecisa ngezembatho zokulunga, njengomyeni ececisa ikhanda lakhe njengomphristi, lanjengomlobokazi ezicecise ngamatshe akhe aligugu. 11 Ngoba njengomhlabathi owenza ihlumala limile, lesivande esenza inhlanyelo ikhule, ngokunjalo uThixo Wobukhosi uzakwenza ukulunga lodumo kuvele phambi kwezizwe zonke.

62 Ngenxa yeZiyoni angiyikuthula; ngenxa yeJerusalem angiyikuhlala ngithule, ukulunga kwayo kuze kukhanye njengokusa, ukusindiswa kwayo kuze kukhanye njengezibane ezivuthayo. 2 Izizwe zizakubona ukulunga kwakho, lamakhosi wonke ayibone inkazimulo yakho. Uzabizwa ngebizo elitsha umlomo kaThixo ozakunika lona. 3 Uzakuba ngumqhele wenkazimulo esandleni sikaThixo, umqhele wobukhosi esandleni sikaNkulunkulu wakho. 4 Kabasayikubiza ngokuthi oTshiyiweyo kumbe babize ilizwe lakho ngokuthi Chithakele. Kodwa uzabizwa ngokuthi Hefiziba ilizwe lakho kuthiwe yiBhiyula, ngoba uThixo uzathokoza ngawe, lelizwe lakho lizakwanda. 5 Njengejaha lithatha intombi, ngokunjalo amadodana akho azakuthatha; lanjengomyeni ethokozela umakoti wakhe, ngokunjalo uNkulunkulu uzathokoza ngawe. 6 Ngibeke abalindi phezu kwemiduli yakho wena Jerusalema; kabayikuthula lanini emini loba ebusuku. Lina elimbizayo uThixo, musani ukuphuma, 7 laye lingamphumuzi aze akhe iJerusalema alenze libe lodumo emhlabeni. 8 UThixo ufungile ngesandla sakhe sokudla langengalo yakhe elamanda wathi; "Angiyikuphinda lanini ukunika izitha zenu amabele enu njengokudla kwazo, njalo lanini abezizwe kabayikuphinda banathe iwayini elitsha elilisebenzele nzima. 9 Kodwa labo abawavunayo bazawadla badumise uThixo, labalo ababutha amavini bazalitha emageneni endlu yami engcwele." 10 Dlulani, dlulani emasangweni! Lungiselani abantu indlela. Candani, candani umgwaqo! Susani amatshe. Phakamiselani izizwe uphawu. 11 UThixo usenze isimemezelolo emhlabeni wonke wathi; "Wothini kuyo iNdodakazi yaseZiyoni, 'Khangela uMsindisi wakho uyeza! Khangela umvuzo wakhe ulawo,

lenhlawulo yakhe ulawo." 12 Bazabizwa ngokuthi ngaBantu abanGcwele, abanHengiweyo bakaThixo; wena uzathiwa Ofunwayo, iDolobho Elingasatshiywanga.

63 Ngubani lo ovela e-Edomi, ovela eBhozira egqoke izembatho ezibomvu na? Ngubani lo ogqoke ubucwazicwazi, ohamba ngobukhulu bamandla akhe na? "Yimi okhuluma ngokulunga, olamandla okusindisa." 2 Kungani izigqoko zakho zibomvu njengezomuntu onyathela isikhanelo sewayini na? 3 "Nginyathela isikhanelo sewayini ngedwa; kakho owezizwe owayelami. Ngabagxoba ngithukuthela, ngabanyathela ngilolaka; igazi labo lachaphakela ezambathweni zami, langcolisa zonke izigqoko zami. 4 Ngoba usuku lokuphindisela lwalusenhliziyweni yami, lomnyaka wokuhlenga kwami usufikile. 5 Ngakhangela, kodwa kakho owayengasiza. Ngenangwa yikungabi khona kosekelayo, ngakho ingalo yami yangilethela insindiso lolaka lwami lwangiqinisa. 6 Ngagxoba izizwe ngokuthukuthela kwami, ngazidakisa ngolaka lwami, ngathela igazi lazo phansi." 7 Ngizalandisa ngomusa kaThixo, izenzo okumele adunyiswe ngenxa yazo, ngakho konke uThixo asenzele khona, yebo, izinto ezinengi ezinhlalazela indlu ka-Israyeli, ngesihawu sakhe langomusa wakhe omkhulu. 8 Wathi, "Ngeqiniso bangabantu bami; amadodana angayikuba lamanga kimi"; ngakho waba nguMsindisi wabo. 9 Kukho konke ukhulupheka kwabo laye waba losizi; ukuba khona kwengilosi yakhe kwabasindisa. Ngothando lwakhe langesihawu sakhe wabahlenga; wabaphakamisela phezulu, wabathwala insuku zonke zakudala. 10 Kodwa bamvukela badanisa uMoya wakhe oNgcwele. Ngakho waphenduka waba yisitha sabo walwa labo yena ngokwakhe. 11 Lapho-ke abantu bakhe bakhumbula insuku zakudala, insuku zikaMosi labantu bakhe, ungaphi lowo owabachaphisa ulwandle, lomelusi wemihlambi yakhe na? Ungaphi lowo owathela uMoya wakhe oNgcwele phakathi kwabo, 12 owathumela ingalo yakhe yamandla elodumo ukuba ibe sesandleni sokudla sikaMosi, owehlukani amanzi phambi kwabo ukuba azizuzele udumo olungapheliyo, 13 owabadabulisa ezinzikini na? Njengebhiza emagcekeni, kabakhubekanga; 14 njengezinkomo zisehla esigodini, baphunyuzwa nguMoya kaThixo. Wena wabakhokhela kanjalo abantu bakho ukuze uzenzele ibizo elilodumo. 15 Khangela phansi usezulwini ubone, usesihlalweni sakho sobukhosi esiphakemeyo, esingcwele, esicwebezelayo. Kungaphi ukutshiseka kwakho lamandla akho na? Isisa sakho lesihawu sakho kugodliwe kithi. 16 Kodwa wena unguBaba wethu, lanxa u-Abrahama engasazi thina lo-Israyeli engasivumi; wena, Oh Thixo, unguBaba wethu, uMhlengi wethu libizo lakho kusukela endulo. 17 Kungani, Thixo, usenza siphambuke ezindleleni zakho, usenza lezinhliziyo zethu zibe lukhuni ukuba singakwesabi na? Phenduka ubuye ngenxa yezinceku zakho, izizwana eziyilifa lakho. 18 Indawo yakho engcwele yayingeyabantu bakho okwesikhathi esifitshane, kodwa khathezi izitha zethu sezizicakazele phansi indlu yakho engcwele. 19 Thina singabakho kusukela endulo; kodwa awukaze ubabase, kabazange babizwe ngebizo lakho.

64 Awu, sengathi ungaqhekeza amazulu wehlele phansi ukuba izintaba zinyikinyeke phambi kwakho! 2 Njengalapho umlilo utshisa incwathi wenze amanzi abile, yehlela phansi ukuba wenze ibizo lakho lazakale ezitheni zakho, wenze lezizwe zithuthumele phambi kwakho. 3 Ngoba

wathi usenza izinto ezesabekayo esasingazilindelanga, wehlea phansi, izintaba zathuthumela phambi kwakho. **4** Kusukela endulo kakho owezwayo, akulandlebe eyabambisisayo, akulalihlo elabona omunye uNkulunkulu ngaphandle kwakho, osebenzela labo abathembe kuye. **5** Uyeza ukuba usize labo abenza ukulunga ngokuthaba, abazikhumbulayo izindlela zakho. Kodwa lapho saqhubeka sisona kubo wathukuthela. Pho singasindiswa kanjani na? **6** Sonke sesaba njengomuntu ongcolileyo, lemisebenzi yethu yokulunga yonke injengenjobo ezingcolileyo, sonke siyabuna njengehlamvu, lanjengomoya izono zethu zisiphophulela khatshana. **7** Kakho okhuleka ebizweni lakho lozama ukubambelela kuwe, ngoba ubuso bakho ubufihlile kithi wasenza sacikizeka ngenxa yezono zethu. **8** Ikanti wena Thixo unguBaba wethu. Thina silibumba, wena ungumbumbi; sonke singumsebenzi wezandla zakho. **9** Ungathukutheli wedlulise, awu Thixo; izono zethu ungazikhumbuli kokuphela. Awu, ake usikhangele, siyakhuleka, ngoba sonke singabantu bakho. **10** Amadolobho akho angcwele aseyingangala; leZiyoni isiyinkangala, iJerusalema isiyincinikhalo. **11** Ithempeli lethu elingcwele njalo elikhazimulayo lapho okhokho ababekudumisela khona, litshiswe ngomlilo, njalo konke okwakuligugu kithi sekungamanyiwa. **12** Emva kwakho konke loku Thixo, uzazithinta na? Uzazithulela, usijezise ngokudlulisileyo na?

65 “Ngaziveza kulabo abangangicelanga; ngafunyanwa yilabo abanganginganga. Isizwe esingakhulekanga kimi ngathi kuso, ‘Ngilapha, ngilapha.’ **2** Ilanga lonke ngelula izandla zami ebantwini abayiziqholo, abahamba ngezindlela ezingalunganga belandela iminakano yabo, **3** abantu abahlezi bengicunula bengikhangele, benikela imihlatshelo emasimini, betshisa impepha phezu kwezitina; **4** abahlala emangcwabeni balale besenza imilindelo eyimfihlo ebusuku; abadla inyama yengulube, abambiza zabo zigcina umhluzi wenyama engcolileyo; **5** abathi, ‘Hlala khatshana, ungasondeli phansi kwami, ngoba ngingcwele kulawe!’ Abantu abanjalo bangjengentuthu emakheleni ami, umlilo ovuthayo ilanga lonke. **6** Khangela, kulotshibe phambi kwami ukuthi: Angiyikuthula, kodwa ngaziphindisela ngokugcweleyo; ngaziphindisela ngokupheleleyo, **7** kokubili izono zenu lezono zabokhokho benu,” kutsho uThixo. “Ngoba batshisa imihlatshelo phezu kwezintaba bangihlambaza phezu kwamaqaqa. Ngaziphindisela kubo ngokugcweleyo ngenxa yezono zabo abazenza ngaphambili.” **8** Nanku akutshoyo uThixo: “Njengalapho umhluzi usatholakala ehlukuzweni lamavini labantu besithi, ungalibhidlizi, kusekhona okuhle kulo, ngizazenzela okunjalo izinceku zami; angiyikuzibhubhisa zonke. **9** Ngizaletsa isizukulwane esivela kuJakhobe, lakoJuda kuvele abazakuba ngabanikazi bezintaba zami; zizakuba yilifa labakhethiweyo bami, izinceku zami zizahlala khona. **10** ISharoni izakuba ngamadlelo emihlambi lesiGodi sase-Akhoru sibe yindawo yokuphumulela imihlambi, yabantu bami abangingayo. **11** Kodwa lina elilahla uThixo likhohlwe intaba yami engcwele; liphakele unkulunkulu uNhlahlakudla libuye ligcwalisele unkulunkulu uSimeselo iwayini elixutshiweyo, **12** ngizalimisela inkemba, njalo lonke lizakhothamela ukubulawa, ngoba ngamemeza kodwa kalisabelanga, ngakhuluma kodwa lina kalilalalanga. Lenza okubi phambi kwami lakhetha okungicunulayo.” **13** Ngakhoke uThixo Wobukhosi uthi: “Izinceku zami zizakudla,

kodwa lina lizalamba; izinceku zami zizanatha, kodwa lina lizakoma; izinceku zami zizathokoza, kodwa lina lizayangiswa. **14** Izinceku zami zizahlabelela ngentokozo yezinhliziyi zazo, kodwa lina lizakhala ngobuhlungu bezinhliziyi njalo lilile ngokudabuka komoya. **15** Lizatshiya ibizo lenu njengesithuko kwabakhethiweyo bami; uThixo Wobukhosi uzalibulala, kodwa izinceku zakhe uzazinika elinye ibizo. **16** Lowo okhulekela isibusiso elizweni uzakwenza lokho ngoNkulunkulu weqiniso; lalowo owenza isifungo elizweni, uzafunga ngoNkulunkulu weqiniso. Ngoba inhlupheko ezedlulayo zizakhohlakala zifihlakale emehlweni ami.” **17** “Khangalani, ngizadala izulu elitsha lomhlaba omutsha. Izinto zakuqala aziyikhunjulwa, kumbe zifike engqondweni. **18** Kodwa thabani lijabule kokuphela ngalokho engizakudala, ngoba ngizadala iJerusalema libe yintokozo labantu balo babe yinjabulo. **19** Ngizathokoza ngeJerusalema njalo ngijabule ngabantu bami; ukulila lokukhala akusayikuzwakala kulo futhi. **20** Kulo akusayikuba khona futhi usane oluphila insuku ezilutshwane kumbe umuntu omdala ongaphelisi iminyaka yakhe; lowo ofa elekhulu leminyaka uzakhangelwa njengomntwana nje; lowo ongafikiyo ekhulwini uzakhangelwa njengoqalekisiweyo. **21** Bazakwakha izindlu bahlale kuzo; bazahlanyela izivini badle izithelo zazo. **22** Kabasayikwakha izindlu zihlalwe ngabanye kumbe bahlanyele, kudle abanye. Ngoba njengezinsuku zesihlahla, zizakuba njalo insuku zabantu bami; abakhethiweyo bami bazakholisa umsebenzi wezandla zabo okwesikhathi eside. **23** Kabayikusebenzela ize, kumbe abantwababo bazalelwe ukhulupheka, ngoba bazakuba ngabantu ababusisiweyo nguThixo, bona kanye lezizukulwane zabo. **24** Ngizabaphendula bengakakhuleki; ngibeze besakhuluma. **25** Impisi lewundlu kuzakudla ndawonye, lesilwane sizakudla utshani njengenkomo, kodwa inyoka izakudla uthuli. Kaziyikulimaza kumbe zibhubhise kuyo yonke intaba yami engcwele,” kutsho uThixo.

66 Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: “Izulu liyisihlalo sami sobukhosi, lomhlaba uyisenabelo sami. Ingaphi indlu elizangakhela yona na? Indawo yami yokuphumula izakuba ngaphi na? **2** Isandla sami kasizenzanga zonke lezizinto ukuze zibe khona na?” kutsho uThixo. “Engimbukayo ngulo: lowo othobekileyo ozisolayo emoyeni, olesabayo ilizwi lami. **3** Kodwa lowo onikela ngenkunzi ufana lomuntu obulala omunye umuntu, lalowo onikela ngewundlu, ufana lowephula intamo yenja; lowo onikela ngamabele ufana lonikela ngegazi lengulube, lalowo otshisa impepha yesikhumbuzo ufana lokhonza isithombe. Sebekhetha izindlela zabo, lemiphefumulo yabo ithokoziswa yizingeniso zabo; **4** ngakhoke lami ngizakhettha ukubaphatha kalukhuni, ngibehlisele lokho abakwesabayo. Ngoba kwathi lapho ngibiza, kakho owasabelayo, lapho ngikhuluma, kakho owalalelayo. Benza okubi phambi kwami, bakhetha okungicunulayo.” **5** Zwanini ilizwi likaThixo lina elilesabayo ilizwi lakhe. Uthi, “Abafowenu abalizondayo, labalixwayayo ngenxa yebizo lami, sebethe, kadunyiswe uThixo ukuze sibone intokozo yenu! Kodwa bazayangiswa.” **6** Zwanini ukuxokozela okusedolobheni, zwanini umsindo osethempelini! Ngumsindo kaThixo ephindisela ezitheni zakhe ngakho konke okuzifameleyo. **7** “Uthi engakahelawela, abelethe; ubuhlungu bungakamfikeli, azale indodana. **8** Ngubani owake wezwa into enje na? Ngubani owake wabona izinto ezinje na? Ilizwe lingazalwa ngelanga elilodwa loba isizwe sizalwe ngesikhathshana

na? Ikanti iZiyoni ithi ngokuhelelwa nje ihle ibazale abantwana bayo. **9** Kambe ngifikisa esikhathini sokukhululeka ngingabe ngisabelethisa na?" kutsho uThixo. "Ngiyasivala na isibeletho ngesikhathi sengibelethisa na?" kutsho uThixo **10** "Thokozani leJerusalema lithabele, lonke lina elilithandayo; thokozani kakhulu lalo lonke lina elilililelayo. **11** Ngoba lizamunya lisuthe emabeleni alo aduduzayo; lizanatha kakhulu, lithokoze ngenala yalo enengi." **12** Ngoba lokhu yikho okutshiwo nguThixo: "Ngizaletha ukuthula kini okugeleza njengesifula esigcweleyo lomnotho wezizwe njengesifula esithelayo, limunye liphethwe ngengalo yazo njalo lidlaliswe emathangazini azo. **13** Njengomama eduduzala umntanakhe, kanjalo lami ngizaliduduzala, njalo lizaduduzeka eJerusalema." **14** Lapho libona lokhu, inhliziyo zenu zizathokoza, lani likhule njengotshani; isandla sikaThixo sizakwazakala ezincekwini zakhe kodwa ulaka lwakhe luzabonakaliswa ezitheni zakhe. **15** Khangelani, uThixo uza ngomlilo, izinqola zakhe zempi zinjengesivunguzane; ulaka lwakhe uzalwehlisela phansi ngokufuthelana, lokukhuza kwakhe kwehle ngamalangabi omlilo. **16** Ngoba ngomlilo langenkemba yakhe uThixo uzakwahlulela abantu bonke, njalo abanengi bazakuba yilabo ababulewe nguThixo. **17** "Labo abazahlukanisayo, bazihlambulule ukungena emasimini belandela lowo ophakathi kwalabo abadla inyama yengulube lamagundwane kanye lezinye izinto ezinengisayo, isiphetho sabo sizafika sikhathi sinye," kutsho uThixo. **18** Ngenxa yezenzo zabo lemicabango yabo, sekuseduze ukuthi ngizebutsha izizwe zonke lezindimi zonke; njalo bazakuza babone inkazimulo yami. **19** "Ngizabeka isibonakaliso phakathi kwabo, ngithumele abanye balabo abasalayo ezizweni zeThashishi, kumaLibhiya, lamaLudi (alodumo ekusebenziseni imitshoko), eThubhali leGrisi lasezihlengeni ezikhatshana ezingakaluzwa udumo lwami kumbe zibone inkazimulo yami. Bazamemezela udumo lwami phakathi kwezizwe. **20** Njalo bazababuyisa bonke abafowenu entabeni yami engcwele eJerusalema njengomnikelo kuThixo bevela ezizweni zonke, bephezu kwamabhiza, izinqola zempi, imbongolo lamakamela," kutsho uThixo. "Bazababuyisa njengabako-Israyeli beletha iminikelo yabo yamabele ethempelini likaThixo ngezitsha ezihlambulukileyo ngokomkhuba. **21** Ngizakhetha abanye babo ukuba labo babe ngabaphristi labaLevi," kutsho uThixo. **22** "Njengamazulu amatsha lomhlaba omutsha engikwenzayo kuzakuma kokuphela phambi kwami," kutsho uThixo, "ngokunjalo ibizo lakho lenzalo yakho izakuma kokuphela. **23** Kusukela ekuThwaseni kwenye iNyanga kusiya ekuthwaseni kwenye, njalo kusukela kwelinye iSabatha kusiya kwelinye abantu bonke bazakuza bakhothame phambi kwami," kutsho uThixo. **24** "Bazaphuma babone izidumbu zabantu abangihlamukelayo; impethu yazo kayiyikufa, lomlilo wazo kawuyikucitshwa, njalo zizakwenyanyeka ebantwini bonke."

UJeremiya

1 La ngamazwi kaJeremiya indodana kaHilikhiya, omunye wabaphristi base-Anathothi elizweni lakoBhenjamini. **2** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kuye ngomnyaka wetsumi lantathu ekubuseni kukaJosiya indodana ka-Amoni inkosi yakoJuda, **3** njalo ekubuseni kukaJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, kwaze kwaba yinyanga yesihlanu emnyakeni wetsumi lanye kaZedekhiya indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, ngesikhathi sokuthunjwa kwabantu baseJerusalem. **4** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi, **5** “Ngingakakubumbi esiswini ngakwazi, ungakazalwa ngakukhetha ngakubeka ukuba ngumphrofethi ezizweni.” **6** Mina ngathi, “Awu Thixo Somandla; ukukhuluma angikwazi, ngoba ngingumntwana nje.” **7** Kodwa uThixo wathi kimi, “Ungaze wathi, ‘Ngingumntwana nje.’ Kumele uye kubo bonke engikuthuma kubo njalo utsho loba kuyini engikulaya khona. **8** Ungabesabi, ngoba mina ngilawe njalo ngizakuhlenga,” kutsho uThixo. **9** UThixo waseselula isandla sakhe wathinta umlomo wami wathi kimi, “Khathezi, sengifake amazwi ami emlonyeni wakho. **10** Khangela, lamhla ngikubeka phezu kwezizwe lemibuso ukuba usiphune udilize, ubhubhise njalo uchithe; ukuba wakhe njalo uhlanyele.” **11** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lathi, “Kuyini okubonayo, Jeremiya?” Ngaphendula ngathi, “Ngibona ugatsha lwesihlahla se-alimondi.” **12** UThixo wasesithi kimi, “Ubone kuhle, ngoba ngilindele ukubona ukuthi ilizwi lami ligcwalisekile.” **13** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi futhi: “Kuyini okubonayo?” Mina ngaphendula ngathi, “Ngibona imbiza ebilayo, ithambeke ifulathele inyakatho.” **14** UThixo wasesithi kimi, “Incithakalo evela enyakatho izakwehliselwa phezu kwabo bonke abahlala elizweni. **15** Sekuseduze ukuba ngibize bonke abantu bemibuso yasenyakatho,” kutsho uThixo. “Amakhosi abo azakuza amise izihlalo zawo zobukhosi emasangweni aseJerusalem; bazakumelana lemiduli yalo yonke eligombolozelayo kanye lamadolobho wonke akoJuda. **16** Ngizamemezela ukwahlulela kwami ebantwini bami ngenxa yobubi babo bokungidela, betshisela abanye onkulunkulu impempha, langokukhonza lokho okwenziwa ngezandla zabo. **17** Wena zilungiselele! Sukuma ubatshela lokho engizakulaya khona. Ungathuthumeliswa yibo hlezi ngikwenze uthuthumele phambi kwabo. **18** Lamhla sengikwenze waba lidolobho elivikelweyo, insika yensimbi lomduli wethusi ukuba umelane lelizwe lonke, umelane lamakhosi akoJuda, izikhulu zakhona, abaphristi bakhona kanye labantu bakhona. **19** Bazakulwa lawe, kodwa kabayikukwehlula, ngoba ngilawe njalo ngizakuhlenga,” kutsho uThixo.

2 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi, **2** “Hamba umemezele iJerusalem lisizwa uthi: Lokhu yikho okutshiwo nguThixo: ‘Ngiyakukhumbula ukuzinikela kwasebutsheni bakho, ukungithanda kwakho njengombokazi ungilandela enkangala, phakathi kwelizwe elingahlanyelwanga. **3** U-Israyeli wayengcwele kuThixo, eyizithelo zakuqala zesivuno sakhe, bonke abamtshwabadelayo baba lecala, behlelwa yincithakalo.’” kutsho uThixo. **4** Zwana ilizwi likaThixo, wendlu kaJakhobe, lani lonke sendo lwendlu ka-Israyeli. **5** UThixo uthi: “Yibubi bani okhokho benu ababubona kimi, baze bedukele khatshana kangaka lami? Balandela izithombe eziyize, labo ngokwabo baba yize. **6** Kababuzanga ukuthi, ‘Ungaphi uThixo, owasikhupha elizweni laseGibhithe

wasikhokhela emagangeni alugwadule phakathi kwelizwe lezinkangala lezindonga, ilizwe lokoma lobumnyama, ilizwe elingahanjwa muntu lelingelamuntu ohlala kulo?’ **7** Ngaliletha elizweni elivundileyo ukuba lidle izithelo zalo lezilimo ezinhle. Kodwa lina lafika langcolisa ilizwe lami, lenza ilifa lami langakhwabitheki. **8** Abaphristi kababuzanga ukuthi, ‘Ungaphi UThixo?’ Labo abaphatha umthetho abangazanga; abakhokheli bangihlamukela. Abaphrofethi baphrofetha ngoBhali balandela izithombe eziyize. **9** Ngakho-ke ngilithesa amacala futhi,” kutsho uThixo. “Labantwana babantwana benu ngizabethesa amacala. **10** Welani liye ngesamakhunjini aseKhithezi likhangele, thumelani eKhedari lhlolisise kuhle, libone langabe sekwake kwaba lento engenjale: **11** Isizwe sake santshintsha onkulunkulu baso na? (Belo bavele kabasibo onkulunkulu.) Kodwa abantu bami bantshintshe inkazimulo yabo ngenxa yezithombe eziyize. **12** Mangalani lokhu, lina mazulu, lithuthumele ngokwesaba okukhulu,” kutsho UThixo. **13** “Abantu bami bense izono ezimbili: Bangidilele, mina mthombo wamanzi okuphila, bagebha eyabo imithombo, imithombo evuzayo engagcini manzi. **14** Kambe u-Israyeli yisisebenzi, isigqili ngokuzalwa na? Pho kungani eseyimpango na? **15** Izilwane zibhongile; sezihwabhile kuye. Zilichithile ilizwe lakhe; amadolobho akhe atshisiwe, atshiywa engaselamuntu. **16** Njalo, labantu baseMemfisi leThahiphanesi baphuce ikhanda lakho. **17** Lokhu kawukwehliselanga phezu kwakho ngokudela uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho lapho ekukhokhela endleleni na? **18** Khathezi kungani usiya eGibhithe ukuba unathe amanzi eShihori na? Njalo kungani usiya e-Asiriya ukuba unathe amanzi eYufra na? **19** Ububi bakho buzakujezisa; ukutshedela kwakho emuva kuzakukhuza. Ngakho cabanga ubone ukuthi kubi njalo kubuhlungu kanjani lapho udela uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho njalo ungelavalu ngami,” kutsho iNkosi uThixo uSomandla. **20** “Endulo wephula ijogwe lakho, waquma izibopho zakho; wathi, ‘Kangiyikukhonza!’ Lakanye, phezu kwamaqaca wonke langaphansi kwazo zonke izihlahla eziluhlaza walala phansi njengesifebe. **21** Ngikuhlanyele njengevini elikhethiweyo elohlobo oluqinileyo loluthembekileyo. Pho kwenzakala njani ukuba ngiphendukele ube livini elibolileyo, leganga? **22** Lanxa ugeza ngesepa usebenzisa lesepa enengi, ichatha lobubi bakho lilokhu likhona phambi kwami,” kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **23** “Ungatsho kanjani na uthi, ‘Kangingcolanga, kangibalandelanga oBhali?’ Khangela ukuthi waziphatha njani esigodini, khumbula osukwenzile. Ulikamela elisikazi elilesiqubu eligijima labo lalaphaya, **24** ubabhemi weganga ojwayele inkangala, ophembela umoya enkanukweni yakhe, ngubani ongamenqabela ekukhanukeni kwakhe? Abaduna abamxotshayo bangazidini ukuxotshana labo; bazamthola ngesikhathi sezinsikazikhwela. **25** Ungagijimi inyawo zakho zize zihlubuke lomphimbo wakho zize wome. Kodwa wena wathi, ‘Akusizi lutho! Ngiyabathanda onkulunkulu bezizweni, kumele ngibalandele.’ **26** Njengokuyangeka kwesela nxa selibanjiwe, ngokunjalo abantu bako-Israyeli bayangekile, bona kanye lamakhosi abo lezikhulu zabo, abaphristi babo labaphrofethi babo. **27** Bathi esigodweni, ‘Wena ungubaba wami,’ elitsheni bathi, ‘Nguwe owangizalayo.’ Bangifulathele, hatshi ngobuso babo nje; kodwa nxa sebehlupeka bathi, ‘Woza usihlenga.’ **28** Pho bangaphi onkulunkulu elazenzela bona? Kabeze nxa bengakuhlenga lapho usuphakathi kokuhlupheka! Ngoba wena Juda ulabonkulunkulu abanengi njengobunengi

bamadolobho akho. **29** Kungani lingethesa umlandu? Lonke lingihlamukele,” kutsho uThixo. **30** “Ukubajezisa kwami abantu bakho kwaba yize; kabakuvumanga ukuqondiswa. Inkemba yakho isibatshwabadele abaphrofethi bakho njengesilwane esiphangayo. **31** Wena owalesisizukulwane, khumbula ilizwi likaThixo: Ngibe nginyinkangala ku-Israyeli kumbe ilizwe lomnyama omkhulu na? Kungani abantu bami besithi, ‘Sikhululekile ukuba sizulazule; kasiyikuza kuwe futhi?’ **32** Intombi ingazikhohlwa iziceciso zayo na, lomlobokazi akhohlwe izembatho zakhe na? Kodwa abantu bami bangikhohlwe, okwensuku ezingeke zibalwe. **33** Yeka ukhulakanipha kwakho ekufuneni uthando! Labesifazane ababi kakhulu bangafunda ezindleleni zakho. **34** Ezigqokweni zakho abantu bathola igazi lokuphila elabayanga abangelacala lanxa ungababambanga befohlela phakathi. Kodwa kukho konke lokhu **35** uthi, ‘Kangilacala; kangithukuthelanga.’ Kodwa mina ngizakwahlulela, ngoba uthi, ‘Angonanga.’ **36** Kungani uqhubeke kangaka, untshintsha izindlela zakho? IGibhithe izakuyangisa njengalokhu owakwenziwa yi-Asiriya. **37** Uzasuka kuleyondawo izandla zakho zisekhanda lakho, ngoba uThixo ubalahlile labo obathembayo; kabayikukusiza.”

3 “Indoda ingehlukana lomkayo ayitshiye endele kwenye indoda, kufanele imbuyise futhi na? Kambe ilizwe lingeke langcoliswa kakhulukazi na? Kodwa wena usuphile njengesifebe esilezithandwa ezinengi, kambe khathesi ungabuyela kimi na?” kutsho uThixo. **2** “Khangela emiqolweni elugwadule ubone. Kungaphi lapho ongazange udlwangululwe khona? Emigwaqweni wahlala ulindele izithandwa, wahlala njengomhambuma enkangala. Ulingcolisile ilizwe ngobufebe bakho langobubi bakho. **3** Ngalokho imikhizo imisiwe, lezulu lentwasa kalinanga. Ikanti wena uziphethe okwisiifebe, awulanhloni. **4** Kawungibizanga khathesi nje wathi, ‘Baba, mngane wami kusukela ebutsheni bami, **5** uzahlala uzondile kokuphela na? Ulaka lwakho luzaqhubeka kokuphela na?’ Le yindlela okhuluma ngayo, kodwa wenza konke okubi ongakwenza.” **6** Ekubuseni kwenkosi uJosiya, uThixo wathi kimi, “Ukubonile yini okwenziwe ngu-Israyeli ongathembekanga? Usekhwele phezu kwamaqaqa wonke aphakemeyo langaphansi kwezihlahla zonke eziluhlaza wafebela khona. **7** Ngacabanga ukuthi emva kokuba esenze konke lokhu uzaphinda eze kimi, kodwa kabuyanga, lodadewabo ongathembekanga uJuda wakubona lokho. **8** U-Israyeli ongathembekanga ngamnika incwadi yakhe yesehlukaniso ngamxotsha ngenxa yobufebe bakhe bonke. Kodwa ngabona ukuthi udadewabo ongathembekanga, uJuda, kesabanga, laye wasuka wayafaba. **9** Ngenxa yokuthi ububi buka-Israyeli babungatsho lutho kuye, wangcolisa ilizwe wakhonza amatshe lezihlahla. **10** Kukho konke lokhu, udadewabo ongathembekanga uJuda kabuyelanga kimi ngenhliziyo yakhe yonke, kodwa ngokuzenzisa nje kuphela,” kutsho uThixo. **11** UThixo wathi kimi, “U-Israyeli ongathembekanga ungcono kokuJuda ongelaqiniso. **12** Hamba, uyememezela ilizwi leli ngasenyakatho: ‘Phenduka Israyeli ongathembekanga,’ kutsho uThixo, ‘Kangisayikukuhwaqela futhi, ngoba ngilesihawu,’ kutsho uThixo. ‘Kangiyikuthukuthela kokuphela. **13** Vuma icala lakho nje kuphela, wahlamukela uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho, uzihlakazelele kubonkulunkulu bezizweni ngaphansi kwezihlahla zonke eziluhlaza, njalo kawaze wangilalela,” kutsho uThixo. **14** “Phendukani, bantu

abangathembekanga,” kutsho uThixo, “ngoba ngingumyeni wenu. Ngizalikhetha, oyedwa edolobheni lababili emulini ngililethe eZiyoni. **15** Lapho-ke ngizalinyika abelusi abathandwa yimi, abazalikhokhela ngokwazi langokuqedisisa. **16** Ngalezonsuku, ubunengi benu sebande kakhulu elizweni,” kutsho uThixo, “abantu kabasayikuthi, ‘Ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaThixo.’ Kaliyikufika emicabangweni yabo kumbe likhunjulwe; kaliyikudingakala, njalo akuyikwenziwa elinye futhi. **17** Ngalesosikhathi iJerusalem bazalibiza ngokuthi yisiHlalo Sobukhosi sikaThixo, njalo izizwe zonke zizabuthana eJerusalem ukuba zihloniphe ibizo likaThixo. Kabasayikulandela inkani yezinhliziyo zabo ezimbi. **18** Ngalezonsuku indlu kaJuda izahlangana leka-Israyeli, njalo ndawonye, zivela elizweni elisenyakatho, zizakuza elizweni engalinika okhokho benu ukuba libe yilifa labo. **19** Mina ngokwami ngathi, ‘Kade ngingathaba kakhulu ukuliphatha njengamadodana, ngilinye ilizwe elifunekayo, ilifa elihle kakhulu ezizweni zonke.’ Bengicabanga ukuthi lingazibiza ngokuthi ‘Baba’ njalo lingaphambuki ekungilandeleni. **20** Kodwa njengowesifazane ongathembekanga kumkakhe, ubungathembekanga kimi wena ndlu ka-Israyeli,” kutsho uThixo. **21** Ilizwi liyewakala emiqolweni elugwadule, ukukhala lokuncenga kwabantu bako-Israyeli, ngoba izindlela zabo bazonile bakhohlwa loThixo uNkulunkulu wabo. **22** “Phendukani, bantu abangathembekanga, ngizalapha ukungathembeki kwenu.” “Yebo, sizakuza kuwe, ngoba unguThixo uNkulunkulu wethu. **23** Impela umsindo wokukhonza izithombe emaqenye lasezintabeni uyinkohliso, ngempela kuThixo uNkulunkulu wethu kulensindiso ka-Israyeli. **24** Kusukela ebutsheni bethu onkulunkulu abalahlazo badlile izithelo zamandla abobaba, imihlambi yezimvu zabo leyezinkomo zabo, amadodana abo lamadodakazi abo. **25** Kasilaleni phansi silenhloni, siphathwe lihlozo lethu. Ngoba sonile kuThixo uNkulunkulu wethu, thina sonke kanye labokhokho bethu; kusukela ebutsheni bethu kuze kube lamhla, kasimlalelanga uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu.”

4 “Nxa uphenduka, wena Israyeli, buyela kimi,” kutsho uThixo. “Ungasusa phambi kwami izithombe zakho ezenyanyekayo ungabe usaphambuka futhi, **2** njalo nxa uzafunga ngobuqotho, ngokulunga langokuqonda, uthi, ‘Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ekhona,’ ngakho izizwe uzazibusisa ziziqhenye ngaye.” **3** Ebantwini bakoJuda labeJerusalem uThixo uthi: “Qhathani ingqatho yenu, lingahlanyeli phakathi kwameva. **4** Zisokeleni kuThixo, lisoke inhliziyi zenu, lina bantu bakoJuda lani bantu baseJerusalem, hlezi ulaka lwami luvuke luvuthe njengomlilo ngenxa yobubi elibenzileyo, lutshise kungekho muntu ongalcitsha.” **5** “Bikani koJuda limemezele laseJerusalem lithi: ‘Tshayani icilongo elizweni lonke!’ Klabalalani lithi, ‘Buthanani ndawonye! Kasibalekeleni emadolobheni avikelweyo!’ **6** Phakamisani uphawu lokuya eZiyoni! Balekelani ekusileni ngokuphangisa! Ngoba ngiletha umonakalo ovela enyakatho, lencithakalo embi kakhulu.” **7** Isilwane sesiphumile esikhundleni saso, umchithi wezizwe usephumile. Usesukile endaweni yakhe ukuba achithe ilizwe lenu. Amadolobho enu azakuba ngamanxiwa engelamuntu ohlala kuwo. **8** Ngakho gqokani amasaka, khalani lilile, ngoba ulaka lukaThixo olwesabekayo kalususwanga kithi. **9** UThixo uthi, ‘Ngalolosuku inkosi lezikhulu bazaphelelwa lithemba,

abaphristi bazathuthumela, abaphrofethi bazakwesaba.” **10** Lapho-ke mina ngathi, “Awu, Thixo Wobukhosi, ubakhohlisile sibili abantu laba kanye leJerusalema ngokuthi, ‘Lizakuba lokuthula,’ inkemba yona isemiphinjani yethu!” **11** Ngalesosikhathi abantu laba leJerusalema kuzathiwa kubo, “Umoya otshisayo ovela enkangala emiqolweni elugwadule uvunguza usiya ebantwini bami, kodwa kungayisikwela kumbe ukuhlungula, **12** umoya olamandla kakhulu uvela kimi. Khathezi-ke sengimemezela ukwahlulela kwami kubo.” **13** Khangela! Uyeza njengamayazi, izinqola zakhe zempi zibuya njengesivunguzane, amabhiza akhe alesiqubu esedlula esengqungqulu. Maye! Sesiphile! **14** We Jerusalema, geza ububi obusenhliziyweni yakho usindiswe. Koze kube nini ugcine imicabango emibi na? **15** Ilizwi elivela koDani liyamemeza, libika umonakalo ovela emaqaneni ako-Efrayimi **16** Izizwe zitshela lokhu, ukubike laseJerusalema, “Ibutho elimibezelayo liyeza livela elizweni elikhathshana, limemezela umkhosi wempi emadolobheni akoJuda. **17** Balihanqile njengabantu abalinda insimu, ngoba langihlamukela,” kutsho uThixo. **18** “Ukuziphatha kwakho lezenzo zakho kwehlisele lokhu phezu kwakho. Lesi yisijeziso sakho. Sibuhlungu kakhulu! Sihlaba enhliziyweni!” **19** Maye, ngobuhlungu, ubuhlungu engubuzwayo. Ngiyazitshila ngenxa yobuhlungu. Maye, ngokufuthela kwenhliziyweni yami! Inhliziyweni yami iyatshaya ngaphakathi kwami, angingeke ngithule, ngoba ukukhala kwecilongo sengikuzwile, umkhosi wempi sengiwuzwile. **20** Incithakalo ilandela incithakalo, ilizwe lonke selingamanxiwa. Ngesikhathshana nje amathente ami adilizwe, lamakhethezi ami ngomzuzwana nje. **21** Koze kube nini ngibona uphawu lwempi ngisizwa lokukhala kwecilongo na? **22** “Abantu bami bayiziwula, kabangazi. Bangabantwana abangelangqondo, kabalako ukuqedisisa. Bahlakaniphele ukwenza okubi, kakakwazi ukwenza okulungileyo.” **23** Ngakhangela umhlaba, wawungelasimo njalo ungelalutho; lasemazulwini, ukukhanya kwawo kwakungasekho. **24** Ngakhangela ezintabeni, zazinyikinyeka, lamaqaqa wonke ayezunguzeka. **25** Ngakhangela, kwakungelabantu, izinyoni zonke zasezisukile emkhathini. **26** Ngakhangela, ilizwe elithelayo laseliyinkangala, amadolobho alo wonke ayesengamanxiwa phambi kukaThixo, phambi kolaka lwakhe olwesabekayo. **27** UThixo uthi: “Ilizwe lonke lizachitheka lanxa ngingayikulitshabalalisa ngokupheleleyo. **28** Ngakho umhlaba uzalila iphezulu libe mnyama, ngoba sengikhulumile njalo angiyikuyekethisa, sengenze isinqumo angiyikubuyela emuva.” **29** Ekuzwakaleni komsindo wabagadi bamabhiza labemitshoko amadolobho wonke ayabaleka. Abanye bangena ezixukwini, abanye bakhwele emadwaleni. Amadolobho wonke atshiyiwe, akulamuntu ohlala kuwo. **30** Wenzani na, wena ohlutshwe kakhulu? Kungani ugqoka okubomvu gebhu ufaka lezigqoko zegolide na? Kungani ucumba amehlo akho ngomphendulo na? Uzicacisela ize. Izithandwa zakho ziyakweyisa, zifuna ukukubulala. **31** Ngizwa ukukhala okunjengokowesifazane ohelelwayo, ukububula okufana lozuza umntwana wakhe wakuqala, ukukhala kweNdodakazi yaseZiyoni ikhefuzela, yelule izandla zayo isithi, “Maye mina! Amandla ami asephela, ukuphila kwami sekunikelwe kubabulali.”

5 “Yehla ukhwele ngemigwaqo yaseJerusalema, ukhangele emaceleni wonke, ucabange, uhlolisise wonke amagece ayo. Nxa ungathola umantlo oyedwa nje oqhuba ngobuqotho efuna iqiniso, ngizalithethelela idolobho leli. **2** Lanxa nje

besithi, ‘Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ekhona,’ bajinge befunga amanga.” **3** Awu Thixo, amehlo akho kawadingi qiniso na? Wabatshaya, kodwa kabezwanga buhlungu, wabahlifiza, kodwa bala ukuqondiswa. Benza ubuso babo baba lukhuni kulamatshe, bala ukuphenduka. **4** Ngacabanga ngathi, “Laba ngabayanga nje, bayizithutha, ngoba indlela kaThixo kabayazi, lemilayo kaNkulunkulu wabo. **5** Ngakho-ke ngizakuya kubakhokheli ngikhulume labo, ngeqiniso indlela kaThixo bayayazi, lemilayo kaNkulunkulu wabo.” Kodwa nganhliziyonye labo balebphula ijogwe baqamula lezibopho. **6** Ngakho isilwane esivela elhathini sizabahlasela, lempisi evela enkangala ibadlwengule, ingwe izabacathamela eduze lamadolobho abo ukudabudabula loba ngubani ophumayo, ngoba iziphambeko zabo zinkulu, lokuhlehlela kwabo emuva kunengi. **7** “Ngingalithethelela ngenxa yami na? Abantwana benu bangidilele, bafunga ngabonkulunkulu abangasibonkulunkulu, ngabanika konke abakuswelayo, kodwa bona babele baminyana ezindlini zezifebe. **8** Bangamabhiza amaduna asuthayo, agcwele inkanuko, omunye lomunye ekhalela umfazi wenye indoda. **9** Ngingabajezisi kulokhu na?” kutsho uThixo. “Ngingaphindiseli esizweni esinjengalesi na? **10** Ngenani lidabule phakathi kwezivini zaso lizidlwengule, kodwa lingazitshabalalisa ngokupheleleyo. Phundlani ingatsha zalo, ngoba abantu laba kabasibo bakaThixo. **11** Indlu ka-Israyeli lendlu kaJuda kazithembekanga impela kimi,” kutsho uThixo. **12** Baqambe amanga ngoThixo bathi, “Kasoze enze lutho! Akulabubi obuzasehlela, kasiyikubona impi loba indlala. **13** Abaphrofethi bangumoya nje, lelizwi kalikho kubo, ngakho abakutshoyo kakwenziwe kubo.” **14** Ngakho-ke uThixo uNkulunkulu uSomandla uthi: “Njengoba abantu sebekhulume amazwi la, ngizakwenza amazwi ami emloniyeni wakho abe ngumilo labantu laba babe zinkuni oziqothulayo.” **15** UThixo uthi, “Wena ndlu ka-Israyeli, ngizaletsha isizwe esivela khathshana ukuba sikuhlasele, isizwe esidala esiqinileyo, isizwe ulimi lwaso ongalwaziye, lenkulumo yaso ongayizwayo. **16** Imixhaka yaso ifana lengcwaba elivulekileyo, bonke bangamabutho alamandla. **17** Bazatshwabadela amabele enu lokudla kwenu, batshwabadele amadolobho enu kanye lamadolokazi enu, bazatshwabadela izimvu zenu kanye lenkomo zenu, bazatshwabadela amavini enu kanye lemikhwi yenu. Amadolobho avikelweyo eliwathembileyo bazawachitha ngenkamba. **18** Ikanti langalezozinsuku,” kutsho uThixo, “angiyikuliqeda du. **19** Lapho abantu bebuza besithi, ‘Kungani uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu enze konke lokhu kithi?’ Batshele uthi, ‘Njengoba lingahlile lakhona onkulunkulu bezizweni elizweni lenu, ngokunjalo khathezi lizasebenzela abezizweni elizweni elingayisilo lenu.’ **20** Memezela lokhu endlini kaJakhobe njalo ukubike lakoJuda uthi: **21** Zwanini lokhu, lina zithutha zabantu abangelangqondo, abalamehlo kodwa kababoni, balezindlebe kodwa kabezwa: **22** Akumelanga lingesabe na?” kutsho uThixo. “Kaliyikuthuthumela phambi kwami na? Ngenza itshebetshebe laba ngumngcele wolwandle umkhawulo wanini lanini olungeke luweqe. Amagagasi angavinzoza, kodwa awangeke edlule, angahlakoma, kodwa awangeke aweqe. **23** Kodwa abantu laba balezinhliziyozu ezilukhuni ezihlamukayo, baphambukile, balahleka. **24** Kabatsho ezinhliziyweni zabo ukuthi, ‘Kasimesabeni uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu, onisa izulu ngesikhathi salo ekwindla lentwasa, osithembisa amaviki amiselwe ukuvuna.’ **25** Ukona kwenu kukuvimbele lokhu, izono zenu zilemuka

okuhle. **26** Phakathi kwabantu bami kulabantu ababi abacathama njengabantu abathiya izinyoni, lanjengalabo abathiya imijibila yokubamba abantu. **27** Njengezitsha ezigcwele izinyoni, izindlu zabo zigcwele inkohliso; sebenothile njalo sebelamandla **28** sebezimukile njalo babancwaba. Izenzo zabo ezimbi kazilamkhwalo, kabakudingi ukulunga. Izintandane kabazikhulumeli ukuba zinqobe, amalungelo abayanga kabawavikeli. **29** Akumelanga ngibajezise lokhu na?" kutsho uThixo. "Akumelanga ngiphindisele esizweni esinjengalesi na? **30** Into eyesabekayo leyethusayo isiyenzakele kululilizwe: **31** Abaphrofethi baphrofitha amanga, abaphristi babusa ngamandla abo, labantu bami bakuthanda kunjalo. Kodwa lizakwenzani ekucineni?"

6 "Balekani ukuze liphephe, bantu bakoBhenjamini! Balekani eJerusalem! Tshayani icilongo eThekhowal Phakamisani uphawu phezu kweBhethi-Hakheremi. Ngoba umonakalo uyabonakala ngasenyakatho, kanye lencithakalo eyesabekayo. **2** Indodakazi yaseZiyoni enhle kangaka lebcucayi ngizayibhubhisa. **3** Abelusi lemihlambi yabo bazakuza bamelane layo; bazamisa amathente abo eyihanqile, lowo lalowo elinde indawo yakhe." **4** "Lungelani ukulwa layo! Vukani, kasihlaseleni emini! Kodwa, habe, ukukhanya sekufiphala, lamathunzi okuhlwa asesiba made. **5** Ngakho vukani, kasihlaseleni ebusuku sidilize izinqaba zayo!" **6** UThixo uSomandla uthi: "Gamulani izihlahla liziwise lakhe imiduli yokumbezela iJerusalem. Idolobho leli kumele lizejizwe, ligcwele ukuncinezela. **7** Njengomthombo ugobhoza amanzi awo, ngokunjalo lalo ligobhoza ububi balo. Udlakela lokubhubhisa kuyezwakala phakathi kwalo, umkhuhlane walo lamanxeba ngihlezi ngikukhangele. **8** Xwayiseka, we Jerusalem, hlezi ngikutshiywe, lelizwe lakho ngilichithe, kungabi lomuntu ohlala kulo." **9** UThixo uSomandla uthi: "Kababuthe izinsalela zako-Israyeli ngokupheleleyo njengevini, dlulisa futhi isandla sakho phezu kwezingatsha, njengomuntu ovuna amavini." **10** Ngubani engingakhuluma laye ngimxwayise na? Ngubani ozangilalela na? Indlebe zabo zivalekile ngakho abangeke bezwe. Ilizwi likaThixo liyisengiso kubo. Kabafumani ntokozi kulo. **11** Kodwa mina ngiyafuthelana ngolaka lukaThixo, ngingeke ngibe ngisalugodla ngaphakathi. "Lwehlisele phezu kwabantwana emgwaqweni laphezu kwamajaha abuthene ndawonye, bobabili indoda lomkayo luzabehlela, kanye labadala, labo abakhulelwa yiminyaka. **12** Izindlu zabo zizanikwa abanye, konke lamasimu abo kanye labafazi babo, lapho ngiselula isandla sami ngimelana lalabo abahlala elizweni," kutsho uThixo. **13** "Kusukela kwabancane kusiya kwabakhulu, bonke bayizihwaba ezifuna inzuzo, banjalo abaphrofethi kanye labaphristi, bonke benza inkohliso. **14** Babopha inxeba labantu bami kungathi kalilibi kakhulu. Bathi, 'Ukuthula, ukuthula,' khona ukuthula kungekho. **15** Bayayangeka na ngokuziphatha kwabo okwenyanyekayo? Hatshi, bavele kabalazo inhloni lokuyangeka kabakwazi. Ngakho bazawela phakathi kwabawileyo, bazakwehliselwa phansi lapho sengibajezisa," kutsho uThixo. **16** UThixo, uthi: "Manini emahlanganweni emigwaqo likhangele, libuze izindledlana ezindala, libuze lapho okulendlela enhle khona, lihambe ngayo, lizathola ukuphumula kwemphefumulo yenu. Kodwa lina lithe, 'Kasiyikuhamba ngayo.' **17** Ngalibekela abantu bokulilinda ngathi, 'Lalelani ukukhala kwecilongo!' Kodwa

lina lathi, 'Kasiyikulalela.' **18** Ngakho zwanini, lina zizwe, khangelani, lina elingofakazi, libone okuzakwenzakala kubo. **19** Zwana, wena mhlaba, ngiletha umonakalo phezu kwabantu laba, izithelo zamaqhinga abo, ngoba kabawalalelanga amazwi ami njalo bawalile lomthetho wami. **20** Ngilani lempepha yaseShebha loba imfe evela elizweni elikude na? Iminikelo yenu yokutshiswa kayamukeleki, imihlatshelo yenu kayingithokozisi." **21** Ngakho uThixo uthi: "Ngizabeka imigoqo phambi kwalabantu. Abazali labantwana bazakhubeka kuyo, omakhelwane labangane bazabhubha." **22** UThixo uthi: "Khangelani, ibutho liyeza livela elizweni lasenyakatho, isizwe esikhulu siyadungwa kusukela emikhawulweni yomhlaba. **23** Bahlome ngamadandili langemikhonto, balesihluku kabalasihawu. Bezwakala njengolwandle oluhlokomayo lapho begade amabhiza abo, beza njengabantu abalungele impi ukuba bakuhlasele, wena Ndodakazi yaseZiyoni." **24** Sesizwe imibiko ngabo, njalo izandla zethu zilenga zingelamandla. Usizi lusibambile, ubuhlungu obunjengwezifazane ohelelwayo. **25** Lingayi phandle egangeni, loba lihambe emigwaqweni, ngoba isitha silenkamba, njalo silencithakalo emaceleni wonke. **26** Awu bantu bami, gqokani amasaka, lizibhuqe emlotheni, khalani lilile kabuhlungu njengokwendodana eyiyo yodwa, ngoba masinyane nje umchithi uzafika kithi. **27** "Ngikwenze umhloli wezinzimbi labantu bami babayilitshe elixubene lensimbi ukuba ukhangele ubone ube usuhlola izindlela zabo. **28** Bonke bangabahlamuki abalukhuni, abahamba behleba. Balithusi lensimbi, bonke benza ukuxhwalwa. **29** Imvutho ivutha ukwesabekayo incibilikisa umnuso ngokutshisa komlilo kodwa ukucenga kuqhubeka kuyize, ababi kabakhutshwanga. **30** Kuthiwa bayisiliva esilahlweyo, ngoba uThixo usebalahlile."

7 Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya livela kuThixo lisithi: **2** "Mana esangweni lendlu kaThixo umemezele ilizwi leli ukhonapho uthi: 'Zwanini ilizwi likaThixo, lonke lina bantu bakoJuda abangena ngala amasango ukuzakhonza uThixo. **3** UThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Lungisani izindlela zenu lezeno zenu, ukuze ngilivumele ukuba lihlale kule indawo. **4** Lingathambi amazwi akhohlisayo lithi, 'Leli lithempeli likaThixo, ithempeli likaThixo, ithempeli likaThixo!' **5** Lingalungisa izindlela zenu lezeno zenu sibili liphathane ngokulunga, **6** nxa lingancindezeli owezizweni, izintandane loba umfelokazi njalo lingachithi gazi elingelacala kule indawo, njalo nxa lingalandeli abanye onkulunkulu okuzalimaza, **7** ngizalivumela ukuba lihlale kule indawo, elizweni engalinika okhokho benu ukuba libe ngelabo kuze kube nini lanini. **8** Kodwa khangelani, lina lithemba amazwi akhohlisayo angasizi lutho. **9** Kambe lizantsontsha njalo libulale, lifebe, lifunge amangula, litshisele uBhali impepha njalo lilandele abanye onkulunkulu elingakaze libazi, **10** beselisizakuma phambi kwami kuyonale indlu, eleBizo lami, lithi, 'Sivikelekile,' livikeleka ukuba lenze zonke lezizinto ezenyanyekayo na? **11** Indlu le, eleBizo lami, seyaba lubhalu lwabaphangi na? Kodwa kade ngikhangele! kutsho uThixo. **12** Hambani khathesi endaweni yami eShilo lapho engenza khona kuqala indawo yokuhlala iBizo lami, libone engakwenza kuyo ngenxa yobubi babantu bami bako-Israyeli. **13** UThixo uthi, kwathi lapho lisenza lezizinto, mina ngakhuluma lani futhifuthi, kodwa kalingilalelanga, ngalibiza, kalaze lasabela. **14** Ngakho-ke, lokho engakwenza eShilo khathesi ngizakwenza kule indlu eleBizo lami, ithempeli elithembileyo, indawo

engalinika yona lina kanye labokhokho benu. **15** Ngizalixotsha phambi kwami, njengalokho engakwenza abafowenu bonke, abantu bako-Efrayimi.’ **16** Ngakho abantu laba ungabakhulekele loba ubakhulumele kumbe ubenzele isicelo; unggangincengi ngoba angiyikukulalela. **17** Abakwenzayo emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema kawukuboni na? **18** Abantwana batheza inkuni, oyise babasa imililo, labesifazane baxova inhlama benzele iNdlovukazi yaseZulwini isinkwa. Bathela abanye onkulunkulu iminikelo yokunathwayo ukuba bangithukuthelise. **19** Kodwa yimi abangithukuthelisayo na? kutsho uThixo. Kabazilimazi bona ngokwabo na, okulihlazo kubo? **20** ‘Ngakho uThixo Wobukhosi uthi: Ukuthukuthela kwami lolaka lwami kuzakwehliselwa kule indawo, phezu kwabantu lasezinyamazani, phezu kwezihlahla zeganga laphedu kwezithelo zomhlambathi; njalo kuzakutsha kungacitsheki. **21** UThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Qhubekani, fakani iminikelo yenu yokutshiswa kweminye imihlatshelo yenu idle inyama lina ngokwenu! **22** Ngoba ekukhupheni kwami okhokho benu eGibhithe ngikhuluma labo, angizange ngibanike imilayo nje kuphela ngeminikelo yokutshiswa lemihlatshelo, **23** kodwa ngabanika umlayo lo othi: Ngilalelani, njalo ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wenu lina libe ngabantu bami. Hambani ngezindlela zonke engililaye zona, ukuze kulilungele. **24** Kodwa kabazange balalele kumbe banake; esikhundleni salokho, bona balandela inkani yentando yezinhlizyo zabo ezimbi. Baya emuva hatshi phambili. **25** Kusukela ngesikhathi okhokho benu besuka eGibhithe kuze kube khathesi, usuku ngosuku, njalunjalo ngalithumela izinceku zami abaphrofethi. **26** Kodwa kabangilalelanga kumbe banake. Babelentamo ezilukhuni njalo benza ububi obudlula obabokhokho babo.’ **27** Lapho ubatshela konke lokhu, kabayikukulalela; lalapho ubabiza, kabayikusabela. **28** Ngakho batshela uthi, ‘Lesi yiziswe esingalalelanga uThixo uNkulunkulu waso kumbe sivume ukuqondiswa. Iqiniso selifile; kalisekho ezindebeni zabo. **29** Gelani inwele zenu lizilahlele khatshana; lenze isililo emiqolweni elugwadule, ngoba uThixo usesalile wasidela isizukulwane lesi esingaphanasi kolaka lwakhe.’” **30** “‘Abantu bakoJuda benze ububi phambi kwami, kutsho uThixo. Bamise izithombe zabo ezenyanyekayo endlini eleBizo lami balingcolisa. **31** Sebakhe izindawo eziphakemeyo zaseThofethi esigodini saseBheni-Hinomu ukuba batshisele khona amadodana lamadodakazi abo ngomlilo, into engingabalayanga yona, engazange ifike engqondweni yami. **32** Ngakho qaphelani, insuku ziyeza, kutsho uThixo, lapho abantu bengayikuyithi yiThofethi kumbe iSigodi saseBheni-Hinomu, kodwa iSigodi sokuBulala, ngoba abafuleyo bazabangcwaba eThofethi kuze kusweleke indawo. **33** Lapho-ke izidumbu zabantu laba zizakuba yikudla kwezinyoni zasemoyeni lezinyamazana zomhlaba, njalo akuyikuba lomuntu ozazethusa. **34** Ngizaqeda imisindo yokuthokoza leyenjabulo emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema, lokuthaba lelizwi lomlobokazi lelomyeni, ngoba ilizwe lizachitheka.”

8 “‘Ngalesosikhathi, kutsho uThixo, amathambo amakhosi akoJuda lawezikhulu zakhona, amathambo abaphristi lawabaphrofethi, kanye lamathambo abantu baseJerusalema azakhutshwa emangcwabeni awo. **2** Azachaywa elangeni lasenyangeni lakuzo zonke izinkanyezi zasamazulwini,

abakuthandayo bakukhonza njalo abakulandelayo bakubuzabakudumisa. Kawayikubuthwa loba angcwatshwe, kodwa azakuba njengezibi phezu komhlambathi. **3** Loba kungaphi engibaxotshela khona, bonke abasilo balesisizwe esibi bazakhe ukufa kulokuphila, kutsho uThixo uSomandla.” **4** “Wothi kubo, ‘UThixo uthi: Abantu bangawa, kabavuki na? Omunye angaphambuka, kaphenduki na? **5** Pho kungani abantu laba bedukile? Kungani iJerusalema lihlala liseduka? Bayanamathela enkohlisweni, bayala ukuphenduka. **6** Ngilalele ngesineke, kodwa kabatsho okulungileyo. Kakho ophenduka ebubini bakhe, esithi, “Kuyini engikwenzileyo na?” Yilowo alowo ulandela indlela yakhe njengebhiza lizithela empini. **7** Lengabuzane emoyeni liyazazi izikhathi zalo zomnyaka, lejuba, lenkonjane lohemu kuyasigcina isikhathi sakhokho sokuthutha. Kodwa abantu bami kabakwazi okufunwa nguThixo. **8** Lingatsho kanjani ukuthi, “Sihlakaniphile, ngoba silomthetho kaThixo,” lona iqiniso kuyikuthi amanga alotshwe ngosiba lwababhali asenze umthetho wangabi liqiniso? **9** Abahlakaniphileyo bazayangiswa, bazakwesaba bathiyeke. Njengoba belalile ilizwi likaThixo, balenhlakaniphobani na? **10** Ngakho abafazi babo ngizabapha amanye amadoda lamasimu abo abe ngwabanye abatsha. Kusukela kwabancane kusiyakwabakhulu, bonke bayizihlala ezifuna inzuzo, banjalo abaphrofethi kanye labaphristi, bonke benza inkohliso. **11** Babopha inxeba labantu bami kungathi kalilibi kakhulu. Bathi, “Ukuthula, ukuthula,” khona ukuthula kungekho. **12** Kambe bayayangeka na ngokuziphatha kwabo okunengisayo? Hatshi, bavele kabalazo inhloni, lokuyangeka kabakwazi. Ngakho bazawela phakathi kwabawileyo, bazakwehliselwa phansi lapho sebejeziswa, kutsho uThixo. **13** Ngizabemuka isivuno sabo, kutsho uThixo. Akuyikuba lezithelo ezivinini zabo. Akuyikuba lezithelo zomkhiwa esihlahleni, lamahlamu aso azabuna. Engibanike khona kuzathathwa kubo.” **14** Pho sihlaloleni lapha? Buthanini! Kasibalekeleni emadolobheni avikelweyo siyebhubhela khona! Ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu usesilahlele ekubhubheni wasinika amanzi aletshefu ukuba sinathe, ngoba sonile kuye. **15** Sathemba ukuba lokuthula kodwa akubanga lobuhle obukhona, ekubeni kube yisikhathi sokwelatshwa kwala lukevela. **16** Ukuthimula kwamabhiza esitha kuyezakwala kuwelela koDani, ekukhaleni kwamabhiza amaduna ilizwe lonke liyaqhaqha. Zilande ukuzatshwabadelo ilizwe lakho konke okukulo, idolobho labo bonke abahlala kulo. **17** “Khangalani, ngizathumela phakathi kwenu izinyoka ezilobuhlungu, izinhlangwana ezingeke zithakathwe, njalo zizaluluma,” kutsho uThixo. **18** Awu Mduzi wami osizini, inhlizyo yami isiqaleka phakathi kwami. **19** Lalala ukukhala kwabantu bami okuvela elizweni elikhathshana besithi: “UThixo kakho eZiyoni na? INkosi yalo kayisekho lapho na?” “Kungani bevuse ulaka lwami ngezifanekiso zabo, langezithombe zezizweni eziyize na?” **20** “Ukuvuna sekwedlule, ihlobo seliphelile, kodwa kasihlengwanga.” **21** Njengoba abantu bami benqotshiwe lami ngingotshiwe, ngiyalala njalo ukwesaba kungiphethe. **22** Akulamuthi yini eGilyadi? Kakho yini lomelaphi khona? Pho kungani kungekho kwelatshwa kwenxeba labantu bami na?

9 Awu, sengathi ngabe ikhanda lami lingumthombo wamanzi, lamehlo ami angumthombo wezinyembezi! Kade ngizakhala emini lebusuku ngikhalela abantu bami abawulewengayo. **2** Awu, sengathi ngabe enkangala ngilendawo engahlala izihambi, ukuba ngisuke ebantwini bami ngisuke kubo, ngoba

bonke bayizifebe, ixuku labantu abangathembekanga. **3** “Benza izindimi zabo zilunge njengesavutha ukuba batshoke amanga, ukuthi bayanqoba elizweni akusikho ngeqiniso. Basuka kokunye ukona baye kokunye; kabangamukeli,” kutsho uThixo. **4** “Qaphela abangane bakho, ungabathembi abafowenu. Ngoba wonke umfowenu ungumkohlisi, njalo wonke umngane ungumhlebi. **5** Umngane ukhohlisa umngane, njalo kakho okhuluma iqiniso. Sebafundisa izindimi zabo ukuqamba amanga, bayazidinis ngokona. **6** Lihlala phakathi kwenkohliso, ngenkohliso yabo bayala ukungamukela,” kutsho uThixo. **7** Ngakho uThixo uSomandla uthi: “Khangelani, ngizabacalisa ngibahlolo, ngoba kuyini okunye engingakwenza ngenxa yesono sabantu bami? **8** Ulimi lwabo lungumtshoko olobuthi, lukhuluma inkohliso. Lowo lalowo ukhuluma kuhle kubomakhelwane bakhe, kodwa enhliziyweni zabo bebathiya ngemijibila. **9** Kakufanele ngibajezisele lokhu na?” kubuza uThixo. “Kakufanele ngiphindisele esizweni esinjengalesi na?” **10** Ngizakhala ngililele izintaba ngibuye ngililele lamadlelo asenkangala. Atshabalele njalo kakho ohambela kuwo, lokubhonsa kwezinkomo akuzwakali. Izinyoni zasemoyeni sezibalekile, lezinyamazana kazisekho. **11** “Jerusalema ngizalenza libe yinqumbi yonxiwa, isikhundla samakhanka, njalo ngizawadiliza amadolobho akujoda ukuze kungabikhona ohlala kuwo.” **12** Nguphi umuntu ohlakaniphileyo ukuba akuzwize lokhu? Ngubani ofundiswe nguThixo ongakuchaza? Kungani ilizwe litshabalaliswe lachithwa njengenkangala ukuze kungadluli muntu kulo? **13** UThixo wathi, “Kungenxa yokuthi sebelahle umthetho wami engababekela wona; kabangilalelanga, lomthetho wami kabawulandelanga. **14** Esikhundleni salokho, bona balandele ubulukhuni bezinhlizyo zabo; balandele oBhali, njengokufundiswa kwabo ngoyise.” **15** Ngakho-ke, uThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: “Khangelani, abantu laba ngizabadlisa ukudla okubabayo ngibanathes lamanzi alobuthi. **16** Ngizabahlakazela ezizweni bona kanye laboyise abangazange bazazi, njalo ngizabalandela ngenkamba ngize ngibaqede du.” **17** UThixo uSomandla uthi: “Cabangani khathesi! Bizani abesifazane abalilayo beze, libize labo abalobuciko obumangalisayo. **18** Kabeze ngokuphangisa, basesililela amehlo ethu eze ehlise inyembezi ngophoma zamanzi zigeleze, ziphuma enkopheni zethu.” **19** Ilizwi lokukhala liyewakala livela eZiyoni: “Yeka kunganani ukuchithakala kwethu! Yeka ubukhulu behlazo lethu! Kumele sisuke elizweni lethu ngoba izindlu zethu zidilizwe.” **20** Khathesi, lina abesifazane, zwani ilizwi likaThixo, vulani indlebe zenu lizwe amazwi omlomo wakhe. Fundisani amadodakazi enu ukulila, lifundisane amazwi okukhala. **21** Ukufa kukhwele kwangena ngamafastela ethu, njalo kungenile lasezingqabeni zethu, sekususe abantwana emigwaqweni kanye lamajaha ezindaweni zikazulu. **22** Tshono uthi, uThixo uthi, “izidumbu zabafileyo zizalala njengezibi egangeni, njengamabele aqunywe ngemva kovunayo, okungekho ozawabutha.” **23** UThixo uthi: “Ohlakaniphileyo kangazincomi ngokuhlakanipha kwakhe, loba indoda elamandla izincome ngamandla ayo, loba indoda enothileyo izincome ngenotho yayo, **24** kodwa lowo ozincomayo, kazincome ngokuthi uyaqedisisa njalo uyangazi, ukuthi mina nginguThixo, usebenzisa umusa, imfanelo lokulunga emhlabeni, ngoba lezizinto ziyangithokozisa,” kutsho uThixo. **25** UThixo uthi, “Insuku ziyeza, lapho engizabajezisa khona bonke abasoke enyameni kuphela, **26** iGibhithe, loJuda, lo-Edomi, lo-

Amoni loMowabi labo bonke abahlala enkangala ezindaweni ezikhathshana. Ngoba izizwe zonke lezi kazisokanga, njalo lendlu yonke ka-Israyeli kayisokanga enhliziyweni.”

10 Zwana okutshiwo nguThixo kuwe, wena ndlu ka-Israyeli. **2** UThixo uthi: “Lingazifundi izindlela zezizwe kumbe ukwethuswa yizibonakaliso zasemkhathini, lanxa nje izizwe zisethuswa yizo. **3** Ngoba imikhuba yabantu iyize, bagamula isihlahla ehlahini, ingcwethi isibaze ngetshizela yayo. **4** Bayasicecisa ngesiliva langegolide, basibethele ngesando langezipikili ukuze singanyikinyeki. **5** Njengezinto zokwethusa endimeni yamajodo, izithombe zabo azikhulumi, kumele zithwalwe ngoba azingeke zihambe. Lingazesabi, azingeke zenze okubi, lokuhle azingeke zikwenze.” **6** Kakho ofana lawe, wena Thixo, wena umkhulu, lezibo lakho lilamandla amakhulu. **7** Ngubani ongeke akwesabe, wena Nkosi yeziwe? Lokhu kukufanele. Phakathi kwabantu bonke abahlakaniphileyo bezizwe lakuyo yonke imibuso yabo, kakho onjengawe. **8** Bonke kabalangqondo njalo bayizithutha, bafundiswa yizithombe zezigodo eziyize. **9** Isiliva esikhandiweyo siyaletshwa sivela eThashishi legolide livela e-Ufazi. Okwenziwe yingcwethi lomkhandi wegolide kugokiswa okuluhlaza lokuyibubende, njalo konke kwenziwe zingcitshi. **10** Kodwa uThixo unguNkulunkulu oqotho, unguNkulunkulu ophilayo, iNkosi yanininini. Lapho ethukuthele, umhlaba uyagedezela, izizwe azingeke zimelane lolaka lwakhe. **11** “Batshela lokhu uthi, onkulunkulu laba, abangawenzanga amazulu lomhlaba, bazabhubha emhlabeni langaphansi kwamazulu.” **12** Kodwa uNkulunkulu wenza umhlaba ngamandla akhe, wamisa umhlaba ngokuhlakanipha kwakhe, njalo wendlala lamazulu ngokuqedisisa kwakhe. **13** Lapho evungama, amanzi asemazulwini ayahlokoma, wenza amayezi aphakame evela emikhawulweni yomhlaba. Uthumela umbane ulezulu njalo akhuphe umoya eziphaleni zakhe. **14** Abantu bonke kabalangqondo njalo kabalalwazi, wonke umkhandi wegolide uyangiswa yizithombe zakhe. Izithombe zakhe azenzayo ziyinkohliso, kazilamphefumulo phakathi kwazo. **15** Ziyize, izinto zenhlekisa nje, lapho ukwahlulelwa kwazo sekufikile, zizabhubha. **16** Lowo oyiNgxenyi kaJakhobe kafani lalaba, ngoba unguMenzi wezinto zonke, kubalwa lo-Israyeli, isizwe selifa lakhe, ibizo lakhe nguThixo uSomandla. **17** Qoqani impahla yenu ukuba lisuke elizweni, lina elihlezi livinjazelwe. **18** Ngoba uThixo uthi, “Ngalesisikhathi ngizabaphosela phandle labo abahlala kulelilizwe, ngizabehlisela usizi ukuze bathunjwe.” **19** Maye mina ngenxa yokulimala kwami! Inxeba lami kalelapheki! Ikanti ngazitshela ngathi, “Lo ngumkhuhlane wami, njalo kumele ngiwubekezelele.” **20** Ithente lami lidilizwe, izintambo zabo zonke ziqumekile. Amadodana ami asukile kimi njalo kawasekho, kakho oseleyo ukuba angimisele ithente lami, loba ongangilungisela amakhetheni ami. **21** Abelusi kabalangqondo njalo kabambuzi uThixo, ngakho kabaphumeleli, njalo lemihlambi yabo yonke ihlakazekile. **22** Lalelani! Umbiko uyeza, ukuxokozela okukhulu okuvela elizweni lenyakatho! Kuzakwenza amadolobho akoJuda alichitheke, abe yizikhundla zamakhanka. **23** Ngiyazi, Oh Thixo, ukuthi ukuphila komuntu akusikho kwakhe, umuntu akusikho kwakhe ukuthi aqondise izinyathelo zakhe. **24** Ngiqondise Thixo, kodwa kube ngokulunga, kungabi ngolaka lwakho, hlezi ungenze ngibe yize. **25** Yehlisela ulaka lwakho phezu kwezizwe ezingakwamukeliyo, phezu kwabantu abangakhuleki

ebizweni lakho. Ngoba bamdlile uJakhobe, bamdlile waphela bachitha lelizwe lakhe.

11 Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya livela kuThixo lisithi: **2** “Zwana izimiso zesivumelwano lesi uzitshelwe abantu bakoJuda labalo abahlala eJerusalem. **3** Batshele utshi uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, utshi: ‘Uqalekisiwe umuntu ongalandeli izimiso zesivumelwano lesi, **4** izimiso engalaya ngazo okhokho benu ekubakhupheni kwami eGibhithe, esasiyisithando sokucibilikisa insimbi.’ Ngathi, ‘Lalelani ilizwi lami lenze konke engililaya khona, lizakuba ngabantu bami, mina ngibe nguNkulunkulu wenu. **5** Lapho-ke ngizagcwalisa isifungo sami engasifunga kubokhokho benu, ukubanika ilizwe eligeleza uchago loluju,’ ilizwe elihlezi kulo khathezi.” Ngaphendula ngathi, “Akube njalo Thixo.” **6** UThixo wasesithi kimi, “Memezela wonke amazwi la emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalem utshi: ‘Zwanini izimiso zesivumelwano lesi lizilande. **7** Kusukela ekukhupheni kwami okhokho benu eGibhithe kuze kube lamhla, ngabalaya njalonjalo ngisithi, ‘Lalelani ilizwi lami.’ **8** Kodwa kabazange balalele kumbe banake; esikhundleni salokho, bona balandela inkani yezinhlizyo zabo ezimbi. Ngakho ngabehlisela zonke izithuko zesivumelwano engangibalaye ukuba basilandele kodwa kabaze basigcina.” **9** UThixo wasesithi kimi, “Kulokuhlama okukhona ebantwini bakoJuda lakulabo abahlala eJerusalem. **10** Sebebuyele ezonweni zabokhokho babo, abalayo ukulalela amazwi ami. Balandele abanye onkulunkulu ukuba babakhonze. Indlu ka-Israyeli lendlu kaJuda, zombili zisephule isivumelwano engasenza labokhokho bazo. **11** Ngakho nanku akutshoyo uThixo: ‘Ngizabehlisela umonakalo abangeke baphephe kuwo. Lanxa sebekhala kimi kangiyikubalalela. **12** Amadolobho akoJuda labantu baseJerusalem bazakuyakhala kubonkulunkulu ababathisela impepha, kodwa kabasoze babasize ngalutho lapho uhlupho selubehlela. **13** Wena Juda ubunengi babonkulunkulu bakho bunjengobamadolobho akho, njalo lama-alithare owakhele ukutshisela impepha kulowonkulunkulu olihlazo, uBhali, ubunengi bawo bunjengobemigwaqweni yaseJerusalem.’ **14** Abantu laba ungabakhulekeli kumbe ubakhlumele loba ubacelele, ngoba angiyikulalela lapho bekhala kimi esikhathini sokuhlupheka kwabo. **15** Othandekayo wami wenzani ethempelini lami eceba amaqhinga amabi labanengi? Kambe inyama ebusiweyo ingaphuthisa ukujeziswa kwakho na? Lapho uphatheka ngobubi bakho, uyajabula.” **16** UThixo wakubiza ngokuthi uyisihlahla se-oliva esihlumileyo esilezithelo ezinhle. Kodwa ngokuhlokoma kwesiphapho esikhulu uzasithungela ngomlilo, ingatsha zaso zephuke. **17** UThixo uSomandla, owakuhlanyelayo, usememezele umonakalo kuwe, ngoba indlu ka-Israyeli lendlu kaJuda zenze okubi zangithukuthelisa ngokutshisela uBhali impepha. **18** Ngenxa yokuthi uThixo waveza icebo labo kimi, ngalazi, ngoba ngalesosikhathi wangitshengisa ababekwenza. **19** Ngangifana lewundlu elithambileyo lisiwa ekuhlathshweni; ngangingazi ukuthi basebebumbe icebo ngami, besithi, ‘Kasiqumeni isihlahla kanye lezithelo zaso; kasimsuseni elizweni labaphilayo, ukuze ibizo lakhe lingakhunjulwa futhi.’ **20** Kodwa, wena, Thixo Somandla, wena owahlulela ngokulunga njalo uhloha inhlizyo lengqondo, yenza ngibone ukuphindisela kwakho kubo, ngoba isisusa sami ngisinikela kuwe. **21** Ngakho-ke nanku okutshiwo nguThixo mayelana labantu

base-Anathothi abafuna ukukubulala besithi, “Ungaphrofethi ngebizo likaThixo funa sikubulale.” **22** ngakho uThixo uSomandla utshi: “Ngizabajezisa. Amajaha akibo azabulawa yinkemba, amadodana lamadodakazi abo abulawe yindlala. **23** Akuyikuba khona osalayo kubo, ngoba ngizaletha incithakalo ebantwini base-Anathothi ngomnyaka wokujeziswa kwabo.”

12 Wena ulungile izikhathi zonke, Oh Thixo, lapho ngiletha indaba kuwe. Ikanti ngingakhuluma lawe ngokulunga kwakho: Kungani indlela yababi iphumelela na? Kungani abangathembekanga behlezi kuhle na? **2** Ubahlanyele, njalo sebemilile; bayakhula bathele izithelo. Bahlezi bekhuluma ngawe, kodwa ezinhliziyweni zabo ukhathshana. **3** Kodwa mina, Oh Thixo, uyangazi; uyangibona uhlole imicabango yami ngawe. Bahudule njengezimvu eziyahlatshwa! Bamisele usuku lokubulawa! **4** Koze kube nini ilizwe lomile lotshani iganga lonke bubunile? Ngenxa yokuthi labo abahlala kulo babi, izinyamazana lezinyoni sezibhubhile. Kanti futhi abantu bathi, “Kasoze akubone okwenzakala kithi.” **5** “Nxa ugijime labantu ngezinyawo bakudinisa, ungancintisana njani lamabhiza na? Nxa ukhubeka elizweni elingelangozi, pho uzakwanelisa njani ezixukwini zaseJodani na? **6** Abafowenu, abendlu yakwenu labo futhi bakunikele; baklabalale batsho okubi ngawe. Ungabathemi, lanxa bekhuluma kuhle ngawe. **7** Indlu yami ngizayitshiya, ngilidele ilifa lami; lowo engimthandayo ngizammikela ezandleni zezitha zakhe. **8** Ilifa lami kimi selibe njengesilwane ehlathini. Liyangihwabhela; ngakho ngiyalizonda. **9** Ilifa lami kimi kaselibe njengenyoni emabalabala edla inyama ehanqwa ngezinye izinyoni ezidla inyama, ziyihlasela na? Hamba uyebutha zonke izinyamazana zeganga; uzilethe ukuba zidle. **10** Abelusi abanengi bazasichitha isivini sami bagandele insimu yami; bazaguqula insimu yami enhle ibe lugwadule oluphundlekileyo. **11** Izakwenziwa ugwadule, yome iphundlekile phambi kwami; ilizwe lonke lizachitheka ngoba kakho olinakayo. **12** Emiqolweni yonke engelalutho enkangala abachithi bazaphithizela, ngoba inkemba kaThixo izakudla kusukela komunye umkhawulo welizwe kusiya komunye; kakho ozavikeleka. **13** Bazahlanyela ingqoloyi kodwa bavune ameva; bazazidinya kodwa bangazuzi lutho. Ngakho wobani lenhloni ngesivuno senu ngenxa yolaka olwesabekayo lukaThixo.” **14** UThixo utshi: “Bonke omakhelwane bami ababi abathumba ilifa engalinika abantu bami bako-Israyeli, ngizabasusa emazweni abo ngisuse lendlu kaJuda phakathi kwabo. **15** Kodwa emva kokubasusa kwami, ngizaphinda ngibe lesihawu ngibuyisele omunye lomunye wabo endaweni eyilifa lakhe elizweni lakhe. **16** Bangazifunda kuhle izindlela zabantu bami njalo bafunge ngebizo lami besithi, ‘Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ephila’ lanxa nje bake bafundisa abantu bami ukufunga ngoBhali, bazahlaliswa phakathi kwabantu bami. **17** Kodwa nxa isizwe singalaleli, ngizasisusa ngokupheleleyo ngisibhubhise,” kutsho uThixo.

13 UThixo wathi kimi: “Hamba uyethenga ibhanti lelineni ubophe ukhalo lwakho ngalo, kodwa lingathinti amanzi.” **2** Ngakho ngathenga ibhanti, njengokulaya kukaThixo, ngabopha ukhalo lwami ngalo. **3** Ilizwi likaThixo labuya lafika kimi ngokwesibili lathi: **4** “Thatha ibhanti olithengileyo obophe ngalo ukhalo lwakho, uye eYufurathe, khathesi nje ulifihle khona eminkenkeni yamatshe.” **5** Ngakho ngahamba ngayalifihle eYufurathe, njengokutsho kukaThixo kimi. **6** Sekudlule insuku ezinengi uThixo wathi kimi,

“Hamba khathesi eYufathe uyethatha ibhanti engathi lifihle khona.” 7 Ngakho ngaya eYufathe ngagebha lapho engangifihle khona ibhanti, kodwa laselonakele impela lingaselasizo. 8 Lapho-ke kwafika ilizwi likaThixo kimi lisithi: 9 “UTHixo uthi: ‘Ngendlela efanayo ngizakuchitha ukuziqgaja kukaJuda lokuziqgaja okukhulu kweJerusalem. 10 Lababantu abangalungana, abalayo ukulalela amazwi ami, abalandela ubulukhuni bezinhliziyo zabo badinge abanye onkulunkulu ukuba babasebenzele njalo babakhonze, bazakuba njengebhanti leli, bengelasizo loluncane! 11 Ngoba njengebhanti libopha ukhalo lomuntu, ngayibophela kanjalo kimi yonke indlu ka-Israyeli layo yonke indlu kaJuda, kutsho uThixo, ukuba babengabantu bami ngenxa yodumo lwami, ukubongwa lokudunyiswa. Kodwa kabalalelanga.” 12 “Batshele uthi, ‘UTHixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi, zonke izikhumba zewayini kumele zigcwaliswe ngewayini.’ Bona bangathi kuwe, ‘Kanti thina kasikwazi yini ukuthi izikhumba zonke kumele zigcwaliswe ngewayini?’ 13 wena uthi kubo, ‘UTHixo uthi: Ngizabenza badakwe bonke abahlala kulelilizwe, kanye lamakhosi ahlala esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaDavida, abaphristi, abaphrofethi labo bonke abahlala eJerusalem. 14 Ngizabamahlaza omunye komunye, oyiye lamadodana ngokufananayo, kutsho uThixo. Angiyikuvumela isihawu loba umusa kumbe uzwelo ukuba kungivimbele ukubabhuhisa.” 15 Zwanini lilalele, lingaziqgaji, ngoba uThixo usekhulumile. 16 Dumisani uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu engakaletshi ubumnyama, inyawo zenu zingakakhubeki emaqakeni asesembuya yibumnyama. Lilindele ukukhanya, kodwa yena uzakwenza kube yibumnyama, akuphendule kube yibumnyama obesabekayo. 17 Kodwa nxa lingalaleli, ngizakhalela ensitha ngenxa yokuziqgaja kwenu; amehlo ami azalila kabuhlungu, ageleze inyembezi, ngoba umhlambi kaThixo uzathunjwa. 18 Tshono enkosini lasendlovukazini uthi, “Yehlani ezihlalweni zenu zobukhosi lize phansi, ngoba imiqhele yenu emihle kakhulu izakuwa emakhanda enu.” 19 Amadolobho aseNegebi azawalwa, njalo akuyikuba khona ozawavula. UJuda wonke uzathathwa asiwe ekuthunjweni, uzasiwa ekuthunjweni ngokupheleleyo. 20 Phakamisani amehlo enu libone labo abavela enyakatho. Ungaphi umhlambi ababewugcinisiwe, izimvu elalizisa ngazo na? 21 Lizakuthini lapho uThixo esebabeka phezu kwenu labo elabenza babangabangane benu abaqakathekileyo na? Kaliyikubanjwa yibuhlungu obufana lobowesifazane ehelelwa na? 22 Njalo nxa uzibuza usithi, “Kungani lokhu kwenzakele kimi na?” Kungenxa yezono zakho ezinengi ukuthi izidwaba zakho zidatshulwe lomzimba wakho waphathwa kubi. 23 UmTopiya angaliguqula yini ijwabu lakhe loba ingwe iguqule amabala ayo na? Lani lingeke lenze okuhle lina selajwayela ukwenza okubi. 24 “Ngizalihalakaza njengamakhoba ephetshulwa ngumoya wasenkangala. 25 Lokhu yikho okungokwenu, isabelo engilimisele sona,” kutsho uThixo, “ngoba lingikhohliwe lathemba onkulunkulu bamanga. 26 Ngizaphekulela izidwaba zakho ebusweni bakho ukuba kubonakale ihlazo lakho, 27 ubufebe bakho lokububuliswa yisigwebo, ukufeba kwakho ungelanhloni! Ngizibonile izenzo zakho ezenyanyekayo phezu kwamaqgaja lasengangeni. Maye kuwe, wena Jerusalem! Koze kube nini ungalambululanga na?”

14 Leli yilizwi likaThixo elafika kuJeremiya mayelana lokoma elizweni lisithi: 2 “UJuda uyalila, amadolobho

akhe ayahlupheka; alilela ilizwe, njalo isililo siyaqonga sivela eJerusalem. 3 Izikhulu zithuma izinceku zazo ukuyafuna amanzi; ziya emithonjeni kodwa zifice amanzi engekho. Ziyabuyela lemigqomo yazo ingelalutho; zithithibele njalo zidanile, zemboze amakhanda azo. 4 Umhlabathi uqhekezekile ngoba akulazulu elizweni; abalimi bathithibele njalo bemboze amakhanda abo. 5 Lenyamazana ensikazi egangeni iyabalekela inkonyane layo elizelweyo ngoba akulatshani. 6 Obabhemi beganga bema emiqolweni elugwadule bakhefuzele njengamakhanka; amehlo abo asefiphele ngenxa yokuswela amadlelo.” 7 Lanxa izono zethu zifakaza kubi ngathi, Oh Thixo, ake wenze okunye ngenxa yebizo lakho. Ngoba ukuhlelela kwethu emuva kunengi; sonile kuwe. 8 Oh Themba lika-Israyeli, uMhlengi wakhe ezikhathini zokuhlupheka, kungani usiba njengowezizweni elizweni, njengesihambi esihlala ubusuku obubodwa kuphela? 9 Kungani usiba njengomuntu ojuniweyo, lanjengebutho elingelamandla okusiza na? Ukhona phakathi kwethu, wena Thixo, njalo sibizwa ngebizo lakho; ungasilahl! 10 Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo ngalabantu: “Bayakuthanda kakhulu ukuntula; kabazibambi inyawo zabo. Ngakho uThixo kayikubamukela; khathesi uzakumbula ububi babo abajezisele izono zabo.” 11 UThixo wasesithi kimi, “Ungakhulekeli inhlalakahle yabantu laba. 12 Lanxa bezila ukudla, ukukhala kwabo angiyikukulalela; loba benikela iminikelo yokutshiswa kanye leminikelo yamabele, angiyikyumukela. Esikhundleni salokho, ngizabaqeda du ngenkamba, ngendlala langezifo.” 13 Kodwa mina ngathi, “Awu Thixo Wobukhosi, abaphrofethi bahlezi bebatshela besithi, ‘Kaliyikubona inkemba loba libulawe yindlala. Impela, ngizalipha ukuthula okungapheliyo kule indawo.” 14 UThixo wasesithi kimi, “Abaphrofethi baphrofetha amanga ngebizo lami. Angibathumanga njalo angibakhethanga kumbe ngikhulume labo. Baphrofetha imibono yamanga kini, ukuhlalula, ukukhonza izithombe lenkohliso yezingqondo zabo. 15 Ngakho-ke, nanku okutshiwo nguThixo ngabaphrofethi abaphrofetha ngebizo lami ukuthi: Kangizange ngibathume, kodwa bona bathi, ‘Akulankemba kumbe indlala ezathinta ilizwe leli.’ Bona labo abaphrofethi bazabuhjiswa ngenkamba langendlala. 16 Abantu abaphrofetha kubo bazaphoselwa phandle emigwaqweni yaseJerusalem ngenxa yendlala lenkemba. Akulamuntu ozabangcwaba kumbe omkabo, amadodana abo loba amadodakazi abo. Ngizabehlisela ingozi ebafileleyo. 17 Khuluma ilizwi leli kubo uthi: ‘Amekho ami kawehlise inyembezi ebusuku lemini zingomi; ngoba indodakazi yami egcweleyo, labantu bami balimele kakhulu, balinyazwe yikutshaywa okwesabekayo. 18 Nxa ngingena elizweni, ngibona labo ababulawa ngenkamba; nxa ngingena edolobheni ngibona umonakalo owenziwa yindlala. Bobabili umphrofethi lomphristi sebeye elizweni abangalaziyo.” 19 UJuda usumahlle kokuphela na? IZiyoni uyaleyisa na? Usitshayeleni kangaka size singelapheki na? Sasilindele ukuthula kodwa akulabuhle obaba khona, isikhathi sokwelatshwa kodwa kulokwesaba kuphela. 20 Awu Thixo, siyakuvuma ukona kwethu kanye lokona kwabokhokho bethu; impela sonile kuwe. 21 Ngenxa yebizo lakho ungasenyanyi; ungasigconisi ihlalo sakho sobukhosi esihle kakhulu. Khumbula isivumelwano sakho lathi ungasephuli. 22 Zikhona yini izithombe eziyize zezizwe ezinganisa izulu na? Imikhathi yona ngokwayo iyalinisa izulu na? Hatshi, nguwe, Thixo Nkulunkulu

wethu. Ngakho ithemba lethu likuwe, ngoba nguwe owenza konke lokhu.

15 UThixo wasesithi kimi, “Lanxa uMosi loSamuyeli bengema phambi kwami, inhliziyi yami ingeke iphendukele kulababantu. Basuse phambi kwami! Kabahambel **2** Bangakubuza bathi, ‘Sizakuya ngaphi na?’ uthi kubo, uThixo uthi: ‘Abamiselwe ukufa, baya ekufeni; abenkemba, enkembeni; abendlala, endlaleni; abokuthunjwa, ekuthunjweni.’ **3** Ngizabathumela imihlobo emine yabachithi,” kutsho uThixo, “inkemba yokubulala lezinja zokuhudulela khatshana njalo lezinyoni zasemoyeni kanye lezinyamazana zeganga ukuba zidle zibhuqe. **4** Ngizabenza banengeke emibusweni yonke yasemhlabeni ngenxa yalokho okwenziwa eJerusalema nguManase indodana kaHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda. **5** Ngubani ozakuba lesihawu kuwe wena Jerusalema? Ngubani ngizakuhalela na? Ngubani ozakuma abuze ukuthi unjani na? **6** Ungalile,” kutsho uThixo. “Uqhubeke uhlehlela emuva. Ngakho ngizabeka izandla phezu kwakho ngikuchithe; ngingeke ngibe lesihawu futhi. **7** Ngizabahlungula ngefologwe yokwela emasangweni amadolobho elizwe. Ngizaletsha ukufelwa lokuchitheka ebantwini bami, ngoba kabagququlanga izindlela zabo. **8** Ngizakwenza abafelokazi babo bande kakhulu kuletshebetshebe lasolwandle. Emini ngizakwehlisela umbulali phezu kwabonina bamajaha akibo; khonokho ngizabehlisela usizi lokwesaba. **9** Unina wabayisikhombisa uzaqaleka aphefumule okokucina. Ilanga lakhe lizatshona kusesemini; uzayangiswa njalo eyiswe. Izinsalela ngizaziqeda ngenkemba phambi kwezitha zazo,” kutsho uThixo. **10** Maye, wena mama, ngokuthi wangizala, mina muntu ilizwe lonke elibangisana laye njalo liphikisana laye! Kangikaze ngebolekise loba ngeboleke, kodwa bonke bayangithuka. **11** UThixo wathi, “Ngeqiniso ngizakuhlulula ngenjongo enhle; ngeqiniso ngizakwenza izitha zakho zikuncenge ezikhathini zomonakalo lezokuhlupheka. **12** Umuntu angayiqamula insimbi, insimbi evela enyakatho kumbe ithusi na? **13** Inotho yakho lamatshe akho aligugu ngizakwenza kube yimpango, yamahala, ngenxa yezono zakho kulolonke ilizwe lakini. **14** Ngizakwenza ube yisigqili sezitha zakho elizweni ongalaziyo, ngoba ulaka lwami luzabhebha umlilo ozakutshisa.” **15** Uyazwisisa wena Thixo; ngikhumbula ungikhathalele. Ungiphindiselele kwabangihluphayo. Uyabekezela, ungangigudluli; khumbula ukuthi ngithukwa njani ngenxa yakho. **16** Ekufikeni kwamazwi akho, ngawadla; ayeintokozo yami lenjabulo yenhliziyi yami, ngoba mina ngibizwa ngebizo lakho, wena Thixo Nkulunkulu Somandla. **17** Kangizange ngihlale enhlanganisweni yabazithokozisayo, kumbe ngijabule labo; ngahlala ngedwa ngoba isandla sakho sasiphezu kwami njalo wawungenze ngagcwala intukuthelo. **18** Kungani ubuhlungu engibuzwayo bungapheli lenxeba lami lilibi kakhulu njalo lingelapheki na? Kimi uzakuba njengesifula esikhohlisayo, lanjengomthombo ongelamanzi na? **19** Ngakho uThixo uthi: “Ungaphenduka, ngizakubuyisela ukuze ungikhonze; nxa ukhuluma amazwi afaneleyo, hatshi angasizi lutho, uzakuba yisikhulumeli sami. Abantu laba kabaphendukele kuwe, kodwa wena akumelanga uphendukele kubo. **20** Ngizakwenza ube ngumduli kulababantu, umduli ovikelweyo wethusi; bazakulwa lawe kodwa kabayikwehlula, ngoba mina ngilawe ukuba ngikuhlenge ngikusize,” kutsho uThixo. **21** “Ngizakuhlenga ezandleni zababi ngikukhulule ezandleni zabalesihluku.”

16 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi futhi lisithi: **2** “Ungathathi mfazi ube lamadodana loba amadodakazi kule indawo.”

3 Ngoba mayelana lamadodana lamadodakazi azalelwe kulelilizwe kanye labesifazane abangonina lamadoda angoyise uThixo uthi: **4** “Bazakufa bebulawa yimikhuhlane eyesabekayo. Kabayikukhalelwa loba bangcwatshwe, kodwa bazakuba njengezibi emhlabathini. Bazabhubha ngenkemba langendlala, njalo izidumbu zabo zizakuba yikudla kwezinyoni zasemoyeni lezinyamazana zeganga.” **5** Ngoba nanku akutshoyo uThixo: “Ungangeni endlini elokudla kwesililo; ungayilila kumbe utshengisele uzwelo, ngoba isibusiso sami, lothando lwami kanye lesihawu sami, sengikususile kulababantu,” kutsho uThixo. **6** “Bonke abaphakemeyo labantukazana bazakufa kulelilizwe. Kabayikungcwatshwa kumbe bakhalelwe, njalo kakho ozasisika kumbe aphuce ikhanda lakhe ngenxa yabo. **7** Kakho ozabanika ukudla ukuba abaduduze labo abalilela ofileyo, loba kunguyise kumbe unina, kakho lozabanika amanzi ukuba abaduduze. **8** Njalo ungangeni endlini edlili ukuba uhlale phansi udle unathe. **9** Ngoba uThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: Phambi kobuso bakho njalo ensukwini zakho ngizawuqeda umsindo wentokozo lokuthaba kanye lamazwi abalobokazi labayeni kule indawo. **10** Lapho abantu laba ubatshela konke lokhu besebekubuza besithi, ‘Kungani uThixo esemise ukusehlisela inkemkeme engaka na? Senze bubani na? Sono bani esisenze kuThixo uNkulunkulu wethu?’ **11** wena wothi kubo, ‘Kungenxa yokuthi okhokho benu bangifulathela,’ kutsho uThixo, ‘njalo balandela abanye onkulunkulu babasebenzela, babakhonza. Bangifulathela njalo kabayigcinanga imithetho yami. **12** Kodwa lina selenze okubi kakhulu kulabokhokho benu. Khangelani ukuthi lowo lalowo wenu uyilandela njani inkani yenhliziyi yakhe embi esikhundleni sokuthi angilalele. **13** Ngakho ngizalilahlela ngaphandle kwalelilizwe elizweni lina loba oyihlo abangazange balazi, lapho elizakhonza khona abanye onkulunkulu emini lebusuku, ngoba angiyikuba lomusa kini.” **14** UThixo uthi, “Kodwa insuku ziyeza lapho abantu bengayikuthi, ‘Ngeqiniso elinjengokuthi uThixo ukhona, yena owakhupha abako-Israyeli eGibhithi,’ **15** kodwa bazakuthi, ‘Ngeqiniso elinjengokuthi uThixo ukhona, yena owakhupha abako-Israyeli elizweni lasenyakatho lakuwo wonke amazwe ayeboxotshela kuwo.’ Ngoba ngizababuyisela elizweni engalinika okhokho babo.” **16** UThixo uthi, “Kodwa khathesi ngizathumela abagoli benhlanzi abanengi, bazababamba. Emva kwalokho ngizathumela abazingeli abanengi, bazabazingela ezintabeni zonke lasemaqaqeni wonke njalo lasezingoxeni zamadwala. **17** Amehlo ami akuzo zonke izindlela zabo; kabafihlakalanga kimi, lesono sabo kasiwacatshelanga amehlo ami. **18** Ngizaphindiselela ngokuphindiweyo ububi babo lesono sabo, ngoba bangcolise ilizwe lami ngezinto ezingaphiliyo zezifanekiso zabo ezingamanyala, bagcwalisa lelifa lami ngezithombe zabo ezinengekayo.” **19** Awu Thixo, mandla ami lenqaba yami, siphephelo sami ngesikhathi sokuhlupheka, izizwe zizakuza kuwe zivela emikhawulweni yomhlaba zithi, “Okhokho babengelalutho kodwa onkulunkulu bamanga, izithombe eziyize ezingabasizanga ngalutho. **20** Kambe abantu bayazenzela onkulunkulu babo na? Ye, kodwa kayisibo onkulunkulu!” **21** “Ngakho ngizabafundisa, khathesi ngizabafundisa amandla ami lobukhulu bami. Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi ibizo lami nguThixo.”

17 “Isono sikajuda sidwetshwe ngensimbi, sabhalwa ngomcijo wedayimani ezicecedwini zehhlizyo zabo lasempondweni zama-alithare abo. **2** Labantwababo bayawakhumbula ama-alithare abo lezinsika zika-Ashera phansi kwezihlahla eziluhlaza laphezu kwamaqaqa aphakemeyo. **3** Intaba yami eselizweni lenotho yenu kanye lemfuyo yenu yonke ngizakunikela kube yimpango, ndawonye lezindawo zenu eziphakemeyo, ngenxa yokona kulolonke ilizwe lenu. **4** Ngenxa yezici zenu lizalahlekelwa yilifa engalinika lona. Ngizalenza libe yizigqili zezitha zenu elizweni elingalaziyo, ngoba livuse ulaka lwami, njalo luzavutha kuze kube nininini.” **5** UThixo uthi: “Uqalekisewe lowo othemba umuntu, othembe ukuthi amandla akhe asinyameni, onhliziyo yakhe ihlamukela uThixo. **6** Uzakuba njengesihlahlanyana enkangala; ukuphumelela kayikukubona ekufikeni kwakho. Uzahlala ezindaweni ezomileyo enkangala, elizweni letswayi elingahlali muntu. **7** Kodwa ubusisiwe umuntu othemba uThixo, othemba lakhe likuye. **8** Uzakuba njengesihlahla esihlanyelwe eduze lamanzi esinabisela impande zaso esifuleni. Kasesabi lapho ukutshisa kufika; amahlamvu aso ahlala eluhlaza. Kasikhathazeki ngomnyaka wokoma; kasiphuthi ukuthela izithelo.” **9** Inhliziyo iyakhohlisa okudlula izinto zonke njalo imbi kakhulu. Ngubani ongayizwisisa na? **10** “Mina Thixo ngiyayihlola inhliziyo ngihlole lengqondo, ukuba umuntu ngimnike okufanele ukwenza kwakhe mayelana lalokho okufanele izenzo zakhe.” **11** Umuntu ozusa inotho ngezindlela ezimbi unjengesikhwehle esichamisela amaqanda esingawaqandela. Lapho ingxenywe yokuphila kwakhe isidlule, izaphela, kuthi ekucineni abonakale eyisithutha. **12** Isihlahlo sobukhosi, esikhazimulayo esaphakanyiswayo kusukela ekuqaleni, siyindawo yethu yokuphephela. **13** Awu Thixo, themba lika-Israyeli, bonke abakudelayo bazayangiswa. Labo abakuhlumukelayo bazabhalwa othulini ngoba bedele uThixo, umthombo wamanzi okuphila. **14** Ngisilisa, Thixo, njalo ngizasilisayo, ngikhulule, ngizakhululeka, ngoba nguwe engimdimisayo. **15** Bahlala besithi kimi, “Lingaphi ilizwi likaThixo na? Kaligcwaliseke khathesi!” **16** Angibalekanga ekubeni ngumelusi wenu; liyakwazi ukuthi angilufisanga usuku lokuphela ithemba. Okudlula endebeni zami kusobala kini. **17** Ungabi ngowesabekayo kimi; uyisiphelo sami ngosuku lokuhlupheka. **18** Abangihluphayo kabayangiswe, kodwa mina ungivikele ehlazweni; kababe lokwesaba, kodwa mina ungivikele ekwesabeni. Balethele usuku lobubi. Ubabhuhise ngokuqothula okuphindiweyo. **19** UThixo wathi kimi: “Hamba uyekuma esangweni labantu, amakhosi akoJuda angena ngalo njalo aphume ngalo; ume futhi lakuwo wonke amanye amasango aseJerusalem. **20** Uthi kubo, “Zwanini ilizwi likaThixo, lina makhosi akoJuda labo bonke abantu abahlala koJuda kanye labantu bonke abahlala eJerusalem abangena ngala amasango. **21** UThixo uthi: Qaphelani lingathwali mthwalo ngosuku lweSabatha loba liwungenise ngamasango aseJerusalem. **22** Lingaphumisi mthwalo ezindlini zenu kumbe lenze loba yiwuphi umsebenzi ngosuku lweSabatha, kodwa ligcine iSabatha lingcwele, njengokulaya kwami okhokho benu. **23** Kodwa kabalalelanga loba banake; izintamo zabo zazilukhuni njalo kabalalelanga kumbe bamukele ukulaywa. **24** UThixo uthi: Kodwa nxa liqaphele ukungilalela, lingangeni mthwalo ngamasango edolobho leli ngeSabatha, kodwa ligcina usuku lweSabatha lungcwele ngokungenzi msebenzi ngalo, **25** lapho-ke amakhosi ahlazi esihlalweni sobukhosi

sikaDavida azangena lezikhulu zawo ngamasango edolobho leli. Wona lezikhulu zawo bazafika begade izinqola zempi lamabhiza, belabantu bakoJuda lalabo abahlala eJerusalem; bahlale kulo idolobho kuze kube nininini. **26** Abantu bazakuza bevela emadolobheni akoJuda lasemizini egqagqele iJerusalem, bevela elizweni lakoBhenjamini lasezintatshaneni zangasentshonalanga, bevela elizweni lamaqaqa laseNegebi, beletha iminikelo yokutshiswa lemihlatshelo, iminikelo yamabele, impepha kanye leminikelo yokubonga endlini kaThixo. **27** Kodwa nxa lingangilaleli ekuthini ligcine usuku lweSabatha lungcwele ngokungathwali mthwalo lapho lingena ngamasango aseJerusalem ngosuku lweSabatha, lapho-ke ngizaphemba umlilo ongacitshekiyo emasangweni eJerusalem ozaqothula izinqaba zalo.”

18 Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya livela kuThixo lisithi: **2** “Suka wehlele endlini yombumbi, lapho engizakutshela khona ilizwi lami.” **3** Ngakho ngehlele endlini yombumbi, ngambona esebenza ngevili. **4** Kodwa imbiza ayeyibumba ngebumba yonakala ezandleni zakhe; ngakho umbumby wayenza yaba ngenye imbiza, ngendlela ayibona ingcono kuye. **5** Ilizwi likaThixo laselifika kimi lisithi; **6** “Wena ndlu ka-Israyeli, ngingeze ngenza kuwe njengokwenziwa ngumbumbi lo na?” kutsho uThixo. “Njengebumba esandleni sombumbi lawe unjalo esandleni sami, wena ndlu ka-Israyeli. **7** Nxa ngimemezela langasiphi isikhathi ukuthi isizwe loba umbuso uzasuswa udilizwe, uchithwe, **8** kuthi isizwe leso engisixwayisileyo siphenduke ebubini baso, ngizaxola ngingabe ngisasehlisela ebesengimise ukusehlisela khona. **9** Njalo nxa ngesinye isikhathi ngimemezela ukuthi isizwe kumbe umbuso ngizawakha ngiwumise, **10** ube usuzenza ububi emehlweni ami njalo ungangilaleli, ngizacabanga kutsha ngokuhle ebesengicebe ukukwenzela khona. **11** Ngakho khathesi tshela abantu bakoJuda lalabo abahlala eJerusalem uthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: Khangelani! Ngilungisela ukulehlisela umonakalo njalo ngibumba lecebo ngani. Ngakho phendukani ezindleleni zenu ezimbi, omunye lomunye wenu, ilungise izindlela zenu lezenzo zenu.’ **12** Kodwa bazaphendula bathi, ‘Akusizi lutho. Sizaqhubeka ngamacebo ethu; lowo lalowo wethu uzalandela ubulukhuni benhliziyo yakhe embi.’” **13** Ngakho uThixo uthi: “Buzani phakathi kwezizwe ukuthi: Ngubani owake wezwa okunjengalokhu na? Kwenziwe into eyesabekayo kakhulu, yenziwe yintombi egcweleyo u-Israyeli. **14** Ungqwaqwane waseLebhanoni uyake unyamalale emithezukweni yayo elamatshe na? Amanzi akhona aqandayo avela kude ayake eme ukugeleza na? **15** Kodwa abantu bami sebergikhohliwe; batshisela izithombe eziyiwe impepha, ezabenza bakhubeka ezindleleni zabo lasemikhondweni yasendulo. Zabenza bahamba ngezindledlana zeganga lasemigwaqweni engalungiswanga. **16** Ilizwe labo lizatshabalaliswa, into yokuhlekwa usulu; bonke abadlula khona bazakwethuka banyikinye amakhanda abo. **17** Njengomoya ovela empumalanga, ngizabahlakaza phambi kwezitha zabo; ngizabafulathela ngibancantshe ubuso bami ngosuku lokuhlupheka kwabo.” **18** Bona bathi, “Wozani sicebe amacebo amabi ngoJeremiya; ngoba ukufundisa kwabaphristi umthetho akusoze kuphuthwe, kumbe ukweluleka kwezihlakaniphi, loba ilizwi elivela kubaphrofethi. Ngakho wozani, simhlasele ngemilomo yethu singanazi lutho alutshoyo.” **19** Ake ungizwe, awu Thixo; ulalele okutshiwo

yizitha zami! **20** Okuhle kuphindiselwa ngokubi na? Ikanti sebengimbele igodi. Khumbula ukuba ngema phambi kwakho ngabakhulumela ukuba ususe ulaka lwakho kubo. **21** Ngakho-ke abantwababo banikele endlaleni; ubaqhubele emandleni enkemba. Abafazi babo kabangabi labantwana njalo babe ngabafelokazi; amadoda abo kawabalawe, amajaha akhona abalawe ngenkemba empini. **22** Kakuzwakale ukukhala ezindlini zabo, lapho usulethe abahlaseli ukuba babajume, ngoba sebegebhe igodi ukuba bangithumbe njalo bathiya inyawo zami ngemijibila. **23** Kodwa uyawazi, wena Thixo, wonke amaqhinga abo okungibulala. Ungabathetheleli amacala abo loba ucitshe izono zabo phambi kobuso bakho. Kabachithwe phambi kwakho; bahlasele ngesikhathi sokuthukuthela kwakho.

19 Lokhu yikho akutshoyo uThixo: “Hamba uyethenga udiwo kumbumbi wezimbiza. Thatha abanye abadala babantu labanye babaphristi **2** uhambe labo esigodini seBheni-Hinomu, eduze lentuba yeSango loDengezi. Umemezele amazwi engikutshela wona, **3** uthi, ‘Zwanini ilizwi likaThixo, lina makhosi akoJuda lani bantu abahlala eJerusalem. UThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: Lalelani! Ngizaletha umonakalo kule indawo ozabanda indlebe zomuntu wonke owuzwayo. **4** Ngoba bangidelile kwathi indawo le bayenza eyabonkulunkulu bezizweni; kuyo batshisele imihlatshelo onkulunkulu abangabaziyo, bona labokhokho baho kanye lamakhosi akoJuda, njalo indawo le sebayingcwalisazi igazi labantu abangelacala. **5** Sebakhele uBhali izindawo eziphakemeyo ukuba batshise amadodana abo emlilweni njengeminikelo yokutshiswa kuBhali, into engingazange ngibalaye kumbe ngitsho ukuthi bayenze, kumbe ukuthi ike ifike engqondweni yami. **6** Ngakho qaphelani, insuku zizeza, kutsho uThixo, lapho abantu bengayikwisa indawo le ngokuthi Thofethi loba iSigodi seBheni-Hinomu kodwa iSigodi sokuBulala. **7** Kuyonale indawo ngizawachitha amacebo kaJuda laweJerusalem. Ngizabenza bafe ngenkemba phambi kwezitha zabo, lasezandleni zalabo abafuna ukubabulala, njalo ngizanikela izidumbu zabo ukuba zibe yikudla kwezinyoni zasemoyeni lezinyamazana zeganga. **8** Idolobho leli ngizalichitha ngilenze libe yinto yokwesatshwa lenhleka; bonke abadlula khona bazathuthumela njalo baklolode ngenxa yamanxeba alo wonke. **9** Ngizabenza badle inyama yamadodana abo leyamadodakazi abo, njalo labo bazadlana inyama ngesikhathi esinzima sokuvinjazelwa kwabo yizitha ezifuna ukubabulala.’ **10** Emva kwalokho bulala udiwo labo abahamba lawe bekhangele, **11** ubususithi kubo, ‘UThixo uSomandla uthi: Ngizasiphahlaza isizwe lesi kanye ledolobho leli njengokuphahlazwa kodwo lombumbi lolu olungeke lulingiswe futhi. Abafizayo bazabangcwaba eThofethi kuze kusweleke indawo. **12** Lokhu yikho engizakwenza kule indawo lakulabo abahlala lapha, kutsho uThixo. Idolobho leli ngizalenza lifanane leThofethi. **13** Izindlu zaseJerusalem kanye lezamazhosi akoJuda zizangcoliswa njengale indawo, iThofethi, zonke izindlu lapho abazathshisela khona imphepha phezu kwezimpahla kuwo wonke amaxuku ezinkanyezi, bathelala abanye onkulunkulu umnikelo wokunathwayo.’” **14** UJeremiya wabuya evela eThofethi, lapho uThixo ayemthume ukuyaphrofetha khona, wasesima egumeni lethempeli likaThixo wathi ebantwini bonke, **15** “UThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: ‘Lalelani! Ngizakwehlisela

kulelidolobho lasemizini elizungezileyo wonke umonakalo engawutshoyo, ngoba izintamo zabo zilukhuni njalo bayala ukulalela amazwi ami.”

20 Kwathi uPhashuri umphristi indodana ka-Imeri, induna enkulu ethempelini likaThixo, ezwe uJeremiya ephrofitha lezizinto, **2** wenza ukuthi uJeremiya umphrofethi atshaywe njalo wamvalela esitokisini eSangweni laPhezulu koBhenjani ethempelini likaThixo. **3** Ngosuku olwalandelayo, uPhashuri esemkhupha esitokisini, uJeremiya wathi kuye, “Ibizo lakho oliphiwe nguThixo akusiPhashuri, kodwa uMagori-Misabibi, **4** ngoba uThixo uthi: ‘Ngizakwenza ubelucuku ngokwakho lakubo bonke abangane bakho; uzababona ngamehlo akho besiya ngenkemba yezitha zabo. UJuda wonke ngizamnikela enkosini yaseBhabhiloni, ezabathumba ibase eBhabhiloni loba ibalulele ngenkemba. **5** Yonke inotho yedolobho leli ngizayipha izitha zabo lazozonke izithelo zalo, zonke izinto zalo eziligugu kanye lemfuyo yonke yamakhosi akoJuda zizayithumba njengempango ziyithwalele eBhabhiloni. **6** Wena Phashuri, labo bonke abahlala endlini yakho lizathunjwa liye eBhabhiloni. Uzafela khonale, ungcwatshwe khonale, wena kanye labangane bakho bonke ophrofetha amanga kubo.’” **7** Awu Thixo, wangiyenga, ngayengeka; wangehlula wanqoba. Ngiyahlekwa insuku zonke; bonke bayangiklolodela. **8** Zonke izikhathi lapho ngikhuluma, ngiyakhala ngimemezele ukuba kube lodlakela lokuchitheka. Ngakho ilizwi likaThixo selingilethelele isithuko lensolo ilanga lonke. **9** Kodwa nxa ngisithi, “Kangiyikumqamba loba ngikhulume ngebizo lakhe futhi,” ilizwi lakhe lisenhliziyweni yami njengomlilo, umlilo ovalelwe emathanjeni ami. Sengidiniwe ngokuligodla ngaphakathi; impela, ngingeke nganelise. **10** Ngizwa abanengi benyenyeza besithi, “Kulokuthuthumela indawo yonke! Mmangaleleni! Kasimangalele!” Abangane bami bonke balindele ukuwa kwami, besithi, “Mhlawumbe uzakhohliseka; besesimehlula siphindisele kuye.” **11** Kodwa uThixo ulami njengebutho elilamandla; ngakho abangihluphayo bazakuwa banganqobi. Bazakwehleka njalo bayangeke kakhulu; ihlazo loba kaliyikukhohlakala lanini. **12** Awu Thixo Somandla, wena ohlola abalungileyo, uhlole inhliziyo lengqondo, kangibone ukuphindisela kwakho kubo, ngoba indaba yami ngiyinikele kuwe. **13** Hlabelani uThixo! Limdumise uThixo! Uhlanga impilo yabaswelayo ezandleni zababi. **14** Kaluqalekiswe usuku engazalwa ngalo! Usuku umama angizala ngalo kalungabusiwa! **15** Kaqalekiswe umuntu owayabikela ubaba izindaba, owamemeza wathaba, esithi, “Uzalalwe indodana!” **16** Lowomuntu kabe njengamadolobho uThixo awachitha kungekho sihawu. Kezwe ukulila ekuseni, lomkhosi wempi emini. **17** Ngoba kangibulalelanga esiswini, umama enjengengcwaba lami, isisu sakhe sikhukhunge kokuphela. **18** Ngaphumelani esiswini ukuba ngibone uhlupho losizi njalo akuthi ngiphethe insuku zami ngiphakathi kwehlazo?

21 Ilizwi lafika kuJeremiya livela kuThixo lapho uZedekhiya inkosi wayethume kuye uPhashuri indodana kaMalikhija lomphristi uZefaniya indodana kaMaseya. Bathi: **2** “Ake usibuzele kuThixo khathesi nje, ngoba uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni uyasihlasela. Mhlawumbe uThixo angasenzela izimanga njengasezikhathini ezedlulayo ukuze asuke kiithi.” **3** Kodwa uJeremiya wathi kubo, “Tshelani uZedekhiya lithi: **4** UThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: Sekuseduze

ukuthi ngiziphendulele kuwe izikhali zempi ezisezandleni zakho, oziwebenzisayo ekulweni lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni lamaKhaladiya angaphandle komduli ekuvimbezele. Njalo ngizawaqoqa phakathi kwalelidolobho. 5 Mina uqobo ngizakulwa lawe ngesandla eseluliweyo langengalo elamandla ngentukuthelo langokufuthelana kanye lolaka olukhulu. 6 Ngizabatshaya abahlala kulelidolobho, abantu lezifuyo njalo bazabulawa yisifo esesabekayo. 7 Emva kwalokho, kutsho uThixo, uZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda, lezikhulu zakhe kanye labantu bakulelidolobho abaphepha emkhuhlaneni, enkembeni lasendaleni, ngizabanikela kuNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni lasezitheni zabo ezifuna ukubabulala. Uzababulala ngenkamba; kayikuba lomusa kumbe uzwele loba isihawu. 8 Phezu kwalokho, abantu batshele uthi, 'UThixo uthi: Khangelani, ngiyalimisela phambi kwenu indlela yokuphila lendlela yokufa. 9 Loba ngubani osala kulelidolobho uzabulawa ngenkamba, yindlala loba ngumkhuhlane. Kodwa loba ngubani ophumayo kulo ayezinkela kumaKhaladiya alivimbezeleyo uzasila, aphunyuke lokuphila kwakhe. 10 Sengiqonde ukwenza okubi kulelidolobho hatshi okuhle, kutsho uThixo. Lizanikelwa ezandleni zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni, ezalitshabalalisa ngomlilo.' 11 Phezu kwalokho, wothi endlini yenkosi yakoJuda, 'Zwanini ilizwi likaThixo; 12 lina abendu kaDavida, uThixo uthi: Yenzani ukulunga insuku zonke ekuseni; mhlengeni esandleni somncindezeli wakhe lowo ophangiweyo, hlezi ulaka lwami luqubuke, lutshise njengomlilo ngenxa yobubi elibenzileyo, lutshise engekho ngalucitsha. 13 Ngimelane lawe, Jerusalem, wena ohlala ngaphezu kwalesisigodi, emagcekeni alamadwala, kutsho uThixo, lina elithi, 'Ngubani ongazasihlasela na? Ngubani ongangena esiphaphelweni sethu na?' 14 Ngizalijezisa njengokufanele izono zenu, kutsho uThixo. Ngizaphemba umlilo emahlathini enu ozalobisa konke okuseduze lani.'"

22 Nanku akutshoyo uThixo: "Hamba wehlele endlini yenkosi yakoJuda umemezele khona ilizwi leli uthi, 2 'Zwana ilizwi likaThixo, we nkosi yakoJuda, wena ohlala esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaDavida, wena lezikhulu zakho kanye labantu bakho abangena ngamasango la. 3 UThixo uthi: Yenzani okulungileyo lokuqondileyo. Mhlenge esandleni somncindezeli wakhe lowo ophangiweyo. Lingenzi okubi loba udlakela kowezizweni, intandane loba umfelokazi, njalo lingachithi igazi elingelacala kule indawo. 4 Ngoba nxa linazulela ukulandela imilayo le, amakhosi ahlala esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaDavida azangena ngamasango ale indawo, egade izinqola zempi lamabhiza, elezikhulu zawo kanye labantu bawo. 5 Kodwa nxa imilayo le lingayilaleli, kutsho uThixo, ngifunga ngami ukuthi indawo le izakuba lunxwa.'" 6 Ngoba mayelana lendawo yenkosi yakoJuda uThixo uthi: "Lanxa unjengeGiliyadi kimi, lanjengengqongo yeLebhanoni, ngeqinisio ngizakwenza ufane lenkangala, lanjengamadolobho angahlali muntu. 7 Ngizakuthumela abachithi, indoda nganye ilezikhali zayo, njalo bazaquma imijabo yenu emihle yemisedari bayiphosele emlilweni. 8 Abantu abavela ezizweni ezinengi bazadlula kulelidolobho babuzane besithi, 'Kungani uThixo enze into enye kulelidolobho elikhulu na?' 9 Impendulo izakuthi: 'Ngoba basidelile isivumelwano sikaThixo uNkulunkulu wabo bakhonza abanye onkulunkulu njalo babasebenzela.'" 10 Lingayikhaleli inkosi efileyo loba lililele ukulilahlekela kwayo; kodwa, khalelani kakhulu othunjweyo, ngoba kasayikubuya njalo loba abone ilizwe lakubo futhi. 11 Ngoba mayelana loShalumi indodana kaJosia, owangena esikhundleni sikayise

esiba yinkosi yakoJuda kodwa osesukile kule indawo: UThixo uthi, "Kasoze abuye futhi. 12 Uzafela kuleyondawo asiwa kuyo ethunjiwe; ilizwe leli kasoze alibone futhi." 13 "Maye kuye owakha indlu yakhe yobukhosi ngokungalungi, lezindlu zakhe zangaphezulu ngokungafanelanga, esenza abantu bakibo basebenzele ize, engabahlisi lutho ngokusebenza kwabo. 14 UThi, 'Ngizazakhe indlu enkulu yobukhosi elezitezi ezibanzi.' Ngakho uyenza ibe lamawindi amakhulu, ayinameke ngemisedari, ayicombe ngokubomvu. 15 Ukuba lemisedari emingenengi kukwenza ube yinkosi na? Uyihlo kazange abe lokudla lokunathwayo na? Wenza okuqondileyo lokulungileyo, ngakho konke kwamlungela. 16 Wavikela amalungelo abayangela labaswelayo, ngakho konke kwamlungela. Lokho akusikho okutsho ukungazi na?" kutsho uThixo. 17 "Kodwa amehlo akho lenhliziyo yakho kukhangele inzuzo yenkohlo, lokuchitha igazi elingelacala, ukuncindezela kanye lodlakela." 18 Ngakho mayelana loJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosia, inkosi yakoJuda, uThixo uthi: "Kabayikumkhalela besithi: 'Maye ngomfowethu! Maye ngodadewethu!' Kabayikumkhalela besithi: 'Maye ngenkosi yami! Maye ngobuhle bayo obukhulu!' 19 Uzangcwatshwa njengobabhemi, ahudulwe aphoselwe ngaphandle kwamasango aseJerusalem." 20 "Qansa uye eLebhanoni umemeze, wenze ilizwi lakho lizwakale eBhashani; memeza use-Abharimi, ngoba bonke abamanyane lawe banqotshiwe. 21 Ngakuxwayisa uzibona uvikelekile, kodwa wena wathi, 'Angiyikulalela!' Le ibe iyindlela yakho kusukela ebuthsheni bakho; kawungilalelanga. 22 Umoya uzabaxotshela khatshana bonke abelusi bakho, labamanyane lawe bazathunjwa. Lapho-ke uzayangeka ube lenhloni ngenxa yobubi bakho bonke. 23 Lina abahlala 'eLebhanoni,' eligcineke kuhle ezindlini zemisedari, lizabubula kakhulu lapho inhlungu zilehlela, ubuhlungu obunjengowesifazane ehelelewa!" 24 UThixo uthi, "Ngeqinisio njengoba ngikhona, lanxa ngabe wena, Jehoyakhimi ndodana kaJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda, wawuyindandatho ebukeyayo esandleni sami sokunene, ngangizakukhupha. 25 Ngizakunikela kulabo abafuna ukukubulala, labo obesabayo, uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni lakumaKhaladiya. 26 Wena kanye lonkoko owakuzalayo ngizaliphosela kwelinye ilizwe, lapho elingazalelwanga khona, lapho elizafela khona lobabili. 27 Kaliyikuphinda libuye elizweni elifisa ukuza kulo." 28 Umuntu lo, uJehoyakhimi, uyimbiza efileyo, edelelwayo, into engafunwa muntu na? Kungani yena labantwabakhe bezaphoselwa ngaphandle, balahlelwe elizweni abangalaziyo na? 29 Wena lizwe, lizwe, lizwe, zwana ilizwi likaThixo! 30 UThixo uthi: "Bhalani umuntu lo njengongelabantwana, umuntu ongayikuphumelela empilweni yakhe, ngoba kakho owenzalo yakhe ozaphumelela, kakho ozahlala esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaDavida loba abuse futhi kofuda."

23 "Maye kubelusi abachitha izimvu zedlelo lami njalo bezihlakaza!" kutsho uThixo. 2 Ngakho uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israelayi, uthi kubelusi abelusa abantu bami: "Ngenxa yokuthi lina lihlakele umhlambi wami lawuxotshela khatshana kalaze lawunaka, ngizakwehlisela isijeziso phezu kwenu ngenxa yobubi elibenzileyo," kutsho uThixo. 3 "Mina ngokwami ngizabutha insalela zezimvu zami emazweni wonke engangizaxotshela kuwo ngizibuyisele edlelweni lazo, lapho ezizalana khona zande. 4 Ngizazilethela abelusi abazazelusa, njalo kazisayikwesaba loba zithuthumele, loba enye yazo ilahleke," kutsho uThixo. 5 UThixo uthi, "Ziyeza

insuku, lapho uDavida ngizamvusele uGatsha olulungileyo, inkosi ezabusa ngokuhlakanipha, yenze okulungileyo, lokufaneleyo elizweni. **6** Ensukwini zayo uJuda uzasindiswa, lo-Israyeli ahlale evikelekile. Ibizo azabizwa ngalo yileli elithi: UThixo Oyikulunga Kwethu.” **7** UThixo uthi, “Ngakho-ke, insuku ziyeza, lapho abantu bengasayikuthi, ‘Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ekhona, yena owakhupha u-Israyeli eGibhithe,’ **8** kodwa bazakuthi, ‘Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ekhona, yena owakhupha izizukulwane zika-Israyeli elizweni elisenyakatho lakuwo wonke amazwe abaxotshela kuwo.’ Lapho-ke bazahlala elizweni labo.” **9** Mayelana labaphrofethi: Inhliziyo yami idabukile ngaphakathi kwam; wonke amathambo ami ayaqhaqhaqha. Ngifana lomuntu odakiweyo, lanjengomuntu owehlulwa liwayini, ngenxa kaThixo lamazwi akhe angcwele. **10** Ilizwe leli ligcwele izifebe; ngenxa yesiqalekiso ilizwe lomile lamadlele enkangala abunile. Abaphrofethi balandela indlela embi, basebenzisa amandla abo ngokungalungi. **11** “Umphrofethi lomphristi kabakhohla kunkulunkulu; lasethempelini lami ngiyabufumana ububi babo,” kutsho uThixo. **12** “Ngakho indlela yabo izatshelela; bazaxotshelwa emnyameni njalo lapho bazakuwa. Ngizabehlisela umonakalo ngomnyaka wokujeziswa kwabo,” kutsho uThixo. **13** “Phakathi kwabaphrofethi baseSamariya ngabona into eyenyanyekayo: Baphrofetha ngoBhali njalo baholela abantu bami ekulahlekeni. **14** Lakubaphrofethi baseJerusalema sengibone into eyesabekayo: Bayafabe baphile ngamanga. Baqinisa izandla zabenza okubi, ukuba kungabikhona oquka ebubini bakhe. Kimi bonke banjengeSodoma; abantu baseJerusalema banjengeGomora.” **15** Ngakho, mayelana labaphrofethi uThixo uSomandla uthi: “Ngizabenza badle ukudla okubabayo, banathe lamanzi aletshefu, ngoba kusukela kubaphrofethi baseJerusalema ukungakhohla kuNkulunkulu sekugcwele ilizwe lonke.” **16** UThixo uSomandla uthi: “Lingalaleli okuphrofethwa ngabaphrofethi kini; balenza lithembe amanga. Bakhuluma imibono evela ezingqondweni zabo, engaveli emlonyeni kaThixo. **17** Bahlala besithi kulabo abangidelelayo, ‘UThixo uthi: Lizakuba lokuthula.’ Lakubo bonke abalandela inkani yezinhliziyi zabo bathi, ‘Akulabubi obuzalehla.’ **18** Kodwa nguphi wabo owake wema emhlanganweni kaThixo ukuba abone kumbe ezwe ilizwi lakhe na? Ngubani olilaleleyo walizwa ilizwi lakhe? **19** Khangelani, isiphapho sikaThixo sizaphutsha silulaka, isavunguzane esibhoda ngolaka phezu kwamakhanda ababi. **20** Ulaka lukaThixo kaluyikuphela aze aze zize ngokupheleleyo injongo zenzhliziyo yakhe. Ensukwini ezizayo lizakuzwisisa kule lokhu. **21** Abaphrofethi laba angibathumanga; kodwa bagijima lemibiko yabo; kangizange ngikhulume labo, kodwa sebeprofethile. **22** Kodwa aluba babekhona emhlanganweni wami, ngabe bamemezela amazwi ami ebantwini bami njalo ngabe babaphendula ezindleleni zabo ezimbi lasezenzweni zabo ezimbi.” **23** UThixo uthi, “NginguNkulunkulu oseduze kuphela, uNkulunkulu ongekho khatshana na? **24** Umuntu angacatsha endaweni efihlakeleyo ukuba ngingamboni na?” kutsho uThixo. “Angithi ngigcwele ezulwini lasemhlabeni na?” kutsho uThixo. **25** “Ngikuzwile okuthiwo ngabaphrofethi abaphrofetha amanga ngebizo lami. Bathi, ‘Ngiphuphile! Ngiphuphile!’ **26** Koze kube nini lokhu kuqhubeka ezinhliziyweni zalaba abaphrofethi abalamanga na? **27** Bacabanga ukuthi amaphupho abawatshelelanayo azakwenza abantu bami bakhohlwe ibizo lami, njengabokhokho babo

abakhohlwa ibizo lami ngenxa yokukhonza uBhali. **28** Akuthi umphrofethi ophupha iphupho kalitsho, kodwa lowo olelizwi lami kalikhulume ngobuqotho, ngoba amakhoba angenzani lamabele na?” kutsho uThixo. **29** “Ilizwi lami kalinjengomlilo,” kutsho uThixo, “lanjengesando esidabula idwala libe yizicucu na?” **30** UThixo uthi, “Ngakho, ngimelana labaphrofethi abantshontsha kwabanye amazwi okuthiwa avela kimi. **31** Yebo, ngimelana labaphrofethi abasebenzisa indimi zabo kodwa bathi, ‘UThixo uthi,’ **32** Ngeqiniso, ngimelana lalabo abaphrofetha amaphupho amanga,” kutsho uThixo. “Bayawatho baholele abantu bami ekulahlekeni ngamanga abo lamawala, ikanti angizange ngibathume kumbe ngibakhethe. Kababasizi ngalutho abantu laba,” kutsho uThixo. **33** “Nxa abantu laba, loba umphrofethi kumbe umphristi, bebuzisa besithi, ‘izilo likaThixo kuyini?’ wothi kubo, ‘izilo liphi? Ngizakulahlala, kutsho uThixo.’ **34** Nxa umphrofethi loba umphristi kumbe omunye umuntu esithi, ‘Leli lizilo likaThixo,’ lomuntu ngizamjezisa kanye labendlu yakhe. **35** Lokhu yikho omunye wenu ohlala ekutsho kumngane wakhe loba isihlobo sakhe ukuthi: ‘Impendulo kaThixo ithini na?’ loba ‘UThixo utheni?’ **36** Kodwa akumelanga lithi ‘izilo likaThixo’ futhi, ngoba umuntu wonke ilizwi lakhe liba lizilo lakhe ngoba liyawahlanelake amazwi kaNkulunkulu ophilayo, uThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu wethu. **37** Lokhu yikho elihlala likutsho kumphrofethi ukuthi, ‘Impendulo kaThixo kuwe ithini?’ loba ‘UThixo utheni?’ **38** Lanxa lina lisithi, ‘Leli lizilo likaThixo,’ uThixo uthi: Lasebenzisa amazwi athi, ‘Leli lizilo likaThixo.’ Lanxa mina ngalishela ukuthi lingabokuthi, ‘Leli lizilo likaThixo.’ **39** Ngakho, ngeqiniso ngizalikhohlwa ngiliphosele khatshana lami kanye ledolobho engalinika lona lina labokhokho benu. **40** Ngizalehlisela ihlazo elingapheliyo lokuyangeka okungayikukhohlakala.”

24 Emva kokuba uJehoyakhi indodana kaJehoyakhi inkosi yakoJuda lezikhulu, izingcitshi kanye lezisebenzi zakoJuda sebethunjwe eJerusalema basiwa eBhabhiloni nguNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, uThixo wangitshengisa izitsha ezimbili zomkhiwa zibekwe phambi kwethempeli likaThixo. **2** Esinye isitsha sasilomkhiwa omuhle kakhulu, njengovuthwa kuqala; esinye isitsha sasilomkhiwa omubi, ubolile ungeke wadleka. **3** UThixo wasesithi kimi, “Kuyini okubonayo, Jeremiya?” Ngathi, “Ngumkhiwa. Omuhle muhle kakhulu, kodwa omubi ubole kakhulu ungeke udliwe.” **4** Ilizwi likaThixo laselifika kimi lisithi: **5** “UThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi, ‘Njengalo umkhiwa omuhle, ngibathatha njengabalungileyo abathunjwa bakoJuda, engabasusa kule indawo ngabasa elizweni laseBhabhiloni. **6** Amehlo ami azabakhangela kokuphela, njalo ngizababuyisa kulelizwe. Ngizabakha ngingabadilizi; ngizabahlanyela ngingabasiphuni. **7** Ngizabapha inhliziyi yokungazi, ukuthi mina nginguThixo. Bazakuba ngabantu bami, mina ngibe nguNkulunkulu wabo, ngoba bazabuyela kimi ngenhliziyo yabo yonke. **8** Kodwa njengomkhiwa omubi, obolileyo ongeke udliwe,’ kutsho uThixo, ‘ngizamphatha kanjalo uZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda, lezikhulu zakhe kanye labasindayo eJerusalema, langabe basele kulelizwe loba baseGibhithe. **9** Ngizabenza bazondakale njalo babe yisinengiso kuyo yonke imibuso yasemhlabeni, insolo lesigaba, into yokuhlekwa lokuthukwa, loba kungaphi engibaxotshela khona. **10** Ngizathumela inkemba, indlala lomkhuhlane baze babhujiswe baphele elizweni engabanika lona kanye labokhokho babo.”

25 Ilizwi lafika kuJeremiya mayelana labantu bonke bakoJuda ngomnyaka wesine kaJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, okwakungumnyaka wokuqala kaNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni. **2** Ngakho uJeremiya umphrofethi wathi kubo bonke abantu bakoJuda lakubo bonke abahlala eJerusalem: **3** Okweminyaka engamatshumi amabili lantathu, kusukela ngomnyaka wethshumi lantathu kaJosiya indodana ka-Amoni inkosi yakoJuda kuze kube yilolusuku, ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi njalo ngalikhuluma kini njalonjalo, kodwa kalilalelanga. **4** Lanxa uThixo wathumela zonke izinceku zakhe abaphrofethi kini njalonjalo, kalilalelanga njalo kalinakanga. **5** Bathi, “Phendukani khathesi, omunye lomunye wenu, ezindleleni zenu ezimbi lasezenzweni zenu ezimbi, lihlale elizweni uThixo alinika lona kanye labokhokho benu kuze kube nininini. **6** Lingalandeli abanye onkulunkulu ukuba libasebenzele njalo libakhonze; lingangithukuthelisi ngalokho okwenziwa yizandla zenu. Lapho-ke angiyikulehlisela okubi.” **7** “Kodwa kalingilalelanga,” kutsho uThixo, “njalo lingithukuthelisi ngokwenziwa ngezandla zenu, lazehlisela okubi.” **8** Ngakho uThixo uSomandla uthi: “Ngenxa yokuthi kalilalelanga amazwi ami, **9** ngizabiza bonke abantu basenyakatho lenceku yami uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni,” kutsho uThixo, “njalo ngizabaletha ukuba bamelane lelizwe leli labahlala kulo kanye lelizwe zonke eziseduze lalo. Ngizababhubhisa ngokupheleleyo ngibenze babe yinto eyesabekayo leyokuklolodelwa, lencithakalo yanini lanini. **10** Ngizasusa phakathi kwabo imisindo yokuthokoza lokuthaba, lelizwi lomlobokazi lelomyeni, lomsindo wamatshe okuchola kanye lokukhanya kwesibane. **11** Ilizwe leli lonke lizakuba yinkangala ephundlekileyo, lelizwe lezi zizasebenzela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni iminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa. **12** Kodwa lapho iminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa isiphelile, ngizayijezisa inkosi yaseBhabhiloni lesizwe sayo, ilizwe lamaKhaladiya, ngenxa yobubi babo,” kutsho uThixo, “njalo ngizalenza lichitheke kokuphela. **13** Ngizakwehlisela phezu kwelizwe lelo zonke izinto engazitshoyo ngalo, konke okulotshwe encwadini le okwaphrofethwa nguJeremiya ezizweni zonke. **14** Lazo uqobo zizathunjwa yizizwe ezinengi lamakhosi amakhulu; ngizaphindisela kubo mayelana lezenzo zabo langemisebenzi yezandla zabo.” **15** UThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli wathi kimi, “Yamukela esandleni sami inkezo le egcwele iwayini lolaka lwami unathise zonke izizwe engikuthuma kuzo. **16** Zingalinatha, zizadiyazela zihlanye ngenxa yenkemba engizayithumela phakathi kwazo.” **17** Ngakho ngayithatha inkezo esandleni sikaThixo ngazinathisa zonke izizwe ayengithuma kuzo: **18** IJerusalem lamadolobho akoJuda, amakhosi akhona kanye lezikhulu, ukubenza babe yincithakalo lento eyesabekayo yokuklolodelwa lokuqalekiswa, njengoba benjalo lamhla; **19** uFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe, lezinceku zakhe, lezikhulu zakhe kanye labantu bakhe bonke, **20** labantu bonke bezizweni abakhonale; wonke amakhosi ase-Uzi; wonke amakhosi amaFilstiyya (awe-Ashikheloni, eGaza, e-Ekroni, labantu abasala e-Ashidodi); **21** e-Edomi, leMowabi kanye le-Amoni; **22** wonke amakhosi aseThire, leSidoni; amakhosi amazwe angasolwandle ngaphetsheya kwalo. **23** eDedani, leThema leBhuzi labo bonke abasezindaweni ezikhatshana; **24** wonke amakhosi ase-Arabhiya lawo wonke amakhosi abantu bezizweni abahlala enkangala; **25** amakhosi wonke aseZimiri, le-Elamu leMediya; **26** lawo amakhosi asenyakatho, eduze lakhatshana, elandelana, yonke imibuso

esemhlabeni. Emva kwabo bonke, inkosi yaseSheshaki layo izalinalatha. **27** “Lapho-ke batshela uthi, ‘UTHixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Nathani, lidakwe lihlanze, njalo liwe lingavuki futhi ngenxa yenkemba engizayithumela phakathi kwenu.’ **28** Kodwa bangala ukwamukela inkezo esandleni sakho ukuba banathe, batshela uthi, ‘UTHixo uSomandla uthi: Kumele liyinathe! **29** Khangelani, sengiqalisile ukuletha umonakalo edolobheni elileBizo lami, njalo lina lizaphutha impela ukujeziswa na? Kaliyikuphutha ukujeziswa ngoba ngizakwehlisela inkemba phezu kwabo bonke abahlala emhlabeni, kutsho uThixo uSomandla.’ **30** Khathesi-ke phrofetha wonke amazwi la ngabo uthi kubo: ‘UTHixo uzahlokoma ephezulu; uzaduma esandweni yakhe engcwele, njalo ahlokome kakhulu emelana lelizwe lakhe. Uzameza njengabahlaza amavini, akhwaze ngamandla ekhwazela bonke abahlala emhlabeni. **31** Ukuxokozela kuzazwakala emikhawulweni yomhlaba, ngoba uThixo uzazethesa amacala izizwe; uzakwahlulela abantu bonke ababi ababhubhise ngenkemba,” kutsho uThixo. **32** Nanku akutshoyo uThixo uSomandla: “Khangelani! Umonakalo uyanda usuka kwesinye isizwe usiya kwesinye; isiphopho esikhulu siyavunguza sivela emikhawulweni yomhlaba.” **33** Ngalesosikhathi labo ababulewe nguThixo bazakuba sezindaweni zonke kusukela komunye kusiya komunye umkhawulo womhlaba. Kabayikukhalelwa loba babuthwe kumbe bangcwatshwe, kodwa bazakuba njengeziabi emhlabathini. **34** Khalani lilile lina belusi; giqikani ethulini lina bakhokheli bomhlambi. Ngoba isikhathi sokubulawa kwenu sesifikile; lizakuwa liphohlozeke njengokubunjweyo. **35** Abelusi laba kabayikuba lalapho abangabalekela khona, abakhokheli bomhlambi bengelandawo yokubalekela kuyo. **36** Zwanini ukukhala kwabelusi, ukulila kwabakhokheli bomhlambi, ngoba uThixo uyalicitha idlelo labo. **37** Lamadlelo alokuthula azatshabalaliswa ngenxa yolaka olwesabekayo lukaThixo. **38** Njengesilwane uzaphuma esikhundleni sakhe, njalo ilizwe labo lizakuba yinkangala ngenxa yenkemba yomncindezeli langenxa yolaka lukaThixo olwesabekayo.

26 Ekuqaleni kokubusa kukaJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, kwafika ilizwi leli livela kuThixo lisithi, **2** “UTHixo uthi: Mana egumeni lendlu kaThixo ukhulume kubo bonke abantu basemadolobheni akoJuda abeza endlini kaThixo ukuba bakhonze. Batshela konke engakulaya khona, kungabi lelizwi olitshiyayo. **3** Mhlawumbe bazalalela omunye lomunye wabo aphenduke endleleni yakhe embi. Lapho-ke ngizadeda ngingabehliseli umonakalo ebengizawenza kubo ngenxa yobubi ababenzileyo. **4** Tshono kubo uthi, ‘UTHixo uthi: Nxa lingangilaleli lilandele umthetho wami engalibekela wona, **5** njalo nxa lingalaleli amazwi ezinceku zami abaphrofethi, engabathuma kini njalonjalo (lanxa lingalalelanga), **6** ngizakwenza indlu le ibe njengeShilo ledolobho leli libe yinto yokuqalekiswa phakathi kwezizwe zonke zomhlaba.” **7** Abaphristi, labaphrofethi kanye labantu bonke bamuzwa uJeremiya ekhuluma amazwi la endlini kaThixo. **8** Kodwa kwathi uJeremiya eqeda nje ukubatshelela bonke abantu konke uThixo ayemlaye ukuba akutsho, abaphristi, labaphrofethi kanye labantu bonke bamphuthuma bathi kuye, “Kumele ufe! **9** Kungani uphrofetha ngebizo likaThixo usithi indlu le izakuba njengeShilo ledolobho leli lizachitheka abantu basuke kulo?” Abantu bonke bambuthanela uJeremiya endlini kaThixo. **10**

Kwathi izikhulu zakoJuda sezizwe ngalezizinto, zaya endlini kaThixo zisuka esigodlweni senkosi zahlala ezindaweni zazo entubeni yeSango elitsha lendlu kaThixo. **11** Abaphristi, labaphrofethi basebesithi ezikhulwini lasebantwini bonke, “Umuntu lo kumele agwetshelwe ukufa ngoba uphrofetha kubi ngedolobho leli. Likuzwile ngezindlebe zenu!” **12** UJeremiya wasesithi ezikhulwini zonke lasebantwini bonke: “UTHixo ungithumile ukuba ngiphrofetha kubi ngendlu le langedolobho leli zonke izinto elizizwileyo. **13** Ngakho lungisani izindlela zenu lezenzo zenu lilalele uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. Ngalokho uThixo uzadeda angabe esalhelisela umonakalo abememezele ukuwehlisela kini. **14** Kodwa mina, ngisezandleni zenu; yenzani kimi loba kuyini lokho elikubona kukuhle, kufanele. **15** Kodwa likwazi, impela ukuthi lingangibulala, lizakwehlisela phezu kwenu icala legazi elimsulwa laphezu kwedolobho leli kanye laphezu kwabantu abahlala kulo, ngoba ngeqiniso uThixo ungithumile kini ukuba ngikhulume wonke amazwi la lani lisizwa.” **16** Izikhulu labantu bonke basebesithi kubaphristi lakubaphrofethi, “Umuntu lo akumelanga abulawe! Ukhulume kithi ngebizo likaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu.” **17** Abanye babadala baselizweni basondela phambili bakhuluma kulonke ibandla labantu bathi, **18** “UMikha waseMoresethi waphrofetha ensukwini zikaHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda. Wabatshele bonke abantu bakoJuda wathi, ‘UTHixo uSomandla uthi: IZiyoni izalinywa njengensimu, iJerusalem izakuba yinqwaba yemfucuzwa, intaba yethempeli ibe yindunduma eyande izixukwana.’ **19** Kanje uHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda loba omunye umuntu nje wakoJuda wambulala na? UHezekhiya kamesabanga yini uThixo wacela umusa kuye? UThixo kadedanga wayekela ukubehlisela umonakalo ayewumemezele kubo na? Sekuseduze ukuthi sizehlisele umonakalo owesabekayo phezu kwethul’” **20** (U-Uriya indodana kaShemaya owaseKhiriyaThi-Jeyarimi ungomunye umuntu owaphrofetha ngebizo likaThixo: waphrofetha izinto ezinjalo ngedolobho leli langelizwe leli njengeJeremiya. **21** Kwathi inkosi uJehoyakhimi lezinduna zakhe kanye lezikhulu zakhe besizwa amazwi akhe, bafuna ukumbulala. Kodwa u-Uriya wakuzwa lokho wasebalekela eGibhithe esesaba. **22** UJehoyakhimi inkosi, wathuma u-Elinathani indodana ka-Akhibhori lamanye amadoda eGibhithe. **23** Bamthatha u-Uriya eGibhithe bamusa kuJehoyakhimi inkosi wambulala ngenkamba isidumbu sakhe saphoselwa endaweni yokungcwabela abantukazana.) **24** Phezu kwalokho, u-Ahikhani indodana kaShafani wasekela uJeremiya, ngakho kanikezwanga ebantwini ukuba bambulale.

27 Ekuqaleni kokubusa kukaZedekhiya indodana kaJosiyah inkosi yakoJuda, ilizwi leli lafika kuJeremiya livela kuThixo lisithi: **2** UThixo wathi kimi, “Yenza ijogwe ngemichilo langemigoqo uligaxe entanyeni yakho. **3** Ubusuthumela ilizwi enkosini yase-Edomi, leyaseMowabi, leyase-Amoni, eyeThire kanye leyaseSidoni ngezithunywa ezize eJerusalem kaZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda. **4** Zinike ilizwi eliya emakhosini azo uthi, ‘UTHixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Tshelani amakhosi enu lokhu ukuthi: **5** Ngamandla ami amakhulu langengalo yami eyeluliweyo ngenza umhlaba labantu bawo kanye lezinyamazana ezikuzo, njalo ngiwumika loba ngubani ngokuthanda kwami. **6** Khatheisi wonke amazwe enu ngizawunikela encekwini yami uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, ngizakwenza lezinyamazana zeganga zibe ngaphansi kwakhe. **7** Izizwe zonke zizamsebenzela yena

lamadodana akhe kanye labazukulu bakhe kuze kufike isikhathi selizwe lakhe lapho azanqotshwa khona yizizwe ezinengi lamakhosi amakhulu. **8** Kodwa, loba yisiphi isizwe loba umbuso ongasebenzeli uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni loba ukhothamisele intamo yawo ejogeni lakhe, ngizasisizwe lesosizwe ngenkamba, ngendala langesifo, ngize ngiwuchithe ngesandla sakhe, kutsho uThixo. **9** Ngakho lingabalaleli abaphrofethi benu, izanuse zenu, abachazi bamaphupho, izangoma zenu loba izinyanga zenu ezithi kini, kaliyikuyisebenzela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni.” **10** Baphrofetha amanga kini azasebenza ukulisusa nje kuphela emazweni enu; ngizalixotsha njalo lizabhubha. **11** Kodwa isizwe esizabeka intamo yawo ngaphansi kwejojwe lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni siyisebenzele, lesosizwe ngizasiyekela siselizweni laso ukuba sillilime njalo sihlale kulo, kutsho uThixo.” **12** UZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda ngamnika ilizwi elinjalo; Ngathi, “Beka intamo yakho ngaphansi kwejojwe lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni; isebenzele yona kanye labantu bayo, uzaphila. **13** Kungani wena labantu bakho lizabulawa ngenkamba, indlala lesifo uThixo ayesongele ngakho isizwe esingayikusebenzela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni na? **14** Lingawalaleli amazwi abaphrofethi abathi kini, ‘Kaliyikuyisebenzela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni,’ ngoba baphrofetha amanga kini. **15** ‘Angibathumanga,’ kutsho uThixo. ‘Baphrofetha amanga ngebizo lami. Ngakho ngizalixotsha, libhubhe lina kanye labaphrofethi abaphrofetha kini.’” **16** Ngasengisithi kubaphristi lakubo bonke abantu laba, “UTHixo uthi: Lingabalaleli abaphrofethi abathi, ‘Masinyane nje izitsha zasendlini kaThixo zizabuyiswa zivela eBhabhiloni.’ Baphrofetha amanga kini. **17** Lingabalaleli. Isebenzeleni inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, lizaphila. Kungani idolobho leli kumele libe lunxiwa na? **18** Nxa bengabaphrofethi njalo belelizwi likaThixo, kabamncenge uThixo uSomandla ukuba izitsha eziseleyo endlini kaThixo lasesigodlweni senkosi yakoJuda kanye laseJerusalem zingasiwa eBhabhiloni. **19** Ngoba lokhu yikho okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla mayelana lensika, loLwandle, lokokumisa okuphakamisekayo kanye lezinye izitsha eziseleyo kulelidolobho, **20** uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni engahambanga layo ekuthatheni kwakhe uJehoyakhimi indodana kaJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda emusa eJerusalem emusa ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni, kanye lezikhulu zonke zakoJuda lezeJerusalem, **21** yebo, lokhu yikho okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, mayelana lezinto eziseleyo endlini kaThixo lasesigodlweni senkosi yakoJuda kanye laseJerusalem ukuthi: **22** ‘Zisasiwa eBhabhiloni lapho ezizakuba khona kuze kufike usuku engazalanda ngalo,’ kutsho uThixo. ‘Lapho-ke ngizazibuyisela emuva kule indawo.’”

28 Ngenyanga yesihlanu yawonalowo umnyaka, umnyaka wesine, ekuqaleni kokubusa kukaZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda, umphrofethi uHananiya indodana ka-Azuri, owayevela eGibhiyoni, wathi kimi endlini kaThixo phambi kwabaphristi labantu bonke: **2** “UTHixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: ‘Ngizalephula ijogwe lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni. **3** Phakathi kweminyaka emibili ngizazibuyisela kule indawo zonke izitsha zendlu kaThixo ezathathwa nguNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni wazisa eBhabhiloni. **4** Ngizambuyisela kule indawo futhi uJekhoniya indodana kaJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda kanye labanye bonke abathunjwa koJuda baya eBhabhiloni,’ kutsho uThixo,

‘ngoba ngizalephula ijogwe lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni.” 5 Umphrofethi uJeremiya waphendula umphrofethi uHananiya phambi kwabaphristi labantu bonke ababemi endlini kaThixo. 6 Wathi, “Amen! Sengathi uThixo angamenzenjalol Sengathi uThixo angagcwalisa amazwi owaphrofethayo ngokubuyisela kule indawo izitsha zendlu kaThixo labo bonke abathunjelwa eBhabhiloni. 7 Lanxa kunjalo, lalela kulokhu engikutsho lawe usizwa kanye labantu bonke besizwa ukuthi: 8 Kusukela ezikhathini zakuqala abaphrofethi abandulela wena lami baphrofetha ngempi, ngomonakalo langesifo emazweni amanengi lasemibusweni emikhulu. 9 Kodwa umphrofethi ophrofetha ngokuthula uzakwaziwa njengothunywe nguThixo sibili lapho ilizwi lakhe seligcwalisekile.” 10 Lapho-ke uHananiya umphrofethi wasusa ijogwe entanyeni kaJeremiya umphrofethi walephula, 11 wasesithi phambi kwabantu bonke, “UTHixo uthi: ‘Ngizalephula kanjalo ijogwe likaNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni entanyeni zezizwe zonke phakathi kweminyaka embili.” Ngemva kwalokho umphrofethi uJeremiya wasuka wazihambela. 12 Masinyane nje emuva kokuba umphrofethi uHananiya ephule ijogwe entanyeni kaJeremiya umphrofethi, kwafika ilizwi likaThixo kuJeremiya lisithi: 13 “Hamba uyetshele uHananiya uthi, ‘UTHixo uthi: Wephule ijogwe lesigodo, kodwa esikhundleni salo uzakuba lejogwe lensimbi. 14 UThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Ngizabeka ijogwe lensimbi entanyeni zezizwe zonke lezi ukuba zisebenzele uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, zizamsebenzela. Ngizamnika amandla laphezu kwezinyamazana zeganga.” 15 Umphrofethi uJeremiya wasesithi kuHananiya umphrofethi, “Lalela, Hananiya! UThixo kakuthumanga, kodwa usuwenze isizwe lesi sathemba amanga. 16 Ngakho, uThixo uthi, ‘Sekuseduze ukuthi ngikususe ebusweni bomhlaba. Ngawonalo umnyaka uzakufa, ngoba uphrofitho ukuhlamukela uThixo.” 17 Ngenyanga yesikhombisa yalowomnyaka, uHananiya umphrofethi wafa.

29 La ngamazwi encwadi umphrofethi uJeremiya ayithumela esejerusalem abadlali abasindayo phakathi kwabathunjwayo lakubaphristi, abaphrofethi, lakubo bonke abantu uNebhukhadineza abathatha eJerusalem wabasa ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni. 2 (Lokhu kwakungemva kokuba inkosi uJekhoniya lendlovukazi engunina, izikhulu zasemthethwandaba kanye labadala bakoJuda labaseJerusalem, izingcithsi lezingcwethi basebeye ekuthunjweni besuka eJerusalem.) 3 Incwadi leyo wayiphathisa u-Eleyasa indodana kaShafani loGemariya indodana kaHilikhya, abathunywa nguZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda kuNebhukhadineza eBhabhiloni. Yathi: 4 UThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi kubo bonke labo engabasa ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni besuka eJerusalem: 5 “Yakhani izindlu luhlale phansi; limani izivande lidle izithelo zazo. 6 Thathani abafazi zilale amadodana lamadodakazi; dingelani amadodana enu abafazi lendise lamadodakazi enu, ukuze lawo abe lamadodana kanye lamadodakazi; inani lenu lande ngapho; lingehli. 7 Funani ukuthula lokuphumelela kwedolobho engilise ekuthunjweni kulo. Likhulekeleni kuThixo, ngoba nxa liphumelela lani lizaphumelela.” 8 Ye, uThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi, “Lingavumeli ukuthi abaphrofethi labahlahluli abaphakathi kwenu balikhohlise. Lingawalaleli amaphupho elibakhuthaza

ukuthi bawaphuphe. 9 Baphrofetha amanga kini ngebizo lami. Kangibathumanga,” kutsho uThixo. 10 UThixo uthi: “Lapho iminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa isiphelile eBhabhiloni, ngizakuza kini ngigcwalise isithembiso sami somusa sokulibuyisela kule indawo. 11 Ngoba ngiyawazi amacebo engilawo ngani,” kutsho uThixo, “amacebo okuliphumelelisa hatsihi ukulilimaza, amacebo okulimika ithemba kanye lesikhathi esizayo. 12 Ngalesosikhathi lizangibiza lizekhuleka kimi, njalo ngalizizwa. 13 Lizangidinga lingifumane nxa lingidinga ngenhliziyo yenu yonke. 14 Lizangifumana,” kutsho uThixo, “njalo ngizalibuyisa livela ekuthunjweni. Ngizaliquqa ezizweni zonke lasezindaweni zonke engalixotshela kuzo,” kutsho uThixo, “njalo ngilibuyise endaweni engalithatha kuyo ngilisa ekuthunjweni.” 15 Lingatsho lithi, “UTHixo usesiphe abaphrofethi eBhabhiloni,” 16 kodwa uThixo uthi mayelana lenkosi ehhlala esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaDavida labantu bonke abasala kulelidolobho, abantu bakini abangahambanga lani ekuthunjweni, 17 yebo, uThixo uSomandla uthi, “Ngizabathumela inkemba, lendlala lesifo njalo ngizabenza babe njengomkhiwa obolileyo ongeke udliwe. 18 Ngizaxotshana labo ngenkemba, ngendlala langesifo njalo ngizabenza benyanyeke kuyo yonke imibuso yasemhlabeni njalo babe yinto yokuqalekiswa lokwesatshwa, ukuklodelwa lokuthukwa, phakathi kwezizwe zonke engibaxotshela kuzo. 19 Ngoba kabawalalanga amazwi ami,” kutsho uThixo, “amazwi engawathumela kubo njalonyalo ngezinceku zami abaphrofethi. Lani abasekuthunjweni kalilalalanga,” kutsho uThixo. 20 Ngakho, zwani ilizwi likaThixo, lonke lina elisekuthunjweni engalisusa eJerusalem ngalisa eBhabhiloni. 21 Mayelana lo-Ahabi indodana kaKholaya loZedekhiya indodana kaMaseya, abaphrofetha amanga kini ngebizo lami, uThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: “Ngizabaniela kuNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni ozabulala phambi kobuso benu. 22 Ngenxa yabo, bonke abathunjweyo abavela koJuda abaseBhabhiloni bazasebenzisa isiqalekiso lesi sokuthi: ‘UTHixo makenze kini njengalokhu akwenze kuZedekhiya lo-Ahabi, abatshiswa yinkosi yaseBhabhiloni ngomlilo.’ 23 Ngoba benze izinto ezimbi kakhulu ko-Israyeli; babela labafazi babomakhelwane babo, baqamba amanga ngebizo lami, engingazange ngithi bakwenze. Ngiyakwazi njalo ngingufakazi kukho,” kutsho uThixo. 24 Tshela uShemaya umNehelami uthi, 25 “UTHixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: ‘Wathumela izincwadi ngebizo lakho kubo bonke abantu baseJerusalem, lakuZefaniya indodana kaMaseya umphristi, lakwabanye abaphristi bonke.’ KuZefaniya wathi, 26 ‘UTHixo usekubekwe ukuba ngumphristi esikhundleni sikajehoyada ukuba ube ngumphristi wendlu kaThixo; umuntu ohlanyayo ozenza umphrofethi ubomfaka esitokisini umfaka lezankosi zentanyeni. 27 Pho kungani ungamkuzanga uJeremiya wase-Anathothi, ozenza umphrofethi phakathi kwenu? 28 Uthumele ilizwi leli kithi eBhabhiloni elithi: Kuzakuba yisikhathi eside. Ngakho yakhani izindlu luhlale phansi; limani izivande lidle izithelo zazo.” 29 Kodwa, uZefaniya umphristi incwadi le wayibalela uJeremiya umphrofethi. 30 Ilizwi likaThixo laselifika kuJeremiya lisithi, 31 “Thumela ilizwi leli kubo bonke abathunjweyo uthi, Mayelana loShemaya umNehelami uThixo uthi: ‘Njengoba uShemaya esephrofitha kini, lanxa mina ngingamthumanga, walenza lakholwa amanga, 32 ngeqiniso ngizamjezisa uShemaya umNehelami

kanye lenzalo yakhe. Kakuyikuba lowakibo ozasala ekhona phakathi kwalabantu, njalo lezinto ezinhle engizazenzela abantu bami kasoze azibone, kutsho uThixo, ngoba uphrofetha ukungihlamukela.”

30 Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya livela kuThixo lisithi: **2** “UThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi, ‘Loba encwadini wonke amazwi engiwakhulume kuwe. **3** Insuku ziyeza,’ kutsho uThixo, ‘lapho engizabuyisa abantu bami u-Israyeli loJuda bevela ekuthunjweni ngibabuyisele elizweni engalinika okhokho babo ukuba libe ngelabo,’ kutsho uThixo.” **4** Amazwi akhulunywa nguThixo ngo-Israyeli loJuda: **5** “Wathi: ‘Ukukhala kokwesaba kuzwakele, ukwesaba okukhulu, hatshi ukuthula. **6** Buzani libone: Indoda ingazala abantwana na? Pho kungani ngibona wonke amadoda aqinileyo ebambe izisu zawo ngezandla njengowesifazane ohelelwayo, ubuso bonke sebube mhlotshana okokufa? **7** Yeka ukwesabeka okuzakuba yilolosuku! Kalukho oluzakuba njengalo. Kuzakuba yisikhathi sokuhlupheka kukajakhobe, kodwa uzahlangwa kukho. **8** Ngalolosuku,’ kutsho uThixo uSomandla, ‘ngizalephula ijogwe entanyeni zabo ngiqamule leziphopho zabo; abezizweni kabasayikubagqilaza futhi. **9** Esikhundleni salokho, bazasebenzela uThixo uNkulunkulu wabo, loDavida inkosi yabo, engizabavusela yona. **10** Ngakho ungesabi, wena Jakhobe nceku yami; ungadangali, wena Israyeli,’ kutsho uThixo. ‘Ngeqiniso ngizakuhlenga ezindaweni ezikude, lenzalo yakho elizweni lokuthunjwa kwayo. UJakhobe uzakuba lokuthula futhi kanye lokuvikeleka, njalo kakho ozamenza esabe. **11** Ngilawe njalo ngizakuhlenga,’ kutsho uThixo. ‘Lanxa ngizichitha ngokupheleleyo zonke izizwe engikuhlakazela kuzo, wena angiyikukuchitha ngokupheleleyo. Ngizakuqondisa kodwa ngokufaneleyo kuphela; kangiyikukuyekela ungajeziswanga.’ **12** UThixo uthi: ‘Isilonda sakho kaselapheki, ukulimala kwakho akupholi. **13** Kakho okhulumela inhloso yakho, akulamuthi wesilonda sakho, akukho kuphola kuwe. **14** Bonke abangane bakho sebekukhohliwe; kabalandaba lawe. Ngikutshaye njengokungenziwa yisitha ngakujezisa njengokungenziwa ngolesihluku, ngoba icala lakho likhulu kakhulu lezono zakho zinengi kakhulu. **15** Kungani ukhaliswa linxeba lakho, ubuhlungu bakho obungelaphekiyo na? Ngenxa yecala lakho elikhulu lezono ezinengi ngenze lezinto kuwe. **16** Kodwa bonke abakudlayo bazadliwa; zonke izitha zakho zizathunjwa. Labo abakuphangayo bazaphangwa; bonke abakwemukayo ngizabemuka. **17** Kodwa ngizakusilisa ngipholise lamanxeba akho,’ kutsho uThixo, ‘ngoba kuthiwa ungolahlweyo, iZiyoni okungekho olendaba lalo.’ **18** UThixo uthi: ‘Ngizavuselela inotho yasemathenteni kaJakhobe ngibe lesihawu emakhaya akhe; idolobho lizakwakhiswa kutsha emanxiweni alo, lendlu yobukhosi izakuma endaweni yayo uqobo. **19** Kubo kuzavela izingoma zokubonga kanye lomsindo wokuthokoza. Ngizakwandisa amanani abo, njalo kabayikuphungalwa; ngizabenza bahlonitshwe, njalo kabayikwewiswa. **20** Abantwana babo bazakuba njengezinsukwini zakudala, lebandla labo lizamisela phambi kwami; ngizabazajezisa bonke ababancindezelayo. **21** Umkhokheli wabo uzakuba ngomunye wabakibo; umbusi wabo uzavela phakathi kwabo. Ngizamsondeza eduze, uzakuza phansi kwami, ngoba ngubani lowo onganzinikela ukuba seduze kwami na?’ kutsho uThixo. **22** ‘Ngakho lina lizakuba ngabantu bami, mina ngibe nguNkulunkulu wenu.’” **23** Khangelani,

isiphetho sikaThixo sizakupha ulaka, umoya osasivunguzane usehlela phezu kwamakhanda ababi. **24** Ulaka olwesabekayo lukaThixo kaluyikudeda aze ayifeze ngokupheleleyo injongo yenhliziyo yakhe. Ensukwini ezizayo lizakuzwisisa lokhu.

31 “Ngalesosikhathi ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wezizwana zonke zaka-Israyeli, bona bazakuba ngabantu bami,” kutsho uThixo. **2** UThixo uthi: “Abantu abasilayo enkembeni bazathola umusa enkangala; ngizakuzanika u-Israyeli ukuphumula.” **3** UThixo wabonakala kithi kudala esithi: “Ngikuthandlel ngothando olungapheliyo; ngikuhole ngesisa esikhulu. **4** Ngizakwakha njalo uzakwakhiswa kutsha futhi, wena Israyeli Ntombi emsulwa. Uzathatha amagedla akho futhi uphume uyegida labathokoza. **5** Uzalima izivini zakho futhi emaqaqeni aseSamariya; abalimi bazazilima badle izithelo zazo. **6** Kuzakuba losuku lapho abalindi bezamemeza phezu kwamaqaqa ako-Efrayimi bathi, ‘Wozani, kasiyeni eZiyoni, kuThixo uNkulunkulu wethu.’” **7** UThixo uthi: “Mhlabeleleni uJakhobe ngokuthokoza; nqongolozelani izizwe ezidumileyo. Yenzani ukudumisa kwenu kuzwakale, lisithi, ‘Awu Thixo, bahlenge abantu bakho, insalela ka-Israyeli.’” **8** Khangelani, ngizababuyisa bevela elizweni lasenyakatho, ngibaqoqe emikhawulweni yomhlaba. Phakathi kwabo kuzakuba leziphofu labaqlulayo; abesifazane abazithwelelo labahlelwayo; ixuku elikhulu lizabuya. **9** Bazabuya bekhala; bazakhuleka lapho ngibabuyisa. Ngizabaholela ezihotsheni zamanzi endleleni eyendalakelelyo lapho abangayikukhubeka khona, ngoba nginguyise ka-Israyeli, njalo u-Efrayimi yindodana yami elizibulo. **10** Zwanini ilizwi likaThixo, lina zizwe; limemezeleni emazweni angaselwandle khatshana lithi: ‘Yena owahlakaza u-Israyeli uzamqoqa njalo uzakwelusa umhlambi wakhe njengomelusi.’ **11** Ngoba uThixo uzamhlenga uJakhobe, abakuhule ezandleni zalabo abalalandla kulabo. **12** Bazakuza banqongolozwe ngentokozo ezingqongeni zeZiyoni; bazathokoza ngokuphana kukaThixo, ngamabele, langewayini elitsha kanye lamafutha e-oliva, ngamazinyane ezimvu langamathole enkomo. Bazakuba njengesivande esithelwa kuhle, njalo kabasayikuba losizi futhi. **13** Izintombi zizagida njalo futhi zithabe, enzenjalo amajaha labadala. Ngizaguqula ukukhala kwabo kube yikuthaba; ngizabapha induduzo lentokozo esikhundleni sosizi. **14** Ngizasuthisa abaphristi ngokunengi, labantu bami bazasutha ngokuphana kwami,” kutsho uThixo. **15** Nanku okutshwiwo nguThixo: “Ilizwi lizwakala eRama, lesililo lokukhala okukhulu, uRasheli ukhalela abantwabakhe njalo esala ukududuzwa, ngoba kabasekho.” **16** Nanku akutshoyo uThixo: “Bamba ilizwi lakho ungakhali, lamehlo akho angehlisi inyembezi ngoba umsebenzi wakho uzathola umvuzo,” kutsho uThixo. “Bazabuya bevela elizweni lesitha. **17** Ngakho kulethemba ensukwini zakho ezizayo,” kutsho uThixo. “Abantwabakho bazabuyela elizweni labo. **18** Ngikuzwile impela ukukhala kuka-Efrayimi esithi: ‘Wangitshaya njengethole elingathambanga, njalo sengajeziseka. Ngibuyisa, njalo ngizabuya, ngoba unguThixo uNkulunkulu wami. **19** Emva kokweduka kwami, ngaphenduka; emva kokuba sengizwisile, ngazitshaya isifuba. Ngaba lenhloni ngadumazeka ngoba ngangilehlazo lasebutsheni bami.’” **20** U-Efrayimi kasindodana yami ethandekayo, umntanami engithokoza ngaye na? Lanxa ngihlala ngikhuluma kubi ngaye ngisamkhumbula. Ngakho inhliziyoyi yami iyamlangatha; ngiyamzwelela kakhulu, kutsho uThixo. **21** Beka izitshengiso zomgawo; umise lezinsika zeqondiso. Nanzelela

umgwaqo, indlela ozahamba ngayo. Phenduka, wena Ntombi egcweleyo Israyeli, buyela emadolobheni akho. **22** Koze kube nini ulokhu uzulazula, wena ndodakazi engathembekanga na? UThixo uzadala into entsha emhlabeni, owesifazane uzavikela indoda.” **23** UThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi, “Lapho ngibabuyisa bevela ekuthunjweni, abantu abaselizweni lakoJuda lasemadolobheni alo bazawasebenzisa futhi amazwi la athi, ‘UThixo akubusise wena ndawo yokuhlala elungileyo, wena ntaba engcwele.’” **24** Abantu bazahlala ndawonye koJuda lasemadolobheni akhona wonke, abalimi kanye labo abazulazulayo lemihlambi yabo. **25** Ngizaqinisa abadiniwama ngisuthise abangelamandla.” **26** Lapho-ke ngaphaphama ngakhangele indawana yonke. Ubuthongo bami babubemnandi kimi. **27** “Insuku ziyeza, lapho engizahlanyela khona indlu ka-Israyeli lendlu kaJuda lenzalo yabantu lezinyamazana. **28** Njengoba ngabalinda ukusiphuna lokudiliza, ukuchitha lokubhubhisa kanye lokuletha umonakalo, ngokunjalo ngizabalinda ukwakha lokuhlanyela,” kutsho uThixo. **29** “Ngalezonsuku abantu kabasayikutsho ukuthi, ‘Abazali badle amavini amunyu, ngakho amazinyo abantwana asetshelela.’” **30** Esikhundleni salokho, umuntu wonke uzafela izono zakhe; loba ngubani odla amavini amunyu amazinyo akhe azatshelela. **31** Isikhathi siyeza, lapho engizakwenza khona isivumelwano esitsha lendlu ka-Israyeli kanye lekaJuda,” kutsho uThixo. **32** “Kasiyikufana lesivumelwano engasenza labokhokho babo lapho engababamba khona ngesandla ukuba ngibakhuphe eGibhithe, ngoba bephula isivumelwano sami, lanxa ngangingumyeni wabo,” kutsho uThixo. **33** “Lesi yiso isivumelwano engasenza lendlu ka-Israyeli ngemva kwalesosikhathi,” kutsho uThixo. “Ngizafaka umthetho wami ezingqondweni zabo, ngiwulobe lazezinhliziyweni zabo. Ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wabo, bona bazakuba ngabantu bami. **34** Umuntu kasayikufundisa umakhelwane wakhe, kumbe umfowabo esithi, ‘Mazi uThixo,’ ngoba bonke bazangazi, kusukela komncinyane wabo kusiya komkhulu, kutsho uThixo. Ngoba ngizabathethelela ububi babo, njalo angiyikukhumbula izono zabo futhi.” **35** Nanku akutshoyo uThixo, yena obeka ilanga ukuba likhanyise emini, omisa inyanga lezinkanyezi ukuba kukhanye ebusuku, onyakazisa ulwandle ukuze amagasi alo ahlokome, uThixo uSomandla yilo ibizo lakhe, uthi: **36** “Nxa izimiso lezi zinganyamalala ebusweni bami,” kutsho uThixo, “kulapho lenzalo ka-Israyeli ezacina khona ukuba yisizwe phambi kwami.” **37** UThixo uthi: “Nxa amazulu phezulu engalinganiswa lezisekelo zomhlaba ngaphansi zihlolwe, kulapho engingayilahla khona yonke inzalo ka-Israyeli ngenxa yakho konke abakwenzileyo,” kutsho uThixo. **38** “Insuku ziyeza,” kutsho uThixo, “lapho idolobho leli ngizalakhelwa kutsha kusukela eMphotshongweni waseHananeli kusiya eSangweni leNgosi. **39** Intambo yokulinganisa izasukela lapho iqonde eqaqeni lweGarebi ibe isijikela eGowa. **40** Isigodi sonke lapho okulahlelwa khona izidumbu zabafuleyo lomlotha, lawo wonke amasimu kusiyafika esigodini seKhidironi ngasempumalanga kusiyafika ejikweni leSango leBhiza, kuzakuba ngcwele kuThixo. Idolobho kaliyikusitshunwa futhi loba lidilizwe.”

32 Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya livela kuThixo ngomnyaka wethsumi wokubusa kukaZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda, owawungumnyaka wethsumi lasosificaminwembili wokubusa kukaNebuhukhadineza. **2** Ngalesosikhathi ibutho lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni lalivimbezele iJerusalem, uJeremiya

umphrofethi evalelwe egumeni labalindi phakathi kwesigodlo senkosi yakoJuda. **3** UZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda wayemvalele lapho esithi, “Kungani uphrofetha njengalokhu okwenzayo? Uthi: ‘UThixo uthi: Sekuseduze ukuthi idolobho leli nglinikele enkosini yaseBhabhiloni, njalo izalithumba. **4** UZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda akayikuphunyuka ezandleni zamaKhaladiya, kodwa uzanikelwa impela enkosini yaseBhabhiloni, njalo uzakhuluma layo ubuso ngobuso ayibone ngamehlo akhe. **5** Izathatha uZedekhiya imuse eBhabhiloni, lapho azahlala khona ngize ngibone engingakwenza kuye, kutsho uThixo. Nxa isilwa lamaKhaladiya, kawuyikuphumelela.” **6** UJeremiya wathi, “Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **7** UHanameli indodana kaShalumi umalumakho uzakuza kuwe athi, ‘Thenga insimu yami e-Anathothi, ngoba njengesinini sami kulilungelo lakho lomlandu wakho ukuba uyithenge.’ **8** Ngakho, njengokutsho kukaThixo, umzawami uHanameli weza kimi egumeni labalindi wathi, ‘Thenga insimu yami e-Anathothi elizweni lakobhenjani. Njengoba kulilungelo lakho ukuba uyihlenge ibe ngeyakho, zithengele yona.’ Ngakwazi ukuthi leli lalilizwi likaThixo; **9** ngakho ngayithenga insimu ye-Anathothi kumzawami uHanameli, ngamlinganisela amashekeli alitshumi lesikhombisa esiliva. **10** Ngasayina incwadi yesivumelwano sokuthenga ngayinamathisela, yafakazelwa, ngalinganisa isiliva esikalini. **11** Ngathatha incwadi yokuthenga enanyekiweyo eyayilemthetho lezimiso, kanye leyayingananyekwangwa, **12** incwadi yokuthenga le ngayinika uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya, indodana kaMahaseyiyu; umzawami uHanameli ekhona kanye labafakazi ababesayine incwadi yokuthenga lamajuda wonke ehlezi egumeni labalindi. **13** Nganika uBharukhi imilayo le labo bekhona ngathi: **14** ‘UThixo uSomandla uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Thatha izincwadi lezi zesivumelwano sokuthenga enanyekiweyo lengananyekwangwa uzifake embizeni yomdaka ukuze zihlale khona isikhathi eside. **15** UThixo uSomandla uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Izindlu lamasimu lezivini kuzathengwa futhi kulelilizwe.’ **16** Emva kokuba uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya sengimphile incwadi yokuthenga, ngakhuleka kuThixo ngathi: **17** Thixo Wobukhosi, wadala amazulu lomhlaba ngamandla akho amakhulu langengalo yakho eyeluliweyo. Akukho lutho olunzima kuwe. **18** Ubonakalisa uthando kuzinkulungwane kodwa ulethe isijeziso sezono zaboyise ebantwaneni babo ngemva kwabo. Wena Nkulunkulu omkhulu olamandla, obizo lakho nguThixo uSomandla, **19** zinkulu injongo zakho njalo zilamandla izenzo zakho. Amehlo akho ayazibona zonke izindlela zabantu; unika umuntu wonke umvuzo kusiya ngokuziphatha kwakhe langokufanele izenzo zakhe. **20** Wenza izibonakaliso lezimangaliso eGibhithe, waqhubeka uzenza kwaze kwaba yilolusuku, khona ko-Israyeli laphakathi koluntu lonke, wathola udumo olukhulu lungolwakho lalamhlanje. **21** Wakhupha abantu bakho u-Israyeli eGibhithe ngezibonakaliso langezimangaliso; ngesandla esilamandla langengalo eyeluliweyo kanye lokwesaba okukhulu. **22** Wabanika ilizwe leli owawufunge ukulipha okhokho babo, ilizwe eligeleza uchago lolu. **23** Beza bafika balithatha, kodwa kabakulalelanga kumbe balandele imithetho yakho; kabakwenzanga owawubalaye ukuthi bakwenze. Ngakho wabehlisela wonke umonakalo lo. **24** Khangela ukuthi akhiwe njani amadundulu okuvimbezela ukuba idolobho lihlaselwe. Ngenxa yenkamba, lendlala lesifo idolobho lizanikelwa

kumaKhaladiya alihlaselayo. Owakutshoyo sekusenzakala njengoba ubona khathesi. **25** Kodwa lanxa idolobho lizanelkelwa kumaKhaladiya, wena Thixo Wobukhosi uthe kimi, “Thenga insimu ngesiliva kube labafakaza lokho.” **26** Ilizwi likaThixo laselifika kujeremiya lisithi: **27** “Mina nginguThixo, uNkulunkulu woluntu lonke. Kambe kulento engehulayo na? **28** Ngakho, nanku okutshivo nguThixo, uti: Sekuseduze ukuthi idolobho leli ngilnikele kumaKhaladiya lakuNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, ozalithumba. **29** AmaKhaladiya ahlasele idolobho leli azangena alithungele ngomlilo; alitshise, kanye lezindlu lapho abantu abangthukuthelisela khona ngokuthisela uBhali impepha phezu kwezimpahla zezindlu langokuthululela abanye onkulunkulu iminikelo enathwayo. **30** Abantu bakoJuda labako-Israyeli benza ububi bodwa emehlweni ami kusukela ebutsheeni babo; impela, abantu bako-Israyeli bangthukuthelisela ngalokhu abakwenza ngezandla zabo, kutsho uThixo. **31** Kusukela ngosuku elakhiwa ngalo kuze kube khathesi, idolobho leli livusa ukuthukuthela kwami lolaka lwami okwenza kufanele ukuba ngilisuse ebusweni bami. **32** Abantu bako-Israyeli labakoJuda bangthukuthelisile ngobubi bonke ababenzileyo, bona, amakhosi abo lezikhulu zabo, abaphristi labaphrofethi babo, abantu bakoJuda labantu baseJerusalem. **33** Bangifulathela kabaze bangipha ubuso babo; lanxa ngabafundisa kanenginengi kabalalalanga njalo kabakunakanga ukukhuzwa. **34** Bamisa izithombe zabo ezinengekayo endlini eleBizo lami bayingcolisa. **35** Bakhela uBhali izindawo eziphakemayo eSigidini saseBheni-Hinom ukuba banikele amadodana lamadodakazi abo kuMoleki, lanxa ngingazange ngibalaye, kumbe kufike engqondweni yami, ukuthi babokwenza into eyenyanyeka kangaka ngalokho benze uJuda one. **36** Liyatsho ngedolobho leli lithi, ‘Ngenkamba, langendla kanye langesifo lizanelkelwa eNkosini yaseBhabhiloni;’ kodwa uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uti: **37** Ngizababuyisa kule indawo ngibenze bahlale ngokuvikelwa. **38** Bazakuba ngabantu bami, mina ngibe nguNkulunkulu wabo. **39** Ngizabenza babemunye enhliziyweni lasezenzweni, ukuze bahlale bengesaba, ukuba kube kühle kubo lasebantwaneni babo emva kwabo. **40** Ngizakwenza labo isivumelwano esingapheliyo: Angiyikuyekela ukwenza okuhle kubo, ngizabafunzelela ukuba bangesabe, ukuze bangangideli. **41** Ngizathokoza ekubenzeleni okuhle njalo ngibagxumeke ngobuqotho kulelizwe ngenhliziyo yami yonke langemoya wami wonke. **42** UThixo uti: Njengoba ngehlixe inkemenkeme le enkulu kangaka phezu kwalabantu, ngokunjalo ngizabapha konke ukuphumelela engabathembisa khona. **43** Amasimu azathengwa futhi kulelizwe lina elithi ngalo, ‘Lilugwadule oluphundelekileyo, olungelabantu lezinyamazana, ngoba lanikelwa kumaKhaladiya.’ **44** Amasimu azathengwa ngesiliva, lezincwadi zokuthenga zisayinwe, zinanyekwe njalo zifakazelwe elizweni likaBhenjamine, lemizini eseduze leJerusalem, lasemadolobheni akoJuda kanye lasemadolobheni elizwe lamaqaqa, asemawatheni asentshonalanga kanye lawaseNegebi, ngoba ngizabuyisela inotho yabo, kutsho uThixo.”

33 Ujeremiya elokhu esavalelwe egumeni labalindi, ilizwi likaThixo lafika kuye ngokwesibili lisithi: **2** “UThixo, yena owadala umhlaba, uThixo owawenzayo wawumisa, uThixo yilo ibizo lakhe, uti, **3** ‘Ngibiza ngizakusabela, ngikutshela izinto ezinkulu ezifihlakeleyo ongazayo.’ **4** Ngoba

lokhu yikho okutshivo nguThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli mayelana lezindlu ezikulelidolobho langezindlu zobukhosi koJuda ezadilizwayo ukuba zisetshenziswe ekumelaneni lamadundulu okuvimbezela kanye lenkamba **5** ekulweni lamaKhaladiya: ‘Zizagcwala izidumbu zabantu abafileyo engizababulala ekuthukutheleni kwami langolaka lwami. Idolobho leli ngizalifihlela ubuso bami ngenxa yobubi balo bonke. **6** Kodwa, ngizaletha ukuphila lokusiliswa kulo. Abantu bami ngizabasilisa ngibenze bajabulele ukuthula okukhulu kanye lokuvikeleka. **7** Ngizabuyisa uJuda lo-Israyeli besuka ekuthunjweni njalo ngizabakha futhi njengalokhu ababeyikho kuqala. **8** Ngizabahlambulula kuzozonke izono abazenza kimi njalo ngizabathethelela zonke izono zabo zokungihlamukela. **9** Ngakho idolobho leli lizangilethela indumela, ukuthokoza, lokubongwa kanye lodumo phambi kwezizwe zonke emhlabeni ezizwa ngezinto zonke ezinhle engizenzela lona; njalo zizakwabela ziqhaqha zengeza yokuphumelela okukhulu lokuthula engizakuletha kulo.’ **10** UThixo uti: ‘Liyatsho ngendawo le lithi, ‘Ilugwadule oluphundelekileyo, olungelabantu kumbe izinyamazana.’ Kodwa emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalem okwatshiywayo, okungekho muntu kumbe inyamazana ehla khona, kuzawakala khona futhi **11** imisindo yokuthokoza lokuthaba, amazwi omlobokazi lomyeni, lamazwi alabo abaletha iminikelo yokubonga endlini kaThixo besithi, ‘Bongani uThixo uSomanda, ngoba uThixo ulungile; uthando lwakhe lumi kuze kube nini lanini.’ Ngoba inotho yelizwe ngizayibuyisela njengoba yayinjalo kuqala,’ kutsho uThixo. **12** UThixo uSomanda uti, ‘Kuyo yonale indawo ephundelekileyo, engelabantu kumbe izinyamazana, kuwo wonke amadolobho ayo kuzakuba lamadlelo futhi ukuba abelusi baphumuze imihlambi yabo. **13** Emadolobheni elizwe lamaqaqa, lawemawatheni entshonalanga kanye lawaseNegebi, elizweni likaBhenjamine, emizini eseduze leJerusalem lasemadolobheni akoJuda, imihlambi izadlula ngaphansi kwesandla salowo oyibalayo,’ kutsho uThixo. **14** ‘Insuku ziyeza,’ kutsho uThixo, ‘lapho engizagcwalisa isithembiso somusa engasenza endlini ka-Israyeli lasendlini kaJuda. **15** Ngalezonsuku langalesosikhathi ngizahlumisa uGatsha olulungileyo osendweni lukaDavida; uzakwenza okulungileyo lokufaneleyo elizweni. **16** Ngalezonsuku uJuda uzasindiswa leJerusalem ihlale ngokuvikeleka. Ibizo ezabizwa ngalo yileli elithi; uThixo oyikuluLunga Kwethu.’ **17** Ngoba uThixo uti, ‘UDavida kayikuswela umuntu ozahlala esihlalweni sobukhosi bendlu ka-Israyeli, **18** labaphristi, abangabaLevi, kabayikuswela umuntu oma phambi kwami kokuphela ukuba anikele iminikelo yokutshiswa, atshise iminikelo yamabele lokwethula imihlatshelo.’” **19** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kujeremiya lisithi: **20** “Nanku okutshivo nguThixo, ‘Nxa lingephula isivumelwano sami lemini lesivumelwano sami lobusuku, ukuze imini lobusuku kungabe kusaqalisa ngezikhathi zakho ezamiswayo, **21** lapho-ke isivumelwano sami loDavida inceku yami lesivumelwano sami labaLevi abangaphristi abakhonzayo phambi kwami singephulwa njalo uDavida angeke abe lenzalo ezabusa esihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi. **22** Ngizakwenza inzalo kaDavida inceku yami labaLevi abakhonzayo phambi kwami ingabi lakubalwa njengezinkanyezi zasemazulwini njalo ingalinganiseki njengetshebetshibe lasekhunjini lolwandle.’” **23** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kujeremiya lisithi: **24** “Kawukananzeleli na ukuthi abantu laba bathi, ‘UThixo

useyilahlile imibuso emibili ayeyikhethile? Ngakho bayabeyisa abantu bami njalo kabasabanaki njengesizwe. **25** UThixo uthi, 'Nxa ngingamisanga isivumelwano sami lelanga lobusuku kanye lemithetho eqinileyo yasezulwini lasemhlabeni, **26** lapho-ke ngizayilahlala inzalo kajakhobe lekaDavida inceku yami njalo ngingakhethi enye yamadodana akhe ukuba ibuse inzalo ka-Abraham, leka-Isaka lekaJakhobe. Ngoba ngizabuyisela inhlankhla yabo ngibe lesihawu kubo.'"

34 Kwathi uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni lebutho lakhe lonke kanye lemibuso yonke, labantu basamazweni ayewabusa besilwa leJerusalem lawo wonke amadolobho alo ayeseduzane, ilizwi leli lafika kuJeremiya livela kuThixo lisithi; **2** "UThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Yana kuZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda uthi kuye, 'UThixo uthi: Sekuseduze ukuthi idolobho leli ngilinikele enkosini yaseBhabhiloni, njalo izalithisa ngomlilo. **3** Kawuyikuphunyuka esandleni sayo kodwa uzathunjwa impela unikelwe kuyo. Inkosi yaseBhabhiloni uzayibona ngamehlo akho, njalo izakhuluma lawe ubuso ngobuso. Njalo uzahamba eBhabhiloni. **4** Kodwa-ke zwana isithembiso sikaThixo, wena Zedekhiya nkosi yakoJuda. Ngawe uThixo uthi: Awuyikufa ngenkamba; **5** uzakufa ngokuthula. Njengoba abantu babasa umlilo wesililo bekhumbula oyihlo, amakhosi akuqala akwandulelayo, ngokunjalo bazabasa umlilo wokukhumbula, balile bathi, 'Maye, Oh Nkosi!' Mina ngokwami ngenza isithembiso lesi, kutsho uThixo.'" **6** Ngakho uJeremiya umphrofethi wamtshela konke lokhu uZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda, eJerusalem, **7** lapho ibutho lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni lalisilwa leJerusalem lamanye amadolobho akoJuda ayelokhu esaqinisele, iLakhishi le-Azekha. La yiwo kuphela amadolobho ayevikelwe ngezinqaba ayesasele koJuda. **8** Ilizwi lafika kuJeremiya livela kuThixo emva kokuba inkosi uZedekhiya esenze isivumelwano labantu bonke baseJerusalem sokumemezela ukukhululwa kwezizigqili. **9** Wonke umuntu kwakumele akhulule izizigqili zakhe ezingamaHebheru, ezesilisa lezesifazane; kakho owayezagcina umJuda wakibo ebugqilini. **10** Ngakho zonke izikhulu labantu bonke abenza isivumelwano lesi bavuma ukuthi babezakhulula izizigqili zabo zesilisa lezesifazane bangazigcini ebugqilini futhi. Bavuma, bazikhulula. **11** Kodwa muva bantshintsha ingqondo zabo bazithumba njalo izizigqili zabo ababezikhulule bazenza izizigqili futhi. **12** Ilizwi likaThixo laselifika kuJeremiya lisithi, **13** "UThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Ngenza isivumelwano labokhokho benu ekubakhupheni kwami eGibhithe, elizweni lobugqili. Ngathi, **14** 'Ngeminyaka yonke yesikhombisa omunye lomunye wenu kumele akhulule umHebheru wakibo ozithengise kuwe. Emva kokuba esekusebenzele iminyaka eyisithupha, kumele umkhulule ahambe.' Kodwa okhokho benu, kabangilalelanga njalo kabanganakanga. **15** Ngesikhathi esisanda kudlula laphenduka lenza okulungileyo emehlweni ami: Omunye lomunye wenu wamemezela ukukhululwa kwabantu belizwe lakibo. Laze lenza lesivumelwano phambi kwami endlini eleBizo lami. **16** Kodwa khathesi seliguquke langcolisa ibizo lami; omunye lomunye wenu usezithumbile futhi izizigqili zesilisa lezesifazane elalizikhulule ukuba zizihambe lepho ezifuna khona. Selizibambe ngamandla ukuba zibe yizizigqili zenu futhi. **17** Ngakho, lokhu yikho uThixo akutshoyo: Kalingilalelanga; kalimemezela ukukhululwa kwabantu belizwe lakini. Ngakho khathesi ngimemezela 'inkululeko' yenu, kutsho uThixo, 'inkululeko' yokubulawa

ngenkamba, yisifo lendlala. Ngizalenza linengeke kuyo yonke imibuso yomhlaba. **18** Abantu abephula isivumelwano sami kabaze bagcwalisa izimiso zesivumelwano abasenza phambi kwami, ngizabaphatha njengethohle abalidabula phakathi basebebamba phakathi kwezizigqili zalo. **19** Abakhokheli bakoJuda labeJerusalem, izikhulu zasemthethwandaba, abaphristi labantu bonke abahamba phakathi kwezizigqili zethole, **20** ngizabanikela ezitheni zabo ezifuna ukubabulala. Izidumbu zabo zizakuba yikudla kwezinyoni zasemoyeni lezinyamazana zeganga. **21** UZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda kanye lezikhulu zakhe ngizabanikela ezitheni zabo ezifuna ukubabulala, lakubutho lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni eselisukile kini. **22** Ngizakhupha ilizwi, kutsho uThixo njalo ngizabuyisa futhi kulelidolobho. Bazakulwa lalo, balithumbe, balitshise ngomlilo. Amadolobho akoJuda ngizawabhidliza ukuze kungabi lamuntu ohlala kuwo."

35 Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya livela kuThixo ekubuseni kukaJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiyah inkosi yakoJuda, elathi, **2** "Yana endlini yamaRekhabi uwabize ukuba eze kwelinye lamakamelo endlu kaThixo uwanike iwayini anathe." **3** Ngakho ngayathatha uJazaniya indodana kaJeremiya, indodana kaHabbaziniya, labafowabo kanye lamadodana akhe wonke lomuzi wonke wamaRekhabi. **4** Ngabasa endlini kaThixo, ekamelweni lamadodana kaHanani indoda ka-Igdaliya umuntu kaNkulunkulu. Laliseduze lekamelo lezikhulu elalingaphezu kwelikaMaseya indodana kaShalumi umlindi wesango. **5** Emva kwalokho ngabeka imiganu eyayigcwele iwayini lezinkezo phambi kwabantu bomndeni wamaRekhabi, ngathi kubo, "Nathani iwayini." **6** Kodwa bona baphendula bathi, "Iwayini kasilinathi ngoba ukhokho wethu uJehonadabi indodana kaRekhabi wasinika umlayo lo othi: 'Lina loba inzalo yenu akumelanga linathe iwayini. **7** Njalo lingakhi zindlu, lingahlanyeli kumbe lilime izivini; lingabi lokunye kwalezizinto, kodwa kumele lihlale emathenteni kokuphela. Ngalokho lizaphila isikhathi eside elizweni elizizulane kulo.' **8** Sakulalela konke ukhokho wethu uJehonadabi indodana kaRekhabi asilaya khona. Thina labomkethu lamadodana ethu kanye lamadodakazi ethu asikaze silinathe iwayini, **9** kumbe sakhe zindlu zokuhlala kuzo loba sibe lezivini, amasimu kumbe amabele. **10** Sihlala emathenteni njalo siyakulalela konke ukhokho wethu uJehonadabi asilaya khona. **11** Kodwa ekuhlaleni kukaNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni ilizwe leli, sathi, 'Wozani siye eJerusalem sibalekelele amabutho amaKhaladiya kanye lawama-Aramu.' Sahlala kanjalo eJerusalem." **12** Ilizwi likaThixo laselifika kuJeremiya lisithi: **13** "UThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: Hamba uyethshela abantu bakoJuda labahlala eJerusalem ukuthi, 'Kalifundi sifundo lilalele amazwi ami na?' kutsho uThixo. **14** 'UJehonadabi indodana kaRekhabi walaya amadodana akhe ukuba anganathi iwayini, njalo umlayo lo wagcinwa. Kuze kube lamhla iwayini kabalinathi ngoba balalela umlayo kakhokho walo. Kodwa mina sengakhuluma lani njalonzalo, kodwa kalingilalelanga. **15** Ngathuma izinceku zami abaphrofethi kini kanengingeni. Bathi, "Ngamunye wenu kumele liphenduke ezindleleni zenu ezimbi lilungise lezenzo zenu; lingalandeli abanye onkulunkulu ukuba libakhonze. Ngalokho lizahlala elizweni eliziphila lona lina labokhokho benu.'" Kodwa kalinakanga, njalo kalingilalelanga. **16** Inzalo kaJehonadabi indodana kaRekhabi iwulandele umlayo eyawuphiwa ngukhokho wayo, kodwa abantu laba mina

kabangilalelanga.’ 17 Ngakho uThixo, uNkulunkulu uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi; ‘Lalelani, ngizakwehlisela phezu kukaJuda laphezu komuntu wonke ohlala eJerusalem wonke umonakalo engabathembisa wona. Ngabatshele, kodwa kabalalelanga; ngababiza, kodwa kabasabelanga.’” 18 UJeremiya wasesithi kwabomndeni wamaRekhabi, “UThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi, ‘Liwlalale umlayo kakhokho wenu uJehonadabi layilandela yonke imfundiso yakhe njalo lenza konke alilaya khona.’ 19 Ngakho uThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: ‘UJehonadabi indodana kaRekhabi kayikuswela umuntu wokungikhonza.’”

36 Ngomnyaka wesine kaJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda ilizwi leli lafika kuJeremiya livela kuThixo, lisithi: 2 “Thatha umqulu ulobe kuwo wonke amazwi engawathso kuwe ngo-Israyeli, uJuda lezinye zonke izizwe kusukela ngiqalisa ukukhuluma kuwe ekubuseni kukaJosiya kuze kube khathesi. 3 Mhlawumbe lapho abantu bakoJuda besizwa ngawo wonke umonakalo engceba ukuwehlisela phezu kwabo, omunye lomunye wabo uzaphenduka ezindleleni zakhe ezimbi; kulapho-ke ngizabathethelela ubindi babo lezono zabo.” 4 Ngakho uJeremiya wabiza uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya. Kwathi uJeremiya ewatsho wonke amazwi ayekhulunywe nguThixo, uBharukhi ewaloba emqulwini. 5 UJeremiya wasesithi kuBharukhi, “Mina ngivalelwe; ngingeke ngiye ethempelini likaThixo. 6 Ngakho yana endlini kaThixo ngosuku lokuzila ukudla ubalele abantu amazwi kaThixo asemqulwini owawaloba ngikutshela. Abalele bonke abantu bakoJuda abangena bevela emadolobheni akibo. 7 Engxenywe bazaletsa isicelo sabo phambi kukaThixo, omunye lomunye aphenduke ezindleleni zakhe ezimbi, ngoba intukuthelo lolaka okumenyazelwe kulababantu nguThixo kukhulu.” 8 UBharukhi indodana kaNeriya wenza konke ayekutshelwe nguJeremiya umphrofethi ukuba akwenze; ethempelini likaThixo wabala amazwi kaThixo emqulwini. 9 Ngenyanga yesificamunwemunye yomnyaka wesihlanu kaJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, kwamenyazelwa isikhathi sokuzila ukudla phambi kukaThixo ebantwini bonke baseJerusalem lakulaba ababeze bevela emadolobheni akoJuda. 10 Esendlini kaGemariya indodana kaShafani umabhalani, eyayisegumeni langaphezulu ekungeneni kweSango eLitsha lethempeli, uBharukhi wawabalela abantu bonke ethempelini likaThixo amazwi kaJeremiya asemqulwini. 11 Kwathi uMikhaya indodana kaGemariya, indodana kaShafani, esezwe wonke amazwi kaThixo ayesemqulwini, 12 waya phansi endlini kamabhalani esigodlweni, lapho izikhulu zonke ezazihlezi khona: u-Elishama umabhalani, uDelaya indodana kaShemaya, u-Elinathani indodana ka-Akhibhori, uGemariya indodana kaShafani, uZedekhiya indodana kaHananiya kanye lezinye zonke izikhulu. 13 Emva kokuba uMikhaya esebatshele konke ayezwe uBharukhi ekubalela abantu emqulwini, 14 izikhulu zonke zathuma uJehudi indodana kaNethaniya, indodana kaShelemiya, indodana kaKhushi, ukuba ayekuthi kuBharukhi, “Woza lomqulu owubalele abantu.” Ngakho uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya waya kubo lomqulu ewuphethe ngesandla. 15 Bathi kuye, “Ake uhlele phansi usibalele wona.” Ngakho uBharukhi wababalela. 16 Sebezwe wonke amazwi la bakhangelana ngokwesaba, basesesithi kuBharukhi, “Amazwi la kumele siwabike wonke enkosini.” 17 Babuya bambuza uBharukhi bathi, “Sitshele, kwenzakale njani ukuthi ubhale

konke lokhu? Kukhulunywe nguJeremiya na?” 18 UBharukhi waphendula wathi, “Ye, amazwi wonke la uwakhulume kimi, mina ngawaloba nge-inki emqulwini.” 19 Izikhulu zasezisithi kuBharukhi, “Wena loJeremiya hambani liyecatsha. Lingatsheli muntu ukuthi lingaphi.” 20 Sebefake umqulu endlini ka-Elishama umabhalani, baya enkosini egumeni bayibikela konke, 21 inkosi yathuma uJehudi ukuba ayethatha umqulu lowo, uJehudi weza lawo ewuthethe endlini ka-Elishama umabhalani wawubalela inkosi lezikhulu zonke ezazimi phansi kwayo. 22 Kwakuyinyanga yesificamunwemunye, njalo inkosi yayihlezi ekamelweni lebusika, kulomlilo ovuthayo eziko phambi kwayo. 23 Kwakusithi uJehudi angabala izigaba ezintathu loba ezine zomqulu, inkosi iziqume ngengqamu iziphosele eziko umqulu waze watsha wonke emlilweni. 24 Inkosi lezinceku zayo zonke ezawezwayo amazwi la kabesabanga loba badabule izigqoko zabo. 25 Lanxa u-Elinathani loDelaya kanye loGemariya bayincenga inkosi ukuba ingatshisi umqulu, kayibalalelanga. 26 Esikhundleni salokho inkosi yalaya uJeremiya, indodana yenkosi, loSeraya indodana ka-Aziriyeli kanye loShelemiya indodana ka-Abhideli ukuba babophe uBharukhi umbhali kanye loJeremiya umphrofethi. Kodwa uThixo wayesebafihlile. 27 Inkosi isitshise umqulu owawulamazwi ayebhalwe nguBharukhi ewatshelwa nguJeremiya, ilizwi likaThixo lafika kuJeremiya lisithi, 28 “Thatha omunye umqulu ulobe kuwo wonke amazwi abesemqulwini wakuqala, otshiswe nguJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda. 29 Umtshele uJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda uthi, ‘UThixo uthi: Utshise umqulu lowana wathi, “Kungani ulobe kuwo ukuthi inkosi yaseBhabhiloni izakuzi ngempela ichithe ilizwe leli, iqothule abantu lezinyamazana kulo na?” 30 Ngakho mayelana loJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda, uThixo uthi: Akayikuba lomuntu ozahlala esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaDavida; isidumbu sakhe sizaphoselwa phandle sichayeke ekutshiseni kwelanga lakungqaqwane webusuku. 31 Ngizamjezisa labantwana bakhe kanye lezinceku zakhe ngenxa yobubi babo. Ngizakwehlisela phezu kwabo laphezu kwalabo abahlala eJerusalem kanye labantu bakoJuda, wonke umonakalo engawumemezela kubo, ngoba kabalalelanga.” 32 Ngakho uJeremiya wathatha omunye umqulu wawunika umbhali uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya, njalo kwathi uJeremiya emtshela uBharukhi waloba kuwo wonke amazwi omqulu owawutshiswe emlilweni nguJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda. Kwengezelelwa ngamanye amazwi amanengi ayefana lalawo.

37 UZedekhiya indodana kaJosiya wabekwa nguNebukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni ukuba abe yinkosi yakoJuda; wabusa esikhundleni sikaJehoyakhimi indodana kaJehoyakhimi. 2 Yena lezinceku zakhe kanye labantu baselizweni kabawanakanga amazwi kaThixo ayewakhulume ngoJeremiya umphrofethi. 3 Kodwa uZedekhiya inkosi, wathuma uJehukhali indodana kaShelemiya lomphristi uZefaniya indodana kaMaseya kuJeremiya umphrofethi belaleli ilizwi, elithi, “Ake usikhulekele kuThixo uNkulunkulu wethu.” 4 Ngalesikhathi uJeremiya wayesekhululekile ukuzi lokuhamba phakathi kwabantu, ngoba wayengakafakwa entolongweni. 5 Ibutho likaFaro laseliphumile eGibithi, kwasekusithi amaKhaladiya ayevimbezele iJerusalem esezwe umbiko ngalo, asuka eJerusalem. 6 Kwasekufika ilizwi likaThixo kuJeremiya umphrofethi lisithi: 7 “UThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi,

tshelani inkosi yakoJuda elithume ukuba lizengibuza lithi, 'Ibutho likaFaro eseliphume ukuba lizelisekela, lizabuyela elizweni lalo eGibhithe. 8 Emva kwalokho amaKhaladiya azaphenduka ahlasela idolobho leli; azalithumba alitshise ngomlilo.' 9 UThixo uthi: Lingazikhohlisi licabange lithi, 'AmaKhaladiya azasuka kithi impela.' Kawayikusuka! 10 Lanxa linganqoba lonke ibutho lamaKhaladiya alihlaselayo, kusale abantu abalimeleyo kuphela emathenteni abo, bazaphuma balitshise idolobho leli ngomlilo." 11 Kwathi ibutho lamaKhaladiya selisukile eJerusalem ngenxa yebutho likaFaro, 12 uJeremiya wasuka edolobheni ukuba aye elizweni lakoBhenjamini ukuba ayethatha isabelo sakhe selifa phakathi kwabantu khonale. 13 Kodwa kwathi esefikile eSangweni lakoBhenjamini, induna yabalindi ebizo layo lalingu-Irija indodana kaShelemya, indodana kaHananiya, wambopha wasesithi kuye, "Ubalekela kumaKhaladiya wena!" 14 UJeremiya wathi, "Akusiqiniso lokho! Kangibalekeli kumaKhaladiya." Kodwa u-Irija kamlalelanga; esikhundleni salokho, wabopha uJeremiya wamusa ezikhulwini. 15 Izikhulu zamthukuthela uJeremiya zalaya ukuba atshaywe aphinde avalelwe endlini kaJonathani umabhalani, ezaseziyenze yaba yintolongo. 16 UJeremiya wafaka esitokisini esiyingubhe emgodini oyintolongo lapho ahlala khona okwesikhathi eside. 17 Inkosi uZedekhiya wathi kayethatha alethwe esigodlweni lapho ambuzela khona ensitha esithi, "Kulelizwi elivela kuThixo na?" UJeremiya waphendula wathi, "Yebo, wena uzanikelwa enkosini yaseBhabhiloni." 18 UJeremiya wabuye wathi kuZedekhiya inkosi, "Ngoneni kuwe loba ezikhulwini zakho kumbe kulababantu, uze ungifake entolongweni nje? 19 Bangaphi abaphrofethi bakho abaphrofetha kuwe besithi, 'Inkosi yaseBhabhiloni kayiyikukhulasele wena kanye lelizwe leli'? 20 Kodwa khathesi, nkosi yami, ake ulalele. Ngivumela ngethule isicelo sami kuwe: Ungangibuyiseli endlini kaJonathani umabhalani, hlezi ngifele khona." 21 UZedekhiya inkosi waselaya ukuba uJeremiya afake egumeni labalindi aphiwe isinkwa esivela emgwaqweni wabapheki bezinkwa usuku ngalunye izinkwa zonke zize ziphele edolobheni. Ngakho uJeremiya wahlala egumeni labalindi.

38 UShefathiya indodana kaMathani, loGedaliya indodana kaPhashuri, uJewukhali indodana kaShelemya, loPhashuri indodana kaMalikhija bakuzwa uJeremiya ayekutshela abantu bonke esithi, 2 "UTHixo uthi: 'Lowo ozasala kulelidolobho uzabalawa yinkemba, yindlala kumbe yisifo; kodwa lowo ozakuya kumaKhaladiya uzasila. Uzaphunyuka lokuphila kwakhe; uzaphila.' 3 Njalo uThixo uthi: 'Idolobho leli lizanikelwa impela ebuthweni lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni ezalithumba.'" 4 Izikhulu zasezisithi enkosini, "Umuntu lo kumele abulawe. Wenza amabutho asala kulelidolobho aphelelwe lithemba, kanye labantu bonke, ngenxa yezinto azitshoyo kubo. Umuntu lo kadingi okuhle kwabantu laba, kodwa ukubhujiswa kwabo." 5 UZedekhiya inkosi waphendula wathi, "Usezandleni zenu. Inkosi ingeke yenze lutho ukuba iliphikise." 6 Ngakho bamthatha uJeremiya bamfaka emgodini kaMalikhija, indodana yenkosi, owawusegumeni labalindi. UJeremiya bamehlisela phansi phakathi komgodi ngemichilo; wawungelamanzi, kuludaka kuphela, ngakho uJeremiya watshona edakeni. 7 Kodwa u-Ebhedi-Meleki, umKhushi, isikhulu endlini yobukhosi, wezwa ukuthi basebafake uJeremiya emgodini. Kwathi-ke inkosi ihlezi eSangweni lakoBhenjamini, 8 u-Ebhedi-Meleki waphuma

esigodlweni wathi kuyo, 9 "Nkosi yami lombusi wami, abantu laba benze ububi kukho konke abakwenze kujeremiya umphrofethi. Sebemphosele emgodini lapho azalamba khona aze afe kungaselakudla edolobheni." 10 Ngakho inkosi yalaya u-Ebhedi-Meleki umKhushi yathi, "Thatha amadoda angamatshumi amathathu lapha likhuphe uJeremiya umphrofethi emgodini engakafi." 11 Ngakho u-Ebhedi-Meleki wathatha amadoda lawo waya lawo endlini engaphansi kwendlu yengcebo esigodlweni. Wathatha amanikiniki amadala lezigqoko ezigugileyo khonapho wakwehlisela phansi kujeremiya emgodini ngemichilo. 12 U-Ebhedi-Meleki umKhushi wathi kujeremiya, "Faka amanikiniki la amadala lezigqoko lezi ezigugileyo emakhwapheni akho ukuze imichilo ingakulimazi." UJeremiya wenza njalo, 13 basebemondonsela phezulu ngemichilo, bamkhupha emgodini. UJeremiya wahlala egumeni labalindi. 14 Inkosi uZedekhiya wabiza uJeremiya umphrofethi wasiwa entubeni yesithathu yethempeli likaThixo. Inkosi yasisithi kujeremiya, "Ngizakubuza okuthize. Ungangifihleli lutho." 15 UJeremiya wathi kuZedekhiya, "Ngingakuphendula kawuyikungibulalana? Loba ngingakweluleka, kawuyikungilalela." 16 Kodwa inkosi uZedekhiya wafunga isifungo lesi ngase kuJeremiya, wathi, "Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo ekhona, yena owasinika ukuphufumula, angiyikubulala loba ngikunikele kulabo abafuna ukukubulala." 17 Lapho-ke uJeremiya wathi kuZedekhiya, "UTHixo uNkulunkulu uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: 'Ungazinikela ezikhulwini zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni, impilo yakho izaphepha njalo ledolobho leli kaliyikutshiswa ngomlilo; wena labendlu yakho lizasila. 18 Kodwa nxa ungazinikeli ezikhulwini zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni, idolobho leli lizanikelwa kumaKhaladiya azalitshisa ngomlilo; njalo wena uqobo kawuyikuphunyuka ezandleni zawo.'" 19 Inkosi uZedekhiya wasesithi kujeremiya, "Ngiyabesaba abakoJuda asebe kumaKhaladiya, ngoba amaKhaladiya anganginikela kubo bangiphathe kubi." 20 UJeremiya wathi, "Kabayikunikela. Lalela uThixo ngokwenza lokhu engikutshela khona. Lapho-ke kuzakulungela, njalo lempilo yakho izaphepha. 21 Kodwa ungala ukuzinikela, nanku okwezwe nguThixo kimi: 22 Bonke abesifazane abasele endlini yobukhosi yenkosi yakoJuda bazakutshelwa phandle ezikhulwini zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni bathi kuwe: 'Bakukhohlisile bakwehlula abangane bakho abathenjweyo. Inyawo zakho zitshonile edakeni; abangane bakho bakudlele.' 23 Abafazi bakho kanye labantwana bazakutshelwa phandle kumaKhaladiya. Lawe uqobo kawuyikuphunyuka ezandleni zawo, kodwa uzathunjwa yinkosi yaseBhabhiloni; njalo idolobho leli lizatshiswa ngomlilo." 24 UZedekhiya wasesithi kujeremiya, "Akungabi lomuntu omazisa inkulumbo le, hlezi ufe. 25 Izikhulu zingezwa ukuthi ngike ngakhuluma lawe, besezisiza kuwe zithi, 'Sitshele lokho okutshilayo enkosini kanye lokutshiswa yinkosi kuwe; ungasifihleli funa sikubulale,' 26 wena zitshela uthi, 'Kade ngincenga inkosi ukuthi ingangibuyiseli endlini kaJonathani ukuyafela khona.'" 27 Lakanye izikhulu zonke zaya kujeremiya zambuzwa, yena wazitshela konke inkosi eyayimlaye ukuthi akutsho. Ngakho kazisatshongo lutho kuye futhi, ngoba kakho owayeyizwile inkulumbo yakhe lenkosi. 28 UJeremiya wahlala egumeni labalindi kwaze kwaba lusuku lokuthunjwa kweJerusalem. UJerusalem lathunjwa kanje:

39 Ngomnyaka wesifcamunwemunye kaZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda, ngenyanga yetshumi, uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni waya eJerusalem lebuthe lakhe lonke wayivimbezela. **2** Ngosuku lwesifcamunwemunye lwenyanga yesine, yomnyaka wetshumi lanye kaZedekhiya umduli wedolobho wadilizwa. **3** Emva kwalokho zonke izikhulu zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni zafika zahlala eSangweni laPhakathi: kwakunguNerigali-Shareza oweSamugari, loNebho-Sarisekhimi induna yezikhulu, loNerigali-Shareza, indunankulu kanye lezinye zonke izikhulu zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni. **4** Kwathi lapho uZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda lamabutho wonke bebabona babaleka. Basuka edolobheni ebusuku ngendlela yasesivandeni senkosi, baphuma ngesango eliphakathi kwemiduli, baqonda e-Arabha. **5** Kodwa ibutho lamaKhaladiya laxotshana labo, lafika uZedekhiya emagecekeni aseJeriko. Lamthumba, laselimusa kuNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni eRibhila, elizweni laseHamathi, lapho amgweba khona. **6** Inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yawabalalela khona eRibhila amadodana kaZedekhiya emehlweni akhe, yabulala lezikhulu zasesikhosini zonke zakoJuda. **7** Emva kwalokho uZedekhiya yamkhubha amehlo yasimbopha ngamakhetane ethusi ukuba imuse eBhabhiloni. **8** AmaKhaladiya atshisa isigodlo ngomlilo lezindlu zabantu, badiliza lemiduli yeJerusalem. **9** UNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi besikhosini, wathatha abantu ababesele edolobheni ndawonye lalabo ababebalekele kuye kanye labanye abantu wabasa ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni. **10** Kodwa uNebhuzaradani watshiya elizweni laJoJuda abanye babantu abangabayanga ababengelalutho olungolwabo; njalo ngalesosikhathi wabapha izivini lamasimu. **11** UNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni wayelaye uNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi besikhosini ngoJeremiya wathi, **12** “Umthathe, umgcine kuhle; ungamlimazi kodwa umenzele konke akucelayo.” **13** Ngakho uNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi, loNebhushazibhani induna yezikhulu, loNerigali-Shareza indunankulu kanye lezinye zonke izikhulu zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni **14** bathumela ukuba uJeremiya asuswe egumeni labalindi. Bamnikela kuGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami, indodana kaShafani, ukuba ambuyisele kibo. Ngakho wahlala labantu bakibo. **15** UJeremiya esavalelwe egumeni labalindi, ilizwi likaThixo lafika kuye lathi, **16** “Hamba ku-Ebhedi-Meleki umKhushi uthi kuye, ‘UThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israelayeli uthi: Sekuseduze ukuba ngigcwalise amazwi ami ngedolobho leli ngokulehlisela umonakalo, hatshi ukuphumelela. Ngalesosikhathi azagcwaliseka phambi kwamehlo enu. **17** Kodwa ngizakuhlenga ngalolosuku, kutsho uThixo; kawuyikunikelwa kulabo obesabayo. **18** Ngizakusindisa, kawuyikubulawa ngenkomba kodwa uzaphunyuka lokuphila kwakho, ngoba ungithembile, kutsho uThixo.”

40 Ilizwi lafika kuJeremiya livela kuThixo emva kokuba uNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi besikhosini, esemkhulule eRama. Wayefice uJeremiya ebotshwe ngamakhetane phakathi kwabo bonke ababethunjwe eJerusalem laJoJuda ababesiwa ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni. **2** Umlawuli wabalindi esethole uJeremiya wathi kuye, “UThixo uNkulunkulu wakho wamisela indawo le umonakalo lo. **3** Khathesi uThixo usewulethile; bente ayethe uzakwenza. Konke lokhu kwenzakala ngoba lina bantu lona kuThixo njalo kalimalalanga. **4** Kodwa lamhla ngiyakukhulula amaketane ezihlakaleni zakho. Hamba lami eBhabhiloni, nxa uthanda,

ngizakugcina; kodwa nxa unganguni, ungangambi. Khangela, ilizwe lonke liphambi kwakho; yana loba kungaphi lapho ofuna khona.” **5** Kodwa-ke kwathi uJeremiya engakasuki ukuba ahambe, uNebhuzaradani wengeza wathi, “Buyela kuGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami, indodana kaShafani, osebekwe yinkosi yaseBhabhiloni ukuba abuse amadolobho akojuda, uhlale laye phakathi kwabantu, kumbe uye loba kungaphi lapho ofuna khona.” Emva kwalokho umlawuli wamnika umphako lesipho wasesithi kahambe. **6** Ngakho uJeremiya waya kuGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami eMizipha wahlala phakathi kwabantu ababetshiywe elizweni. **7** Kwathi zonke izikhulu zabalawuli bamabutho lamabutho azo ayesegangeni sebezwe ukuthi inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yayisibeke uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami ukuba abe ngumbusi welizwe njalo imenze waba ngumphathi wamadoda labesifazane kanye labantwana ababengabayanga bokucina elizweni njalo ababengasiwanga ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni, **8** baya kuGedaliya eMizipha kungu-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya, uJohanani loJohanani amadodana kaKhareya, loSeraya indodana kaThanihumethi, lamadodana ka-Efayi umNethofa, loJezaniya indodana yomMahakhathi kanye labantu babo. **9** UGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami, indodana kaShafani, wafunga isifungo ebathembisa labantu babo, wathi, “Lingesabi ukusebenzela amaKhaladiya. Hlalani elizweni lisebenzele inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, konke kuzalilungela. **10** Mina ngokwami ngizahlala eMizipha ukuba ngilimele kumaKhaladiya eza kithi, kodwa lina vunani iwayini lezithelo zasehlobo kanye lamafutha, likufake ezimbizeni zokugcinela, lihlale emadolobheni eseliwaphethe.” **11** Kwathi bonke amaJuda baseMowabi, e-Amoni le-Edomi lawo wonke amanye amazwe sebezwe ukuthi inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yayitshiywe insalela koJuda njalo ibeke uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami indodana kaShafani, ukuba ngumbusi wabo, **12** bonke babuyela elizweni laJoJuda, kuGedaliya eMizipha, bevela kuwo wonke amazwe ababehlakazekele kuwo. Bavuna iwayini elinengi lezithelo zasehlobo. **13** UJohanani indodana kaKhareya lezikhulu zonke zebutho ezazilokhu zisegangeni, baya kuGedaliya eMizipha **14** bathi kuye, “Kawazi na ukuthi uBhalisi inkosi yama-Amoni uthemba u-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya ukuba akubulale?” Kodwa uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami kakukholwanga lokho. **15** UJohanani indodana kaKhareya wasekhuluma ngasese loGedaliya eMizipha esithi, “Yekela ngihambe ngiyebulala u-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya, kakho ozakwazi lokho. Kungani kumele akubulale enze ukuba abakojuda bonke ababuthene kuwe bahlakazeke, lensalela yakoJuda ibhubhe na?” **16** Kodwa uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami wathi kuJohanani indodana kaKhareya, “Ungenzi into enjalo. Lokhu ekuthshoyo ngo-Ishumayeli akusiqiniso.”

41 Ngenyanga yesikhombisa u-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya, indodana ka-Elishama, owayeyinzalo yesikhosini, njalo owayengomunye wezikhulu zenkosi, waya kuGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami eMizipha **2** lamadodana kaNethaniya lamadoda alitshumi ayelaye basukuma bamgwaza ngenkomba uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami, indodana kaShafani, bambulala lowo owayebekwe yinkosi yaseBhabhiloni ukuba ngumbusi welizwe. **3** U-Ishumayeli wabulala lamajuda wonke ayeloGedaliya eMizipha kanye lamabutho amaKhaladiya ayelapho. **4** Ngosuku olwalandela ukubulawa kukaGedaliya, kungakabi lamuntu

owayesazi ngakho, 5 kwafika amadoda angamatshumi ayisificaminwembili evela eShekemu, leShilo leSamariya ayephuce indevu zawo izigqoko zawo zidabukile njalo ezisike imizimba, eIthe iminikelo yamabele lempepha endlini kaThixo. 6 U-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya wasuka eMizipha ukuyawahlangeba; wahamba ekhala. Ekuhlanganeni kwakhe labo wathi, "Wozani kuGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami." 7 Kwathi sebengene phakathi kwedolobho u-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya kanye lamadoda ayelaye, bawabulala bawaphosela emgodini. 8 Kodwa alitshumi wao athi ku-Ishumayeli, "Ungasibulali! Silengqoloyi lebhali, lamafutha loluju, esikufihle egangeni." Ngakho wawayekela kaze awabulala lamanye. 9 Umgodi ayephoose kuwo zonke izidumbu zamadoda ayewabulele kanye loGedaliya ngowawenziwe yinkosi u-Asa kuyingxenywe yokuzivikela kwakhe kuBhasha inkosi yako-Israyeli. U-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya wawugcwalisa ngezidumbu. 10 U-Ishumayeli wabenza baba yizigqili bonke abantu ababeseMizipha kubalisa amadodakazi enkosi kanye labanye bonke ababetshiywe khona nguNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi besikhosini, owayebeke uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami ukuba ngumbusi wabo. U-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya wabathumba, wasuka ukuba achaphele kuma-Amoni. 11 Kwathi uJohanani indodana kaKhareya kanye lezikhulu zonke zebutho ezazilaye sebezwe konke okubi okwakwenziwe ngu-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya, 12 bathatha bonke abantu babo bayakulwa lo-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya. Bamfika phansi kwechibi elikhulu eGibhiyoni. 13 Kwathi abantu bonke ababelo-Ishumayeli bebona uJohanani indodana kaKhareya lezikhulu zebutho ezazilaye, bathaba. 14 Bonke abantu u-Ishumayeli ayebathumbe eMizipha baphenduka baya kuJohanani indodana kaKhareya. 15 Kodwa u-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya labantu bakhe abayisificaminwembili baphunyuka kuJohanani babalekela kuma-Amoni. 16 Emva kwalokho uJohanani indodana kaKhareya, lezikhulu zonke zebutho ezazilaye, wathatha bonke abasilayo ababevele eMizipha ayebahlenge ku-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya emva kokubalala kwakhe uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami. Kwangqamabutho, labesifazane, labantwana kanye lezikhulu zasemthethwandaba ayezithethe eGibhiyoni. 17 Baqhubeke bahamba, bayakuma eGeruthi Khimihami eduze leBhethilehema, besiya eGibhithe. 18 ukuba babalekele amaKhaladiya. Babewesaba ngoba u-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya wayebulele uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami owayebekwe yinkosi yaseBhabhiloni ukuba abe ngumbusi welizwe.

42 Zonke izikhulu zebutho, kanye loJohanani indodana kaKhareya loJezaniya indodana kaHoshayiya, labantu bonke kusukela komncane kusiya komkhulu baya 2 kuJeremiya umphrofethi bathi kuye, "Ake uzwe isicelo sethu ubakhulekele bonke laba abaseleyo kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakho. Ngoba njengoba lawe uzibonela khathesi, lanxa sake saba banengi khathesi kusele abalutshwana kuphela. 3 Khuleka ukuba uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho asitshelile lapho okumele siye khona lalokho okumele sikwenze." 4 UJeremiya umphrofethi waphendula wathi, "Ngizwile. Ngizakhuleka impela kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu njengoba licelile; ngizalitshela konke uThixo akutshoyo ngingalifihleli lutho." 5 Basebesithi kuJeremiya, "UThixo kabe ngufakazi

wethu oqotho lothembekileyo nxa singenzi okumelana lakho konke uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho akuthuma ukuba usitshelile khona. 6 Lanxa kukuhle kumbe kukubi sizamlalela uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu esikuthuma kuye, ukuze kusilungele, ngoba sizamlalela uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu." 7 Emva kwensuku ezilitshumi ilizwi likaThixo lafika kuJeremiya. 8 Ngakho wabiza uJohanani indodana kaKhareya lezikhulu zonke zebutho ezazilaye kanye labantu bonke kusukela komncane kusiya komkhulu. 9 Wathi kubo, "UThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, elingithume ukuba ngiyekwethula isicelo senu kuye, uthi: 10 'Lingahlala kulelilizwe ngizalakra, ngingalibhidlizi, ngizalihlanya ngingalisiphuni, ngoba ngilusizi ngomonakalo engawenza kini. 11 Lingayesabi inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, eliyesabayo khathesi. Lingayesabi, kutsho uThixo, ngoba ngilani njalo ngizalihlenga ngilikhulule ezandleni zayo. 12 Ngizakuba lesihawu kini ukuze layo ibe lesihawu kini ilibuyisele elizweni lakini.' 13 Kodwa lina lingathi, 'Kasiyikuhlala kulelizwe,' ngalokho lingalaleli uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, 14 njalo nxa lisithi, 'Hatshi, thina sizakuyahlala eGibhithe lapho esingayikubona khona impi loba sizwe icilongo kumbe silambekele ukudla, 15 zwani-ke ilizwi likaThixo, lina basele koJuda.' UThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: 'Nxa liphithshekela ukuya eGibhithe njalo lihambe ukuyahlala khona, 16 lapho-ke inkemba eliyesabayo izalifika khona, lendlala eliyesabayo izalilandela eGibhithe, njalo lizafela khonale. 17 Ngempela bonke abaphithshekela ukuya eGibhithe ukuba bahlale khona bazakufa ngenkemba, indlala lesifo; kakhlo lamunye wabo ozasinda loba aphephe kumonakalo engizabehlisela wona.' 18 UThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi, 'Njengalokho ukuthukuthela kwami lolaka lwami kwehliselwa phezu kwabantu abahlala eJerusalem, ngokunjalo ulaka lwami luzakwehliselwa phezu kwenu lapho lisiya eGibhithe. Lizakuba yinto yokuthukwa lokwesatshwa, ukulahlwa lokuhleka; indawo le kaliyikuyibona futhi.' 19 Lina basele koJuda, uThixo ulitshelile wathi, 'Lingayi eGibhithe.' Wobani leqiniso lalokho ukuthi: Ngiyalixwayisa lamuhla 20 ukuthi lenza iphutha elikhulu kakhulu ngokungithuma kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu lisithi, 'Sikhulekele kuThixo uNkulunkulu wethu; usitshelile konke akutshoyo sizakwenza.' 21 Sengilitshelile lamuhla, kodwa lilokho lingalaleli lokho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu angithume ukuthi ngilitshelile khona. 22 Ngakho khathesi wobani leqiniso ukuthi lizakufa ngenkemba, indlala lesifo endaweni elifuna ukuyahlala kuyo."

43 Kwathi uJeremiya eseqedile ukutshela abantu wonke amazwi kaThixo uNkulunkulu wabo, konke uThixo ayemthume ukuthi abatshelile khona, 2 u-Azariya indodana kaHoshayiya, loJohanani indodana kaKhareya labo bonke abantu abazigqajayo bathi kuJeremiya, "Uqamba amanga! UThixo uNkulunkulu wethu kakuthumanga ukuba uthi, 'Akumelanga liye eGibhithe ukuyahlala khona.' 3 Kodwa uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya uyakutshotshozela ukuba usinikele kumaKhaladiya ukuba asibulale kumbe asise ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni." 4 Ngakho uJohanani indodana kaKhareya lazozonke izikhulu zebutho kanye labantu bonke kabalilalelanga ilizwi likaThixo lokuthi bahlale elizweni lakoJuda. 5 Esikhundleni salokho, uJohanani indodana kaKhareya lezikhulu zonke zebutho bathatha bonke ababesele koJuda ababebuyele koJuda ukuyahlala khona bevela ezizweni zonke ababekade behlakazelwe kuzo.

6 Bathatha lamadoda wonke, labesifazane bonke kanye labantwana bonke, lamadodakazi enkosi lawo uNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi ayewatshiye loGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhani, indodana kaShafani, loJeremiya umphrofethi kanye loBharukhi indodana kaNeria. 7 Ngakho bangena eGibhithe bedelela uThixo, bahamba baze bayafika eThahiphanesi. 8 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kuJeremiya eThahiphanesi lisithi, 9 “Thatha amatshe amakhulu uwagqibele enhlabathini endaweni egandelwe ngezitina, amaJuda bekhangele, esangweni lesigodlo sikaFaro eThahiphanesi, 10 uthi kubo, ‘UThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Ngizabiza inceku yami uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, njalo ngizabeka isihlalo sakhe sobukhosi phezu kwamatshe la engiwambele lapha; uzakwendlala ithente lakhe lobukhosi phezu kwawo. 11 Uzakuza ahlasela iGibhithe, alethe ukufa kulabo abamiselwe ukufa, lokuthunjwa kulabo abamiselwe ukuthunjwa, lenkamba kulabo abamiselwe inkemba. 12 Uzawathungela ngomlilo amathempeli abonkulunkulu bamaGibhithe; uzawatshisa amathempeli abo athumbe labonkulunkulu bawo. Njengomelusi ezithandela ngesembatho sakhe, ngokunjalo laye uzazithandela ngeGibhithe asuke khona engalimalanga. 13 Khonela eGibhithe, ethempelini lelanga, uzadiliza izinsika ezikhonzwayo njalo uzatshisa amathempeli abonkulunkulu beGibhithe.”

44 Ilizwi leli lafika kuJeremiya limayelana lamaJuda ayehlala eGibhithe, eMigidoli, leThahiphanesi leMemfisi, lasePhathrosi lisithi, 2 “UThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Liwubonile umnakalo omkhulu engawehlisela phezu kweJerusalema laphezu kwamadolobho wonke akoJuda. Lamhlanje kawahlali muntu njalo angamanxiwa 3 ngenxa yobubi abanzayo. Bangithukuthelisa ngokukhonza langokuthiselwa impepha abanye onkulunkulu abangabaziyo bona, lani kanye labokhokho benu. 4 Ngathuma izinceku zami, abaphrofethi, njalonjalo ezathi, ‘Lingayenzi into le enengisayo engiyizondayo!’ 5 Kodwa kabalalelanga njalo kabanakanga; kabaphendukanga ebubini babo kumbe bayekele ukuthiselwa abanye onkulunkulu impepha. 6 Ngakho ulaka lwami olwesabekayo lwaphuphuma; lwavutha emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema, lwakwenza kwaba ngamanxiwa achithekileyo ayikho lamhlanje. 7 Khathesi uThixo uNkulunkulu uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: Kungani lizilethela umnakalo omkhulu kangaka ngokususa koJuda amadoda labafazi, abantwana lensane, ngalokho lingazitshiyeli lensalela na? 8 Kungani lingithukuthelisa ngokwenziwa yizandla zenu, litshiselwa abanye onkulunkulu impepha eGibhithe, lapho eselayahlala khona? Lizabibhubhisa lina ngokwenu lizenze into yokuthukwa lokuhleka phakathi kwezizwe zonke emhlabeni. 9 Selibukhothiwe yini ububi obenziwa ngokhokho benu lobubi obenziwa ngamakhosi lamakhosikazi akoJuda, lobubi obenziwa yini labomkenu elizweni lakoJuda, lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema? 10 Kuze kube lamhla kabazithobanga kumbe batshengise ukhulonipha, kumbe balandele imithetho yami lezimiso engalibekela zona lina labokhokho benu. 11 Ngakho uThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Ngizimisele ukulehlisela umnakalo ngibhubhise loJuda wonke. 12 Ngizathatha abaseleyo koJuda ababezimisele ukuya eGibhithe; ukuba bahlale khona. Bonke bazabhubha eGibhithe; bazabulawa ngenkamba loba babulawe yindlala.

Bazabulawa yinkamba loba indlala kusukela komncinyane kusiya komkhulu. Bazakuba yinto yokuqalekiswa lokwesaba, eyokulahlwa lokuthukwa. 13 Abahlala eGibhithe ngizabazajisa ngenkamba, ngendlala langesifo, njengokujezisa engakwenza iJerusalema. 14 Kakho owensalela yakoJuda owayahlala eGibhithe ozaphunyuka kumbe aphephe ukuba abuyele elizweni lakoJuda asebefisa ukubuyela bayehlala kulo, kakho ozabuyela ngaphandle kweziphapheli ezilutshwane.” 15 Lapho-ke wonke amadoda ayekwazi ukuthi omkawo babetshiselwa abanye onkulunkulu impepha, kanye labesifazane bonke ababekhona, izuku elikhulu, labantu bonke ababehlala ePhathrosi elizweni laseGibhithe, bathi kuJeremiya: 16 “Thina kasiyikulalalela ilizwi olikhulume kithi ngebizo likaThixo! 17 Impela sizakwenza konke esathi sizakwenza: Impepha sizayitshiselwa iNdlovukazi yaseZulwini siyithululele leminikelo yokunathwayo njengalokhu esakwenzayo thina labobaba, amakhosi ethu kanye lezikhulu zakithi emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema. Ngalesosikhathi sasilokudla okunengi, sinothile kungekho okubi. 18 Kodwa selokhu sayekela ukutshiselwa iNdlovukazi yaseZulwini impepha lokuyithululela iminikelo yokunathwayo, kasisabanga lalutho njalo sesilokhu sisifa ngenkamba langendlala.” 19 Abesifazane bengeza bathi, “Ngesikhathi sitshiselwa iNdlovukazi yaseZulwini impepha, siyithululela leminikelo yokunathwa, omkethu babengakwazi na ukuthi sasisenza amakhekhe anjengesithombe sayo, siyithululela leminikelo yokunathwayo?” 20 UJeremiya wasesithi ebantwini bonke, abesilisa labesifazane, ababemphendula, 21 “UThixo kakhumbulanga wanakana ngenempepha elayitshiselwa emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema lina laboyihlo, lamakhosi enu, lezikhulu zakini kanye labantu belizweni na? 22 Kwathi uThixo engaselakho ukubekezelela izenzo zenu ezimbi lezinto ezinengisayo elenzayo, ilizwe lenu laba yinto yokuqalekiswa logwadule oluphundelekileyo olungahlali muntu njengoba kunjalo lanamhla. 23 Umonakalo lo wehlele kini njengoba liwubona khathesi ngoba litshise impepha lenza okubi kuThixo njalo kalaze lamhlala loba lilandele umthetho wakhe kumbe imithetho yakhe loba izimiso zakhe.” 24 UJeremiya wasesithi ebantwini bonke, kubalwa labesifazane, “Zwanini ilizwi likaThixo lonke lina bantu bakoJuda abaseGibhithe. 25 UThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Lina labomkenu selitshengisile ngenzeno zenu elathembisa ukukwenza lapho lathi, ‘Impela sizagcwalisa izifungo zethu esazenzayo zokutshiselwa iNdlovukazi yaseZulwini impepha kanye lokuyithululela iminikelo yokunathwayo.’ Ngakho qhubekani, yenzani elakuthembisayo. Gcwalisani izifungo zenu. 26 Kodwa zwanini ilizwi likaThixo lonke lina baJuda abahlala eGibhithe elithi: ‘Ngifunga ngebizo lami elidumileyo,’ kutsho uThixo, ‘ukuthi kakho ovela koJuda ohlala loba kungaphi eGibhithe ozabiza ibizo lami kumbe afunge esithi, “Ngeqiniso elinjengoba uThixo Wobukhosi ekhona.” 27 Ngoba ngilindele ukubenza okubi, hatsi okuhle. AmaJuda aseGibhithe azabhujiswa yinkamba lendlala aze aphele wonke. 28 Labo abazaphepha enkembeni babuyele elizweni lakoJuda bevela eGibhithe bazakuba balutshwana. Lapho-ke bonke abayinsalela yakoJuda abayahlala eGibhithe bazakwazi ukuthi ilizwi elizakuma ngelikabani, elami kumbe elabo. 29 Lokhu kuzakuba yisibonakaliso kini sokuthi ngizaljezisa kuyonale indawo,’ kutsho uThixo, ‘ukuze lazi ukuthi okubi

engalisongela ngakho kuzakwenzakala.’ 30 UThixo uthi: ‘Ngizanikela uFaro Hofira inkosi yaseGibhithe ezitheni zakhe ezifuna ukumbulala, njengalokhu nganikela uZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda kuNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, isitha sakhe esasifuna ukumbulala.’”

45 Lokhu yikho uJeremiya umphrofethi akutshela uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya ngomnyaka wesine kaJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, emva kokuba uBharukhi elobe emqulwini amazwi ayekhulunywe nguJeremiya esithi, 2 “UThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi kuwe, Bharukhi: 3 Wena wathi, ‘Maye minal UThixo usengezelele usizi ebuhlungwini bami; sengikhathele ngokububula njalo kangikutholi ukuphumula.’ 4 UThixo wathi, Khuluma lokhu kuye uthi: ‘UThixo uthi: Ngizadiliza esengikwakhile ngiphinde ngisiphune esengikuhlanyele elizweni lonke. 5 Lapho-ke uzazifunela izinto ezinkulu na? Ungazidingi, ngoba ngizaletsa umonakalo ebantwini bonke, kutsho uThixo, kodwa wena loba kungaphi oya khona ngizakwenza uphephe lokuphila kwakho.’”

46 Leli yilizwi likaThixo elafika kuJeremiya umphrofethi mayelana lezizwe: 2 Mayelana leGibhithe: Leli yilizwi elimayelana lebutsho likaFaro Nekho inkosi yaseGibhithe, elanqotshwayo eKharikhemishi emfuleni iYufrathe nguNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni ngomnyaka wesine kaJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda: 3 “Lungisani amahawu enu, amakhulu lamancane, liphume liye empini. 4 Bophani amabhiza, liwagade! Manini ezindaweni zenu lilezingowane zenu! Lolani imikhonto yenu, ligqoke impahla zemp! 5 Kuyini engikubonayo? Bayesaba, bahlehlele emuva, amabutho abo ehlulwe. Abaleka ngesiqubu anganyemukuli, njalo kulokwesaba izindawo zonke,” kutsho uThixo. 6 “Olejubane kasoze abaleka kumbe olamandla aphephe. Ngasenyakatho, emfuleni iYufrathe bayakhubeka bawe. 7 Ngubani lo ophakama njengeNayili, njengemifula elamanzi agubhazelayo na? 8 IGibhithe liphakama njengeNayili, njengemifula elamanzi agubhazelayo. Lithi: ‘Ngizaphakama ngembese umhlaba; ngizachitha amadolobho labantu bawo.’ 9 Hlaselani, lina mabhizal Qhubekani ngentukuthelo, lina zinqola zemp! Yanini phambili, lina mabutho, madoda aseKhushi lawePhuthi, aphatha amahawu, madoda aseLudi agoba idandili. 10 Kodwa usuku lolo ngolweNkosi, uThixo uSomandla, usuku lokuphindisela, olokuphindisela ezitheni zakhe. Inkemba izakudla ize isuthe, ize icitshe ukoma kwayo ngegazi. Ngoba iNkosi, uThixo uSomandla uzanikela umhlathelo elizweni lasenyakatho ngasemfuleni iYufrathe. 11 Yana eGilyadi uyethatha umuthi wokwelapha, wena Ndodakazi egcweleyo yaseGibhithe. Kodwa imithi uyandisela ize; akukho kusila kuwe. 12 Izizwe zizakuzwa ngehlazo lakho; ukukhala kwakho kuzagcwala umhlaba. Elinye ibutho lizakhubeka kwelinye; womabili azawela phansi ndawonye.” 13 Leli yilizwi uThixo alikhuluma kuJeremiya umphrofethi ngokuza kukaNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni ukuba ahlasele iGibhithe: 14 “Memezeleni lokhu eGibhithe, likubike laseMigidoli; kumemezeleni njalo laseMemfisi laseThahiphanesi lithi: ‘Manini ezindaweni zenu lilunge, ngoba inkemba idla abahelene lani.’ 15 Amabutho enu azabulawelwani na? Angeke ame, ngoba uThixo uzawalahlela phansi. 16 Azakhubeka kokuphela; azakuwa elekane. Azakuthi, ‘Vukani, kasibuyeleni emuva ebantwini bakithi lasamazweni

akithi, kude kwenkemba yomncindezeli.’ 17 Khonale bazamemeza bathi, ‘UFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe ingumsindo omkhulu nje kuphela; uselahlekelwe lithuba lakhe.’ 18 Ngeqiniso elinjengokuthi ngikhona,” kutsho iNkosi, obizo layo nguThixo uSomandla, “kuzafika omunye onjengoThabhoi phakathi kwezintaba, njengoKhameli ngasolwandle. 19 Lungisani impahla zekuthunjweni, lina abahlala eGibhithe, ngoba iMemfisi izadilizwa ibe lunxiwa olungahlali muntu. 20 IGibhithe ilithokazi elihle, kodwa isibawu siyeza silisongela sivela enyakatho. 21 Amabutho okuqatshwa aphakathi kwalo anjengamathole anonisiweyo. Lawo azaphenduka abaleke endawonye, kawayikuma, ngoba usuku lomonakalo luyeza phezu kwabo, isikhathi sabo sokujeziswa. 22 IGibhithe izakhwaza njengenyoka ebalekayo lapho isitha sisondele ngobunengi baso; sizayihlasela ngamahloka okwabantu abagamula izihlala. 23 Sizagamula amahlathi ayo,” kutsho uThixo, “lanxa eminyene kanjani. Banengi kulentethe, ngeke babalwe. 24 Indodakazi yaseGibhithe izayangiswa, inikelwe ebantwini basenyakatho.” 25 UThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: “Sekuseduze ukuba ngijezise u-Amoni unkulunkulu waseThebesi, loFaro, leGibhithe kanye labonkulunkulu balo lamakhosi alo, labalo abathembe uFaro. 26 Ngizabanikela kulabo abafuna ukubalulala, kuNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni lezikhulu zakhe. Kodwa muva, iGibhithe lizahlalwa ngabantu futhi njengasezinsukwini zakudala,” kutsho uThixo. 27 “Ungesabi, wena Jakhobe nceku yami; ungathuthumeli, wena Israyeli. Impela ngizakukhulula endaweni ekude, lenzalo yakho elizweni lokuthunjwa kwayo. UJakhobe uzakuba lokuthula futhi kanye lokuvikeleka, njalo kakho ozamthuthumelisa. 28 Ungesabi wena Jakhobe nceku yami ngoba ngilawe,” kutsho uThixo. “Lanxa ngizachitha ngokupheleleyo izizwe zonke engakuhlakazela kuzo, wena angiyikukuchitha ngokupheleleyo. Ngizakujezisa kodwa ngokufanelekuyo kuphela; angiyikukuyekela nje ungajeziswanga.”

47 Leli yilizwi likaThixo elafika kuJeremiya umphrofethi mayelana lamaFilistiya ngesikhathi uFaro engakhlasele iGaza: 2 UThixo uthi: “Khangela ukuphakama kwamanzi enyakatho; azakuba ngumfula okhukhulayo. Azakhukhula ilizwe lakho konke okukulo, amadolobho lalabo abahlala kuwo. Abantu bazakhala, bonke abahlala elizweni bazalila 3 ekuzweni umsindo wamasondo amabhiza agijimayo, lekuzweni umsindo wezinqola zesitha lomdumo wamasondo azo. Oyise kabayikuphenduka ukuba basize abantwababo; izandla zabo zizalenga zingelamandla. 4 Ngoba usuku selufikile ukuba abhujiswe wonke amaFilistiya, lokuqeda bonke abasilayo abangasiza iThire leSidoni. Sekuseduze ukuba uThixo abubhise amaFilistiya, insalela emakhunjweni eKhafithori. 5 IGaza izaphuca ikhanda layo ilila; i-Ashikheloni izathuliswa. Lina nsalela esemagcekeni, lizazisika kuze kube nini na? 6 Likhala lisithi, ‘Maye, nkemba kaThixo, koba nini ukuze uphumule? Buyela emgodleni wakho; khawuka ungathi nyiki.’ 7 Kodwa ingaphumula njani yona ilaywe nguThixo, ithunywe nguye ukuba ihlasele i-Ashikheloni lamakhumbi olwandle na?”

48 Mayelana leMowabi: UThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: “Maye kuyo iNebho ngoba izachithwa. IKhiryathayimi izayangeka njalo ithunjwe; inqaba izayangeka ibhidlizwe. 2 IMowabi kayiyikudunyiswa futhi; eHeshibhoni

abantu bazaceba ukumbhidliza: besithi, 'Wozani sitshabalalise isizwe lesiyana.' Lawe, wena Madimeni uzathuliswa; inkemba izaxotshana lawe. **3** Zwanini ukukhala okuvela eHoronayimi; ukukhala komonakalo omkhulu lencithakalo. **4** IMowabi izachitheka; abancinyane bayo bazakhala. **5** Baqansa ngendlela eya eLuhithi, bahamba belila kabuhlungu, emgwaqweni owehlela eHoronayimi, kuzwakala ukukhala okulosizi ngenxa yokuchitheka. **6** Balekani! Gijimani lizivikele ekufeni; wobani njengesihlahla enkangala. **7** Njengoba lithembe izenzo zenu lenotho yenu, lani futhi lizathunjwa, loKhemoshi uzakuya ekuthunjweni, kanye labaphristi bakhe lezikhulu zakhe. **8** Umchithi uzafika emadolobheni wonke, njalo akukho dolobho elizaphhepha. Isigodi sizatshabalaliswa, lamageceke azaqothulwa ngoba uThixo usekhulumile. **9** Fakani itswayi kuyo iMowabi ngoba izachitheka; amadolobho ayo azakuba ngamansiwa angayikuba lamuntu ozahlala kuwo. **10** Yeka isithuko kulowo oyekethisayo ekwenzeni umsebenzi kaThixo! Yeka isithuko kulowo ogodla inkemba yakhe ekuchitheni igazi! **11** IMowabi ibiphumule kusukela ebutsheni bayo njengewayini elisele phezu kwezinsipho zalo, elingathelwanga kwenye imbiza lisuswa kwenye kayithunjwanga. Ngakho inambitheka njengakuqala, iphunga layo kaliguqukanga. **12** Kodwa insuku zizeya, lapho ngizathuma abantu abathulula okusembizeni, njalo bazayithululela phandle; bazachitha okusezimbizeni zayo bazimahlaze imbiza zayo. **13** Lapho-ke iMowabi izayangeka ngoKhemoshi njengokuyangeka kwendlu ka-Israeli lapho babethembe iBetheli. **14** Lingatsho kanjani na ukuthi, 'Singamabutho, amadoda alesibindi empini na?' **15** IMowabi izachithwa, amadolobho ayo ahlaselwe; amajaha ayo aqinileyo azacakazelwa phansi abulawe," kutsho iNkosi, obizo layo nguThixo uSomandla. **16** "Ukuwa kweMowabi sekuseduze; umonakalo wayo uzafika ngokuphangisa. **17** Ikhaleni lonke lina elakhelene layo, bonke abalwaziyo udumo lwayo, lithi, 'Yeka ukwephuka kwentonga yobukhosi elamandla, yeka ukwephuka kodondolo oluhle kakhulu!' **18** Yehlani ebukhosini benu lihlale emhlabathini owomileyo, lina elihlala eNdodakazini yaseDibhoni. Ngoba lowo ochitha iMowabi uzakuzalihlasela adilize amadolobho enu avikelweyo. **19** Manini emgwaqweni lilinde, lina elihlala e-Aroweri. Buzani indoda ebalekayo lowesifazane obalekayo; babuzeni lithi, 'Kwenzakaleni na?' **20** IMowabi iyangekile, ngoba ichithekile. Lilani likhale! Bikani ngase-Arinoni ukuthi iMowabi itshabalalisiwe. **21** Ukwehlelela sekufikile emagekeni eHoloni, leJahazi laseMefahathi, **22** eDibhoni, leNebho laseBethi-Dibhilathayimi, **23** eKhiriyathayimi, leBethi-Gamuli laseBethi Meyoni, **24** eKheriyothi kanye laseBhozira kuwo wonke amadolobho aseMowabi, aseduze lakhatshana. **25** Uphondo lweMowabi luqunywiwe, ingalo yalo yephuliwe," kutsho uThixo. **26** "Idakiseni ngoba idelele uThixo. IMowabi kayizibhixhe ngamahlanzo ayo; kayibe yinto yokuhlekwa. **27** U-Israeli wayengasinto yokuhlekisa kuwe na? Watholakala ephakathi kwamasele na, ukuba unikine ikhanda lakho ngokweyisa ngasonke isikhathi lapho ukhuluma ngaye? **28** Tshiyani amadolobho enu lihlale emadwaleni, lina elihlala eMowabi. Wobani ngengejuba elakhela isidlele salo emlonjeni wobhalu. **29** Sizwile ngokuziqqaja kweMowabi, ukuziqakisa kwayo lokuzazisa kwayo! Ukuziqqaja lokuzikhukhumeza kwayo, kanye lokuziphakamisa kwenhliziyo yayo. **30** Ngiyakwazi ukudelela kwayo, kodwa kuyize, lokuzincoma kwayo akusizi lutho," kutsho uThixo **31** "Ngakho-ke

ngiyalila ngeMowabi, ngikhalela iMowabi yonke, ngililela abantu baseKhiri-Haresethi. **32** Ngiyalikhalela njengokulila kweJazeri, lina zivini zaseSibhima. Ingatsha zenu zinaba zifike olwandle, zafika olwandle lwaseJazeri. Umchithi usehlele phezu kwezithelo zakho ezivuthiweyo laphezu kwamavini. **33** Ukuthokoza lokuthaba akusekho ezivinini lasemasimini eMowabi. Ukugeleza kweyayini ezikhamelweni sengikumisile; kakho ozalikhama eklabalala ngentokozo. Lanxa kulokuklabalala akusikuklabalala kwentokozo. **34** Umsindo wokukhala kwabo uyaphakama uvelela eHeshibhoni usiya e-Eliyale laseJahazi, uvela eZowari usiyafika eHoronayimi le-Egilathi Shelishiya, ngoba lamanzi aseNimirimi asecitshile. **35** EMowabi ngizabaqeda labo abanikela iminikelo ezindaweni eziphakemeyo batshisele labonkulunkulu babo impepha," kutsho uThixo. **36** "Ngakho inhliziyo yami ikhalela iMowabi njengemfegwana; iyakhala njengemfegwana ikhalela abantu beKhiri-Haresethi. Inotho ababeyizulile kayisekho. **37** Amakhanda wonke aphuciwelwe lezindvuna zonke zigeliwe; izandla zonke zisikiwe lezinkalo zonke zigqokiswe amasaka. **38** Phezu kwezimpahla zonke zezindlu zaseMowabi lasemagekeni kazulu, akulalutho ngaphandle kokukhala, ngoba iMowabi ngiyibulele njengembiza engafunwa muntu," kutsho uThixo. **39** "Yeka ukuphahlazwa kwayo! Yeka ukulila kwabo! Yeka ukufulathela kweMowabi ilehlazo! IMowabi isibe yinto yokuhlekwa; into yokwesatshwa yibo bonke abakhelane layo." **40** UThixo uthi: "Khangel! Ukhozi lwehlele phansi ngesiqubu, lwelulele impiko zalo phezu kweMowabi. **41** IKheriyothi izathunjwa, lezinqaba zithunjwe. Ngalolosuku inhliziyo zamabutho aseMowabi zizakuba njengenhliziyo yowesifazane ohelelwayo. **42** IMowabi izachithwa ingabe isaba yisizwe ngoba yadelela uThixo. **43** Ukwesaba lomgodi kanye lomjibila kulilindele lina bantu baseMowabi," kutsho uThixo. **44** "Loba ngubani obalekela ukwesaba uzawela emgodini, loba ngubani ophuma emgodini uzabanjwa ngumjibila; ngoba ngizakwehlisela phezu kweMowabi umnyaka wokujeziswa kwayo," kutsho uThixo. **45** "Emthunzini waseHeshibhoni ababalekayo bayema kungelasizo, ngoba umlilo usuphumile eHeshibhoni, ilangabi elivela phakathi kwakoSihoni; litshisa amabunzi eMowabi inkakhayi zamaqhalaqhala alomsindo. **46** Maye kuwe! wena Mowabi! Abantu baseKhemoshi babhujisiwe; amadodana athunjwe lamadodakazi akho athunjwe. **47** Kodwa inhlanhla ye-Mowabi ngizayibuyisela ensukwini ezizayo," kutsho uThixo. Ukwahlulelwa kweMowabi kuphelela lapha.

49 Mayelana lama-Amoni: Nanku akutshoyo uThixo: "U-Israeli kalamadodana na? Kalandlalifa na? Pho kungani uMoleki esethumbe iGadi na? Kungani abantu bakhe behlala emadolobheni alo na? **2** Kodwa insuku zizeya, lapho engizahlaba khona umkhosi wempi wokumelana leRabha yama-Amoni, izakuba yindunduma yonxiwa; lemizi eseduze layo izathungelwa ngomlilo. Ngakho u-Israeli uzabaxotsha labo ababemxotshelwe phandle," kutsho uThixo. **3** "Lila weHeshibhoni, ngoba i-Ayi ichithekile! Khalani lina elihlala eRabha! Gqokani amasaka lilile; gjimelani lapha lalapha phakathi kwemiduli, ngoba uMoleki uzathunjwa, ndawonye labaphristi bakhe kanye lezikhulu zakhe. **4** Lizincomelani ngezigodi zenu, lizincomelani ngezigodi ezithela kangaka? Wena ndodakazi engathembekanga, uthemba inotho yakho uthi, 'Ngubani ozangihlasela na?' **5** Ngizalilethela ukwesaba okuvela kubo bonke abaseduze lani," kutsho iNkosi, uThixo

uSomandla. “Lonke lizaxotshelwa khatshana, njalo kakho ozaqoqa ababalekayo. **6** Kodwa emva kwalokho ngizabuyisela inhlanhla yama-Amoni,” kutsho uThixo. **7** Mayelana le-Edomi: Nanku akutshoyo uThixo uSomandla: “Kakuselakuhlakanipha eThemani na? Izeluleko sezaphela na kwabahlakaniphileyo? Ukuhlakanipha kwabo sekwabola na? **8** Phendukani libaleke, licatshe ezimbalwini ezitshonayo, lina elihlala eDedani, ngoba ngizaletha umonakalo phezu kuka-Esawu ngesikhathi engizamjezisa ngaso. **9** Nxa abavuni bamavini befike kuwe, kabangeke batshiyte amalutshwana na? Nxa amasela efika ebusuku kabayikuntshontsha lokho okwanele abakufunayo kuphela na? **10** Kodwa u-Esawu ngizamhlabula asale eze; ngizakwembula izindawo zakhe zokucatsha, ukuze angacatshi. Amabutho akhe ahlomileyo azabhubha kanye labomakhelwane bakhe labahlanganyela laye, angabikhona khona ozakuthi, **11** “Tshiya izintandane zakho; ngizavikela impilo yazo labafelokazi bakho bangathemba kimi.” **12** UThixo uthi: “Nxa labo abangafanelanga ukunatha inkezo kumele bayinathe, kungani wena ungeze wajeziswa na? Kawuyikuphutha ukujeziswa, kumele uyinathe. **13** Ngifunga ngami, ukuthi iBhozira izakuba lunxiwa lento yokwesatshwa, eyokuthukwa lokuqalekiswa, njalo wonke amadolobho ayo azakuba ngamanxiwa nini lanini,” kutsho uThixo. **14** Sengizwe ilizwi elivela kuThixo: Kuthunywe isithunywa ezizweni ukuba sithi, “Buthanani ukuba liyihlasele! Vukani lilwe impi!” **15** “Khatshesi ngizakwenza ube mncane phakathi kwezizwe, udeleleke ebantwini. **16** Ukuthuthumela okungabangwa nguwe, lokuziqqaja kwenzilizyo yakho kukukhohlisile, wena ohlala eminkenkeni yamadwala, wena ohlala ezingqongeni zoqaqa. Lanxa usakhela isidleke sakho phezulu njengengqungqulu, ukhonapho ngizakwehlisela phansi,” kutsho uThixo. **17** “I-Edomi izakuba yinto yokwesatshwa, bonke abadtula khona bazathuthumela baklolode ngenxa yamanxeba ayo wonke. **18** Njengokuchitheka kweSodoma leGomora, kanye lamadolobho awo ayesezude, ngakho kakho ozahlala kuyo, kakho ozabuye ahlale khona” kutsho uThixo. **19** “Njengesilwane siphuma emahlathini asejodani sisiya emadlelweni amahle, i-Edomi ngizayixotsha elizweni layo ngesikhathshana. Ngubani okhethiweyo engizamkhetshela lokhu na? Ngubani onjengami, ngubani ongamelana lami na? Njalo nguphi umelusi ongajamelana lami na?” **20** Ngakho, zwanini lokho uThixo asecebe ukukwenza nge-Edomi, asemise ukukwenza kulabo abahlala eThemani: Amazinyane omhlambi azadonselwa le; amadlelo awo uzawatsabalalisa ngokupheleleyo ngenxa yabo. **21** Ekuzwakaleni kamsindo wokuwa kwabo umhlaba uzagedezela, ukukhala kwabo kuzazwakala eWandle oluBomvu. **22** Khangelani! Inqungqulu izaqonga iphinde yehlele phansi, yelulele impiko yazo phezu kweBhozira. Ngalolosuku inhlizyo zamabutho ase-Edomi zizakuba njengenhliziyo yowesifazane ohelelwayo. **23** Mayelana leDamaseko: “IHamathi le-Ariphadi athithibeke, ngoba azwe izindaba ezimbi. Adanile, akhathazeke njengolwandle olungela kuphumula. **24** IDamaseko isibe buthakathaka, isiphendukile ukuba ibaleke, isiphethwe layikuphaphazela; ibanjwe lusizi lobuhlungu, ubuhlungu obunjengesifazane ohelelwayo. **25** Kungani idolobho lodumo lingadelwanga, idolobho engithokoza ngalo na? **26** Ngeqiniso izinsizwa zayo zizakuwa emgwaqweni; amabutho ayo wonke azathuliswa ngalolosuku,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **27** “Imiduli yaseDamaseko ngizayithungela ngomlilo; uzaqothula izinqaba zaseBheni-

Hadadi.” **28** Mayelana leKhedari lemibuso yaseHazoni, eyahlaselwa nguNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni: UThixo uthi: “Vuka uhlasele iKhedari ubhubhise labantu baseMpumalanga. **29** Amathente abo lemihlambi yabo kuzathunjwa; amakhetheni abo azathathwa yazo yonke impahla yabo kanye lamakamela abo. Abantu bazakabalala besithi kubo, ‘Ukwesaba enhlangothini zonke!’ **30** Balekani ngokuphangisa! Hlalani ezimbalwini ezitshonayo, lina elihlala eHazoni,” kutsho uThixo. “UNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni usecebe icebo ngani, usebumba icebo ngani. **31** Vukani lihlasele isizwe esizinzileyo, esihlezi ngthemba,” kutsho uThixo, “isizwe esingelawo amasango kumbe imigoqo; abantu baso bahlala bodwa. **32** Amakamela aso azakuba yimpango, lemihlambi yabo emikhulu izakuba yimpango. Ngizabahlakazela emoyeni labo abasezindaweni ezikude njalo ngizaletha umonakalo kubo uvelele enhlangothini zonke,” kutsho uThixo. **33** “IHazoni izakuba yisikhundla samakhanka, indawo echithekileyo nini lanini. Kakho ozahlala khona, akulamuntu ozahlala kuyo.” **34** Leli yilizwi likaThixo elafika kujeremiya umphrofethi mayelana le-Elamu, ekuqaleni kombuso kaZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda, elathi: **35** UThixo uSomandla uthi: “Khangelani, idandili le-Elamu ngizalephula, insika yamandla abo. **36** Ngizalethela i-Elamu imimoya emine ezavela emagumbini amane amazulu, ngizabahlakazela emimoyeni emine, njalo akuyikuba lesizwe abathunjwe e-Elamu abangayikuya kuso. **37** I-Elamu ngizayibhidliza phambi kwezitha zayo, phambi kwalabo abafuna ukubabulala. Ngizakwehlisela umonakalo phezu kwabo kanye lolaka lwami oluvuthayo,” kutsho uThixo. “Ngizabaxhuma ngenkamba ngize ngibaqede bonke. **38** Ngizabeka isihlalo sami sobukhosi e-Elamu ngichithe inkosi yayo lezikhulu zayo,” kutsho uThixo. **39** “Kodwa inhlanhla ye-Elamu ngizayibuyisa esukuwini ezizayo,” kutsho uThixo.

50 Leli yilizwi uThixo alikhuluma ngoJeremiya umphrofethi mayelana leBhabhiloni lelizwe lamaKhaladiya: **2** “Memezalani libike phakathi kwezizwe, phakamisanani uphawu lilubike; lingafihli lutho, kodwa lithi, ‘IBhabhiloni izathunjwa, iBheli izayangiswa, iMariduki ibe lokwesaba. Izifanekiso zayo zizayangiswa, izithombe zayo zibe lokwesaba.’ **3** Isizwe esivela enyakatho sizayihlasela sitshabalalise ilizwe layo. Kakho ozahlala kuyo; abantu lezinyamazana kuzasuka kubaleke. **4** Ngalozonsuku, ngalosesikhathi, abantu bako-Israyeli ndawonye labantu bakoJuda bazahamba bekhala bedinga uThixo uNkulunkulu wabo. **5** Bazabuzo indlela eya eZiyoni bakhangelise ubuso babo kuyo. Bazakuza bazibophele kuThixo ngesivumelwano esingapheliyo esingayikuhohlakala. **6** Abantu bami bebezimzimvu ezilahlekileyo, abelusi babo babebadukisile babenza bazulazula phezu kwezintaba. Bantula phezu kwezintaba laphezu kwamaqaqa bakhohlwa indawo yabo yokuphumula. **7** Loba ngubani owabatholayo wabadla; izitha zabo zathi, ‘Kasilacala, ngoba benza okubi kuThixo, idlelo labo eliqotho, uThixo, ithemba laboyise.’ **8** Balekelani ngaphandle kweBhabhiloni; sukani elizweni lamaKhaladiya, libe njengembuzi ezikhokhela umhlambi. **9** Ngoba iBhabhiloni ngizayivusela umanyano lwezizwe ezinkulu ezivela elizweni lasenyakatho. Bazaviva ezindaweni zabo bamelane layo. Njalo izathunjwa kuvelelwa enyakatho. Imitshoko yabo izakuba njengamabutho alolwazi angaphenduki engalutho. **10** Ngakho iBhabhiloni izaphangwa, bonke abayiphangayo bazasuthiseka,” kutsho uThixo. **11** “Njengoba lithokoza

njalo lithabile, lizaphanga ilifa lami ngoba liyaqolotsha njengethokazi etshanini, njalo likhale njengamabhiza amaduna, **12** unyoko uzayangeka kakhulu, yena owalizalayo uzakuba lenhloni. Uzakuba ngowokucina phakathi kwezizwe, inkangala, ilizwe elomileyo, ugwadule. **13** Ngenxa yolaka lukaThixo kayiyikuhlalwa muntu kodwa izachithwa ngokupheleleyo. Bonke abadlula eBhabhiloni bazakwesaba baklolode ngenxa yamanxeba ayo wonke. **14** Vivani inhlangothi zonke zeBhabhiloni lonke lina eliphethe amadandili. Itshokeni! Lingatshiyi mitshoko ngoba yonile kuThixo. **15** Klabalalani kuyo ezinhlangothini zonke! Iyazinikela, njiphotshongo yayo iyawa, imiduli yayo idilikela phansi. Njengoba lokhu kuyikuphindisela kukaThixo, phindiselani kuyo iBhabhiloni; yenzani kuyo njengalokhu eyakwenza kwabanye. **16** Msuseni eBhabhiloni umhlanyeli, lomvuni lesikela yakhe ekuvuneni. Ngenxa yenkamba yomncindezeli, umuntu wonke kabuyele ebantwini bakibo; umuntu wonke kabalekele elizweni lakibo. **17** U-Israyeli ungumhlambi ohlakahakeleyo oxotshwe yizilwane. Owaqalayo ukumudla yinkosi yase-Asiriya; owacinayo ukuqhoba amathambo akhe nguNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni.” **18** Ngakho uThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: “Ngizayijezisa inkosi yaseBhabhiloni lelizwe layo njengoba ngajezisa inkosi yase-Asiriya. **19** Kodwa u-Israyeli ngizambuyisela edlelweni lakhe, uzakudla eKhameli kanye laseBhashani; inkanuko yakhe izasuthiswa emaqaqeni ako-Efrayimi kanye leGilyadi. **20** Ngalezonsuku, ngalesosikhathi,” kutsho uThixo, “ukona kuka-Israyeli kuzadingwa, kodwa akuyikuba khona; kudingwe lezono zikaJuda kodwa kasikho esizafunyanwa, ngoba insalela engiyitshiyayo ngizayithethelela. **21** Hlaselani ilizwe laseMerathayimi lalabo abahlala ePhekodi. Xotshanani labo libabulale libaqede du,” kutsho uThixo. “Yenzani konke engililaye khona. **22** Umsindo wempi uselizweni, umsindo wencithakalo enkulu! **23** Yeka ukwephuka lokuzezuka kwesando somhlaba wonke! Yeka ukuchitheka kweBhabhiloni phakathi kwezizwe! **24** Ngakuthiya ngomjibila, wena Bhabhiloni, wabanjwa ungakakwazi lokho; waficwa wathunjwa, ngoba wamelana loThixo. **25** UThixo usevule indlu yakhe yezikhali wakhupha izikhali zolaka lwakhe, ngoba uThixo Wobukhosi, uSomandla lomsebenzi okumele awenze elizweni lamaKhaladiya. **26** Wozani kuyo limelane layo livela kude. Fohlelani eziphaleni zayo; liyibuthelele njengezinqumbi zamabele. Ichitheni okupheleleyo lingayitshiyeli nsalela. **27** Bulalani zonke inkunzi zayo ezisesengamaguqa; ziwiseleni phansi ekuhlathweni! Maye kubo! Ngoba usuku lwabo selufikile, isikhathi sabo sokujeziswa. **28** Lalelani ababalekayo labaphephileyo abavela eBhabhiloni bememezela eZiyoni ngokuphindisela uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu asekwenzile, ukuphindisela ngenxa yethempeli lakhe. **29** Bizani abemitshoko bahlasele iBhabhiloni, bonke labo abaphatha amadandili. Ihanjeni inxa zonke; kungabikhona ophunyukayo. Iphindiselani izenzo zayo; yenzani kuyo njengekwenzileyo. Ngoba idelele uThixo, oNgcwele ka-Israyeli. **30** Ngakho izinziswa zayo zizakuwa emigwaqweni; ngalolosuku wonke amabutho ayo azabulawa,” kutsho uThixo. **31** “Khangela, ngimelane lawe, wena oyisipholo,” kutsho uThixo, uThixo uSomandla, “ngoba usuku lwakho selufikile, isikhathi sokujeziswa kwakho. **32** Oyisipholo uzakhubeka awe, njalo kakho ozamsiza amvuse. Ngizabasa umlilo emadolobheni akhe ozaqothula bonke abakhelene laye.” **33** UThixo uSomandla uthi: “Abantu bako-

Israyeli bancindezelwe, kanye labantu bakoJuda futhi. Bonke abathumbi babo babagagadlele, besala ukubadedela bahambe. **34** Kodwa uMhlengi wabo ulamandla; uThixo uSomandla yilo ibizo lakhe. Uzavikela imfanelo zabo ngamandla ukuze alethe ukuthula elizweni labo, kodwa ukuxokozela kulabo abahlala eBhabhiloni. **35** Inkemba imelana lamaKhaladiya,” kutsho uThixo, “imelane lalabo abahlala eBhabhiloni kanye lezikhulu zayo lezihlakaniphi zayo! **36** Inkemba izamelana labaphrofethi balo bamanga! Bazakuba yizithutha. Inkemba izamelana lamabutho ayo! Azakuba lokwesaba okukhulu. **37** Inkemba izamelana lamabhiza ayo lezinqola zempi labo bonke abezizweni abakuyo! Bazakuba ngabafazi. Inkemba izamelana lenotho yayo! Izaphangwa. **38** Kuzakuba lokoma kwamanzi ayo! Azacitsha. Ngoba yilizwe lezithombe, izithombe ezizahlanya ngenxa yokwesaba. **39** Ngakho izidalwa zasenkangala lezimpsi zizahlala khona, lesikhova sizahlala khona. Akusayikwakhiwa kuyo lanini kumbe kuhlalwa kuyo kusukela kusizukulwane kuyo kusizukulwane. **40** Njengalokhu uNkulunkulu wachitha iSodoma leGomora ndawonye lamadolobho ayaseduzane lawo,” kutsho uThixo, “ngokunjalo kakho ozahlala khona; akulamuntu ozahlala phakathi kwayo. **41** Khangelani! Ibutho liyeza livela enyakatho; isizwe esikhulu lamakhosi amanengi bayadungwa kusukela emikhawulweni yomhlaba. **42** Bahlome ngamadandili langemikhonto; balesihluku, kabalasihawu. Bezwakala njengolwandle oluhlokomayo lapho begade amabhiza abo; beza njengabantu abalungele impi ukuba bakhulasele, wena Nnodakazi yaseBhabhiloni. **43** Inkosi yaseBhabhiloni isiyizwile imibiko ngabo, njalo izandla zayo zilenga zingelamandla. Usizi seluyibambile, ubuhlungu obunjengowesifazane ohelelwayo. **44** Njengesilwane siphuma emahlathini aseJodani sisiya emadlelweni amahle, iBhabhiloni ngizayixotsha elizweni layo ngesikhathana. Ngubani okhethiweyo engizamkhethele lokhu na? Ngubani onjengami, ngubani ongamelana lami? Njalo nguphi umelusi ongajamelana lami na?” **45** Ngakho, zwaniini lokho uThixo asebebe ukukwenza ngeBhabhiloni, asemise ukukwenza ngelizwe lamaKhaladiya: Amazinyane omhlambi azadonselwa le, amadlelo awo uzawatshabalalisa ngokupheleleyo ngenxa yabo. **46** Ekuzwakaleni komsindo wokuthunjwa kweBhabhiloni umhlaba uzagedezela; ukukhala kwayo kuzawakala phakathi kwezizwe.

51 UThixo uthi: “Khangelani, ngizavusa umoya ochithayo umelane leBhabhiloni labantu beLebhi Khamayi. **2** Ngizathumela abezizweni eBhabhiloni ukuba bayihlungule njalo batshabalalise lelizwe layo; bazamelana layo enhlangothini zonke ngosuku lwencithakalo yayo. **3** Lingavumeli mtshoki ebopha idandili lakhe loba limyekele egqoka isigqoko sakhe sensimbi. Lingazitshiyi izinziswa zayo, liliqede du ibutho layo. **4** Bazawela phansi bebulewe eBhabhiloni belinyazwe okokufa emigwaqweni yayo. **5** Ngoba u-Israyeli loJuda kabalahlwanga nguNkulunkulu wabo, uThixo uSomandla, lanxa nje ilizwe labo ligcwele ukona phambi koNgcwele ka-Israyeli. **6** Balekani eBhabhiloni! Sindisani impilo yenu! Lingabujiswa ngenxa yezono zayo. Yisikhathi sokuphindisela kukaThixo; uzaphindisela kuyo ngokufaneleyo. **7** IBhabhiloni yayiyinkezo yegolide esandleni sikaThixo; yenza umhlaba wonke wadakwa. Izizwe zanatha iwayini layo; ngakho khathesi sezihlanya. **8** IBhabhiloni izakuwa masinyane idilike. Ilileleni! Idingeleni umuthi wokupholisa

ubuhlungu bayo; mhlawumbe ingasila. **9** 'IBhahliloni kade singayelapha kodwa kayelapheki; kasiyitshiyeni kuthi lowo lalowo aye elizweni lakibo, ngoba ukwahlulela kufika emikhathini kuqonga kuze kufike emayezini. **10** UThixo usebonakalisile ukuthi kasilacala, wozani sibike eZiyoni osekwenziwe nguThixo uNkulunkulu wethu.' **11** Lolani imitshoko; thathani amahawu! UThixo usevuse amakhosi amaMede ngoba inhloso yakhe yikuchitha iBhahliloni. UThixo uzaphindisela, aphindisele ngenxa yethempeli lakhe. **12** Phakamiselani imiduli yaseBhahliloni uphawu! Qinisani ukulinda, bekani abalindayo, lungiselani ukucathamela! UThixo uzafaze inhloso yakhe, isimislo sakhe ngabantu baseBhahliloni. **13** Lina elihlala ngesamanzini amanengi, njalo lilenotho enengi, isiphetho senu sesifikile, isikhathi senu sokuqunywa. **14** UThixo uSomandla usefungile ngayo wathi: Impela ngizakugcwalisa ngabantu abangangesikhongwane, njalo bazakalabala ngamaphezu kwakho. **15** Wenza umhlaba ngamandla akhe; wamisa umhlaba ngokuhlakanipha kwakhe njalo wendlala lamazulu ngokuqediswa kwakhe. **16** Lapho evungama, amanzi asemazulwini ayahlakoma; wenza amayezi aphakame evela emikhawulweni yomhlaba. Uthumela umbane ulezulu njalo akhuphe umoya eziphaleni zakhe. **17** Abantu bonke kabalangqondo njalo kabalawazi; wonke umkhandi wegolide uyangiswa yizithombe zakhe. Izithombe zakhe azenzayo ziyinkohliso; kazilamphefumulo phakathi kwazo. **18** Ziyize, izinto zenhlelisa nje; lapho ukwahlulelwa kwazo sekufikile, zizabhubha. **19** Lowo oyingxenywe yesizwe sikaJakhobe kafani lalaba, ngoba ungenzi wezinto zonke, kubalwa abantu belifa lakhe, ibizo lakhe nguThixo uSomandla. **20** Wena uyinduku yami yempi, isikhali sami sokulwa ngawe ngitshabalalisa izizwe, ngawe ngichitha imibuso; **21** ngawe ngihliliza ibhiza lomgadi walo, ngawe ngihliliza inqola yempi lomtshayeli wayo, **22** ngawe ngihliliza indoda lomfazi, ngawe ngihliliza amaxhegu labatsha, ngawe ngihliliza izinsizwa lezintombi, **23** ngawe ngihliliza abelusi lemihlambi, ngawe ngihliliza umlimi lenkabi, ngawe ngihliliza ababusi lezikhulu. **24** Emehlweni enu ngizaphindisela kuyo iBhahliloni lakubo bonke abahlala kuyo ngenxa yobubi bonke ababenzileyo eZiyoni," kutsho uThixo. **25** "Ngimelana lawe, wena ntaba echithayo, wena ochitha umhlaba wonke," kutsho uThixo. "Ngizakwelulela isandla sami kuwe, ngikugiqe usuka emaweni, ngikwenze ube yintaba eyatshiswayo. **26** Akulalitshe elizasuswa kuwe ukuba libe ngelekhoneni, loba elinye ilitsho ukuba ngelesisekelo ngoba lizachithwa kokuphela," kutsho uThixo. **27** "Phakamisani uphawu elizweni! Khalisani icilongo phakathi kwezizwe! Lungisani izizwe ukuba zilwe layo; ibizeleni imibuso le: i-Ararathi leMini kanye le-Ashikhenazi. Ibekeleli umlawuli wokulwa layo; lithumele amabhiza anjengomtshitshi wentetho. **28** Lungisani izizwe ukuba zilwe layo, amakhosi amaMede, ababusi bawo lezikhulu zawo, kanye lamazwe wonke awabusayo. **29** Ilizwe liyaqhaqhazela libhinqiye ngoba inhloso kaThixo yokumelana leBhahliloni imi injalo ukuchitha ilizwe leBhahliloni ukuze kungabikhona ohlala kulo. **30** Amabutho aseBhahliloni aseyekelwa ukulwa; ahlezi ezingqabeni zawo. Amandla awo asephelile. Asebe njengabesifazane. Izindawo zayo zokuhlala zithungelwe ngomlilo; imigoqo lamasango kwephukile. **31** Esinye isithunywa silandela esinye; lesithunywa silandela esinye isithunywa ukuyabika enkosini yaseBhahliloni ukuthi idolobho lonke selithunjiwe, **32** amazibuko emifula athethwe,

amakhaphozi atshiswe ngomlilo lamabutho ethukile." **33** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israelayi: "Indodakazi yaseBhahliloni injengesiza sokubhulela ngesikhathi sokunyathelwa kwaso; isikhathi sokuvunwa kwayo sizafika masinyane." **34** "UNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhahliloni usesidlile, usesenze saphambana amakhanda, usesenze saba yimbiza engelalutho. Usesinginyile njengesinyoka, wagcwalisa isisu sakhe ngezibiliboco zethu, wasesihlanza futhi. **35** Udlakela olwenziwe emizimbeni yethu kalube phezu kweBhahliloni," kutsho abahlala eZiyoni. "Igazi lethu kalibe phezu kwalabo abahlala eBhahliloni," kutsho iJerusalem. **36** Ngakho uThixo uthi: "Khangelani, imfanole yenu ngizayivikela, ngiliphindiselele; ngizacitsha ulwandle lwayo ngomise lemithombo yayo. **37** IBhahliloni izakuba yinqumbi yonxiwa, isikhunda samakhanka, into yokwesatshwa lokuklolodelwa, indawo engahlali muntu. **38** Abantu bayo bonke bayabhonga njengezilwane ezincane, bayahwabha njengemidwane yesilwane. **39** Kodwa lapho besesebukhali, ngizabenzela idili ngibadakise, ukuze baklabalale ngohleko, babe sebelala kokuphela bangavuki futhi," kutsho uThixo. **40** "Ngizabehlisela phansi njengamawundu esilaheni, njengenqama lembuzi. **41** Yeka ukuthunjwa okuzakwenziwa iSheshaki, ukuzincoma komhlaba wonke kuthunjiwe! Yeka ukutshaqisa iBhahliloni ezakuba yikho phakathi kwezizwe! **42** Ulwandle luzaphakama phezu kweBhahliloni; amagagasi alo ahlokomayo ayisibekele. **43** Amadolobho ayo azachitheka, ilizwe elomileyo leliyinkangala, ilizwe okungekho ohlala khona, okungekho muntu odabula phakathi kwalo. **44** Ngizamjezisa uBheli eBhahliloni ngimenze akuhlazane lokho akuginyileyo. Izizwe kazisayikujulukela kuye. Njalo umduli weBhahliloni uzakuwa. **45** Bantu bami, phumani kulo iBhahliloni! Balekelani ukufa! Balekelani ulaka olwesabekayo lukaThixo. **46** Lingaphelelwa lithemba kumbe lesabe lapho kuzwakala amahungahunga elizweni; elinye ihungahunga lifika lonyaka, elinye kozayo, amahungahunga odlakela elizweni awombusi evukela umbusi. **47** Ngoba isikhathi sizafika impela lapho ngizajezisa izithombe zaseBhahliloni; ilizwe layo lonke lizayangeka lababulelwayo bayo bonke bazawela phakathi kwayo. **48** Lapho-ke izulu lomhlaba lakho konke okukukho kuzamemezela intokozo ngeBhahliloni, ngoba abachithi bazayihlasela bevelela enyakatho," kutsho uThixo. **49** "IBhahliloni kumele idilike ngenxa yabako-Israelayi ababulawayo, njengokubulawa kwabantu emhlabeni wonke, batshabalala ngenxa yeBhahliloni. **50** Lina eliphephileyo enkembeni, sukani njalo lingalibali! Khumbulani uThixo elizweni elikude, licabange langeJerusalem." **51** "Siyangekile, ngoba siqalekisiwe, lehlazo lembese ubuso bethu, ngoba abezizweni bangene ezindaweni ezingwele zendlu kaThixo." **52** UThixo uthi, "Kodwa insuku zizeya, lapho engizajezisa khona izithombe zayo, njalo elizweni layo lonke abalimeleyo bazabubula. **53** Lanxa eBhahliloni ingafinyelela emkhathini iqinise izingqaba zayo eziphakemeyo, ngizathumela abachithi bayihlasele," kutsho uThixo. **54** "Umsindo wokukhala uvela eBhahliloni, umsindo wencithakalo enkulu ovela elizweni lamaKhaladiya. **55** UThixo uzayichitha iBhahliloni; uzathulisa umsindo wayo wenhlokomo. Amagagasi ezitha azahlakoma njengamanzi amanengi; ukuvungama kwamazwi azo kuzazwakala. **56** Umchithi uzakuzahlasele iBhahliloni; amabutho ayo azathunjwa, lamadandili awo azakwephuka. Ngoba uThixo unguNkulunkulu wempindiselo; uzaphindisela

ngokugcweleyo. 57 Ngizadakisa izikhulu lezihlakaniphi zayo, kanye lababusi bayo, lezinduna kanye lamabutho; bazalala kokuphela bangavuki futhi,” kutsho uThixo, obizo lakhe nguThixo uSomandla. 58 UThixo uSomandla uthi: “Umduli oqatha weBhabhiloni uzabhidlizwa lamasanga ayo aphakemayo athungelwe ngomlilo; abantu bazidinisela ize, umsebenzi wezizwe ungamafutha amalangabi nje kuphela.” 59 Leli yilizwi uJeremiya umphrofethi alinika induna yamabutho uSeraya indodana kaNeriya, indodana kaMahaseyiya, esesiya eBhabhiloni loZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda ngomnyaka wesine wokubusa kwakhe. 60 UJeremiya wayelobe emqulwini ngomonakalo wonke owawuzakwehlela iBhabhiloni lakho konke okwakubhalwe ngeBhabhiloni. 61 Wathi kuSeraya, “Lapho usufikile eBhabhiloni ubowafunda wonke amazwi la ngelizwi eliphakemayo. 62 Ube ususithi, ‘Awu Thixo, wathi indawo le uzayichitha ukuze kungabi lamuntu kumbe inyamazana ezahlala kuyo; izaphundleka kuze kube nininini.’ 63 Lapho usuqedile ukubala umqulu lo, ubophele ilitsho kuwo uwuphosele kuYufurathe, 64 ubususithi, ‘Izatshona kanje iBhabhiloni ingabe isavumbuluka ngenxa yomonakalo engizayehlisela wona. Labantu bayo bazakuwa.’” Amazwi kaJeremiya aphelela lapha.

52 UZedekhiya waba yinkosi eleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lanye, njalo wabusa eJerusalema okweminyaka elitshumi lanye. Ibizo likanina lalinguHamuthali indodakazi kaJeremiya waselibhina. 2 Wenza okubi emehlweni kaThixo, njengalokho okwakwenziwe nguJehoyakhimi. 3 Kwakungenxa yokuthukuthela kukaThixo ukuze kwenzakale konke lokhu eJerusalema lakoJuda, njalo ekucineni kwabangela ukuthi uThixo abachithe. Ngalokho uZedekhiya wayihlamukela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni. 4 Ngakho ngenyanga yesificamunwemunye yokubusa kukaZedekhiya, ngosuku lwetshumi lwenyanga yetshumi, uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, waya eJerusalema lebutsho lakhe lonke. Bahlala ngaphandle kwedolobho, bakha izinqaba zokulivimbezela kuzozonke inhlangathi zalo. 5 Idolobho lavinjazelwa kwaze kwaba ngumnyaka wetshumi lanye kaZedekhiya inkosi. 6 Ngosuku lwesificamunwemunye lwenyanga yesine indlala yayisinzima edolobheni, abantu bengaselakudla. 7 Umduli wedolobho wafohlwa, ibutho lonke labaleka. Basuka edolobheni ebusuku bephuma ngesango eliphakathi kwemiduli emibili, phansi kwesivande senkosi, lanxa nje amaKhaladiya ayeligombolozele idolobho. Babaleka beqonde e-Arabha, 8 kodwa ibutho lamaKhaladiya laxotshana lenkosi uZedekhiya layamfaca emagekeni aseJerikho. Wonke amabutho akhe ehlokana laye njalo ahlakazeka, 9 yena wathunjwa. Wasiwa enkosini yaseBhabhiloni eRibhila elizweni laseHamathi, lapho eyamgwebela khona. 10 Khona eRibhila inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yabulala amadodana kaZedekhiya emehlweni akhe; yabulala lezikhulu zakoJuda zonke. 11 Emva kwalokho, yamkhupha amehlo uZedekhiya, yambopha ngamaketane ethusi, yamusa eBhabhiloni, lapho eyamfaka khona entolongweni kwaze kwafika usuku lokufa kwakhe. 12 Ngosuku lwetshumi ngenyanga yesihlanu, ngomnyaka wetshumi lasificamunwemunye kaNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, uNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi besikhosini, wayesebenzela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, wafika eJerusalema. 13 Wathungela ithempeli likaThixo ngomlilo, lesigodlo senkosi lezindlu zonke zaseJerusalem. Zonke izindlu eziqakathekileyo wazitshisa. 14 Lonke ibutho

laseBhabhiloni elalingaphansi komlawuli wabalindi besikhosini layidiliza yonke imiduli eyayigombolozele iJerusalem. 15 UNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi wathatha abanye babayanga bokucina wabasa ekuthunjweni lalabo ababesele edolobheni, lenengi lezingcwethi kanye lalabo ababesele enkosini yaseBhabhiloni. 16 Kodwa uNebhuzaradani watshiya inengi labantu ababengabayanga bokucina elizweni ukuba basebenze ezivini lasemasimini. 17 AbeBhabhiloni baphahlaza izinsika zethusi lezinti zezibane loLwandle lwethusi, okwakusethempelini likaThixo. Bathwalela ithusi lelo eBhabhiloni. 18 Bathatha njalo imbiza, lamafotsholo, lezindlawu lemiganu yezichelo, lezinditshi lazozonke izitsha zethusi ezazisetshenziswa enkonzweni yasethempelini. 19 Umlawuli wabalindi besigodlo wathatha izinditshi, izitsha zokutshisela impepha, imiganu yezichelo, imbiza, izinti zezibane, izinditshi lemiganu okusetshenziswa eminkelweni yokunathwaya konke okwakwenziwe ngegolide elicengekileyo laba isilwa. 20 Ithusi elalivela ensikeni ezimbili, loLwandle lenkunzi zethusi ezilitshumi lambili ezazingaphansi kwalo kanye lelezidindi ezisusekayo konke okwakwenzelwe ithempeli likaThixo yinkosi uSolomoni, kwakulesisindo esasingelanganiswe. 21 Ubude bensika ngayinye babuzingalo ezilitshumi lasificaminwembali, ubuqatha buzingalo ezilitshumi lambili, uhlonzi luyiminwe emine njalo ilomhome. 22 Isiduku sethushi phezu kwenye insika sasizingalo ezinhlanu ubude baso njalo siccawise ngomeluko lamaphomegranathi ethusi nxazonke. Enye insika, lamaphomegranathi ayo, layo yayinjalo. 23 Emaceleni kwakulamaphomegranathi angamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye munye lesithupha; esewonke amaphomegranathi ayengaphezu kobufikifiki obabuzungezile, ayelikhulu. 24 Umlawuli wabalindi wathumba uSeraya induna yabaphristi, loZefaniya umsekelo wakhe kanye labalindi bomnyango abathathu. 25 Kulabo ababelokhu besedolobheni wathatha isikhulu esasiphethe amadoda okulwa, labacebisi besikhosini abayisikhombisa. Wathatha lonobhala owayeyinduna eyayiphethe ukubuthwa kwabantu elizweni kanye labanye abantu bakhe abangamatshumi ayisithupha ababeficwe edolobheni. 26 UNebhuzaradani umlawuli wathatha bonke wabasa enkosini yaseBhabhiloni eRibhila. 27 Khonale eRibhila, elizweni laseHamathi, inkosi yathi kabaqunywe. Ngakho abakoJuda baya ekuthunjweni kude lelizwe labo. 28 Nanka amanani abantu uNebhukhadineza abasa ekuthunjweni: ngomnyaka wesikhombisa, amajuda azinkulungwane ezintathu lamatshumi amabili lantathu; 29 ngomnyaka kaNebhukhadineza wetshumi lasificaminwembali mibili, abantu beJerusalem abangamakhulu ayisificamunwemunye lamatshumi amathathu lambili; 30 ngomnyaka wakhe wamatshumi amabili lantathu, amajuda angamakhulu ayisikhombisa lamatshumi amane lanhlano asiwa ekuthunjweni nguNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi ekubusweni kwezizwe ezinengi. Bebonke kwakungabantu abazinkulungwane ezine lamakhulu ayisithupha. 31 Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amathathu lesikhombisa uJehoyakhini inkosi yakoJuda esekuthunjweni, ngomnyaka u-Evili-Merodakhi aba yinkosi yaseBhabhiloni ngawo, wakhulula uJehoyakhini inkosi yakoJuda, wamkhupha entolongweni ngosuku lwamatshumi amabili lanhlano lwenyanga yetshumi lambili. 32 Wakhuluma laye ngomusa, wamnika isihlalo esihloniphekayo

esasingaphezu kwezamanye amakhosi ayelaye eBhabhiloni. **33** Ngakho uJehoyakhini wakhupha izigqoko zakhe zasentolongweni, wadla lenkosi izikhathi zonke okwempilo yakhe yonke. **34** Nsuku zonke inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yayinika uJehoyakhini isabelo esimisiweyo malanga wonke empilweni yakhe, kwaze kwafika ilanga lokufa kwakhe.

Izililo

1 Kuthule kuthe cwaka! Yeka lelidolobho elalinyakazela abantu! Selinjengomfeloкази, kanti lalilodumo phakathi kwezizwe. Lona elaliyindlovukazi phakathi kwezigodi, khathezi seliyisigqili. **2** Linjengowesifazane okhala kabuhlungu ebusuku, inyembezi zithe hlikilili ezihlathini. Kakho phakathi kwazo zonke izithandwa zakhe ongamduduza. Bonke abangane bakhe bamhlamukele; sebeyizitha zakhe. **3** UJuda useye ebugqilini ngemva kokuhlupheka lokudonsa nzima. Usehlala phakathi kwabezizwe; akatholi ndawo yokuphumula. Bonke abamzingelayo bamxhumile ephakathi kokuhlupheka kwakhe. **4** Iyalila imigwaqo eya eZiyoni, ngoba kasekho ozayo emikhosini yalo emisiweyo. Wonke amasango alo asekhohlakele, abaphristi bala bayabubula, amantombazana alo ayagomela, lona lidabukile kakhulu. **5** Izitha zalo sezingababusi balo; ziyaklamasa. UThixo ulehlisele usizi ngenxa yezono zalo ezinengi. Abantwabalo bathunjiwe, baba yizigqili zezitha. **6** Kuphelile konke ukubenezela kweNdodakazi yaseZiyoni. Amakhosana ayo asenjengezimpala zingatholi amandlelo; zibalekile zilambile zingelamandla zibalekela umzingeli. **7** Ngezinsuku zokuhlupheka lokuntula, iJerusalem iyayikhumbula inotho eyayingeyayo ngensuku zayo. Kuthe abantu bayo sebewela ezandleni zezitha, akubanga khona ongayinceda. Zayikhangela nje izitha zayo zahleka ukuchitheka kwayo. **8** IJerusalem yonile kakhulu, ngakho isingcolile. Bonke ababeyihlonipha sebeyidelela, ngoba sebebonile ubuze bayo; yona ngokwayo ibubula ize ifulathele. **9** Ukungcola kwayo kwabhixa izidwaba zayo; kayinakanga ikusasa yayo. Ukuwa kwayo kwesabeka, kungekho oyiduduzayo. “Oh Thixo, ake ukhangele ukuhlupheka kwami, ngoba isitha sinqobile.” **10** Isitha saphanga yonke inotho yayo; yabona izizwe ezingakhulwayo zingena endlini yayo engcwele, bona labo owabanqabela ukungena phakathi kwebandla lakho. **11** Bonke abantu bayo bayagomela behamba bedinga ukudla; bathengisa inotho yalo eligugu ngokudla ukuze bangafi. “Oh Thixo, ake ungihawukele ngoba sengidelelwa.” **12** “Kakusilutho kini yini lina lonke elidlula lapha? Ake likhangele nje libone. Kambe kukhona ukuhlupheka okulingana lokwami, khona lokhu engakwehliselwayo, nguThixo ngosuku lokuvutha kolaka lwakhe? **13** Wehlisa umlilo uvela phezulu, wawehlisela phakathi kwamathambo ami. Wangithiya ezinyaweni ngomambule, wangibuyisela emuva. Wangenza ngaba lesizungu, ngaswela amandla ilanga lonke. **14** Izono zami zisongwe zaba lijogwe; ngezandla zakhe wazelukela ndawonye. Zetheswe entanyeni yami, uThixo wangiqeda amandla. Usengifuqele kulabo engingeke ngimelane labo. **15** UThixo kabemukelanga bonke abangabebutho lami; usebize impi ukuthi ingihlasele, ichoboze konke izinsizwa zami. Esihluzweni sakhe sewayini, uThixo unyathelele phansi iNdodakazi yakoJuda eGcweleyo. **16** Yikho ngilila, amehlo ami empompoza inyembezi. Kakho oseduze ongangiduduza, kakho ongavusa umphefumulo wami. Abantwabami sebeswela ngoba isitha sinqobile.” **17** IZiyoni yelulile isandla sayo kodwa kakho oyiduduzayo. UThixo usekumisile ngoJakhobe ukuthi abakhelene laye babe yizitha zakhe; iJerusalem isiphenduke yaba yinto engcolileyo kubo. **18** “UThixo ulungile, kodwa ngaphikisana lomlayo wakhe. Lalelani bantu lonke; khangelani ukuhawula kwami. Izinsizwa lezintombi zami

zonke sezaya ekuthunjweni. **19** Ngakhala kulabo engidlelana labo, kodwa banginina. Abaphristi bami labadala bami babhubhela phakathi kwedolobho besadinga ukudla, ukuze baziphilise. **20** Ake ubone, Oh Thixo, ukuthi ngihlupheka njani! Ngiyatsha ngaphakathi kwami, ngidungekile enhliziyweni yami, ngoba bengilihlongandlebe. Ngaphandle, inkemba iyadabukisa; ngaphakathi, yikufa kodwa. **21** Abantu bakuzwile ukububula kwami, kodwa kakho ongangiduduza. Zonke izitha zami zikuzwile ukuhlupheka kwami; ziyathokoza ngalokhu okwenzileyo. Sengathi ungalufikisa lolusuku owalumisayo, ukuze labo babe njengami. **22** Abuvele kuwe bonke ububi babo; yenza kubo konke okwenzileyo kimi ngenxa yezono zami zonke. Kunengi ukububula kwami, lenhliziyo yami iphela amandla.”

2 UThixo wembese iNdodakazi yeZiyoni ngeyezi lolaka lwakhe! Ubutaklazele phansi ubunkanyankanya buka-Israel yeli busuka ezulwini busiya emhlabeni; kasinakanga isenabelo sakhe mhla wentukuthelo yakhe. **2** UThixo kabanga lozwelo lapho eginya yonke imizi kaJakhobe; ngolaka lwakhe udilizele phansi izinqaba zeNdodakazi kaJuda. Usewuchithile umbuso wakhe, lababusi bawo wababhuqa phansi, baba lehlazo. **3** Ngolaka lwakhe olwesabekayo, usegumule zonke impondo zika-Israel yeli. Usegodle isandla sakhe sokunene lapho kuqhamuka isitha. Utshise koJakhobe njengelangabi elihangula konke okuseduze. **4** Useuthiye idandlali lakhe njengesitha; isandla sakhe sokunene sesiqaphile. Njengesitha usebabulele bonke ababebahle ebusweni; usethele ulaka lwakhe olungumlilo phezu kwethente leNdodakazi yeZiyoni. **5** UThixo unjengesitha; usemginyile u-Israel yeli. Useziginyile zonke izigodlo zakhe, wabhidliza zonke izinqaba zakhe. Usekwandisile ukukhala lokulilela iNdodakazi kaJuda. **6** Useyshaye wakhukhula umuzi wakhe njengensimu; usebhidlize indawo yakhe yokuhlanganela. UThixo usenze iZiyoni yakhohlwa imikhosi yayo emisiweyo lamaSabatha ayo; olakeni lwakhe olwesabekayo, ukhukhulele khatshana oyinkosi longumphristi. **7** UThixo uselikhalele i-alithari lakhe, wafulathela indlu yakhe engcwele. Usenikele imithangala yezigodlo zakhe ezandleni zezitha; seziklabalala endlini kaThixo sengathi lilanga lomkhosi omisiweyo. **8** UThixo wazimisela ukudilizela phansi umthangala ohongolozele iNdodakazi yeZiyoni. Welula intambo yesilinganiso sakhe, akaze agodla isandla sakhe esibhidlizayo. Wenza izinsika lemithangala kwilala; kanyekanye kwatshabalala. **9** Amasango akhe asejqibalekile; izinti zawo zephulwe zabhidlizwa. Inkosi yayo lamakhosana ayo achithizelwe kwabezizwe, umthetho kawusekho, labaphrofethi bakhe kabasayamukeli imibono evela kuThixo. **10** Abadala beNdodakazi yeZiyoni bahlezi emhlabathini bathule zwi; bazithale ngothuli emakhanda abo, bazembathisa amasaka. Izintombi zeJerusalem zimbozele amakhanda azo phansi. **11** Amehlo ami ayehluleka ngokukhala, ngiyatsha ngaphakathi kwami, inhliziyo yami idabukile, ngoba abantu bakithi babhujisiwe, njalo abantwana lensane ziyaqaleka emigwaqweni yomuzi. **12** Zithi kubonina, “Singaphi isinkwa lewayini?” zilokhu ziqaleka njengamadoda alimeleyo emigwaqweni yomuzi, ziphela umphefumulo ezandleni zaborina. **13** Kambe ngingathini kuwe na? Ngingakulinganisa lani, wena Ndodakazi yaseJerusalem? Kambe ngingakufanisa lani ukuze ngikududuze, wena Ndodakazi eGcweleyo yaseZiyoni? Inxeba lakho lizike njengolwandle. Ngubani ongakwelapha

na? **14** Imibono yabaphrofethi bakho yayikhoahlisa ingasizi lutho; kabasivezanga obala isono sakho ukuze ungehlelwa yikuthunjwa. Ukuvumisa abalenzela khona kwakungamanga, kulikhohlisa. **15** Bonke abedlula eceleni kwakho batshaya izandla ngawe; bahleka iNnodakazi yaseJerusalema baze banikine amakhanda besithi, “Kambe ywu yini umuzi lo owawuthiwa yibuhle obupheleleyo, ingubo lomhlaba wonke jikelele?” **16** Zonke izitha zakho zikukhamisele imilomo; ziyakuhleka zikugedlela amazinyo zisithi, “Sesimnqobile. Selize lafika ilanga esasilindlele; kade salindlela.” **17** UThixo usekwenzile ayekuhlosile; useligcwalisile ilizwi lakhe, alikhuluma kudala. Ukuwisile engakuzweli usizi, upumele isitha santela phezu kwakho, uluphakamisile uvhondo lwezitha zakho. **18** Inhliziyo zabantu ziyakhala eNkosini. Awu, mthangala weNnodakazi yaseZiyoni, kazigeleze njengomfula inyembezi zakho, ebusuku lemini; angaziphi ikhefu, lamehlo akho angawaphi ukuphuluma. **19** Phakama, nqongolozela ebusuku, lapho kuqalisa imilindo yebusuku; thulula inhliziyo yakho njengamanzi phambi kukaThixo. Phakamisela izandla zakho kuye, uncengela impilo yabantwabakho, abaqalekiswa yindlala ekuqaliseni kwemigwaqo yonke. **20** Ake ukhangele, Thixo, ube lozwele: Ngubani osewake wamphatha kanje? Abesifazane badle inzalo yabo yini, abantwana ababondlileyo na? Umphristi lomphrofethi babulawe endlini engcwele kaThixo na? **21** Abatsha labadala babhazalele ndawonye ebhuqini lwemigwaqo; izinsizwa zami lezintombi zibulewe ngenkamba. Ubabulele ngosuku lokuthukuthela kwakho; awaze waba lesihawu lapho ububalala. **22** “Njengokunxusela idili, wanginxusela izitha inxa zonke. Ngosuku lolaka lukaThixo, kakho owaphunyukayo loba owasilayo; bonke engangibanakela lengabondlayo babulewe yisitha sami.”

3 Yimi umuntu olubonileyo usizi ngenxa yoswazi lokuthukuthela kukaThixo. **2** Ungixotshile, wangiphumputhekisa emnyameni hatshi ekukhanyeni; **3** ngempela usengiphakamisele isandla sakhe, waphindaphinda ilanga lonke. **4** Usenze ijwabu lami laluphala, wangephula amathambo. **5** Ungihanqile wangihonqolozela ngosizi langobunzima. **6** Ugenze ngahlala emnyameni njengalabo abafa kudala. **7** Ungihonqolozele ngenqaba ukuze ngingaphunyuki; ungibophe nko ngamakhetane. **8** Kuthi lanxa ngimemeza loba ngidinga usizo, awuvalele phandle umkhuleko wami. **9** Uvale indlela yami ngamatshe; waphambukisa izindlela zami. **10** Njengebhele licathamile, njengesilwane sicutshile, **11** wangihudulela eceleni kwendlela, wangifohloza, wangitshiya ngingelamsizi. **12** Wadonsa idandili lakhe, ngaba yikudla kwemithshoko yakhe. **13** Wangiciba enhliziyweni ngemithshoko evela emkhakeni wakhe. **14** Ngaba yinhlekisa ebantwini bakithi bonke; sengitshona ngiyingoma eyinhlekisa kubo. **15** Ungigqibe ngenithi ebabayi, wanginathisa inyongo. **16** Ungihlafunise ukhetho ngamazinyo; wangiqiga ebhuqini. **17** Ngincitshiwe ukuthula; angisakwazi ingabe iyini impumelelo. **18** Ngakho ngithi, “Sebuphelile ubucwazicwazi bami, lakho konke engangikulindele kuThixo.” **19** Ngikhumbula ukuhlupheka lokuntula kwami, umbunyuy lenyongo. **20** Konke ngikukhumbula kamhlophe, umoya wami wephukile. **21** Kodwa ngikhumbula lokhu ngibe lethemba: **22** Ngenxa yothando olukhulu lukaThixo kasibhujiswanga, ngoba isihawu sakhe kasipheli. **23** Siba sitsha ukusa kwamalanga; kukhulu ukuthembeka kwakho. **24** Ngiyazitshela ngithi,

“UThixo uyisabelo sami; ngakho ngizalindela yena.” **25** UThixo ulungile kulowo omethembayo, kulowo omdingayo; **26** kuhle ukulinda ngokuthula, ukulindela insindiso kaThixo. **27** Kuhle ukuthi umuntu alithwale ijogwe ngesikhathi esesemutsha. **28** Kahlale yedwa ngokuthula, ngoba uThixo ulibeke phezu kwakhe. **29** Kembele ubuso bakhe ethulini, mhlawumbe ithemba lizakuba khona. **30** Kaphe isihlathi sakhe kulowo ofuna ukumhlankala, agcwele ihlazo. **31** Ngoba uThixo kabalahli abantu kuze kube nini lanini. **32** Loba engaletha ubuhlungu, uzatshengisa uzwelo, lukhulu kakhulu uthando lwakhe olungapheliyo. **33** Ngoba kehliseli ukhulupheka losizi ebantwini ngokuthanda. **34** Ukuhlifiza ngezinyawo zonke izibotshwa elizwini, **35** ukuncitsha umuntu amalungelo akhe phambi koPhezukonke, **36** ukungahluleli kuhle, kambe uThixo uyabe engaziboni izinto ezinjalo na? **37** Ngubani ongatsho ulutho lwenzakale nxa lungavunyelwanga nguThixo na? **38** Akuveli emlonxyeni woPhezukonke ukuthi kuyehla inhlupheko lezinto ezinhle na? **39** Pho kungani umuntu ophilayo esola nxa ejeziselwa izono zakhe na? **40** Kasilingeni njalo sihlole izindlela zethu, sibuyele kuThixo. **41** Asiphakamiseleni inhliziyo lezandla zethu kuNkulunkulu ezulwini sithi: **42** “Sonile sahlamuka, njalo kawusithethelelanga. **43** Uzigubuzele ngolaka waxhumana lathi; ubhubhisile ungelazwelo. **44** Uzisibekele ngeyezi ukuze kungafinyeleli mkhuleko kuwe. **45** Usenze saba ngamanyala lengcekeza phakathi kwezizwe. **46** Izitha zethu zonke zivule imilomo yazo zezwakala zisihloza. **47** Sesihlukuluzwe yikuthuthumela lokuhlukithela, ukudilika lokubhidlika.” **48** Imifula yezinyembezi iyajulukela emehlweni ami ngoba abantu bakithi babhujisiwe. **49** Amehlo ami azajulukela kokuphela, engelakuphumula, **50** UThixo aze akhangele phansi esezulwini, angibone. **51** Engikubonayo kuthelela usizi emphefumulweni wami ngenxa yibasifazane bonke bomuzi wakithi. **52** Labo ababa yizitha zami kungelasizatho, bangizingela njengenyoni. **53** Bazama ukuquma impilo yami emgodini bangijikijela ngamatshe; **54** amanzi asibekela ikhanda lami, ngabona ukuthi okwami sekuphelile. **55** Ngalimemeza labo lakho, Oh Thixo, ngisekujuleni komgodi. **56** Wezwa ukuncenga kwami: “Ungavali indlebe zakho nxa ngikhalela ukwenyulwa.” **57** Wasondala lapho ngikumemeza, wathi kimi, “Ungesabi.” **58** Oh Thixo, wasamukela isikhhalazo sami; wahlenga ukuphila kwami. **59** Ububonile Thixo, ububi obenziwe kimi. Ngisekela kulobubunzima! **60** Usubonile ukujula kokusonga kwabo, lamacebo abo wonke ngami. **61** Awu Thixo, uzwile inhlamba zabo, wonke amacebo abo ngami, **62** ukunyenyeza lokungungona kwabo ngami ukusa kwamalanga. **63** Ake ubabone! Bahlezi kumbe bajamile, bayangihleka ngezingoma zabo. **64** Awu Thixo, akubaphindisele ngokubafaneleyo, ngalokho okwenziwe yizandla zabo. **65** Basibekele ngelembu ezinhliziyweni zabo, isiqalekiso sakho shelele phezu kwabo! **66** Xhumana labo ngolaka, ubabhubhise ngaphansi kwamazulu kaThixo.

4 Yeka igolide esililahlekelwe yikukhazimula kwalo, igolide elicolekileyo selijujukile! Amatshe aligugu angcwele aselahliwe ekuqaliseni kwemigwaqo yonke. **2** Yeka izinsizwa zaseZiyoni ezincomekayo, ezake zaba lesisindo njengegolide, okwamanje sezingathi zimbiza zebumba, umsebenzi wezandla zombumbi! **3** Ngitsho lamakhanka asemunyisa abantwabawo emabeleni awo, kodwa abantu

bami kabaselazwelo njengezintshe enkangala. **4** Ngenxa yokoma, ulimi losane lunamathele elwangeneni lomlomo; abantwana bancenga becela isinkwa kodwa kakho obaphayo. **5** Labo ababesidla izibiliboco sebeyiziceli emigwaqweni. Labo abondliwa ebutifitfini sebelala esilotheni. **6** Isisjeziso sabantu bakithi sikhulu kuleseSodoma, yona eyabhujiswa ngomzuzwana, akwaze kwaba lasandla esazama ukunceda. **7** Amakhosana abo ayekhazimula kulongqawqwane, emhlophe nke kulochago, imizimba yabo ibomvana njengamatshe ohlobo lwerubhi, ukubukeka kwabo kunjengelitshe elikhazimulayo. **8** Kodwa manje sebemnyama kulomsizi; kabasananzwa langubani emigwaqweni. Isikhumba sabo sesinamathele emathanjeni abo; sesome okogodo. **9** Bangcono labo ababulawa ngenkamba, kulalabo abafa ngendlala; bazaca baphele, bekhukhuzwa yindlala ngoba kungelakudla okuvela emasimini. **10** Ngezandla zabo abesifazane abalesihelo, bapheke abantwabobo, babenza ukudla kwabo ngesikhathi abantu bakithi bebulawa. **11** UThixo ubhodlisile intukuthelo yakhe; uluthulule ulaka lwakhe olwesabekayo. Uwulumathisile umlilo eZiyoni, watshisa izisekelo zayo. **12** Amakhosi omhlaba ayengakholwa, labantu basemhlabeni babengakholwa ukuthi izitha labahlaseli bangangena emasangweni eJerusalem. **13** Kodwa kwenzakala ngenxa yezono zabaphrofethi bakhona, lamanyala abaphristi bakhona, abachitha igazi labalungileyo ngaphakathi kwalo iJerusalem. **14** Manje sebephumputha emigwaqweni njengabantu abayiziphofu. Sebengcoliswe ligazi kakuselamuntu ongathinta izembatho zabo. **15** Abantu bayabaxotsha bathi, “Sukani! Lingcolile! Sukani! Sukani! Lingasithinti!” Nxa bebaleka bentula, abantu bezizwe bathi, “Ngeke bahlale lapha njalo.” **16** UThixo ngokwakhe ubahlakazile; kasabalondolozile. Abaphristi kabasahlonitshwa, labadala kabasananzwa. **17** Phezu kwalokho, amehlo ethu afiphala elindele ize engaboni sizo; siseziqongweni zethu zokulinda, salinda silindele isizwe esasingelancedo kithi. **18** Abantu babesicwathela indawo zonke, ngakho sasesisesaba ukuhamba emigwaqweni yethu. Sasesiphelelwe, insuku zethu sezibaliwe, ngoba isiphetho sethu sesifikile. **19** Abasixotshayo babelejubane kulengqungqulu emkhathini; baxotshana lathi ezintabeni njalo basicathamela enkangala. **20** Ogcotshiweyo kaThixo, oyikuphila kwethu uqobo, wabanjwa emijibileni yabo. Sakhumbula ukuthi ngaphansi kwesithunzi sakhe sizahlala phakathi kwezizwe. **21** Jabula uthokoze, wena Ndodakazi yase-Edomi, wena ohlala elizweni lase-Uzi. Kodwa lakuwe izafika inkezo le; uzanatha udakwe, unqunulwe. **22** Ndodakazi yaseZiyoni, isijejiso sakho sizaphela; akayikwelula isikhathi sokuthunjwa kwakho. Kodwa, maye kuwe Ndodakazi yase-Edomi, uzakujezisa ngesono sakho, achaye obala ububi bakho.

5 Oh Thixo, khumbula okusehleleyo khangela ubone ukuyangeka kwethu. **2** Ilifa lethu seliphiwe abezizweni, imizi yethu yathathwa ngabemzini. **3** Sesizintandane ezingelaboyise, omama sebenjengabafelokazi. **4** Amanzi okunatha siyawathenga; inkuni zethu zikhutshelwa imali. **5** Labo abasixotshayo basihlezi ezithende; sikhathele asilakuphumula. **6** Sazinikela kwabeGibhithe labe-Asiriya ukuze sizuze isinkwa. **7** Okhokho benza isono kodwa kabasekho, thina yithi esesijejiswa. **8** Sibuswa yizigqili, kakho osikhululayo ezandleni zazo. **9** Isinkwa sisithola ngendlela eyingozi ngenxa yenkamba ekhona enkangala. **10** Isikhumba sethu sitshisa njengeziko, silomkhuhlane wendlala.

11 Abesifazane bayahlukuluzwa eZiyoni kanye lezintombi ezizigweleyo emadolobheni akoJuda. **12** Amakhosi alengisiwe ngezandla zawo; abadala abasahlonitshwa. **13** Izinsizwa ziyahqiswa ematsheni okuchola; abafana babhensiswa yimithwalo yenkuni. **14** Abadala sebesukile esangweni lomuzi; izinsizwa sezithule ukuhlabelela. **15** Ukuthokoza akusekho ezinhliziyweni zethu; ukugida kwethu sekuphenduke ukukhala. **16** Umqhele usuwile ekhanda lethu. Maye thina, ngoba sonile! **17** Ngenxa yalokhu inhliziyi zethu zibuthakathaka; ngenxa yalezizinto amehlo ethu ayafiphala, **18** ngoba intaba iZiyoni silugwadule, sekucathama amakhanka kuyo. **19** Wena, Oh Thixo, busa nini lanini; ubukhosi bakho buhlezi kuzozonke izizukulwane. **20** Kungani uhlezi usikhohlwa? Usifulathelelani isikhathi eside kangaka na? **21** Sibuyisele kuwe, Oh Thixo, ukuze siphenduke; buyisa kabutsha insuku zethu njengezakudala, **22** ngaphandle kokuba nxa ususilahle kokuphela wasizondela ngokungalinganisekiyo.

UHezekheli

1 Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amathathu, ngenyanga yesine ngosuku lwesihlanu, lapho ngangiphakathi kwabathunjwayo, eduze komfula uKhebhari, amazulu avuleka ngabona umbono kaNkulunkulu. **2** Ngosuku lwesihlanu lwenyanga ngomnyaka wesihlanu wokuthunjwa kwenkosi uJehoyakhini **3** ilizwi likaThixo lafika kuHezekhiyeli umphristi, indodana kaBhuzi, phansi komfula uKhebhari elizweni lamaBhabhiloni. Khonapho isandla sikaThixo sasiphezu kwakhe. **4** Ngakhangela, ngabona isiphopho sisiza sivele enyakatho, kuliyazi elikhulukazi lokuphazima kombane njalo lizungezwe yikukhanya okubenyazelayo. Phakathi laphakathi komlilo kwakungathi yinsimbi evuthayo, **5** njalo phakathi komlilo kwakulokwungathi yizidalwa ezine eziphilayo. Ngokukhangeleka isimo sazo sazingesomuntu, **6** kodwa ngasinye sazo sasilobuso obune lempiko ezine. **7** Imilenze yazo yayiqondile; inyawo zazo zinjengezethole njalo zinkanyazela njengethusi lilolongiweyo. **8** Ngaphansi kwempiko zazo emaceleni azo amane zazilezandla zomuntu. Zonke zozine zazilobuso lempiko, **9** njalo impiko zazo zazithintana. Esinye lesinye sazo saya phambili; kaziphendukanga ekuhambeni kwazo. **10** Ubuso bazo babukhangeleka kanje: Esinye lesinye sazo sasilobuso bomuntu, njalo eceleni langakwesokudla esinye lesinye sasilobuso besilwane, ngakwesenze silobuso benkabi; njalo ngasinye sasilobuso bengqungulu. **11** Babunjalo ubuso bazo. Impiko zazo zazichayekele phezulu; ngasinye silamaphiko amabili olunye luthinta uphiko lwesinye isidalwa emaceleni womabili, lempiko ezimbili zigubuzele umzimba waso. **12** Esinye lesinye sazo phambili. Loba kungaphi lapho umoya owaya khona lazo zaya khona zingaphenduki ekuhambeni kwazo. **13** Isimo sezidalwa eziphilayo sasinjengamalahlle avuthayo omlilo loba njengezibane. Umlilo wahamba usiya phambili lasemuva phakathi kwezidalwa; wawukhazimula, njalo umbane uphazima uphuma kuwo. **14** Izidalwa zagijima zisiya emuva laphambili njengokuphazima kombane. **15** Kwathi lapho ngizikhangele izidalwa eziphilayo, ngabona ivili phansi eceleni kwesidalwa ngasinye silobuso obune. **16** Nansi isimo lokwakhiwa kwamavili: Ayecazimula njengekhrisoli, njalo wonke womane ayefanana. Elinye lelinye lalingathi lenziwa lanquma kwelinye ivili. **17** Ekuhambeni, ayesiya loba kuliphi lamacele amane lapho izidalwa ezazikhangele khona, njalo amavili ayengaphenduki lapho izidalwa zihamba. **18** Amarimu awo ayephakeme njalo esesabeka, njalo womane amarimu ayelamehlo indawo yonke. **19** Lapho izidalwa eziphilayo zihamba, lamavili eceleni kwazo ayehamba, njalo lapho izidalwa eziphilayo ziphakama emhlabathini amavili lawo ayephakama lazo. **20** Loba kungaphi lapho umoya owaya khona lazo zaya khona, njalo lamavili ayephakama lazo, ngoba umoya wezidalwa eziphilayo wawusemavilini. **21** Kwakusithi izidalwa zingahamba lawo ahambe, kuthi izidalwa zingema lawo ame; njalo kuthi lapho izidalwa ziphakama emhlabathini lawo aphaakama lazo, ngoba umoya wezidalwa eziphilayo wawusemavilini. **22** Ngaphezu kwamakhanda ezidalwa eziphilayo kwakwendlaleke okwakungathi ngumkxathi, kucazimula njengongqwaqwane, njalo kusesabeka. **23** Ngaphansi komkxathi impiko zazo zazelulekile olunye kolunye, njalo esinye lesinye sasilezimpiko ezimbili ezembese

umzimba waso. **24** Lapho izidalwa zihamba ngezwa umsindo wezimpiko zazo, unjengokuhlokoma kwamanzi ahamba ngesiqubu, njengelizwi likaSomandla, njengokuxokozela kwebutho. Lapho sezimi, zehlisa impiko zazo. **25** Emva kwalokho kweza ilizwi elavela ngaphezu komkxathi ngaphezu kwamakhanda azo lapho zazimi impiko zazo zehlisiwe. **26** Ngaphezu komkxathi phezu kwamakhanda azo kwakulokwawungathi yisihlalo sobukhosi esenziwe ngesafire, njalo ngaphezulu esihlalweni sobukhosi kwakulolutho olwalufana lomuntu. **27** Lokho ngakubona kokwakungathi lukhalo lwakhe kusiya phezulu ekhanya angathi yinsimbi evuthayo, kungathi kugcwele umlilo, njalo kusukela ekhalweni kusehla wayengathi ngumlilo, njalo ehonqolozelwe yikukhanya okucazimulayo. **28** Ukukhanya okucazimulayo okwakumzungezile kwakunjengomchilo wamakhosikazi emayezini ngosuku lokuna kwezulu. Lokhu kwakuyisimo sesifanekiso senkazimulo kaThixo. Ngathi ngikubona ngawela phansi ngobuso, ngasengisizwa ilizwi lawo owayekhuluma.

2 Wathi kimi, “Ndodana yomuntu, sukuma ume ngezinyawo zakho ngikhulume lawe.” **2** Esakhuluma uMoya wafika kimi wangimisa ngezinyawo zami, ngamuzwa esekhuluma lami. **3** Wathi, “Ndodana yomuntu, ngiyakuthuma kuma-Israyeli, isizwe esihlamukayo esangihlamukelayo, laboyise bangihlamukela kuze kube yilolusuku. **4** Abantu engikuthuma kubo balenkani njalo bayiziqholo. Wothi kubo, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi.’ **5** Njalo langabe bayalalela loba bangalaleli ngoba bayindlu ehlamukayo, bazakwazi ukuthi umphrofethi ubekhona phakathi kwabo. **6** Njalo wena ndodana yomuntu, ungabesabi kumbe wesabe amazwi abo. Ungesabi lanxa usuhonqolozelwe ngameva njalo usuhlala phakathi kwabofezeya. Ungakwesabi lokho abakutshoyo loba ukuhuthunyeliswe yibo, lanxa beyindlu ehlamukayo. **7** Kumele ukhulume amazwi ami kubo langabe bayalalela loba kabalaleli, ngoba bangabahlamuki. **8** Kodwa wena, ndodana yomuntu, lalela lokhu engikutshoyo kuwe. Ungahlamuki njengendlu leyana ehlamukayo; vula umlomo wakho udle lokhu engikupha khona.” **9** Ngakhangela ngabona isandla esaselulelwe kimi. Phakathi kwaso kwakulomqulu, **10** awutshombulula phambi kwami. Emaceleni awo womabili kwakubhalwe amazwi okukhala lokulila kanye losizi.

3 Wasesithi kimi, “Ndodana yomuntu, dlana okuphambi kwakho, dlana umqulu lo; ube ususiyakhuluma kuyo indlu ka-Israyeli.” **2** Ngakho ngavula umlomo wami, wasengipha umqulu ukuba ngiwudle. **3** Wasesithi kimi, “Ndodana yomuntu, dlana umqulu lo engikumka wona ugcwalise isisu sakho ngawo.” Ngakho ngawudla, njalo emlonyeni wami wawuzwakala umnandi njengoluju. **4** Wasesithi kimi, “Ndodana yomuntu, hamba khathezi nje endlini ka-Israyeli ukhulume amazwi ami kubo. **5** Kawuthunyuwa ebantwini abalolimi olungaziwayo lolunzima, kodwa endlini ka-Israyeli, **6** hatshi ebantwini abanengi abolimi olungaziwayo lolunzima, ongeke uzwe abakutshoyo. Ngeqiniso aluba kade ngikuthume kubo kade bezakulalela. **7** Kodwa indlu ka-Israyeli kayifuni ukukulalela ngoba kabafuni kungilalela, ngoba yonke indlu ka-Israyeli ilukhuni njalo ilenkani. **8** Kodwa lawe ngizakwenza ube lenkani lobulukhuni njengabo. **9** Ngizakwenza ubuso bakho bube njengelitshe elilukhuni kulawo wonke, elilukhuni kulelitshe lomlilo. Ungabesabi kumbe bakuthuthumelise, lanxa beyindlu ehlamukayo.” **10** Njalo wathi kimi, “Ndodana

yomuntu, lalela kakuhle njalo uwabeke enhliziyweni wonke amazwi engiwatsho kuwe. **11** Hamba khathesi nje ebantwini belizwe lakini abasekuthunjweni ukhulume labo. Uthi kubo, 'Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi,' loba bezalalela kumbe bangalaleli." **12** Lapho-ke uMoya wangiphakamisa, kwathi ngemva kwami ngezwa umdumo ondindizelayo sengathi yinkazimulo kaThixo eyaphakama endaweni eyayime kuyo! **13** Umdumo wezimpiko zezidalwa eziphilayo zigudlana lomdumo wamavili eceleni kwazo, umdumo wokundindizela okukhulu. **14** UMoya wasungiphakamisela phezu lungezisa, njalo ngahamba ngomoya otshisekayo lokuthukuthela komoya wami lesandla esilamandla sikaThixo siphezu kwami. **15** Ngafika kwababethunjiwe ababehlala eTheli Abhibhi phansi koMfula uKhebhari. Khonapho-ke, lapho ababehlala khona, ngahlala labo insuku eziyisikhombisa ngiphelelwe ngamandla. **16** Ekupheleni kwensuku eziyisikhombisa ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi, **17** "Ndodana yomuntu, sengikwenze umlindi wendlu ka-Israyeli; ngakho zwana ilizwi engilikhulumayo ubanike isixwayiso esivela kimi. **18** Nxa ngisithi emuntwini omubi, 'Wena uzakufa impela,' wena ungamxwayisi kumbe ukhulume ukuba umyekelise izindlela zakhe ezimbi ukuze asindise ukuphila kwakhe, lowomuntu omubi uzafela izono zakhe, kuthi wena ngikubeke icala legazi lakhe. **19** Kodwa nxa umuntu omubi umxwayisa yena angaphenduki ebubini bakhe kumbe ezindleleni zakhe ezimbi, uzafela izono zakhe, kodwa wena uyabe uziphaphisile. **20** Njalo nxa umuntu olungileyo eguquka ekulungeni kwakhe enze okubi, mina ngibeke isikhubekiso phambi kwakhe, uzakufa. Njengoba nxa wena ungamxwayisanga, uzafela izono zakhe. Izinto ezilungileyo azenzayo kaziyikukhunjulwa, njalo wena ngizakubeka icala legazi lakhe. **21** Kodwa nxa uxwayisa umuntu olungileyo ukuba angoni lakanye uyabe uziphaphisile." **22** Isandla sikaThixo sasiphezu kwami lapho, njalo wathi kimi, "Sukuma uye egcekeni ngizakhuluma lawe khona." **23** Ngakho ngasukuma ngaya egcekeni. Inkazimulo kaThixo yayimi lapho, injengenkazimulo engangiyibone phansi koMfula uKhebhari, ngathi mbo phansi ngobuso. **24** Lapho-ke uMoya wangena kimi wangimisa ngezinyawo zami. Wakhuluma wathi kimi, "Hamba uyezivalela endlini yakho. **25** Njalo, wena ndodana yomuntu, bazakubopha ngemichilo; uzabotshwa ukuze ungayi phandle ebantwini. **26** Ngizakwenza ulimi lwakho lunamathele elwangeneni lomlomo wakho ukuze uthule unganelisi ukubakhuza lanxa beyindlu ehlamukayo. **27** Kodwa nxa sengikhuluma lawe ngizavula umlomo wakho, njalo uzakuthi kubo, 'Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi.' Loba ngubani ozalalela myekele alalele, njalo loba ngubani ozakwala myekele ale; ngoba bayindlu ehlamukayo."

4 "Khathezi-ke, ndodana yomuntu, thatha umcephe webumba uwabeke phambi kwakho, udwebe kuwo idolobho laseJerusalema. **2** Dweba ukujinjezelwa kwalo: Misa izindawo zokujinjezelwa kwalo, yakha umthezuko ngaphezu kwalo, misa inkamba zokulihlasela uphinde ulihonqolozele ngezindobo zokubhidliza. **3** Emva kwalokho thatha umganu wensimbi, uwubeke unjengomduli wensimbi phakathi kwakho lomuzi ube usuphendulela ubuso bakho kuwo. Wena ukhangele ngakuwo umuzi, umuzi ube ngovinjazelweyo, wena ube ngumvimbezeli. Lokhu kuzakuba yisibonakaliso endlini ka-Israyeli. **4** Emva kwalokho lala ngomhlubulo wenxele, ubeke isono sendlu ka-Israyeli phezu

kwakho. Kumele uthwale isono sabo okwalezonsuku ulele ngomhlubulo wakho. **5** Sengikumisele inani linye lezinsuku njengeminyaka yezono zabo. Ngakho izono zendlu ka-Israyeli uzazithwala okwensuku ezingamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye. **6** Emva kokuba usuqede lokhu, lala phansi futhi, khathesi kube ngomhlubulo wakho wokunene, uthwale isono sendlu ka-Israyeli. Ngikumisele insuku ezingamatshumi amane, usuku olulodwa lumele umnyaka munye ngamunye. **7** Phendulela ubuso bakho ekujinjezelweni kweJerusalema kuthi izingalo zakho zingembeswanga uphrofithi kubi ngeJerusalema. **8** Ngizakubopha ngentambo ukuze ungatshibuliki usuka kwelinye icele usiya kwelinye uze uqede insuku zokujinjezelwa kwakho. **9** Thatha ingqoloyi lebhali, indumba lelentili, inyawuthi lophoko; ukubeke embizeni yokugcinela ukusebenzise ekwenzeni ukudla kwakho. Kumele ukudle phakathi kwensuku ezingamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye ulele ngomhlubulo wakho. **10** Linganisa amashekele angamatshumi amabili okudla ozakudla usuku ngalunye njalo ukudle ngezikhathi ezimisiweyo. **11** Njalo linganisa okukodwa kwesithupha kwehini lamanzi uwanathe ngezikhathi ezimisiweyo. **12** Dlana ukudla njengalapho usidla ikhekhe lebhali, ukupheke abantu bekhangele, inkuni zakho kube ngamalongwe abantu." **13** UThixo wathi, "Ngokunjalo abantu bako-Israyeli bazakudla ukudla okungcolileyo phakathi kwezizwe engizabaxotshela kuzo." **14** Lapho-ke mina ngathi, "Akunjalo, Thixo Wobukhosi. Angikaze ngizingcolise. Kusukela ebutsheeni bami kuze kube khathesi angikaze ngidle loba yini etholakale ifile kumbe edlithizwe yizinyamazana. Akulanyama engcolileyo eseyake yangena emlonyeni wami." **15** Wasesithi, "Kulungile. Ngizakuvumela ukuba upheke isinkwa sakho ngamalongwe enkomo esikhundleni samalongwe abantu." **16** Waphinda wathi kimi, "Ndodana yomuntu, ngizavala ukungeniswa kokudla eJerusalema. Abantu bazakudla ukudla kokwabelwa benqineka, banathe lamanzi okwabelwa bengelathemba, **17** ngoba ukudla lamanzi kuzakuba yingcosana. Bazakwethuka lapho bebonana, njalo bazacikizeka ngenxa yezono zabo."

5 "Khathezi, ndodana yomuntu, thatha inkemba ebukhali uyisebenzise njengempuco yomgeli ekuphuceni ikhanda lakho kanye lezindevu zakho. Emva kwalokho thatha izilinganiso wehlukane inwele. **2** Lapho insuku zokujinjezelwa kwenu seziphelile, tshisa ingxenyi yesithathu yezinwele ngomlilo phakathi kwedolobho. Thatha ingxenyi yesithathu uyigwaze ngenkemba ubhoda lonke idolobho, uhlakazele ingxenyi yesithathu emoyeni. Ngoba ngizabalandela ngiphethe inkemba ekhokhiweyo. **3** Kodwa thatha inwele ezilutshwane uzithungele emiphethweni yesebatho sakho. **4** Thatha njalo emilutshwana yayo uyiphosele emlilweni uyitshise. Umlilo uzamemetheka usuka lapho uye kuyo yonke indlu ka-Israyeli. **5** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi ukuthi: Le yiJerusalema engiyimise phakathi kwezizwe, kulamazwe kuwo wonke amacele ayo. **6** Kodwa ngenxa yobubi bayo isihlamukele imithetho yami lezimiso zami okudlula izizwe lamazwe ayihanqileyo. Iyalile imithetho yami kayaze yalandela izimiso zami. **7** Ngakho-ke nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi ukuthi: Ube ngoxhwele okudlula izizwe ezikuhanqileyo njalo kawulandelanga izimiso zami kumbe ugcine imithetho yami. Futhi kalilaleli lezimiso zezizwe ezilihanqileyo. **8** Ngakho-ke

nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi ukuthi: Mina ngokwami ngimelane lawe, wena Jerusalem, njalo ngizabeka isijeziso phezu kwakho izizwe zikhangele. **9** Ngenxa yezithombe zakho zonke ezinengekayo, kuwe ngizakwenza engingakaze ngikwenze ngaphambili njalo engingayikukwenza futhi. **10** Ngakho phakathi kwenu oyise bazakudla abantwana babo, labantwana bazakudla oyise. Ngizabeka isijeziso phezu kwakho kuthi bonke abasindileyo bakho ngibahlakaze emoyeni. **11** Ngakho ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngikhona, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, ngoba ungcolise indlu yami engcwele ngezifanekiso zakho zonke ezingamanyala langozenzo nako ezenyanyekayo, mina ngokwami ngizasusa umusa wami; angiyikuba lesihawu kuwe loba ngiyekele ukukubhubhisa. **12** Ingxenyane yesithathu yabantu bakho izabulawa yisifo loba ibhujiswe yindlala phakathi kwakho; ingxenyane yesithathu izakufa ngenkamba ngaphandle kwemiduli yakho; ingxenyane yesithathu ngizayihlakazela emoyeni ngiphinde ngiyilandeke ngiphethe inkemba. **13** Lapho-ke ukuthukuthela kwami kuzaphela, lolaka lwami kubo luzadeda, njalo ngizabe sengiphindisele. Njalo lapho ulaka lwami sengilugedele kubo, bazakwazi ukuthi mina Thixo ngikhulume ngokutshiseka kwami. **14** Ngizakwenza ube lunxiwa lehlazo phakathi kwezizwe ezikuhlanqileyo, emehlweni abo bonke abadlula khona. **15** Uzakuba lihloko lenhleka, isixwayiso lento eyesabekayo ezizweni ezikuhlanqileyo lapho sengibeka isijeziso phezu kwakho ngentukuthelo langolaka, ngikhuza kabuhlungu. Mina Thixo sengikhulumile. **16** Lapho ngikutshoka ngemits'hoko yami ebhubhisayo, langemits'hoko echithayo yendlala, ngizatshoka ukuba ngikutshabalalise. Ngizakwandisele indlala ngivale ukulethwa kokudla kwakho. **17** Ngizakulethela indlala lezinnyamazana zeganga ukuba kukuhlasele, kuzakutshiya ungaselamntwana. Isifo lokuchithwa kwegazi kuzadabula phakathi kwakho, njalo ngizaletha inkemba ukuba ikuhlasele. Mina Thixo sengikhulumile.”

6 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, khangelisa ubuso bakho ezintabeni zako-Israyeli; phrofetha ngazo uzisola **3** uthi, Lina zintaba zako-Israyeli, zwanini ilizwi likaThixo Wobukhosi. Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi ezintabeni lasemaqaneni, ezingoxweni lasezigodini ukuthi: Sekuseduze ukuthi ngililethele inkemba yokulihlasele, njalo ngizadiliza izindawo zenu eziphakemayo.” **4** Ama-alithare enu azibhidliza kuthi lama-alithare enu empepha aphahlazwe; njalo abantu benu ngizababulalela phambi kwezithombe zenu. **5** Izidumbu zabako-Israyeli ngizazibeka phambi kwezithombe zabo, njalo amathambo enu ngizawahlakaza emaceleni ama-alithare enu. **6** Loba kungaphi elihlala khona amadolobho akhona azadilizwa lezindawo eziphakemayo zidilizwe, ukuze ama-alithare enu achithwe abhuqwe, kuthi izithombe zenu ziphahlazwe ziqothulwe, ama-alithare enu empepha adilizwe, kuthi elikwenzileyo kutshabalalitse. **7** Abantu benu bazabulawa phakathi kwenu, njalo lizakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo. **8** “Kodwa abanye ngizabaphepha, ngoba abanye benu bazaphunyuka enkembeni lapho selihlakazele emazweni lasezizweni. **9** Lapho-ke, ezizweni abathunjelwa kuzo, labo abaphunyukayo bazangikhumbula ukuthi ngadabuka njani ngenxa yezinhlizyo zabo ezilobufefe, esezasukayo kimi, langamehlo abo akhanuka izithombe zabo. Bazazenyanya bona ngokwabo ngenxa yobubi ababenzileyo

langenxa yezenzo zonke ezenyanyekayo.” **10** Njalo bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo. Kangisongelanga ize lapho ngathi ngizabehlisela umonakalo lo. **11** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi ukuthi: “Tshaya izandla zakho unyathele inyawo zakho ukhale uthi Maye! Ngenxa yobubi bonke lezenzo ezenyanyekayo zendlu ka-Israyeli, bonke bazakufa ngenkamba, langendlala kanye langesifo.” **12** Lowo okhatshana uzakufa ngesifo, kuthi lowo oseduze afe ngenkamba, lalowo osindileyo waphepha uzabulawa yindlala. Ngizalugeda kanjalo ulaka lwami phezu kwabo. **13** Njalo bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo, lapho abantu babo sebelele bifele phakathi kwezithombe zabo emaceleni wonke ama-alithare abo, phezu kwamaqaqa wonke aphakemayo kanye lasezingqongweni zonke zezintaba, ngaphansi kwezihlahla zonke eziluhlaza lem'okhi yonke elamahlamvu amanengi, izindawo abanikelela kuzo impepha elephunga elimnandi kuzozonke izithombe zabo. **14** “Njalo ngizakwelulela isandla sami kubo ngenze ilizwe libe lugwadule olungelutho kusukela enkangala kusiya eDibila lapho abahlala khona. Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo.”

7 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi elizweni lako-Israyeli: ‘Isiphetho! Isiphetho sesifikile emagumbini amane elizwe. **3** Isiphetho sesifikile kini njalo ngizakwehlisela ulaka lwami phezu kwenu. Ngizalahlulela ngokumayelana lezenzo zenu ngiliphe imivuzo kukho konke ukwenza kwenu okunengekayo. **4** Kangiyikulikhangela ngesihawu loba ngiliyekele, ngeqiniso ngizalunika umvuzo wezenzo zenu kanye lowokwenza kwenu okunengekayo phakathi kwenu. Lapho-ke lizakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo.’ **5** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi ukuthi: ‘Umonakalo! Umonakalo ongakaze ubonakale! Khangelana, uyeza. **6** Isiphetho sesifikile! Isiphetho sesifikile! Sizivusele ukumelana lani. Bona, sesifikile! **7** Incithakalo isifikile kini, kini lina elihlala elizweni. Isikhathi sesifikile, ilanga selisondele; kulokuphamazela, hatshi intokozo, phezu kwezintaba. **8** Sekuseduze ukuba ngithululele ulaka lwami phezu kwenu ngiqedele ukuthukuthela kwami kini. Ngizalahlulela ngokumayelana lezenzo zenu ngiliphe imivuzo kukho konke ukwenza kwenu okunengekayo. **9** Kangiyikulikhangela ngesihawu, kangiyikuliyekela, ngizalunika umvuzo ngokumayelana lezenzo zenu kanye lokwenza okunengekayo phakathi kwenu. Lapho-ke lizakwazi ukuthi yimi mina Thixo otshayayo. **10** Usuku selukhona! Bona, selufikile! Incithakalo isipatshakile, induku isihlumile, ukuziphakamisa sekuqhakazile. **11** Udlakela selukhule lwaba yinduku yokujezisa ububi; kakho ebantwini ozatshiywa; kakho kuleliya xuku, akula notho, akulalutho olulugagu. **12** Isikhathi sesifikile, usuku selufikile. Umthengi kangathokozi kumbe umthengisi abe lusizi, ngoba ulaka luphezu kwexuku lonke. **13** Umthengisi kayikuyifumana impahla eyathengiswayo, nxa owathengisayo lowathengayo besaphila, ngoba umbono ngexuku lonke kawuyikuhlehliselwa emuva. Ngenxa yezono zabo kakho lamunye wabo ozalondoloza ukuphila kwakhe. **14** Loba bekhalisa icilongo benze izinto zonke zilunge, kakho ozakuya empini, ngoba ulaka lwami luphezu kwexuku lonke. **15** Ngaphandle kulempi, ngaphakathi kulesifo lendlala, labo abasemaphandleni bazabulawa ngenkamba, njalo labo abaphakathi kwadolobho bazaqothulwa yindlala lesifo. **16** Bonke abaphunyukayo babaleke bazakuba sezintabeni,

bebulula njengamajuba asezigodini, yilowo lalowo ngenxa yezono zakhe. **17** Izandla zonke zizaxega, lamadolo wonke abe buthakathaka njengamanzi. **18** Bazagqoka amasaka babe lokwesaba. Ubuso babo buzakuba lehlazo lamakhanda abo aphucwe. **19** Bazalahlela isiliva sabo emigwaqweni, legolide labo luzakuba njengento engcolileyo. Isiliva sabo legolide labo akuyikhulisa ukubakhulula ngosuku lolaka lukaThixo. Bangeke baqede ukulamba kwabo kumbe bagcwalise izisu zabo, ngoba sekubenze bakhubeka esonweni. **20** Babeziqhenya ngezicciso zabo ezinhle abazibenzisa ekwenzeni izithombe zabo ezinengekayo. Benza lemfanekiso yabo enyaneyekayo, ngakho ngizakwenza kube yinto engcolileyo kubo. **21** Ngizanika inotho yabo njengempango kwabezizwe lakwababi basemhlabeni njengezinto ezithunjweyo, njalo bazakungcolisa. **22** Ngizasusa ubuso bami kubo, njalo bazangcolisa indawo yami eligugu; abaphangi bazangena, bayingcolise. **23** Lungisani amatetane ngoba ilizwe ligcwele ukuchitheka kwegazi ledolobho ligcwele udlakela. **24** Ngizaletsa izizwe ezimbi kakhulu ukuthi zithathe izindlu zabo. Ngizaqeda ukuzigqaja kwabalamandla lezindawo zabo ezingcwele zizangcoliswa. **25** Lapho ukwesaba kufika, bazafuna ukuthula. **26** Kuzafika umonakalo phezu komonakalo, lamahungahunga phezu kwamahungahunga. Bazadinga umbono kumphrofethi, ukufundiswa komthetho ngumphristi akusoze kube khona lokweluleka kwabadala kuzaphela. **27** Inkosi izalila, inkosana izaphelelwa lithemba, lezandla zabantu belizwe zizaqhaqhazela. Kubo ngizakwenza okumayelana lezenzo zabo. Ngizabahlulela ngemithetho yabo. Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo.”

8 Ngomnyaka wesithupha, ngenyanga yesithupha ngosuku lwesihlanu, lapho ngangihlezi endlini yami labadala bakoJuda behlezi phambi kwami, isandla sikaThixo Wobukhosi sehlela phezu kwami khonapho. **2** Ngakhangele, ngabona ulutho olwalulesimo somuntu. Kusukela kokwakungathi lukhalo lwakhe kusiya phansi wayenjengomlilo, njalo kusukela lapho kusiya phezulu ukubonakala kwakhe kwakhazimula njengensimbi evuthayo. **3** Welula okwakukhanya angathi yisandla wangibamba ngenwele zekhanda lami. UMoya wangiphakamisela phezulu phakathi komhlaba lezulu, kwathi ngemibono kaNkulunkulu wangisa eJerusalem, ekungeneni kwesango langasenyakatho yeguma langaphakathi, lapho okwakumi khona isithombe esibangela ubukhwele. **4** Njalo khonapho phambili kwami kwakulenzimulo kaNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, njengasembonweni engawubona egcekeni. **5** Wasesithi kimi, “Ndodana yomuntu, khangela ngasenyakatho.” Ngakho ngakhangele, kwathi entubeni esenyakatho kwesango le-alithari ngabona lesisithombe sobukhwele. **6** Wasesithi kimi, “Ndodana yomuntu, uyakubona yini abakwenzayo, izinto ezenyanyekayo kakhulu indlu ka-Israyeli ezenzayo lapha, izinto ezizangixotshela khatshana lendawo yami engcwele? Kodwa wena uzabona izinto ezenyanyekayo kakhulukazi kulalezi.” **7** Emva kwalokho wangisa entubeni yeguma. Ngakhangele, ngabona imbobo emdulini. **8** Wasesithi kimi, “Ndodana yomuntu, khathesi gubha umduli.” Ngakho ngawugubha umduli ngasengibona umnyango khona. **9** Wasesithi kimi, “Ngena ubone izinto ezimbi lezenyanyekayo abazenzayo lapha.” **10** Ngakho ngangena phakathi ngakhangele, ngabona indawo yonke emdulini kufanekiswe inhlobo zezinto zonke ezihquzelayo lezinyamazana ezenyanyekayo

kanye lezithombe zonke zasendlini ka-Israyeli. **11** Phambi kwazo kwakumi abadala bendlu ka-Israyeli abangamatshumi ayisikhombisa, loJazaniya indodana kaShafani emi phakathi kwabo. Omunye lomunye wayephethe udengezi lokutshisela impepha ngesandla, luthunqa intuthu elephunga elimnandi elempepha. **12** Wathi kimi, “Ndodana yomuntu, ukubonile yini okwenzwa ngabadala bendlu ka-Israyeli emnyameni, omunye lomunye esendaweni yokukhonzela isithombe sakhe? Bathi, ‘UThixo kasiboni; uThixo uselilahlele ilizwe.’” **13** Wabuye wathi, “Uzababona besenza izinto ezenyanyeka okudlula lokho.” **14** Emva kwalokho wangisa ekungeneni kwesango lasenyakatho kwendlu kaThixo, ngabona abesifazane behlezi khona belilela uThamuzi. **15** Wasesithi kimi, “Uyakubona lokhu na, ndodana yomuntu? Uzabona izinto ezenyanyeka kakhulu kulalokhu.” **16** Wasengisa egumeni lendlu kaThixo elingaphakathi, njalo khonapho ekungeneni kwethempeli, phakathi komkhandlu le-alithari, kwakulamadoda ayengaba ngamatshumi amabili lanhlano. Ayekhothamele phansi elangeni empumalanga, efulathele ithempeli likaThixo. Ubuso bawo bukhangele empumalanga. **17** Wathi kimi, “Sewake wakubona lokhu na ndodana yomuntu? Kuyinto encane na ukuthi indlu kaJuda yenze izinto ezenyanyekayo abazenza lapha? Kumele ilizwe baligcwalise futhi ngodlakela, njalo bangithukuthelise kokuphela na? Bakhangele bebeko ugatsha empumalweni yabo! **18** Ngakho ngizabaphatha ngentukuthelo; angiyikuba lesihawu kubo ngibayekele. Lanxa sebeklabalalela ezindlebeni zami, kangiyikubalalela.”

9 Lapho-ke ngamuzwa ememeza ngelizwi elikhulu esithi, “Letha abalindi bedolobho lapha, omunye lomunye elesikhali esandleni sakhe.” **2** Ngasengibona amadoda ayisithupha evela malungana lesango langaphezulu, elikhangele enyakatho, ngamunye ephethe izikhali ezibulalayo ezandleni zakhe. Ayelonye indoda eyayigqoke ilineni eyayilezinto zokubhala emhlabulweni wayo. Angena ema phansi kwe-alithari lethusi. **3** Khathesi inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli yaya phezulu isuka ngaphezu kwamakherubhi, lapho eyayikade ikhona, yasudukela emnyango wethempeli. Lapho-ke uThixo wabiza indoda eyayigqoke ilineni ilezinto zokubhala emhlabulweni wayo **4** wathi kuyo, “Yana ezindaweni zonke zedolobho laseJerusalem ubeke uphawu emabunzini alabo ababubulayo bekhala ngenxa yezinto zonke ezenyanyekayo ezenzayo kulo.” **5** Ngisalalele, wathi kwabanye, “Mlandeleni kulonke idolobho libulale, kungekho sihawu kumbe uzwelo. **6** Qothulani amaxhegu, amajaha lezintombi, amanina labantwana, kodwa lingathinti loba ngubani olophawu. Qalisani endlini yami engcwele.” Ngakho baqalisa ngabadala ababephambi kwethempeli. **7** Wasesithi kubo, “Ngcolisani ithempeli ligcwalise amagama ngababuleweyo. Hambani!” Ngakho bahamba baqalisa ukubulala edolobheni lonke. **8** Kwathi lapho bebulala, mina ngisele ngedwa, ngathi mbo phansi ngobuso, ngakhala ngathi, “Awu Thixo Wobukhosi! Uzaqothula yonke insalela yako-Israyeli kulokhu kuphuphuma kolaka lwakho phezu kweJerusalem na?” **9** Wangiphendula wathi, “Isono sendlu ka-Israyeli lekaJuda sikhulu kakhulu; ilizwe ligcwele ukuchithwa kwegazi, ledolobho ligcwele ukungalungi. Bathi, ‘UThixo uselidilele ilizwe; uThixo kaboni.’” **10** Ngakho angiyikuba lesihawu kubo kumbe ngibayekele, kodwa lokhu abakwenzileyo ngizakwehlisela phezu kwamakhanda abo.” **11** Lapho-ke

indoda eyayigqoke ilineni ilezinto zokubhala emhlubulweni yaletha ilizwi isithi, “Ngenze njengokulaya kwakho.”

10 Ngakhangelana ngabona okwakufana lesihlalo sobukhosi esenziwe ngesafire ngaphezu komkhathi owawungaphezu kwamakhanda amakherubhi. **2** UThixo wathi emuntwini owayegqoke ilineni, “Ngena phakathi kwamavili ngaphansi kwamakherubhi. Gcwalisa izandla zakho ngamalahle atshisayo avela kumakherubhi uwahaze phezu kwedolobho.” Ngathi ngisabukele wangena. **3** Amakherubhi ayesemi ngaseningizimu kwethempeli lapho umuntu lowo engena phakathi, iyezi lagcwala iguma langaphakathi. **4** Lapho-ke inkazimulo kaThixo yaphakama isuka ngaphezu kwamakherubhi yasudukela ngasemnyango wethempeli. Iyezi lagcwala ethempelini, kwathi iguma lagcwala ukukhanya kwenzakimulo kaThixo. **5** Umdumo wezimpiko zamakherubhi wawuzwakala khatshana le egumeni langaphandle, unjengelizwi likaNkulunkulu uSomandla nxa ekhuluma. **6** Kwathi lapho uThixo elaya umuntu owayegqoke ilineni esithi, “Thatha umlilo phakathi kwamavili, phakathi kwamakherubhi,” umuntu lowo wangena wema phansi kwevili. **7** Elinye lamakherubhi lelulela isandla salo emlilweni owawuphakathi kwawo. Lawokha lawubeka ezandleni zomuntu owayegqoke ilineni, owawuthathayo wasephuma. **8** (Ngaphansi kwempiko zamakherubhi kwakubonakala okwakungathi yizandla zomuntu.) **9** Ngakhangelana, ngabona amavili amane eceleni kwamakherubhi, lilinye eceleni kwekherubhi ngalinye, amavili ayecazimula njengephazi. **10** Ukukhangeleka kwawo, amane awo ayekhanya efanana; elinye lelinye lingathi livili elalinqume phakathi kwelinye. **11** Ekuhambeni kwawo, ayesiya loba kuluphi lwezinhlangothi ezine lapho amakherubhi ayekhangele khona; amavili ayengaphenduki lapho amakherubhi ehamba. Amakherubhi ayesiya loba kuluphi uhlangothi ikhanda elalikhangele kulo, kungekho kuphenduka ekuhambeni kwawo. **12** Imizimba yawo yonke, kugoqela imihlane yawo, lezandla zawo kanye lempiko zawo, kwakugcwele amehlo, njengoba ayenjalo lamavili awo kwane. **13** Amavili ngezwa kuthiwa athiwa “ngamavili atshibilika ngesiqubu esikhulu.” **14** Ikherubhi ngalinye lalilobuso obune: Obunye ubuso babungobekherubhi, obesibili bungobomuntu, obesithathu bungobesilwane, obesine bungobengqungqulu. **15** Amakherubhi aphakama aya phezulu. La ayeyizidalwa eziphilayo engangizibone phansi komfula uKhebhari. **16** Kwathi lapho amakherubhi ehamba, lamavili amaceleni awo ahamba; njalo kwathi lapho amakherubhi eselula impiko zawo ukuba aphakame esuka phansi, amavili kawasasukanga emaceleni awo. **17** Njalo kwathi lapho amakherubhi esima, amavili lawo ema, kuthi lapho amakherubhi ephakama, amavili lawo aphakame, ngoba umoya wezidalwa eziphilayo wawukuwo. **18** Inkazimulo kaThixo yasuka ngasemnyango wethempeli yayakuma ngaphezu kwamakherubhi. **19** Amakherubhi elula amaphiko awo ngikhangele, aphakama esuka phansi, njalo kwathi lapho esehamba amavili ahamba lawo. Ema ekungeneni kwesango langasempumalanga lendlu kaThixo, njalo inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli yayingaphezu kwawo. **20** Lezi kwakuyizidalwa eziphilayo engangizibone ngaphansi kukaNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli ngasemfuleni uKhebhari, ngananzelela ukuthi kwakungamakherubhi. **21** Lelo lalelo lalilobuso obune lamaphiko amane, njalo ngaphansi

kwamaphiko kwakulokwakungathi yizandla zomuntu. **22** Ubuso bawo babufanana lobalawana engawabona ngasemfuleni uKhebhari. Lelo lalelo lahamba liqonde phambili.

11 Lapho-ke uMoya wangiphakamisela phezulu wangisa esangweni lendlu kaThixo elikhangele empumalanga. Khonapho ekungeneni kwesango kwakulamadoda angamatshumi amabili lanhlana, njalo phakathi kwawo ngabona uJazaniya indodana ka-Azuri kanye loPhelathiya indodana kaBhenayiya, abakhokheli babantu. **2** UThixo wathi kimi, “Ndodana yomuntu, laba yiyo abantu abenza amacebo amabi, benika lezeluleko ezimbi kulelidolobho. **3** Bathi, ‘Masinyane nje akuyikuba yiso na isikhathi sokwakha izindlu? Idolobho leli liyimbiza yokupheka, njalo thina siyinyama.’ **4** Ngakho-ke phrofetha okubi ngabo; phrofetha ndodana yomuntu.” **5** Lapho-ke uMoya kaThixo weza kimi wangitshela ukuba ngithi, Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: “Lokho yikho wena okutshoyo, wena ndlu ka-Israyeli, kodwa mina ngiyakwazi okusengqondweni yakho. **6** Sewabulala abantu abanengi phakathi kwedolobho leli wagcwalisa imigwaqo yalo ngabafileyo.” **7** Ngakho-ke nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: “Izidumbu oziphosele lapho ziyinyama njalo idolobho leli liyimbiza, kodwa wena ngizakuxotshela ngaphandle kwalo. **8** Inkemba uyayesaba, njalo inkemba yiyo engizayiletha ukuba imelane lawe, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **9** Ngizakuxotshela ngaphandle kwedolobho ngikunikele kwabezizweni ngiphinde ngikujezise. **10** Uzabulawa ngenkemba, njalo ngizakwahlulela emingceleni yako-Israyeli. Lapho-ke uzakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo. **11** Idolobho leli kaliyikuba yimbiza yakho, kumbe wena ube yinyama phakathi kwalo; ngizakwahlulela emingceleni yako-Israyeli. **12** Njalo uzakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo, ngoba izimiso zami kawuzilandelanga kumbe wagcina imithetho yami kodwa ulandele izenzo zezizwe ezikuhanjileyo.” **13** Kwathi lapho ngisaphrofitha, uPhelathiya indodana kaBhenayiya wafa. Ngakho ngathi mbo phansi ngobuso ngakhala ngelizwi eliphezulu ngisithi, “Awu, Thixo Wobukhosi! Uzaqothula insalela ka-Israyeli na?” **14** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **15** “Ndodana yomuntu, abafowenu, abafowenu abayizihlobo zakho zegazi kanye lendlu yonke ka-Israyeli, yiyo labo abantu baseJerusalem abathe ngabo: ‘Bakhatshana loThixo kakhulu; ilizwe leli saliphiwa ukuba libe yilifa lethu.’” **16** “Ngakho-ke wothi: ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Lanxa ngabasa khatshana phakathi kwezizwe njalo ngabahlakazela phakathi kwamazwe, ikanti okwesikhatshana ngibe yindlu engcwele kubo emazweni abaye kuwo.’ **17** Ngakho-ke wothi: ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngizakubutha ezizweni ngikubuyise ngikususa emazweni owawuhlakazelele kuwo, njalo ngizakunika ilizwe lako-Israyeli futhi.’ **18** Bazabuyela kulo basuse zonke izifanekiso zalo ezihlazisayo kanye lezithombe ezenyanyekayo. **19** Ngizabanika inhliziyi engehlukananga ngifake lomoya omutsha phakathi kwabo; ngizasusa kubo inhliziyi yabo yelitshe ngibaphe inhliziyi yenyama. **20** Lapho-ke bazalandela izimiso zami baqaphele ukugcina imithetho yami. Bazakuba ngabantu bami, lami ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wabo. **21** Kodwa labo abanhliziyi zabo zinikelwe ezifanekisweni zabo ezihlazisayo lasezithombeni ezenyanyekayo, lokhu abakwenzileyo ngizakwehlisela phezu kwamakhanda abo, kutsho Thixo Wobukhosi.” **22** Lapho-ke amakherubhi, ayelamavili

emaceleni, elula impiko zawo, njalo inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli yayingaphezu kwawo. **23** Inkazimulo kaThixo yaya phezulu isuka phakathi kwedolobho yayakuma ngaphezu kwentaba ngasempumalanga kwedolobho. **24** UMoya wangiphakamisela phezulu wangisa kwabathunjweyo eBhabhiloni ngombono owawulethwe nguMoya kaNkulunkulu. Emva kwalokho umbono engangiwebonile wasuka kimi, **25** ngasengitshela abathunjweyo konke Thixo ayengitshengise khona.

12 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, uhlala phakathi kwabantu abahlamukayo. Balamehlo ukuba babone kodwa kababoni, njalo balendlebe ukuba bezwe kodwa kabezwa, ngoba bangabantu abahlamukayo. **3** Ngakho-ke ndodana yomuntu, lungisa impahla zakho zasekuthunjweni njalo kuthi emini, bekhangele, uphume usuke lapho okhona uye kwenye indawo. Mhlawumbe bazawisisa, lanxa beyindlu ehlamukayo. **4** Ngezikhathi zemini, bekhangele, khuphela impahla zakho phandle zilungiselwe ukuya ekuthunjweni. Kuthi kusihlwa, bekhangele, uphume njengabaya ekuthunjweni. **5** Bekhangele, bhoboza umduli ukhuphele impahla zakho ngaphandle kwawo. **6** Zetshathe ehlonbe bekhangele uhambe lazo kusihlwa. Mboza ubuso bakho ukuze ilizwe ungaliboni, ngoba sengikwenze waba luphawu endlini ka-Israyeli.” **7** Ngakho ngenxa njengokulaywa kwami. Ngezikhathi zemini ngakhupha impahla zami zilungiselwe ukuya ekuthunjweni. Kusihlwa ngabhoboza umduli ngezandla zami. Impahla zami ngazikhuphela ngaphandle kuhwalala, ngizetshethe emahlombe ami bekhangele. **8** Ekuseni ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **9** “Ndodana yomuntu, indlu leyana ehlamukayo yako-Israyeli kayikubuzanga na yathi, ‘Wenzani na?’ **10** Wothi kubo, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Izilo leli limayelana lenkosana eJerusalem kanye lendlu yonke ka-Israyeli ekhonale.’ **11** Wothi kubo, ‘Ngiluphawu lwesitshengiselo kini.’ Njengoba ngenzile, kuzakwenza kanjalo kubo. Bazakuya ekuthunjweni beyizigqili.” **12** Oyinkosana phakathi kwabo uzakwethatha impahla zakhe kuhwalala asuke, njalo imbobo izakwenziwa emdulini ukuba aphume ngayo. Uzamboza ubuso bakhe ukuze ilizwe angaliboni. **13** Ngizamendlalala imbule lami, njalo uzabanjwa yisifu sami; ngizamusa eBhabhiloniya ilizwe lamaKhaladiya, kodwa kasoze alibone, njalo uzafela khona. **14** Ngizabahlakazela emimoyeni bonke labo abamhanqileyo, izisebenzi zakhe kanye lamabutho akhe wonke njalo ngizaxotshana labo ngiphethe inkemba. **15** “Bazakwazi ukuthi nginguThixo lapho sengibachithachithela phakathi kwezizwe njalo ngibahlakazela emazweni. **16** Kodwa ngizaphephisa abalutshwana babo ekuhlaselweni yinkemba, indlala kanye lesifo, ukuze kuthi ezizweni abaya kuzo bazivume zonke izenzo zabo ezinengayo. Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi nginguThixo.” **17** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **18** “Ndodana yomuntu, qhaq hazela nxa unatha amanzi akho. **19** Yitsho ebantwini belizwe uthi: ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi mayelana labo abahlala eJerusalem kanye laselizweni lako-Israyeli: Bazakudla ukudla kwabo benqeka njalo banathe lamanzi abo bengelathemba, ngoba ilizwe lizaphundlwa konke okukulo ngenxa yodlakela lwabo bonke abahlala khona. **20** Amadolobho okuhlalwa kuwo azaqothulwa ilizwe lichitheke. Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi nginguThixo.” **21** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **22** “Ndodana yomuntu, yisaga bani lesi na elilaso

elizweni lako-Israyeli esithi: ‘Insuku ziyedlula njalo imibono yonke iba yize?’ **23** Wothi kubo, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngizasiqeda isaga lesi, njalo kabayikusitsho futhi ko-Israyeli.’ Wothi kubo, ‘Insuku sezisondele lapho imibono yonke izagcwaliseka khona. **24** Ngoba akusayikuba lemibono yamanga futhi kumbe ubungoma benkholiso ko-Israyeli. **25** Kodwa mina Thixo ngizakhuluma engikufunayo, njalo kuzagcwaliseka ngokuphangisa. Ngoba ensukwini zakho, wena ndlu ehlamukayo ngizagcwalisa loba kuyini engikutshoyo, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.” **26** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **27** “Ndodana yomuntu, indlu ka-Israyeli ithi, ‘Umbono awubonayo ngoweminyaka eminengi kusukela khathesi, njalo uphrofetha ngesikhathi esizayo esikhathshana kakhulu.’ **28** Ngakho wothi kubo, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Akukho lalinye ilizwi lamazwi ami elizaphuza; loba kuyini engikutshoyo kuzagcwaliseka, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.”

13 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, phrofetha umelana labaphrofethi bako-Israyeli abaphrofethayo khathesi. Uthi kulabo abaphrofetha okuvela emicabangweni yabo: ‘Zwanini ilizwi likaThixo! **3** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Maye kubaphrofethi abayizithutha abalandela umoya wabo kodwa bengabonanga lutho! **4** Abaphrofethi bakho, we Israyeli, banjengamakhanka asemanxiweni. **5** Kawuyanga phezulu ezikhaxeni emdulini ukuba uwulungisele indlu ka-Israyeli ukuze uqine empini ngosuku lukaThixo. **6** Imibono yabo iyinkohliso njalo lobungoma babo bungamanga. Bathi, “uThixo uthi,” yena uThixo engabathumanga; kodwa bathembe ukuthi amazwi abo azagcwaliseka. **7** Kalikayiboni imibono yenkohliso na, njalo lakhuluma ubungoma bamanga lapho lisithi, “uThixo uthi,” lanxa mina ningatshongo? **8** Ngakho-ke nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngenxa yamazwi enu enkohliso kanye lemibono yenu yamanga, ngimelana lani, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **9** Isandla sami sizamelana labaphrofethi ababona imibono yenkohliso bakhulume ubungoma bamanga. Kabayikuba ngabenhlangano yabantu bami kumbe balotshwe emibhalweni yendlu ka-Israyeli, loba bangene elizweni lako-Israyeli. Lapho-ke lizakwazi ukuthi nginguThixo Wobukhosi. **10** Ngenxa yokuthi bedukisa abantu bami, besithi “Ukuthula,” khona ukuthula kungekho, njalo ngoba, nxa kwakhiwe umduli ongaqinanga, bayawubhada ngekalaga, **11** ngakho tshela labo abawubhada ngekalaga ukuthi uzadilika. Kuzakuya isihlambi sezulu, njalo ngizaletha isiqhotho esitshaya phansi, kuqhamuke umoya olamandla. **12** Lapho umduli udilika, abantu kabayikulibuzana bathi, “Ingaphi ikalaga elawubhada ngayo?” **13** Ngakho-ke nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngolaka lwami ngizadedela umoya olamandla, kuthi ngokuthukuthela kwami isiqhotho lesihlambi sezulu kune ngentukuthelo ebhubhisayo. **14** Ngizadiliza umduli eliwubhade ngekalaga ngiwuwisele phansi ukuze isisekelo sawo sibe segekeni. Nxa ususiwa lizafela kuwo; njalo lizakwazi ukuthi nginguThixo. **15** Ngakho ngizachitha ulaka lwami ngimelane lomduli kanye labo abawubhada ngekalaga. Ngizakuthi kini, “Umdluli kawusekho njalo yiso leso lakulabo abawucumba ngekalaga, **16** labobaphrofethi bako-Israyeli abaphrofetha ngeJerusalem babona imibono yokuthula ngalo, khona ukuthula kungekho, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.” **17** Khathesi-ke ndodana yomuntu, melana lamadodakazi abantu bakini aprofetha okwemicabango yawo. Phrofetha umelana lawo **18** uthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Maye

kwabesifazane abathungela intebe ezihlakaleni zabo zonke benze lezimbozobo zamakhanda abo ezilobude obehlukeneyo ukuze bathiye abantu. Lizathiya impilo yabantu bami kodwa lilondolozwe eyenu na? **19** Lingithukile phakathi kwabantu bami ngenxa yohetshezana lwebhali kanye lemuvuthuluka yesinkwa. Ngokuqamba amanga ebantwini bami, abawalalelayo amanga, selibabulele labo ababengamelanga bafe, kodwa layekela abangafanelanga ukuphila. **20** Ngakho nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngimelana lezintebe zenu elithiya abantu ngazo njengenyoni njalo ngizazidabula ezingalweni zenu; ngizabakhulula abantu elibathiya njengenyoni. **21** Izimbombozobo zenu ngizazidabula ngikhulule abantu bami ezandleni zenu, njalo kabayikuba ngaphansi kwamandla okubazingela kwenu. Lapho-ke lizakwazi ukuthi nginguThixo. **22** Ngenxa yokuthi lenyelisa inhliziyiyo zabalungileyo ngamanga enu, lapho ngangingabathelanga sizi, njalo ngoba lakhuthaza ababi ukuba bangaphenduki ezindleleni zabo ezimbi ngalokho basilise ukuphila kwabo, **23** ngakho kaliyikubona imibono yamanga futhi loba izenzo zobungoma. Abantu bami ngizabahlenga ezandleni zenu. Lapho-ke lizakwazi ukuthi nginguThixo.”

14 Abanye babadala bako-Israyeli beza kimi bahlala phambi kwami. **2** Ilizwi likaThixo laselifika kimi lisithi: **3** “Ndodana yomuntu, abantu laba sebebeke izithombe ezinhliziyweni zabo, bafaka lezikhubekiso ezimbi phambi kobuso babo. Ngibavumele ukungibuzi na? **4** Ngakho khuluma labo ubatshelwe uthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Lapho loba nguphi um’Israyeli ebeka izithombe enhliziyweni yakhe, afake lesikhubekiso esibi phambi kobuso bakhe abesesiaphrofetha, mina Thixo ngizamphendula mina ngokwami ngokuhambelana lokukhonza kwakhe izithombe okukhulu. **5** Ngizakwenza lokhu ukuze ngizibambe futhi inhliziyiyo zabantu bako-Israyeli asebenziselile bonke ngenxa yezithombe zabo.’ **6** Ngakho-ke tshono endlini ka-Israyeli uthi: ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Phendukan! Tshiyani izithombe zenu lilahle imikhuba yenu enengayo! **7** Lapho owako-Israyeli loba omunye wabenzizweni ohlala ko-Israyeli ezehlukanisa lami abeke izithombe enhliziyweni yakhe njalo afake lesikhubekiso esibi phambi kobuso bakhe, abesesiya kumphrofethi ukuyabuza ngami, mina Thixo ngizamphendula mina ngokwami. **8** Ngizamelana lalowomuntu ngobuso bami njalo ngimenze isibonelo kanye lesiga. Ngizamsusa ebantwini bami. Lapho-ke lizakwazi ukuthi nginguThixo. **9** Njalo nxa umphrofethi ekhohlisele ukuba akhulume isiphrofethi, mina Thixo yimi engikhohlise umphrofethi lowo, njalo ngizakwelula isandla sami ngimelane laye ngimbhuhbise phakathi kwabantu bami u-Israyeli. **10** Bazathwala icala labo, umphrofethi uzakuba lecala njengalowo ombuzayo. **11** Lapho-ke abantu bako-Israyeli kabasayikungifulathela kumbe bazingcolise futhi ngazozonke izonzo zabo. Bazakuba ngabantu bami, mina ngibe nguNkulunkulu wabo, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.” **12** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **13** “Ndodana yomuntu, nxa ilizwe lisona kimi ngokungathembeki besengiselula isandla sami ukuba ngivale ukulethwa kokudla kwalo, ngithumele indlala kulo ibulale abantu bakhona kanye lezifuyo zabo, **14** lanxa amadoda amathathu la, uNowa, loDanyeli kanye loJobe, angabe ayekhona kulo, ayezazihlenga wona kuphela ngokulunga kwawo, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **15** Loba nxa ngingathuma izilo zeganga ukuba zidabule phakathi kwalelolizwe zilitshiyi lingaselabantwana njalo libe lugwadule okwenza kungabi

lamuntu odlula phakathi kwalo ngenxa yezilo, **16** ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngikhona, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, lanxa amadoda la amathathu engabe ayekhona kulo ayengeke awahlenge amadodana awo kumbe amadodakazi. Wona kuphela yiwo ayengahlengwa, kodwa ilizwe lalizachitheka. **17** Loba nxa ngingaletha inkemba imelane lalolizwe ngithi, ‘Inkemba kayidlule phakathi kwelizwe lonke,’ ngibulale abantu kanye lezifuyo zabo, **18** ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngikhona, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, lanxa amadoda la amathathu kungabe ayekulo, ayengeke awahlenge amadodana awo kumbe amadodakazi. Wona kuphela yiwo ayengahlengwa. **19** Loba nxa ngithumele isifo kulolizwe, ngithululele ulaka lwami phezu kwalo ngokuchithwa kwegazi, sibulale abantu balo kanye lezifuyo zabo, **20** ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngikhona, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, lanxa uNowa, loDanyeli kanye loJobe bengabe bekulo bebengeke bahlele indodana kumbe indodakazi. Bebengazihlenga bona kuphela ngokulunga kwabo. **21** Ngakho nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Kuzakuba kubi kakhulu okunjani na lapho sengithumela eJerusalem a izahlulelo zami ezine, inkemba lendlala lezilo zeganga kanye lesifo ukuba kubulale abantu balo kanye lezifuyo zabo! **22** Kodwa kuzakuba labanye abasilayo, amadodana lamadodakazi abazakhutshelwa ngaphandle kwalo. Bazakuza kuwe, njalo lapho ubona ukuziphatha kwabo lezenzo zabo, uzaduduzeka ngomonakalo engiwehlisela phezu kweJerusalem, wonke umonakalo engawehlisela phezu kwalo. **23** Uzaduduzeka lapho usubona ukuziphatha kwabo kanye lezenzo zabo, ngoba uzakwazi ukuthi angenzanga lutho phakathi kwalo kungekho sizatho, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.”

15 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, isigodo sevini silwedlula ngani ugatsha lwaloba yisiphi sezihlahla eziseguswini na? **3** Isigodo siyake sithathwe kulo ukuba kwenziwe ulutho olusizayo na? Bayazenza izikhonkwane ngalo ukuba kulengiswe izinto kuzo na? **4** Njalo emva kokuba sesiphoselwe emlilweni njengokhuni, umlilo usitshise izihloko zombili lomzaca waphakathi uhaqazeke, siselosizo ekwenzeni olunye ulutho na? **5** Nxa sasingelasizo ekwenzeni ulutho sisaphelele, kuncane kangakanani okungenziwa ukuthi sibe yilutho olusizayo lapho umlilo usitshisile njalo sesililahle na? **6** Ngakho nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Njengoba nginike isigodo sevini phakathi kwezihlahla zegusu njengokhuni lomlilo, ngizabaphatha kanjalo abantu abahlala eJerusalem. **7** Ngizamelana labo ngobuso bami. Lanxa sebhuphile phakathi komlilo, umlilo usezabaqeda. Njalo lapho sengimelane labo ngobuso bami, lizakwazi ukuthi nginguThixo. **8** Ngizakwenza ilizwe libe lugwadule ngoba bebengathembekanga, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.”

16 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, melana leJerusalem ngezenzo zalo ezinengayo **3** uthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi kulo iJerusalem: Umdabuko wenu kanye lozalo ngokwaselizweni lamaKhenani; uyihlo wayengum’Amori unyoko engumHithi. **4** Ngosuku owazalwa ngalo ufokothi lwakho kaluqunywanga, njalo kawugezizwanga ngamanzi ukuba uhlambuluke, kumbe uhlikihlwe ngetswayi loba ugoqelwe ngamalembu. **5** Kakho owaba lozwelo kuwe loba owaba lesihawu ukuba akwenzele okunye kwalezizinto. Kodwa waphoselwa etshatshalazini leganga, ngoba ngosuku owazalwa ngalo weyiswa. **6** Kwathi

lapho ngidlula eduze ngakubona uqhatshaqhatsha phakathi kwegazi lakho, njalo kwathi ulele phakathi khonapho kwegazi lakho ngathi kuwe, “Phila!” **7** Ngakukhulisa njengesihlahla seganga. Wakhula waqina waba yilitshe eliligugu elihle kakhulu kulawo wonke. Waphuhla lenwele zakho zakhula, wena owawunqunu uze. **8** Muva ngadlula eduze futhi, kwathi lapho sengikuhangele ngabona ukuthi wawusukhulile okwanela uthando, ngelulela isembatho sami phezu kwakho ngavala ubunqunu bakho. Ngakufungela ngesifungo sami esiqinisekileyo, ngenza isivumelwano lawe, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, njalo waba ngowami. **9** Ngakugezisa ngamanzi, ngagezisa legazi kuwe, ngasengikugcoba ngamafutha. **10** Ngakugqokisa isigqoko esicecisiweyo ngakufaka amanyathelo esikhumba. Ngakugqokisa ilineni elihle ngakwembesa izembatho ezidulayo. **11** Ngakuhlobisa ngamatshe aligugu: Ngafaka amasongo ezingalweni zakho kanye lomgaxo entanyeni yakho, **12** ngasengifaka lesongo empumleni yakho, lamacici ezindlebeni zakho kanye lomqhele omuhle ekhanda lakho. **13** Wacaciswa kanjalo ngegolide langesiliva; izigqoko zakho zazenziwe ngelineni elihle langamalembu adulayo kanye lamalembu accisiweyo. Waba muhle kakhulu waze wakhuphuka waba yindlovukazi. **14** Udumo lwakho lwagcwala phakathi kwezizwe ngenxa yobuhle bakho, ngoba ubucwacizazi engangikuphe bona benza ubuhle bakho baphelela, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **15** Kodwa wena wathemba ubuhle bakho wasebenzisa lodumo lwakho ekubeni yisifebe. Wachithela umusa wakho emuntwini wonke odlulayo kwathi ubuhle bakho baba ngobakhe. **16** Wathatha ezinye zezembatho zakho wenza ubucwacizazi bezindawo eziphakemeyo, lapho owaqhubekela khona ngobuwule bakho. Izinto ezinje akumelanga zenzakale, loba zike zivele zenzeke. **17** Njalo wathatha leziceciso ezinhle zamatshe aligugu engakupha zona, iziceciso ezenziwa ngegolide lami lesiliva, wazenzela izithombe ezinduna wawula lazo. **18** Wathatha lezigqoko zakho ezicecisiweyo ukuba wembese izithombe, wanikela amafutha ami lempepha phambi kwazo. **19** Lokudla engakupha khona, ifulawa ecolikileyo, amafutha e-oliva kanye loluju engakupha khona ukuba udle, wakanikela phambi kwazo njengemphepha elephunga elimnandi. Lokhu yikho okwenzakalayo, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **20** Wathatha futhi amadodana akho kanye lamadodakazi owangizalela wona wawanikela njengokudla ezithombeni. Ubufebe bakho babunganelanga na? **21** Wabulala abantwabami wabanikela ezithombeni. **22** Phakathi kwazo zonke izenzo zakho ezinengayo kanye lobufebe bakho kawuzikhumbulanga insuku zebutsheni bakho, lapho wawunqunu njalo uze, uqhatshaqhatsha phakathi kwegazi lakho. **23** Maye! Maye kuwe, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. Phezu kobubi bakho bonke, **24** wazakhela indunduna wenza lezindawo zokukhonzela ezidephileyo ezinkundleni zonke. **25** Ekuqaliseni kwemigwaqo yonke wakha izindawo zakho zokukhonzela ezidephileyo wonakalisa ubuhle bakho, wanikela umzimba wakho ngokuxabanisa okukhulu kuloba ngubani odlulayo. **26** Wenza ubufebe lamaGibhithe, omakhelwane bakho abalesigweba, wangithukuthelisa ngokuba ngubuyazonke kwakho okukhulu. **27** Ngakho ngelula isandla sami ukuba ngimelane lawe nganciphisa ilizwe lakho; ngakunikela ekuphanganeni kwezitha zakho, amadodakazi amaFilistiya, ethuswa yikuziphatha kwakho kobuxhwalu! **28** Wenza ubuwule lama-Asiriya futhi, ngoba wawungasuthiseki; njalo langasemva kwalokho

wawulokhu ungakhohlwanga. **29** Ngakho wandisa ukuxubanisa kwakho ukuba kungenise leBhabhiloni, ilizwe labathengisi, kodwa langalokhu kawusuthisekanga. **30** Yeka ubuthakathaka bakho enhliziyweni, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, lapho usenza zonke lezizinto, usenza njengesifebe esingelanhloni! **31** Lapho usakha amadundulu akho ekuqaliseni kwemigwaqo yonke usenza lezindawo zakho zokukhonzela ezidephileyo ezinkundleni zonke, wawunganjengesifebe, ngoba wala imbadalo ngokweyisa okukhulu. **32** Wena mfazi oyisifebe! Uthanda izihambi kulomkakho. **33** Izifebe zonke zamukela imbadalo, kodwa zonke izithandwa zakho uzinika izipho, uzithenga ukuba zize kuwe zivela ezindaweni zonke zilanda ubufebe bakho. **34** Ngakho ukufeba kwakho kwehlukile kokwabanye; kakho okudingayo ukuba afebe lawe. Wena wehlukile, ngoba uyabhadala kodwa awubhadalwa. **35** Ngakho-ke, wena sifebe, zwana ilizwi likaThixo! **36** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Njengoba wachitha inotho yakho waweza lobunqunu bakho ebufebeni bakho lezithandwa zakho, njalo ngenxa yazo zonke izithombe zakho ezinengayo, langenxa yokuthi wazipha igazi labantwana bakho, **37** ngakho-ke ngizaziqoqa zonke izithandwa zakho, owawuthokoza lazo, lezo owawuzithanda kanye lalezo owawuzizona. Ngizaziqoqa ukuba zimelane lawe zivela ezindaweni zonke ngikunqunule phambi kwazo, njalo zizabubona bonke ubunqunu bakho. **38** Ngizakunika isigwebo sokujeziswa kwabesifazane abafebayo njalo abachitha igazi; ngizakwehlisela phezu kwakho impindiselo yegazi yolaka lwami kanye lentukuthelo yobukhwele. **39** Emva kwalokho ngizakunikela kuzithandwa zakho, zizabhidliza amadundulu akho zidilize lezindawo zakho zokukhonzela ezidephileyo. Zizakuhlubula izigqoko zakho zithathe lemiceciso yakho yamatshe aligugu zikutshiye unqunu njalo uze. **40** Zizaletha ixuku elizamelana lawe, elizakutshaya ngamatshe, likuquamaume ube yiziqo ngezinkemba zalo. **41** Bazatshisa izindlu zakho zilobe, bakujezise phambi kwabesifazane abanengi. Ngizabuzeda ubuwule bakho, njalo kawusayikuzibhadala futhi izithandwa zakho. **42** Lapho-ke ulaka lwami kuwe luzadeda, lokuthukuthela kwami kobukhwele kuzasuka kuwe; ngizaphola ngingabe ngisathukuthela futhi. **43** Ngenxa yokuthi insuku zobutshaba bakho kawuzikhumbulanga kodwa wangithukuthelisa ngezinto zonke lezi, ngeqiniso lokhu okwenzileyo ngizakwehlisela phezu kwekhanda lakho, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. Kanje kawenzanga isigwebo kuzozonke lezizenzo zakho ezinengayo na? **44** Bonke abatsho izaga bazatishe isaga lesi ngawe esithi: “Indodakazi ifuna unina.” **45** Wena uyindodakazi kanyoko sibili, owayeseyisa umkakhe kanye labantwana bakhe; njalo ngeqiniso ungudade wabodadewenu, abeyisa omkabo labantwana babo. Unyoko wayengumHithi uyihlo engum’Amori. **46** Udadewenu omdala wayengumSamariya, owayehlala ngasenyakatho kwakho labantwana bakhe; njalo udadewenu omncane owayehlala ngaseningizimu kwakho lamadodakazi akhe nguSodoma. **47** Kawuhambanga ezindleleni zabo nje kuphela njalo walingisa lezenzo zabo ezinengayo, kodwa kuzozonke izindlela zakho wena waphanga waxhwala kakhulu kulabo. **48** Ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngikhona, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, udadewenu uSodoma lamadodakazi akhe kazange akwenze okwenziwa nguwe lamadodakazi akho. **49** Isono sikadadewenu uSodoma sasiyilesi: Yena lamadodakazi akhe babezigqaja, badla bedlulisa njalo bengakhathali; kababasizanga abayanga labaswelayo. **50** Babezizisa njalo

besenza izinto eziyangisayo phambi kwami. Ngakho ngabasusa njengoba ubonile. **51** USamariya kenzanga ingxenye yezono wena osuzenzile. Wenze izinto ezinengekayo kulabo, wenza odadewenu bangathi balungile ngenxa yezinto zonke lezi ozenzileyo. **52** Lithwale ihlazo lakho, ngoba usunike isizatho esilungileyo ngabodadewenu. Ngoba izono zakho zazizimbi kakhulu kulezabo, bakhanya belunge kakhulu kulawe. Ngakho, woba lenhloni uthwale ihlazo lakho, ngoba wenze odadewenu bakhanya belungile. **53** Kodwa-ke, ngizayibuyisela inhlanhla yeSodoma lamadodakazi ayo kanye leyeSamariya lamadodakazi ayo, lenhlanhla yakho kanye labo, **54** ukuze uthwale ihlazo lakho njalo ube lenhloni ngokubadudza. **55** Njalo odadewenu, iSodoma lamadodakazi alo kanye leSamariya lamadodakazi alo, bazabuyela kulokho ababeyikho kuqala. **56** Udadewenu, uSodoma wawungeke umutsho ngezinsuku zokuziqqaja kwakho, **57** ububi bakho bungakavezwa. Lanxa kunjalo, khathesi usuhlekwa ngamadodakazi ase-Edomi labo bonke omakhelwane bayo kanye lamadodakazi amaFilistiya, bonke labo abakuhankqale abakweyisayo. **58** Uzathwala umvuzo wesagweba sakho kanye lezenzo zakho ezinengayo kutsho uThixo. **59** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngizakuphatha njengalokhu okukufaneleyo, ngoba udelele isifungo sami ngokwephula isivumelwano. **60** Kodwa ngizasikhumbula isivumelwano engasenza lawe ensukwini zobutsha bakho, njalo ngizakwenza isivumelwano esingapheliyo lawe. **61** Lapho-ke uzazikhumbula izindlela zakho ube lenhloni lapho ususamukela odadewenu, labo abadala kulawe kanye labalo abancane. Ngizakunika bona njengamadodakazi, kodwa hatshi ngenxa yesivumelwano sami lawe. **62** Ngakho ngizamisa isivumelwano sami lawe njalo uzakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo. **63** Ngakho, lapho sengikwenzela inhlawulelo yakho konke okwenzileyo, uzakhumbula ube lenhloni ungawuvuli futhi umlomo wakho ngenxa yokuthotshiswa kwakho, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.”

17 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, yenza umzekeliso utshele indlu yako-Israyeli umfanekiso. **3** Wothi kubo, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ingqungqulu enkulu elezimpiko ezilamandla, izinsiba ezinde njalo zinengi zimibalabala yafika eLebhanoni. Ibambe isihloko somsedari, **4** yephula ihlumela elalingaphezu kwawo wonke yalisa elizweni labathengisi lapho eyalihlanyela khona edolobheni labathengisi. **5** Yathatha enye yenhlanyelo yelizwe lakini yayifaka emhlabathini ovundileyo: Yayihlanyela njengomnyekezane phansi kwamanzi amanengi, **6** yahluma yaba livini elifitshane elinabayo. Ingatsha zalo zaphendukela kuyo, kodwa impande zalo zaba ngaphansi kwalo. Ngakho laba livini laba lezingatsha ezilamahlamvu amanengi. **7** Kodwa kwakulenywe ingqungqulu enkulu elezimpiko ezilamandla lezinsiba ezinengi. Khathesi ivini lakhuphela impande zalo kuyo zisuka esivandeni elalihlanyelwe kuso njalo lelulela ingatsha zalo kuyo zifuna amanzi. **8** Lalihlanyelwe emhlabathini omuhle phansi kwamanzi amanengi ukuze liveze ingatsha, lithele izithelo libe livini elihle.’ **9** Wothi kubo, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Kambe lizakhula kuhle na? Kaliyikusitshunwa izithelo zalo ziqhululwe ukuba libone na? Wonke amahlumela alo azabuna. Akuyikusweleka ingalo elamandla kumbe abantu abanengi ukuba balisiphune. **10** Lanxa lingayagxunyekwa kwenye indawo lingakhula kuhle na? Kambe kaliyikubuna okupheleleyo nxa umoya wasempumalanga ulihangula

libone esivandeni elakhulela kuso na?” **11** Ilizwi likaThixo laselifika kimi lisithi: **12** “Tshono kule indlu ehlamukayo uthi, ‘Kalazi ukuthi izinto lezi zitshoni na?’ Tshono kubo uthi, ‘Inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yaya eJerusalema yathumba inkosi yalo kanye lezikhulu zalo yabuyela labo eBhabhiloni. **13** Yathatha omunye wabenzalo yasesikhosini, yenza isivumelwano laye, yamfungisa. Yathumba lamanye amadoda elizwe adumileyo, **14** ukuze umbuso uye phansi, ungavuki futhi, ume nje kuphela ngokugcina isivumelwano sayo. **15** Kodwa inkosi yamhlamukela ngokuthatha isithunywa eGibhithe ukuba ziyethatha amabhiza kanye lebutho elikhulu. Kambe izaphumelela na? Kambe lowo owenza izinto ezinje uzaphunyuka na? Kambe uzakwephula isivumelwano kodwa aphunyuke na? **16** Ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngikhona, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, uzafela eBhabhiloni, elizweni lenkosi eyambeka esihlalweni sobukhosi, esifungo sayo wasidelela wephula isivumelwano sayo. **17** UFaro lebutho lakhe elilamandla kanye lexuku elikhulu akuyikumsiza empini, lapho sekwakhiwe amadundulu kwamiswa lemiduli yokuvimbezela ukuba kuchithwe imiphfumulo eminengi. **18** Wadelela isifungo ngokwephula isivumelwano. Ngoba wazibopha ngesifungo kodwa wasesenza zonke lezizinto akayikuphunyuka. **19** Ngakho nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngikhona, ngizakwehlisela phezu kwekhanda lakhe isifungo sami asidelayo kanye lesivumelwano sami asephulayo. **20** Ngizamendlelela imbule lami, njalo uzabanjwa yisifu sami. Ngizamusa eBhabhiloni, ngenze khona ukumahlulela kwami ngoba wayengathembekanga kimi. **21** Wonke amabutho akhe abalekayo azabulawa ngenkomba, abasindayo bazahlakazelwa emimoyeni. Lapho-ke lizakwazi ukuthi mina Thixo sengikhulumile. **22** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Mina ngokwami ngizathatha ihlumela kuso kanye isihloko somsedari ngilihlanyele; ngizakwephula ihlumela elibuthakathaka eklintini lawo eliphezulu kakhulu kulamanye ngilihlanyele phezu kwentaba ende ephakemeyo. **23** Ngizalihlanyela ezingqongeni zentaba yako-Israyeli; lizaveza ingatsha lithele lezithelo njalo libe ngumsedari omuhle. Izinyoni zezinhlobo zonke zizakwakhela izidleke zazo kuwo; zizathola ukusitheka emthunzini wezingatsha zawo. **24** Zonke izihlahla zeganga zizakwazi ukuthi mina Thixo ngifinyeza isihlahla eside ngenze esifitshane sikhule sibeside. Ngomisa isihlahla esiluhlaza ngenze esomileyo sihlume. Mina Thixo sengikhulumile, njalo ngizakwenza.”

18 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Litshoni lina bantu nxa libetha isaga lesi ngelizwe lako-Israyeli lisithi: ‘Oyise badla amavini amunye, amazinyo abantwana asetshelale?’ **3** Ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngikhona, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, kalisayikusitsho isaga lesi ko-Israyeli. **4** Ngoba yonke imiphfumulo ephilayo ngeyami, uyise kanye lendodana, bobabili ngokufanayo ngabami. Umphefumulo owonayo yiwo ozakufa. **5** Kasithi kulomuntu olungileyo owenza okufaneleyo lokuqondileyo. **6** Kadleli ezindaweni zokukhonzela zasentabeni loba athenbe izithombe zendlu ka-Israyeli. Kangcolisi umfazi kamakhelwane wakhe loba alale lowesifazane esemazibukweni. **7** Kancindezeli muntu kodwa uyabuyisela akuthathayo njengesibambiso sokwebolekwayo. Kabenzi ubhangang kodwa unika abalambileyo ukudla kwakhe labanqunu abanike izigqoko. **8** Kabolekisi ukuba athole inzuzo loba athathe inzuzo edlulisileyo. Uyasithinta isandla sakhe

ekwenzeni okubi njalo ehlulele kuhle phakathi komuntu lomuntu. **9** Uyazilandela izimiso zami agcine lemithetho yami ngokuthembeka. Lowomuntu ulungile; ngempela uzaphila, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **10** Kasithi ulendodana elodlakela echitha igazi kumbe yenze loba yikuphi kwalezizinto **11** (lanxa uyise engenzanga lanye yazo): Idlela ezindaweni zokukhonzela ezisentabeni. Iyamngcolisa umfazi kamakhelwane wayo. **12** Incindezela abayanga labaswelayo. Yenza ubuphanga. Kayibuyiseli eyakuthatha kuyisibambiso. Yethemba izithombe. Yenza izinto ezinengisayo. **13** Yebolekisa ukuba ithole inzuzo njalo ithatha inzuzo edlulisileyo. Umuntu onjalo uzaphila na? Kasoze aphile! Ngenxa yokuba enze zonke lezizinto ezinengisayo uzabulawa mpela legazi lakhe lizakuba phezu kwekhanda lakhe. **14** Kodwa kasithi indodana le ilendodana ezibonayo zonke izono ezenziwa nguyise, kodwa lanxa izibona, yona kayizentsi izinto ezinje: **15** Kayidlele ezindaweni zokukhonzela ezisentabeni, kumbe yethemba izithombe zendlu ka-Israyeli. Kayimngcolisi umfazi kamakhelwane wayo. **16** Kayincindezeli muntu kumbe ifune isibambiso ekwebolekiseni. Kayibenzi ubuphanga kodwa abalambileyo iyabapha ukudla kwayo inike labanqunu izigqoko. **17** Iyasithinta isandla sayo ekoneni njalo kayithathi nzuzo loba inzuzo edlulisileyo. Iyagcina imilayo yami ilandele lezimiso zami. Kayiyikufela izono zikayise; izaphila impela. **18** Kodwa uyise uzafela izono zakhe yena ngokwakhe, ngoba wabamba ngamandla, waphanga umfowabo wenza okubi ebantwini bakibo. **19** Ikanti liyabuza lithi, 'Kungani indodana ingabi lecala likayise na?' Njengoba indodana yenze okufaneleyo lokuqondileyo njalo inaka ukugcina izimiso zami, izaphila impela. **20** Umphefumulo owonayo yiwo ozakufa. Indodana kayiyikuba lecala likayise, loba uyise abe lecala lendodana. Ukulunga komuntu olungileyo kuzabalelwa kuye, lobubi bomubi buzamelana laye. **21** Kodwa nxa umuntu omubi ephenduka kuzozonke izono azenzayo njalo agcine izimiso zami zonke enze okufaneleyo lokuqondileyo, uzaphila impela, akayikufa. **22** Akukho kona kwakhe okuzakhunjulwa. Ngenxa yezinto ezilungileyo azenzileyo uzaphila. **23** Ngiyathokoza ngokufa komuntu omubi na? kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. Esikhundleni salokho, kangithabi na nxa bephenduka ezindleleni zabo njalo baphile? **24** Kodwa nxa umuntu olungileyo eguquka ekulungeni kwakhe enze izono njalo enze zona kanye izinto ezinengayo ezenziwa ngumuntu omubi, kambe uzaphila na? Akukho okwezinto ezilungileyo azenzayo okuzakhunjulwa. Ngenxa yecala lokungathembeki langenxa yezono azenzayo, uzakufa. **25** Kodwa lina lithi, 'Indlela kaThixo kayilunganga.' Zwana, wena ndlu ka-Israyeli: Indlela yami kayifanelanga na? **26** Nxa umuntu olungileyo eguquka ekulungeni kwakhe enze izono, uzakufela lokho; ngenxa yezono azenzileyo uzakufa. **27** Kodwa nxa umuntu omubi ephenduka ebubini abenzileyo enze okufaneleyo lokuqondileyo, uzasilisa ukuphila kwakhe. **28** Ngoba ucabanga konke okubi akwenzayo aphenduke kukho, uzaphila impela; akayikufa. **29** Ikanti indlu ka-Israyeli ithi, 'Indlela kaThixo kayilunganga.' Izindlela zami kazilunganga na, wena ndlu ka-Israyeli? **30** Ngakho-ke wena ndlu ka-Israyeli, lowo lalowo ngizamahlulela ngokumayelana lezindlela zakhe, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. Phendukani! Tshiyani ububi benu bonke; ngalokho isono kasiyikuba yikufa kwenu. **31** Zikhululeni kukho konke okubi elikwenzileyo, lizuze inhliziyu entsha lomoya omutsha. Kungani na uzakufa, wena ndlu ka-

Israyeli? **32** Ngoba anghithokozi ngokufa loba ngokukabani, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. Phendukani liphile!"

19 "Qhinqani isililo ngamakhosana ako-Israyeli **2** lithi: 'Yeka isilwanekazi esasingunyoko phakathi kwezilwane! Salala phansi phakathi kwezilwane ezisakhlulayo sondla imidlwane yaso. **3** Sakhulisa omunye wemidlwane yaso waba yisilwane esilamandla wafunda ukudabula okubanjelwe ukudliwa, wadla labantu. **4** Izizwe zezwa ngawo wasuthiywa egodini lazo. Zawuhola ngezingwegwe zawusa elizweni laseGibhithe. **5** Kwathi sibona ithemba laso lingagcwalesekanga, ithemba laso lingasekho, sathatha omunye wemidlwane yaso sawenza waba yisilwane esilamandla. **6** Wanyonyoba phakathi kwezilwane ngoba wawuyisilwane esilamandla. Wafunda ukudabula okubanjelwe ukudliwa, wadla labantu. **7** Wadliza izinqaba zabo wachitha lamadolobho abo. Ilizwe kanye loba bonke ababekulo bathuthumeliswa yikubhonga kwawo. **8** Izizwe zawuwukela, zivela ezindaweni eziwuzingezileyo. Zendlala amambule azo phezu kwawo wawela egodini labo. **9** Bawudonsela ekhejini ngezingwegwe bawusa enkosini yaseBhabhiloni. Bawufaka entolongweni, ngakho ukubhonga kwawo akuzwakalanga futhi ezintabeni zako-Israyeli. **10** Unyoko wayenjengevini elihlanyelwe ngasemanzini esivini sakh; sasithela izithelo njalo silezingatsha ezinengi ngenxa yamanzi amanengi. **11** Ingatsha zaso zaziqinile zifanele intonga yombusi. Sasiphakeme siphezulu le ngaphezu kwamahlamvu aminyeneyo, sibonakala ngobude baso langingatsha zaso ezinengi. **12** Kodwa sasitshunwa ngokuthuthela saphoselwa phansi. Umooya wasempumalanga wasomisa, izithelo zaso zaqhululwa; ingatsha zaso eziqinileyo zabuna umlilo wazitshisa. **13** Khathesi sesihlanyelwe enkangala, elizweni elitshisayo lelomileyo. **14** Umlilo umemetheke usuka kolunye lwezingatsha ezinkulu, wathisa izithelo zaso. Akulagatsha oluqinileyo oluseliso kuso olufanele intonga yombusi.' Lesi yisililo njalo sizasentshiswa njengesililo."

20 Ngomnyaka wesikhombisa, ngenyanga yesihlanu ngosuku lwetshumi, banye babadala bako-Israyeli bafika bezebuza uThixo, bahlala phansi phambi kwami. **2** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **3** "Ndodana yomuntu, khuluma labadala bako-Israyeli uthi kubo, 'Nanku okutsho nguThixo Wobukhosi: Lilande ukuzangibuza na? Ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngikhona, kangiyikulivumela ukuthi lingibuze, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.' **4** Uzabahlulela na? Uzabahlulela na, ndodana yomuntu? Ngakho batshele ngezenzo zaboyise ezinengayo **5** uthi kubo: 'Nanku okutsho nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngosuku engakhetha ngalo u-Israyeli, ngafunga kuyo inzalo yendlu kajakhobe isandla siphakanyisiwe njalo ngiziveza kuyo iGibhithe. Isandla siphakanyisiwe ngathi kubo, "Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu." **6** Ngalolosuku ngafunga kubo ukuthi ngizabakhupha eGibhithe ngibase elizweni engabadingela lona, ilizwe eligeleza uchago loluju, elihle kakhulu kulamazwe wonke. **7** Njalo ngathi kubo, "Lowo lalowo wenu kalahle izifanekiso ezenyanyekayo elibeke amehlo enu kuzo, njalo lingazingcolisi ngezithombe zaseGibhithe. Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu." **8** Kodwa bangihlamukela kabaze bangilalela; kabazilahlanga izithombe zabo ezenyanyekayo ababeke amehlo abo kuzo, loba balahle izithixo zabo zaseGibhithe. Ngakho ngathi ngizathululela ulaka lwami phezu kwabo ngiqede lokuthukuthela kwami ngimelane labo eGibhithe. **9** Kodwa ngenxa yebizo lami, ngenza

okwakuzalivikela ekungcolisweni phambi kwezizwe ababehlala phakathi kwazo engiziveze emehlweni azo kwabako-Israyeli ngokubakhupha eGibhithe. **10** Ngakho ngabakhupha eGibhithe ngabasa enkangala. **11** Ngabanika izimiso zami ngabazisa lemithetho yami, ngoba umuntu oyilalelayo uzaphila ngayo. **12** Njalo ngabanika lamaSabatha ami njengesibonakalisi phakathi kwami labo, ukuze bakwazi ukuthi mina Thixo ngabenza baba ngcwele. **13** Kodwa abantu bako-Israyeli bangihlamukela enkangala. Kabazilandelanga izimiso zami kodwa bayala imithetho yami, njalo batshaphaza amaSabatha ami kakhulu, ngakho umuntu oyilalelayo uzaphila ngayo. Ngokunjalo ngathi ngizathululela ulaka lwami phezu kwabo ngibaqede du enkangala. **14** Kodwa ngenxa yebizo lami, ngenxa okwakuzalivikela ekungcolisweni phambi kwezizwe engabakhupha zikhangele. **15** Njalo isandla siphakanyisiwe ngafunga kubo enkangala ukuthi angiyikubafikisa elizweni engangipabe lona, ilizwe eligeleza uchago loluju, elihle kakhulu kulamazwe wonke, **16** ngoba imithetho yami bayala njalo kabalandelanga izimiso zami, batshaphaza lamaSabatha ami futhi. Ngoba inhliziyo zabo zazinamathele ezithombeni zabo. **17** Ikanti ngabazwela isihawu kangaze ngababhuhisa kumbe ngibaqede enkangala. **18** Ngatsho ebantwaneni babo enkanga ngathi, “Lingalandeli izimiso zaboyihlo loba ligcine imithetho yabo loba lizingcolise ngezithombe zabo. **19** Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu; landelani izimiso zami linanzelele ukugcina imithetho yami. **20** Gcinani amaSabatha engcwele, ukuba abe yisibonakalisi phakathi kwami lani. Lapho-ke lizakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu.” **21** Kodwa abantwana bangihlamukela: Kabazilandelanga izimiso zami, kabananzanga ukugcina imithetho yami lanxa umuntu oyilalelayo ezaphila ngayo njalo batshaphaza amaSabatha ami. Ngakho ngathi ngizathululela ulaka lwami phezu kwabo ngiqedele ukuthukuthela kwami kubo enkangala. **22** Kodwa ngazithiba, njalo ngenxa yebizo lami ngenxa okwakuzalivikela ekungcolisweni phambi kwezizwe engabakhupha zikhangele. **23** Njalo isandla siphakanyisiwe ngafunga kubo enkangala ukuthi ngangizabahlakazela phakathi kwezizwe ngibachithachithele emazweni, **24** ngoba babangayilalelana imithetho yami kodwa bezalile izimiso zami batshaphaza amaSabatha ami, lamelho abo alangazela izithombe zaboyise. **25** Futhi ngabanikela ezimiseni ezazingalunganga kanye lemithetho ababengeke baphile ngayo; **26** ngabayekela bangcoliswa yizipho zabo, imihlatshelo yamazibulo wonke ukuze ngibenze besabe khona bezakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo.” **27** Ngakhoke, ndodana yomuntu, khuluma labantu bako-Israyeli uthi kubo, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngakho lokhu, labokhokho benu bangithuka ngokungilahla. **28** Kwathi lapho sengibangenisile elizweni engangifunge ngathi ngizabapha lona, bathi bebona loba luphi uqaqa oluphakemeyo, loba siphilisihlala esilamahlamvu amanengi, khonapho banikelela khona imihlatshelo yabo, banikela iminikelo eyangithukuthelisayo, banikela impepha yabo elephunga elimnandi, bathulula leminikelo yabo yokunathwayo. **29** Ngasengisithi kubo: Iyini indawo le ephakemeyo eliya kuyo?” (Ithiwa yiBhama lalamhlanje.) **30** “Ngakho tshono endlini ka-Israyeli uthi: ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Lizazingcolisa yini njengabokhokho benu njalo lilangazele izithombe zabo ezenyanyekayo na? **31** Lapho linikela izipho zenu, imihlatshelo yamadodana enu emlilweni,

liyaqhubeka lizingcolisa ngazononke izithombe zenu kuze kube lamhla. Kumele ngivume na ukuba ungibuze, wena ndlu ka-Israyeli? Ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngikhona, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, kangiyikuvuma ukuba lingibuze. **32** Lina lithi, “Sifuna ukuba njengezizwe, njengabantu basemhlabeni, abakhonza izigodo lamatshe.” Kodwa lokho elilakho engqondweni akusozwe kwenzakale. **33** Ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngikhona, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, ngizalibusa ngesandla esilamandla langengalo eyeluliweyo kanye lolaka oluphuphumayo. **34** Ngizalithatha ezizweni ngililoqoqo emazweni elalihlakazelwe kuwo ngesandla esilamandla langengalo eyeluliweyo kanye lolaka oluphuphumayo. **35** Ngizalisa enkangala yezizwe, kuthi khonapho sikhangelene ubuso ngobuso, ngizaletha ukwahlulela kwami phezu kwenu. **36** Njengoba ngahlulela okhokho benu enkangala yelizwe laseGibhithe, lani ngizalahlulela kanjalo, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **37** Ngizalinalanzelela lapho lisedlula ngaphansi kwentonga yami, ngenxe lani isibopho sesivumelwano. **38** Ngizabakhupha phakathi kwenu labo abahlamukayo bangivukele. Lanxa ngizabakhupha elizweni abahlala kulo, kodwa kabayikungena elizweni lako-Israyeli. Lapho-ke lizakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo. **39** Kuwe-ke, wena ndlu ka-Israyeli, nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Hambani liyekhonza izithombe zenu, lonke! Kodwa emva kwalokho ngeqiniso lizangilalela lingalingcolisi futhi ibizo lami ngezizwe zenu langezithombe. **40** Ngoba entabeni yami engcwele, intaba ephakemeyo yako-Israyeli, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, khonapho phakathi kwelizwe, yonke indlu ka-Israyeli izangikhonza, njalo khonapho ngizabamukela. Khonapho ngizafuna iminikelo yenu lezipho zenu zekhethelo ndawonye lemihlatshelo yenu yonke engcwele. **41** Ngizalamukela njengemphepa elephunga elimnandi lapho sengilikhupha ezizweni njalo sengililoqoqo emazweni elalihlakazelwe kuwo, njalo ngizazionakalisa ngingongcwele phakathi kwenu phambi kwezizwe. **42** Lizakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo lapho sengilingenisa elizweni lako-Israyeli, ilizwe ngafunga ngesandla esiphakanyisiweyo ukuthi ngizalipha okhokho benu. **43** Khonapho-ke lizakumbula ukuziphatha kwenu lazononke izenzo elizingcolise ngazo, njalo lizazanyanya ngenxa yobubi bonke elibenzileyo. **44** Lizakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo lapho sengilijeza ngenxa yebizo lami kodwa kungayisikho mayelana lezindlela zenu ezimbi kanye lezenzo zenu ezixhwalileyo, lina ndlu ka-Israyeli, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.” **45** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **46** “Ndodana yomuntu, khangelana ngaseningizimu; tshumayela okubi ngeningizimu uphrofithe okubi ngelizwe laseningizimu. **47** Tshono ehlathini laseningizimu uthi: ‘Zwana ilizwi likaThixo. Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Sekuseduze ukuthi ngilithungele ngomlilo njalo uzaziqeda zonke izihlahla zenu, ezimanzi lezomileyo. Ilangabi elivuthayo kaliyikucitshwa, njalo ubuso bonke kusukela eningizimu kusiya enyakatho buzatshiswa yiwo. **48** Umuntu wonke uzabona ukuthi mina Thixo yimi engiwuthungeleyo; kawuyikucitsha.” **49** Ngasengisithi, “Awu Thixo Wobukhosi! Bathi kimi, ‘Kakhulumu imifanekiso kuphela nje na?’”

21 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, khangelisa ubuso bakho eJerusalema utshumayela okubi ngendawo engcwele. Phrofetha okubi ngelizwe lako-Israyeli **3** uthi kulo: ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngixabane lani. Ngizahwatsha inkemba yami emxhakeni wayo ngisuse

kuwe abalungileyo lababi. **4** Ngoba ngizasusa abalungileyo lababi, inkemba yami izahwatshelela ukumelana labo bonke abavela eningizimu kanye lasenyakatho. **5** Lapho-ke abantu bonke bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo sengihwatshe inkemba yami emxhakeni wayo, kayiyikubuyela futhi.’ **6** Ngakho-ke bubula ndodana yomuntu! Bubula phambi kwabo ngenhliziyo edabukileyo kanye losizi olukhulu. **7** Nxa bekubuzabesithi, ‘Kungani na ububula?’ uzakuthi, ‘Ngenxa yezindaba ezifikayo. Zonke inhliziyi zizenyela lezandla zonke zibe buthathakha, imimoya yonke izaphela amandla lamadolo wonke abe buthathakha njengamanzi.’ Kuyeza! Ngempela kuzakwenzakala, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.” **8** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **9** “Ndodana yomuntu, phrofetha uthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: Umhedla, umhedla, ilolwe njalo yalolongwa, **10** ilolelwe ukubulala, ilolongelwe ukuphazima njengombane. Kambe sizathokoza na ngentonga yobukhosi yendodana yami uJuda? Inkemba iyazeyisa zonke izigodo ezinjalo. **11** Inkemba ibekelwe ukuba ilolongwe, ukuba iphathwe ngesandla; iyalolwa ilolongwe, yenziwe ilungele isandla sombulali. **12** Hlaba umkhosi ulile, ndodana yomuntu, ngoba imelane labantu bami; imelane lamakhosana wonke ako-Israyeli. Aphoselwa kuyo inkemba ndawonye labantu bami. Ngakho-ke bamba isihlati sakho. **13** Ukuhlolwa kuyeza impela. Njalo kuzakuba njani nxa intonga kajuda yobukhosi, edelelwa yinkemba, ingasaqhubeki? kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.’ **14** Ngakho-ke, ndodana yomuntu, phrofetha uqakeze izandla zakho. Inkemba kayigadle kabili, lanxa kungaba kathathu. Yinkemba yokubulala, inkemba yokubulala kakhulu, ebahanyayo ivela macele wonke. **15** Ukuzehliziyi zibe buthathakha labawileyo babebanengi, sengibeke inkemba yokubulala kuwo wonke amasango abo. Bheka! Yenzelwe ukuphazima njengombane, iphathelwe ukubulala. **16** Wena nkemba, geza kwesokudla, uphinde kwesenxele, loba kungaphi ubukhali bakho obuphendukela khona. **17** Lami futhi ngizaqakeza izandla zami, njalo ulaka lwami luzadeda. Mina Thixo sengikhulumile.” **18** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **19** “Ndodana yomuntu, canda imigwaqo emibili yenkemba yenkosi yaseBhabhiloni ukuba ihambe kuyo, yomibili iqalise elizweni linye. Yenza insika yesiqondiso lapho okuphambuka khona umgwaqo oya edolobheni. **20** Canda omunye umgwaqo wenkemba ukuba izemelana leRabha yama-Amoni, lomunye ukumelana loJuda kanye leJerusalema elivikelweyo. **21** Ngoba inkosi yaseBhabhiloni izakuma lapho imigwaqo eyehlukana khona, lapho okuhlangana khona imigwaqo emibili, ukuba ifune ibika: Izaphosa inkatho ngemits’hoko, izabuza izithombe zayo, izahlola isibindi. **22** Esandleni sayo sokudla kuzakuba inkatho yeJerusalema, lapho ezamisa khona imigqala yokudliza, lokunika umlayo wokubulala, lokuhlaba umkhosi wempi, lokumisa imigqala yokudliza amasango, lokwakha amadundulu kanye lokumisa izindawo zokuvimbizela. **23** Kuzakhanya angathi libika amanga kulabo asebefungele ukuthobeka kuyo, kodwa yona izabakhumbuzala labo ibathumbe. **24** Ngakho nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: ‘Njengoba lina bantu lingikhumbuze icala lenu ngokuhlumka kwenu okusobala, libonakalisa izono zenu kukho konke elikwenzayo njengoba lenze lokhu, lizathunjwa. **25** Wena nkosana yako-Israyeli exhwalileyo njalo embi, usuku lwakho selufikile, lesikhathi sokujeziswa kwakho sesifike emaphethelweni, **26** nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Khupha iqhuye, yethula umqhele. Akuyikuba njengoba

kwakunjalo: Abaphansi bazaphakanyiswa kuthi abaphakemeyo behliselwe phansi. **27** Unxwiwa! Unxwiwa! Ngizawenza ube lunxiwa! Kawuyikubuyiselwa kuze kufike lowo ongowakhe ngokuqondileyo, onguye engizamnika wona.’ **28** Njalo wena, ndodana yomuntu, phrofetha uthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi ngama-Amoni kanye lezithoko zawo: Inkemba, inkemba, ihwatshelele ukubulala, ilolongelwe ukuqothula lokuphazima njengombane! **29** Langaphezu kwemibono yamanga ngawe, lokuhlahlula okungamanga ngawe, izabekwa entanyeni zababi okumele babulawe, abasuku lwabo selufikile, abasikhathi sokujeziswa kwabo sesifike emaphethelweni aso. **30** Buyisela inkemba emxhakeni wayo. Endaweni owadalelwa kuyo, elizweni labokhokho bakho, ngizakwahlulela khona. **31** Ngizathululela ulaka lwami phezu kwakho ngiphfumlele lentukuthelo yami etshisayo kuwe; ngizakunikela ebantwini abalesihluku, abantu abakwaziyo ukuqothula. **32** Uzakuba zinkuni zomlilo, igazi lakho lizachithelwa elizweni lakini, kawuyikuhunjulwa futhi; ngoba mina Thixo sengikhulumile.”

22 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, uzalahlulela na? Uzalahlulela na lelidolobho lokuchithwa kwegazi? Ngakho melana lalo kanye lezono zalo ezenyanyekayo **3** uthi: Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Wena dolobho elizithela ukutshabalala ngokuchitha igazi phakathi kwakho njalo uzingcolisa ngokwenza izithombe, **4** usube lecala ngenxa yegazi olichithiweyo njalo usungcoliswe yizithombe ezenzileyo. Usulethe insuku zakho ekupheleni, lesiphetho seminyaka yakho sesifikile. Ngakho ngizakwenza ube yinto yokuklolodelwa ezizweni lenhle kisa emazweni wonke. **5** Labo abaseduze kanye labo abakhathshana bazakuhoza, wena dolobho elidumazekileyo, eligcwele ukuxokozela. **6** ‘Khangela ubone ukuthi yileyo laleylo inkosana yako-Israyeli ephakathi kwakho isebenzisa amandla ayo ekuchitheni igazi. **7** Phakathi kwakho iphathe uyise lonina ngokweyisa; phakathi kwakho incindezele abezizweni, njalo yaphatha kubi izintandane labafelokazi. **8** Uzeyisile izinto zami ezingcwele watshaphaza lamaSabatha ami. **9** Phakathi kwakho kulabantu abahlebayo, abahlose ukuchitha igazi; phakathi kwakho kulalabo abadlela ezindaweni zokukhonzela entabeni benze lezenzo zesigweba. **10** Phakathi kwakho kulalabo abangcolisa imibhedabhedo yabo; phakathi kwakho kulalabo abadlwengula abesifazane besesikhathini sabo, lapho benghlanzekanga ngokomkhuba. **11** Phakathi kwakho indoda yenza ukona okwenyanyekayo lomfazi kamakhelwane wayo, enye ingcolise umalukazana wayo ngendlela ehlasizayo; enye njalo idlwengula udadewabo, indodakazi kayise uqobo. **12** Phakathi kwakho abantu bayavuma ukuthengwa ukuba bachithe igazi; uthatha inzuzo lomvuzo odlulisileyo emalini ebolekisiweyo, uthole inzuzo engafanelanga kumakhelwane wakho umbamba ngamandla. Njalo usungikhohliwe, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **13** Ngeqiniso ngizats’haya izandla zami ngibabaza inzuzo engafanelanga osuyenzile kanye legazi osulichithe phakathi kwakho. **14** Isibindi sakho sizaqiniseka yini laba izandla zakho ziqine ngosuku ngiqondana lawe na? Mina Thixo sengikhulumile, njalo ngizakwenza lokho. **15** Ngizakuhlakazela phakathi kwezizwe ngikuchithachithele emazweni; lokungcola kwakho ngizakuqeda. **16** Lapho usungcolisiwe phambi kwezizwe, uzakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo.” **17** Ilizwi likaThixo laselifika kimi lisithi: **18** “Ndodana yomuntu, indlu

ka-Israyeli isibe ngamanyala kimi. Bonke balithusi, lomnuso, lensimbi kanye lomthofi okusele phakathi kwemvutho. Kungamanye esiliva. **19** Ngakho nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: 'Ngoba lonke selibe ngamanye, ngizaliqoqela eJerusalem. **20** Njengabantu beqoqela isiliva, lethusi, lensimbi, lomthofi kanye lomnuso emvuthweni ukuba kuncibilikiswe ngomfutho womlilo, ngizaliqoqa kanjalo ngokuthukuthela kwami langolaka lwami ngilibeke phakathi kwedolobho ngilincibilikise. **21** Ngizaliqoqa njalo ngizalivuthela ngolaka lwami oluvuthayo, njalo lizancibilikiswa phakathi kwalo. **22** Njengesiliva sincibilikiselwa phakathi kwemvutho, kanjalo lani lizancibilikiselwa phakathi kwalo, njalo lizakwazi ukuthi mina Thixo sengithululele ulaka lwami phezu kwenu.'" **23** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika futhi kimi lisithi: **24** "Nodana yomuntu, tshono elizweni uthi, 'Uyilizwe elingazange libe lezulu kumbe imikhizo ngosuku lwentukuthelo.' **25** Kulokucetshwa kwamacebo amabi ngamakhosana alo phakathi kwalo njengesilwane esibhongayo sidlithiza esikubuleleyo; adla abantu, athathe inotho kanye lezinto eziligugu, andise labafelokazi phakathi kwalo. **26** Abaphristi balo bephula umthetho wami njalo bahlambaza lezinto zami ezingcwele; kabehlukanisi phakathi kokungcwele okujayelekileyo; bafundisa besithi akulamehluko phakathi kokungcolileyo lokungangcolanga; njalo bavala amehlo abo ekugcineni amaSabatha ami, okwenza ngithukwe phakathi kwabo. **27** Izikhulu zalo phakathi kwalo zinjengezimpsi idlithiza ezikubuleleyo; zichitha igazi zibulale labantu ukuba zithole inzuzo engafanelanga. **28** Abaphrofethi balo bacamba izenzo zazo ngemibono yamanga lokuhlhlula okungamanga. Bathi, 'Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi' kodwa uThixo engakhulumanga. **29** Abantu belizwe benza imisebenzi yokuqilibeza lokuphanga abanye; bancindezela abayanga labaswelayo, baphathe kubi labezizweni, babenqabele ukulunga. **30** Ngadinga umuntu phakathi kwabo owayengakha umduli ame phambi kwami esikhaleni emele ilizwe ukuze ngingalitshabalalisi, kodwa ngamswela. **31** Ngakho ngizathululela ukuthukuthela kwami phezu kwabo ngibaqede ngolaka lwami oluvuthayo, ngikwehlise phezu kwamakhanda abo bonke abakwenzayo, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi."

23 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** "Nodana yomuntu, kwakulabesifazane ababili, amadodakazi omfazi munye. **3** Baba yizifebe eGibhithe, beqalise ubuwule kusukela ebutsheni babo. Kulelilizwe amabele abo abanjwabanjwa lengaphambili yabo yaphathwaphathwa. **4** Omdala wayethiwa ngu-Ohola, umnawakhe ngu-Oholibha. Babengabami njalo bazala amadodana lamadodakazi. U-Ohola yiSamariya, u-Oholibha kuyiJerusalem. **5** U-Ohola waqalisa ubuwule esesengowami; njalo wakhanuka izithandwa zakhe, ama-Asiriya, amabutho **6** agqoke okulifefe, ababusi kanye labalawuli bebutho, bonke babengamajaha amahle, kanye labagada amabhiza. **7** Wazinikela njengesifebe kubo bonke abaphakemeyo base-Asiriya njalo wazingcolisa ngezithombe zabo bonke abakhanukayo. **8** Kabudelanga ubufebe abuqalisa eGibhithe, lapho amajaha alala laye ebutsheni bakhe, ambambabamba ngaphambili, athululela lezinkanuko zawo phezu kwakhe. **9** Ngakho ngamnikela kuzithandwa zakhe, ama-Asiriya, ayewakhanuka. **10** Amnqunula, athatha amadodana lamadodakazi akhe yena ambulala ngenkemba. Waba yisiga phakathi kwabesifazane, wajeziswa. **11** Umnawakhe u-

Oholibha wakubona lokhu, kodwa ngenkanuko lobufebe bakhe wayexhwale kakhulu kulodadewabo. **12** Laye wakhanuka ama-Asiriya, ababusi labalawuli bebutho, lamabutho agqoke okupheleleyo, labagadi bamabhiza, lawo wonke amajaha amahle. **13** Ngabona ukuthi laye wazingcolisa; bobabili bahamba ndlelanye. **14** Kodwa yena ubufebe bakhe bengezeleleka futhi. Wabona amadoda efanekiswe emdulini, izithombe zamaKhaladiya ezifanekiswe ngokubomvu, **15** zilamabhanti ezinkalweni zazo njalo zilamaqhiye alengayo emakhanda azo; zonke zikhanya angathi yizikhulu zezinqola zempi zamaKhaladiya, inzalo yaseBhabhiloni. **16** Kwathi khonokho nje ebabona wahle wabafisa wasethuma isithunywa kubo eKhaladiya. **17** Ngakho amaBhabhiloni afika kuye, alala laye, njalo ezinkanukweni zawo amngcolisa. Emva kokuba esengcoliswe yiwo, wasuka kuwo enengekile. **18** Kwathi lapho esesenza ubufebe bakhe obala njalo eveza lobunqunu bakhe, ngasuka kuye ngingekile, njengoba ngangisukile kudadewabo. **19** Kodwa banda ngamandla ubuwule bakhe esekhumbula insuku zobutsha bakhe, lapho wayeyisifebe eGibhithe. **20** Khonale wakhanuka izithandwa zakhe, ezazilezitho zangaphambili ezazifana lezabobabhemi, zikhahliza okufana lokwamabhiza. **21** Ngakho walangazela isagweba sasebutsheni bakho, lapho okwathi uyeGibhithe isifuba lamabele akho kwabanjwabanjwa. **22** Ngakho-ke, Oholibha, nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngizakwenza izithandwa zakho zikuvukele, lezo owazitshiya unengekile, njalo ngizaziletha kuwe ukuba zimelane lawe zivela emaceleni wonke. **23** abaseBhabhiloni lamaKhaladiya wonke, amadoda asePhekodi laseShowa kanye leKhowa, lama-Asiriya wonke elawo, amajaha amahle, wonke angababusi labalawuli bebutho, izinduna zezinqola zempi lamanye amadoda alezikhundla ezinkulu, bonke begade amabhiza. **24** Bazakuzakuhlasele ngezikhali, izinqola zempi lezinqola zokuthwala, njalo belexuku elikhulu labantu; bazaviva ukulwa lawe emaceleni wonke belamahawu amakhulu lamancane njalo belezingowane. Ngizakunikela kubo ukuba bakujezise, njalo bazakujezisa ngokumayelana lemithetho yabo. **25** Ngizakwenza intukuthelo yobukhwele bami imelane lawe, njalo bazakuphatha ngolaka. Bazaama impumulo zenu lezindebe zenu, njalo abenu labo abazasala bazabulawa ngenkemba. Bazathumba amadodana enu lamadodakazi, njalo abenu labo abazasala bazaqothulwa ngumlilo. **26** Njalo bazakuhlubula izigqoko zakho bathathe lezicciso zakho ezinhle. **27** Kanjalo-ke ngizaqeda isagweba lobufebe obawuqalisela eGibhithe. Kawuyikukhangela lezizinto uzikhanku loba ukhumbule iGibhithe futhi. **28** Ngoba nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Sekuseduze ukuba ngikunikele kulabo abakuzondayo, kulabo owasuka kubo unengekile. **29** Bazakuphatha ngenzondo njalo bathumbe yonke into owayisebenzelayo. Bazakutshiya unqunu uze, njalo ihlazo lobufebe bakho lizavela obala. Isagweba sakho lobufebe **30** kwehlisele lokhu phezu kwakho, ngoba ufebe lezizwe, wazingcolisa wena ngokwakho ngezithombe zazo. **31** Ulandele indlela kadadewenu; ngakho ngizabeka inkezo yakhe esandleni sakho. **32** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Uzanatha inkezo kadadewenu, inkezo enkulu ezikileyo futhi; izaletha ukuhlekwa lokuklodelwa, ngoba ithwele lukhulu. **33** Uzakhulelwa yikudakwa losizi, inkezo yokuchitheka lokuphundleka, inkezo kadadewenu iSamariya. **34** Uzayinatha uyibhije; uzayiphahlaza ibe yizicucu ufucuze

amabele akho. Sengikhulumile, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **35** Ngakho nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Njengoba usungikhohliwe wangifuqela ngemva kwakho, kumele uthwale imivuzo yesagweba sakho kanye lobufefe bakho.” **36** UThixo wathi kimi: “Ndodana yomuntu, uzakwahlulela u-Ohola lo-Oholibha na? Ngakho melana labo ngezenzo zabo ezinengayo, **37** ngoba benze ubufefe njalo lezandla zabo zilegazi. Bafeba lezithombe zabo; banikela labantwana babo ababengizalele bona, njengokudla kuzo. **38** Njalo benze lokhu kimi: Ngasonaleso isikhathi bangcolisa indlu yami engcwele batshaphaza lamaSabatha ami. **39** Ngalo kanye usuku abanikela ngalo abantwana babo ezithombeni zabo, bangena endlini yami engcwele bayingcolisa. Lokho yikho abakwenzayo endlini yami. **40** Bathuma lesithunywa ebantwini ukuba beze bevela khatshana, kwathi sebefikile wabagezela, wacomba amehlo akho wasufaka lezicciso zakho. **41** Wahlala embhedeni omuhle, kuletafula elilungisiweyo phambi kwaw owawufake phezu kwayo impepha yami lamafutha ami. **42** Umsindo wexuku elalithokoza wawumzungezile; amaSebhiya ayelethwe evela enkangala kanye lamadoda avela exukwini elixokozelayo, njalo bafaka amasongo ezingalweni zowesifazane lodadewabo kanye lemiqhele emihle emakhanda abo. **43** Lapho-ke ngalowo owayesegugiswe yibufefe ngathi, ‘Khatshi kabamsebenzise njengewule, ngoba lokho yikho konke ayikho.’ **44** Balala laye. Njengabesilisa belala lesifebe, ngokunjalo balala lalabobafazi abalesagweba, u-Ohola lo-Oholibha. **45** Kodwa abantu abalungileyo bazabanika isijeziso sabesifazane abafebayo njalo bachithe legazi, ngoba bayizifebe njalo lezandla zabo zilegazi. **46** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Baletheleni ixuku limelane labo beselibanikela kukho ukwesaba lokuphangwa. **47** Ixuku lizabatshaya ngamatshe libajuqe ngezinkemba; lizabulala amadodana lamadodakazi abo litshise izindlu zabo ngomlilo. **48** Ngizakuqeda kanjalo ukuxhwalwa elizweni, ukuze bonke abesifazane baxwayiseke njalo bangenzi njengani. **49** Lizajeziselwa ukuxhwalwa kwenu njalo lithwale lemivuzo yezono zenu zokukhonza izithombe. Lapho-ke lizakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo Wobukhosi.”

24 Ngomnyaka wesificamunwemunye, ngenyanga yetshumi, ngosuku lwetshumi, ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, bhala usuku lolu, usuku lolu lona ngokwalo, ngoba iNkosi yaseBhabhiloni isivimbezele iJerusalem ngalo kanye lolusuku. **3** Tshela indlu le ehlamukayo umfanekiso uthi kubo: ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Beka imbiza yokupheka eziko; ibeke phezu kwamaseko uthele amanzi phakathi kwayo. **4** Faka phakathi kwayo amaqatha enyama, wonke amaqatha amahle, umenze lesiphanga. Igcwalise ngamathambo amahle; **5** thatha okukhethiweyo emhlambini. Basela kakhulu ngenkuni usenzela amathambo; ixhwathise upheke amathambo phakathi kwayo. **6** Ngoba nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Maye kulo idolobho lokuchithwa kwegazi, kuyo imbiza esithombile, ukuthomba kwayo okungayikuphela! Thulula imbiza ukhuphe amaqhatha ngalinye ngalinye kungekho inkatho. **7** Ngakho igazi elachithwa lidolobho leli liphakathi kwalo: lalithululela edwaleni elize; kalilithululelanga phansi lapho umhlabathi owawungaligqibela khona. **8** Ukuze ngivuse intukuthelo njalo ngiphindisele, ngabeka igazi lelo phezu kwedwala elize, ukuze lingagqitshelwa. **9** Ngakho nanku okutshiwo nguThixo

Wobukhosi: Maye kulo idolobho lokuchithwa kwegazi! Lami futhi, ngizakwenza ibonda lenkuni eliphakemeyo. **10** Ngakho faka inkuni uphembe umlilo. Ipheke kuhle inyama, uhlanganisa leziyoliso; uyekele amathambo atshe. **11** Emva kwalokho beka imbiza engelalutho phezu kwamalahle ize itshise lethusi layo livuthe ukuze ukungcola kwayo kutshu kuphele lokuthomba kwayo kutshu kuphele. **12** Isiphuthise imizamo yonke; uqweqwe lokuthomba kwayo kalususwanga, loba langomlilo. **13** Khatshi ukungcola kwakho yisigwebo. Ngoba ngizamile ukukuhlambulula kodwa ubungeke uhlanjululwe ekungcoleni kwakho, kawuyikuhlambuluka futhi ukukuthukethelela kwami kuze kudede. **14** Mina Thixo sengikhulumile. Isikhathi sokuba ngenze sesifikile. Kangiyikuzithiba; kangiyikuba lesihawu, kumbe ngiyekethise. Uzakwahlulelwa mayelana lokuziphatha kwakho kanye lezenzo zakho, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.” **15** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **16** “Ndodana yomuntu, sekuseduze ukuthi ngokugalela okukodwa nje ngisuse kuwe intokozo yamehlo akho. Kodwa ungalili kumbe ukhale loba wehlise inyembezi. **17** Bubula uthule; ungalileli abafileyo. Bophela iqhiye yakho lamanyathela akho ezinyaweni zakho; ungambozi ingxenye yaphansi yobuso bakho loba udle ukudla komkhuba wabalilayo.” **18** Ngakho ngakhluluma labantu ekuseni, umkami wafa kushilwa. Ekuseni kwakusisa ngenza njengokulaywa kwami. **19** Abantu basebengibuza besithi, “Kawuyikushitshela na ukuthi izinto lezi zilani lathi?” **20** Ngakho mina ngathi kubo, “Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **21** Tshono endlini ka-Israyeli uthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Sekuseduze ukuthi ngingcolise indlu yami engcwele, inqaba eliziqhenya ngayo, intokozo yamehlo enu, into eliyithanda kakhulu. Amadodana lamadodakazi eliwatshiyileyo azabulawa ngenkemba. **22** Njalo lizakwenza njengoba ngenzile. Kaliyikumboza ingxenye yaphansi yobuso benu loba lidle ukudla komkhuba wabalilayo. **23** Lizafaka amaqhiye enu emakhanda enu lamanyathela enu ezinyaweni zenu. Kaliyikulila kumbe likhale kodwa lizacikizeka ngenxa yezono zenu njalo libubule phakathi kwenu. **24** UHezekhiyeli uzakuba yisibonakaliso kimi; lizakwenza njengoba enzile. Nxa lokhu kusenzakala, lizakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo Wobukhosi.’ **25** Njalo wena, ndodana yomuntu, ngosuku engizasusa ngalo inqaba yabo, intokozo yabo lodumo, injabulo yamehlo abo, isifiso senhliziyo yabo, kanye lamadodana lamadodakazi abo futhi, **26** ngalolosuku isiphopheli yiso esizalandisa izindaba. **27** Ngalesisikhathi umlomo wakho uzavuleka; uzakhluluma laye njalo kawuyikuthula futhi. Ngakho uzakuba yisibonakaliso kubo, njalo bazakwazi ukuthi nginguThixo.”

25 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, khangelisa ubuso bakho umelane lama-Amoni, uphrofite okubi ngawo. **3** Tshono kuwo uthi, ‘Zwanini ilizwi likaThixo Wobukhosi. Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngoba lina lathi ‘Aha!’ ngendlu yami engcwele lapho yayingcolisiwe langelizwe lako-Israyeli lapho lalichithiwe kanye langabantu bakoJuda lapho babethunjiwe, **4** ngakho ngizalinikela ebantwini baseMpumalanga njengenotho yabo. Bazakwakha izihonqo zabo bamise amathente abo phakathi kwenu; bazakudla izithelo zenu banathe lochago lwenu. **5** Ngizakwenza iRabha ibe lidlelo lamakamela le-Amoni ibe yindawo yokuphumulela izimvu. Lapho-ke lizakwazi ukuthi nginguThixo. **6** Ngoba nanku okutshiwo

nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngoba liqakeze izandla zenu lagida langezinyawo zenu, lithokoza ngabo bonke ububi behliziyo yenu ngelizwe lako-Israyeli, 7 ngakho ngizakwelula isandla sami ngimelane lani, ngilinkele ezizweni. Ngizaliqeda du phakathi kwezizwe, ngibuye ngilise emazweni enu. Ngizaliqothula, njalo lizakwazi ukuthi nginguThixo.” 8 “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: ‘Ngenxa yokuthi iMowabi kanye leSeyiri athi, “Khangelani, indlu kaJuda isinjengezinye izizwe zonke,” 9 ngakho-ke ngizakwambula uhlangothi lweMowabi, kusukela emadolobheni asemingceleni yeBhethi-Jeshimoth, leBhali-Meyoni kanye leKhiriyathayimi, udumo lwelizwe. 10 Ngizalikele iMowabi ndawonye lama-Amoni ebantwini baseMpumalanga njengenotho, ukuze ama-Amoni angakhunjulwa phakathi kwezizwe; 11 njalo ngizaletha isijeziso eMowabi. Bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo.” 12 “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: ‘Ngoba i-Edomi yaphindisela endlini kaJuda yasisiba lecala elikhulu ngokwenza njalo, 13 ngakho nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngizakwelula isandla sami ngimelane le-Edomi ngibulale abantu bayo kanye lezifuyo. Ngizayichitha, njalo kusukela eThemani kusiya eDedani, bazabulawa ngenkamba. 14 Ngizaphindisela e-Edomi ngesandla sabantu bami u-Israyeli, njalo i-Edomi bazayiphatha mayelana lentukuthelo yami kanye lolaka lwami; bazayazi impindiselo yami, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.” 15 “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: ‘Ngoba amaFilistiya enza impindiselo njalo aphindisela ngolunya ezinhliziyweni zawo, njalo ngenzondo yasendulo afuna ukuchitha ujuda, 16 ngakho nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Sekuseduze ukuba ngelule ingalo yami ngimelane lamaFilistiya, njalo ngizaqothula amaKherethi ngichithe lalabo abaseleyo ngasolwandle. 17 Ngizakwenza impindiselo enkulu kubo njalo ngibajezise ekuthukutheleni kwami. Ngakho bazakwazi ukuthi nginguThixo, lapho sengiphindisela kubo.”

26 Ngomnyaka wethsumi lanye, ngosuku lwakuqala lwenyanga, ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: 2 “Ndodana yomuntu, ngoba iThire itshilo kulo iJerusalem yathi, ‘Aha!’ Isango lokuya ezizweni lidlikile, leminyango isivulekele mina; njengoba khathe si selingamanxiwa ngizaphumelela, 3 ngakho-ke nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngimelana lawe, wena Thire, njalo ngizakulethela izizwe ezinengi zimelane lawe njengolwandle luphosa amagagasi alo phezulu. 4 Zizadiliza imiduli yaseThire, ziwasele phansi imiphotshongo yalo; ngizaphala inkunkuma yalo ngilenze libe lidwala elingelalutho. 5 Elwandle lizakuba yindawo yokuchayela amambule enhlanzi, ngoba sengikhulumile, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. Lizakuba yimpango yezizwe, 6 lemizana yalo ephakathi kwelizwe izachithwa ngenkamba. Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi nginguThixo. 7 Ngoba nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngizaletha uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, inkosi yamakhosi, evela enyakatho ukuba amelane leThire, ngamabhiza lezinqola zempi, ngabagadi bamabhiza kanye lebutho elikhulu. 8 Uzachitha imizana yakho phakathi kwelizwe ngenkamba; uzamisa izindawo zokuvimbezela, akhe idundulu kusiya phezulu emdulini wakho njalo akuphakamisele lamahawu amelane lawe. 9 Uzaqondisa imigqala yakhe yokudiliza emidulini yakho, abhidlize imiphotshongo yakho ngezikhali zakhe. 10 Amabhiza akhe azakuba manengi kakhulu okuzakwenza akwebese ngothulu. Imiduli yakho izanyikinyiswa ngumsindo wamabhiza empi, izinqola zokuthwala kanye lezinqola zempi

lapho esengena emasangweni akho njengabantu abangena edolobheni elilemiduli efohlileyo. 11 Amasondo amabhiza akhe azanyathela zonke izitalada zakho; uzabulala abantu bakho ngenkamba; lezinsika zakho eziqinileyo zizawela phansi. 12 Bazaphanga inotho yakho bathumbe impahla yakho ethengiswayo; bazadiliza imiduli yakho babhidlize lezindlu zakho ezinhle njalo baphosele amatse akho, lezizigodo kanye lenkunkuma elwandle. 13 Ngizaqeda umsindo wezingoma zakho; lomculo wamachacho akho awuyikuzwakala futhi. 14 Ngizakwenza ube lidwala elize, njalo uzakuba yindawo yokuchayela amambule enhlanzi. Kawuyikwakhiwa futhi, ngoba mina Thixo sengikhulumile, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. 15 Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi kuyo iThire: Kambe amazwe angasolwandle kawayikunyikinyeka yini ngomsindo wokuwa kwakho, lapho abalimeleyo sebebubula njalo lokubulala sekusenzakala phakathi kwakho na? 16 Lapho-ke wonke amakhosana angasolwandle azakwehla ezihlalweni zawo zobukhosi akuphe izembatho zawo njalo ahlubule lezembatho zawo eziceciweyo. Ephethwe yikwesaba, azahlala phansi, eqhaqazela isikhathi sonke, ngokwesaba wena. 17 Lapho-ke azaqhinqa isililo ngawe athi kuwe: ‘Yeka ukuchitheka kwakho, wena dolobho lodumo, ogcwele ngabantu basolwandle! Wawulamanda elwandle wena kanye labakhe kuwe; waletsha ukwesabeka kwakho kubo bonke ababehlala khona. 18 Khathe si amazwe angasolwandle ayathuthumela ngosuku lokuwa kwakho; izihlenge zasolwandle ziyakwesaba ukuwa kwakho.’ 19 Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Lapho ngikwenza ube lidolobho elichithekileyo, njengamadolobho angasahlali muntu, njalo lapho ngiletha inziki zolwandle phezu kwakho kuthi amanzi alo amanengi kakhulu akwembese, 20 lapho-ke ngizakuletha phansi labalo abaya phansi egodini, ebantwini basendulo. Ngizakuhlalisa ngaphansi komhlaba, kunjengasemxwini endulo, labalo abaya phansi egodini, njalo kawuyikuphenduka loba ube lendawo yakho elizweni labaphilayo. 21 Ngizakwenza ukucina kwakho kube ngokwesabekayo uhle utshabalale. Uzadingwa, kodwa ungatholakali futhi, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.”

27 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: 2 “Ndodana yomuntu, khala isililo ngeThire, 3 uthi kuyo iThire esesangweni lasolwandle, yona engumthengiseli wabantu abanengi abangasolwandle, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Wena Thire uthi, “Ngiphelele ngobuhle.” 4 Umbuso wakho wawuphakathi kolwandle; abakhi bakho baphelelisa ubuhle bakho. 5 Wonke amapulanka akho bawenza ngezihlahla zezanipha ezivela eSeniri; bathatha umsedari eBebhanoni ukuba bakwenzise insika. 6 Ngemi-okhi eyavela eBhashani bakwenzela amaphini okugwedla izikepe; ngezizigodo zomsipresi ezavela ngasolwandle lwaseKhithimi benza indawo yokuhamba kuyo, yendlalwe impondo zendlovu. 7 Iseyili lakho kwakuyilineni elihle elicicisiweyo elavela eGibhithe, elaba yilona phawu lwakho; amaseyili akho okusitha ilanga ayengawokuluhlaza lokuyibubende okwavela ngasolwandle lwase-Elisha. 8 Amadoda aseSidoni le-Avadi ayengabagwedli bakho; izazi zakho, wena Thire, zazisemkhunjini njengabatshayeli bomkhumbi. 9 Izincwethi ezindala zaseGebhali zaziphakathi komkhumbi njengabalungisi bemikhumbi ukuba bagcike imiphetho yakho. Yonke imikhumbi yasolwandle labatshayeli bayo yeza ikanye lawe ukuzathenga impahla zakho. 10 Amadoda asePhezhiya,

leLudi kanye lePhuthi asebenza njengamabutho ebuthweni lakho. Alengisa amahawu awo lezingowane emidulini yakho, akulethela ubuhle obukhulu. **11** Amadoda ase-Avadi kanye leHelekhii abakhona emidulini yakho ezinhlangothini zonke; amadoda aseGamadi ayesemiphotsongweni yakho. Aphanyeka amahawu awo inxa zonke zemiduli yakho; aphelelisa ubuhle bakho. **12** IThashishi yathengiselana lawe ngenxa yenotho yezimpahla zakho ezinengi; impahla yakho ethengiswayo bayithenga ngesiliva, insimbi, ithusi kanye lomnuso. **13** IJavani, leThubhali kanye leMesheki athengiselana lawe, athenga impahla zakho ngezizigqili langezinto ezenziwe ngethusi. **14** Abantu baseBhethi Thogarima bathenga impahla zakho ngamabhiza omsebenzi, amabhiza empi kanye lezimongolo. **15** Abantu baseRodesi bathengiselana lawe, njalo amazwe amanengi angasolwandle athenga kuwe, akubhadala ngempondo zendlovu langesihlahla esithiwa yi-ebhoni. **16** I-Aramu yathengiselana lawe ngenxa yezimpahla zakho ezinengi, impahla zakho ezithengiswayo bazithenga ngamatshe aligugu aluhlaza, amalembu alubende, umsebenzi ocecisiweyo, ilineni elihle, ikhorali langelitshe eliligugu elibomvu. **17** UJuda lo-Israyeli bathengiselana lawe; impahla zakho ezithengiswayo bazithenga ngengqoloyi eyavela eMinitithi langokumnandi, uluju, amafutha kanye lenhlaka. **18** Ngenxa yezimpahla zakho ezinengi kanye lenotho enkulu yempahla, iDamaseko yathengiselana lawe ngewayini elivela eHelibhoni langewulu evela eZahari. **19** AbakoDani lamaGrikhi avela e-Uzali athenga impahla zakho; azithenga ngensimbi ekhandiweyo, langekhasiya kanye lekhalamusi. **20** IDedani yathengiselana lawe ngezingubo zezihlalo. **21** I-Arabhiya lazonke izikhulu zaseKhedari babethenga kuwe; bathengiselana lawe ngezimvu, inqama kanye lembuzi. **22** Abathengi baseShebha labaseRahama bathengiselana lawe; impahla zakho bazithenga ngezinhlalo zonke ezinhle zeziyoliso langamatshe aligugu kanye legolide. **23** IHarani, leKhane le-Edeni kanye labathengi baseShebha, le-Asiriya kanye leKhilimadi bathengiselana lawe. **24** Endaweni yakho yokuthengiselana, bakuthengisela izembatho ezinhle, amalembu aluhlaza, imisebenzi ececisiweyo kanye lamajali alemibala eminengi lezintshaka eziphothiweyo njalo zilamafindo abotshwe aqina. **25** Imikhumbi yaseThashishi isebenza ukuthwala impahla zakho. Ugcwele impahla ezinzima enzikini yolwandle. **26** Abagwedli bakho bakusa elwandle olukhulu. Kodwa umoya wasempumalanga uzakwephula ube yiziqayika enzikini yolwandle. **27** Inotho yakho, okuthengiswayo kanye lempahla, abatshayeli bakho, labaqondisi kanye labalungisi bemikhumbi, abathengi bakho lawo wonke amabutho akho, labanye bonke abaphakathi komkhumbi bazatshona enzikini yolwandle ngosuku lokonakala komkhumbi. **28** Amazwe angasolwandle azanyikinyeka lapho abahambisa umkhumbi bakho sebehlaba umkhosi. **29** Bonke abaphethe amaphini okugwedla bazayitshiya imikhumbi yabo; abatshayeli bayo kanye labaqondisi bayo bonke bazakuma ekhunjinini. **30** Bazaphakamisa amazwi abo bakhale kabuhlungu ngawe; bazathela uthuli emakhanda abo bagiqike emlotheni. **31** Bazaphuca amakhanda abo ngenxa yakho njalo bazagqoka amasaka. Bazaqhinqa isililo ngawe ngesililo esibuhlungu. **32** Lapho bekukhalela bekulilela bazaqhinqa isililo ngawe bathi, “Ngubani owake wathuliswa njengeThire, elizungezwe lulwandle na?” **33** Ekuphumeni kwempahla yakho

elwandle wasuthisa izizwe ezinengi; ngenotho yakho enengi langempahla yakho wanothisa amakhosi omhlaba. **34** Khathezi usupahlazwe lulwandle ezinzikini zamanzi: impahla yakho lenhlanganiso yakho yonke kuzatshona phansi kanye lawe. **35** Bonke abahlala emazweni angasolwandle balokwesaba ngawe; amakhosi abo ayathuthumela ngokwesaba lobuso bawo bunyukubaliswe luvulo. **36** Abathengi phakathi kwezizwe bayakuncifela; usufike ekucineni okwesabekayo, njalo kawuyikuba khona futhi.”

28 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, tshono kumbusi waseThire uthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngokuziqqaja kwenhliziyo yakho uthi, “Ngingunkulunkulu; ngihlala esihlalweni sobukhosi sikankulunkulu enzikini yezilwandle.” Kodwa wena ungumuntu hatshi uNkulunkulu, lanxa ucabanga ukuthi uhlakaniphe njengoNkulunkulu. **3** Kambe uhlakaniphile kuloDanyeli na? Akulamfihlo esithekileyo kuwe na? **4** Ngenhlakanipho yakho lokuqedisa uzizuzele inotho njalo wabuthela igolide lesiliva eziphaleni zengcebo yakho. **5** Ngolwazi lwakho olukhulu ekuthengiseni uyandisile inotho yakho, njalo ngenxa yenotho yakho, inhliziyi yakho isiziqqaja. **6** Ngakho nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Njengoba ucabanga ukuthi uhlakaniphile, uhlakaniphe njengoNkulunkulu, **7** ngizaletsha abezizweni ukuba bamelane lawe, izizwe ezisesihluku kakhulu; zizahwatsha inkemba zazo zimelane lobuhle bakho kanye lenhlanganipho, zone lobuhle bakho obukhazimulayo. **8** Zizakwehlisela phansi egodini, njalo uzakufa kabuhlungu enzikini yezilwandle. **9** Lapho-ke uzakutsho na phambi kwalabo abakubulalayo ukuthi, “Mina ngingunkulunkulu?” Uzakuba ngumuntu nje, hatshi unkulunkulu, ezandleni zalabo abakubulalayo. **10** Uzakufa ukufa kwabangasokanga ezandleni zabezizweni. Sengikhulumile, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.” **11** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **12** “Ndodana yomuntu, khala isililo ngenkosi yaseThire uthi kuyo: ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Wawuyisibonelo sokuphelela ugcwele inhlanganipho lobuhle obupheleleyo. **13** Wawuse-Edeni isivande sikaNkulunkulu; waceca ngawo wonke amatshe aligugu: irubhi, lethophazi le-emeralidi, ikhrosolithe, i-onikisi lejaspa, isafire, ithukhwayizi leberhili. Izibonakaliso zakho lezisekelo kwakwenziwe ngegolide; kwalungiswa ngosuku owadalwa ngalo. **14** Wagcotshwa njengekherubhi elondlayo, ngoba ngakumisela lokho. Wawuphezu kwentaba engcwele kaNkulunkulu; wahamba phakathi kwamatshe avutha umlilo. **15** Wawungelasici ezindleleni zakho kusukela ngosuku owadalwa ngalo ububi baze bafunyanwa kuwe. **16** Ngenxa yokuthengisa kwakho ezindaweni ezinengi wagwala udlakele, wasusona. Ngakho ngakususa njengehlazo entabeni kaNkulunkulu, njalo ngakuxotsha, wena kherubhi elondlayo, phakathi kwamatshe avutha umlilo. **17** Inhliziyi yakho yaziqqaja ngenxa yobuhle bakho, njalo wonakalisa inhlanganipho yakho ngenxa yobucwazicwazi bakho. Ngakho ngakuphosela emhlabeni; ngakwenza umbukiso phambi kwamakhosi. **18** Ngezonzo zakho ezinengi lokuthengisa lobuqili usungcolise izindawo zakho ezingcwele. Ngakho ngaphemba umlilo phakathi kwakho wakutshisa wakuqeda, njalo ngakwenza waba ngumlotha emhlabathini phambi kwabo bonke ababekhangela. **19** Zonke izizwe ezazikwazi zithithibeke ngawe; usufike ekucineni okwesabekayo njalo

kawuyikuba khona futhi.” **20** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **21** “Ndodana yomuntu, khangelisa ubuso bakho eSidoni; uphrofitho okubi ngalo **22** uthi: ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngimelana lawe, wena Sidoni, njalo ngizathola udumo phakathi kwakho. Bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo lapho sengiletha isijeziso kulo njalo ngizibonakalisa ngingongcwele phakathi kwalo. **23** Ngizathumela isifo kulo, ngenze igazi ligeleze ezindleleni zalo. Abafileyo bazakuba phakathi kwalo, inkemba imelane lalo amacele wonke. Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo. **24** Abantu bako-Israyeli kabasayikuba labomakhelwane abalenhliziyo ezimbi njalo abangameva abuhlungu lameva ahlabaya. Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo Wobukhosi. **25** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Lapho sengiqoqa abantu bako-Israyeli ezizweni ababehlakazelwe kuzo, ngizazibonakalisa ngingongcwele phakathi kwabo phambi kwezizwe. Emva kwalokho bazahlala elizweni labo, engalinika inceku yami uJakhobe. **26** Bazahlala kulo bevikelakile njalo bazakwakha izindlu bahlanye lezivini; bazahlala bevikelakile lapho sengiletha isijeziso kubo bonke omakhelwane babo ababaphatha kubi. Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo unkulunkulu wabo.”

29 Ngomnyaka wetshumi, ngenyanga yetshumi ngosuku lwetshumi lambili, ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, khangelisa ubuso bakho kuFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe uphrofitho okubi ngaye langelizwe lonke laseGibhithe. **3** Khuluma laye uthi: ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngimelane lawe, Faro nkosi yaseGibhithe, wena silo esikhulu esilele phakathi kwezifula zaso. Uthi, “INayili ngeyakho; wazenzela yona.” **4** Kodwa ngizafaka iwika emihlathini yakho ngingamathisele inhlanzi zezifula zakho, emaxolweni akho. Ngizakukhuphela ngaphandle kwezifula zakho, lenhlanzi zonke zinamathele emaxolweni akho. **5** Ngizakutshiya enkangala, wena kanye lenhlanzi zonke zasezifuleni zakho. Uzawela egcekeni egangeni njalo ungabuthwa loba udojwe. Ngizakunikela njengokudla ezinyamazneni zomhlaba lezinyoni zasemoyeni. **6** Lapho-ke bonke abahlala eGibhithe bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo. Ube uludondolo lomhlanga lwendlu ka-Israyeli. **7** Kwathi bekubamba ngezandla zabo, wacezuka waqhaqha amahlombe abo; kwathi lapho beseyama kuwe wephuka lamaqolo abo aqhuzuka. **8** Ngakho-ke nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngizaletha inkemba imelane lawe ngibulale abantu bakho kanye lezifuyo zabo. **9** IGibhithe izakuba yinkangala echithekileyo. Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo. Ngoba wathi, “INayili ngeyakho; nguwe owayenzayo,” **10** ngakho ngimelana lawe kanye lezifula zakho, njalo ngizakwenza ilizwe laseGibhithe libe lunxiwisa logwadule oluphundelekileyo kusukela eMigidoli kusiya e-Asiwani, kuze kuyefika emngceleni weKhushi. **11** Akulanyawo lomuntu loba olwenyamazana oluzadabula phakathi kwalo; akulamuntu ozahlala khona okweminyaka engamatshumi amane. **12** Ngizakwenza ilizwe laseGibhithe libe ngeliphundelekileyo phakathi kwamazwe achithekileyo, njalo amadolobho alo azaphundeleka okweminyaka engamatshumi amane phakathi kwamadolobho angamanxiwa. AmaGibhithe ngizawachithela phakathi kwezizwe ngiwahlakazele emazweni. **13** Kodwa nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ekupheleni kweminyaka engamatshumi amane ngizaqoqa amaGibhithe ezizweni ayehlakazelwe kuzo. **14** Ngizawabuyisela evela ekuthunjweni

yiGibhithe, ePhathrosi, ilizwe labokhokho babo. Lapho bazakuba ngumbuso omncane. **15** Uzakuba ngumbuso omncane kakhulu emibusweni njalo kawuyikuziphakamisela phezulu kwezinye izizwe futhi. Ngizawenza ungabi lamandla ukuze ungabusi izizwe futhi. **16** IGibhithe kaliyikuba ngumthombo wethemba futhi wabantu bako-Israyeli kodwa izakuba yisikhumbuzo sesono sabo sokuyafuna usizo kulo. Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo Wobukhosi.” **17** Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amabili lesikhombisa, ngenyanga yakuqala ngelanga lakuqala, ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **18** “Ndodana yomuntu, uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni waqhuba ibutho lakhe ukuyakulwa impi enzima leThire, amakhanda wonke aphuculwa aphuceka, lamahlombe wonke aba buhlungu. Ikanti yena lebutho lakhe kabatholanga mvuzo empini ayikhokhela ekuhlaseleeni iThire. **19** Ngakho nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: IGibhithe ngizalinikela kuNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, njalo uzathumba inotho yalo. Uzaliphundla aliphange ilizwe njengeholo lebutho lakhe. **20** Ngimnike iGibhithe njengomvuzo wemizamo yakhe ngoba yena lebutho lakhe lokho bakwenzela mina, kutshe uThixo Wobukhosi. **21** Ngalolosuku ngizakwenza uphondo lukhulele indlu ka-Israyeli, njalo ngizavula umlomo wakho phakathi kwabo. Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo.”

30 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, phrofetha uthi: ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Lilani lithi, “Maye ngalolosuku!” **3** Ngoba usuku seluseduze, usuku lukaThixo seluseduze usuku lwamayezi, isikhathi sokutshabalala kwezizwe. **4** Inkemba izakumelana leGibhithe, losizi luzakwehlela phezu kukaKhushi. Lapho ababuleweyo besiwu eGibhithe inotho yalo izathunjwa lezisekelo zalo zidizelwe phansi. **5** IKhushi lePhuthi, iLudi le-Arabhiya yonke, iLibhiya kanye labantu belizwe lesivumelwano bazabulawa ngenkamba ndawonye leGibhithe. **6** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Abasekeli beGibhithe bazakufa, lamandla alo aziphenyayo azaphela. Kusukela eMigidoli kusiya e-Asiwani bazakuba ngenkamba phakathi kwalo, kutshe uThixo Wobukhosi. **7** Bazachitheka phakathi kwamazwe achithekileyo, njalo amadolobho abo azakuba phakathi kwamadolobho adilizweyo. **8** Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo, lapho sengithungela iGibhithe ngomlilo labasizi balo bonke sebeqothulwe. **9** Ngalolosuku izithunywa zizaphuma zisuka kimi ngemikhumbi ziyetshayisa iKhushi ngovalo, kuphele ukungazikhatthazi kwalo. Bazakwehlelwa lusizi ngosuku lokutshabalala kweGibhithe, ngoba ngempela kuzafika. **10** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngizawaqeda amaxuku aseGibhithe ngesandla sikaNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni. **11** Yena lebutho lakhe, abalolunya olukhulu phakathi kwezizwe, bazaletwa ukuba bachithe ilizwe. Bazawatsha izinkemba zabo ukuba bamelane leGibhithe bagcwalise ilizwe ngababuleweyo. **12** Ngizakomisa izifula zeNayili lelizwe ngilithengisele abantu ababi; ngesandla sabezizweni, ngizalichitha ilizwe, lakho konke okukulo. Mina Thixo sengikhulumile. **13** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngizachitha izithombe ngiqede izifanekiso eMemfisi. Akusayikuba khona inkosana eGibhithe, njalo ngizaletha ukwesaba kulolonke ilizwe. **14** Ngizachitha iPhathrosi, ngithungele iZowani ngomlilo, besengiletha isijeziso phezu kweThebesi. **15** Ngizakwehlisela ulaka

Iwami phezu kwePhelusiyami, inqaba yaseGibhithe, ngiqede lamaxuku aseThebesi. **16** Ngizathungela iGibhithe ngomlilo; iPhelusiyami izajanqula ngobuhlungu. IThebesi izathunjwa ngesidumo esikhulu; iMemfisi izakuba sosizini olumiyo. **17** Amajaha aseHeliyopholisi leBhubhastisi azabulawa ngenkamba, lamadolobho wona ngokwawo azathunjwa. **18** ETHahiphanesi imini izakuba mnyama, lapho ngisephula ijogwe leGibhithe; khonale-ke amandla alo aziqhenyayo azaphela. Azakwembeswa ngamayezi, njalo imizi yalo izakuya ekuthunjweni. **19** Ngokunjalo ngizakwehlisela isijeziso phezu kweGibhithe, njalo bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo.” **20** Ngomnyaka wetshumi lanye, ngenyanga yakuqala ngosuku lwesikhombisa, ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **21** “Ndodana yomuntu, sengiyephule ingalo kaFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe. Kayibotshwanga ukuba iphole kumbe ifakwe uhla ka ukuze iqine okwanele ukuthi iphathe inkemba. **22** Ngakho-ke nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngimelana loFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe. Ngizazephula zombili izingalo zakhe, eqinileyo kanye leyephukileyo, ngenze inkemba iwe esandleni sakhe. **23** Ngizachithela amaGibhithe phakathi kwezizwe ngwahlakazele emazweni. **24** Ngizaqinisa izingalo zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni ngifake inkemba yami ezandleni zayo, kodwa izingalo zikaFaro ngizazephula, njalo ezabubula phambi kwayo njengomuntu olimale okokufa. **25** Ngizaqinisa izingalo zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni, kodwa izingalo zikaFaro zizakuba buthakathaka. Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo lapho sengifaka inkemba yami esandleni senkosi yaseBhabhiloni layo isiyizunguza imelane leGibhithe. **26** Ngizachithela amaGibhithe phakathi kwezizwe ngwahlakazele emazweni futhi. Lapho-ke azakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo.”

31 Ngomnyaka wetshumi lanye, ngenyanga yesithathu ngosuku lwakuqala, ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, tshono kuFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe lakumaxuku akhe uthi: ‘Ngubani ongalinganiswa lawe ngobucwazicwazi?’ **3** Cabanga i-Asiriya, eyake yaba ngumsedari eLebhanoni, olamagatsha amahle embese ihlathi ngomthunzi; wawumude uphezulu le, isihloko sawo singaphezu kwamahlamvu avitshileyo. **4** Amanzi awondla, imithombo etshonayo yawenza wakhula waba mude; izifudlana zayo zageleza emaceleni esidindi sawo sonke, imisele yazo ayafika kuzozonke izihlahla zeganga. **5** Wawuphakeme kanjalo umude kulazo zonke izihlahla zeganga; ingatsha zawo zanda, ingatsha zawo zakhula zaba zinde zendlalekile ngenxa yobunengi bamanzi. **6** Zonke izinyoni zasemoyeni zakhela izidleke zazo ezingatsheni zawo, zonke izinyamazana zeganga zazalela ngaphansi kwezingatsha zawo; zonke izizwe ezinkulu zahlala emthunzini wawo. **7** Wawunkanyazela ngobuhle bawo, ngezingatsha zawo ezendlalekileyo, ngoba impande zawo zazitshona phansi emanzini amanengi. **8** Imisedari esivandeni sikaNkulunkulu yayingeke ilingane lawo, kumbe izihlahla zemiphayini zibe lezingatsha ezingafana lezawo, akukho sihlahla esivandeni sikaNkulunkulu esasingaba sihle njengawo. **9** Ngawenza waba muhle ngezingatsha ezinengi, wahawukelwa yizihlahla zonke zase-Edeni esivandeni sikaNkulunkulu. **10** Ngakho-ke nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngoba wawumude uphezulu le, isihloko sawo siphakamele ngaphezu kwezingatsha ezivitshileyo, njalo ngenxa yokuthi wawuziqhenya ngobude bawo, **11** ngawunikela

kumbusi wezizwe ukuba awuphathe ngokufanele ububi bawo. Ngawulahlela eceleni, **12** njalo isizwe sasezizweni esilesihluku kulazo zonke sawucakazela phansi sawutshiya. Ingatsha zawo zawela phezu kwezintaba lasezigodini zonke, amagatsha awo ephukela ezindongeni zonke zelizwe. Zonke izizwe zasemhlabeni zasuka emthunzini wawo zawutshiya. **13** Zonke izinyoni zasemoyeni zahlala phezu kwesihlahla esiwileyo, lezinyamazana zonke zeganga zaziphakathi kwezingatsha zaso. **14** Ngakho kazikho ezinye izihlahla ngasemanzini ezizaphakama ngokuziqhenya phezulu le, zifikise izihloko zazo ngaphezu kwezingatsha. Kazikho ezinye izihlahla ezizuka amanzi kuhle kanjalo ezizake zifike phezulu kangako; zonke zimiselwe ukufa, emhlabeni ongaphansi, phakathi kwabantu abafayo, kanye lalabo abehlela egodini. **15** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngosuku owehliselwa ngalo engcwabeni, ngavala imithombo etshonayo ngokulilelwa kwakho, ngamisa izifudlana zawo, lamanzi awo amanengi avinjelwa. Ngenxa yawo ngembesa iLebhanoni ngomnyama, njalo zonke izihlahla zeganga zabuna. (Sheol h7585) **16** Ngenza izizwe zathuthunyeliswa ngumdumo wokuwa kwawo lapha ngawehlisela phansi engcwabeni kanye lalabo abehlela phansi egodini. Lapho-ke zonke izihlahla zase-Edeni, ezikhethekileyo lezinhle kakhulu zaseLebhanoni, zonke izihlahla ezazithola amanzi kuhle, zaduduzeka ngaphansi komhlaba. (Sheol h7585) **17** Labo ababelhala emthunzini wawo, ababevumelana lawo phakathi kwezizwe, basebehlele phansi engcwabeni kanye lawo, bahlangana lalabo ababulawa ngenkamba. (Sheol h7585) **18** Yisiphi sezihlahla zase-Edeni esingafaniswa lawe ngobuhle langobucwazicwazi na? Ikanti lawe futhi uzakwehliselwa phansi ngaphansi komhlaba kanye lezihlahla zase-Edeni; uzalala phakathi kwabangasokanga, lalabo ababulawa ngenkamba. Lo nguFaro kanye lamaxuku akhe wonke, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.”

32 Ngomnyaka wetshumi lambili, ngenyanga yetshumi lambili ngosuku lokuqala, ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, khala isililo ngoFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe uthi kuye: ‘Wena unjengesilwane phakathi kwezizwe; unjengesilo phakathi kolwandle, uvubavuba amanzi ezifuleni zakho, uchaphaze amanzi ngezinyawo zakho, uncolisa lezifula ngodaka. **3** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngoquqaba olukhulu lwabantu ngizaphosela imbule lami phezu kwakho njalo bazakudonsela phezulu ngomambule wami. **4** Ngizakuphosela emhlabathini ngikudonsele egcekeni egangeni. Ngizakwenza zonke izinyoni zasemoyeni zihlale phezu kwakho lezinyamazana zonke zasemhlabeni zizitike kuwe. **5** Ngizachaya inyama yakho phezu kwezintaba njalo ngicgwacwale izigodi ngezidumbu zakho. **6** Ngizathambisa ilizwe ngeazi lakho eligeleza indawo yonke kusiya ezintabeni, lezindonga zizagcwala inyama yakho. **7** Lapho sengikucitsha, ngizakwembesa amazulu ngenze izinkanyezi zawo zibe mnyama; ngizakwembesa ilanga ngeyezi, lenyanga ingabe isakhanyisa. **8** Zonke izibane ezikhanyisa emazulwini ngizazenza zibe mnyama elizweni lakho, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **9** Ngizakhathaza inhlizyo zabantu abanengi lapho sengiletha ukuchithwa kwakho phakathi kwezizwe, phakathi kwamazwe ongazange uwazi. **10** Ngizakwenza abantu abanengi bamangale ngawe, lamakhoi abo azathuthumela ngokwesaba ngenxa yakho lapho nginyikinya inkemba yami phambi kwawo. Ngosuku lokuwa kwakho lowo lalowo wabo uzaqhaqha zela isikhathi

sonke sokuphila kwakhe. **11** Ngoba nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Inkemba yenkosi yaseBhabhiloni izamelana lawe. **12** Ngizakwenza amaxuku akho abulawe ngezinkemba zamadoda alamandla alesihluku kakhulu phakathi kwezizwe zonke. Azachoboza ukuziqhenya kweGibhithe, njalo wonke amaxuku alo azanqotshwa. **13** Ngizabulala zonke inkomo zabo ngaseduzane lamanzi amanengi angaphindi adungwe lunyawo lomuntu futhi kumbe angcoliswe ngamasondo enkomo ngodaka. **14** Lapho-ke ngizakwenza amanzi alo azinze lezifula zalo zigeleze njengamafutha, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **15** Lapho iGibhithe sengilichitha ngiphundla lonke abhala konke okukulo, lapho sengibacakazela phansi bonke lakhala khona, lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo.’ **16** Lesi yisililo esizaculelwa iGibhithe. Amadodakazi ezizwe azasicula: azasiculela iGibhithe kanye lamaxuku alo wonke, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.” **17** Ngomnyaka wethshumi lambili, ngosuku lwethshumi lanlhana lwenyanga, ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **18** “Nnodana yomuntu, lilela amaxuku aseGibhithe njalo wehlisele ngaphansi komhlaba kokubili lona iGibhithe kanye lamadodakazi ezizwe ezilamandla, lalabo abehlela phansi egodini. **19** Tshono kubo uthi, ‘Lina liyathandwa kakhulu kulabanye na? Yehlelani phansi lilale phakathi kwabangasokanga.’ **20** Bazafela phakathi kwalabo ababulawa ngenkemba. Inkemba isihwatshiwe; iGibhithe kalihudulwe lamaxuku alo wonke. **21** Abakhokheli abalamandla bazakutsho ngeGibhithe labamanyene layo bephakathi kwengcwaba bathi, ‘Sebehlele phansi njalo balele labangasokanga, lalabo ababulawa ngenkemba.’ (Sheol h7585) **22** I-Asiriya ikhona lebutsho layo lonke; izungezwe ngamangcwaba abo bonke abayo ababuleweyo; bonke ababulawa ngenkemba. **23** Amangcwaba abo asekuzikeni kwegodi njalo ibutho layo lilele lihanqe ingcwaba layo. Bonke abandisa ukwesaba elizweni labaphilayo babulewe, bebulawa ngenkemba. **24** I-Elamu ikhona, lamaxuku ayo wonke azungeze ingcwaba layo. Bonke babulewe, bebulawa ngenkemba. Bonke abandisa ukwesaba elizweni labaphilayo behlela phansi ngaphansi komhlaba bengasokanga. Bathwele ihlazo labo belalabo abehlela phansi egodini. **25** Yenzelwa umbheda phakathi kwababuleweyo, lamaxuku ayo wonke ehanqe ingcwaba layo. Bonke kabasokanga, babulawa ngenkemba. Ngoba ukwesatshwa kwabo kwasekugcwele elizweni labaphilayo, bathwala ihlazo labo lalabo abehlela phansi egodini; babekwa phakathi kwababuleweyo. **26** IMesheki leThubhali akhona, lamaxuku awo wonke ezungeze amangcwaba awo. Wonke amaxuku kawasokanga, abulewe ngoba andisa ukwesatshwa kwawo elizweni labaphilayo. **27** Kanje kawalele lamanye amabutho angasokanga awafayo, wona ehlela phansi engcwabeni lezikhali zawo zempi, azinkemba zawo zabekwa ngaphansi kwamakhanda awo na? Isijeziso sezono zawo sahlala phezu kwamathambo awo, lanxa ukwesatshwa kwamabutho la kwagwala elizweni labaphilayo. (Sheol h7585) **28** Lawe futhi, wena Faro, uzakwepulwa njalo ulale phakathi kwabangasokanga, lalabo ababulawa ngenkemba. **29** I-Edomi ikhona, amakhosi ayo lamakhosana ayo wonke; phezu kwamandla abo, balaliswa lalabo ababulawa ngenkemba. Balele labangasokanga, lalabo abehlela phansi egodini. **30** Wonke amakhosana asenyakatho kanye lamaSidoni wonke bakhona; behlela phansi lababulawayo behlazekele lanxa kulokwesaba okwabangelwa ngamandla abo. Balele bengasokanga kanye lalabo ababulawa ngenkemba njalo bathwala ihlazo labo lalabo abehlela phansi egodini. **31** UFaro

lebutsho lakhe uzababona njalo uzaduduzeka ngamaxuku akhe wonke abulawa ngenkemba, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **32** Lanxa ngamenza wandisa ukwesaba elizweni labaphilayo, uFaro kanye lamaxuku akhe wonke, bazalaliswa phakathi kwabangasokanga, lalabo ababulawa ngenkemba, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.”

33 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Nnodana yomuntu, khuluma labantu bakini uthi kubo, ‘Lapho ngiletha inkemba ukumelana lelizwe, abantu balelolizwe bakhethe omunye wamadoda akibo bamenze abe ngumlindi, **3** abone inkemba isizamelana lelizwe abesetshaya icilongo exwayisa abantu, **4** lapho-ke nxa loba ngubani ozwa icilongo kodwa angasinaki isixwayiso njalo inkemba ifike imbulele, igazi lakhe lizakuba phezu kwekhanda lakhe. **5** Njengoba ukukhala kwecilongo ekuzwile kodwa kaze asinaka isixwayiso, igazi lakhe lizakuba phezu kwekhanda lakhe. Aluba ubesinakile isixwayiso, ubezazisindisa. **6** Kodwa nxa umlindi ebona inkemba isiza angatshayi icilongo axwayise abantu, njalo inkemba ifike ibulale omunye wabo, lowomuntu uzasuswa ngenxa yesono sakhe, kodwa mina ngizabeka umlandu wegazi lakhe kumlindi.’ **7** Nnodana yomuntu, sengikwenze umlindi wendlu ka-Israyeli; ngakho zwana ilizwi englikhulumayo ubanike isixwayiso esivela kimi. **8** Lapho ngisithi komubi, ‘Wena muntu omubi, uzakufa impela,’ njalo wena ungabe usakhuluma ukuba umyekelise izindlela zakhe, lowomuntu omubi uzafela izono zakhe, njalo mina ngikubeka umlandu wegazi lakhe. **9** Kodwa nxa umxwayisa umuntu omubi ukuba aphenduke ezindleleni zakhe kodwa angenzi njalo, uzafela izono zakhe, kodwa wena uzakuba uzisindisile. **10** Nnodana yomuntu, tshono kuyo indlu ka-Israyeli uthi, ‘Nanku elikutshoyo ukuthi, “Iziphambeko zethu lezono ziyasisinda, njalo siyacikizeka ngenxa yazo. Pho singaphila njani na?”’ **11** Tshono kubo uthi, ‘Ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngikhona, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, kangithokozi ngokufa kwababi, kodwa ukuba baphenduke ezindleleni zabo baphile. Phendukan! Phendukani ezindleleni zenu ezimbi! Kungani umele ufe, wena ndlu ka-Israyeli?’ **12** Ngakho-ke, ndodana yomuntu, tshono ebantwini bakini uthi, ‘Ukulunga komuntu olungileyo kakuyikumsindisa lapho engalaleli, njalo lobubi bomuntu omubi kabuyikumwisa lapho ephenduka kubo. Umuntu olungileyo, lapho esona, kasoke avunyelwe ukuphila ngenxa yokulunga kwakhe kwakuqala.’ **13** Nxa ngitshela umuntu olungileyo ukuthi impela uzaphila, kodwa abe esethemba ukulunga kwakhe enze okubi, akukho okwezinto ezilungileyo azenzayo okuzakhunjulwa; uzafela okubi asekwenzile. **14** Njalo nxa ngisithi emuntwini omubi, ‘Impela uzakufa,’ kodwa aphenduke ezonweni zakhe enze okufaneleyo lokulungileyo, **15** lapho ebuyisela lokho akuthatha kuyisibambiso salokho akwebolekisayo, abuyisele akwebayo, alandele izimiso ezinika ukuphila, angenzi okubi, uzaphila impela; kasoze afe. **16** Akukho lasinye sezono azenzayo esizakhunjulwa ngaye. Usezokufaneleyo lokulungileyo; uzaphila impela. **17** Ikanti abantu bakini bathi, ‘Indlela kaThixo kayilunganga.’ Kodwa ngeyabo indlela engalunganga. **18** Nxa umuntu olungileyo eguquka ekulungeni kwakhe enze okubi, uzakufela lokho. **19** Njalo nxa umuntu omubi ephenduka ebubini bakhe enze okufaneleyo lokulungileyo, uzaphila ngenxa yokwenzanjalo. **20** Ikanti, wena ndlu ka-Israyeli, uthi, ‘Indlela kaThixo kayilunganga.’ Kodwa mina ngizakwahlulela lowo lalowo wenu ngokufanele izindlela zakhe.’ **21** Ngomnyaka wethshumi

lambili wokuthunjwa kwethu, ngenyanga yetshumi ngosuku lwesihlanu, umuntu owayebalekele eJerusalem wafika kimi wathi, “Idolobho selinqotshiwe!” **22** Kusihlwa umuntu lowo engakafiki, isandla sikaThixo sasiphezu kwami, njalo wavula umlomo wami umuntu lowo engakafiki ekuseni. Ngakho umlomo wami wawusuvuliwe njalo ngangangasathulanga. **23** Ilizwi likaThixo laselifika kimi lisithi: **24** “Ndodana yomuntu, abantu abahlala emanxiweni lawana elizweni lako-Israyeli bathi, ‘U-Abrahama wayengumuntu oyedwa nje kuphela, ikanti ilizwe lalingelakhe. Kodwa thina sibanengi; impela ilizwe siliphive njengelifa lethu.’ **25** Ngakho tshono kubo uthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Njengoba lisidla inyama ilokhu ilegazi lithembe izithombe zenu njalo lichithe legazi, kambe lingaba ngabanikazi belizwe na? **26** Lithembe inkemba yenu, lenza izinto ezenyanyekayo, njalo omunye lomunye wenu ungcolisa umfazi kamakhelwane wakhe. Kambe lingaba ngabanikazi belizwe na?’ **27** Tshono lokhu kubo uthi: ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngikhona, labo abaseleyo emanxiweni bazabulawa ngenkemba, labo abangaphandle egangeni ngizabanikela ezinyamazani zeganga ukuba badliwe, njalo labo abasezinqabeni lasezimbalwini bazabulawa yisifo. **28** Ngizakwenza ilizwe libe lugwadule oluphundlekileyo, njalo ukuziqhenya kwamandla lo kuzaphela, lezintaba zako-Israyeli zizachitheka kuze kungabikhona odlula kuzo. **29** Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo, nxa sengenze ilizwe laba lugwadule oluphundlekileyo ngenxa yezinto ezenyanyekayo abazenzileyo.’ **30** Okunjengawe, ndodana yomuntu, abantu bakini bakhulumisana ngawe emidulini laseminyango yezindlu besithi, omunye komunye, ‘Woza uzekuzwa ilizwi eselifike livela kuThixo.’ **31** Abantu bami bayafika kuwe, njengabajayele ukukwenza, bahlale phambi kwakho ukuba bezwe amazwi akho, kodwa akutshoyo kabakwenzi. Ngemilomo yabo batsho ukuzinikela, kodwa inhlizyo zabo zihawukela izuzo engafanelanga. **32** Ngempela, kubo wena kawusilutho olungedlula umuntu ohlabela izingoma zothando ngelizwi elihle njalo esitshaya kuhle isiginci, ngoba amazwi akho bayawezwa, kodwa akutshoyo kabakwenzi. **33** Nxa konke lokhu sekugcwalisekile njalo impela kuzakwenzakala, lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi umphrofetisa ubekhona phakathi kwabantu.”

34 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, phrofetha okubi ngabelusi bako-Israyeli; phrofetha uthi kubo: ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Maye kini lina belusi bako-Israyeli elizikhathalelayo lina ngokwenu kuphela! Abelusi akumelanga bakhathalele umhlambi wezimvu na? **3** Lidla izankofu, ligqoke uboya njalo lihlabo ezininileyo, kodwa imihlambi yenu kaliyelusi. **4** Ezibuthakathaka kaliziqinisa kumbe lelapha ezigulayo loba labopha ezilimeleyo. Kalinqandanga eziphambukileyo loba ladinga ezilahlekileyo. Lizibuse ngochuku langesihluku. **5** Ngakho zahlakazeka ngoba kwakungamelusi, njalo kwathi lapho sezihlakazekile zaba yikudla kwazo zonke izinyamazana zeganga. **6** Izimvu zami zantula phezu kwezintaba zonke laphezu kwamaqaqa wonke. Zazihlakazekele emhlabeni wonke, njalo kakho owazingayo loba owazingayo. **7** Ngakho, lina belusi, zwanini ilizwi likaThixo elithi: **8** Ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngikhona, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, ngoba umhlambi wami uswela umelusi ngakho usuphangwiwe

njalo usube yikudla kwezinyamazana zonke zeganga, njalo ngenxa yokuthi abelusi bami kabawudinganga umhlambi kodwa bazikhathalela bona ngokwabo kulomhlambi wami, **9** ngakho-ke lina belusi, zwanini ilizwi likaThixo elithi: **10** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngimelana labelusi njalo ngizababeka umlandu wezimvu zami. Ngizabasusa ekweluseni umhlambi, abelusi bangabe besaba lokudla. Ngizawuhluthuna umhlambi wami emilonyeni yabo, njalo kawuyikuba yikudla kwabo futhi. **11** Ngoba nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Mina ngokwami ngizadinga izimvu zami ngizelwe. **12** Njengomelusi eluse umhlambi wakhe ohlakazekileyo elawo, ngizazelusa kanjalo izimvu zami. Ngizazihlenga ezindaweni zonke ezahlakazekela kuzo ngosuku lwamayazi lomnyama. **13** Ngizazikhupha ezizweni ngizibuthe emazweni, njalo ngizazisa elizweni lazo uqobo. Ngizazidlisa phezu kwezintaba zako-Israyeli, ezihotsheni kanye lasemanzani yonke eselizweni. **14** Ngizazelusela emadleleni amahle, njalo iziqongo zezintaba zako-Israyeli zizakuba ngumhlaba wedlelo lazo. Khonapho zizalala phansi emhlabeni olidlelo elihle, njalo khonapho zizakudla edlelweni elivundileyo phezu kwezintaba zako-Israyeli. **15** Mina ngokwami ngizazelusa izimvu zami njalo ngizazilalisa phansi, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **16** Ngizadinga ezilahlekileyo ngingande eziphambukileyo. Ngizabopha ezilimeleyo ngiqinise ezibuthakathaka. Ezininileyo leziqinileyo ngizazibulala. Umhlambi ngizawelusa ngokulunga. **17** Okunjengawe, mhlambi wami, nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngizakwahlulela phakathi kwenye imvu lenye kanye laphakathi kwengama lembuzi. **18** Kwanele yini kini ukudla emadleleni amahle na? Kambe kumele lize linyathele amanye amadlelo enu ngezinyawo zenu na? Kakwanelanga kini na ukunatha amanzi ahlanzekileyo? Kambe kumele lingcolise aseleyo ngezinyawo zenu na? **19** Umhlambi kumele udle elikuyatheleyo njalo unathe lokho elikungcolise ngezinyawo zenu na? **20** Ngakho-ke nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi kuzo: Khangelani, mina ngokwami ngizakwahlulela phakathi kwezimvu ezininileyo lezimvu ezicakileyo. **21** Ngoba liyafuqa ngemihlulubo langamahlombe, ligqubule zonke imbuzi ezibuthakathaka ngempondo zenu lize kuzitshelwe khatshana. **22** Ngizahlenga umhlambi wami, njalo kawuyikuphangwa futhi. Ngizakwahlulela phakathi kwenye imvu lenye. **23** Phezu kwazo ngizabeka umelusi oyedwa, inceku yami uDavida, uzazelusa; uzazelusa abe ngumelusi wazo. **24** Mina Thixo ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wazo, njalo inceku yami uDavida izakuba yinkosana phakathi kwazo. Mina Thixo sengikhulumile. **25** Ngizakwenza isivumelwano sokuthula lazo njalo ngixotshe izilo zeganga elizweni ukuze ziyehlala enkangala kuthi izimvu zihlale emahlathini zigcinakale. **26** Ngizazibusisa kanye lezindawo ezihanqe intaba yami. Ngizakwehlisa imikhizo ngesikhathi sayo; kuzakuba lemikhizo yesibusiso. **27** Izihlahla zeganga zizathela izithelo zazo njalo lomhlambathi uzathela izilimo zawo; abantu bazahlaliseka elizweni labo. Bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo, lapho sengisephula imigoqo yeyogwe labo njalo ngibahlenga ezandleni zalabo ababenza izigqili. **28** Kabayikuphangwa yizizwe futhi, lezinyamazana zeganga kaziyikubadla. Bazahlala ngokuvikeleka, njalo kakho ozabenza besabe. **29** Ngizabanika ilizwe elidumileyo ngezilimo zalo, njalo kabayikuhlutshwa yindlala futhi elizweni loba bathwale ihlazo lezizwe. **30** Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi mina, UThixo uNkulunkulu wabo, ngilabo kanye lokuthi bona, indlu

ka-Israyeli, bangabantu bami, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **31** Lina zimvu zami, zimvu zedlelo lami, lingabantu bami, njalo mina nginguNkulunkulu wenu, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.”

35 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, khangelisa ubuso bakho eNtabeni iSeyiri; uphrofithi okubi ngayo **3** uthi: ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngimelane lawe, Ntaba Seyiri, njalo ngizakwelula isandla sami ukumelana lawe ngikwenze ube lugwadule oluphundekeleyo. **4** Ngizakwenza amadolobho akho abe ngamanxiwa lawe uzachithwa. Lapho-ke uzakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo. **5** Ngoba wagcina inzondo yasendulo wanikela ama-Israyeli enkembeni ngesikhathi sosizi lwawo, lapho isijeziso sawo sasesifike ekucineni, **6** ngakho-ke ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngikhona, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, ngizakunikela ekuchithekeni kwegazi njalo kuzakulandela. **7** Ngizakwenza iNtaba iSeyiri ibe lugwadule oluphundekeleyo, njalo ngiqede kuyo bonke abafika bahambe. **8** Ngizagcwalisa izintaba zakho ngababuleweyo; labo ababulawe ngenkamba bazawela phezu kwamaqaqa akho lasezigodini zakho kanye lasezindongeni zakho zonke. **9** Ngizakwenza uchitheke okwaninini; amadolobho akho kawayikuhlalwa muntu. Lapho-ke uzakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo. **10** Ngoba wena uthe, “Izizwe lezi ezimbili lamazwe la amabili kuzakuba ngokwethu njalo sizakuthatha,” lanxa mina Thixo ngangikhonapho. **11** Ngakho-ke ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngikhona, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, ngizakuphatha ngokufanele ukuthukuthela lobukhwele owakubonakalisayo ekubazondeni kwakho njalo ngizakwenza mina ngazakale phakathi kwabo lapho sengikwahlulela. **12** Lapho-ke uzakwazi ukuthi mina Thixo sengizizwile zonke izinto ezenyanyekayo owazitshoyo ngezintaba zako-Israyeli. Wathi, “Sezichithiwe njalo sezinkelwe kithi ukuba sizitshwabadele.” **13** Wazikhukhumeza kubi ngami njalo wakhuluma kubi ngami kungekho kuzibamba, njalo ngakuzwa lokho. **14** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Kuzakuthi umhlaba wonke uthokoze, mina ngizakwenza uphundeke. **15** Ngoba wena wathokoza lapho ilifa lendlu ka-Israyeli lichitheka, leyo yiyo indlela engizakuphatha ngayo. Uzaphundeke, wena Ntaba yeSeyiri, wena kanye le-Edomi yonke. Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo.”

36 “Ndodana yomuntu, phrofetha kuzo izintaba zako-Israyeli uthi: ‘Lina zintaba zako-Israyeli, zwanini ilizwi likaThixo. **2** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Isitha satsho ngami sathi, ‘Awu! Iziqongo zasendulo sezibe yilifa lethu.’” **3** Ngakho-ke phrofetha uthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngoba baliphanga njalo balixotsha bevela ezinhlangothini zonke laze laba yilifa lezinye izizwe lento yokunyeywa lokuchothozwa ngabantu, **4** ngakho-ke, lina zintaba zako-Israyeli, zwanini ilizwi likaThixo Wobukhosi: Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi kuzo izintaba lamaqaqa, ezindongeni lasezigodini, emanxweni aphundekeleyo lasemadolobheni atshiyiweyo aphanngwayo njalo ahlekwa ngezinye izizwe ezikuhlangileyo, **5** nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngokutshiseka kwami okukhulu sengikhulume ngimelana lezinye izizwe njalo lange-Edomi lonke, ngoba ngokuthaba langenzondo ezinhliziyweni zabo benza ilizwe lami elabo ukuze baphange amadlelo alo.’ **6** Ngakho phrofetha ngelizwe lako-Israyeli uthi kuzo izintaba lamaqaqa, indonga lezigodi: Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo

Wobukhosi: Ngikhuluma ngolaka lwami olulobukhwele ngoba lithwale isithuko sesizwe. **7** Ngakho-ke nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngifunga izandla ziphakanyiselwe phezu lu ukuthi izizwe ezilihlangileyo lazo zizathwala isithuko. **8** Kodwa lina, lina zintaba zako-Israyeli, lizaveza ingatsha lezithelo zabantu bami u-Israyeli, ngoba sebezakuzi ekhaya masinyane nje. **9** Ngiyalinqinokela njalo ngizalikhangelanga ngomusa; lizalinywa lihlanyelwe, **10** njalo ngizakwandisa inani labantu phezu kwenu, lakuyo yonke indlu ka-Israyeli. Amadolobho kuzahlalwa kuwo futhi lamanxiwa avuselelwe. **11** Ngizakwandisa inani labantu lelezinyamazana phezu kwenu: njalo kuzalana kwande. Ngizahlalisa abantu phezu kwenu njengakudala njalo ngizalenza liphumelele kakhulu kulakudala. Lapho-ke lizakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo. **12** Ngizakwenza abantu, abantu bami bako-Israyeli bahambe phezu kwenu. Bazalenza libe ngababo, njalo lizakuba yilifa labo; kaliyikubemuka abantwana babo futhi. **13** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngoba abantu bathi kini, ‘Lidla abantu lemuke isizwe senu abantwana baso, **14** ngakho-ke kaliyikudla abantu futhi loba lenze isizwe senu singabi labantwana, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **15** Angiyikulenza lizwe izibhinqo zezizwe, njalo kalisayikuthwala izithuko zabantu loba ngenze ukuba isizwe senu siwe, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.’” **16** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi njalo lisithi: **17** “Ndodana yomuntu, abantu bako-Israyeli besahlala elizweni labo, balingcolisa ngendlela abaziphatha ngayo langezenzo zabo. Ukuziphatha kwabo kwakufana lokungcola kowesifazane kwanyanga zonke emehlweni ami. **18** Ngakho ngehlisela ulaka lwami phezu kwabo ngoba babechithe igazi elizweni njalo ngoba babelingcolisile ngezithombe zabo. **19** Ngabachithela phakathi kwezizwe, njalo bahlakazekela emazweni; ngabahlulela ngokufanele ukuziphatha kwabo kanye lezenzo zabo. **20** Loba ngaphi abaya khona phakathi kwezizwe balingcolisa ibizo lami elingcwele, ngoba kwathiwa ngabo, ‘Laba ngabantu bakaThixo, kodwa basuswa elizweni.’ **21** Nganqinokela ibizo lami elingcwele, elangcoliswa yindlu ka-Israyeli phakathi kwezizwe abaya kuzo. **22** Ngakho tshono endlini ka-Israyeli uthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Akusingenxa yakho, wena ndlu ka-Israyeli, ukuthi ngizakwenza izinto lezi, kodwa ngenxa yebizo lami elingcwele, osulingcolisile phakathi kwezizwe lapho oye khona. **23** Ngizabonakalisa ubungcwele bebizo elikhulu, esulingcolisiwe phakathi kwezizwe, ibizo osulingcolisile phakathi kwazo. Lapho-ke izizwe zizakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, lapho sengizibonakalisa ngingcwele ngawe phambi kwamehlo azo. **24** Ngoba ngizakususa ezizweni; ngizakuqoqa emazweni wonke ngikubuyisele elizweni lakho. **25** Ngizakuchela ngamanzi ahlanzekileyo, uzahlambuluka; ngizakuhlambulula kukho konke ukungcola kwakho kanye lakuzo zonke izithombe zakho. **26** Ngizakunika inhliziyoy entsha ngifake lomoya omutsha phakathi kwakho; ngizasusa kuwe inhliziyoy yakho yelitshe ngikunike inhliziyoy yenyama. **27** Njalo ngizafaka uMoya wami phakathi kwakho ngikwenze ulandele izimiso zami njalo unanzelele ukugcina imithetho yami. **28** Lizahlala elizweni engalinika okhokho benu; lizakuba ngabantu bami, mina ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wenu. **29** Ngizalikhulula kukho konke ukungcola kwenu. Ngizabiza amabele ngiwenze abe manengi njalo angiyikuletha indlala kini. **30** Ngizakwandisa izithelo zezihlala kanye lamabele emasimini, ukuze lingabi lehlazo futhi phakathi kwezizwe ngenxa yendlela. **31** Lapho-

ke lizakhumbula izindlela zenu ezimbi kanye lezono zenu ezingalunganga, njalo lizazizona lina ngokwenu ngenxa yezono kanye lezeno zenu ezenyanyekayo. **32** Ngifuna ukuba likwazi ukuthi lokhu angikwenzeli lina, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. Yangeka ube lenhloni ngenxa yokuziphatha kwakho, wena ndlu ka-Israyeli! **33** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngosuku engizakuhlambulula ngalo ezonweni zakho zonke, ngizahlalisa abantu emadolobheni akho, njalo lamanxiwa azavuselelwa. **34** Ilizwe eliphundlekileyo lizalinywa kulokuthi lhlale liphundlekile emehlweni abo bonke abadabula phakathi kwalo. **35** Bazakuthi, “Ilizwe leli elaselenziwe laba lugwadule selibe njengesivande se-Edeni; amadolobho ayesengamanxiwa, ephundlekile njalo echithekile, khathesi asevelkelwe ngezinqaba njalo sekuhlala abantu kuwo.” **36** Lapho-ke izizwe ezilihanqileyo eziseleyo zizakwazi ukuthi mina Thixo sengikwakhe kutsha okwakudilizwe njalo sengikuhlanyele kutsha okwakuphundlekile. Mina Thixo sengikhulumile njalo ngizakwenza lokhu.” **37** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngizasisivuma njalo isicelo sendlu ka-Israyeli ngibenzele lokhu: Ngizakwenza abantu bakibo babebanengi njengezimvu, **38** babebanengi njengemihlambi yemihlatshelo eJerusalema ngesikhathi semikhosi yalo emisiwenge. Ngokunjalo amadolobho achithekayo azagcwala ngamaxuku abantu. Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo.”

37 Isandla sikaThixo sasiphezu kwami, njalo wangikhuphela phandle ngoMoya kaThixo wangibeka phakathi kwesigodi; sasigcwele amathambo. **2** Wangisa emuva laphambili phakathi kwawo, njalo ngabona amathambo amanengi kakhulu phansi esigodini, amathambo ome kakhulu. **3** Wangibuza wathi, “Ndodana yomuntu, kambe amathambo la angaphila na?” Mina ngathi, “Awu Thixo Wobukhosi, wena kuphela nguwe owaziyo.” **4** Wasesithi kimi, “Phrofetha emathanjeni la uthi kuwo, ‘Mathambo omileyo, zwanini ilizwi likaThixo! **5** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi emathanjeni la: Ngizakwenza umoya ungene phakathi kwenu, njalo lizakuba lokuphila. **6** Ngizaxhuma imisipha kini ngenze inyama ihlume phezu kwenu njalo ngibeke ijwabu phezu kwenu; ngizafaka umoya phakathi kwenu, njalo lizakuba lokuphila. Lapho-ke lizakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo.”

7 Ngakho ngaphrofitha njengokulaywa kwami. Kwathi ngisaphrofitha, kwaba lomsindo, umsindo okhehlezelayo, njalo amathambo aqoqana ndawonye, ithambo ethanjeni. **8** Ngakhangela, imisipha lenyama kwavela phezu kwawo kwathi ijwabu lawembesa, kodwa kwakungelamoya phakathi kwawo. **9** Wasesithi kimi, “Phrofetha emoyeni, phrofetha, ndodana yomuntu, uthi kuwo, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Woza, wena moya, uvela ezindaweni zonke, uphefumulele kubo ababulawayo, ukuba baphile.” **10** Ngakho ngaphrofitha njengokungilaya kwakhe, umoya wasungena kuwo; aba lokuphila njalo ema ngenyawo zawo, kulixuku elikhulukazi. **11** Wasesithi kimi: “Ndodana yomuntu, amathambo la ayiyo yonke indlu ka-Israyeli. Bona bathi, ‘Amathambo ethu omile njalo ithemba lethu selitshabalele; sesihunundiwe.’ **12** Ngakho phrofetha uthi kubo: ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Awu bantu bami, ngizavula amangcwaba enu ngilivuse kuwo; ngizalibuyisela elizweni lako-Israyeli. **13** Lapho-ke, lina bantu bami, lizakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo, lapho sengivula amangcwaba enu ngilivusa kuwo. **14** Ngizafaka uMoya wami

phakathi kwenu njalo lizaphila, futhi ngizalahlalisa elizweni lenu. Lapho-ke lizakwazi ukuthi mina Thixo sengikhulumile, njalo sengikwenzile lokho, kutsho uThixo.” **15** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **16** “Ndodana yomuntu, thatha uluthi lwesigodo, ulobe kulo ukuthi, ‘NgolukaJuda labako-Israyeli amanyane laye.’ Emva kwalokho thatha olunye njalo uluthi lwesigodo, ulobe kulo ukuthi, ‘Uluthi luka-Efrayimi, olukaJosefa kanye lendlu yonke ka-Israyeli emanyane laye.’ **17** Zihlanganise ndawonye zibe yiluthi olulodwa ukuze zibe luthilunye esandleni sakho. **18** Lapho abantu bakini bekubuza besithi, ‘Kawuyikusitshela na ukuthi utshoni ngalokhu?’ **19** uthi kubo, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngizathatha uluthi lukaJosefa olusesandleni sika-Efrayimi lolwezizwana zako-Israyeli ezimanyane laye, ngiluhlanganise loluthi lukaJuda, ngizenze zibe yiluthi lunye lwesigodo, njalo zizakuba ngolulodwa esandleni sami.’ **20** Izinti olobe kuzo ziphathe phambi kwamehlabo **21** uthi kubo, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngizakhupha ama-Israyeli ezizweni aya kuzo. Ngizawaqoqa ezindaweni zonke ngiwabuyisele elizweni lawo. **22** Ngizawenza abe yizizwe sinye elizweni, phezu kwezintaba zako-Israyeli. Kuzakuba lenkosi eyodwa phezu kwabo bonke njalo akuyikuba lezizwe ezimbili futhi kumbe behlukaniswe ukuba yimibuso embili. **23** Kabasayikuzingcolisa ngezithombe zabo langezifanekiso zabo ezenyanyekayo loba ngezinye zeziphambeko zabo, ngoba ngizabasindisa kukho konke ukuhlehlala kwabo emuva esonweni, njalo ngizabahlambulula. Bazakuba ngabantu bami, mina ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wabo. **24** Inceku yami uDavida uzakuba yinkosi yabo, njalo bonke bazakuba lomelusi munye. Bazalandela imithetho yami njalo bananzelele ukugcina izimiso zami. **25** Bazahlala elizweni engalinika inceku yami uJakhobe, ilizwe lapho oyihlo ababehlala khona. Bona labantwana babo kanye labantwana babantwana babo bazahlala khona kokuphela, njalo uDavida inceku yami uzakuba yinkosana yabo kokuphela. **26** Ngizakwenza isivumelwano sokuthula labo; sizakuba yisivumelwano esingayikuphela. **27** Indawo yami yokuhlala izakuba kubo; ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wabo, njalo bona bazakuba ngabantu bami. **28** Lapho-ke izizwe zizakwazi ukuthi mina Thixo ngenxa u-Israyeli abengcwele, nxa indlu yami engcwele iphakathi kwabo nini lanini.”

38 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lisithi: **2** “Ndodana yomuntu, khangelisa ubuso bakho bumelane loGogi, owaselizweni laseMagogi, inkosana enkulu yaseMesheki kanye laseThubhali; phrofetha kubi ngaye **3** uthi: ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngimelana lawe, wena Gogi, inkosana enkulu yaseMesheki kanye laseThubhali. **4** Ngizakutshibilikisa, ngifake amawuka emihlathini yakho ngikukhuphe lebutsho lakho lonke, amabhiza akho, abagadi bamabhiza bakho behlome bephelele, lexuku elikhulukazi lilamahawu amancane lamakhulu, bonke benyikinya izinkemba zabo. **5** IPhezhiya, leKhushi kanye lePhuthi bazakuba belabo, bonke belamahawu lezingowane, **6** njalo leGomeri lamabutho ayo wonke, kanye leBhethi Thogarima ivela khatshana enyakatho lamabutho ayo wonke, izizwe ezinengi ezilawe. **7** Lunga; zilungisele, wena kanye lamaxuku wonke abuthene emaceleni akho wonke, uwalawule. **8** Emva kwensuku ezinengi uzabizelwa empini. Eminyakeni ezayo uzahlasela ilizwe eselisindile empini, elilabantu balo ababuthwa ezizweni ezinengi basiwa ezintabeni zako-Israyeli ezaziphundlekile okwesikhathi eside. Babekhutshiwe ezizweni, khathesi bonke bahlezi

ekuvikelekeni. **9** Wena lamabutho akho wonke kanye lezizwe ezinengi ezilawe lizakuya khonale, liqhubeke njengesiphepho; lizakuba njengeyezi lisibekele ilizwe. **10** Lokhu yikho okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngalolosuku kuzafika imicabango engqondweni yakho njalo uzaceba isu elibi. **11** Uzakuthi, “Ngizahlasele ilizwe elilemizi engelamithangala; ngizahlasele abantu abalokuthula abanganakaneli lutho, bonke abahlezi bengelamithangala njalo bengelamasango lemigoqo. **12** Ngizaphanga njalo ngithumbe ngiphinde ngiguqulele isandla sami ekumeleni amanxiwa asahlaliswa abantu lasebantwini abaqoqwa ezizweni, abalezifuyo ezinengi lempahla, abahlala enkabeni yelizwe.” **13** IShebha leDedani kanye labathengisi bonke baseThashishi lemizi yalo wonke bazakuthi kuwe, “Lande ukuzaphanga na? Uqoqe amaxuku akho ukuba uthumbe, uthathe isiliva legolide, uthathe izifuyo kanye lempahla njalo uthumbe impango enengi na?” **14** Ngakho, ndodana yomuntu, phrofetha uthi kuGogi: ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngalolosuku, lapho abantu bami u-Israyeli sebhala ekuvikelweni, kawuyikukubona na? **15** Uzakuza uvela endaweni yakho khatshana le enyakatho, wena kanye lezizwe ezinengi ezilawe, zonke zigade amabhiza, ixuku elikhulukazi, ibutho elilamandla. **16** Uzaqhubeka umelana labantu bami u-Israyeli njengeyezi elisibekele ilizwe. Enskuwini ezizayo, wena Gogi, ngizakwenza umelane lelizwe lami, ukuze izizwe zingazi lapho sengizibonakalisa ngingcwele ngawe phambi kwazo. **17** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Kanti kawusuwe yini engakhuluma ngawe ensukwini zakudala ngezinceku zami abaphrofethi bako-Israyeli na? Ngalesosikhathi baphrofetha iminyaka eminengi ukuthi ngangizakwenza umelane labo. **18** Nanku okuzakwenzakala ngalolosuku: Lapho uGogi esehlasela ilizwe lako-Israyeli ulaka lwami oluvuthayo luzavuka, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **19** Ngokutshiseka kwami langolaka lwami oluvuthayo ngithi ngalesosikhathi kuzakuba lokuzamazama komhlaba okukhulu elizweni lako-Israyeli. **20** Inhlanzi zasolwandle, izinyoni zasemoyeni, izinyamazana zeganga, zonke izidalwa ezihamba phansi, labantu bonke abasemhlabeni kuzathuthumela ngokuba khona kwami. Izintaba zizagenqulwa, amawa azobhidlika njalo lemiduli yonke izwela phansi. **21** Ngizalaya inkemba imelane loGogi kuzozonke izintaba zami, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. Inkemba yomuntu ngamunye izamelana lomfowabo. **22** Ngizamahlulela ngesifo langokuchithwa kwegazi; ngizathululela phansi izihlambi zezulu, isiqhotho lesolufa etshisayo phezu kwakhe laphuze kwamabutho akhe kanye laphuze kwezizwe ezinengi ezilawe. **23** Ngalokho ngizabonakalisa ubukhulu bami lobungcwele bami, njalo ngizakwenza ngazakale phambi kwezizwe ezinengi. Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo.”

39 “Ndodana yomuntu, phrofetha kubi ngoGogi uthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngimelana lawe, wena Gogi, nkosana enkulu yaseMesheki kanye laseThubhali. **2** Ngizakutshibilikisa ngikuhudule. Ngizakuthatha khatshana enyakatho ngikuse ekumeleni lezintaba zako-Israyeli. **3** Lapho-ke ngizatsheya idandili lakho esandleni senxele ngenze imitshoko yakho iwe esandleni sakho sokudla. **4** Phezu kwezintaba zako-Israyeli uzakuwa, wena lamabutho akho kanye lezizwe ezilawe. Ngizakunikela kuzozonke izinhlobo zezinyoni ezidla ingcuba kanye lasezinyamazanezi zeganga. **5** Uzafela egangeni, ngoba sengikhulumile, kutsho uThixo

Wobukhosi. **6** Ngizathumela umlilo eMagogi lakulabo abahlezi ngokuvikeleka emazweni angasolwandle, njalo bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo. **7** Ngizakwenza ibizo lami elingcwele lazakale phakathi kwabantu bami u-Israyeli. Kangisayikuyekela ibizo lami elingcwele lingcoliswa futhi, lezizwe zizakwazi ukuthi mina Thixo ngingoNgcwele ka-Israyeli. **8** Kuyeza! Kuzakwenzakala impela, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. Lolu yilo usuku engakhuluma ngalo. **9** Lapho-ke labo abahlala emadolobheni ako-Israyeli bazaphuma basebenzise izikhali njengenkuni bazibase zitshe amahawu amancane lamakhulu, amadandili lemitshoko, izagila zempi kanye lemikhonto. Bazazisebenzisa ekubaseni umlilo iminyaka eyisikhombisa. **10** Akuyikusweleka ukuba batheze inkuni egangeni loba bazigamule emahlathini, ngoba bazabasa izikhali. Njalo bazaphanga labo ababaphangayo bathathele lalabo ababathathelayo, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **11** Ngalolosuku uGogi ngizamupha indawo yokungcwabela ko-Israyeli, esigidini salabo abahamba besiya empumalanga beqonde elwandle. Sizavimba indlela yezihambi, ngoba uGogi lamaxuku akhe wonke bazangcwatshwa khonapho. Ngakho sizabizwa ngokuthi yisiGodi sikaHamoni Gogi. **12** Indlu ka-Israyeli izabangcwaba izinyanga eziyisikhombisa ukuba kuhlanjulule ilizwe. **13** Abantu bonke belizwe bazabangcwaba, njalo usuku engizadunyiswa ngalo luzakuba lusuku olukhunjulwayo kubo, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **14** Abantu bazakuba beqhatshwa ngezikhathi ukuba bahlambulule ilizwe. Abanye bazahamba ilizwe lonke njalo, phezu kwabo, abanye bazangcwaba labo abasala phezu komhlabathi. Ekupheleni kweminyaka eyisikhombisa bazaqalisa ukudinga kwabo. **15** Behamba phakathi kwelizwe omunye wabo angabona ithambo lomuntu, uzamisa isibonakaliso phansi kwalo abagebhi bamangcwaba baze balimbele esiGodini sikaHamoni Gogi. **16** Idolobho elithiwa yiHamona lalo lizakuba khonapho. Ilizwe bazalihlambulula kanjalo.’ **17** Ndodana yomuntu, nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Memezela kuzozonke inhlobo zezinyoni lakuzo zonke izinyamazana zeganga uthi: ‘Butshanani livela ezindaweni zonke lize ndawonye emhlatshelweni engililungisela wona, umhlatshelo omkhulu phezu kwezintaba zako-Israyeli. Lapho lizakudla inyama linathe igazi. **18** Lizakudla inyama yamadoda alamandla linathe legazi lezikhulu zasemhlabeni kube angathi bebezinqama lamawundlu, imbuzi lenkunzi, konke kuyizifuyo ezinonisiweyo ezivela eBhashani. **19** Emhlatshelweni engililungisela wona, lizakudla amahawha lize lisuthise njalo linathe legazi lize lidakwe. **20** Etafuleni lami lizakudla lisuthe amabhiza labagadi, amadoda alamandla kanye lamabutho ezinhlobo zonke,” kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **21** “Ngizabonakalisa inkazimulo yami phakathi kwezizwe, njalo izizwe zonke zizasibona isijeziso engisilethayo lesandla engisibeka phezu kwabo. **22** Kusukela ngalolosuku kusiya phambili indlu ka-Israyeli izakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wabo. **23** Lezizwe zizakwazi ukuthi abantu bako-Israyeli bathunjwa ngenxa yesono sabo, ngoba ngabanikela ezitheni zabo, njalo bonke babulawa ngenkemba. **24** Ngabaphatha ngokufanele ukungcola kwabo kanye leziphambeko zabo, njalo ngabafihlela ubuso bami. **25** Ngakho-ke nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Khatshesi sengizambuyisa uJakhobe evela ekuthunjweni njalo ngizatshekelwa ibizo lami elingcwele. **26** Bazalikhohlwa ihlazo labo lakho konke ukungathembeki abakwenza kimi lapho babehlezi bevikelekile elizweni labo

engekho owayengabenza besabe. **27** Lapho sengibabuyisile bevela ezizweni njalo sengibaqoqile bevela emazweni ezitha zabo, ngizazibonakalisa ngingcwele ngabo phambi kwezizwe ezinengi. **28** Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wabo, ngoba lanxa ngabasa ekuthunjweni phakathi kwezizwe, ngizabaqoqela elizweni labo, ngingatshiyi lamunye emuva. **29** Kangisayikubafihlela ubuso bami futhi, ngoba ngizathululela uMoya wami phezu kwendlu ka-Israyeli, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.”

40 Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amabili lanlanu wokuthunjwa kwethu, ekuqaliseni komnyaka, ngosuku lwetshumi lwenyanga, ngomnyaka wetshumi lane emva kokuthunjwa kwedolobho, ngalolosuku isandla sikaThixo sasiphezu kwami njalo wangithatha wangisa khona. **2** Ngemibono kaNkulunkulu wangisa elizweni lako-Israyeli wangibeka phezu kwentaba ende kakhulu, eceleni langaseningizimu kwayo kulezindlu ezazingathi lidolobho. **3** Wangisa khonapho, ngasengibona umuntu owayengathi lithusi, wayemi esangweni esandleni ephethe intambo yelineni loluthi lokulinganisa. **4** Umuntu lowo wathi kimi, “Ndodana yomuntu, khangela ngamehlo akho njalo uzwe ngezindlebe zakho, uqaphelise konke engizakutshengisa khona, ngoba lesa yiso isizatho osilethelwe lapha. Tshela indlu yako-Israyeli konke okubona lapha.” **5** Ngabona umduli uzingeleze ithempeli ngokupheleleyo. Ubude boluthi lokulinganisa olwaluphethwe ngumuntu lowo babuzingalo eziyisithupha, eyodwa kuyingalo lobubanzi besandla. Walinganisa umduli; ubuqatha bawo babululuthi lokulinganisa olulodwa lobude bululuthi olulodwa. **6** Emva kwalokho waya esangweni elikhangele empumalanga. Wakhwela ngezinyathelo zalo walinganisa umbundu wesango; wawuluthi olulodwa ukutshona kwawo. **7** Izindlwana zabalindi zaziluluthi olulodwa ubude loluthi olulodwa ububanzi; imiduli eyayiphumele emikhandlweni yezindlwana yayizingalo ezinhlanu ubuqatha. Umbundu wesango eduze lentuba ekhangele ithempeli wawuyingalo eyodwa ukutshona kwawo. **8** Wabuya walinganisa intuba yesango; **9** yayizingalo ezificaminwembili ukutshona kwalo lezinsika zalo zazizingalo ezimbili. Intuba yesango yayikhangele ethempelini. **10** Ngaphakathi kwesango langasempumalanga kwakulezindlwana ezintathu icele ngalinye; zontathu izilinganiso zazo zazifanana, lobuso bemiduli eyayiphumele phambili izilinganiso zabo amacele wonke zazifanana. **11** Wabuya walinganisa ububanzi bentuba yokuya esangweni; babuzingalo ezilitshumi lobude bayo buzingalo ezilitshumi lantathu. **12** Phambi kwendlwana ngayinye kwakulomduli owawuyingalo eyodwa ukuphakama kwawo, njalo izindlwana zizingalo eziyisithupha icele ngalinye. **13** Walinganisa isango kusukela phezu komduli ongemuva kwenye indlwana kusiya phezu kwenye emaqondana layo; ibanga lalizingalo ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlanu kusukela emnyango womunye umduli omncane kusiya komaqondana lawo. **14** Walinganisa elandela ubuso bemiduli ephumele phandle konke langaphakathi kwesango kwaba zingalo ezingamatshumi ayisithupha. Ukulinganisa kwakufike esangweni elikhangele iguma. **15** Ibanga kusukela ekungeneni kwesango kusiya ekucineni kwesango lalo lalizingalo ezingamatshumi amahlanu. **16** Phezu kwezindlwana lemiduli ephumele phandle ngaphakathi kwesango kwakulezikhadlanyana indawo yonke emdulini omncane, lalinjalo lentuba; izikhadlanyana

indawana yonke zazikhangele ngaphakathi. Ubuso bemiduli ephumele phandle babuceciswe ngezihlahla zelala. **17** Emva kwalokho wangisa egumeni elingaphandle. Lapho ngabona izindlu lendawo yokuhamba egandelweyo uzingeleze iguma lonke; kwakulezindlu ezingamatshumi amathathu ezazisekele indawo egandelweyo. **18** Yayeyame amacele amasango njalo ububanzi bayo babulingana lobude bawo; le yayiyindawo engaphansi yokuhamba egandelweyo. **19** Wabuye walinganisa ibanga elisukela ngaphakathi kwesango langaphansi lisiyafika egumeni langaphakathi; lalizingalo ezilikhulu eceleni lasempumalanga kanye lasenyakatho. **20** Wabuya walinganisa ubude lobubanzi besango elikhangele enyakatho, elokuya egumeni laphandle. **21** Izikhala zalo ezintathu icele ngalinye, imiduli yalo ephumele phandle lentuba yalo kwakulingana lokwesango lakuqala. Kwakuzingalo ezingamatshumi amahlanu ubude lezingalo ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlanu ububanzi. **22** Izikhadlanyana zalo, intuba yalo kanye lemicciso yezihlahla zelala, ubude lobubanzi bakho, kwakulingana lokwesango elikhangele empumalanga. Kwakungamanyathelo ayisikhombisa ukuya kulo, lilentuba yalo maqondana lawo. **23** Kwakulesango egumeni langaphakathi likhangele isango lasenyakatho, njengelalikhona empumalanga. Walinganisa esuka kwelinye isango kusiya kwelimaqondana lalo; kwakuzingalo ezilikhulu. **24** Wabuya wangisa eceleni langaseningizimu ngabona isango elalikhangele eningizimu. Walinganisa izinsika zalo lentuba yalo, ubude lobubanzi bakho babulingana lobokunye. **25** Isango lentuba yalo kwakulezikhala ezincane indawo yonke njezikhala zokunye. Lalizingalo ezingamatshumi amahlanu ubude lezingalo ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlanu ububanzi. **26** Kwakungamanyathelo ayisikhombisa ukuya kulo, intuba yalo imaqondana lawo; lalilemicciso yesihlahla selala ebusweni bemiduli eyayiphumele phambili icele ngalinye. **27** Iguma langaphakathi lalo lalilesango elikhangele eningizimu, njalo walinganisa esuka kuleli isango kusiya esangweni langaphandle eceleni laseningizimu; lalizingalo ezilikhulu. **28** Wabuya wangingenisa egumeni langaphakathi ngesango laseningizimu, waselinganisa isango laseningizimu; ubude lobubanzi balo babulingana lobamanye. **29** Izindlwana zalo, imiduli yalo ephumele phambili kanye lentuba yalo, ubude lobubanzi bakho babulingana lobokunye. Isango lentuba yalo kwakulezikhala indawo yonke. Lalizingalo ezingamatshumi amahlanu ubude lamatshumi amabili lanhlanu ububanzi. **30** (Amangenelo amasango ayezingeleze iguma langaphakathi ayezingalo ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlanu lezingalo ezinhlanu ukutshona.) **31** Intuba yalo yayikhangele iguma langaphandle; izihlahla zelala zazicecise izinsika zalo, njalo lamanyathelo ayisificaminwembili ayesiya kulo. **32** Wabuya wangisa egumeni langaphakathi, eceleni lasempumalanga, waselinganisa isango; ubude lobubanzi balo babulingana lobamanye. **33** Izindlwana zalo, imiduli yalo ephumele phambili kanye lentuba yalo, ubude lobubanzi bakho babulingana lobokunye. Isango lentuba yalo kwakulezikhala indawo yonke. Lalizingalo ezingamatshumi amahlanu ubude balo lezingalo ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlanu ububanzi balo. **34** Intuba yalo yayikhangele iguma langaphandle; izihlahla zelala zazicecise izinsika zalo amacele womabili, njalo amanyathelo ayisificaminwembili ayesiya kulo. **35** Wabuya wangisa esangweni lasenyakatho walilinganisa. Ubude lobubanzi balo babulingana lobamanye,

36 zinjalo lezindlwana zalo, imiduli yalo ephumele phambili kanye lentuba yalo, njalo yayilezikhala indawo yonke. Lalizingalo ezingamatshumi amahlanu ubude balo lezingalo ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlano ububanzi balo. 37 Intuba yalo yayikhangele iguma langaphandle; izihlahla zelala zazicacise izinsika zalo amacele womabili, njalo amanyathelo ayisificaminwenzi ayesiya kulo. 38 Indlu eyayilomnyango yayiseduze lentuba kulelo lalelo isango langaphakathi, lapho iminikelo yokutshiswa eyayigezisela khona. 39 Entubeni lesango kwakulamatafula amabili icele ngalinye, lapho okwakhlatshelwa khona iminikelo yokutshiswa, iminikelo yesono kanye leminikelo yecala. 40 Phansi komduli wangaphandle owengenelo lesango, eduze kwamanyathelo ekungeneni kwesango lasenyakatho kwakulamatafula amabili. 41 Ngakho kwakulamatafula amane kwelinye icele lesango lamane njalo kwelinye, amatafula ayisificamunwemunye esewonke, phezu kwawo yikho okwakhlatshelwa khona imihlatshelo. 42 Kwakulamatafula amane futhi awamatshe abaziweyo awomnikelo wokutshiswa, lilinye liyingalo eyodwa lengxenyane ubude, ingalo eyodwa lengxenyane ububanzi kanye lengalo eyodwa ukuphakama kwalo. Izinto zokuhlaba umnikelo wokutshiswa leminye imihlatshelo zazibekwa phezu kwawo. 43 Njalo kwakulezingwegwe ezigwegwa inxa zonke, enye lenye ingangobubanzi besandla ubude bayo, zixhunyelwe emdulini indawo yonke. Amatafula ayengawenyama yeminikelo. 44 Ngaphandle kwesango langaphakathi, phakathi kweguma langaphakathi, kwakulezindlu ezimbili, enye iseceleni lesango lenyakatho njalo ikhangele eningizimu, enye njalo iseceleni lesango langaseningizimu njalo ikhangele enyakatho. 45 Wathi kimi, "Indlu ekhangele eningizimu ngeyabaphristi abaphethe ithempeli, 46 njalo indlu ekhangele enyakatho ngeyabaphristi abaphethe i-alithari. Laba bangamadodana kaZadokhi abayibona baLevi kuphela abangasondela phansi kukaThixo ukuba bamkhonze." 47 Emva kwalokho walinganisa iguma: Lalilingana inxa zonke, lalizingalo ezilikhulu ubude lezingalo ezilikhulu ububanzi. I-alithari laliphansi kwethempeli. 48 Wabuya wangisa entubeni lethempeli waselinganisa izinsika zengenelo; zazizingalo ezinhlanu ububanzi amacele womabili. Ububanzi bentuba babuzingalo ezilithshumi lane njalo imiduli yayo ephumele phandle ububanzi bayo babuzingalo ezintathu amacele womabili. 49 Intuba lalizingalo ezingamatshumi amabili ububanzi, lezingalo ezilithshumi lambili kusukela phambili kusiya emuva. Kulo kwakufikwa ngezinyathelo, njalo kwakulezisekelo emaceleni wonke ezinsika.

41 Emva kwalokho umuntu lowo wangisa endaweni engcwele phandle walinganisa izinsika; ububanzi bezinsika babuzingalo eziyisithupha icele ngalinye. 2 Intuba yayizingalo ezilithshumi ububanzi bayo. Imiduli ephumele phambili eceleni ngalinye layo yayizingalo ezinhlanu ububanzi bayo. Walinganisa lendawo engcwele yaphandle; yayizingalo ezingamatshumi amane ubude bayo lezingalo ezingamatshumi amabili ububanzi. 3 Wangena endaweni engcwele yangaphakathi walinganisa izinsika zentuba; nganye zazizingalo ezimbili ububanzi. Intuba yayizingalo eziyisithupha ububanzi, lemiduli ephumele phambili eceleni ngalinye yayizingalo eziyisikhombisa ububanzi. 4 Walinganisa lobude bendawo engcwele yangaphakathi; babuzingalo ezingamatshumi amabili; lobubanzi bayo babuzingalo ezingamatshumi amabili ngale kwendawo engcwele yangaphandle. Wathi kimi, "Le yindawo

eNgcwele kakhulu." 5 Emva kwalokho walinganisa umduli wethempeli; wawuyizingalo eziyisithupha ubuqatha, njalo enye lenye yezindlu zasemaceleni ezazihanqo ithempeli yayizingalo ezine ububanzi. 6 Izindlu zasemaceleni zazelekene ngezigaba ezintathu, enye phezu kwenye, amatshumi amathathu mzila munye. Kwakulezisekelo emdulini wonke wethempeli ezazisekela izindlu zasemaceleni ukuze izinsika zingakhelwa phakathi komduli wethempeli. 7 Izindlu zasemaceleni ezazizingezelele ithempeli zazibanzi phezulu kusukela kwenye indlu kusiya kwenye engaphezu kwayo. Izakhiwo ezazizingezelele ithempeli zazakhiwe zingamabanga akhweleyo esiya phezulu, okwenza izindlu zibe banzi nxa umuntu esiya phezulu. Kwakulamakhwelelo ayesuka ezindlini ezingaphansi esiya kwezipezulu edlula ezindlini eziphakathi. 8 Ngabona ukuthi ithempeli lalilombundu olizingezezileyo owawuyisonasisekelo sezindlu zasemaceleni. Wawulingana loluthi, uzingalo eziyisithupha ubude. 9 Umduli wangaphandle wazindlu zasemaceleni wawuzingalo ezinhlanu ubuqatha bawo. Indawo eligeceke phakathi kwezindlu zasemaceleni zethempeli 10 lezindlu zabaphristi yayizingalo ezingamatshumi amabili ububanzi bayo inxa zonke zethempeli. 11 Kwakulentuba zokuya ezindlini zasemaceleni zivelela endaweni eligeceke, elinye enyakatho lelinye eningizimu; njalo isisekelo esasixhumane lendawo eligeceke sasizingalo ezinhlanu inxa zonke. 12 Indlu eyayikhangele iguma lethempeli eceleni lasentshonalanga yayizingalo ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa ububanzi bayo. Umduli wendlu leyo wawuzingalo ezinhlanu ubuqatha bawo indawo zonke, ubude bawo buzingalo ezingamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye munye. 13 Waselinganisa ithempeli; lalizingalo ezilikhulu ubude balo, leguma lethempeli lendlu kanye lemiduli yalo lakho kwakuzingalo ezilikhulu ubude. 14 Ububanzi beguma lethempeli ngasempumalanga, kanye langaphambi kwethempeli, babuzingalo ezilikhulu. 15 Waselinganisa ubude bendlu eyayikhangele iguma ngemva kwethempeli, kanye lemiduli yayo icele ngalinye; babuzingalo ezilikhulu. Indawo engcwele yangaphandle, lendawo engcwele yangaphakathi lentuba elikhangele iguma, 16 kanye leminyango lamawindi amancane kanye lemiduli ezingezelele ezintathu zakhona, konke okuphambili laphaya kubalwa leminyango kwakuvalwe ngamapulanka. Iphansi, imiduli kusiya phezulu emawindini, kanye lamawindi kwakuvaliwe. 17 Indawo eyayiphezu kwangaphandle kwesango lendawo engcwele yangaphakathi kanye lasemdulini izibanga ezilinganayo inxa zonke zendawo engcwele engaphakathi lengaphandle 18 kwakulamakherubhi abaziweyo kanye lezihlahla zelala. Izihlahla zelala zazigabana lamakherubhi. Ikherubhi ngalinye lalilobuso obubili: 19 ubuso bomuntu obukhangele esihlahleni selala kwelinye icele, lobuso besilwane obukhangele esihlahleni selala ngakwelinye icele. Kwakubaziwe inxa zonke zethempeli. 20 Kusukela phansi kusiya ngaphezu kwesango, amakherubhi lezihlahla zelala kwakubaziwe emdulini wendawo engcwele yangaphandle. 21 Indawo engcwele yangaphandle yayilemigubazi emide ukuyaphezulu imifitshane ukunquma kwayo njalo leyaphambili kweNdwawo eNgcwele kakhulu yayinjalo. 22 Kwakule-alithare lezigodo lizingalo ezimbili ukuphakama kwalo njalo lizingalo ezimbili ubude lobubanzi; izingosi zalo, lesidindi salo kanye lamacele alo kwakwenziwe ngezigodo. Umuntu lowo wathi kimi, "Leli litafula eliphambi kukaThixo." 23 Kokubili indawo engcwele yangaphandle

leNdawo eNgcwele kakhulu kwakulezivalo ezimbili. **24** Isivalo ngasinye sasilempiko ezimbili, impiko ezimbili ezivulekayo zisesivalweni sinye ngasinye. **25** Njalo ezivalweni zendawo engcwele yangaphandle kwakulamakherubhi abaziweyo kanye lezihlahla zelala njengokwakubazelwe emidulini, njalo kwakulophahla lwezigodo ngaphambi kwesango. **26** Emidulini yemaceleni yengenelo kwakulamawindi amancane alezihlahla zelala ezibazelwe kucele ngalinye. Izindlu zemaceleni zethempeli lazo zazilophahla.

42 Umuntu lowo wangikhokhelela enyakatho egumeni langaphandle wangisa ezindlini eziqondane leguma lethempeli maqondana lomduli waphandle eceleni lasenyakatho. **2** Indlu elomnyango owawukhangele enyakatho yayizingalo ezilikhulu ubude lezingalo ezingamatshumi amahlanu ububanzi. **3** Kokubili ehlangothini izingalo ezingamatshumi amabili kusukela egumeni langaphakathi lasehlangothini oluqondane lendawo egandelweyo yeguma langaphandle, umduli wawukhangele umduli ezigabeni ezintathu. **4** Phambi kwezindlu kwakulendawo yokuhamba izingalo ezilithumi ububanzi lezingalo ezilikhulu ubude. Iminyango yazo yayingenyakatho. **5** Izindlu zangaphezulu zazincane ngoba imikhandlu yayithethe indawo enengi kuzo kulezindlini ezingaphansi leziphakathi zesakhiwo. **6** Izindlu zaphazulu zazingelansika, njengamaguma ayelazo, ngakho iphansi lazo lalilincane kulalezo ezazisesitezi esingaphansi leziphakathi. **7** Kwakulomduli wangaphandle owawusekelene lezindlu kanye leguma langaphandle; wawuquma ngaphambi kwezindlu okwezingalo ezingamatshumi amahlanu. **8** Lanxa udwendwe lwezindlu eceleni elaliseduze leguma langaphandle lwaluzingalo ezingamatshumi amahlanu ubude, udwendwe olwaluseceleni eliseduze lendlu engcwele lwaluzingalo ezilikhulu ubude. **9** Izindlu zangaphansi zazilentuba ngasempumalanga lapho umuntu angena lakhona evela egumeni langaphandle. **10** Eceleni langaseningizimu kulandela ubude bomduli weguma langaphandle, kuxhume iguma lethempeli maqondana lomduli wangaphandle, kwakulezindlu. **11** Ezilandawo yokuhamba phambi kwazo. Lezi zazinjengezindlu ezingenyakatho; ubude lobubanzi bazo babulingana, zileminyango yokuphuma efananayo kanye lobukhulu. Njengeminyango yangenyakatho, **12** iminyango yezindlu zangaseningizimu layo yayinjalo. Kwakulomnyango ekuqaliseni kwendawo yokuhamba eyayisekelene lomduli owawuhambelana layo usiya empumalanga, okuyiwo umuntu owayengena ngawo ezindlini. **13** Wasesithi kimi, “Izindlu ezingenyakatho leziseningizimu ezikhangele iguma lethempeli yizindlu zabaphristi lapho abaphristi abasondela kuThixo abazadlala khona iminikelo engcwele kakhulu. Bazayibeka khonapho iminikelo engcwele kakhulu, iminikelo yamabele, iminikelo yesono kanye leminikelo yecala ngoba indawo ingcwele. **14** Abaphristi bangavele bangene endaweni engcwele, akumelanga baye egumeni langaphandle baze batshiye ngemuva izembatho abakhonza bezigqokile, ngoba lezi zingcwele. Kumele bagqoke ezinye izigqoko bengakayi eduze lezindawo ezingezabantu.” **15** Wathi eseqede ukulinganisa okwukuphakathi kwendawo yethempeli, wangisa phandle ngesango lasempumalanga walinganisa indawo yonke. **16** Walinganisa icele lasempumalanga ngoluthi lokulinganisa; lalizingalo ezingamakhulu amahlanu. **17** Walinganisa icele lasenyakatho; lalizingalo ezingamakhulu

amahlanu ngoluthi lokulinganisa. **18** Walinganisa icele laseningizimu; lalizingalo ezingamakhulu amahlanu ngoluthi lokulinganisa. **19** Waphendukela eceleni langasentshonalanga walinganisa; lalizingalo ezingamakhulu amahlanu ngoluthi lokulinganisa. **20** Ngakho walinganisa indawo yamacele wonke amane. Yayilomduli owawuyizingezele, izingalo ezingamakhulu amahlanu ubude lezingalo ezingamakhulu amahlanu ububanzi, ukwehlukana okungcwele kokwabantu bonke.

43 Emva kwalokho umuntu lowo wangisa esangweni elikhangele empumalanga, **2** ngabona inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli isiza ivela empumalanga. Ilizwi lakhe lalinjengokuhamba kwamanzi ageleza ngesiqubu esikhulu, lelizwe laselikhazimula ngenkazimulo yakhe. **3** Umbono engawubonayo wawunjengombono engangiwubone lapho wayezediliza idolobho njalo wawunjengombono engangiwubone ngasemfuleni iKhebhari, ngathi mbo phansi ngobuso. **4** Inkazimulo kaThixo yangena ethempelini ngesango elikhangele empumalanga. **5** UMoya wangiphakamisa wangisa egumeni langaphakathi, njalo inkazimulo kaThixo yagcwala ethempelini. **6** Kwathi umuntu lowo emi phansi kwami, ngezwa omunye engikhulumisa engaphakathi kwethempeli. **7** Wathi, “Ndodana yomuntu, le yindawo yesihlalo sami sobukhosi lendawo yokunyathela ngezinyawo zami. Lapha yikho engizahlala khona phakathi kwama-Israyeli kuze kube laphakade. Indlu ka-Israyeli kayisayikulingcolisa futhi ibizo lami, bona loba amakhosi abo, ngobuwule babo langezithombe ezingaphiliyo zamakhosi abo ezindaweni zawo eziphakemeyo. **8** Lapho babeka iminyango yabo phansi komnyango wami lemigubazi yabo eceleni kwemigubazi yami, kulomduli nje kuphela phakathi kwami labo, bangcolisa ibizo lami ngezenzo zabo ezinengekayo. Ngakho ngabaqeda ekuthukutheleni kwami. **9** Khathezi-ke kabasusele kude lami ubuwule babo kanye lezithombe zamakhosi abo ezingaphiliyo, njalo ngizahlala phakathi kwabo kuze kube laphakade. **10** Ndodana yomuntu, chazela abantu bako-Israyeli ngethempeli kuze bayangeke ngezenzo zabo. Wothi bacabange ngokumele kwenziwe ngobunono, **11** njalo nxa belenhloni ngakho konke abakwenzayo, bazise ngesimo sethempeli, ukumiswa kwalo, izindawo zalo zokuphuma lezokungena, isimo salo sonke lezimiso zalo zonke kanye lemithetho yakhona. Bhala lokhu phansi phambi kwabo kuze bathembeke kuso isifanekiso salo njalo balandele zonke izimiso zalo. **12** Nanku umthetho wethempeli: Wonke umango oseeduze phezu kwentaba uzakuba ngcwele kakhulu. Lowo yiwo umthetho wethempeli.” **13** “Lezi yizilinganiso ze-alithare ngezingalo, ingalo kuyingalo lobubanzi besandla: Isidindi salo sasiyingalo eyodwa ukuphakama kwaso lengalo eyodwa ububanzi, silomqolo ongangobubanzi besandla emphethweni waso. Njalo nampu ubude be-alithare ukuphakama kwalo: **14** Kusukela esidindini phansi kusiya elitsheni elingaphansi lizingalo ezimbili ukuphakama lezingalo ezimbili ububanzi, njalo kusukela elitsheni elincane kusiya elitsheni elikhulu lizingalo ezine ukuphakama lengalo eyodwa ububanzi. **15** Iziko le-alithari lizingalo ezine ukuphakama njalo impondo ezine zikhokhekele phezu lizisuka eziko. **16** Iziko le-alithari liyalingana amacele wonke, izingalo ezilithumi lambili ubude lezingalo ezilithumi lambili ububanzi. **17** Uhlangothi lwangaphezulu lalo luyalingana macele wonke,

izingalo ezilithumi lane ubude lobubanzi lulomphetho oyingxenywe yengalo lesidindi esiyingalo eyodwa inxa zonke. Izinyathelo ze-alithare zikhangele empumalanga.” **18** Wasesithi kimi, “Ndodana yomuntu, nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Le izakuba yimithetho yokunikela iminikelo yokutshiswa lokuchela igazi phezu kwe-alithari lapho selakhiwe: **19** Kumele unikele inkunzi eseseliyuqa njengomnikelo wesono kubaphristi, abangabaLevi, abendlu kaZadokhi abasondela eduze ukuba bakhonze phambi kwami, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **20** Kumele uthathe elinye igazi ulifake empondweni ezine ze-alithare lasemagumbini amane elitshe langaphezulu lasemphethweni inxa zonke, ngokunjalo uhlambulule i-alithari njalo ulenzele inhlawulelo. **21** Kumele uthathe inkunzi yomnikelo wesono uyitshisele endaweni ekhethiweyo yethempeli ngaphandle kwendawo engcwele. **22** Ngosuku lwesibili kumele unikele imbuzi enduna engelasici ukuba ngumnikelo wesono, njalo le-alithari kumele lihlanjululwe njengokuhlunjulwa elakwenziwa ngenkunzi. **23** Lapho usuqedile ukulihlambulula, kumele unikele inkunzi eseseliyuqa kanye lenqama evela emhlambini, kokubili kungelasici. **24** Kumele ukunikele phambi kukaThixo, njalo abaphristi kumele bavuvuzele itswayi phezu kwakho bakunikele njengomnikelo wokutshiswa kuThixo. **25** Okwensuku eziyisikhombisa kuzamele unikele imbuzi enduna nsuku zonke ukuba ngumnikelo wesono; njalo kumele unikele inkunzi eseseliyuqa kanye lenqama evela emhlambini, kokubili kungelasici. **26** Okwensuku eziyisikhombisa bazakwenzela i-alithari inhlawulelo, balihlambulule, kanjalo balenze libengcwele. **27** Ekupheleni kwalezizinsuku, kusukela ngosuku lwesificaminwembili kusiya phambili, abaphristi kumele bethule iminikelo yakho yokutshiswa kanye leminikelo yobuzalwane e-alithareni. Lapho-ke ngizalamukela, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.”

44 Emva kwalokho umuntu lowo wangibuyisela esangweni langaphandle lendlu engcwele, leli elikhangele empumalanga, njalo livaliwe. **2** UThixo wasesithi kimi, “Isango leli kumele lihale livaliwe. Akumelanga livulwe; akulamuntu ongangena ngalo. Kumele lihale livaliwe ngoba uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, ungene ngalo. **3** Inkosana yona ngokwayo yiyo kuphela engahlala phakathi kwesango ukuba idle phambi kukaThixo. Kuzamele ingene ngendlela engenelo lesango njalo iphume ngayonaleyo indlela.” **4** Indoda leyo yangisa phambi kwethempeli ngendlela yesango lasenyakatho. Ngakhangela ngabona inkazimulo kaThixo igcwele ethempelini likaThixo, ngathi mbo phansi ngobuso. **5** UThixo wasesithi kimi, “Ndodana yomuntu, khangela ngokunanzelela, ulalelisise njalo uqaphele konke engikutshela khona mayelana lemithetho yonke eqondane lethempeli likaThixo. Qaphela intuba lethempeli layo yonke iminyango yokuphuma yendlu engcwele. **6** Tshono kuyo indlu ehlamukayo ka-Israyeli uthi, ‘Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Wena ndlu ka-Israyeli, kaziphele izenzo zakho ezinengayo! **7** Phezu kwazo zonke ezinye izenzo zakho ezinengayo ungenise abezizweni abangasokanga enhliziyweni lasenyameni endlini yami engcwele, ungcolisa ithempeli lami lapho unginika ukudla, amafutha legazi, njalo wephula isivumelwano sami. **8** Ekubeni wenze okumele ukwenze mayelana lezinto zami ezingcwele, wena wabeka abanye ukuba baphathe indlu yami engcwele. **9** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Akulamuntu wezizweni ongasokanga

enhliziyweni lasenyameni ozangena endlini yami engcwele ngitsho labezizweni abahlala phakathi kwama-Israyeli. **10** AbaLevi abaya khatshana lami lapho u-Israyeli wayeduhile njalo sebhlanlathethekele ezithombeni zabo besuka kimi, kumele bathwale umvuzo wesono sabo. **11** Bangakhonza endlini yami engcwele, bepethele amasango ethempeli njalo bekhonza phakathi kwalo; bangahlabela abantu iminikelo leminikelo yokutshiswa njalo bame phambi kwabantu babasebenzele. **12** Kodwa ngenxa yokuthi babasebenzela phambi kwezithombe zabo benza indlu ka-Israyeli yawela esonweni, ngakho sengifunge ngesandla siphakanyisiwe ukuthi kumele bathwale umvuzo wesono sabo, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **13** Akumelanga basondele eduze ukuba bangikhonze njengabaphristi loba basondele eduze kwaloba yiphi yezinto zami ezingcwele loba iminikelo yami engcwele kakhulu; kumele bathwale ihlazo lezenzo zabo ezinengayo. **14** Ikanti ngizabenza baphathe imisebenzi yasethempeleni kanye lemisebenzi yonke okumele yenziwe phakathi kwalo. **15** Kodwa abaphristi, abangabaLevi njalo beyinzalo kaZadokhi abasebenza ngokuthembeka imisebenzi yasendlini yami engcwele lapho ama-Israyeli ayengihlamukele, kumele basondele eduze ukuba bakhonze phambi kwami; kumele bame phambi kwami ukuba banikele umhlathshelo wamafutha legazi, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **16** Bona kuphela kumele bangene endlini yami engcwele; bona kuphela kumele basondele phansi kwetafula lami ukuba bakhonze phambi kwami benze umsebenzi wami. **17** Lapho bengena emasangweni eguma langaphakathi kumele bagqoke izigqoko zelineni; akumelanga bagqoke isigqoko sewulo lapho bekhonza emasangweni eguma kumbe phakathi kwethempeli. **18** Kumele bagqoke amaqhiye elineni emakhanda abo lezigqoko zangaphansi zelineni ezinkalweni zabo. Akumelanga bagqoke into ezabaginqisa. **19** Lapho besiya phandle egumeni langaphandle lapho okulabantu khona, kumele bakhuphe izigqoko ababekhonza bezigqokile njalo kumele bazitshiye ezindlini ezingcwele, bagqoke ezinye izigqoko, ukuze bangangcwelisi abantu ngezembatho zabo. **20** Akumelanga baphuce amakhanda abo kumbe bayekele inwele zabo zikhula zisiba zinde; kodwa kumele bagcine inwele zabo zigundiwe. **21** Akulamphristi ozanetha iwayini lapho engena iguma langaphakathi. **22** Akumelanga bathathe abafelokazi loba abesifazane abehlukana labomkabo; kumele bathathe izintombi ezimsulwa kuphela ezenzalo yako-Israyeli loba abafelokazi babaphristi. **23** Kumele bafundise abantu bami umahluko phakathi kokungcwele lokwabantu bonke babatshengise indlela yokwehlukana phakathi kokungcolileyo lokuhlanzekileyo. **24** Lapho kulombango abaphristi bazasebenza njengabahluleli baqume mayelana lezimiso zami. Kumele bagcine imithetho yami lezimemezelo zami kuyo yonke imikhosi yami emisiweyo, njalo kumele bagcine amaSabatha yami engcwele. **25** Umphristi akumelanga azingcolise ngokuya phansi komuntu ofileyo; kodwa-ke nxa umuntu ofileyo ubenguyise loba unina, indodana yakhe kumbe indodakazi, umfowabo kumbe udadewabo ongendanga, lapho angazingcolisa. **26** Emva kokuba esehlantjululiwe, uzakuma insuku eziyisikhombisa. **27** Ngosuku azakuya ngalo egumeni langaphakathi lendlu engcwele ukuba enze inkonzo endlini engcwele, kumele azinikelele umnikelo wesono, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **28** Mina ngizakuba yilona lifa kuphela abaphristi abalalo. Akukho lifa ozabapha lona ko-Israyeli; mina ngizakuba yilifa labo. **29** Bazakudla iminikelo yamabele, iminikelo

yesono leminikelo yecala; kanye lakho konke okuko-Israyeli okwahlukaniselwe uThixo kuzakuba ngokwabo. **30** Okuhle kakhulu kwazo zonke izithelo zakho zakuqala lokweziphu zenu ezikhethiweyo kuzakuba ngokwabaphristi. Kumele libaphe ingxenywe yakuqala yempuphu yenu echoliweyo ukuze isibusiso sihlale endlini yenu. **31** Abaphristi akumelanga badle loba yini, inyoni kumbe inyamazana, etholakale ifile kumbe idlithizwe yizinyamazana zeganga.”

45 “Lapho usaba ilizwe njengelifa kuzamela wethule kuThixo ingxenywe yelizwe njengesifunda esingcwele, izingalo eziyinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlanu ubude lengalo eziyinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili ububanzi; umango wonke uzakuba ngcwele. **2** Kulokhu indawo ezingalo ezingamakhulu amahlanu ubude lobubanzi izakuba ngeyendlu engcwele; kulezingalo ezingamatshumi amahlanu eziyizingelezileyo yelizwe elingelalutho. **3** Esifundeni esingcwele linganisa ingxenywe ezingalo eziyinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlanu ubude lengalo eziyinkulungwane ezilithshumi ububanzi. Phakathi kwayo kuzakuba lendlu engcwele, iNdlawo eNgcwele kakhulu. **4** Izakuba yingxenywe engcwele yelizwe ingeyabaphristi, abakhonzayo endlini engcwele njalo abasondele eduze ukuba bakhonze phambi kukaThixo. Izakuba yindawo yezindlu zabo kanye lendawo engcwele yendlu engcwele. **5** Umango ozingalo eziyinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlanu ubude lengalo eziyinkulungwane ezilithshumi ububanzi izakuba ngeyabaLevi, abakhonza ethempelini, njengesabelo sabo samadolobho okuhlala kuwo. **6** Kumele unike idolobho njengelifa lalo umango ozingalo eziyinkulungwane ezinhlanu ububanzi lengalo eziyinkulungwane ezinhlanu ubude, obambane lengxenywe engcwele; uzakuba ngowayo yonke indlu ka-Israyeli. **7** Inkosana izathatha ilizwe eliphetha eceleni ngalinye lendawo eyisifunda esingcwele lelifa ledolobho. Lizaqhela lisiya entshonalanga lisuka eceleni langentshonalanga njalo liye empumalanga lisuka eceleni langasempumalanga, lilandele ubude kusukela emngceleni wentshonalanga kusiya kowempumalanga osekelane lowesabelo sabantu. **8** Ilizwe leli lizakuba yisabelo sayo ko-Israyeli. Njalo inkosana yami kayisayikuncindezela abantu bami kodwa izavumela indlu ka-Israyeli ukuba bathathe ilizwe mayelana lezizwana zabo. **9** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Eselikwenzile kwanele, lina makhosana ako-Israyeli! Yekelani udlakela lweni lokuncindezela lenze okufaneleyo lokulungileyo. Khawulani ukuxotsha abantu bami ezindaweni zabo, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **10** Kumele lisebenzise izikali eziqotho, ihefa eliqotho kanye lebhathi eliqotho. **11** Ihefa lebhathi kumele kulingane, ibhathi lilengxenywe yetshumi yehomeri njalo lehefa ingxenywe yehomeri; ihomeri lizakuba yisilinganiso esamukelekayo kukho kokubili. **12** Ishekeli lizakuba ngamagera angamatshumi amabili. Amashekeli angamatshumi amabili, lamashekeli angamatshumi amabili lanhlanu kanye lamashekeli alitshumi lanhlanu kuba limina elilodwa. **13** Lesi yisipho esiqakathekileyo okumele usinikele: Ingxenywe yesithupha yehefa kuhomeri ngalinye lamabele lengxenywe yesithupha yehefa kuhomeri ngalinye lebhathi. **14** Ingxenywe emisiweyo yamafutha, elinganiswa ngebhathi, iyingxenywe yetshumi yebhathi kukhori ngalinye (elingamabhathi alitshumi loba ihomeri elilodwa, ngoba

amabhathi alitshumi alingana lehomeri.) **15** Njalo imvu eyodwa kumele ithathwe emhlambini ngamunye wezingamakhulu amabili emadlelweni ako-Israyeli alamanzi amanengi. Lezi zizasetshenziswa eminikelweni yamabele, eminikelweni yokutshiswa kanye laseminikelweni yobuzalwane ukwenzela abantu inhlawulelo, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **16** Bonke abantu belizwe bazahlanganyela kulesisipho esiqakathekileyo ukuba sisetshenziswe yinkosana yako-Israyeli. **17** Kuzakuba ngumsebenzi wenkosana ukunika iminikelo yokutshiswa, iminikelo yamabele kanye leminikelo yokunathwayo emikhosini, ekuThwaseni kweziNyanga langamaSabatha, kuyo yonke imikhosi yako-Israyeli. Izanikela iminikelo yesono, iminikelo yamabele leminikelo yobuzalwane ukwenzela indlu ka-Israyeli inhlawulelo. **18** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Ngenyanga yakuqala ngosuku lwakuqala kumele uthathe inkunzi eliguqa engelasici uhlabulule indlu engcwele. **19** Umphristi kumele athathe elinye legazi lomnikelo wesono alifake emigubazini yethempeli, ezingosini ezine zelishe langaphezulu le-alithari lasezinsikeni zesango leguma langaphakathi. **20** Kuzamele wenze khonokho ngosuku lwesikhombisa lwenyanga ukwenzela loba ngubani owenza isono kungasikho ngabomu loba ngenxa yokungazi; ngokunjalo uzakwenzela ithempeli inhlawulelo. **21** Ngenyanga yakuqala ngosuku lwetshumi lane kumele kube lomkhosi wePhasika, umkhosi ozathatha insuku eziyisikhombisa, ngalesosikhathi kumele udle isinkwa esingelamvubelo. **22** Ngalolosuku inkosana izanikela inkunzi njengomnikelo wesono izinikelela yona ngokwayo kanye labantu bonke belizwe. **23** Nsuku zonke phakathi kwensuku eziyisikhombisa zomkhosi kumele inikele inkunzi eziyisikhombisa lenqama eziyisikhombisa ezingelasici njengomnikelo wokutshiswa kuThixo, lempongo yomnikelo wesono. **24** Kuzamela inikele njengomnikelo wamabele ihefa elilodwa lenkunzi ngayinye lehefa elilodwa lenqama ngayinye ndawonye lehini lamafutha elilodwa kuhefa ngalinye. **25** Phakathi kwensuku eziyisikhombisa zomkhosi oqalisa ngenyanga yesikhombisa ngosuku lwetshumi lanhlanu, kumele inikele okufanayo okomnikelo wesono, umnikelo wokutshiswa, umnikelo wamabele kanye lamafutha.”

46 “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Isango leguma langaphakathi elikhangele empumalanga kumele livalwe ngezinsuku eziyisithupha zokusebenza, kodwa ngosuku lweSabatha langosuku lokuThwasa kweNyanga kumele livulwe. **2** Inkosana izangena ngentuba lesango ivela phandle ibe isisima phansi kwensika yesango. Abaphristi kuzamele banikele umnikelo wayo wokutshiswa kanye leminikelo yayo yobuzalwane. Izakhonza ekungeneni kwesango ibe isiphuma, kodwa isango kaliyikuvalwa kuze kube kusihlwa. **3** NgamaSabatha lasekuThwaseni kweziNyanga abantu belizwe kumele bakhonze phambi kukaThixo ekungeneni kwalelosango. **4** Umnikelo wokutshiswa o lethwa yinkosana kuThixo ngosuku lweSabatha uzakuba ngamazinyane amaduna ayisithupha kanye lenqama, konke kungelasici. **5** Umnikelo wamabele onikelwa lenqama uzakuba lihefa, njalo umnikelo wamabele onikelwa lamazinyane uzakuya ngokuthanda kwayo, kanye lehini lamafutha kuhefa ngalinye. **6** Ngosuku lokuThwasa kweNyanga kumele inikele inkunzi eliguqa, amazinyane ayisithupha kanye lenqama, konke kungelasici. **7** Kuzamele inike njengomnikelo wamabele ihefa elilodwa kanye lenkunzi, ihefa elilodwa kanye lenqama, kuthi

lamazinyane kube yilokho ethande ukukunika, kanye lehini lamafutha kuhefa ngalinye. **8** Lapho inkosana ingena kuzamele ingene ngentuba lesango, njalo kumele iphume ngaleyondlela. **9** Lapho abantu belizwe besiza phambi kukaThixo emikhosini emisiweyo, loba ngubani ongena ngesango lenyakatho ukuzakhonza uzaphuma ngesango leningizimu; njalo loba ngubani ongena ngesango leningizimu uzaphuma ngesango lenyakatho. Kakho ozabuyela ngesango angene ngalo, kodwa lowo lalowo uzaphuma ngesango aqondane lalo. **10** Inkosana kumele ibe phakathi kwabo, ingene lapho bengena njalo iphume lapho bephuma. **11** Emadilini lasemikhosini emisiweyo, umnikelo wamabele kumele ube lihefa kanye lenkunzi, ihefa kanye lenqama, njalo lamazinyane kuzakuya ngokuthanda komuntu, kanye lehini lamafutha kuhefa ngalinye. **12** Lapho inkosana inika umnikelo ngokuzithandela kuThixo loba kungumnikelo wokutshiswa kumbe iminikelo yobuzalwane, kumele ivulelwe isango elikhangele empumalanga. Izanikela umnikelo wayo wokutshiswa kumbe umnikelo wayo wobuzalwane njengekwenzayo ngosuku lweSabatha. Emva kwalokho izaphuma, njalo emva kokuba isiphumile, isango lizavalwa. **13** Insuku zonke kuzamele unike izinyane elilomnyaka owodwa elingelacisi ukuba ngumnikelo wokutshiswa kuThixo; uzalnika nsuku zonke ekuseni. **14** Kuzamele unike kanye lalo nsuku zonke ekuseni umnikelo wamabele kuhlanganiswe ingxenye yesithupha yehefa lengxenye yesithathu yehini lamafutha ukuba athambise impuphu. Ukwethulwa kwalo umnikelo wamabele kuThixo kuyisimiso esingapheliyo. **15** Ngakho izinyane lomnikelo wamabele kanye lamafutha kuzanikwa nsuku zonke ekuseni kube ngumnikelo wokutshiswa wansuku zonke. **16** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: Nxa inkosana inika enye yamadodana ayo isipho elifeni layo, sizakuba ngesezizukulwane zayo futhi; sizakuba yimpahla yazo ngokudla ilifa. **17** Kodwa-ke nxa inika esinye sezisebenzi zayo isipho elifeni layo, isisebenzi singasigcina kuze kube ngumnyaka wokukhululwa; lapho isipho sesibuyela kuyo inkosana. Ilifa layo lingathathwa ngamadodana ayo kuphela; ngelawo. **18** Inkosana akumelanga ithathe ilifa labantu, ibaxotsha empahleni yabo. Kumele inike amadodana ayo ilifa empahleni yayo, ukuze kungabikhona ebantwini bami owehlukaniswa lempahla yakhe.” **19** Emva kwalokho umuntu lowo wangikhupha ngentuba eseceleni kwesango ukuya ezindlini ezingcwele ezikhangele enyakatho ezazingezabaphristi, wangitshengisa indawo ekucineni ngasentshonalanga. **20** Wathi kimi, “Le yindawo lapho abaphristi abazaphekela khona umnikelo wecala lomnikelo wesono bachochombise lomnikelo wamabele, ukuba kuxwaywe ukuya layo egumeni langaphandle kungcwelise abantu.” **21** Wabuya wangisa egumeni langaphandle wangibhodisa ezingosini ezine, njalo engosini ngayinye ngabona elinye iguma. **22** Ezingosini ezine zeguma langaphandle kwakulamaguma ayebiyelwe, ezingalo ezingamatshumi amane ubude lezingalo ezingamatshumi amathathu ububanzi; wonke amagama ezingosini ezine ayelingana. **23** Ngaphakathi kwalelo lalalo lamaguma amane kwakulesakhiwo samatshu, silezindawo ezakhelwe umlilo indawo yonke ngaphansi kwaso. **24** Wasesithi kimi, “Le yimikulu lapho labo abakhonzayo ethempelini abazaphekela khona imihlatshelo yabantu.”

47 Umuntu lowo wangibuyisela entubeni yethempeli, ngasengibona amanzi ephuma ngaphansi kwasekungeleni kwethempeli esiya empumalanga (ngoba ithempeli lalikhangele empumalanga.) Amanzi ayegelezela phansi evela ngaphansi kwecele langaseningizimu lethempeli, eningizimu kwe-alithari. **2** Wasengikhupha ngesango lenyakatho wangibhodisa ngaphandle ayega esangweni elikhangele empumalanga, njalo amanzi ayegeleza evela eceleni langaseningizimu. **3** Kwathi umuntu lowo esiya empumalanga ephethe isilinganiso ngesandla, walinganisa ingalo eziyinkulungwane wasengidabulisa phakathi kwamanzi ayetshona okufika enqageleni. **4** Walinganisa ezinye izingalo eziyinkulungwane wasengidabulisa phakathi kwamanzi ayetshona okufika emadolweni. Walinganisa enye inkulungwane wasengidabulisa phakathi kwamanzi ayefika ekhalweni. **5** Walinganisa enye inkulungwane, kodwa khathesi kwasekungumfula engangengeke ngiwuchaphe ngoba amanzi ayesebhakeme esetshona okukumela ukuntsheza kuwo, umfula okungekho owayengawuchapha. **6** Wangibuza wathi, “Ndodana yomuntu, uyakubona lokhu na?” Emva kwalokho wangibuyisela emuva ekhunjinini lomfula. **7** Sengifike lapho ngabona izihlahla ezinengi kakhulu eceleni ngalinye lomfula. **8** Wasesithi kimi, “Amanzi la agelezela esigabeni sempumalanga njalo ehlela phansi e-Arabha lapho angena khona ulwandle. Lapho esengene elwandle amanzi azakuba mahle. **9** Uquqaba lwezidalwa eziphilayo luzahlala loba kungaphi lapho umfula ogelezela khona. Kuzakuba lenhlanzi ezinengi kakhulu, ngoba amanzi la agelezela khona njalo enza amanzi aletswayi abe mahle; ngakho lapho umfula ogelezela khona izinto zonke zizaphila. **10** Abagoli bezinhlanzi bazakuma besekele ulwandle; kusukela e-Eni-Gedi kusiya e-Eni Egilayimi kuzakuba lezindawo zokwendlala amambule. Inhlanzi zizakuba ngezezinhlobo ezinengi njengenhlanzi zoLwandle olukhulu. **11** Kodwa amaxhaphozi lamatete kawayikuba mahle. Azasala eyizindawo zetswayi. **12** Inhlobo zonke zezihlahla zezithelo zizakhula emakhunjini womabili omfula. Amahlamvu azo kawayikubona, lezithelo zazo kazisoze ziphutha. Zizathela nyanga zonke ngoba amanzi avela endlini engcwele agelezela kuzo. Izithelo zazo zizakuba yikudla kuthi amahlamvu azo abe ngawokwelapha.” **13** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: “Le yimingcele ozakwehlukaniswa ngayo ilizwe lokuba yilifa phakathi kwezizwana ezilithshumi lambili zako-Israyeli, kulezigaba ezimbili zikaJosefa. **14** Kumele uhlukaniswe ngokulingana, ngoba ngafunga isandla siphakanyiselwe phezulu ukulinika okhokho benu, ilizwe leli lizakuba yilifa lenu. **15** Nanku okuzakuba ngumngcele welizwe: Ngenhla usuke oLwandle Olukhulu ulandele umgwaqo iHethiloni udlude eLebho Hamathi usiya eZedadi, **16** eBherotha kanye laseSibhirayimi (esemngceleni ophakathi kweDamaseko leHamathi), uze uyefika eHazeri Hathikhoni, esemngceleni weHawurani. **17** Umngcele uzaqhubeka usuka elwandle usiya eHazeri-Enani ulandela umngcele wangasenyakatho weDamaseko, umngcele weHamathi usenyakatho. Lo uzakuba ngumngcele wenyakatho. **18** Empumalanga umngcele uzahamba phakathi kweHawurani leDamaseko, ulandela iJodani phakathi kweGilyadi lelizwe lako-Israyeli, uye elwandle lwasempumalanga uze uyefika eThamari. Lo uzakuba ngumngcele wasempumalanga. **19** Eningizimu uzahamba usuka eThamari uze uyefika emanzini aseMeribha Khadeshi,

ube usulandela iShotsha saseGibhithe usiyafika eLwandle Olukhulu. Lo uzakuba ngumngcele waseningizimu. **20** Entshonalanga uLwandle Olukhulu luzakuba ngumngcele kuze kube malungana leLebho Hamathi. Lo uzakuba ngumngcele wentshonalanga. **21** Lizakwahlukaniselana ilizwe leli phakathi kwenu mayelana lezizwana zako-Israyeli. **22** Kumele lilabe njengelifa lenu kanye labezizweni asebehlezi phakathi kwenu njalo abalabantwana. Kumele libathathe njengabantu bakini ko-Israyeli; kanye lani bazakwabelwa ilifa phakathi kwezizwana zako-Israyeli. **23** Loba kuphakathi kwasiphi isizwana owezizweni ahlale kuso, kumele limnike ilifa lakhe khonapho,” kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi.

48 “Lezi yizizwana, zihlelwe ngamabizo: Emngceleni wasenyakatho, uDani uzakuba lesigaba esisodwa; sizalandela umgwaqo weHethiloni oya eLebho Hamathi; iHazari-Enani lasemngceleni weDamaseko wasenyakatho eduze leHamathi kuzakuba yingxeny yomngcele kusukela empumalanga kusiya entshonalanga. **2** U-Asheri uzakuba lesigaba esisodwa; sizangcezelana lelizwe likaDani kusukela empumalanga kusiya entshonalanga. **3** UNafithali uzakuba lesigaba esisodwa; sizangcezelana lelizwe lika-Asheri kusukela empumalanga kusiya entshonalanga. **4** UManase uzakuba lesigaba esisodwa; sizangcezelana lelizwe likaNafithali kusukela empumalanga kusiya entshonalanga. **5** U-Efrayimi uzakuba lesigaba esisodwa; sizangcezelana lelizwe likaManase kusukela empumalanga kusiya entshonalanga. **6** URubheni uzakuba lesigaba esisodwa; sizangcezelana lelizwe lika-Efrayimi kusukela empumalanga kusiya entshonalanga. **7** UJuda uzakuba lesigaba esisodwa; sizangcezelana lelizwe likaRubheni kusukela empumalanga kusiya entshonalanga. **8** Okungcezelana lelizwe likaJuda kusukela empumalanga kusiya entshonalanga kuzakuba yisigaba ozasethula njengesipho esiqakathekileyo. Sizakuba zingalo eziyinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlano ububanzi, njalo ubude baso kusukela empumalanga kusiya entshonalanga buzalingana lobesinye sezigaba zezizwana; indlu engcwele izakuba phakathi kwaso. **9** Isigaba esiqakathekileyo ozasipha uThixo sizakuba zingalo eziyinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlano ubude lengalo eziyinkulungwane ezilithshumi ububanzi. **10** Lesi sizakuba yisigaba esingcwele sabaphristi. Sizakuba zingalo eziyinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlano ubude ngasenyakatho, ingalo eziyinkulungwane ezilithshumi ububanzi ngasentshonalanga, ingalo eziyinkulungwane ezilithshumi ububanzi ngasempumalanga kanye lengalo eziyinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlano ubude ngaseningizimu. Phakathi enkabeni yaso kuzakuba lendlu engcwele kaThixo. **11** Lesi sizakuba ngesabaphristi abangcwelisiweyo, amaZadokhi, ababethembekile ekungikhonzeni njalo abangadukanga njengokwenziwa ngabaLevi ekudukeni kwama-Israyeli. **12** Sizakuba yisipho esiqakathekileyo kubo sivela esigabeni esingcwele selizwe, isigaba esingcwele kakhulu, esingcezelane lesigaba sabaLevi. **13** AbaLevi bazakuba lesabelo esizingalo eziyinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlano ubude lengalo eziyinkulungwane ezilithshumi ububanzi njalo sisekelane lesabaphristi. Ubude baso sonke buzakuba zingalo eziyinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlano ububanzi baso buzingalo eziyinkulungwane ezilithshumi. **14** Akumelanga basithengise loba bantshintshe ngokunye kwaso. Lesi ngesihle kakhulu selizwe njalo akumelanga

siphiwe abanye abantu ngoba singcwele kuThixo. **15** Indawo eseleyo, ingalo eziyinkulungwane ezinhlano ububanzi lengalo eziyinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlano ubude, izasetshenziswa nguzulu wedolobho, ngeyenzindlu lamadlelo. Idolobho lizakuba phakathi kwayo **16** njalo lizakuba lalezi izilinganiso: Icele lasenyakatho zingalo eziyinkulungwane ezine lamakhulu amahlanu, icele laseningizimu zingalo eziyinkulungwane ezine lamakhulu amahlanu, icele lasempumalanga zingalo eziyinkulungwane ezine lamakhulu amahlanu, lecele lasentshonalanga zingalo eziyinkulungwane ezine lamakhulu amahlanu. **17** Amadlelo edolobho azakuba zingalo ezingamakhulu amabili lamatshumi amahlanu ngasenyakatho, zingalo ezingamakhulu amabili lamatshumi amahlanu ngaseningizimu, zingalo ezingamakhulu amabili lamatshumi amahlanu ngasempumalanga, lezingalo ezingamakhulu amabili lamatshumi amahlanu ngasentshonalanga. **18** Indawo esalayo, engcezelane lesigaba esingcwele njalo ilandela ubude baso izakuba zingalo eziyinkulungwane ezilithshumi ngaseceleni lasempumalanga lezingalo eziyinkulungwane ezilithshumi ngaseceleni lasentshonalanga. Izithelo zayo zizakuba yikudla kwezisebenzi zedolobho. **19** Izisebenzi ezivela edolobheni eziyilimayo zivela kuzozonke izizwana zako-Israyeli. **20** Isigaba sonke sizalanga inxa zonke, zingalo eziyinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlano icele ngalinye. Njengesipho esiqakathekileyo uzaphawula isigaba esingcwele ndawonye lempahla yedolobho. **21** Okusalayo emaceleni womabili endawo eyisigaba esingcwele lempahla yedolobho kuzakuba ngokwenkosana. Kuzaqhubekela empumalanga kusukela ezingalweni eziyinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlano zesigaba esingcwele kusiya emngceleni wasempumalanga, kuphinde kuye entshonalanga kusukela kuzingalo eziyinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lanhlano kusiya emngceleni wasentshonalanga. Izindawo lezi zombili ezilandela ubude bezigaba zezizwana zizakuba ngezenkosana, njalo isigaba esingcwele esilendawo engcwele yethempeli sizakuba phakathi kwazo. **22** Ngakho impahla yabaLevi lempahla yedolobho kuzakuba phakathi kwendawo engeyenkosana. Indawo yenkosana izakuba phakathi komngcele kaJuda lomngcele kaBhenjamini. **23** Izizwana eziseleyo: UBhenjamini uzakuba lesigaba esisodwa; sizaqhubeka sisukela eceleni lasempumalanga sisiya eceleni lasentshonalanga. **24** USimiyoni uzakuba lesigaba esisodwa; sizangcezelana lelizwe likaBhenjamini kusukela empumalanga kusiya entshonalanga. **25** U-Isakhari uzakuba lesigaba esisodwa; sizangcezelana lelizwe likaSimiyoni kusukela empumalanga kusiya entshonalanga. **26** UZebhuluni uzakuba lesigaba esisodwa; sizangcezelana lelizwe lika-Isakhari kusukela empumalanga kusiya entshonalanga. **27** UGadi uzakuba lesigaba esisodwa; sizangcezelana lelizwe likaZebhuluni kusukela empumalanga kusiya entshonalanga. **28** Umngcele wangaseningizimu kaGadi uzahamba eningizimu usuka eThamari emanzini aseMeribha Khadeshi, ubuye ulandele uMhotsha waseGibhithe uye eLwandle Olukhulu. **29** Leli yilizwe okumele ulabele izizwana zako-Israyeli njengelifa, njalo lezi zizakuba yizigaba zazo,” kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **30** “Lezi zizakuba zintuba zedolobho zokuphuma: Kusukela eceleni lenyakatho, elizingalo eziyinkulungwane ezine lamakhulu amahlano ubude, **31** amasango amathathu eceleni langenyakatho azakuba lisango likaRubheni, isango

likaJuda lesango likaLevi. **32** Eceleni langempumalanga, elizingalo eziyinkulungwane ezine lamakhulu amahlanu ubude, kuzakuba lamasango amathathu: isango likaJosefa, isango likaBhenjamini lesango likaDani. **33** Eceleni leningizimu, elizingalo eziyinkulungwane ezine lamakhulu amahlanu, kuzakuba lamasango amathathu: isango likaSimiyoni, isango lika-Isakhari lesango likaZebhuluni.” **34** Eceleni langentshonalanga, elizingalo eziyinkulungwane ezine lamakhulu amahlanu ubude, kuzakuba lamasango amathathu: isango likaGadi, isango lika-Asheri lesango likaNafithali. **35** “Ubude obubhoda indawo yonke buzakuba zingalo eziyinkulungwane ezilitshumi lasitshiyagalombili. Njalo ibizo ledolobho kusukela ngalesosikhathi kusiya phambili lizakuba: ‘uThixo ulapha.’”

UDanyeli

1 Ngomnyaka wesithathu wokubusa kukaJehoyakhimi inkosi yakwaJuda, uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni wafika eJerusalem walihanqa. **2** UThixo wanikela uJehoyakhimi inkosi yakwaJuda ezandleni zakhe, kanye lezinye impahla zethempeli likaNkulunkulu. Konke wakuthwala wakusa ethempelini likankulunkulu wakhe eBhabhiloniya wakufaka endlini yenotho kankulunkulu wakhe. **3** Kwathi-ke inkosi yasilaya u-Ashiphenazi, induna yeziqulu zesigodlo sayo ukuthi alethe abanye bama-Israyeli besikhosini lasezikhulwini, **4** amajaha amizimba ingelasici, amahle, atshengisa ukufundiseka ezintweni zonke, azi okunengi, aphantisayo ukuzwisisa njalo abonakala efanele ukukhona esigodlweni senkosi. Ayemele awafundise ulimi lezincwadi zamaBhabhiloni. **5** Inkosi yafabela ukudla okukhethiweyo okwansuku zonke kanye lewayini kuthathwa kokwakulungiselwe inkosi. Babezafundiswa okweminyaka emithathu, kuthi ngemva kwalokho baqalise ukusebenza esigodlweni. **6** Phakathi kwalabo babekhona ababephuma kuJuda: uDanyeli, loHananiya, loMishayeli kanye lo-Azariya. **7** Indunankulu yabanika amabizo amatsha: uDanyeli kwathiwa nguBhelitheshazari; uHananiya waba nguShadrecki, uMishayeli waba nguMeshaki; u-Azariya waba ngu-Abhediniko. **8** Kodwa uDanyeli wazimisela ukuthi angazingcolisi ngokudla kwesikhosini lewayini lakhona, yikho wasecala kundunankulu imvumo yokuthi angazingcolisi kanjalo. **9** UNkulunkulu wayekwenzile ukuthi Indunankulu imthande njalo imhawukele uDanyeli, **10** kodwa wathi kuDanyeli, “Ngiyamesaba umhlekezi wami inkosi, onguye okumisileyo ukudla kwenu lokokunatha. Kambe akayikulibona yini selikhangeleka kubi kulamanye amajaha angontanga benu? Inkosi ingahle ingiqume ikhanda ngenxa yenu.” **11** UDanyeli wasesithi enxuseni elalibekwe yindunankulu phezu kwaboDanyeli, loHananiya, loMishayeli lo-Azariya, **12** “Ake uzilinge izinceku zakho okwensuku ezilithshumi nje: Ungasiphi lutho ngaphandle kwemibhida ukuba sidle yona lamanzi okunatha. **13** Lapho-ke ubusufananisa imizimba yethu laleyo eyamajaha adla ukudla kwesikhosini, ubususenza njengokubona kwakho ezincekwini zakho.” **14** Lakanye inxusa lakuvuma lokho labalinga okwensuku ezilithshumi. **15** Ekupheleni kwensuku ezilithshumi bakhangeleka bephila ngcono njalo bezimukile kulamajaha ayesidla ukudla kwesikhosini. **16** Yikho inxusa laselusisa ukudla kwabo kwekhethelo kanye lewayini ababelinatha labapha imibhida. **17** La amajaha amane uNkulunkulu wawanika ulwazi lokuzwisisa zonke izibhalo lemfundo. Njalo uDanyeli wayezwisisa imibono lamaphupho wonke ehlukeneyo. **18** Ekupheleni kwesikhathi esabebekwe yinkosi ukuthi balethe, indunankulu yabethula kuNebhukhadineza. **19** Inkosi yakhuluma labo yafumana engekho olingana loDanyeli, loHananiya, loMishayeli kanye lo-Azariya; ngakho bangeniswa ukusebenzela inkosi. **20** Kuzozonke izindaba zokuhlakanipha lokuzwisisa inkosi eyababusa ngazo yabafumana bebedlula bonke omasalamusi lezangoma ngokuphindwe katshumi kuwo wonke umbuso wayo. **21** UDanyeli wahlala khona kwaze kwaba ngumnyaka wokuqala weNkosi uKhurosi.

2 Ngomnyaka wesibili wokubusa kwakhe, uNebhukhadineza waphupha amaphupho; wahlupheka engqondweni, wehluleka lokulala. **2** Ngakho inkosi yasibiza omasalamusi,

lezangoma, labavumisi lezingcazi zezinkanyezi ukuthi bamtshela lokho ayekuphuphile. Sebengelele bema phambi kwayo inkosi, **3** yathi kubo, “Ngibe lephupho elingihluphayo yikho ngifuna ukwazi ukuthi litshoni.” **4** Kwasesukuthi ingcazi zezinkanyezi zayiphendula inkosi zikhuluma ngesi-Aramu zathi, “Bayethe, nkosi! Phila kuze kube nininini! Zitshele izinceku zakho iphupho lelo, thina sizalichaza.” **5** Inkosi yaziphendula ingcazi zezinkanyezi yathi, “Nanku esengikumisile: Nxa lingangitsheli ukuthi iphupho lami belyini beselilichaza, ngizakuthi liqunywaqunywe iziqa, izindlu zenu zidilizwe zibe yinqwaba. **6** Kodwa lingangitshela iphupho kanye lengcazelo yalo ngizalipha izipho lemivuzo lodumo olukhulu. Ngakho ngitshelani iphupho libe selingichazela lona.” **7** Baphinda njalo baphendula bathi, “Inkosi kayizitshela izichaka zayo iphupho lelo, thina sizalichaza.” **8** Inkosi yaphendula yathi, “Ngileqiniso ukuthi liqonde ukuchitha isikhathi ngoba libona ukuthi yilokhu esengikumisile ukuthi: **9** Nxa lingangitsheli iphupho lelo, sinye zwi isijeziso senu. Seliyengene ukuthi lingitshela inkohliso lamanyala, licabanga ukuthi kumbe izinto zizaguquka. Manje-ke ngitshelani iphupho lelo yikho ngizakwazi ukuthi lingangichasisela lona.” **10** Ingcazi zezinkanyezi zayiphendula inkosi zathi, “Kakulamuntu emhlabeni ongakwenza lokho okufunwa yinkosi! Kayikho inkosi, loba ingenkulu kanganani kumbe ilamandla anganani, eyake yafuna into enjalo laloba kubani oyenza amasalamusi, kumbe isangoma loba ingcazi yezinkanyezi. **11** Lokhu okufunwa yinkosi kunzima kakhulu. Kakhokho ngakwambulela inkosi ngaphandle kwabonkulunkulu, njalo kabahlali ebantwini.” **12** Lokhu kwayizondisa inkosi yabila ngolaka yahle yathi zonke izihlakaniphi zaseBhabhiloni kazibulawe. **13** Ngakho sakhutshwa isimemzele sokuthi izazi kazibulawe, yikho kwathunywa amadoda ukuyadinga uDanyeli labakhula bakhe ukuthi babulawe. **14** Kwathi u-Ariyoki, indunankulu yamanxusa enkosi isiphumile ukuyabulala izihlakaniphi zaseBhabhiloni, uDanyeli wakhuluma laye ngokuhlakanipha langokunanzelela. **15** Wasibuza isikhulu lesi senkosi wathi, “Kungani inkosi ikhuphe isimemzele esibuhlungu kangaka na?” U-Ariyoki waseyichaza indaba kuDanyeli. **16** Esekuzwile lokho uDanyeli waya enkosini wacela ukuba ake aphele isikhathi, ukuze ayichazele iphupho layo. **17** UDanyeli wabuyela endlini yakhe wayatshela abakhula bakhe oHananiya, loMishayeli lo-Azariya ngendaba leyo. **18** Wabakhuthaza ukuthi bacele umusa kuNkulunkulu wasezulwini ngale inkinga eyimfihlakalo, ukuze kuthi yena labakhula bakhe baphephe ekubulaweni kanye lazozonke izihlakaniphi zaseBhabhiloni. **19** Kwathi ebusuku inkinga leyo yambulelwa uDanyeli ngombono. UDanyeli wasendumisa uNkulunkulu wasezulwini **20** wathi: “Kalidunyiswe ibizo likaNkulunkulu nini lanini; inhlakanipho lamandla kungokwakhe. **21** Uyaguqula izikhathi lezibanga; uyawabeka amakhosi aphinde awaqethule. Unika inhlakanipho kwabahlakaniphileyo lolwazi kwabaqedisayo. **22** Uveza obala izinto ezizikileyo lezifihlakeleyo; uyakwazi okucatshe emnyameni, lokukhanya kuhlala kuye. **23** Ngiyakubonga njalo ngiyakudumisa, Oh Nkulunkulu wabokhokho bami: Ungiphile inhlakanipho lamandla, usungazisile mina lokho esikucelileyo kuwe, usuzasile thina iphupho lenkosi.” **24** UDanyeli wasesiya ku-Ariyoki owayekhethwe yinkosi ukuba abulale izihlakaniphi zaseBhabhiloni, wathi kuye, “Ungazibulali izihlakaniphi zaseBhabhiloni. Ngisa enkosini, ngizayichasisela

iphupho layo.” **25** U-Ariyoki wahle wasa uDanyeli enkosini wathi, “Sengiyifumene indoda kwabathunjweyo bakwaJuda engayitshela inkosi ukuthi iphupho layo litshoni.” **26** Inkosi yambuza uDanyeli (njalo othiwa nguBhelitheshazari), “Kambe ungangitshela na engakubonayo ephutsheni lami uphinde ulichasise?” **27** Waphendula uDanyeli wathi, “Kasikho isihlakaniphi, noma isangoma, noma oyenza amasalamusi, noma isanuse esingayihlalelela inkosi imfihlakalo eyidingayo, **28** kodwa ukhona uNkulunkulu ezulwini owambula zonke imfihlakalo. Utshe ngise inkosi uNebhukhadineza okuzakwenzakala ngezinsuku ezizayo. Iphupho lakho lembibono eyafika engqondweni yakho ulele embhedeni wakho yile: **29** Wathi ulele khonapho nkosi, ingqondo yakho yaphatha izinto ezisezakuba, kwathi umhlahluli wezinkinga wakubonisa okuzakwenzakala.” **30** Okwami yikuthi ngiyambulelwe imfihlakalo le, kungesukuthi yingoba ngilenhlakanipho eyeka eyabanye abaphilayo, kodwa ukuze kuthi wena, Oh nkosi, uyazi ingcazelo njalo ukuze uzwisise okwakuphithikana engqondweni yakho. **31** Wathi uyakhangele, Oh nkosi, wabona kumi phambi kwakho isithombe esikhulukazi, inkalakatha yesithombe esikhazimulayo, sisesabeka ukukhangeleka kwaso. **32** Ikhanda lesithombe lalenzwe ngegolide elicengekileyo, isifuba saso lezingalo kubunjwe ngesiliva, isisu lemilenze kubunjwe ngethusi, **33** imibala ibunjwe ngensimbi, inyawo zaso zilengxenywe yensimbi lenye ingxenywe yebumba elitshisiweyo. **34** Wathi ulokhu usabukele, kwaqetshulwa ilitshe, kungesingazandla zamuntu. Lasigxoba isithombe ezinyaweni zaso zensimbi lebumba lazilhlifiza. **35** Kwasekusithi insimbi, lebumba, lethusi, lesiliva kanye legolide kwachobozeka kwaba yizicucu kanyekanye kwaba njengomule esizeni ehlobo. Umoya waziphaphala izicucu wazikhucula du. Kodwa ilitshe elagxoba isithombe laba yintaba enkulu yagcwala umhlaba wonke. **36** Leli bekuyilo iphupho, manje-ke sesizalichazela inkosi. **37** Wena, Oh nkosi uyinkosi yamakho. UNkulunkulu wasezulwini ukunikile umbuso, lamandla lobukhulu lodumo; **38** uluntu lonke ulunikele ezandleni zakho kanye lezinyamazana zeganga lezinyoni zemoyeni. Loba zihlala ngaphi, ukwenze wena waba ngumbusi wakho konke. Ulikhanda leliyana legolide. **39** Ngemva kwakho, kuzakuba khona omunye umbuso, ophansi kulowakho. Kuzalandela owesithathu owethusi ozabusa umhlaba wonke. **40** Ekucineni kuzakuba lombuso wesine oqinileyo njengensimbi ngoba insimbi iyephula ivodloze yonke into, yikho njengoba insimbi isephula izinto zibe yizicucu, kanjalo umbuso lowo uzayichoboza yonke eminye. **41** Njengoba ubonile ukuthi inyawo lamazwane bekulengxenywe yebumba elitshisiweyo lengxenywe yensimbi, yikho lo uzakuba ngumbuso odabuke phakathi; loba nje uzakuba lamanye amandla ensimbi phakathi kwawo, njengalokhu uyibonile insimbi ixubene lebumba. **42** Njengoba amazwane abelengxenywe yensimbi, lengxenywe yebumba, kanjalo umbuso lo uzakuba lamandla nganxanye, nganxanye ubucuzeke. **43** Njalo njengoba ubonile insimbi ixubene lebumba elitshisiweyo, kanjalo abantu bazakuba yinhlanganisela bahlale bengamanyananga, njengoba insimbi ingahlangani lebumba. **44** “Ngalesosikhathi samakho lawo uNkulunkulu wasezulwini uzabeka umbuso ongasoze wabhidliza lanini njalo ongasoze utshiyelwe abanye abantu. Uzayibhidliza yonke leyomibusa iphele, kodwa wona uzakuma laphakade.” **45** Le yiyo ingcazelo yombono welitshe

elaqhekezwa entabeni, kungasingezandla zomuntu, ilitshe elaphahlaza insimbi, lethusi, lebumba, lesiliva kanye legolide kwaba yizicucu. “UNkulunkulu omkhulu uyitshengisile inkosi okuzakwenzeka ngesikhathi esizayo. Iphupho liliqiniso lengcazelo iqondile.” **46** Inkosi uNebhukhadineza wazilahlala wathi mbo phambi kukaDanyeli wamkhonza wakuphila ilizwi lokuthi kenzelwe umnikelo atshiselwe impepha njalo. **47** Inkosi yathi kuDanyeli, “Ngempela uNkulunkulu wakho nguNkulunkulu wabonkulunkulu leNkosi yamakho lomambuleli wezimfihlakalo, ngoba ukwazile ukwambula imfihlakalo le.” **48** Inkosi yasibeka uDanyeli esikhundleni esiphezulu yelekelela ngeziphu ezinengi kuye. Yamenza waba ngumbusi kulonke ilizwe laseBhabhiloni njalo waba ngumphathi wazo zonke izazi zakhona. **49** Isicelwe nguDanyeli, yaphinde yabeka uShadrecki, loMeshaki lo-Abhediniko baba ngabaphathi beziqinti zelizwe laseBhabhiloni, kodwa yena uDanyeli wasala esigodlweni.

3 Inkosi uNebhukhadineza yenza isithombe segolide, saphakama izingalo ezingamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye lobubanzi obuzingalo eziyisificamunwemunye, yasimisa egcekeni laseDura elizweni laseBhabhiloni. **2** Yasibiza ababusi bezigaba, labalisa, ababusi bemikhono yelizwe, labeluleki, **3** labaphathizikhwama, labehluleli, labomantshi kanye lazozonke izikhulu zezigaba ukuza emkhosini wokubusisa isithombe lesi ayesimisile, bema phambi kwaso. **4** Umlawuli womkhosi wasemamezela kakhulu wathi, “Mahlabezulu, lani zizwe zonke kanye lani bantu bezindimi zonke, nanku eliyawa ukuthi likwenze: **5** Lingavele lizwe ukukhala kophondo, lomfece, lomhlanga, lomhubhe, lechacho, lezindweba layo yonke imihlobo yokuhlabela ngokukhalisa iziginci libokuthi mbo phansi lisikhonze isithombe segolide esimiswe yinkosi uNebhukhadineza. **6** Iloba ngubani ongayi kukhothama asikhonze uzahle aphoselwe esithandweni somlilo olavuzayo.” **7** Yikho, bonela ukuzwa ukukhala kophondo, lomfece, lomhlanga, lomhubhe, lechacho lemihlobo yonke yeziginci, bonke abantu, lezizwe labantu bezindimi zonke bathi mbo phansi bakhonza isithombe segolide inkosi uNebhukhadineza eyayisimisile. **8** Ngalesisikhathi ezinye izingcazi zezinkanyezi zeza zachothoza amaJuda. **9** Zathi enkosini uNebhukhadineza, “Bayethe nkosi, mana njalo! **10** Ukhuphile isimemezelo, wena nkosi, wathi wonke okuzwayo ukukhala kophondo, lomfece, lomhlanga, lomhubhe, lechacho lezindweba kanye lazozonke iziginci ezikhaliswayo kathi mbo phansi akhonze isithombe segolide, **11** lokuthi loba ngubani ongathi mbo phansi akhonze uzaphoselwa esithandweni somlilo olavuzayo. **12** Kodwa bakhona abanye amaJuda obabeke ukuphatha ilizwe laseBhabhiloni, uShadrecki, loMeshaki lo-Abhediniko, abangakhathali lutho ngawe, wena nkosi. Kababakhonzi onkulunkulu bakho njalo kabasikhonzi isithombe lesi osimisileyo.” **13** Wazonda wadlainja uNebhukhadineza, wasebiza oShadrecki, loMeshaki lo-Abhediniko. Yikho amadoda la alethwa phambi kwenkosi, **14** uNebhukhadineza wathi kubo, “Kuliqiniso yini, Shadrecki, loMeshaki lo-Abhediniko, ukuthi kalibakhonzi onkulunkulu bami njalo kalisikhonzi isithombe segolide engisimisileyo? **15** Manje nxa lingezwa ukukhala kophondo, lomfece, lomhlanga, lomhubhe, lechacho, lezindweba layo yonke imihlobo yezikhaliswayo, nxa selizimisele ukuthi mbo phansi lisikhonze isifanekiso engasenzayo, kulungile. Kodwa nxa lingasikhonzi

lizaphoselwa ngokuphangisa esithandweni somlilo ovuthayo. Pho nguphi unkulunkulu ozalilamulela esandleni sami na?" **16** OShadrecki, loMeshaki lo-Abhediniko bayiphendula inkosi bathi, "Nkosi Nebhukhadineza, kasidingi kuzilwela phambi kwakho ngale indaba. **17** Singaphoselwa esithandweni somlilo olavuzayo, uNkulunkulu esimkhonzayo ulamandla okusasindisa kuwo, njalo uzasilamulela esandleni sakho, wena nkosi. **18** Loba engasisindisi, sithanda ukuba ukwazi, wena nkosi, ukuthi sivele kasisoze sibakhonze onkulunkulu bakho kumbe sisidumise isifanekiso segolide lesi osimisileyo." **19** Lapho-ke uNebhukhadineza waphuphuma ngolaka kuShadrecki, loMeshaki lo-Abhediniko, wahle waguqula indlela aye esebaphatha ngayo. Walaya ukuthi isithando somlilo sibaselwe sitshise okuphindwe kasikhombisa kulenjaye **20** waphinda walaya ukuthi abanye bamabutho angobambapheqe bempi yakhe babapophe oShadrecki, loMeshaki lo-Abhediniko babaphosele esithandweni somlilo olavuzayo. **21** Yikho amadoda la abotshwa elokhu egqoke amajazi awo, lamabhulugwe, amaqhiye kanye lezinye izigqoko zawo, aphoselwa esithandweni somlilo ovuthayo. **22** Umlayo wenkosi wawuthukuthele kakhulu lesithando somlilo sitshisa okokuthi amalangabi omlilo awabulala amaxusa ayefuqela oShadrecki, loMeshaki lo-Abhediniko, **23** kwathi amadoda la womathathu ayebotshwe nko awela phakathi kwesithando somlilo olavuzayo. **24** Khonapho inkosi uNebhukhadineza wathi lothu ngokumangala, wabuza abacebisi bakhe wathi, "Kanti angathi abemathathu amadoda esiwabophileyo sawaphosela emlilweni na?" Baphendula bathi, "Liqiniso lelo, Oh nkosi." **25** Wathi, "Khangelani Ngibona amadoda amane ehambahamba phakathi komlilo, engabotshwanga njalo engalinyazwanga lutho, njalo owesine lowo ukhangeleka njengendodana yabonkulunkulu." **26** UNebhukhadineza wasesondela emlonyeni wesithando somlilo olavuzayo wamonzeka wathi, "Shadrecki, loMeshaki lo-Abhediniko, zinceku zikaNkulunkulu oPhezukonke, phumani! Wozani lapha!" Ngakho oShadrecki, loMeshaki lo-Abhediniko baphuma emlilweni, **27** kwathi ababusi bezigaba, labalisa, lababusi bemikhono yelizwe labeluleki besikhosini bababunganyela. Babona ukuthi umlilo walungabalimazanga imizimba yabo, njalo kungahaqazekanga lalunye unwele lwamakhandla abo; izembatho zabo zingahangulekanga, njalo kunganuki mlilo kubo. **28** UNebhukhadineza wasesithi, "Kadunyiswe uNkulunkulu kaShadrecki, loMeshaki lo-Abhediniko, othume ingilosu yakhe wasindisa izinceku zakhe! Bathemba kuye badelela umlayo wenkosi njalo bazimisela ukunikela impilo zabo kulokuthi bakhonze loba badumise omunye uNkulunkulu ngaphandle kowabo uNkulunkulu. **29** Ngakho sengimisa isimemezelo ukuthi abantu loba ngabasiphi isizwe kumbe ulimi abakhuluma okubi ngoNkulunkulu kaShadrecki, loMeshaki lo-Abhediniko kabaqunywaqunywe izicucu, lezindlu zabo zenziwe izinqwaba zezi, ngoba kakho omunye uNkulunkulu ongasindisa ngale indlela." **30** Inkosi yase ibanika izikhundla eziphezulu oShadrecki, loMeshaki lo-Abhediniko elizweni laseBhabhiloni.

4 Inkosi uNebhukhadineza, Ezizweni zonke lebantwini benhlanga zonke abahlala emhlabeni wonke: Sengathi inganda kimi inhlalakahle! **2** Kuyintokozo kimi ukulitshela ngezibonakaliso ezimangalisayo lezinkinga uNkulunkulu oPhezukonke angenzele zona. **3** Zinkulu kangakanani

zibonakaliso zakhe, **4** Mina, Nebhukhadineza, ngangisekhaya esigodlweni sami, nganelisiwe njalo ngikhomba ngophakathi. **5** Ngehlelwa liphupho elangitshayisa uvalo. Ngathi ngilele embhedeni wami kwafika engqondweni yami izifanekiso lezibonakaliso ezangithuthumelisayo. **6** Ngasengilaya ukuthi zonke izihlakaniphi zaseBhabhiloni zilethwe phambi kwami ukuthi zingihlahlulele lelophupho. **7** Kwathi sebefikile omasalamusi, lezangoma, lezingcazi zezinkanyezi lezanuse ngazitshela lelophupho kodwa zehluleka ukungichasisela lona. **8** Ekucineni uDanyeli wafika kimi ngamtshela ngephupho lelo. (Uthiwa nguBhelitheshazari, ngokuphathelene lebizilo likanulunkulu wami, njalo umoya wabonkulunkulu abangcwele uphakathi kwakhe.) **9** Ngathi kuye, Bhelitheshazari, nduna yabomasalamusi, ngiyazi ukuthi umoya wabonkulunkulu abangcwele uphakathi kwakho, njalo kakukho okuyinkinga kuwe. Nanti iphupho lami; ngihlahlulela lona. **10** Yile imibono eyangevelelayo ngilele embhedeni wami: Ngakhangela, ngabona kumi phambi kwami isihlahla phakathi komango. Ubude baso babule. **11** Isihlahla sakhula saba sikhulu saqina, isiqongo saso sakhotha umkhathi; sasibonakala lasemikhawulweni yomhlaba. **12** Amahlamvu aso ayebukeka, izithelo zaso zinengi kuso kukhona ukudla kwakho konke. Ngaphansi kwaso izinyamazana zeganga zafumana isiphephelo lezinyoni zemoyeni zazihlala emagatsheni aso; zonke izidalwa zisongiwa kuso. **13** Ezibonakalisweni ezeza ngilele embhedeni wami, ngakhangela, ngabona khonapho phambi kwami kulesithunywa, singongcwele, sisehla sisuka ezulwini. **14** Samemeza ngelizwi elikhulu sathi: Gamulelani phansi isihlahla licakaze amagatsha aso; liwaphandle amahlamvu aso lihlakaze izithelo zaso. Yekelani izinyamazana zibaleke ngaphansi kwaso kanye lezinyoni emagatsheni aso. **15** Kodwa ukuthi isidindi saso kanye lempande zakhona kusale kugxumekile emhlabathini phakathi kotshani beganga, kubotshiwe ngensimbi langethusi. Kagxanxwe ngamazolo avela phezulu, njalo kahlale lezinyamazana phakathi kwezihlahla zeganga. **16** Ingqondo yakhe kayiguqulwe isuke ebuntwini, aphiwe ingqondo yenyamazana, kuze kudlule iminyaka eyisikhombisa. **17** "Isinqumo lesi sibikwa yizithunywa, zona ezingcwele yizo ezimemezela lesi isigwebo, ukuze kuthi abaphilayo bazi ukuthi oPhezukonke unguThixo yemibuso yabantu njalo uyabanikela loba kukubani amfunayo futhi enze babuswe ngumuntukazana." **18** Yilo iphupho engibe lalo mina inkosi uNebhukhadineza. Manje-ke Bhelitheshazari, ngitshela ukuthi litshoni, ngoba kasikho isihlakaniphi embusweni wami esingangihlahlulela lona. Kodwa wena ungakwenza, ngoba umoya wabonkulunkulu abangcwele uphakathi kwakho." **19** Yikho uDanyeli (njalo othiwa nguBhelitheshazari) wakhathazeka kakhulu okwesikhathi esithile, imicabango yakhe yamethusa. Yikho inkosi yasisithi, "Bhelitheshazari, ungethuswa liphupho lelo kumbe yincazelo yalo." UBhelitheshazari waphendula wathi, Nkosi yami, sengathi ngabe iphupho lelo liqonde labo abayizitha zakho lengcazelo yalo ikhomba labo abakuzondayo! **20** Isihlahla osibonileyo, esakhula saba sikhulu saqina, isiqongo saso sikhotha isibhakabhaka size sibonakale emhlabeni wonke, **21** silamahlamvu abukekayo lezithelo ezinengi, sisipha ukudla kukho konke, siphe isiphephelo izinyamazana zeganga, emagatsheni aso silezindawo zezidleke zezinyoni zemoyeni, **22** wena, Oh nkosi, uyilelosihlahla! Usube mkhulu waba lamandla; ubukhulu bakho seabandile sebuze

buthinta isibhakabhaka, lombuso wakho usufinyelela ezindaweni ezikude ezomhlaba. **23** "Wena, Oh nkosi, wabona isithunywa, sona esingcwele, sisehla sivela ezulwini sisithi, 'Sigamuleleni phansi isihlahla lisicakaze, kodwa litshiye isidindi, sibotshiwe ngesimbi langethushi, siphakathi kotshani beganga, impande zaso zisale emhlabathini. Kagxanxwe ngamazolo aphezulu; kaphile njengezinyamazana zeganga kuze kudlule iminyaka eyisikhombisa.' **24** Nansi ingcazelo, Oh nkosi, njalo lesi yisimiso soPhezukonke asimisele umhlekezi wami inkosi: **25** Uzaxotshwa ebantwini uyehlala lezinyamazana zeganga: uzakudla utshani njengezinkomo, ugxanxwe ngamazolo aphezulu. Kuzakudlula iminyaka eyisikhombisa uze uvume ukuthi oPhezukonke uyabusa phezu kwemibuso yabantu ayinika ingqe ngulowo amthandayo. **26** Umlayo wokutshiya isidindi kanye lezimpande zaso utsho ukuthi umbuso wakho uzabuyiselwa kuwe nxatshana usuvuma ukuthi iZulu liyabusa. **27** Ngakho-ke, Oh nkosi, kuhle ukuthi wamukele ukucebisa kwami: Yekela izono zakho wenze okulungileyo, lobubi bakho ube lomusa kwabancindezelweyo. Lapho-ke mhlawumbe ukuphumelela kwakho kungaqhubeka." **28** Konke lokhu kwenzakala enkosini uNebhukhadineza. **29** Sekudlule izinyanga ezilitshumi lambili, inkosi ihambahama ephahleni lwesigodlo saseBhabhiloni, **30** yathi, "Kakusilo yini iBhabhiloni leli engalakra laba ngumuzi wobukhosi bami na?" **31** Kwathi amazwi la elokhu esesemlonyeni wakhe kwelha ilizwi livela ezulwini lathi, "Nanku osukunqunyelwe, nkosi Nebhukhadineza: Amandla akho obukhosi asesusiwe kuwe. **32** Uzaxotshwa ebantwini uyehlala lezinyamazana zeganga; uzakudla utshani njengezinkomo. Kuzadlula iminyaka eyisikhombisa uze uvume ukuthi oPhezukonke uyabusa phezu kwemibuso yabantu ayiphe ingqe ngubani ngokuthanda kwakhe." **33** Masinyane nje okwakutshini ngoNebhukhadineza kwagcwaliseka. Waxotshwa ebantwini wadla utshani njengezinkomo. Umzimba wakhe wagxanxa ngamazolo aphezulu, inwele zakhe zakhula njengezinsiba zengqungqulu, kwathi inzipho zakhe zaba njengenkumba zenyoni. **34** Ekupheleni kwalesosikhathi, mina, Nebhukhadineza, ngaphakamisela amehlo ami ezulwini, ingqondo yami yabuya. Ngasegimdumisa oPhezukonke; ngambabaza, ngambonga yena ohezi kuze kube phakade. **35** Imihlobo yonke yabantu bomhlaba **36** Ngasonalesosikhathi ingqondo yami yabuya, udumo lwami lenkazimulo yami kwabuyiswa kimi ukusekela ubukhosi bombuso wami. Abeluleki bami lezikhulu zami bangidinga bangibuyisela esihlalweni sami sobukhosi, ngase ngisiba mkhulu kulakuqala. **37** Ngakho-ke mina, Nebhukhadineza, ngiyayidumisa njalo ngiyayibabaza, ngiyiphakamise iNkosi yezulu, ngoba konke ekwenzayo kuqondile futhi lezindlela zayo zonke zilungile. Njalo bonke abazigqajayo iyabathobisa.

5 Inkosi uBhelishazari wenzela izikhulu zakhe ezizinkulungwane idlil elikhulu, wanatha lazo iwayini. **2** Kwathi uBhelishazari enatha iwayini lakhe walaya ukuthi kulethwe izitsha zegolide lezesiliva ezazithethwe nguyise uNebhukhadineza ethempelini eJerusalem, efuna ukuthi inkosi, lezikhulu zayo, labafazi bayo kanye labafazi bayo beceleni banathele kuzo. **3** Yikho baziletha izitsha zegolide ezazithethwe ethempelini likaNkulunkulu eJerusalem, kwasekusithi inkosi lezikhulu zayo kanye labafazi bayo beceleni banathela kuzo. **4** Bathi belinatha iwayini babelokhu bedumisa onkulunkulu begolide labesiliva, labethusi,

labensimbi, labezigodlo labamatshe. **5** Masinyane nje kwavela iminwe yesandla somuntu yaloba emdulini eduzane loluthi lwesibane esigodlweni. Inkosi yasibukela isandla siloba. **6** Ubuso bayo bahloba, yethuka amadolo ayo aze atshayana, imilenze yathamba yathi wohlo phansi. **7** Inkosi yamemeza yathi kakubizwe izangoma lezingcazi zezinkanyezi kanye lezanwe yasisithi kuwo la amadoda ayizihlakaniphi zaseBhabhiloni, "Loba ngubani ongabala umbhalo lo angitshele ukuthi utshoni uzagqokiswa eziyibubende agqiziswe iketane legolide entanyeni yakhe, njalo uzaphiwa isikhundla sesithathu sokuba ngumbusi kulelilizwe." **8** Zasezingena zonke izihlakaniphi. Kodwa zehluleka ukuwubala umbhalo lokutshela inkosi ukuthi utshoni. **9** Ngakho inkosi uBhelishazari yathuthumela okwedlulayo, ubuso bayo bahloba. Izikhulu zayo zadideka. **10** Indlovukazi yathi isizwa amazwi enkosi lezikhulu zayo yeza yangena endlini yedili. Yathi, "Oh nkosi, mana njalo. Ungethuki! Ungaze wahloba kanjalo! **11** Kulomuntu embusweni wakho olomoya wabonkulunkulu abangcwele phakathi kwakhe. Ngesikhathi sikayihlo watshengisa ukuqonda, lokukhalipha lenhlakanipho okufana lokwabonkulunkulu. Uyihlo, inkosi uNebhukhadineza yambeka ukuba yinduna yabomasalamusi, lezangoma, lezingcazi zezinkanyezi lezanwe. **12** Indoda le, uDanyeli, inkosi eyayimbiza ngokuthi nguBhelitheshazari, wabonakala elengqondo evukileyo, lolwazi lokuzwisisa, njalo elamandla okuhumutsha amaphupho, lokuchaza amalibho kanye lokuhlalula izinkinga ezinzima. Mbize uDanyeli, uzakutshela ukuthi umbhalo utshoni." **13** Ngakho uDanyeli walethwa phambi kwenkosi, inkosi yathi kuye, "Wena unguye uDanyeli na, omunye wabathunjwa abalethwa ngubaba inkosi bevela koJuda? **14** Sengizwile ukuthi umoya wabonkulunkulu uphakathi kwakho lokuthi ulokuqonda, lokukhalipha lenhlakanipho eyinqaba. **15** Izihlakaniphi lezangoma zilethwe kimi ukuthi zingibalele umbhalo lo, zingitshele ukuthi utshoni, kodwa zehlulekelele ukuwuchaza. **16** Manje sengizwile ukuthi wena ulamandla okutsho ingcazelo lokuhlalula izinkinga ezinzima. Aluba ungawubala umbhalo lo uphinde ungitshele ukuthi utshoni, uzagqokiswa eziyibubende, ugqiziswe leketane legolide entanyeni yakho, uphinde ubekwe esikhundleni sokuba ngowesithathu ebukhulwini bombuso lo." **17** UDanyeli wasephendula inkosi wathi, "Ungazigcinela lezozipho zakho, uphe leyomivuzo yakho omunye umuntu. Loba kunjalo ngizayibalele inkosi umbhalo lowo ngiyitshele ukuthi utshoni. **18** Yebo kambe nkosi, uNkulunkulu oPhezukonke wanika uyihlo uNebhukhadineza ubukhosi lobukhulu lodumo kanye lenkazimulo. **19** Ngenxa yesikhundla esiphezulu amnika sona, bonke abantu kanye lezizwe zonke labantu bendimi zonke babemqhuqa, bemesaba. Labo inkosi eyafuna ukubabulala, yababulala; labo eyafuna ukubaxolela, yabaxolela; labo eyafuna ukubakhweza ezikhundleni yabakhweza; kwathi labo eyafuna ukubayangisa, yabayangisa. **20** Kodwa kwathi lapho inhliziyi yayo isilobuqholo, isilukhuni ngokuzigqajayo yethulwa esihlalweni sayo sobukhosi yaphucwa udumo lwayo. **21** Yaxotshwa ebantwini yaphiwa ingqondo yenyamazana; yahlala labobabhemu beganga, yadla utshani njengezinkomo; lomzimba wayo wagxanxa ngamazolo omkhathi yaze yavuma ukuthi uNkulunkulu oPhezukonke nguye uThixo phezu kwemibuso yabantu, abeke phezu kwayo loba nguphi umbusi amthandayo. **22** Kodwa wena ndodana yayo, awu Bhelishazari, kawuzithobanga, lokuba ukwazi konke

lokhu. **23** Endaweni yalokho, uzimisele ukumelana loThixo wezulu. Wathi kakuthathwe izitsha zethempeli layo zilethwe kuwe, kwasekusithi wena lezikhulu zakho, labafazi bakho kanye labafazi bakho beceleni lanathela iwayini kuzo. Wadumisa onkulunkulu besiliva legolide, abethusi, lensimbi, lezigodo lamatshu, abangaboniyo, labangezwayo labangaqedisisiyo. Kodwa kawumhloniphanga uNkulunkulu ophethe ukuphila kwakho kanye lezindlela zakho zonke esandleni sakhe. **24** Kungakho ethumele lesosandla esalobe lumbhalo. **25** Nanku umbhalo obulotshiwe: mene, mene, thekheli, pharisini. **26** Nanku okutshwa ngamagama la: Mene: Nkulunkulu usezibalile insuku zokubusa kwakho, usekuqedile. **27** Thekheli: Usulinganiswe esikalini wafunyanwa ulula. **28** Pharisini: Umbuso wakho usuhlukaniswe phakathi, wabelwa amaMede lamaPhezhiya.” **29** Kwathi ngomlayo kaBhelishazari uDanyeli wagqokiswa eziyibubende, wagqiziswa iketane legolide entanyeni yakhe, kwamenyazelwa ukuthi usengumbusi wesikhundla sobuthathu elizwene. **30** Ngabona lobobusuku uBhelishazari, inkosi yamaBhabhiloni wabulawa, **31** kwathi uDaryiyo umuMede wabuthatha ubukhosi eleminyaka engamatshumi ayisithupha lambili.

6 UDaryiyo wathanda ukubeka ababusi bezigaba abalikhulu lamatshumi amabili ukuba babuse kulolonke ilizwe, **2** wabeka omongameli abathathu phezu kwabo, omunye wabo enguDanyeli. Ababusi bezigaba babesethula kubo konke ukuze inkosi ingalahlekelwa lutho. **3** UDanyeli waba yisilomo, wedlula abanye omongameli lababusi bezigaba ngokwenza kwakhe, inkosi yaze yafisa ukumbeka phezu kwelizwe lonke. **4** Ngenxa yalokho omongameli lababusi bezigaba badinga amabhada okumangalela uDanyeli ngandlela ayeqhuba ngayo zezombuso, kodwa behluleka. Kabafumananga kungcola kuye ngoba wayethembekile futhi engasihaga lemali njalo engayekethisi lutho. **5** Ekucineni amadoda la athi, “Kasisoze safa salizwa izaba lokwethesa indoda le uDanyeli icala ngaphandle kwalokho okuphathelene lomthetho kaNkulunkulu wakhe.” **6** Ngakho omongameli lababusi bezigaba baya enkosini belixuku bafika bathi: “Oh nkosi Daryiyo, mana njalo! **7** Omongameli besikhosini, labalisa, lababusi bezigaba, labeluleki lababusi bemikhono yelizwe bonke sebevumelene ukuthi inkosi kayikhuphe isimemezelo iwugcizelele umlayo othi noma ngubani okhuleka kwuphi uNkulunkulu noma umuntu phakathi kwalezi insuku ezingamatshumi amathathu, ngaphandle kokukhuleka kuwe wena, Oh nkosi, uzaphoselwa emgodini wezilwane. **8** Manje, Oh nkosi, sikhuphe lesosimemezelo sibhalwe phansi ukuze sisingaquqlwa njengoba kunjalo ngemithetho yamaMede lamaPhezhiya enganguqulwayo.” **9** Ngakho inkosi uDaryiyo yawubhala phansi lowomthetho. **10** Kwathi uDanyeli esezwile ukuthi umthetho wawusukhutshiwe, waya ekhaya endlini yakhe ephezulu esitezi eyayilamawindi avulwe akhangela eJerusalem. Kathathu ngelanga wayezilahla phansi ngamadolo akhuleke, ebonga uNkulunkulu wakhe, njengalokho ayevele ekwenza mandulo. **11** Kwasekusithi amadoda la aqhubana elixuku afica uDanyeli ekhuleka ecela usizo kuNkulunkulu. **12** Asesiya enkosini ayakhuluma layo ngomthetho owaphuma esigodlweni, athi: “Kawukhuphanga isimemezelo yini sokuthi ngezinsuku ezilandelayo ezingamatshumi amathathu noma ngubani okhuleka komunye unkulunkulu noma umuntu ngaphandle kokukhuleka kuwe, Oh nkosi, uzaphoselwa emgodini

wezilwane?” Inkosi yaphendula yathi, “Lowomthetho umi njengemithetho yamaMede lamaPhezhiya, engeke iguqulwe.” **13** Asesithi enkosini, “UDanyeli, ongomunye wabathunjwa bakoJuda, kakunanzi, wena nkosi, kanye lomthetho owawubhala phansi. Ulokhu ekhuleka kathathu ngelanga.” **14** Kwathi inkosi isikuzwile lokho yakhathazeka kakhulu; yayizimisele ukukhulula uDanyeli, yenza yonke imizamo yokumsiza ilanga laze layatshona. **15** Amadoda lawo asehamba elixuku aya enkosini athi kuyo, “Khumbula, Oh nkosi, ukuthi ngomthetho wamaMede lamaPhezhiya kakulasimemezelo loba isimiso esikhutshwe yinkosi esingaguqulwa.” **16** Ngakho inkosi yasikhupha umlayo, basebemletha uDanyeli bamphosela emphandwini wezilwane. Inkosi yathi kuDanyeli, “Sengathi uNkulunkulu wakho omkhonzayo njalunjalo angakuhlenga!” **17** Kwaethwa ilitshe lafakwa emnyango womgodi, inkosi yasilinameka ngendandatho yayo yobukhosi langezindandatho zezikhulu zayo, ukuze umumo kaDanyeli unguquqlwa. **18** Yikho inkosi yase ibuyela esigodlweni sayo yazila ukudla lokunatha ubusuku bonke. Yehluleka ukulala. **19** Kwathi emadabukakusa inkosi yavuka yaya emgodini wezilwane. **20** Ithe isifikile emgodini, yamezeza uDanyeli ngelizwi losizi yathi, “Danyeli, nceku kaNkulunkulu ophilayo, uNkulunkulu wakho omkhonza njalunjalo ukuphephile yini ezilwaneni?” **21** UDanyeli waphendula wathi, “Oh nkosi, mana njalo! **22** UNkulunkulu wami uthume ingilosi yakhe yayivala imilomo yezilwane. Kazingilimazanga ngoba ngifunyanwe ngingelacala phambi kwakhe. Njalo kangikaze ngenze okubi kuwe, Oh nkosi.” **23** Inkosi yathaba yafa yakhupha umlayo wokuba uDanyeli akhutshulwe emgodini lowo. UDanyeli esekhutshiwe emgodini, kakubonakalanga nxeba kuye, ngoba wathemba kuNkulunkulu wakhe. **24** Inkosiyalaya ukuthi baletshwe labo ababemangalele uDanyeli ngamanga baphoselwa emgodini wezilwane kanye labafazi babo labantwababo. Bathi bengakathinti phansi emgodini izilwane zabaqaga zabafohloza wonke amathambo abo. **25** Inkosi uDaryiyo yasilobela bonke abantu, lezizwe zonke lenhlanga zendimi zonke kulolonke ilizwe yathi: “Sengathi impilo enhle inganda kini! **26** Ngimisa isimiso sokuthi kuzozonke izindawo zombuso wami, abantu kabesabe, bakhonze uNkulunkulu kaDanyeli. **27** Uyakhulula, asindise; **28** Ngakho uDanyeli waphumelela ngesikhathi sokubusa kukaDaryiyo lesokubusa kukaKhurosi umPhezhiya.

7 Ngomnyaka wokuqala kaBhelishazari inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, uDanyeli waphupha iphupho, kwaphithika imibono engqondweni yakhe elele embhedeni wakhe. Wakubhala phansi okwakuquketshwe liphupho lakhe. **2** UDanyeli wathi: “Embonweni wami ebusuku ngakhangela ngabona phambi kwami imimoya emine yasezulwini iqubula ulwandle olukhulu. **3** Izilo ezine ezinkulu, yileso singanani lezinye, zaqhama okwandle. **4** Esakuqala sasinjengesilwane, njalo silamaphiko engquqqu. Ngabukela amaphiko aso aze akhutshwa, sasesiphakanyiswa emhlabathini sema ngezinyawo ezimbili njengomuntu, sasesiphwa isilo esiliziyo yomuntu. **5** Khonapho phambi kwami kwakujame isilo sesibili esasifana lebehe. Sasiphakanyiwe kwelinye icele laso, njalo emlonyeni waso sasilezimbambo ezintathu emazinyweni aso. Satshelwa kwathiwa, ‘Sukuma udle inyama usuthe!’ **6** Ngemva kwalokho ngakhangela ngabona phambi kwami esinye isilo esasikhangeleka njengengwe. Emhlabane waso sasilamaphiko amane afana lawenyoni. Isilo lesi sasilamakhanda amane,

saphiwa amandla okuba sibuse.” 7 Ngemva kwalokho, embonweni wami ebusuku ngakhangele, kwathi phambi kwami kwema isilo sesine esithuthumeliso, sisesabeka njalo silamandla amakhulu. Sasilamazinyo ensimbi amakhulu; safohloza esikubambileyo sakudla, okuseleyo sakugxobela phansi. Sasingafanani lazonke izilo zakuqala, sona silempondo ezilitshumi. 8 Ngisalokhu ngicabanga ngempondo lezo, khonapho phambi kwami kwaba lolunye uphondo oluncinyane olwama phakathi kwazo; kwathi ezintathu zempondo zakuqala zagunyulwa phambi kwalo. Uphondo lolu lwalulameho anjengameho omuntu lomlomo owawukhuluma okokuzikhukhumeza. 9 “Ngisakhangele, kwabekwa izihlalo zobukhosi, uSimakade wahlala kwesakhe. Izigqoko zakhe zazimhlophe njengeqhwa; inwele zekhanda lakhe zimhlophe njengoboya bezimvu. Isihlalo sakhe sasilavuka umlilo, lamavili aso wonke evutha umlilo. 10 Kwakugeleza umfola womlilo, uthutsha ngaphambi kwakhe. Izinkulungwane lezinkulungwane zazimkhonza; izinkulungwane ezilitshumi ziphindwe ngezinkulungwane ezilitshumi zema phambi kwakhe. Inkundla yokwahlulela yahlala phansi, kwasekuvulwa izincwadi.” 11 Ngasengiqhubeka ngilokhu ngibukele ngenxa yamazwi okuzikhukhumeza ayekhulunywa luphondo. Ngala ngilokhu ngikhangele isilo saze sabulawa, isidumbu saso saphoselwa emlilweni ovuthayo. 12 (Leziyana ezinye izilo zase ziphuciwela ubukhulu bazo kodwa zavunyelwa ukuphila okwesikhathi esithile.) 13 Embonweni wami ebusuku ngakhangele kwabonakala khonapho phambi kwami lowo owayefana lendodana yomuntu esiza ngamayezi ezulu. Yasondela kuSimakade yasiwa phambi kwakhe. 14 Yaphiwa amandla lobukhosi lamandla okubusa; bonke abantu, lezizwe zonke labantu bendimi zonke bamkhonza. Ubukhosi bakhe yibukhosi obungapheliyo obungayikwedlula, lombuso wakhe kawusoze uchithwe. 15 Mina Danyeli, ngakhathazeka emoyeni, lemibono eyayidlula engqondweni yami yangidabula. 16 Ngasondela komunye walabo ababemi khonapho ngambuza okuyikho okutshiwo yikho konke lokhu. Yikho wangitshela wangipha ingcazelo yezinto lezi, wathi: 17 “Izilo ezine ezinkulu yimibuso emine ezaqhamuka emhlabeni. 18 Kodwa abangcwele bakhe oPhezukonke bazawemukela umbuso ube ngowabo lanininini, yebo, okwanini lanini.” 19 Ngase ngifisa ukwazi ingcazelo eqotho eyesilo sesine, esasingafanani lezinye njalo sisesabeka kakhulu, ngamazinyo aso ensimbi lenzipho zethusi, isilo esafohloza sadla esikubambileyo sagxobagxoba okuseleyo. 20 Ngafuna njalo ukwazi ngempondo ezilitshumi ekhanda laso langalolo olunye uphondo olwamilayo, okwathi ezinye ezintathu zawa phambi kwalo lolophondo olwabonakala kakhulu kulezinye, olwalulameho kanye lomlomo owawukhuluma ngokukholoda. 21 Ngilokhu ngibukele, uphondo lolu lwalusilwa luhlasele abangcwele lubehlula, 22 kwaze kwafika uMvelinqaki wabalumulela abangcwele bakhe oPhezukonke, kwafika isikhathi bawuthatha umbuso. 23 Wangipha ingcazelo le: Isilo sesine singumbuso wesine ozavela emhlabeni. Uzaba lomahluko kweminye yonke imibuso njalo uzawuthumba wonke umhlaba, uwugxobagxobe, uwufohloze. 24 Impondo ezilitshumi ngamakhosi alitshumi azavela kuwo lo umbuso. Ngemva kwawo kuzavela enye inkosi engafani lalayana awokuqala; izanqoba amakhosi amathathu. 25 Izakhuluma okubi ngoPhezukonke incindezele abangcwele bakhe izame

ukuguqula izikhathi ezimisiweyo kanye lemithetho. Abangcwele bazanikelwa kuyo okwesikhathi esithile, izikhathi ezilengxenywe yesikhathi. 26 Kodwa umthethwandaba uzahlala phansi, amandla ayo asuswe abhidlizwe okwanini lanini. 27 Lapho-ke ubukhosi, lamandla lobukhulu bemibuso leyo ngaphansi kwezulu lonke kuzaphiwa abangcwele, abantu bakhe oPhezukonke. Umbuso wakhe uzakuba ngumbuso ongapheliyo, njalo bonke ababusi bazamkhonza bamlalele. 28 “Lokhu yikho ukuphela kwendaba. Mina Danyeli ngakhathazeka kakhulu ngemicabango yami, ubuso bami bahloba, kodwa indaba le yaba yimfihlo yami.”

8 Ngomnyaka wesithathu wokubusa kwenkosi uBhelishazari mina Danyeli ngaba lombono ohambelana lalowo owake wangifikela ngaphambili. 2 Embonweni wami ngazibona ngisenqabeni yaseSusa esigabeni sase-Elamu; embonweni ngangisekhunjini lomgelomfula u-Ulayi. 3 Ngakhangele, ngabona khonapho phambi kwami kwakulenzama elempondo ezimbili imi eceleni komgelo, impondo zazizinde. Olunye lwempondo lwalulene kulolunye kodwa muva lwakhulu kakhulu. 4 Ngayibukela inqama ihlasela isiya entshonalanga, lenyakatho leningizimu. Kwakungelanyamazana eyayingamelana layo, kungekho njalo ongalamulela emandleni ayo. Yazenzela ngokuthanda kwayo yaba yinto enkulu. 5 Ngilokhu ngicabanga ngalokhu, masinyane kwathutsha imbuzi entshonalanga ilophondo oluqaphileyo phakathi kwameho ayo, idabula phakathi komhlaba wonke ingathintanga umhlabathi. 6 Yasondela enqameni yempondombili engayibona imi ekhunjini lomgelomfula yayihlasela ngolaka olukhulu. 7 Yayidumela inqama ngodlakela, yayigqubula yavikiza impondo zombili. Inqama yayingelamandla okumelana layo; impondo le yayilahla phansi inqama yayigxobagxoba, kungekho ongayilamulela emandleni ayo. 8 Impondo (imbuzi) yaba lamandla amakhulu, kodwa kwathi amandla ayo esemakhulu kangako uphondo lwayo olukhulu lwephuka, endaweni yalo kwakhulu impondo ezine eziqaphileyo ezakhulu zakhangele kuwo wonke amagumbi amane omkhathi. 9 Kolunye uphondo lwayo kwathutsha olunye uphondo olwagalisa luluncinyane kodwa lwakhulu ngamandla kusiya eningizimu, lasempumalanga laseLizweni Elihle. 10 Lwakhulu lwaze lwafinyelela izinkanyezi zezulu, lwaphosela phansi emhlabeni ezinye izinkanyezi lwazigxobagxoba. 11 Lwaziphakamisa ngokuzikhukhumeza njengengomlawuli webutho likaThixo, lwamisa umhlatshele walo wansuku zonke kuThixo lendawo yakhe yokukhonzela yangcoliswa. 12 Ngenxa yomvukela, ibutho likaThixo, kanye lomhlatshele wansuku zonke kwanikelwa kulo. Lwaphumelela kukho konke olwalukwenza, iqiniso alabe lisatsho ulutho. 13 Ngasengisizwa ongcwele ekhuluma, omunye ongcwele wathi kuye, “Kuzathatha isikhathi esinganani ukuze umbono lo ugcaliseke, umbono omayelana lomhlatshele wansuku zonke, lomvukela oletha incithakalo, lokukhalala indawo yokukhonzela, lezinkanyezi ezizagxotshwagxotshwa zinyawo zabantu bakaThixo?” 14 Wathi kimi, “Kuzathatha izikhathi zokuhlwa lezokusa ezizinkulungwane ezimbili lamakhulu amathathu; lapho-ke indawo yokukhonzela izangcweliswa kutsha.” 15 Kwathi mina Danyeli ngilokhu ngiwubukele umbono lo, ngizama ukuwuzwisa, kwema khonapho phambi kwami othile owayefana lomuntu. 16 Ngasengisizwa ilizwi lomuntu limezeza lisuka e-Ulayi lisithi, “Gabhriyeli, tshela umuntu lo ingcazelo yombono lo.” 17 Wathi esondela

engangimi khona, ngezwa ngisesaba, ngawa ngithe thwitshi. Wathi kimi, “Ndodana yomuntu, qedisisa ukuthi umbono umayelana lesikhathi sokucina.” **18** Wathi esakhuluma lami, ngalala ubuthongo obunzima ngithe mbo phansi ngobuso. Wasengithinta, wangiphakamisa, wangimisa ngezinyawo zami. **19** Wathi, “Ngizakutshela okuzakwenzakala ngemvula, ngesikhathi esimisiweyo esokucina. **20** Inqama empondombili owayibonayo imele amakhosi eMede lePhezhiya. **21** Impongo eyisinephu yinkosi yeGrisi, lophondo olukhulu oluphakathi kwamehlho ayo yinkosi yakuqala. **22** Impondo ezine ezathatha indawo yalolo olwephukayo zimele imibuso emine ezaphuma esizweni sakhe kodwa kayiyikuba lamandla alingana lawaso.” **23** Lapho umbuso wabo ususiyi ekucineni, abahlamuki nxa sebexhwalwe beqisa, inkosi elolunya, eliqili kakhulu, izavela. **24** Izaqina kakhulu kodwa kungasikho ngenxa yamandla ayo. Izakwenza umonakalo wokubhidliza okukhulu, iphumelele kukho konke ekwenzayo. Izawabhubhisa amaqhawe kanye labantu abangcwele. **25** Izakwandisa inkohlakalo, izibone yona isedlula bonke abanye. Bazakuthi besithi sebezinzile, izabhubhisa abanengi ibe isihlasela iNkosi yamakhosi. Ikanti yona izabhujiswa kodwa hatsi ngezandla zomuntu. **26** “Umbono owuphiweyo owezikhathi zokuhlwa lezokusa uliqiniso, kodwa ugcike umbono lo, ngoba uphathelane lesikhathi esizayo esikhathshana.” **27** Mina Danyeli, ngadinwa kakhulu ngalala ngingogulayo okwensuku ezimbalwa. Ngasengivuka ngaqhubeka ngomsebenzi wami wenkosi. Ngadideka ngombono lowo; wawungaphezu kwengqondo.

9 Ngomnyaka wokuqala kaDaryu indodana ka-Ahasuweru (umuMede ngosendo), owenziwa umbusi phezu kombuso waseBhabhiloni **2** ngomnyaka wokuqala wokubusa kwakhe, mina Danyeli ngezwa emiBhalweni, mayelana lelizwi likaThixo elaphiwa uJeremiya umphrofethi, ukuthi incithakalo yeJerusalem yayizakuba khona okweminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa. **3** Yikho ngaphendukela eNkosini uNkulunkulu ngamncenga ngomkhulelo langokulabhela, langokuzila, ngigqoke amasaka ngazibhuqa emlotheni. **4** Ngakhuleka kuThixo uNkulunkulu wami ngafakaza ngathi: “Oh Nkosi, Nkulunkulu omkhulu, owesabekayo, ogcina isivumelwano sakhe sothando lalabo bonke abamthandayo, abagcina imilayo yakhe: **5** senzile isono njalo senza okubi. Sisuke saxhwalwa, sahlamuka; siyifulathele imilayo yakho kanye lemithetho yakho. **6** Kasizilalelanga izinceku zakho abaphrofethi abakhuluma ngebizo lakho emakhosini ethu, lamakhosana ethu lakubobaba lakubo bonke abantu belizwe. **7** Nkosi, ulungile, kodwa lamuhla sembeswe ngehlozo, abantu bakoJuda labantu beJerusalem lo-Israyeli wonke, abaseduze labakade, kuwo wonke amazwe lapho osihlakazele khona ngenxa yokungathembeki kwethu kuwe. **8** Oh Thixo, thina lamakhosi ethu, lamakhosana ethu kanye labobaba sembeswe ngehlozo ngoba senzile isono kuwe. **9** INkosi uNkulunkulu wethu ilesihawu njalo iyathethelela loba thina siyihlamukele; **10** kasimlalelanga uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu, njalo kasiyigcinanga imithetho asipha yona ngezinceku zakhe abaphrofethi. **11** U-Israyeli wonke uwephule umthetho wakho wafulathela, esala ukukulalela. Ngakho iziqalekiso lezehlulelo ezifungelwayo ezibhaliweyo eMthethweni kaMosi, inceku kaNkulunkulu, zithululelwe phezu kwethu, ngoba senzile isono kuwe. **12** Usuwagcwalisile amazwi okusilahla njalo alahla ababusi bethu ngokusehlisela incithakalo enkulu. Ngaphansi kwalo lonke izulu kakukaze kwenziwe ulutho

olulingana lalokhu osekwenziwe eJerusalem. **13** Njengoba kulotshiwe eMthethweni kaMosi yonke le incithakalo yehlele kithi, ikanti kasicelanga umusa kaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu ngokufulathela izono zethu sifunise iqiniso lakho. **14** UThixo kathikazanga ukwehlisela incithakalo phezu kwethu, ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu wethu ulungile kukho konke akwenzayo; kodwa kasimlalelanga. **15** Manje-ke, Nkosi Nkulunkulu wethu, owakhupha abantu bakho eGibhithe ngesandla esilamandla njalo owazenzela ibizo elimiyo kuze kube namhla, senzile isono, senzile okubi. **16** Nkosi, ngenxa yemisebenzi yakho yonke elungileyo, qambula ulaka lwakho lentukuthelo yakho kusuke eJerusalem, idolobho lakho, intaba yakho engcwele. Izono zethu lezinengiso zabobaba sezenze iJerusalem labantu bakho baba yinto yokuhlekisa kubo bonke abakhelene lathi. **17** Manje-ke, Nkulunkulu wethu, zwana imikhuleko lokulabhela kwenceku yakho. Ngenxa yebizo lakho, awu Nkosi, ake uhawukele indlu yakho engcwele esibhidlikile. **18** Beka indlebe yakho, Oh Nkulunkulu, uzwe; vula amehlho akho ubone incithakalo yedolobho elibizwa ngeBizo lakho. Kasilethi lezizicelo kuwe ngoba silungile, kodwa ngenxa yesihawu sakho esikhulu. **19** Nkosi, lalela! Nkosi, thethelela! Nkosi, lalela wenze! Ngenxa yebizo lakho, Oh Nkulunkulu wami, ungapuzi, ngoba idolobho lakho labantu bakho kubizwa ngeBizo lakho.” **20** Ngathi ngikhuluma njalo ngikhuleka, ngivuma isono sami, lesono sabantu bakithi abako-Israyeli, ngiletha isikhazalo sami kuThixo uNkulunkulu wami ngentaba yakhe engcwele, **21** ngilokhu ngisakhuleka, uGabhriyeli, indoda engayibonayo embonweni wokuqala, weza kimi endiza kungesikhathi somhlatshelelo wakusihlwa. **22** Wangilaya wathi kimi, “Danyeli, khathesi sengilande ukukupha ukuqonda lokuzwisisa. **23** Wonele ukuqalisa ukukhuleka impendulo yahle yaphiwa, eyiyo engizokutshela yona, ngoba uyaqakathekiswa kakhulu. Ngakho-ke, cabanga ngalo ilizwi, uwuzwisise umbono ukuthi: **24** Amatshumi ayisikhombisa ‘ezikhombisa’ (amaviki) asequnyelwe abantu bakini ledolobho lenu elingcwele ukuqedisa ukona, ukukhawula isono, ukuhlawulela ububi, ukuletha ukulunga okungapheliyo, ukuphetha umbono lesiphrofethi lokugcoba indawo engcwele. **25** Yazi njalo uzwisise lokhu: Kusukela ekukhutshweni kwesimezelelo sokuthi ukuselelewe njalo kwakhiwe kutsha iJerusalem kuze kufike umbusi oGcotshiwewo kuzakuba lamaviki ‘ayizikhombisa’ eziyisikhombisa ‘lezikhombisa’ ezingamatshumi ayisithupha lambili. Lizakwakiwa libe lemigwaqo lomgelo, kodwa kuyizikhathi zohlupho. **26** Ngemva ‘kwezikhombisa’ lezo ezingamatshumi ayisithupha lambili oGcotshiwewo uzaqunywa afe engelalutho. Abantu bombusi ozakuba bazalibhidliza idolobho lendlu yenkonzo. Ukuphela kuzafika njengesikhukhula: Impi izaqhubeka kuze kube sekupheleni, sekumenyazelwe incithakalo. **27** Uzaqinisa isivumelwano labanengi ‘okwesikhombisa’ esisodwa. Phakathi ‘kwezikhombisa’ uzamisa imihlatshelo leminikelo. Kuzakuthi eceleni lethempeli uzabeka isinengiso esibanga incithakalo, kuze kuthi ukucina okumisiweyo kuchithelwe kuye.”

10 Ngomnyaka wesithathu kaKhurosi inkosi yasePhezhiya, kwafika kuDanyeli (owayebizwa ngokuthi nguBhelitheshazari) isambulelo. Umbiko waso wawuqinisile umayelana lempi enkulu. Ukuzwisiseka kombiko lowo kwamehlela ngombono. **2** Kulesosikhathi mina Danyeli ngalila okwamaviki amathathu. **3** Angizange ngikudle ukudla

okuconsayo; inyama loba iwiyini kakuzange kuzithinte izindebe zami; njalo kangizange ngisebenzise amagcobo lakanye kwaze kwaphela amaviki amathathu. **4** Ngosuku lwamatshumi amabili lane lwenyanga yokuqala, ngathi ngimi ekhunjini lomfula omkhulu, iThigrisi, **5** ngakhangela ngabona khonapho phambi kwami kumi indoda igqoke ilineni, ilebhanti legolide elihle okhalweni lwayo. **6** Umzimba wayo wawufana lekhrisolathi, ubuso bayo bunjengombane, amehlo ayo enjengezibane ezivuthayo, izingalo zayo lemilenze yayo kufanana lokukhazimula kwethusi elilolongiweyo, lelizwi layo linjengomsindo wexuku labantu. **7** Mina Danyeli, yimi ngedwa engawubonayo umbono; amadoda ayelami kawubonanga, kodwa afikelwa yikwesaba okukhulu aze abaleka ayacatsha. **8** Ngakho ngasala ngedwa, ngiqhuzule amehlo ami kulo umbono omkhulu; ngaphela amandla, ubuso bami bahloba okokufa njalo sengiphelelwe. **9** Ngasengimuzwa ekhuluma, kwathi ngilokhu ngimlalele, ngehlwela likhoza lobuthongo ngithe mbo phansi ngobuso. **10** Isandla sangithinta ngezwa sengiqhaqhazela ezandleni lemadolweni. **11** Wathi, “Danyeli, uyaqakathekiswa kakhulu, nanzelela amazwi esengizawakuluma kuwe, usukume, ngoba manje ngithunywe kuwe.” Wathi esitsho lokhu kimi ngasukuma ngiqhaqhazela. **12** Waseqhubeka wathi, “Ungesabi, Danyeli. Kulokhu kwasukela mhla ubeka ingqondo yakho ukuzaza ukuzwisisa lokuzithoba phambi kukaNkulunkulu wakho, amazwi akho ezwakala, yikho ngilapha ngenxa yalokho. **13** Kodwa inkosi yombuso wasePhezhiya yangivimbela okwensuku ezingamatshumi amabili lanye. Kwasekusithi uMikhayeli, omunye wamakhosana amakhulu, weza ezongisiza, ngoba ngangivalelwe khonale yinkosi yasePhezhiya. **14** Manje ngilande ukuzakuchasisela lokho okuzakwenzakala ebantwini bakini esikhathini esizayo, ngoba umbono umayelana lesikhathi esizafika.” **15** Uthe esitsho lokhu kimi ngakhothamisela ubuso bami phansi ngehlwela ukukhuluma. **16** Kwasekusithi othile owayefana lomuntu wathinta izindebe zami, ngasengivula umlomo wami ngakhuluma. Ngathi kulowo owayemi phambi kwami, “Sengigajelwa yikudabuka kwenhliziyo ngenxa yombono, nkosi yami, njalo sengiphelelwe yikho konke. **17** Mina incekuyo yakho, ngingakhuluma kanjani lawe na, nkosi yami? Amandla ami kawasekho njalo sekusala ukuthi ngiphefumule.” **18** Waphinda njalo othile owayefana lomuntu wangithinta wangipha amandla. **19** Wathi, “Ungesabi, Oh muntu oqakathekiswa kakhulu. Ukuthula! Qina manje; qina.” Wathi ekhuluma lami ngaqina ngathi, “Khuluma, nkosi yami, njengoba usungiphile amandla.” **20** Ngakho wasesithi, “Uyakwazi nje ukuthi kungani ngize kuwe na? Masinyane ngizabuya ukuzakulwa lenkosi yasePhezhiya, kuthi ngingahamba, kuzakuba inkosi yaseGrisi; **21** kodwa ngizaqala ngikutshela okulotshiweyo eNcwadini yeQiniso. (Kakho ongetekelelayo ukumelana labo ngaphandle kukaMikhayeli inkosana yakho.

11 Kwathi ngomnyaka wokuqala kaDaryu umuMede, ngazimisela ukuba ngime laye ngimsekele njalo ngimvikele.)” **2** “Manje-ke ngikutshela iqiniso: Kuzavela amanye amakhosi amathathu ePhezhiya, kulandele eyesine, ezanatha kakhulu okudlula amanye. Izakuthi ingazuza amandla ngenxa yenotho yayo izakhuthaza bonke abanye ukuxabana lombuso waseGrisi. **3** Besekuvela inkosi enkulu

ezabusa ngamandla amakhulu, yenze njengokuthanda kwayo. **4** Isivilele, umbuso wayo uzachitheka uhlakazekele kuyo yonke yomine imimoya yezulu. Kawuzukuya ezizukulwaneni zayo, njalo kawusayikuba lamandla owawulawo ngoba umbuso wakhe uzaqutshunwa uphiwe abanye. **5** Inkosi yaseNingizimu izakuba lamandla, kodwa omunye wabalawuli bayo bebutho izakuba lamandla kulayo abesebusa kokakhe umbuso elamandla amakhulu. **6** Ngemva kweminyaka ethile, bazasekelana njengabangane. Indodakazi yenkosi yaseNingizimu izakuya enkosini yaseNyakatho iyekwenza ubudlelwano, kodwa amandla ayo indodakazi kawayikuma, lenkosi leyo kanye lamandla ayo kakuba khona okwesikhathi eside. Ngalezonsuku indodakazi izadelwa, yona kanye lomndlunkulu wayo, loyise kanye lalowo owayeyisekela. **7** Kuzavela omunye owosendo lwayo ozathatha isikhundla sayo. Uzahlasela amabutho empi enkosi yaseNyakatho angene enqabeni yayo; uzakulwa lowo awehlule. **8** Uzathumba njalo onkulunkulu babo, lezithombe zabo zensimbi kanye lezitsha zabo eziligugu ezesiliva legolide azithwalele eGibhithe. Okweminyaka ethile uzake akhohlwe ngenkosi yaseNyakatho. **9** Kuzakuthi inkosi yaseNyakatho ihlasele umbuso wenkosi yaseNingizimu kodwa iphinde ihlehlele muva elizweni layo. **10** Amadodana ayo azalungisele impi aphake iviyo elikhulu lamabutho azathululeka njengesikhukhula sikazamcolo impi ize iyengena enqabeni yayo eyaseNingizimu. **11** Lapho-ke inkosi yaseNingizimu izaphuma ngokuthukuthela iyekulwa lenkosi yaseNyakatho, yona ezaphaka iviyo elikhulu lempi, kodwa izakwehlulwa. **12** Kuzakuthi nxa amabutho esethunjiwe, inkosi yaseNingizimu izazikhukhumeza, ibisibulala izinkulungwane ezinengi, kodwa kayiyikuhlala inqoba. **13** Ngoba inkosi yaseNyakatho izabutha elinye ibutho elikhulu kulelakuqala; kuthi ngemva kweminyaka embalwa izahlasela ngebutho elikhulukazi lihlole liphelele. **14** Kulezozikhathi banengi abazavukela inkosi yaseNingizimu. Izidlungwadlungu phakathi kwabantu bakini zizahlamuka ukuze kwagwaliseke umbono, kodwa kaziyikuphumelela. **15** Inkosi yaseNyakatho izafika yakhe amadundulu okuvimbezela, ithumbe idolobho elivikelwe ngenqaba. Amabutho aseNingizimu azakwehluleka ukuzivikela; kanye lamaqhawe awo odumo kazukuba lamandla okuma. **16** Umhlaseli uzazenzele intando yakhe, kakho loyedwa ozakuba lamandla okumelana laye. Izazibeka iqine eLizweni Elihle ibe lamandla okulichithiza. **17** Izazimisela ukuza ngenkani yombuso wayo wonke yenze isivumelwano sokuvikelana lenkosi yaseNingizimu. Izamendisela indodakazi yayo ukuze iwuchithe umbuso, kodwa amacebo ayo lawo kawayikuphumelela, kawayikyuisiza. **18** Abeseguqokela ngasemazweni asemakhunjini olwandle awathumbe amanengi akhona, kodwa umlawuli wempi omunye uzamquma umsula amnqobe. **19** Ngemva kwalokho izabuyela ezinqabeni zelizwe layo kodwa izakhubeka iwe, ingaphindi ibonakale futhi. **20** Ozathatha ubukhosi ngemva kwayo uzathuma umthelisi ukuze buqhubeke ubukhazikhazi basesikhosini. Kodwa kungeminyaka mingaki izaqethulwa, kungasikho ngodlakela kumbe empi. **21** Izalandelwa ngumuntu odelelekileyo ongelakho ukuhlonipheka kobukhosi. Uzawuhlasela umbuso ngesikhathi abantu bawo besithi sebezinzile, awuthumbe ngokuxabanisa abanye. **22** Kuzakuthi impi eyesabekayo ikhukhulwe phambi kwakhe; yona lenkosi yesivumelwano kuzabhujiswa. **23** Ngemva kokwenza isivumelwano layo uzakwenza inkohliso abesezua ubukhosi encediswa lihlekana

labantu. **24** Kuzakuthi lezozigodi ezilenotho enengi sezisithi zizinzile uzazihlasela aphumelele okungazange kwenziwe nguyise loba ngokhokho bakhe. Uzakwaba impango lenotho kubalandeli bakhe. Uzakwaxha amacebo okubhidliza izinqaba kodwa okwesikhatshana nje. **25** Uzaphaka impi enkulu ukuze avuselele amandla akhe aqunge isibindi sokusukela inkosi yaseNingizimu. Inkosi yaseNingizimu izadumelana laye ngempi enkulu elamandla, kodwa kayizukuma ngenxa yamacebo azakwenziwa awokuyiqethula. **26** Labo abadla esiphaleni senkosi bazazama ukuyibulala; impi yakhe izakhukhulwa, kufe abanengi empini. **27** Amakhosi la amabili alenhlizyo ezigaya izibozo azahlala tafula line ayqabelane amanga, kodwa kungancedi lutho ngoba isiphetho sizajinge sifike ngesikhathi esimisiweyo. **28** Inkosi yaseNyakatho izabuyela elizweni layo ikhithika ngenotho, kodwa inhlizyo yayo izabe ilokozela isivumelwano esingcwele. Kukhona ezakwenza ngaso andubana ibuyele elizweni layo. **29** Ngesikhathi esimisiweyo izahlasela eNingizimu njalo, kodwa ngalesosikhathi impumela yakhona kayizukufana leyakuqala. **30** Imikhumbi evela emakhunjini olwandle lwasentshonalanga izamelana layo ihle iphele amandla. Izabuyela emuva iyebhdolisela ulaka lwayo phezu kwesivumelwano esingcwele. Izaphinda isekele labo abadela isivumelwano esingcwele. **31** Amabutho ayo ahlomileyo azasuka angcolise inqaba yethempeli, acinise umhlatshelelo wansuku zonke. Yikho-ke abesemisa lawomanyala azaletsa incithakalo. **32** Ngobuqili bayo izabaxhwalisa labo asebesepulile isivumelwano, kodwa lababantu abamaziyo uNkulunkulu wabo bazajamelana layo yehluleke. **33** Labo abahlakaniphileyo bazafundisa abanengi, lokuba nje okwesikhathi esithile bezakuwa ngenkamba, kumbe batshiswe, kumbe bathunjwe loba baphangwe. **34** Ekumeni kwabo bazazuza uncedo oluncinyane, kuthi abanengi abangazimisela bazihlanganise lezitha. **35** Abanye babahlakaniphileyo bazakhubeka, ukuze bacoliswe, bahlanjululwe njalo benziwe bahlanzeke kuze kufike isikhathi sokucina, ngoba sijinge sizafika ngesikhathi lesa esimisiweyo.” **36** “Inkosi izakwenza njengokuthanda kwayo. Izaziphakamisa njalo izikhukhumeze ngaphezu kwabonkulunkulu bonke ikhahlize izibozo ngoNkulunkulu wabonkulunkulu. Izaphumelela kuze kugcwaliseke isikhathi sentukuthelo, ngoba lokho okumisiweyo kusamele kwenzeke. **37** Kayizukubananza onkulunkulu baboyise, kumbe lowo olangathwa ngabesifazane, njalo kayiyikunanza lawuphi unkulunkulu, kodwa izaziphakamisa ngaphezulu kwabo bonke. **38** Esikhundleni sabo izakhonza unkulunkulu wezinqaba, unkulunkulu owayengaziwa ngoyise izamkhonza ngegolide langesiliva langamatshe aligugu lezipho ezidulayo. **39** Izahlasela izinqaba eziqine okudlulayo incediswa ngunkulunkulu wezizweni njalo ibahloniphe kakhulu labo abayivumayo. Izababeka ukuba ngababusi babantu abanengi njalo umhlaba izawaba ngokuphiwa intengo. **40** Ngesikhathi sokucina inkosi yaseNingizimu izadumelana layo empini, lenkosi yaseNyakatho izatheleka layo ngezinqola zempi, lebuthe, lamabhiza kanye langemikhumbi eminengi. Izahlasela amazwe amanengi iwakhukhule njengozamcolo. **41** Izahlasela njalo ilizwe Elihle. Azakuwa amazwe amanengi, kodwa i-Edomi leMowabi labakhokheli bako-Amoni bazaphepha esandleni sayo. **42** Izahqhelisa amandla ayo phezu kwamazwe amanengi; iGibhithe kayiyikuphunyuka. **43** Izahluthuna inotho legolide lesiliva layo yonke inotho yaseGibhithe,

amaLibhiya lamaKhushi ayikhonze. **44** Kodwa imibiko evela empumalanga lasenyakatho izayethusa ibisiphuma ngolaka olukhulu ukuyabulala lokutshabalalisa abanengi. **45** Izamisa amathente ayo obukhosi phakathi kolwandle lentaba engcwele enhle. Kodwa kuzafika okwayo ukuphela, engasekho ongayisiza.”

12 “Ngalesosikhathi uMikheyeli, umbusi omkhulu olinda abantu bakini, uzavela. Kuzakuba khona isikhathi sokuhlukumezeka okungazange kube khona kulokhu kwadabuka izizwe kuze kube yiso. Kodwa kulesosikhathi abantu bakini bonke labo abalamabizo azafunyanwa elotshiwe encwadini bazahlengwa. **2** Izixuku lezixuku zabaleleyo othulini lomhlaba bazavuka; abanye baye ekuphileni okungapheliyo, abanye baye ehlazweni lokunengeka okungapheliyo. **3** Labo abahlakaniphileyo bazakhazimula njengokubenyezela kwamazulu, lalabo abaholela abanengi ekulungeni, bazakhazimula njengezinkanyezi okwanini lanini. **4** Kodwa wena Danyeli, vala ungine amazwi omgoqwancwadi kuze kube yisikhathi sokucina. Abanengi bazakuya lapha lale ukwandisa ulwazi.” **5** Kwathi mina, Danyeli, ngakhangelela, ngabona khonapho phambi kwami kumi abanye ababili, omunye ngakuleli ikhumbi lomfula lomunye ngakuleliyana ikhumbi. **6** Omunye wabo wathi emuntwini owayegqoke ilineni owayengaphezulu kwamanzi omfula, “Kuzakuba yisikhathi esinganani zingakenzakali izinto lezi eziyisimanga na?” **7** Indoda eyayigqoke ilineni, eyayiphezulu kwamanzi omfula yaphakamisela isandla sayo sokunene lesandla sayo sokhohlo ezulwini, ngayizwa ifunga ngaye ohleziyo laphakade, isithi, “Kuzakuba ngokwesikhathi, izikhathi lengxenye yesikhathi. Lapho amandla abantu abangcwele eseze afohlozwa, zonke lezi izinto zizaphelelisa.” **8** Ngezwa, kodwa kangizwisanga. Yikho ngabuza ngathi, “Nkosi yami, pho sizaba yini isiphetho sakho konke lokhu na?” **9** Waphendula wathi, “Zihambele, Danyeli, ngoba amazwi asevaliwe ananyekwa kuze kube sekucineni kwesikhathi. **10** Abanengi bazahlanjululwa, bangabi latshatha njalo bacoliswe, kodwa abangatileyo bazaqhubeke begangile. Kakho kwababi ozazwisisa, kodwa labo abahlakaniphileyo bazazwisisa.” **11** Kusukela ngesikhathi kusaliswa umhlatshelelo wansuku zonke, sekumiswe amanyala abanga incithakalo, kuzakuba lenkosi eziyinkulungwane lamakhulu amabili lamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye. **12** Ubusiwe lowo okulindelayo njalo akufice ukucina kwensuku eziyinkulungwane lamakhulu amathathu amatshumi amathathu lanhlanu. **13** “Kodwa wena, zihambele nje kuze kube sekucineni. Uzaphumula, besekusithi ekucineni kwensuku uzavuka ukuba wamukele elakho ilifa olabelweyo.”

UHoseya

1 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kuHosiya indodana kaBheri ngezinsuku zemibuso yabo-Uziya, loJothamu, lo-Ahazi loHezekhiya amakhosi akoJuda, kanye lasezinsukwini zokubusa kukaJerobhowamu indodana kaJowashi inkosi yako-Israyeli. **2** Kwathi uThixo eseqalise ukukhuluma ngoHosiya, uThixo wathi kuye, “Hamba uyethatha umfazi oyisifebe ubelabantwana bobufebe, ngoba ilizwe lilecala lobufebe obubi kakhulu ngokweduka kuThixo.” **3** Ngakho wathatha uGomeri indodakazi kaDibilayimi, njalo wathatha isisu wamazela indodana. **4** UThixo wasesithi kuHoseya, “Methe ibizo uthi nguJezerili, ngoba masinyane nje ngizayijezisa indlu kaJehu ngenxa yesihluku sokubulala abantu abanengi eJezerili, njalo ngizawuqeda umbuso wako-Israyeli. **5** Ngalololoku ngizawephula idandili lika-Israyeli eSigodini saseJezerili.” **6** UGomeri wathatha isisu futhi, wazala indodakazi. UThixo wasesithi, “Muphe ibizo uthi nguLo-Ruhama, ngoba kangisoze ngibe lothando futhi endlini ka-Israyeli, ukuba ngibathethelele. **7** Kodwa ngizakuba lothando endlini kaJuda, njalo ngizabakuhlula, kungayisikho ngedandili, inkemba kumbe impi, loba ngamabhiza langabagadi bamabhiza, kodwa ngoThixo uNkulunkulu wabo.” **8** UGomeri eselumule uLo-Ruhama ebeleni, waba lenye indodana. **9** UThixo wasesithi, “Muphe ibizo lokuthi nguLo-Ami, ngoba lina kalisibantu bami, lami kangisuye uNkulunkulu wenu. **10** Kodwa abako-Israyeli bazakuba njengetshebetshebe ekhunjini lolwandle elingeke lilinganiswe kumbe libalwe. Endaweni lapho okwakuthiwe khona kubo, ‘Kalisibo bantu bami,’ bazabizwa ngokuthi, ‘bantwana bakaNkulunkulu ophilayo.’ **11** Abantu bakoJuda labantu bako-Israyeli bazamanyana, njalo bazakhetha umkhokheli oyedwa baphume elizweni, ngoba luzakuba lukhulu usuku lukaJezerili.”

2 “Tshono kubafowenu uthi, ‘Bantu bami,’ ngabodadawenu uthi, ‘Bathandekayo bami.’” **2** “Mkhuze unyoko, mkhuze, ngoba engasuye mkami, lami kangisuye mkakhe. Kasuse ukukhangeleka kobufebe ebusweni bakhe kanye lokungathembeki phakathi kwamabele akhe. **3** Funa ngimhlubule abe nqunu, ngimmenze abeze njengamhla ezalwa; ngizamenza abe njengenkangala, ngimmenze abe yilizwe elomileyo ngimbulale ngokomela amanzi. **4** Kangiyikubonakalisa uthando lwami ebantwaneni bakhe, ngoba bangabantwana bobufebe. **5** Unina ubeyisifebe, njalo ubemule ngehlozo. Wathi, ‘Ngizazilandela izithandwa zami, ezingipha ukudla kwami lamanzi ami, iwulu yami lamalembu ami, amafutha ami lokunathwano kwami.’ **6** Ngakho-ke indlela yakhe ngizayivala ngamahlala ameva; ngizamhlonqozela ngomduli ukuze indlela yakhe angayifumani. **7** Uzaxotshana lezithandwa zakhe kodwa angazifici, uzazidinga kodwa angazitholi. Ngakho uzakuthi, ‘Ngizabuyela endodeni yami yakuqala, ngoba ngalesosikhathi ngangingcono kulakhathesi.’ **8** Kavumanga ukuthi yimi engamnika amabele, lewayini elitsha lamafutha ngamnika isiliva esinengi legolide abakusebenzisela uBhali. **9** Ngakho-ke ngizawathatha amabele ami lapho esevuthiwe, lewayini lami elitsha lapho selilungile. Ngizayithatha lewulu yami kanye lelineni lami, okwakumiselwe ukuvala ubunqunu bakhe. **10** Ngakho khathesi ngizahlazulula ukuxhwala bakhe emehlweni ezithandwa zakhe; kakho ozamsusa ezandleni zami. **11** Ngizayiqeda yonke imikhosi

yakhe yokuthokoza: imikhosi yakhe yeminyaka yonke, ukuThwasa kweziNyanga, insuku zakhe zamaSabatha, yonke imikhosi yakhe emisiweyo. **12** Ngizatshabalalisa izivini zakhe lezihlahla zakhe zemikhiwa, lokhu athi yinhlawulo yakhe evela kuzithandwa zakhe; ngizazenza zibe liguswanyana zidlwiwe yizinyamazana zeganga. **13** Ngizamjezisa insuku atshiselwa ngazo uBhali impepha; wazicecisa ngamasongo langamangongoqo, walandela izithandwa zakhe, kodwa mina wangikhohlwa,” kutsho uThixo. **14** “Ngakho sengizamhuga; ngizamholela enkangala ngikhulume laye kakuhle. **15** Lapho-ke ngizambuyisela izivini zakhe, ngenze iSigodi sase-Akhori sibe ngumnyango wethemba. Khonophe uzahlabelela njengasezinsukwini zobutsha bakhe, njengamhla ephuma eGibhithe. **16** Ngalololoku,” kutsho uThixo, “lizangibiza ngokuthi ‘ndoda yami’; kalisayikungibiza ngokuthi ‘nkosi yami.’ **17** Ngizawasusa amabizo aboBhali ezindebeni zakhe; amabizo abo akusayikuhlekulwa ngawo futhi. **18** Ngalololoku ngizabenzela isivumelwano lezinyamazana zeganga lezinyoni zasemoyeni kanye lezidalwa ezihuquzela emhlabathini. Idandili lenkemba kanye lempi ngizakuqeda elizweni ukuze konke kulale phansi kuvikelekile. **19** Ngizakwendisela kimi kuze kube nininini; ngizakwendisa ngokulunga langemfanelo, ngothando langasihawu. **20** Ngizakwendisa ngokuthembeka, njalo uzamamukela uThixo. **21** Ngalololoku ngizasabela,” kutsho uThixo, “Ngizasabela emikhathini, layo izasabela emhlabeni, **22** lomhlaba uzasabela emabeleni lasewayinini elitsha kanye lasemafutheni, lokhu kuzasabela kuJezerili. **23** Ngazizihlanyelela yena elizweni; ngizabonakalisa uthando lwami kulowo engambiza ngokuthi, ‘Akasi sithandwa sami.’ Ngizakuthi kulabo ababizwa ngokuthi, ‘Abangasibantu bami,’ ‘Lingabantu bami’; bona bazakuthi, ‘UnguNkulunkulu wethu.’”

3 UThixo wasesithi kimi, “Hamba, utshengisele uthando lwakho kumkakho futhi, lanxa nje ethandwa ngomunye njalo eyisifebekazi. Mthande njengoThixo ethanda abako-Israyeli, lanxa baphendukela kwabanye onkulunkulu njalo bethanda amakhekhe ezithelo ezinyonyiweyo.” **2** Ngakho ngamthenga ngamashekeli esiliva alitswami lanhlano langokwakuphosa kube lihomeri leletheke lebhali. **3** Ngasengisithi kuye, “Uzahlala lami insuku ezinengi; akumelanga ube yisifebe loba wemathe lenye indoda, lami ngizahlala lawe.” **4** Ngoba abako-Israyeli bazahlala insuku ezinengi bengelankosi kumbe inkosana, bengelamhlatshelo kumbe amatshela angcwele, bengelasebatho semahlombe kumbe isithombe. **5** Muva abako-Israyeli bazaphenduka bamdinge uThixo uNkulunkulu wabo kanye loDavida inkosi yabo. Bazakuba kuThixo beqhaq hazela kanye lasezibusisweni zakhe ensukwini zokucina.

4 Zwanini ilizwi likaThixo, lina bako-Israyeli ngoba kulecala uThixo aletthesa lina elihlala elizweni: “Akulakwethembeka, akulathando, akukho ukumamukela uNkulunkulu elizweni. **2** Kulokuthuka kuphela, lokuqamba amanga lokubulala, lokuntshontsha kanye lobufebe; benza ububi bonke, njalo ukuchithwa kwegazi kulandela ukuchithwa kwegazi. **3** Ilizwe liyalila ngenxa yalokhu, njalo bonke abahlala kulo bayacikizeka; izinyamazana zeganga lezinyoni zasemoyeni kanye lenhlanzi zasolwandle kuyafa. **4** Kodwa akungabi lamuntu omangalayo, akungabi lomuntu owethesa omunye icala ngoba abantu bakho bafana lababo abamangalela umphristi. **5** Liyakhubeka emini lebusuku, labaphrofethi bakhubeka kanye lani.

Ngakho unyoko ngizamchitha, 6 abantu bami bachithwa yikungabi lolwazi. Njengoba likwalile ukwazi, lami ngiyalala njengabaphristi bami; ngoba kaliwunakanga umthetho kaNkulunkulu wenu, lami angiyikubanaka abantwana benu. 7 Ngokwanda kwabaphristi, kwanda kanjalo lokona kwabo kimi, benanisa uDumo lwabo ngento elihlazo. 8 Badla izono zabantu bami bajabuliswe yikuxhwala kwabo. 9 Njalo kuzakuba kanje: Njengabantu, njengabaphristi. Bonke ngizabajezisela izindlela zabo, ngiphindisele kubo lezenzo zabo. 10 Bazakudla kodwa bangasuthi; bazakwenza ubufebe kodwa bangandi, ngoba bamdelile uThixo ukuba bazinikele 11 ebufebeni, lewayini elidalala kanye lelitsha elisusa ukuqedisa kwabantu bami. 12 Badinga izeluleko esithombeni sesigodo baphendulwe yiluthi lwesigodo. Umoya wobufebe uyabedukisa; kabathembekanga kuNkulunkulu wabo. 13 Banikela imihlatshelo ezingqongweni zezintaba batshise iminikelo phezu kwamaqaaq, ngaphansi kom'okhi, lomphophila kanye lomtherebhinti, lapho okulomthunzi omnandi. Ngakho amadodakazi enu enza ubuwule, labomalukazana benu benze ubufebe. 14 Angiyikuwajezisa amadodakazi enu lapho esenza ubuwule loba omalukazana benu lapho besenza ubufebe, ngoba amadoda uqobo azwana lezifebe anikele imihlatshelo lezifebe ezizezindaweni zokukhonzela abantu abangelakuqedisisa bazabhubhuba. 15 Lanxa ufeba, we Israyeli, ujuda kangabi lecala. Lingayi eGiligali; lingayi eBhethi-Aveni. Njalo lingafungi lisithi, 'Ngeqiniso njengoba uThixo ekhona!' 16 Abako-Israyeli bayiziqholo, njengethokazi eliyisiqholo. Pho uThixo angabelusela njani emadlweni njengezimvu na? 17 U-Efrayimi uhlangene lezithombe; myekeleni enjalo! 18 Lalapho okunathwayo kwabo sekuphelile, bayaqhubeka ngobufebe babo; ababusi babo bazithanda kakhulu izindlela eziluhlazo. 19 Isavunguzane sizabakhukhula, lemihlatshelo yabo izabaethela ihlazo."

5 "Zwanini lokhu, lina baphristi! Lalelani, lina bako-Israyeli. Lalela, wena ndlu yobukhosi! Ukwahlulela lokhu kumelane lani: Kade ngulumjibila eMizipha, umambule owendlalwe eThabhozi. 2 Abahlamuki batshonile ekubaleni, ngizabalaya bonke. 3 Mina ngazi konke ngo-Efrayimi; u-Israyeli kafihlakalanga kimi. Efrayimi, khathesi ususenza ubufebe; u-Israyeli uxhwalile. 4 Izenzo zabo kazibavumeli ukubuyela kuNkulunkulu wabo. Umoya wobufebe usezinhliziyweni zabo; kabamamukeli uThixo. 5 Ukuzigqaja kuka-Israyeli kufakaza okubi ngaye; abako-Israyeli, kanye laye u-Efrayimi, bayakhubeka ezonweni zabo. LoJuda laye ukhubeka labo 6 Lapho behamba lemihlambi yezimvu zabo leyenkomo ukuyadinga uThixo, kabayikumfumana; uzisusile kubo. 7 Kabathembekanga kuThixo; bazala abantwana ngokungemthetho. Khathesi imikhosi yabo yokuThwasa Kwezinyanga izabaqothula kanye lamasimu abo. 8 Khalisani icilongo eGibhiya, lophondo eRama. Hlabani umkhosi wempi eBhethi-Aveni; khokhela, wena Bhenjamini. 9 U-Efrayimi uzachithwa ngosuku lokwahlulela. Phakathi kwezizwana zako-Israyeli ngimemezela okuliqiniso. 10 Abakhokheli bakoJuda banjengalabo abatshedisa amatshe omngcele. Ngizathululela ulaka lwami phezu kwabo njengesikhukhula samanzi. 11 U-Efrayimi uncindezelwe, wanyathelwa ekwahluleleni, ehlose ukulandela izithombe. 12 Mina nginjengenondu ku-Efrayimi, njengokubola ebantwini bakoJuda. 13 Kwathi u-Efrayimi ebona umkhuhlane wakhe, loJuda ebona izilonda zakhe, u-Efrayimi waya e-Asiriya, wathumela ilizwi loncedo enkosini

enkulu. Kodwa kayanelisi ukukwelapha, kayanelisi ukwelapha izilonda zakho. 14 Ngoba ngizakuba njengesilwane ku-Efrayimi, lanjengesilwane esikhulu kuJuda. Ngizabadabudabula ngisuke ngihambe; ngizabathwala ngihambe labo, kungekho ozabahlenga. 15 Ngizabuyela endaweni yami baze balivume icala labo. Njalo bazabudinga ubuso bami; esizini lwabo bazangidinga impela."

6 "Wozani sibuyele kuThixo. Usesidabule saba yizicucu kodwa uzaselapha; usilimazile kodwa uzawabopha amaxheba ethu. 2 Emva kwensuku ezimbili uzasivuselela; ngosuku lwesithathu uzasibuyisela ukuze sihlale lapho akhona. 3 Kasimamukeleni uThixo; kasiqiniseni ukumamukela. Ngoqotho njengoba ilanga liphuma, uzabonakala; uzakuza kithi njengezulu lebusika, lanjengezulu lentwasa elithambisa umhlaba." 4 "Ngingenzani ngawe, Efrayimi na? Ngingenzani ngawe, Juda na? Uthando lwenu lunjengenkungu yekuseni, lunjengamazolo ekuseni anyamalalayo. 5 Ngakho ngaliquamaqama ngabaphrofethi bami, ngalibulala ngamazwi omlomo wami; ukwahlulela kwami kwaphazima njengombane phezu kwenu. 6 Ngoba mina ngifuna isihawu, hatshi umhlatshelo, lokwamukela uNkulunkulu kuleminikelo yokutshiswa. 7 Njengo-Adamu, sebesephule isivumelwano babengathembekanga khonale. 8 IGiliyadi lidolobho labantu abaxhwalileyo. Lingcolile ngezinyathelo zegazi 9 Njengezigebeza zicathamela umuntu, zenzanjalo izigangi zabaphristi; zibulala abantu emgwaqweni oya eShekhemu zisenza izinto ezimbi. 10 Sengibone into etsahisayo endlini ka-Israyeli. U-Efrayimi uwela khonapho, lo-Israyeli ungcolisiwe. 11 Lakuwe futhi Juda, ukuvuna sekulungiselwe. Lapho ngingabuyisela inotho yabantu bami.

7 Lapho engizakwelapha khona u-Israyeli, izono zika-Efrayimi ziyadalulwa lobubi beSamariya buyembulwa. Benza inkohliso, amasela aqkekeza izindlu, izigebeza ziyaphanga emigwaqweni 2 kodwa kabananzeleli ukuthi mina ngiyazikhumbula zonke izenzo zabo ezimbi. Izono zabo ziyabamizwa; zihlezi ziphambi kwami. 3 Bathokozi inkosi ngobuxhwali babo, lababusi ngamanga abo. 4 Bonke bayizifebe, batshisa njengeziko elimlilo walo akudingeki ukuba umpheki wezinkwa awukhwezele kusukela ekuvoxeni inhlama ize ikhukhumale. 5 Ngosuku lomkhosi wenkosi yethu ababusi bathukutheliswa liwayini, inkosi izihlanganise labaklodayo. 6 Inhliziyo zabo zinjengeziko, inkosi bayilanda ngamacebo ensitha. Ukufutheka kwabo kuyadeda ubusuku bonke; ekuseni kuyavutha njengomlilo obhebhayo. 7 Bonke batshisa njengeziko; batshwabadele ababusi babo. Wonke amakhosi abo ayawa, kayikho ekhuleka kimi. 8 U-Efrayimi uxubana lezizwe; u-Efrayimi ulikhekhe eliyisicecedu elingaphendulwanga. 9 Abezizweni bacikiza amandla akhe, kodwa yena kakunanzeleli. Inwele zakhe sezilezimvu kodwa yena kakunanzeleli. 10 Ubuqholo buka-Israyeli bufakaza okubi ngaye, kodwa phezu kwakho konke lokhu kabuyeli kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe loba amdinge. 11 U-Efrayimi unjengejuba, ukhohliseka lula kalangqondo ucela usizo eGibhithe, abuye alucele e-Asiriya. 12 Lapho sebehamba, ngizaphosa umambule wami phezu kwabo; ngizabadonsela phansi njengezinyoni zasemoyeni. Ngizabezwa behamba bonke, ngizababamba. 13 Maye kubo ngoba bedukile kimi! Akube lencithakalo kubo ngoba bangihlamukele! Ngiyafisa ukubahlenga kodwa bona bakhuluma amanga ngami. 14 Kabakhalazi kimi ngezinhliziyi zabo kodwa bakhalala emibhedeni yabo. Babuthanela amabele lewayini

elitsha kodwa mina basuka bangidele. **15** Ngabafundisa ngabaqinisa, kodwa baceba okubi ngami. **16** Kabaphendukeli koPhezukonke banjengedandili elisolekayo. Abakhokheli babo bazabulawa ngenkamba ngenxa yamazwi abo okweyisa. Ngalokhu bazahlakwa elizweni laseGibhithe.”

8 “Faka icilongo ezindebeni zakho! Ukhozi lungaphezu kwendlu kaThixo ngoba abantu basephule isivumelwano sami bahlamukela lomthetho wami. **2** U-Israyeli uyakhalaza kimi esithi, ‘Oh Nkulunkulu wethu, siyakwamukela!’ **3** Kodwa u-Israyeli ukwalile okuhle; isitha sizaxotshana laye. **4** Babeka amakhosi kungekho mvumo yami; bakhetha ababusi kungekho mvumo yami. Ngesiliva sabo langegolide, bazenzela izithombe zibe yikubhujiswa kwabo. **5** Lahla isithombe sakho sethole, wena Samariya! Ulaka lwami luyavutha ngawe. Koze kube nini bengelamanda okuhlambuluka na? **6** Bavela ko-Israyeli! Ithole leli labunjwa yingcwehi; kalisuye Nkulunkulu. Lizachobozwa libe yizicucu, ithole lelo laseSamariya. **7** Bahlanyela umoya bavune isavunguzane. Ihlanga kalilasisikhwebu; kaliyikuthela ifulawa. Aluba belingathela amabele, abezizweni kade bezawamimiliza. **8** U-Israyeli useginyiwe; khathesi phakathi kwezizwe unjengento engelasizo. **9** Ngoba sebeye e-Asiriya njengobabhemu weganga entula yedwa. U-Efrayimi uzithengisile kuzithandwa. **10** Lanxa bezithengisile phakathi kwezizwe, ngizabaqoqela ndawonye. Bazaqalisa ukucikizeka bengaphansi kwencindezelo yenkosi emalandla. **11** Lanxa u-Efrayimi wakha ama-alithare amanengi eminikelo yezono, asebe ngama-alithare okwenza izono. **12** Ngabalobela izinto ezinengi zomthetho wami kodwa bona bazithatha njengento engaziwayo. **13** Banikela imihlatshelo njengezipho kimi babuye badle inyama yakhona, kodwa uThixo kathokozi ngabo. Khathesi usezakumbula ukuxhwalwa kwabo abajezisele izono zabo: Bazabuyela eGibhithe. **14** U-Israyeli usemkhohlwe uMenzi wakhe wakha izindlu zamakhosi; uJuda usevikele amadolobho amanengi ngezinqaba. Kodwa ngizathumela umlilo emadolobheni abo ozaqothula izinqaba zabo.”

9 Ungathokozi, we Israyeli; ungajabuli njengezinye izizwe. Ngoba ube ungathembekanga kuNkulunkulu wakho; uthanda umhlo wesifebe ezizeni zonke zokubhulela. **2** Iziza lezikhamelo zewayini kakuyikunika abantu ukudla; iwayini elitsha libabehulekisa. **3** Kabayikuhlala elizweni likaThixo; u-Efrayimi uzabuyela eGibhithe adle ukudla okungcolileyo e-Asiriya. **4** Kabayikuthululela iminikelo yewayini kuThixo, lemihlatshelo yabo kayiyikumthokozi. Imihlatshelo enje kubo izakuba njengesinkwa sabalilayo; bonke abayidlayo bazangcola. Ukudla lokhu kuzakuba ngokwabo; akuyikufika ethempelini likaThixo. **5** Lizakwenzani ngosuku lwemikhosi yenu emisiweyo, ngensuku zamadili kaThixo na? **6** Lanxa bengaphunyuka ekubhujisweni, iGibhithe izababutha, njalo iMemfisi izabangcwaba. Ingebo yabo yesiliva izathathwa yimbabazane, njalo ameva azagcwala emathenteni abo. **7** Insuku zokujeziswa zizeya, insuku zokwahlulelwa sezifikile. U-Israyeli kumele akwazi lokhu. Ngoba izono zenu zinengi kakhulu lenzondo yenu inkulu kakhulu, umphrofethi ubalwa njengesiwula umuntu oholwa ngomoya enziwe njengohlanya. **8** Umphrofethi, ekanye loNkulunkulu wami, ungumuntu olinda u-Efrayimi, kodwa imijibila imlindlele kuzozonke izindlela zakhe, kanye lenzondo endlini kaNkulunkulu. **9** Batshone baphelela ekonakaleni, njengasezinsukwini zaseGibhiya. UNkulunkulu uzakuhumbula ukuxhwalwa kwabo

abajezisele izono zabo. **10** “Ekufumaneni kwami u-Israyeli kwakunjengokuthola amagrebisi enkangala; ekuboneni kwami okhokho benu, kwakunjengokubona izithelo zakuqala zomkhiwa. Kodwa ekufikeni kwabo kuBhali-Pheyori, bazinikela kulesosithombe esihlazisayo benyanyeka njengaleyonto ababeyithanda. **11** Udumo luka-Efrayimi luzaphapha luhambe njengenyoni, akuyikuba lokuzala, lokukhulelwa, lokuthatha izisu. **12** Loba bangaze bondle abantwana, ngizabemuka bonke. Maye kubo, lapho sengibadelile! **13** Ngimbonile u-Efrayimi, njengeThire, ebekwe endaweni enhle. Kodwa u-Efrayimi uzakuhphela abantwana bakhe phandle kobulalayo.” **14** Baphe, Oh Thixo uzabaphani na? Baphe izibeithelo eziphunzayo lamabele angelalutho. **15** “Ngenxa yokuxhwalwa kwabo konke eGiligali, ngabazonda khonale. Ngenxa yezenzo zabo eziyizoni, ngizabaxotsha endlini yami. Kangisayikubathanda futhi; bonke abakhokheli babo bangabahlamuki. **16** U-Efrayimi udlekile, impande zabo zomile, kabatheli zithelo. Loba bengazala abantwana, ngizayibulala inzalo yabo abayithandayo.” **17** UNkulunkulu wami ubalile ngoba kabamlalelanga; bazakuba zinzulane phakathi kwezizwe.

10 U-Israyeli wayelivini eliqhelayo, wazizalela izithelo. Ngokwanda kwezithelo zakhe wakha ama-alithare amanengi; kwathi ngokuphumelela kwelizwe lakhe wahlobisa amatshe akhe akhonzwayo. **2** Inhliziyo zabo ziyakhohlisa, khathesi kufanele bathwale icala labo. UThixo uzawabhidliza ama-alithare abo, uwachithile lamatshe abo, akhonzwayo. **3** Ngakho bazakuthi, “Thina kasilankosi ngoba kasimhloniphanga uThixo. Kodwa loba sasingaba lenkosi, kuyini eyayingasenzela khona?” **4** Benza izithembiso ezinengi, bafunge izifungo zamanga, benze lezivumelwano; ngakho amacala ayanda njengokhula olubulalayo ensimini elinyiweyo. **5** Abantu abahlala eSamariya bayesaba ngenxa yesithombe sethole saseBhethi-Aveni. Abantu bakhona bazasililela benzenjalo labaphristi bakhona abakhonza izithombe, labo abathokozela ubuhle baso ngoba sithethwe kubo ekuthunjweni. **6** Sizathwalelwa e-Asiriya njengomthelo enkosini enkulu. U-Efrayimi uzayangeka; u-Israyeli uzakuba lenhloni ngezithombe zakhe zezigodo. **7** ISamariya lenkosi yakhona kuzabhujiswa kuzakhukhulwa kuhambe njengogatshanyana phezu kwamanzi. **8** Izindawo zokukhonzela zobuxhwalwa zizachithwa, kuyisono sika-Israyeli. Ameva lokhula kuzakuthela kwembese ama-alithare abo. Lapho-ke bazakuthi ezintabeni, “Sembeseni!” Lakuwo amaqaqa bathi, “Welani phezu kwethu!” **9** “Kusukela ensukwini zaseGibhiya wenze isono, we Israyeli, njalo ulokhu usele khonapho. Kanje impi kayibaficanga yini abenza okubi eGibhiya? **10** Lapho sengifuna, ngizabajejisa; izizwe zizaqoqanela ukumelana labo ukuba zizabophelele isono sabo esiphindiweyo. **11** U-Efrayimi ulithokazi elifundisiweyo elithanda ukubhula amabele; ngakho ngizagaxa ijogwe entanyeni yakhe enhle. U-Efrayimi ngizamtsayela, uJuda kumele alime uJakhobe kumele abulale amagade. **12** Zihlanyeleleni ukulunga, vunani isithelo sothando olungapheliyo, liqeqebule lomhlabathi wenu ongalinywanga; ngoba buyisikhathi sokudinga uThixo, aze abuye athele ukulunga phezu kwenu. **13** Kodwa lina lihlayele ukuxhwalwa, livume ububi, lidle isithelo senkohliso. Njengoba lithembe amandla enu lamabutho enu amanengi, **14** ukuhlakoma kwempi kuzakuba khona ebantwini bakini, ngakho zonke izinqaba zenu zizabhidliza njengalokhu

uShalimani wabhidliza iBhethi-Abheli ngosuku lwempi, lapho onina basakazelwa phansi labantwababo. **15** Kuzakwenzakala kanjalo lakuwe, wena Bhetheli, ngoba ukuxhwalwa kwakho kukhulu. Lapho lolosuku lusisa, inkosi yako-Israyeli izachithwa okupheleleyo.”

11 “U-Israyeli esesengumntwana, ngangimthanda njalo indodana yami ngayikhupha eGibhithe. **2** Kodwa kwathi lapho u-Israyeli ngimbiza kanengi kwayikhona ehlehlela khatshana lami. Banikela imihlatshelo kubobhali, batshisela lezifanekiso impepha. **3** Yimi engafundisa u-Efrayimi ukuhamba, ngibabambe ngezingalo; kodwa kababonanga ukuthi yimi engabelaphayo. **4** Ngabakhokhela ngentambo zomusa woluntu, ngezibopho zothando; ngaba njengomuntu osusa amajogwe entanyeni zabo, ngakothamela phansi ukuba angiphe ukudla. **5** Kabayikubuyela eGibhithe na, njalo i-Asiriya kayiyikubabusa na njengoba besala ukuphenduka? **6** Izinkemba zizaphazima emadolobheni abo, zizachitha imigoqo yamasango abo ziqede amacebo abo. **7** Abantu bami bazimisele ukungihlamukela. Lanxa bekhuleka koPhezukonke kasoze abaphakamise. **8** Ngingakukhala kanjani, Efrayimi? Ngingakunikela kanjani, Israyeli? Ngingakuphatha kanjani njengo-Adima na? Ngingakwenza kanjani, njengoZebhoyimi na? Inhliziyo yami iguqukile phakathi kwami; isihawu sami sonke siqubukile. **9** Kangiyikwenza okwentukuthelo yami eyesabekayo, kumbe ngiphenduke ngimqothule u-Efrayimi. Ngoba nginguNkulunkulu, hatshi umuntu, oNgcwele phakathi kwenu. Kangiyikuza ngolaka. **10** Bazamlandela uThixo; uzabhonga njengesilwane. Lapho esebhonga, abantwana bakhe bazakuba beqhaqhazela bevela entshonalanga. **11** Bazakuza bevela eGibhithe beqhaqhazela njengezinyoni bevela e-Asiriya bephaphazela njengamajuba. Ngizabahlalisa emakhaya abo,” kutshe uThixo. **12** “U-Efrayimi usengizingeleze ngamanga, lendlu ka-Israyeli ngenkohlo. Lojuda uluhlaza kuNkulunkulu, kanye lakuye othembekileyo oNgcwele.”

12 U-Efrayimi udla umoya; uxotshana lomoya wasempumalanga ilanga lonke andise amanga lodlakela. Wenza isivumelwano le-Asiriya, athumele amafutha e-oliva eGibhithe. **2** Kulecala uThixo azaletthesa uJuda; uzajezisa uJakhobe mayelana lezindlela zakhe aphindisele kuye mayelana lezenzo zakhe. **3** Esiswini wabama isithende sikamfowabo; eseyindoda wabindana loNkulunkulu. **4** Wabindana lengilosi wayehlula; wakhala wacela umusa kuyo. Wayifika eBhetheli wakhuluma layo khonapho, **5** uThixo uNkulunkulu uSomandla, uThixo yilo ibizo lakhe lodumo! **6** Kodwa kumele ubuyele kuNkulunkulu wakho; ugcine uthando lokulunga, umlindlele kokuphela uNkulunkulu wakho. **7** Umthengisi usebenzisa izikali zenkohlo; uthanda ukuqilibezela. **8** U-Efrayimi uyazincoma esithi, “Nginothe kakhulu; ngiyisipatsha. Ngenotho yami kabayikufumana ububi loba isono kimi.” **9** “Mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu owalikhupha eGibhithe; ngizalenza lihlahle emathenteni futhi, njengasezinsukwini zemikhosi yenu emisiweyo. **10** Ngakhuluma labaphrofethi, ngabatshengisa imibono emineni ngakhuluma imizekeliso ngabo.” **11** IGiliyadi ixhwalile na? Abantu bakhona bakhohlakele! EGiligali bayanikela umhlatshelo wenkunzi na? Ama-alithare abo azakuba njengezinqwaba zamatshe ensimini elinyiweyo. **12** UJakhobe wabalekela elizweni lase-Aramu; u-Israyeli wasebenzela ukuthola umfazi, njalo welusa izimvu ukuba

amlobole. **13** UThixo wasebenzisa umphrofethi ekukhupheni u-Israyeli eGibhithe; wamlondoloza ngomphrofethi. **14** Kodwa u-Efrayimi umthukuthelise kabuhlungu; UThixo wakhe uzaliyekela liphezu kwakhe icala lokuchitha kwakhe igazi njalo uzaphindisela kuye ukudelela kwakhe.

13 Lapho u-Efrayimi ekhuluma, abantu bathuthumela; wabatshazwa ko-Israyeli. Kodwa waba lecala lokukhonza uBhali wasesifa. **2** Khathesi benza izono njalonzalo; bazenzela izithombe ngesiliva sabo, zizifanekiso ezenziwe ngokuhlakanipha, zonke ziyimisebenzi yezingcitshi. Ngabantu laba kuthiwa, “Banikela imihlatshelo yabantu, bange izithombe zamathole.” **3** Ngakho bazakuba njengenkungu yekuseni, njengamazolo ekuseni anyamalalayo, njengamakhoba asuka ezizeni, njengentuthu iphuma ewindini. **4** “Kodwa mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, owalikhupha elizweni laseGibhithe. Kaliyikwamukela omunye uNkulunkulu ngaphandle kwami, hatsi omunye uMsindisi ngaphandle kwami. **5** Ngalilondoloza enkangala, elizweni elilokutshisa okuvuthayo. **6** Lapho ngibapha ukudla, basutha; sebesuthi, basuka bazigqaja; basebengikhothwa. **7** Ngizakwehlela phezu kwabo njengesilwane, ngizacathama ngasendleleni njengengwe. **8** Njengebhele elithathelwe imidlwane yalo ngizabahlasele ngibaqhaqhe. Ngizabadla njengesilwane, inyamazana yeganga izabadabula. **9** Uchithiwe, wena Israyeli, ngoba umelane lami, umelane lomsi zakho. **10** Ingaphi inkosi yakho, ukuba ikusize na? Bangaphi ababusi bakho kuwo wonke amadolobho akho, bona owathi ngabo, ‘Ngipha inkosi lababusi?’ **11** Ngakho ngakunika inkosi ngithukuthelwe, njalo ngolaka lwami ngayisusa. **12** Icala lika-Efrayimi ligciniwe, izono zakhe zigcinwe emibhalweni. **13** Ufikela yibuhlungu obunjengowesifazane ehlelwa, kodwa ungumntwana ongelalwazi; lapho isikhathi sifika, kabuyi ekuvulekeni kwesizalo. **14** Ngizabahlenga emandleni engcwaba; ngizabasindisa ekufeni. Zingaphi, we kufa izifo zakho? Kungaphi, we ngcwaba, ukuchitha kwakho? Kangiyikuba lesihawu, (Sheol h7585) **15** lanxa ekhula phakathi kwabafowabo. Umoya wasempumalanga ovela kuThixo uzafika, uphaphetha uvela enkangala; intwasa yakhe izakwehluleka, lemithombo yakhe itshe. Indlu yakhe yokugcinela izaphangwa yonke ingcebo yayo. **16** Abantu baseSamariya kuzamela balithwale icala labo, ngoba bamhlamukele uNkulunkulu wabo. Bazabulawa ngenkemba; insane zabo zizasakazelwa phansi, abesifazane babo abazithweleyo baqhaqhwe.”

14 Buyela, we Israyeli, kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakho. Izone zakho yizo ezikuwisileyo! **2** Thatha amazwi ubuyele kuThixo. Uthi kuye, “Sithethelele zonke izono zethu njalo usamukele ngomusa ukuba sinikele isithelo sezindebe zethu. **3** I-Asiriya ayingeke isikhulule; kasiyikugada amabhiza empi. Kasisoze siphinde sithi, ‘Onkulunkulu bethu’ kulokho okwenziwa yizandla zethu, ngoba abazintandane bathola isihawu kuwe.” **4** “Ngizakwelapha ubuphakaphaka babo ngibathande ngokukhululeka, ngoba ukuthukuthela kwami sekusukile kubo. **5** Ngizakuba njengamazolo ku-Israyeli; uzaqhakaza njengeluba. Uzatshonisa impande zakhe phansi njengomsedari waseLebanoni; **6** amahlumela akhe amatsha azakhula. Ubuhle bakhe buzakuba njengesihlahla se-oliva, iphunga lakhe libe njengomsedari waseLebanoni. **7** Abantu bazahlala njalo emthunzini wakhe. Uzakhula kuhle njengamabele. Uzaqhakaza njengevini, lodumo lwakhe

luzakuba njengolwewayini laseLebhanoni. **8** Awu Efrayimi, kuyini futhi engingakwenza ngezithombe? Ngizamphendula ngimlondoloze. Mina nginjengesihlahla sephayini esiluhlaza, ukuthela kwakho izithelo kuvela kimi.” **9** Ngubani ohlakaniphileyo? Uzazibona lezizinto. Ngubani oqedisisayo? Uzazizwisisisa. Izindlela zikaThixo zilungile abalungileyo bahamba kuzo, kodwa abahlamuki bayakhubeka kuzo.

UJoweli

1 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kuJoweli indodana kaPhethuweli. **2** Zwanini lokhu, lina badala; lalalani lonke lina elihlala elizweni. Into enjengale seyake yenzakala na ensukwini zenu loba ensukwini zabokhokho benu? **3** Kutsheleni abantwabenu, abantwabenu labo batshele abantwabababo, abantwabababo batshele isizukulwane esilandelayo. **4** Lokho okutshiywe ngumtshitshi wezintethe kudliwe yisikhongwane; okutshiywe yisikhongwane kudliwe yibuyane; okutshiywe yibuyane kudliwe ngezinye intethe. **5** Vukani lina zidakwa likhale! Lilani lonke lina banathi beyayini; lilani ngenxa yewayini elitsha, ngoba lhluthunwe ezindebeni zenu. **6** Isizwe sihlasele ilizwe lami, silamandla asingeke sibalwe, silamazinyo esilwane, ingavula zesilwanekazi. **7** Sesitshabalalise izivini zami, saqothula lezihlahla zami zemikhiya. Sebule amaxolo azo sawaphosela khatshana, ingatsha zazo zasala sezimhlophe nke. **8** Lilani njengentombi egqoke isaka idabukele umyeni wobutsha bayo. **9** Umnikelo wamabele lomnikelo wokunathwa kususiwe endlini kaThixo. Abaphristi bayalila, bona abakhonzayo phambi kukaThixo. **10** Amasimu atshabalele, umhlabathi womile; amabele onakele, iwayini elitsha liphelile, amafutha kawasekho. **11** Delani, lina balimi, lilani, lina balimi bamavini; bubulelani ingqoloyi lebhali, ngoba isivuno sensimu sitshabalalisiwe. **12** Ivini lomile lomkhiwa ubuni; iphomegranathi, lelala lesihlahla sama-aphula, zonke izihlahla zeganga, zomile. Impela ukuthokoza kwabantu kuphelile. **13** Vunulani amasaka, lina baphristi, likhale. Lilani lina elikhonzayo phambi kwe-alithari. Wozani, lilale lembethe amasaka ebusuku, lina elikhonzayo phambi kukaNkulunkulu wami, ngoba iminikelo yamabele leminikelo yokunathwayo igodlwiwe, kayanikelwa endlini kaNkulunkulu wenu. **14** Memezalani ukuzila okungcwele; bizani ibandla elingcwele. Memani abadala labo bonke abahlala elizweni, baye endlini kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, likhale kuThixo. **15** Maye ngalolosuku! Ngoba usuku lukaThixo seluseduze; luzafika njengencithakalo evela kuSomandla. **16** Ukudla akuzange kuphele phambi kwamehlo ethu, lokuthokoza kanye lokuthaba endlini kaNkulunkulu wethu na? **17** Inhlayelo itshwabhene ngaphansi kwamagade. Izindlu zamabele zingamanxiwa, iziphala zidilizwiwe, ngoba amabele kawasekho. **18** Yeka ukukhala kwezinkomo! Imihlambi yenkomo iyaphithizela ngoba kayilamadlelo; lemhlabi yezimvu iyahlupheka. **19** Ngiyakhala kuwe Thixo, ngoba umlilo usuqede amadlelo lamalangabi asetshise zonke izihlahla zeganga. **20** Lezinyamazana zeganga zifuna wena; izifula zamanzi sezicithshile njalo lomlilo usuqede amadlelo.

2 Vuthelani icilongo eZiyoni; hlabani umkhosi entabeni yami engcwele. Bonke abahlala elizweni kabathuthumele, ngoba usuku lukaThixo luyeza. Selusondele, selufikile, **2** usuku lomnyama lokudana, usuku lwamayazi lobumnyama. Njengokusa kusendlaleka phezu kwezintaba, liyeza ibutho elikhulu elilamandla elingazange libe khona endulo kumbe libe khona eminyakeni ezayo. **3** Phambi kwabo umlilo uyatshisa, ngemva kwabo amalangabi ayavutha. Phambi kwabo ilizwe linjengensimu yase-Edeni ngemva kwabo yinkangala elugwadule, akukho okubaphunyukayo. **4** Bakhangeleka benjengamabhiza; bamatha njengamabhiza empi. **5** Ngomsindo onjengoweziinqola zempi, beqa phezu kwezinqongo

zezintaba, njengamabibi omlilo etshisa inhlanga, njengebutho elilamandla selilungele impi. **6** Ekubaboneni nje, izizwe zizwa ubuhlungu; ubuso bonke buyadana. **7** Bahlasela njengamaqhawe; bakhwele imiduli njengamabutho. Bonke bahamba beludwendwe bengaphambuki endleleni yabo. **8** Kabasunduzani; lowo lawolo uhamba eqonde phambili. Badabula phakathi kwezivikelo kungekho kwehlukana kubo. **9** Baya ngesiqubu edolobheni; bagijima besekele umduli. Bayakhwela bangene ezindlini; bangena ngamawindi njengamasela. **10** Umhlaba uyanyikinyeka phambi kwabo; umkhathi uyaqhaqhazela, ilanga lenyanga kube mnyama, lezinkanyezi zakisakhanyisi. **11** UThixo uyakhwaza phambi kwebutho lakhe; amabutho akhe angeke abalwe, njalo balamandla labo abalalela ukulaya kwakhe. Usuku lukaThixo lukhulu; luyesabeka. Ngubani ongalumela na? **12** "Lakhathesi," kutsho uThixo, "phendukelani kimi ngenhliziyi zenu zonke, ngokuzila langokukhala lokulila." **13** Dabulani inhliziyi zenu hatshi izigqoko zenu. Buyelani kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, ngoba ulomusa lesihawu, uyaphuza ukuthukuthela, ulothando olukhulu, njalo uyaxola ukuthumela umonakalo. **14** Ngubani owaziyo? Engxenyane angaphenduka abe lesihawu atshiye isibusiso, iminikelo yamabele leminikelo yokunathwayo kaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu. **15** Vuthelani icilongo eZiyoni, memezalani ukuzila okungcwele, bizani ibandla elingcwele. **16** Buthanisani abantu, ngcwelisani ibandla; hlanganisani abadala, buthanisani abantwana labo abamunyayo. Umyeni katshiye indlu yakhe lomlobokazi atshiye ikamelo lakhe. **17** Abaphristi abakhonzayo phambi kukaThixo, kabakhale bephakathi laphakathi kwentuba le-alithari. Kabathi, "Awu Thixo, zwela abantu bakho. Ngenzi ilifa lakho libe yinto yokuhlekwa, isiga phakathi kwezizwe. Kungani phakathi kwezizwe kumele bathi, "Ungaphi uNkulunkulu wabo?" **18** Lapho-ke uThixo uzakuba lobukhwele ngelizwe lakhe abe lesihawu ebantwini bakhe. **19** UThixo uzabaphendula athi: "Ngiyalithumela amabele lwayini elitsha lamafutha, okwameleyo ukulisuthisa ngokugcweleyo; angiyikuphinda futhi ukulenza into yokuhlekisa ezizweni. **20** Ibutho lasenyakatho ngizalixotshela khatshana lami, ngilifuqele elizweni elomileyo elilugwadule, amaviyo alo aphantsi esiya olwandle lwasempumalanga lawo angemva esiya olwandle lwasentshonalanga. Iphunga lalo elibi lizakuya phezu, umnuko walo uzaphakama." Ngempela wenze izinto ezinkulu ezimangalisayo. **21** Ungesabi, wena lizwe; thaba uthokoze. Impela uThixo wenze izinto ezinkulu. **22** Lingesabi, lina zinyamazana zeganga, ngoba amadlelo asesiba luhlaza. Izihlahla sezithela izithelo zazo; imikhiwa lezivini kuthela kakhulu. **23** Thabani, lina bantu baseZiyoni, thokozani kuThixo uNkulunkulu wenu ngoba ulinike izulu lekwindla ngokulunga. Ulilethela izulu elinengi kanye lezulu lekwindla lelentwasa, njengakuqala. **24** Iziza zizagcwala amabele; izikhamele zizaphuphuma iwayini lamafutha. **25** "Ngizalahlawula okwaleyo minyaka lokho okwadiwa zintethe, lesikhonyane lobuyane, ezinye zintethe kanye lemitshitshi yezintethe, ibutho lami elikhulu engalithumela kini. **26** Lizakuba lokudla okunengi lize lisuthe, njalo lizadumisa ibizo likaThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, olenzele izimangalisayo; abantu bami kabayikuphinda bayangeke futhi. **27** Ngakho lizakwazi ukuthi ngiko-Israyeli, lokuthi mina nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, kanye lokuthi kakho omunye; abantu bami kabayikuphinda bayangeke futhi." **28** "Emva kwalokho, ngizathululela uMoya wami kubo bonke abantu. Amadodana lamadodakazi enu

azaphrofitha, izinsizwa zenu zizabona imibono, lamaxhegu enu azaphupha amaphupho. **29** Lasezincekwini zami, ezesilisa lezesifazane, ngizawuthulula uMoya wami ngalezonsuku. **30** Ngizabonakalisa izimangaliso emazulwini lasemhlabeni, igazi lomlilo lezikhatha zentuthu. **31** Ilanga lizaphendulwa libe yibumnyama lenyanga ibeligazi phambi kokuba kufike usuku olukhulu lukaThixo, olwesabekayo. **32** Njalo wonke obiza ibizo likaThixo uzasindiswa; ngoba eNtabeni iZiyoni laseJerusalema kuzakuba lokukhululwa, njengoba uThixo etshilo, iloba phakathi kwabasindileyo labo ababizwa nguThixo.”

3 “Ngalezonsuku langalesosikhathi, lapho sengibuyisela inotho kajuda leJerusalema, **2** ngizaqoqa izizwe zonke ngizehlisele eSigodini sikaJehoshafathi. Lapho-ke ngizazahlulela mayelana lelifa lami, abantu bami u-Israyeli ngoba zahlakazela abantu bami phakathi kwezizwe, zabelana ilizwe lami. **3** Zenza inkatho ngabantu bami, zathenga izifebe ngabafana; zathengisa amankazana ngewayini ukuze zinathe. **4** Manje-ke lisolani ngami, wena Thire loSidoni lani lonke zifunda zaseFilistiya? Liyangiphindisela ngolutho engilwenzileyo na? Nxa lingiphindisela, ngizaphanga ngibuyisele elakwenzayo phezu kwamakhanda enu ngokuphangisa. **5** Ngoba lathatha isiliva sami legolide lami lathwalela lenotho yami eligugu emathempelini enu. **6** Lathengisa abantu bakoJuda laseJerusalema kumaGrikihi, ukuze libase khatshana lelizwe labo. **7** Khangelani, ngizabavusa ezindaweni elabathengisa kuzo, njalo ngizabuyisela phezu kwamakhanda enu lokho elakwenzayo. **8** Ngizathengisa amadodana enu lamadodakazi enu ebantwini bakoJuda, njalo labo bazawathengisa kumaSabhini, isizwe esikhathshana.” UThixo usekhulumile. **9** Memezalani lokhu ezizweni lithi: Lungiselani impi! Vusani amabutho! Wonke amadoda empi kasondele ahlasele. **10** Khandani amakhuba enu abe zinkemba lemihedla yenu yokuthena izihlahla ibe yimikhonto. Obuthakathaka kathi, “Ngiqinile!” **11** Wozani ngokuphangisa, lonke lina zizwe zasezinhlangothini zonke, libuthane khonapho. Yehlisa amabutho akho, Oh Thixo! **12** “Izizwe kazivuswe; kaziye eSigodini sikaJehoshafathi ngoba ngizahlala khona ukwehlulela izizwe zonke zasezinhlangothini zonke. **13** Hehethani ngesikela ngoba okuvunwayo sekuvuthiwe. Wozani, gxobani amavini, ngoba isikhanelo sewayini sesigcwele lezimbizakazi seziphuphuma, bukhulu kangaka ububi bazo! **14** Amaxuku, amaxuku esigodini sesinqumol Ngoba usuku lukaThixo luseduze esigodini sezinqumo. **15** Ilanga lenyanga kuzakuba mnyama, lezinkanyezi zingabe zisakhanya. **16** UThixo uzavungama eseZiyoni aphinde akhwaze eseJerusalema; umhlaba lomkhathi kuzagedezela. Kodwa uThixo uzakuba yisiphephelo sabantu bakhe, inqaba yabantu bako-Israyeli.” **17** “Ngakho lizakwazi ukuthi mina, uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu, ngihlala eZiyoni, intaba yami engcwele. IJerusalema izakuba ngcwele; kayiyikuphinda ihlaselwe ngabezizweni futhi. **18** Ngalolosuku izintaba zizagobhoza iwayini elitsha, lamaqaqa ageleze uchago; zonke indonga zakoJuda zizageleza amanzi. Umthombo uzantuntuzo endlini kaThixo uthambise isigodi saseShithima. **19** Kodwa iGibhithe izachithakala, i-Edomi ibe yinkangala elugwadule, ngenxa yodlakela olwenziwa ebantwini bakoJuda lapho bachitha khona igazi elingelacala elizweni labo. **20** KoJuda kuzahlalwa khona kuze kube nininini laseJerusalema kuzahlala izizukulwane zonke. **21** Umlandu wabo wegazi, engingakaxoli ngawo, ngizabaxolela ngawo.”

U-Amosi

1 La ngamazwi ka-Amosi, omunye wabelusi baseThekhowa, lokho akubonayo mayelana lo-Israyeli eminyakeni emibili ngaphambi kokuzamazama komhlaba, ngezinsuku u-Uziya eyinkosi yakoJuda loJerobhowamu indodana kaJowashi eyinkosi yako-Israyeli. **2** Wathi: “UTHixo uyavungama eseZiyoni, idume iJerusalem; amadlelo abelusi ayoma lengqongo yeKhameli iyabuna.” **3** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: “Ngenxa yezono ezintathu zeDamaseko, loba ngenxa yezine, kangiyikulunqanda ulaka lwami. Ngenxa yokuthi yatshaya iGilyadi ngemibhulo elamazinyo ensimbi, **4** ngizathumela umlilo endlini kaHazayeli ozalobisa izinqaba zikaBheni-Hadadi. **5** Ngizabhidliza isango laseDamaseko; ngizachitha inkosi ephakathi kweSigodi sase-Aveni lalowo ophethe intonga yobukhosi eBhethi Edeni. Abantu base-Aramu bazathunjwa basiwe eKhiri,” kutsho uThixo. **6** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: “Ngenxa yezono ezintathu zeGaza loba ngenxa yezine, kangiyikulunqanda ulaka lwami ngenxa yokuthi yathumba abantu bezigaba zonke yabathengisa e-Edomi, **7** ngizathumela umlilo emidulini yaseGaza ozalobisa izinqaba zayo. **8** Ngizayichitha inkosi yase-Ashidodi kanye lalowo ophatha intonga yobukhosi e-Ashikheloni. Ngizaphendulela isandla sami ekuhlaseleli i-Ekroni kuze kufe umFilitiya wokucina,” kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **9** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: “Ngenxa yezono ezintathu zaseThire loba ngenxa yezine, kangiyikulunqanda ulaka lwami. Ngenxa yokuthi yabathengisela e-Edomi bonke abantu bezigaba zonke ezathunjwayo inganaki isivumelwano sobuzalwane, **10** ngizathumela umlilo emidulini yaseThire ozalobisa izinqaba zayo.” **11** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: “Ngenxa yezono ezintathu zase-Edomi loba ngenxa yezine, kangiyikulunqanda ulaka lwami. Ngenxa yokuthi waxotshana lomfowabo ngenkamba, enqabela isihawu sonke, ngoba ulaka lwakhe lwavutha kokuphela lentukuthelo yakhe yabhebha ingelakuthitshwa, **12** ngizathumela umlilo eThemani ozalobisa izinqaba zaseBhozira.” **13** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: “Ngenxa yezono ezintathu zase-Amoni, loba langenxa yezine, kangiyikulunqanda ulaka lwami. Ngenxa yokuthi waqhaqha abesifazane abazithweleyo baseGilyadi ukuze aqhelise ilizwe lakhe, **14** ngizathungela imiduli yaseRaba ngomlilo ozalobisa izinqaba zayo kumenyezelwa izitsho zempi ngosuku lokulwa kulomoya olamandla ngosuku lwesiphhepo. **15** Inkosi yalo izathunjwa, yona kanye lezikhulu zayo,” kutsho uThixo.

2 Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: “Ngenxa yezono ezintathu zaseMowabi loba ngenxa yezine, kangiyikulunqanda ulaka lwami, ngoba utshise amathambo enkosi yase-Edomi aze afana lekalaga, **2** ngizathumela umlilo kuMowabi ozalobisa izinqaba zaseKheriyothi. UMowabi uzachitheka kulokuxokozela okukhulu lokumenyezelwa kwezitsho zempi lokukhala kwecilongo. **3** Ngizaqothula ababusi bakhe ngibulale zonke izikhulu zakhe kanye laye,” kutsho uThixo. **4** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: “Ngenxa yezono ezintathu zikaJuda loba ngenxa yezine, kangiyikulunqanda ulaka lwami, ngoba bawalile umthetho kaThixo kabaze bagcina lezimiso zakhe, ngoba badukiswe ngonkulunkulu bamanga, onkulunkulu abalandelwa ngokhokho babo. **5** Ngizathumela umlilo koJuda ozalobisa izinqaba zaseJerusalem.” **6** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: “Ngenxa yezono ezintathu zika-Israyeli loba ngenxa

yezine, kangiyikulunqanda ulaka lwami ngoba bathengisa abalungileyo ngesiliva, labaswelayo ngamanyathelo. **7** Banyathela phezu kwamakhanda abayanga njengaphezu kothuli lomhlabathi banqabele imfanelo yabancindezelweyo. Uyise lendodana bembatha lentombi yinye kanjalo bangcolise ibizo lami elingcwele. **8** Bacabalala phansi emaceleni amalithare wonke, phezu kwezembatho ezithethe zizizibambiso. Endlini kankulunkulu wabo banatha iwayini elithethewe njengenhlawulo. **9** Ngachitha um’Amori phambi kwabo, lanxa wayemude njengemisedari njalo eqine njengom’okhi. Ngachitha izithelo zakhe phezu loba kanye lempande zakhe ngaphansi. **10** Ngalikhupha eGibhithe ngalikhokhela iminyaka engamatshumi amane enkangala ukuba ngilinike ilizwe lama-Amori. **11** Ngakhupha labaphrofethi bephuma phakathi kwamadodana enu, kanye lamaNaziri ephuma phakathi kwezinsizwa zenu. Lokhu akuqotho na, bantu bako-Israyeli?” kutsho uThixo. **12** “Kodwa lanathisa amaNaziri iwayini, lalaya abaphrofethi ukuba bangaphrofethi. **13** Khathesi-ke mina ngizalichoboza njengokuchoboza kwenqola ithwele amabele. **14** Olejubane kayikubaleka, oqinileyo uzawaswela amandla akhe, lebutsho kaliyikusindisa impilo yalo. **15** Umtshoki akayikugxila, ibutho elilejubane kaliyikuphunyuka lomgadi webhiza kayikusindisa impilo yakhe. **16** Lebutsho elilesibindi kakhulu, ngalolosuku lizabaleka linqunu,” kutsho uThixo.

3 Zwanini ilizwi elikhulunywe nguThixo ngani lina bantu bako-Israyeli lomndeni wonke engawukhupha eGibhithe: **2** “Yini kuphela engalikhethayo kuyo yonke imideni yasemhlabeni; ngakho ngizalijezisela zonke izono zenu.” **3** Ababili bayahamba bendawonye ngaphandle kokuba bevumelene ukwenzanjalo na? **4** Isilwane siyabhonga ehlatshini kungalulutho esingalubamba na? Siyabhonga esikhundleni saso singabangaba lutho na? **5** Inyoni iyabanjwa emhlabathini okungelamjibila othiywe khona na? Umjibila uyathanca usuke emhlabathini kungelalutho olubambayo na? **6** Lapho icilongo likhala edolobheni abantu kabethuki na? Lapho incithakalo isehlala idolobho kayenziwanga nguThixo na? **7** Impela uThixo Wobukhosi kenzi lutho engavezanga icebo lakhe ezincekweni zakhe abaphrofethi. **8** Isilwane sibhongile, ngubani ongayikwesaba na? UThixo Wobukhosi usekhulumile ngubani ongayekela ukuphrofitha na? **9** Memezelani ezinqabeni zase-Ashidodi lasezinqabeni zaseGibhithe lithi: “Buthanani phezu kwezintaba zaseSamarिया; libone isiyalyalu esikhulu phakathi kwayo lokuncindezela phakathi kwabantu bayo.” **10** “Kabakwazi ukwenza okulungileyo,” kutsho uThixo, “bona ababuthelala impango baphange lasezinqabeni zabo.” **11** Ngakho uThixo Wobukhosi uthi: “Isitha sizachitha ilizwe; sizadiliza izinqaba zenu, siphange izinqaba zenu.” **12** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: “Njengomelusi ehlanga emlonyeni wesilwane amathambo amabili kuphela omlenze loba isiqqa sendlebe, bazahlengwa kanjalo abako-Israyeli abahlala eSamarिया bethithibele ekucineni kwemibheda yabo, kanye laseDamaseko phezu kwemibheda yabo yokuphumulela.” **13** “Zwanini lokhu lifakaze ngendlu kaJakhobe,” kutsho uThixo uNkulunkulu uSomandla. **14** “Ngosuku engizajezisela u-Israyeli izono zakhe ngizabhidliza ama-alithare aseBhetheli; impondo ze-alithare zizaqunywa ziwele emhlabathini. **15** Ngizadiliza indlu yebusika kanye lendlu yehlobo, izindlu eziceciswe ngempondo zendlovu zizadilizwa lezindlu ezinkulu zizabhidlizwa,” kutsho uThixo.

4 Zwanini ilizwi leli lina mankomokazi aseBhashani phezu kweNtaba iSamaraya, lina besifazane elincindezela abayanga lichoboze abaswelayo beselisithi kubomkenu, “Siletheleni okunathwayo!” **2** UThixo Wobukhosi usefunge ngobungcwele bakhe wathi: “Isikhathi sizafika impela lapho elizathathwa khona ngewuka, owokucina wenu ngewuka yenhlanzi. **3** Lizaphuma ngamunye ngezikhala emdulini liqonde nta phandle, njalo lizalahllelwa ngaphandle ngokuya eHamoni,” kutsho uThixo. **4** “Hambani eBetheli liyekwenza isono; hambani eGiligali liyekwenza isono ngokudlulayo. Lethani imihlatshelo yenu nsuku zonke ekuseni lokwetshumi kwenu minyaka yonke emithathu. **5** Tshisani isinkwa esilemvubelo njengomnikelo wokubonga lintele ngeminikelo yenu yokuzithandela lizikhukhumeze ngayo, lina bako-Israyeli, ngoba lokhu yikho elithanda ukukwenza,” kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **6** “Ngalilethela indlala emadolobheni wonke lokusweleka kokudla emadolobheni wonke, kodwa kalibuyelanga kimi,” kutsho uThixo. **7** “Ngagodla izulu futhi kusasele inyanga ezintathu ukuba kuvunwe. Izulu ngalinisa kwelinye idolobho kodwa ngaligodla kwelinye. Enye insimu yaba lezulu, enye kayaze yaba lalo njalo yoma qha. **8** Abantu babhadazela besuka kwelinye idolobho besiya kwelinye befuna amanzi kodwa kabawatholanga anele ukuba bakholwe, ikanti kalibuyelanga kimi,” kutsho uThixo. **9** “Ezikhathini ezinengi ngahlasela izivande zenu lezivini zenu, ngizihlasela ngesona langengumane. Izintethe zadla imikhiwa yenu lezihlahla zenu zama-oliva, kodwa kalibuyelanga kimi,” kutsho uThixo. **10** “Ngathumela izifo phakathi kwenu njengakwenza kweleGibhithe. Ngabulala izinziswa zenu ngenkamba ndawonye lamabhiza enu athunjwayo. Ngavimbanisa amakhala enu ngomnuko wezihonqo zenu, kodwa kalibuyelanga kimi,” kutsho uThixo. **11** “Ngachitha abanye benu njengalokhu ngachitha iSodoma leGomora. Lalinjengesikhuni esitshayo esihluthunwe emlilweni, kodwa kalibuyelanga kimi,” kutsho uThixo. **12** “Ngakho-ke engizakwenza kuwe Israyeli yilokhu, njalo njengoba lokhu ngizakwenza kuwe, zilungisele ukuhlalanga loNkulunkulu wakho, wena Israyeli.” **13** Yena obumba izintaba, udala umoya, aveze lemicabango yakhe ebantwini, yena oqukula ukusa kube ngumnyama, anyathele lezindawo eziphakemeyo zomhlaba, uThixo uNkulunkulu uSomandla yilo ibizo lakhe.

5 Zwana ilizwi leli, wena ndlu ka-Israyeli, isililo lesi engisenzayo ngani: **2** “Iwile iNtombi u-Israyeli, kayiphindi ivuke futhi, ideliwe elizweni layo, kungekho ongayiphakamisela phezulu.” **3** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi: “Idolobho lenu elikhupha inkulungwane ezinqinileyo lizasala labalikhulu kuphela; idolobho elikhupha abalikhulu abaqinileyo lizasala labalithumi kuphela.” **4** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo endlini ka-Israyeli: “Dingani mina, liphile; **5** lingadingi iBetheli, lingayi eGiligali, lingayi eBherisheba. Ngoba impela iGiligali izakuya ekuthunjweni, leBetheli izadiwa iphele nya.” **6** Dingani uThixo liphile hlezi adabule phakathi kwendlu kaJosefa njengomlilo; uzatshisa uqothule, njalo iBetheli kayiyikuba lomuntu ozawucitsha. **7** Lina eliguqula ukulunga kube yibuhlungu, lilahlele ubuqotho emhlabathini. **8** Yena owenza iSilimela loMthala, oququla umnyama ube yikusa enze imini ibe yibusuku obumnyama, yena obiza amanzi olwandle, awathele phezu kobuso belizwe, uThixo yilo ibizo lakhe, **9** wehlisela incithakalo phezu

kwenqaba atshabalalise idolobho elivikelweyo. **10** Liyamzonda okhuzayo emthethwandaba limeyise lalowo okhulumela iqiniso. **11** Linyathezela umyanga limncindezele ukuba aliphe amabele. Ngakho-ke, lanxa lakhe izindlu ezinkulukazi zamatshe kaliyikuhlala kuzo; lanxa lihlangene izivini ezinhlle, iwayini lazo kaliyikulinatha. **12** Ngoba iziphambeko zenu ngiyazazi ukuthi zingaki kanye lokuthi izono zenu zinkulu okungangani. Lincindezela abalungileyo lamukele isivalamlomo, njalo emithethwandaba liinqabela abayanga imfanelo. **13** Ngakho ezikhathini ezinjalo umuntu ohlakaniphileyo uyazithulela, ngoba izikhathi zimbi. **14** Dingani okuhle, hatshi okubi, ukuze liphile. Lapho-ke uThixo uNkulunkulu uSomandla uzakuba lani njengoba lisithi ulani. **15** Zondani okubi lithande okuhle; qinisani ukulunga emithethwandaba. Mhlawumbe uThixo uNkulunkulu uSomandla uzakuba lomusa kuzinsalela zakuJosefa. **16** Ngakho nanku okutshiwo yiNkosi, uThixo, uNkulunkulu uSomandla, “Kuzakuba lokulila emigwaqweni yonke lokuhlala kabuhlungu ezinkundleni zonke zikazulu. Abalimi bazabizwa ukuba bakhale, labakhalayo ukuba balile. **17** Kuzakuba lokulila ezivinini zonke, ngoba ngizadlula phakathi kwenu,” kutsho uThixo. **18** Maye kini lina elilangazelela usuku lukaThixo! Kungani lilangazelela lolosuku lukaThixo na? Lolosuku luzakuba ngumnyama, hatshi ukukhanya. **19** Kuzafana lokuthi umuntu ubalekele isilwane wahlangana lebhele, njengangathi ungene endlini yakhe wabambelela emdulini ngesandla waselunywa yinyoka. **20** Usuku lukaThixo kaluyikuba ngumnyama na, hatshi ukukhanya, lumnyama bhuqe, kungekho nhlansi yokukhanya? **21** “Ngiyayizonda, ngiyayeyisa imikhosi yokholo lweni; angengeke ngiyimele imbuthano yenu. **22** Lanxa lingangilethela iminikelo yokutshiswa leminikelo yamabele kangiyikuyamukela. Lanxa liletha iminikelo emihle kakhulu yobuzalwane, lokunonisiweyo kangiyikuyinanza. **23** Sukani lomsindo wezingoma zenu! Kangiyikuwulalela umculo wamachacho enu. **24** Kodwa ukulunga kakugeleze njengamanzi, lobuqotho njengesifula esingatshiyi! **25** Kanje wake wangilethela imihlatshelo leminikelo eminyakeni engamatshumi amane enkangala, wena ndlu ka-Israyeli na? **26** Seliphakamise indawo yokukhonzela izithombe zenu, isenabelo senkosi unkulunkulu wenu uSakhuthi, lenkanyezi kankulunkulu wenu uKhayiwani, elazenzela khona lina ngokwenu. **27** Ngakho ngizalisa ekuthunjweni ngale kweDamaseko,” kutsho uThixo obizo lakhe nguNkulunkulu uSomandla.

6 Maye kini lina elingakhathaliyo eZiyoni, lakini elizizwa livikelekele eNtabeni iSamaraya, lina madoda adumileyo esizwe sokuqala, abantu bako-Israyeli abaya kuso! **2** Yanini eKhaline liyikhangele; lisuka lapho yanini eHamathi enkulu, beselisehela eGathi eseFilitiya. Bangcono kulembuso yenu emibili na? Ilizwe labo likhulu kulelenu na? **3** Lisusa usuku olubi lisondeze eduze ukubusa ngodlakela. **4** Lilala emibhedeni eyenziwa ngenpondo zendlovu licambalale phezu kwemibhedla yenu yokuphumulela. Lidla inyama yezimvu zekhethele leyamathole anonisiweyo. **5** Lihweba amachacho njengoDavida kodwa engamachacho ezaba. **6** Linatha iwayini ligcwele inqayi, ligcobe ngamagcobo amahle, kodwa kalikhathazeki ngokuchitheka kakuJosefa. **7** Ngakho-ke lizakuba ngabanye bakuqala ekuthunjweni; ukuzitika kwenu lokuhleka kuzaphela. **8** UThixo Wobukhosi uzifungele yena ngokwakhe, uThixo uNkulunkulu uSomandla uthi:

“Ngiyakwenyanya ukuzigqaja kukaJakhobe njalo ngiyazizona izinqaba zakhe; ngizalimela idolobho lakho konke okukulo.” **9** Nxa amadoda alitshumi esele endlini eyodwa, lawo azakufa. **10** Njalo nxa isihlobo okumele sitshise izidumbu zifika ukuba sizisuse kuleyondlu besesibuza loba ngubani oyabe elokhu ecatshele khonapho, sithi, “Kulomunye olawe na?” Yena athi, “Hatshi,” lapho-ke uzakuthi, “Thula! Akumelanga sithintse ibizo likaThixo.” **11** Ngoba uThixo usekhuphe umlayo, njalo uzaphahlaza indlukazi ibe yizihlephu kuthi indlu encinyane ibe yizicucu. **12** Amabhiza ayagijima emadwaleni angamawana? Umuntu uyalima khonapho ngenkani na? Kodwa lina liphendule ukulunga kwaba yitshefe lesithelo sokulunga saba yibuhlungu, **13** lina elithokoziswa yikuqoqosha kweLo-Debhari beselisithi, “IKharinayimi kasiyithumbanga ngamandla ethu na?” **14** Ngoba uThixo uNkulunkulu uSomandla uthi, “Ngizakuvusela isizwe, wena ndlu ka-Israyeli, esizakuncindezela indawo yonke kusukela eLebho Hamathi kusiyafika esigodini sase-Arabha.”

7 Nanku engakutshengiswa nguThixo Wobukhosi: Wayelungisa imitshitshi yezintethe emva kokuvunwa kwesabelo senkosi khonapho amabele esibili esakhulu. **2** Kwathi lapho ilizwe seziliphundile, ngameza ngathi, “Thixo Wobukhosi, thethelela! UJakhobe angaphepha kanjani? Mncinyane kakhulu!” **3** Ngakho uthixo waxola. “Akusoze kwenzakale” watsho uthixo. **4** Nanku engakutshengiswa nguThixo Wobukhosi: uThixo Wobukhosi wayememezela ukwehlulela ngomlilo; womisa ulwandle waqothula lelizwe. **5** Ngakho ngameza ngathi “Thixo Wobukhosi, ngiyakuncenga, ake umel! UJakhobe angaphepha kanjani na? Mncinyane kakhulu!” **6** Ngakho uThixo waxola. “Lokhu lakho akuyikwenzakala,” kwatsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **7** Nanku angitshengisa khona: uThixo wayemi phansi komdlu owawakhiwe waqonda nta ephethe intambo yokuqondisa ngesandla sakhe **8** UThixo wasengibuza esithi, “Kuyini okubonayo, Amosi?” Ngaphendula ngathi, “Yintambo yokuqondisa.” UThixo wasesithi, “Khangela, ngibeka intambo yokuqondisa phakathi kwabantu bami bako-Israyeli; kangisayikubaxolela futhi. **9** Izindawo eziphakemeyo zika-Isaka zizadilizwa lezindawo ezingcwele zako-Israyeli zizachithwa; indlu kaJerobhowamu ngizayihlasela ngenkembayami.” **10** U-Amaziya umphristi waseBetheli wathumela ilizwi kujerobhowamu inkosi yako-Israyeli, wathi, “U-Amosi uecaba okubi ngawe khona kanye phakathi kwako-Israyeli. Ilizwe lingeke limelane lawo wonke amazwi akhe. **11** Ngoba u-Amosi uthi: ‘UJerobhowamu uzakufa ngenkembayami, njalo impela u-Israyeli uzathunjwa, asiwe khatshana kwelizwe lakibo.’” **12** U-Amaziya wasesithi ku-Amosi, “Phuma, wena mboni! Buyela elizweni laJoJuda, usebenzele ukudla kwakho khonale wenze lokuphrofetha kwakho khonale. **13** Ungaphrofethi futhi eBetheli, ngoba le yindawo yenkosi kanye lethempeli lombuso.” **14** U-Amosi waphendula u-Amaziya wathi, “Mina ngangingasuye mphrofethi kumbe indodana yomphrofethi, kodwa ngangingumelusi, njalo ngigcina izihlahla zomkhwiwa wesikhamore. **15** Kodwa uThixo wangithatha ekweluseni imihlambi yezimvu wathi kimi, ‘Hamba uyephrofetha ebantwini bami bako-Israyeli.’ **16** Ngakho-ke khathesi zwana ilizwi likaThixo. Wena uthi: ‘Ungaphrofethi kubi ngo-Israyeli, njalo yekela ukutshumayela kubi ngendlela ka-Isaka.’ **17** Ngakho-ke nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: ‘Umkakho uzakuba

uyisifebe edolobheni, amadoda lamadodakazi akho azakufa ngenkembayami. Ilizwe lakho lizalinganiswa labiwe, njalo wena ngokwakho uzafela elizweni lamaqaba. Njalo impela u-Israyeli uzathunjwa asiwe khatshana kwelizwe lakhe.”

8 Nanku engakutshengiswa nguThixo Wobukhosi: isitsha esilezithelo ezivuthiweyo. **2** Wangibuza wathi, “Kuyini okubonayo, Amosi?” Mina ngaphendula ngathi, “Yisitsha esilezithelo ezivuthiweyo.” UThixo wasesithi kimi, “Isikhathi sabantu bami bako-Israyeli sesifikele; kangisabaxoleli futhi. **3** Ngalololoku, izingoma zethempelini zizaphenduka zibe yikulila. Izidumbu ezinengi kakhulu zidaklazelwe indawo yonke! Thulani!” Kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi. **4** Zwanini lokhu, lina elincindezela abaswelayo njalo lichitha labayanga elizweni, **5** lisithi, “Ukuthwasa kweNyanga Entsha kuzaphela nini ukuze sithengise amabele, leSabatha lidlule ukuze sithengise ingqoloyi na?” Sinciphise isilinganiso, sikhweze intengo siqilibenzele ngezilinganiso zenkohliso, **6** sithenge abayanga ngesiliva, abaswelayo sibathenge ngamanyathelo, sithengise lamakhoba ngengqoloyi. **7** UThixo ufungile ngokuziqhenya kukaJakhobe wathi, “Angisoze ngakhohliswa loba yini abayenzileyo. **8** Ilizwe kaliyikuthumela ngalokhu yini labo bonke abahlala kulo kabayikulila na? Ilizwe lonke lizaqubuka njengeNayili; lizadungeka beselitshona phansi njengomfula waseGibhithe. **9** Ngalololoku,” kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, “ngizakwenza ilanga litshone emini, ngenze emhlabeni kube mnyama emini ekhanyayo. **10** Ngizaphendula imikhosi yenu yokukhonza ibe yikulila lokuhlabelela kwenu konke kube yikukhala. Lonke ngizalenza ligqoke amasaka, njalo liphuca amakhanda enu. Lesosikhathi ngizazenza sifane lokulilela indodana eyiyo yodwa lokuphela kwaso kube njengosuku olubuhlungu. **11** Insuku zizeya, kutsho uThixo Wobukhosi, lapho engizathumela khona indlala elizweni hatshi indlala yokudla kumbe ukomela amanzi, kodwa indlala yokuzwa amazwi kaThixo. **12** Abantu bazaphamazela besuka elwandle besiya ulwandle, njalo bazule kusukela enyakatho kusiya empumalanga, bedinga ilizwi likaThixo, kodwa kabayikulithola. **13** Ngalololoku izintombi ezinhle lezinsizwa eziqinileyo zizaqaleka ngenxa yokoma. **14** Bona labo abafunga ngesono seSamariya, loba bathi, ‘Ngeqiniso njengoba unkulunkulu wakho ephila, wena Dani,’ loba bathi, ‘Ngeqiniso njengoba unkulunkulu waseBherisheba ephila,’ bazakuwa, bangaphindi bavuke futhi.”

9 Ngabona uThixo emi phansi kwe-alithari, wasesithi: “Tshaya izihloko zensika ukuze imibundu inyikinyeke. Ziwisele phansi phezu kwamakhanda abantu bonke; labo abazasala ngizababulala ngenkembayami. Kakho lamunye ozaphunyuka, kakho ozabaleka. **2** Loba besimba baze bafike ekudepheni kwengcwaba, isandla sami sizabathatha khonapho. Loba bekwela baye phezu loku emaluzwini, bekhonapho ngizabehlisela phansi. (Sheol h7585) **3** Loba becatsha engqongweni yeKhameli, khonapho ngizabadinga ngibabambe. Loba bengicatshela enzikini yolwandle, khonapho ngizalaya inyoka ukuba ibalume. **4** Loba izitha zabo zingabasa ekuthunjweni, khonale ngizalaya inkemba ukuba ibabulale. Ngizagxilisa amehlo ami kuwo ngenxa yobubi hatshi ngobuhle.” **5** Inkosi, uThixo uSomandla, yena othinta umhlaba uncibilike, kuthi bonke abahlezi kuwo bakhale, ilizwe lonke liyaphakama njengoNayili liphinde litshone phansi njengomfula waseGibhithe, **6** yena owakha indlu

yakhe yobukhosi ephakemeyo emazulwini njalo ubeka isisekelo sakhe phezu komhlaba, ebiza amanzi olwandle awathele phezu kobuso bomhlaba, uThixo yilo ibizo lakhe. **7** “Lina ma-Israyeli, kimi kalinjengamaKhushi na?” kutsho uThixo. “U-Israyeli kangimkhuphanga eGibhithe, lamaFilistiya eKhafithori, kanye lama-Aramu eKhiri na? **8** Impela amehlo kaThixo Wobukhosi aphezu kombuso olesono. Ngizawukhucula ebusweni bomhlaba ikanti indlu kajakhobe angiyikuyichitha ngokupheleleyo,” kutsho uThixo. **9** “Ngoba ngizakupha umlayo, njalo ngizahlungula indlu ka-Israyeli phakathi kwezizwe zonke njengokuhlungulwa kwamabele ekhomaneni njalo akukho hlamvu oluzawela phansi. **10** Isoni zonke phakathi kwabantu bami zizakufa ngenkemba, bonke labo abathi, ‘Umonakalo kawuyikusifika loba usihlangabeze.’” **11** “Ngalolosuku ngizavusa ithente likaDavida elawayo. Ngizavala izikhala zalo, ngivuselele okwadilikayo kwalo, ngilakhe njengelaliyikho khona, **12** ukuze bathathe insalela ye-Edomi kanye lezizwe zonke ezizabizwa ngebizo lami,” kutsho uThixo, ozazenza lezizinto. **13** UThixo uthi, “Zinsuku ziyeza, lapho ovunayo ezaficwa ngolimayo, lohlanyelayo aficwe ngokhama amavini. Iwayini elitsha lizagobhoza ezintabeni, njalo ligeleze emaqaqeni wonke. **14** Ngizababuyisela abantu bami bako-Israyeli abathunjwayo. Bazawakha kutsha amadolobho adilikayo bahlale kuwo. Bazahlanyela izivini banathe iwayini lazo; bazakwenza izivande badle izithelo zazo. **15** Ngizagxumeka u-Israyeli elizweni lakhe angaphindi asitshunwe futhi elizweni engimnike lona,” kutsho uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu.

U-Obhadiya

1 Umbono Ka-Obhadaya. Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo Wobukhosi nge-Edomi: Sesizwe ilizwi elivela kuThixo: Kuthunywe isithunywa ezizweni ukuba sithi, “Phakamani, asihambeni silwe laye impi”: **2** “Khangela, ngizakwenza ube mncinyane phakathi kwezizwe; uzakweyiswa kakhulu. **3** Ukuzigqaja kwenhliziyo yakho sekukukhohlisile, wena ohlala ezingoxweni zamadwala wakhe umuzi wakho eziqongweni, wena ozitshela uthi, ‘Ngubani ongangiwisela phansi enhlabathini na?’ **4** Lanxa uqonga njengengqungqulu wakhe isidleke sakho phakathi kwezinkanyezi, ngizakwethula khonale,” kutsho uThixo. **5** “Nxa amasela efike kuwe, nxa abaphangi ebusuku, Awu, yeka ubukhulu bomonakalo okulindeleyo, kabayikuntshontsha kuphela lokho okwanele abakufunayo na? Nxa abavuni bamavini befike kuwe, kabangeke batshiye amalutshwana na? **6** Kodwa yeka ukuphangwa okuzakwenziwa u-Esawu, inotho yakhe efihliweyo izathunjwa! **7** Bonke abamanyane lawe bazakuxotshela emngceleni; abangane bakho bazakukhohlisa bakunqobe; labo abadla ukudla kwakho bazakuthiya ngomjibila, kodwa wena kawuyikuwubona. **8** Ngalolosuku,” kutsho uThixo, “kangiyikwabhubhisa yini amadoda ahlakaniphileyo ase-Edomi, amadoda aqedisisayo ezintabeni zako-Esawu na? **9** Amabutho akho, wena Themani, azathuthumela, njalo bonke abasezintabeni zako-Esawu bazacakazelwa phansi ekubulaweni kwabanengi. **10** Ngenxa yodlakela kumfowenu uJakhobe, uzakwembeswa luhlazo; uzachithwa nini lanini. **11** Ngosuku owema ngalo khatshana mhla izihambi zithumba inotho yakhe labezizweni bengena emasangweni akhe bephosa inkatho ngeJerusalema, wawunjengomunye wabo. **12** Akumelanga weyise umfowenu ngosuku lokuhlupheka kwakhe, loba uthokoze ngabantu bakoJuda ngosuku lokubhujiswa kwabo, loba uklamase kangaka ngosuku lokuhlupheka kwabo. **13** Akumelanga ungene ngamasango abantu bami ngosuku lomonakalo wabo, loba ubeyise osizini lwabo ngosuku lomonakalo wabo, loba uthumbe inotho yabo ngosuku lomonakalo wabo. **14** Akumelanga ume emahlukanandlela ukuba ubulale ababalekayo babo, loba unikele abaphephileyo babo ngosuku lokuhlupheka kwabo. **15** Usuku lukaThixo selusondele ezizweni zonke. Njengalokho okwenzileyo, yikho okuzakwenziwa kuwe; izenzo zakho zizaphendukela phezu kwekhanda lakho. **16** Njengokunatha elakwenzayo entabeni yami, ngokunjalo izizwe zonke zizanatha njalonjalo; zizanatha, zinathe kuze kube angathi kazizange zivele zibe khona. **17** Kodwa phezu kweNtaba iZiyoni kuzakuba lokusindiswa; kuzakuba ngcwele, lendlu kaJakhobe izazuza ilifa layo. **18** Indlu kaJakhobe izakuba ngumlilo lendlu kaJosefa ibe lilangabi; indlu ka-Esawu izakuba libibi, njalo bazayithungela ngomlilo ozayiqothula. Akuyikuba khona abasilayo endlini ka-Esawu.” UThixo usekhulumile. **19** Abantu abavela eNegebi bazathumba izintaba zako-Esawu, labantu abavela emawatheni ezintaba bazathumba ilizwe lamaFilistiya. Bazathumba amasimu ako-Efrayimi lawaseSamariya, loBhenjamini uzathumba iGilyadi. **20** Lelibutho labako-Israyeli abathunjwayo abaseKhenani lizalithatha ilizwe kusiyafika eZarefathi; abathunjwa eJerusalema abaseSefaradi bazathatha amadolobho aseNegebi. **21** Abakhululi bazakhwela iNtaba iZiyoni ukuba babuse izintaba zako-Esawu. Njalo umbuso uzakuba ngokaThixo.

UJona

1 Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kuJona indodana ka-Amithayi lathi: **2** “Hamba uye edolobheni elikhulu laseNiniva utshumayele ngokulisola kakhulu, ngoba ububi balo sebuninye le kimi.” **3** Kodwa uJona wabalekela uThixo waqonda eThashishi. Wehla waya eJopha, lapho afica khona umkhumbi owawusiya kuleyondawo. Eseyikhuphile imali yokugada, wangena umkhumbi waqonda eThashishi yena ebalekela uThixo. **4** UThixo wathumela isiphapho elwandlwe, kwaphenquka isavunguzane esasingathi sizawubhidliza umkhumbi. **5** Bonke abagwedli bawo besaba, ngulowo lalowo wakhala kunkulunkulu wakhe. Baphosela imithwalo elwandle ukuze baphungule ubunzima bomkhumbi. Kodwa uJona wayehlele endlwani engaphansi, emkhunjini, walala khona ubuthongo bukabhuka. **6** Induna yomkhumbi yaya kuye yathi, “Ungalala njani? Vuka ubize unkulunkulu wakho! Mhlawumbe yena uzasizwa ukuze singabhubhi.” **7** Abagwedli basebecebisa bathi, “Wozani, senze inkatho ukuze sibone ukuthi ngubani osibangele uhlu pho lolu.” Bayenza inkatho, yadla uJona. **8** Basebembuza bathi, “Akusitshela, ngubani osibangele lonke lolu uhlu pho na? Wenza msebenzi bani na? Uvela ngaphi? Ungowakuliphi ilizwe? Ungowasiphi isizwe na?” **9** Waphendula wathi, “NgingumHebheru, ngikhonza uThixo, uNkulunkulu wasezulwini, owenza ulwandle kanye lomhlabathi.” **10** Lokhu kwabethusa, babuza bathi, “Wenzeni pho?” (Babekwazi ukuthi ubalekela uThixo ngoba wayevele ebebatshelile.) **11** Ulwandle lwaselulokhu luqubuka lusiya phambili ngamandla. Ngakho basebembuza bathi, “Senzeni kuwe ukuze ulwandle luthule singalimali na?” **12** Waphendula wathi, “Ngiqukulani lingiphosele elwandle, luzathula. Ngiyazi ukuthi kungumlandu wami okwenze isiphapho esikhulu kangaka sehlela phezu kwenu.” **13** Kodwa amadoda azama ngamandla ukugwedlela emuva emhlabathini. Kodwa behluleka ngoba ulwandle lwaselusidla amahabula okudlula kuqala. **14** Khonapho basebekhala kuThixo bathi, “Oh, Thixo, ungasiyekeli sife ngoba sibelele indoda le. Ungasibeki umlandu wokubalala umuntu ongelacala, ngoba wena, Oh Thixo, wenzile njengokufisa kwakho.” **15** Basebethatha uJona bamphosela olwandle, ulwandle lwase luthula ukugubhaza. **16** Lokhu kwenza amadoda lawo amesabe kakhulu uThixo, asesenza umhlatsheko kuThixo enza izifungo kuye. **17** Kodwa uThixo waletha inhlanzi enkulukazi yanginyu uJona, uJona wahlala phakathi kwenhlanzi insuku ezintatho lobusuku obuthathu.

2 Ephakathi kwenhlanzi uJona wakhuleka kuThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe. **2** Wathi: “Ekuhluphekeni kwami ngambiza uThixo, wangiphendula. Ngisekujuleni kwengcwaba ngacela uncedo, wena wakulalela ukukhala kwami. (Sheol **h7585**)” **3** Wangiphosela ezinzikini, phakathi emathunjini enlwandle, amagagasi agubhazela emaceleni wonke; wonke amagagasi akho lezipophoma zawo kwangisibekela. **4** Ngathi, ‘Sengixotshiwe ebusweni bakho; kodwa ngizakhangele njalo ethempelini lakho elingcwele.’ **5** Indonga zamanzi zaziqonde ukungimbokotha, ngangihanqwe yinziki; inkunkuma yotshani bolwandle yangithandela ekhanda. **6** Ngagalula ngatshona empandeni zezintaba; umhlaba ongaphansi wangivalela okwaphakade. Kodwa wena wayikhupha impilo yami egodini, wena Thixo, Nkulunkulu wami. **7** Lapho impilo yami yayisincipha, ngakhumbula wena, Thixo, umkhuleko wami

waphakamela kuwe, ethempelini lakho elingcwele. **8** Labo ababambelela ezithombeni ezingelamsebenzi balahlekelwa ngumusa ongaba ngowabo. **9** Kodwa mina, ngizakuthi ngihlabela ingoma yokubonga ngenze umhlatsheko kuwe. Engikufungileyo ngizakugcwalisa. Insindiso ivela kuThixo.” **10** UThixo walaya inhlanzi, yona yase imhlanza uJona emhlabathini owomileyo.

3 Ilizwi likaThixo laselifika kuJona ngokwesibili lathi: **2** “Hamba uye edolobheni elikhulu laseNiniva uyotshumayela kulo ilizwi engikumika lona.” **3** UJona walilalela ilizwi likaThixo, waya eNineve. Phela iNiniva yayilidolobho elikhulu kakhulu, ukulethekela lonke kwakuthatha insuku ezintathu. **4** Ngelanga lokuqala, uJona wangena phakathi komuzi. Wamemezela wathi, “Kusele insuku ezingamatshumi amane kuphela ukuba iNiniva ichithwe.” **5** Abantu beNiniva babekholwa kuNkulunkulu. Bamemezela ukuthi kuzilwe ukudla, njalo bonke kusukela komkhulu kusiya komncinyane bavunula amasaka. **6** Ilizwi selifikile enkosini yaseNiniva, yasukuma esihlalweni sayo sobukhosi, yakhumula izembatho zayo zobukhosi, yazembathisa isaka yahlala phansi ebbhqwini. **7** Yase ikhupha isimemezelo eNiniva esithi: “Ngomthetho wenkosi lezikhulu zayo: Akungavunyelwa muntu kumbe inyamazana, imihlambi yenkomo loba eyezimvu ukuthi ithinte ulutho oludliwayo; makungavunyelwa kudle kumbe kunathe. **8** Kodwa akuthi umuntu loba inyamazana kwembathe amasaka. Wonke umuntu kamemeze ngokukhawuleza kuNkulunkulu. Kabadele izindlela zabo zobubi lobudlwangu babo. **9** Ngubani okwaziyo na? Mhlawumbe uNkulunkulu angadeda kuthi ngesihawu sakhe aphenduke elakeni lwakhe olwesabekayo ukuze singabhubhi.” **10** Kwathi uNkulunkulu esebonile abakwenzayo ukuthi baguquka ezindleleni zabo zobubi, wabazwela isihawu kazabe esabehisela incithakalo ayesongene ngayo.

4 Kodwa uJona wacaphuka kakhulu wazonda. **2** Wakhuleka kuThixo wathi, “Awu Thixo, kakusikho lokhu yini engakutshoye ngisesekehaya? Yikho okwangenza ngaphangisa ukubalekela eThashishi. Ngangikwazi ukuthi unguNkulunkulu olomusa lesihawu, ophuza ukuthukuthela njalo ogcwele uthando, uNkulunkulu odedayo ongasoze ehlise ukhulupheka. **3** Khathesi-ke Thixo, susa ukuphila kwami, ngoba kungcono kimi ukufa kokuphila.” **4** Kodwa uThixo waphendula wathi, “Kambe ubona ululungelo na lokuthi uzonde?” **5** UJona waphuma wayahlala endaweni ethile ngempumalanga kwedolobho. Wazenzela khonapho idunjana wahlala emthunzini walo walindela ukubona okwakuzakwenzakala edolobheni lelo. **6** Kwasesithi uThixo uNkulunkulu wakhulisa isihlahla esilamahlamvu kuJona samenzela umthunzi ekhanda lakhe ukuze ahlaliseke. UJona wathaba kakhulu ngaleli ivini. **7** Kodwa emathathakusa ngelanga elilandelayo uNkulunkulu wathumela impehlane, eyaphehla isihlahla sacina sibuna. **8** Kwathi ilanga seliphumile uNkulunkulu wathumela umoya wempumalanga ohaqazayo, ilanga lavutha phezu kwekhanda likaJona waze waqaleka. Wafisa ukufa, wathi, “Kungcono kimi ukuthi ngife kulokuthi ngiphile.” **9** Kodwa uNkulunkulu wathi kuJona, “Ulelungelo na lokuthi uzonde ngenxa yesihlahla?” UJona wathi, “Yebo. Ngizonde kakhulu, kuthi kangife.” **10** Kodwa uThixo wathi, “Uyazihlupha ngesihlahla lesi loba ungazange usinakekele loba usikhulise. Lihlume ngobusuku laphinde lafa ngobusuku.

11 Kodwa iNiniva ilabantu abeqa izinkulungwane ezilikhulu efilamatshumi amabili abangehlukaniyo isandla sabo sokudla kwesenxele, lenkomo ezinengi njalo. Bekungafanelanga yini na ukuthi ngilinqinekele idolobho elikhulu kangaka?”

UMikha

1 Ilizwi likaThixo elafika kuMikha waseMoresethi ensukwini zemibuso kaJothamu, loka-Ahazi loHezekhiya, amakhosi akoJuda, umbono awubonayo mayelana leSamariya leJerusalema. **2** Zwanini lonke lina bantu, lalalani, awu wena mhlaba labo bonke abakuwo, ukuze uThixo Wobukhosi afakaze ngawe ekulahlala, uThixo esethempelini lakhe elingcwele. **3** Khangelani! UThixo uyeza evela lapho ahlala khona; wehlela phansi njalo enyathela ezindaweni eziphakemayo zomhlaba. **4** Izintaba ziyancibilika ngaphansi kwakhe, lezigodi ziyaqhekezeke phakathi njengengcino phansi komlilo, lanjengamanzi esehla ngamandla emthezukweni. **5** Konke lokhu kungenxa yokona kukajakhobe, ngenxa yezono zendlu ka-Israyeli. Kuyini ukona kukajakhobe na? AkusiSamariya na? Iyini indawo kaJuda ephakemayo na? AkusiJerusalema na? **6** “Ngakho iSamariya ngizayenza ibe yinqumbi yemfucuzo, indawo yokuhlanyela izivini. Amatshe ayo ngizawathela esigodini ngiphendle lezisekelo zayo. **7** Zonke izithombe zayo zizaphohlozwa; zonke izipho zayo zasethempelini zizatshiswa ngomlilo; ngizaphahlaza zonke izifanekiso zayo. Njengoba yaqoqa izipho zayo ngehlo lezifebe, zizasetshenziswa njengehlo lezifebe futhi.” **8** Ngenxa yalokhu ngizakhala ngilile; ngizahamba ngezinyawo phansi njalo nginqunu. Ngizahlaba umkhulungwane njengekhanka, ngikhale njengesikhova. **9** Ngoba inxeba layo kalelapheki; selifikile koJuda. Selifike kulo kanye isango labantu bami, kanye laseJerusalema uqobo. **10** Lingakukhulumi eGathi; lingakhali lakancane. Giqikani ethulini eBethi Ofira. **11** Dulani linqunu njalo lilenhloni lina elihlala eShafiri. Labo abahlala eZwanani kabayikuphuma. IBhethi-Ezeli iphakathi kokulila; ukuvikelwa kwayo kususiwe kini. **12** Labo abahlala eMarothi bayazijanqa ngobuhlungu, belindele usizo ngoba umonakalo uvele kuThixo, wafika lasesangweni leJerusalema. **13** Lina elihlala eLakhishi, bophelani amabhiza agijimayo enqoleni. Yini elaba yisisusa sesono eNdodakazini yeZiyoni, ngoba ukona kuka-Israyeli kwafunyanwa kini. **14** Ngakho-ke lizanika iMoresethi Gathi izipho zokwehlukana. Idolobho lase-Akhizibhi lizabonakalisa inkohliso emakhosini ako-Israyeli. **15** Ngizalilethela umnqobi lina elihlala eMaresha. Lowo olodumo luka-Israyeli uzakuza e-Adulami. **16** Phucani amakhanda enu likhalela abantwabenu elibathandayo; ziphuceni libe njengelingqe ngoba bazasuka kini baye ekuthunjweni.

2 Maye kulabo abaceba ububi, kulabo abaceba ukwenza okubi emibhedeni yabo! Ekudabukeni kokusa bayakwenza ngoba kusemandleni abo ukukwenza. **2** Bahawukela amasimu bawathumbe, kanye lezindlu, bazithathe. Badleleza umuntu ngomuzi wakhe, lomuntu wakibo ngelifa lakhe. **3** Ngakho uThixo uthi: “Ngiceba ukwenza umonakalo kulababantu, elingeke liziphaphise kuwo. Kalisayikuhamba ngokuziqhenya, ngoba kuzakuba yisikhathi sencithakalo. **4** Ngalolosuku abantu bazalihleka; bazalikhlolela ngale ingoma yokulila bathi: “Thina sichithwe okupheleleyo; ilifa labantu bami labiwe. Uyangithathela! Amasimu ethu uwanika abathengisi.”” **5** Ngakho-ke kawuzukuba laye ebandleni likaThixo ozalabela ilizwe ngenkatho. **6** Abaphrofethi babo bathi, “Lingaphrofethi. Lingaphrofethi ngalezintfo; ihlazo kaliyikusehlela.” **7** Wena ndlu kajakhobe, kufanele yini ukuba kuthiwe, “UMoya kaThixo uzondile na? Uyazenza izinto ezinje na?” “Amazwi

ami kawenzi okulungileyo kuye ozindlela zakhe ziqondile na? **8** Okwamanje abantu bami sebehlamuke njengesitha. Lihlubula ingubo eligugu kulabo abedlulayo linganakile, njengabantu abavela empini. **9** Abesifazane babantu bami liyabaxotsha emizini yabo emihle. Lisusa isibusiso sami kokuphela ebantwaneni babo. **10** Sukani lihambel! Ngoba le akusindawo yenu yokuphumula, ngoba ingcolile, ichithekile, okungeke kulungiswe. **11** Nxa umqambi wamanga lomkhohlisi efika athi, ‘Ngizaliphrofethela iwayini elinengi lotshwala,’ uyabe engumphrofethi walababantu nje kuphela!” **12** “Impela ngizalibutha lonke, wena Jakhobe; impela ngizabaqoqela ndawonye abako-Israyeli abasalayo. Ngizabaqoqela ndawonye ngengezimvu esibayeni, njengomhlambi wezimvu emadlweni awo; indawo ibe lokuphithizela kwabantu. **13** Lowo ozavula indlela uzahamba phambi kwabo; bazafohla isango baphume. Inkosi yabo izadlulela phambi kwabo, uThixo abe phambi kwabo.”

3 Lapho-ke mina ngathi, “Lalalani lina bakhokheli bakoJakhobe, lina babusi bendlu yako-Israyeli. Ukulunga akumelanga likwazi na, **2** lina elizonda okuhle lithande okubi; elixebula isikhumba ebantwini bami lenyama emathanjeni abo; **3** lina elibadla inyama abantu bami, lihlabule isikhumba sabo lichoboze lamathambo abo abe yizicucu; elibaqumaquma njengenyama yepani, lanjengenyama yemiza?” **4** Lapho-ke bazakhala kuThixo, kodwa kayikubaphendula. Ngalesosikhathi uzabafihlela ubuso bakhe ngenxa yobubi ababenzileyo. **5** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: “Okunjengabaphrofethi, abedukisa abantu bami, umuntu angabapha ukudla, bamemezela ‘ukuthula’ nxa engabaphi balungisela ukumhlaselela ngempi. **6** Ngakho ubusuku buzakwehlela phezu kwenu, kungekho mibono, kanye lomnyama, kungekho kuhlahlula. Ilanga lizabatshonela abaphrofethi, losuku luzakuba mnyama kubo. **7** Ababoniso bazayangeka labahlahluli babe lenhloni. Bonke bazamboza ubuso babo ngoba kungelampendulo evela kuNkulunkulu.” **8** Kodwa mina ngiphiwe amandla, loMoya kaThixo, lokulunga kanye lesibindi, ukuba ngitshele uJakhobe ukona kwakhe lo-Israyeli isono sakhe. **9** Zwanini lokhu lina bakhokheli bendlu kajakhobe, lani babusi bendlu ka-Israyeli, eleyisa ukulunga lihlanekela konke okuqondileyo; **10** elakha iZiyoni ngokuchitha igazi; leJerusalema ngobubi. **11** Abakhokheli bayo bahlulela ngokufunjathiswa, abaphristi bayo bafundisele inhlawulo, labaphrofethi bayo baphrofithela imali; ikanti bathembele kuThixo njalo bathi, “Kanti uThixo kakho phakathi kwethu na? Akulancithakalo engasehlela.” **12** Ngakho-ke ngenxa yenu, iZiyoni izalinywa njengensimu, iJerusalema izakuba yinqwaba yemfucuzo, intaba yethempeli ibe yindunduma eyande izixukwana.

4 Ngezinsuku zokucina intaba yethempeli likaThixo izamiswa njengenhloko phakathi kwezintaba; izaphakanyiselwa phezu kwezintaba njalo izizwe zizabekelela zisiya kuyo. **2** Izizwe ezinengi zizafika zithi, “Wozani siye phezu kwentaba kaThixo, siye ethempelini likaNkulunkulu kajakhobe. Uzasifundisa izindlela zakhe, ukuze sihambe emikhondweni yakhe.” Umthetho uzavela eZiyoni, ilizwi likaThixo livele eJerusalema. **3** Uzakwahlulela phakathi kwezizwe ezinengi alamule lezingxabano zezizwe ezilamandla ezindaweni ezikhatshana. Bazakhanda zinkemba zabo zibe yimihlathi yamakhuba, lemikhonto yabo ibe zingqamu zokuthena izihlahla. Isizwe

asiyikuhlomela isizwe ngenkamba loba sifundele ukulwa impi futhi. **4** Umuntu wonke uzahlala ngaphansi kwesihlahla sakhe sevini langaphansi kwesihlahla sakhe somkhiwa, njalo kakho ozabenza besabe, ngoba uThixo uSomandla usekhulumile. **5** Zonke izizwe zingahamba ebizweni labonkulunkulu bazo; thina sizahamba ebizweni likaThixo uNkulunkulu wethu kuze kube laphakade. **6** “Ngalolosuku,” kutsho uThixo, “ngizabutha abaqhulayo; ngizaqoqa abathunjwayo lalabo engabehlisela usizi. **7** Ngizakwenza abaqhulayo babe yinsalela, abaxotshwayo babe yisizwe esilamandla. UThixo uzababusa eNtabeni iZiyoni, kusukela ngalolosuku kuze kube nininini. **8** Wena nqaba yokulinda yomhlambi, wena nqaba yeNdodakazi yeZiyoni, umbuso wakuqala uzabuyiselwa kuwe; ubukhosi buzakuba eNdodakazi yaseJerusalema.” **9** Kungani khathesi usukhala kakhulu, kawulankosi na? Umeluleki wakho usebhuhhile na, ukuba uphathwe yibuhlungu obunjengowesifazane ohelelwayo? **10** Janqula ngobuhlungu, wena Ndodakazi yeZiyoni, njengowesifazane ohelelwayo, ngoba khathesi sekumele usuke kulelidolobho uyehlala egangeni. Uzakuya eBhabhiloni; lapho ozahlengwa khona. Khonale uThixo uzakukhulula ezandleni zezitha zakho. **11** Kodwa khathesi izizwe ezinengi zikujamele. Zithi, “Kangcoliswe, lamehlo ethu kawahawukele iZiyoni!” **12** Kodwa kabayazi imicabango kaThixo; kabaliqedisisi icebo lakhe, yena obabutha njengezixha zamabele esizeni. **13** “Sukuma ubhule, wena Ndodakazi yeZiyoni, ngoba ngizakupha impondo zensimbi; ngizakunika amasondo ethusi, njalo uzachoboza izizwe ezinengi.” Uzanikela kuThixo inzuzo yabo eyatholwa ngobuqili inotho yabo kuThixo womhlaba wonke.

5 Hlomisa amabutho akho, wena dolobho lamabutho, ngoba sesivinjezelwe. Bazatshaya umbusi wako-Israyeli esihlathini ngomqwayi. **2** “Kodwa wena Bhethilehema Ephrathi, lanxa umncinyane phakathi kwezizwana zakoJuda, kuwe kuzavela ozakuba ngumbusi wako-Israyeli, omdabuko wakhe ngowasekadeni, kusukela ezikhathini zendulo.” **3** Ngakho u-Israyeli uzadelwa kuze kube yisikhathi sokuthi lowo ohelelwayo abelethe, laba abafowabo bonke baphenduke ukuzahlangana labako-Israyeli. **4** Uzakuma eluse umhlambi wakhe ngamandla kaThixo, ngobukhosi bebizo likaThixo uNkulunkulu wakhe. Bazahlala ngokuvikeleka, ngoba lapho udumo lwakhe luzafika emikhawulweni yomhlaba. **5** Uzakuba yikuthula kwabo. Lapho um’Asiriya ehlasela ilizwe lethu edabula phakathi kwezinqaba zethu, sizamvusele abelusi abayisikhombisa, kanye labakhokheli babantu abayisificaminwembili. **6** Bazabusa ilizwe lase-Asiriya ngenkamba, ilizwe likaNimrodi behlome ngenkamba, uzasikhulula kum’Asiriya lapho ehlasela ilizwe lethu engena phakathi kwemingcele yethu. **7** Insalela zabakoJakhobe zizakuba phakathi kwezizwe ezinengi njengamazolo avela kuThixo, lanjengekhizo phezu kotshani, okungalindeli muntu kumbe kuhlalele abantu. **8** Insalela zabakoJakhobe zizakuba phakathi kwezizwe, phakathi kwabantu abanengi, njengesilwane phakathi kwezinyamazana zegusu, lanjengeguzuqqa lesilwane phakathi komhlambi wezimvu, esidlithizayo sidabule ekuhambeni kwaso, kungekho ongahlenga. **9** Isandla sakho sizaphakanyiselwa phezulu ngokunqoba izitha zakho, njalo zonke izitha zakho zizachithwa. **10** “Ngalolosuku,” kutsho uThixo, “ngizabhubhisa amabhiza enu phakathi kwenu ngibhidlize lezinqola zenu zempi. **11** Ngizachitha amadolobho elizwe lenu ngibhidlize lezinqaba

zenu zonke. **12** Ngizachitha ubuthakathi benu njalo kalisayikuhunkula futhi. **13** Ngizachitha izithombe zenu ezabazwayo lamatshe enu okukhonza phakathi kwenu; kalisayi kuwukhothamela futhi umsebenzi wezandla zenu. **14** Ngizasiphula phakathi kwenu izinsika zenu zika-Ashera, ngidilize lamadolobho enu. **15** Ngizaphindisela ngentukuthelo langolaka ezizweni ezingangilalelanga.”

6 Lalelani okutshiwo nguThixo ukuthi: “Sukumani lilandise indaba yenu phambi kwezintaba; amaqoqa kawezwe lokho elikutshoyo. **2** Zwanini, lina zintaba, icala elethulwa nguThixo; lalaneli lina zisekelo zomhlaba ezingulaphakade. Ngoba kulecala uThixo alibeka ebantwini bakhe, wethesa u-Israyeli icala. **3** Bantu bami, ngenzeni kini na? Ngilihluphe ngani na? Ngiphendulani. **4** Ngalikhupha eGibithethe ngalikhulula elizweni lobugqili. Ngathuma uMosi ukuba alikhokhele kanye lo-Aroni loMiriye. **5** Bantu bami, khumbulani izicebiso zikaBhalaki inkosi yaseMowabi lokuthi uBhalamu indodana kaBheyyori waphendula wathini. Khumbulani uhambo lwenu kusukela eSithima kusiya eGilgali, ukuze lazi imisebenzi elungileyo kaThixo.” **6** Kuyini engizakuza lakho phambi kukaThixo ngikhothame phambi kukaNkulunkulu ophakemeyo na? Ngizakuza phambi kwakhe ngilomnikelo wokutshiswa, ngilamathole alomnyaka owodwa na? **7** UThixo angathokoziswa zinqama eziyizinkulungwane, izinkulungwane ezililithumi zemifula yamafutha na? Ngizanikela izibulo lami ngenxa yokona kwami, isithelo somzimba wami ngenxa yesono somphemululo wami na? **8** Ukutshengisile wena muntu okuhle. UThixo ufunani kuwe na? Ukuwenza okulungileyo lokuthanda umusa kanye lokuhamba ngokuzithoba loNkulunkulu wakho. **9** Lalelani! UThixo umemezela kulo idolobho, lokwesaba ibizo lakho kuyikuhlakanipha, “Qaphelani umqwayi laLowo owubekileyo. **10** Wena ndlo yobubi, kufanele lakhathesi ngiyikhohlwe inotho yakho eyazuzwa ngobubi, lehefa elinganelanga, eliqalekisiweyo na? **11** Ngizamkhulula yini ecaleni umuntu olezilinganiso zobuqili, lesaka lezilinganiso zamanga na? **12** Abantu bakhona abanothileyo balochuku; abantu bakhona ngabaqambi bamanga, lezilimi zabo zikhulumina inkohliso. **13** Ngakho sengiqalisile ukukuchitha, ukukuqothula ngenxa yezono zakho. **14** Uzakudla kodwa ungasuthi; isisu sakho sizakuba silokhu singelalutho. Uzabuthelela kodwa ungalondolozeli lutho, ngoba lokho okulondolozayo ngizakupha inkemba. **15** Uzalima kodwa unganuyi; uzakhama ama-oliva kodwa amafutha awo unganawagcobi, uzakhama amavini kodwa iwayini lawo ungalinathi. **16** Ugcinile imithetho ka-Omri layo yonke imikhutshana yasendlini ka-Ahabi, walandela lamasiko abo. Ngakho-ke ngizakunikela ekubhujisweni, labantu bakho ekubeni yinhlakisa; uzathwala ihlazo lezizwe.”

7 Maye ngosizi lwami! Nginjengomuntu obutha izithelo zehlobo senginjengevini eselivunwe laphela; akuselasixha samavini okudlwa, kayisekho lemikhiwa yakuqala engiyikhanukuyi. **2** Abathembekileyo babhujisiwe elizweni, kakho lamunye umuntu olungileyo oseleyo. Abantu bonke bacathamela ukuchitha igazi; lowo lalowo uzingela umfowabo ngombule. **3** Izandla zombili zizingcitshi ekwenzeni okubi; umbusi ufuna izipho ngamandla, umahluleli wamukela isivalamlomo, abalamandla babiza abakufisayo, bonke baceba okubi bendawonye. **4** Ongcono wabo unjengesihlahla sameva, oqotho kakhulu mubi kulothango lwameva. Usuku uNkulunkulu alethekelela ngalo selufikile, usuku

lokukhala kophondo lwabalindi. Manje sekuyisikhathi sokuphumputhaka kwabo. **5** Ungamethembi umakhelwane; ungagwabi ngomngane wakho. Lalowo olala umgonile, qaphela amazwi akho. **6** Ngoba indodana idumaza uyise, indodakazi ivukela unina, umalukazana avukele uninazala, izitha zomuntu ngamalunga endlu yakhe. **7** Kodwa mina ngilindele uThixo ngethemba, ngilindele uNkulunkulu uMsindisi wami; uNkulunkulu wami uzangizwa. **8** Ungaklolodi wena sitha sami Lanxa ngiwile, ngizavuka. Lanxa ngihlezi emnyameni, uThixo uzakuba yikukhanya kwami. **9** Ngenxa yokuba ngonile kuye, ngizalumela ulaka lukaThixo, aze angincengele endabeni yami, aveze ukungabi lacala kwami. Uzangikhuphela phandle ekukhanyeni; ngizabona ukulunga kwakhe. **10** Lapho-ke isitha sami sizakubona, njalo sibanjwe zinhloni, lowo owathi kimi, “Ungaphi uThixo uNkulunkulu wakho?” Lakhathesi uzagxotshwa ngezinyawo njengodaka emigwaqweni. **11** Usuku lokwakhiwa kwemiduli yakho luzafika, usuku lokuqhelisa imingcele yakho. **12** Ngalolosuku abantu bazakuza kuwe bevela e-Asiriya lasemadolobheni aseGibhithe, njalo kusukela eGibhithe kusiya kuYufra, kusukela olwandle kusiya olwandle, lakusukela entabeni kusiya entabeni. **13** Umhlaba uzachitheka ngenxa yabahlezi kuwo, ngenxa yezenzo zabo. **14** Beluse abantu bakho ngentonga yakho, umhlambi welifa lakho, ohlala wodwa ehlathini emadlweni avundileyo. Kawudle eBhashani laseGiliyadi njengasezinsukwini zokuphuma. **15** “Njengasezinsukwini zokuphuma kwenu eGibhithe, ngizabatshengisa izimangaliso zami.” **16** Izizwe zizabona ziyangeke, zemukwe wonke amandla azo. Zizabamba imilomo yazo ngezandla, lezindlebe zazo zingabe zisezwa. **17** Zizakhotha uthuli njengenyoka, njengezinanakazana ezihuquzela emhlabathini. Zizakuza ziqhaqhazela ziphuma emihomeni yazo; zizaphendukela kuThixo uNkulunkulu wethu ngokwesaba, njalo lawe zizakwesaba. **18** Ngubani onguNkulunkulu njengawe, oxolela izono athethelele ziphambeko zensalela zelifa lakhe na? Kawuthukutheli kokuphela kodwa uthokoza ngokutshengisa isihawu. **19** Uzakuba lesihawu kithi futhi; uzanyathela izono zethu ngezinyawo uphosele bonke ububi bethu ezinzikini zolwandle. **20** Uzakuba gotho kujakhobe, ubonakalise isihawu sakho ku-Abrahama, njengokuthembisa kwakho ngesifungo kubokhokho bethu esukwini zasendulo.

UNahume

1 Isiqalekiso ngeNiniva. Incwadi yombono kaNahume um'Elikhoshi. **2** UThixo uNkulunkulu olobukhwele lophindiselayo; uThixo uyaphindisela njalo ulolaka olukhulu. UThixo uyaphindisela ezitheni zakhe lolaka lwakhe lukhulu ezitheni zakhe. **3** UThixo uyaphuza ukuthukuthela njalo ulamandla amakhulu; uThixo kayikumyekela olecala engajeziswanga. Indlela yakhe iphakathi kwesivunguzane lesiphapho, amayazi aluthuli lwezinyawo zakhe. **4** Ukhuza ulwandle alomise; wenzi yonke imifula itshe. IBhashani leKhameli kuyabuna lemiqhakazo yaseLebhanoni ibune. **5** Izintaba ziyayikinyeka phambi kwakhe, lamaqaqa ayancibilika. Umhlaba uyagedezela ngobukhona bakhe, umhlaba labo bonke abahlala kuwo. **6** Ngubani ongamelana lentukuthelo yakhe na? Ngubani ongalumela ulaka lwakhe oluvuthayo na? Ulaka lwakhe luthululeka njengomlilo; amadwala ayaqhekezeka phambi kwakhe. **7** UThixo ulungile, uyisiphaphelo ezikhathini zokuhlupheka. Uyabakhathalela abathembele kuye, **8** kodwa ngesikhukhula esikhulu uzatshabalalisa iNiniva; uzaxotshela izitha zakhe emnyameni. **9** Loba engamacebo bani abawenza ngoThixo, uzawaqeda; ukuhlupheka akuyikubuya kabili. **10** Bazathandeleka phakathi kwameva, bedakwe liwayini labo; bazaqothulwa njengenhlanga ezomileyo. **11** Wena Nineve, kuwe sekufike lowo ocebaba okubi ngoThixo, eluleke okubi. **12** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: "Lanxa lelababambene labo njalo bebanengi, bazaqothulwa banyamalale. Lanxa ngikuhluphile, wena Juda, kangisayikukuhlupha futhi. **13** Khathesi ngizakwephula ijogwe labo elisentanyeni yakho, ngiqamule lamaketane akho." **14** UThixo usekhuphe ilizwi ngawe Nineve elithi, "Kawuyikuba lezizukulwane ezizibwa ngebizo lakho. Ngizachitha izifanekiso ezibaziweyo lezithombe ezibunjiweyo ezisethempelini labonkulunkulu bakho. Ngizalungisa ingcwaba lakho, ngoba ungcolile." **15** Khangela ezintabeni le, inyawo zalowo oleda izindaba ezinhle, omemeza ukuthula! Thakazezela imikhosi yakho we Juda, ugcwalise lezifungo zakho. Ababi kabasayikukuhlaselela futhi; bazachithwa ngokupheleleyo.

2 Umhlasele uyasondela kuwe, Nineve. Vikela inqaba, linda umgwaqo, zilungiselele, qoqa wonke amandla akho! **2** UThixo uzabuyisela ubuhle bukhulu njengobuhle buka-Israyeli, lanxa abachithi bebaqothule batshabalalisa lezivini zabo. **3** Amahawu amabutho akhe abomvu, amabutho agqoke okubomvu gebhu. Insimbi ezinqoleni zempi iyaphazima ngosuku ezilungiselwe ngalo; imikhonto yesihlahla sephayini iyazunguzwa. **4** Izinqola zempi zihlasela ngesiqubu emigwaqweni, zisiya emuva laphambili ezigcawini. Zinjengezibane ezikhanyisiweyo; ziyaphaziphazima njengombane. **5** Ubiza amabutho akhe akhethiweyo kodwa ayakhubeka endleleni yawo. Agijimela emdulini wedolobho; isivikelo silungiswe. **6** Amasango omfula ayavulwa, indlu yobukhosi ibhidlike. **7** Kumiswe ukuthi idolobho lizathunjwa, abantu balo basiwe ebugqilini. Izintombi zalo eziyizigqili zikhala njengamajuba zizitshaya amabele eza. **8** INiniva injengesiziba, njalo amanzi aso ageleza ehamba. Bayaklabalala besithi, "Mana! Mana!" Kodwa kakho onyemukulayo. **9** Phangani isiliva! Phangani igolide! Umthapho kawupheli, inotho evela eziphaleni zayo zonke! **10** Ibhuyiwe, iphangwiwe, iphundliwe! Inhliziyo ziphela amandla,

amadolo ayaxega, imizimba iyaqhaqhaazela, ubuso bonke bunyukubele. **11** Khathesi-ke ungaphi umhome wezilwane, lapho ezinikela khona abantwana bazo ukudla, lapho okwaya khona isilwane lesilwanekazi, kanye lemidlwane, kungekho lutho olwesatshwayo na? **12** Isilwane sibulalele imidlwane yaso okwaneleyo sabambela lesilwanekazi saso okwenyama yokudliwa, sagcwalisa isikhundla saso ngesikujimbileyo lomhome waso ngenyama. **13** "Ngimelane lawe," kutsho uThixo uSomandla. "Ngizazitshisa izinqola zakho zempi zibe yintuthu; lenkamba izakudla izilwane zakho ezisakhulayo. Kangiyikukutshiyela ongakubamba ukudle njengenyama emhlabeni. Amazwi ezithunywa zakho kawasayikuzwakala futhi."

3 Maye kulo idolobho legazi, ligcwele amanga, ligcwele ukuphanga, kasweleki ohlutshwayo lanini! **2** Ukukhala kwezawebhu, ukugodlozela kwamavili, ukumatha kwamabhiza lokugedlezela kwezingqola zempi! **3** Ukuhlaselela kwabagadi bamabhiza ukuphazima kwezinkemba lokubenyezela kwemikhonto. Zinengi izinkubela, izinqwaba zabafileyo, izidumbu ezingabalwayo, abantu abakhubeka ezidunjini, **4** bonke ngenxa yenkanuko embi yesifebe, siyakhanga, siyinkosikazi ephethe ubuthakathi, esifaka izizwe ebugqilini ngobufefe baso labantu ngobuthakathi baso. **5** "Ngimelane lawe," kutsho uThixo uSomandla. "Ngizakwembulela izidwaba zakho ebusweni bakho. Ngizatshengisa izizwe ubunqunu bakho, lemibuso ihlazo lakho. **6** Ngizakujikijela ngamanyala, ngizakweyisa, njalo ngikwenze ube ngumbukiso. **7** Bonke abakubonayo bazakubalekela bathi, 'iNiniva isichithekile, ngubani ozayililela na?' Ngingamthola ngaphi ongakududuzana na?" **8** Wena ungcono na kuleThebesi engaseNayili, ehonqolozelwe ngamanzi? Umfula wawuyisivikelo sayo, amanzi engumduli wayo. **9** IKhushi leGibhithe kwakungamandla ayo angapheliyo. IPhuthi leLibhiya kwakungabanye abancedisi bayo. **10** Kodwa yathunjwa yaya ebugqilini. Izingane zayo zapaklazwa zaba yizicucu ekuqaliseni kwemigwaqo yonke. Kwenziwa inkatho ngezikhulu zayo, wonke amadoda aphakemeyo abotshwa ngamakhetane. **11** Lawe futhi uzadakwa; uzakuyacatsha udinge ukuphephela esitheni sakho. **12** Zonke izinqola zakho zinjengezihlahla zemikhiwa ezilezithelo zazo zakuqala ezivuthiweyo; lapho zinyikinywa, imikhiwa iwela emlonyeni womudli. **13** Khangela amabutho akho wonke, ngawesifazane! Amasango elizwe lakho avulekele izitha zakho aba banzi; umlilo uyiqedile imigoqo yawo. **14** Donsa amanzi ulungele ukuvimbezela, qinisa inqaba zakho. Voxa udaka, nyathela ibumba, lungisa okwakhiwe ngezitina. **15** Khonapho umlilo uzakuqeda; inkemba izakucakazela phansi, ikudle njengesikhongwane. Zandise njengesikhongwane, uzandise njengentethe. **16** Usulandisile inani labathengisi bakho. Baze bedlula izinkanyezi zasemkhathini, kodwa njengentethe baphundla ilizwe basuke bahambe. **17** Abalindi bakho banjengentethe, izikhulu zakho zinjengemitsitshi yentethe ezihlala emidulini mhla kuqanda kodwa ilanga lingaphuma ziyaphapha zihambe, njalo lakho okwaziyo ukuthi ngaphi. **18** Wena nkosi yase-Asiriya, abelusi bakho bayawozela, izikhulu zakho zilala phansi ziphumule. Abantu bakho bahlakazekile ezintabeni kungekho obaqoqayo. **19** Akukho okungapholisa amanxeba akho; ukulimala kwakho ngokokufa. Bonke abezwa

izindaba ngawe batshaya izandla ngokuwa kwakho, ngoba ngubani ongafuthelwanga yisihluku sakho esingapheliyo na?

UHabakhukhi

1 Isiphrofethi esemkelwa nguHabhakhukhi umphrofethi. **2** Koze kube nini, awu Thixo, ngicela usizo, kodwa ungalaleli na? Loba ngimemezela kuwe ngisithi, "Udlakela!" kodwa ungangihlengi na? **3** Kungani ungitshengisa okungasimfanelo na? Kungani ubekezelela okungalunganga na? Ukuchitheka lodlakela kuphambi kwami; kulokulwa, lengxabano yandile. **4** Ngakho umthetho usuthundubezekile, lokulungu akusabi khona. Ababi baminyezela abalungileyo ukuze ukulunga konakaliswe. **5** "Khangalani ezizweni libone njalo limangale kakhulu. Ngoba ensukwini zenu ngizakwenza into elingasozwe liyikhholwe, lanxa lingabe litsheliwe. **6** Sengivusa amaKhaladiya, lesiya isizwe esilesihluku lamawala, esitshaya sibhuqe umhlaba wonke, sithumba izindawo zokuhlala ezingasizo zaso. **7** Bayisizwe esesabekayo lesitshayisa uvalo; bangumthetho bona ngokwabo njalo baziphakamisa udumo lwabo. **8** Amabhiza abo alesiqubu esedlula esamahlosi, ayesabeka kulezimpisi kusihlwa. Amabhiza abo empi amatha ephulukundlela, abagadi bawo amabhiza bavela khatshana. Bandiza njengamanqe ehwitha ukudla, **9** bonke beza belande udlakela. Amaxuku abo aqhubekelela phambili njengomoya wasenkangala abuthe abathunjweyo njengenhlabathi. **10** Baklolodela amakhosi, bahleke ababusi usulu. Wonke amadolobho avikelweyo bayawahleka; bakha amadundulu ngenhlabathi bawathumbe lawo madolobho. **11** Emva kwalokho badlula ngesiqubu njengomoya baqhubeke, abantu abalecala abamandla abo angunkulunkulu wabo." **12** Awu Thixo, kawuveli phakade na? Nkulunkulu wami, Ngcwele wami, kasiyikufa. Awu Thixo, ubabekile ukuba bahlulele. Awu Dwala, ubamisile ukuba bajezise. **13** Amehlo akho ahlanzeke kakhulu ukuba akhangele okubi; awungeke ubekezelele okungalunganga. Pho kungani ubekezelela abachithayo na? Uthulelani lapho ababi beqeda labo abalunge kakhulu kulabo na? **14** Wenze abantu bafana lenhlanzi olwandle, njengezidalwa zasolwandle ezingelambusi. **15** Isitha esibi siyazikhupha zonke ngewuka, siyazibamba ngembule laso, sizibuthele embuleni laso elidonswayo; ngalokho siyajabula sithokoze. **16** Ngakho-ke senzela imbule laso umhlatshelo, sitshisele imbule laso elidonswayo impepha ngoba ngenxa yembule laso sithe pekle phakathi kwenotho, sizitika ngokudla okummandi. **17** Kuzamele siqhubeke sithulula umambule waso, sitshabalalisa izizwe kungekho sihawu na?

2 Ngizakuma esilindweni sami ngime phezu komthangala; ngizakhangelela ukuba ngibone ukuthi uzakuthini kimi, lokuthi yimpendulo bani engizayitsho ngale insolo. **2** UThixo waphendula wathi: "Loba phansi isibonakaliso usenze sicace ezicededwini ukuze isithunywa sigijime laso. **3** Ngoba isibonakaliso silindela isikhathi esimisiweyo; sikhuluma ngesiphetho njalo kasiyikuba ngamanga. Lanxa siphuzha, silindele; sizafika impela njalo kasiyikuphuza. **4** Khangela, uyazigqaja; izifiso zakhe kazilunganga, kodwa olungileyo uzaphila ngokholo lwakhe. **5** Impela iwayini liyamkhohlisa; uyazikhukhumeza njalo kalakho ukuphumula. Ngoba uyisihwaba njengengcwaba, njalo kasuthi njengokufa, ubuthelela izizwe zonke kuye athumbe labantu bonke. (Sheol h7585) **6** Bonke kabayikumchotho na bamhleke besithi, 'Maye kulowo obuthelela impahla zokwebiwa azinohise ngobugebanga! Koze kube nini lokhu kusenzakala na?' **7** Labo olezikwelede kubo kabayikukujuma na?

Kabayikuvuka bakuthuthumelise na? Lapho-ke uzakuba yinto yabo yokuhlutshwa. **8** Ngoba sewaphanga izizwe ezinengi, abantu abaseleyo bazakuphanga ngoba wachitha igazi labantu; watshabalalisa amazwe lamadolobho labo bonke abakuwo. **9** Maye kulowo obumba umbuso ngenzuzo embi ukuba akhele isidleke sakhe phezulu ukuba abalekele ukwelwa yingozi! **10** Ucebe ukubhujiswa kwabantu abanengi, wayangisa indlu yakho, walahlekelwa yikuphila kwakho. **11** Amatshe omduli azakhala imijabo yamapulanka izasabela. **12** Maye kulowo owakha idolobho ngokuchitha igazi akhe umuzi ngobudlwangudlwangu. **13** UThixo uSomandla kakumisanga na ukuthi umbenzisi uzinkuni zomlilo nje kuphela, lokuthi izizwe ziqeda amandla azo ngeze? **14** Ngoba umhlaba uzagcwala ngolwazi lodumo lukaThixo, njengamanzi egcwalisa ulwandle. **15** Maye kulowo onika omakhelwane bakhe okunathwayo ekuthulula esigujini sewayini badakwe, ukuze akhangele imizimba yabo enqunu. **16** Uzakuba lehlazo elikhulu endaweni yodumo. Khathezi sekulithuba lakho! Natha uchayeke. Inkezo yesandla sokunene kaThixo iyeza kuwe, ihlazo lizamboza udumo lwakho. **17** Udlakela olwenzela eLebhanoni luzakuqeda amandla, lokubulala kwakho izinyamazana kuzakuthuthumelisa. Ngoba uchithe igazi labantu; uchithe amazwe lamadolobho labo bonke abakuwo. **18** Silosizo bani isithombe njengoba sibazwe ngumuntu? Kumba isifanekiso esifundisa amanga? Ngoba lowo osenzayo uthemba isidalwa sakhe; wenza izithombe ezingeke zikhulume. **19** Maye kulowo othi esigodweni, 'Vuka uphile!' loba athi elitsheni elingaphiliyo, 'Phaphama!' Linganika iseluleko na? Lembeswe ngegolide langelisiwa, akulamphefumulo phakathi kwalo." **20** Kodwa uThixo usethempelini lakhe elingcwele; umhlaba wonke kawuthule phambi kwakhe.

3 Umkhuleko kaHabhakhukhi umphrofethi. NgeShigiyonothi. **2** Thixo, ngizwile ngodumo lwakho; ngiyazesaba izenzo zakho, awu Thixo. Zivuselele ensukwini zethu, yenza zazakale esikhathini sethu; ekuthukutheleni khumbula isihawu. **3** Nkulunkulu wavela eThemani, oNgcwele wavela eNtabeni iPharani. Inkazimulo yakhe yasibekela amazulu lokudunyiswa kwakhe kwagcwala umhlaba wonke. **4** Ubucwacizwi bakhe babunjengokuphuma kwelanga; imisebe yaphazima esandleni sakhe lapho amandla akhe ayefihlwe khona. **5** Isifo sahamba phambi kwakhe, umkhuhlane walandela amanyathelo akhe. **6** Wasukuma, wanyikinya umhlaba; wakhangelela, waqhaqhazela izizwe. Izintaba zasendulo zabhidlika lamaqaqa akudala adilika. Izindlela zakhe ngezanini lanini. **7** Ngabona amathente aseKhashani ephakathi kosizi, lezindawo zokuhlala zaseMidiyani zisebuhlungwini. **8** Awu Thixo, imifula wawuyithukuthelile na? Ulaka lwakho lwavuthela izifula na? Ulwandle wawuluthukuthelile na lapho ugadwele amabhiza akho lezinqola zakho zempi ezingobayo? **9** Idandili lakho ulebule, ufune imitshoko eminengi. Uqhekeze umhlaba ngemifula; **10** izintaba zakubona zajanqula, izikhukhula zamanzi zedlula, ulwandle lwahlakoma, lwaphakamisela amagagasi alo phezulu. **11** Ilanga lenyanga kwema mpo emazulwini ekubenyazeleni kwemitshoko yakho entwezayo, ekuphazimeni kwemitshoko yakho ecazimulayo. **12** Wanyathela umhlaba ngolaka, wabhula izizwe ngentukuthelo. **13** Waphuma ukuba ukhulule abantu bakho, ukuba usindise ogcotshiwewo wakho. Umkhokheli welizwe lobubi umchobozile, wamebula kusukela ekhanda kusiya enyaweni. **14** Umhlabe ikhanda ngomkhonto wakhe

lapho amabutho akhe ephume ngesiqubu ukuba asihlakaze, ethokoza kungani asezakudla abahluphekayo abebecatshile. **15** Wanyathela ulwandle ngamabhiza akho, uqubula amanzi amanengi. **16** Ngezwa, inhliziyo yami yatshaya, izindebe zami zabikizeliswa ngumsindo; amathambo ami angenwa yikubola, imilenze yami yaqhaqhazela. Kodwa ngizalindela ngesineke usuku lomonakalo ukuba lufike esizweni esihlasela esethu. **17** Lanxa isihlahla somkhiwa singanunkuli lamavini engekho emivinini; lanxa ama-oliva engathelanga, lamasimu engabanga lokudla, lanxa kungelazimvu esibayeni lenkomo zingekho ezibayeni, **18** kodwa ngizathokoza kuThixo, ngizajabula kuNkulunkulu uMsindisi wami. **19** UThixo Wobukhosi ungamandla ami; wenza inyawo zami zibe njengezempala, ungenza ngihambe ezindaweni eziphakemeyo.

UZefaniya

1 Ngeyomqondisi womculo. Ezigincini zami. Ilizwi likaThixo elafika kuZefaniya indodana kaKhushi, indodana kaGedaliya, indodana ka-Amariya, indodana kaHezekhiya, ekubuseni kukaJosiyasi indodana ka-Amoni inkosi yakoJuda: **2** “Ngizakhucula konke ebusweni bomhlaba,” kutsho uThixo. **3** “Ngizakhucula kokubili abantu lezinyamazana; ngizakhucula izinyoni zasemoyeni kanye lenhlanzi zaselwandle, lezithombe ezenza ababi bakhubeke. Lapho ngiqeda abantu ebusweni bomhlaba,” kutsho uThixo. **4** “Ngizakwelulela isandla sami koJuda lakubo bonke abahlala eJerusalema. Ngizaqeda konke okukaBhali okuseleyo kule indawo, amabizo abahedeni labaphristi abakhonza izithombe **5** labo abakhothama phezu kwezindlu bakhonze ixuku lezinkanyezi, labo abakhothama bafunge ngoThixo, abafunga langoMoleki futhi, **6** labo ababuyela emuva bedela ukulandela uThixo njalo abangaminganga uThixo loba babuze ngaye. **7** Thula phambi kukaThixo Wobukhosi, ngoba usuku lukaThixo selusezude. UThixo uselungise umhlathshelo; usebangcwelise labo abanxusileyo. **8** Ngosuku lomhlathshelo kaThixo ngizajezisa izikhulu lamadodana amakhosi labo bonke labo abagoke izigqoko zezizweni. **9** Ngalolosuku ngizabajezisa bonke abaxwaya ukunyathela umbundu womnyango, abagcwalisa ithempeli labonkulunkulu babo ngodlakela langenkohliso.” **10** UThixo, uthi, “Ngalolosuku ilizwi lokukhala lizaqonga ngaseSangweni leNhlanzi, ukulula kuvelela esiGabeni eSissha lomsindo omkhulu wokufohloza uvela emaqaqeni. **11** Lilani lina elihlala esigodini sokuthengisela saseMakhithashi, bonke abathengisi benu bazaqedwa, bonke abathengiselana ngesiliva bazabhujiswa. **12** Ngalesosikhathi ngizaphenya iJerusalema ngezibane ngizejise labo abangakhathaliyo, abanjengewayini elitshiywe phakathi kwensipho zalo, abathi, ‘UTHixo kayikwenza lutho, oluhle loba olubi.’ **13** Inothi yabo izaphangwa, izindlu zabo zidilizwe. Bazakwaxha izindlu kodwa bangahlali kuzo; bazahlanyela izivini, kodwa iwayini bangalinathi.” **14** Usuku olukhulu lukaThixo selusezude, njalo luza ngokuphangisa. Lalelani! Ukukhala ngosuku lukaThixo kuzakuba buhlungu, lokukhalabala kwebutho khonapho. **15** Lolosuku luzakuba lusuku lolaka, usuku losizi lokudabuka; usuku lokuhlupheka lokuchitheka, usuku lomnyama lokudana, usuku lwamayezi lobumnyama, **16** usuku lwecilongo lokuhlaba umkhosi wokulwa impi lamadolobho avikelweyo kanye lezinqaba zasemajikweni. **17** “Ngizaletha usizi ebantwini njalo bazahamba njengeziphofu, ngoba bonile kuThixo. Igazi labo lizachithwa njengothuli lezibilini zabo njengamanyala. **18** Isiliva sabo loba igolide labo kakungeke kwenelise ukubasindisa ngosuku lolaka lukaThixo. Umhlaba wonke uzatshiswa emlilweni womona wakhe ngoba uzakwenza isiphetho ngokuphangisa kubo bonke abahlala emhlabeni.”

2 Buthanani ndawonye, buthanani ndawonye, wena sizwe esiyangisayo, **2** isikhathi esimisiweyo singakafiki losuku ludlule njengamakhoba, ukuthukuthela okwesabekayo kukaThixo kungakafiki kuwe, usuku lolaka lukaThixo lungakafiki kuwe. **3** Dingani uThixo, lonke lina abathobekileyo belizwe, lina elenza lokho akulayayo. Dingani ukulunga, dingani ukuthobeka; mhlawumbe lingavikelwa ngosuku lwentukuthelo kaThixo. **4** IGaza izadelwa le-Ashikheloni isale isingamanxiwa. Abantu base-Ashidodi bazaxotshwa emini, le-

Ekroni isitshulwe. **5** Maye kini lina elihlala ngasolwandle, lina sizwe samaKherethi; ilizwi likaThixo limelana lani, wena Khenani, lizwe lamaFilistiya. “Ngizakutshabalalisa, njalo kakho ozasala.” **6** Ilizwe elingasolwandle lizakuba yindawo yabelusi lezibuya zezimvu. **7** Ilizwe lizakuba ngelabaseleyo abendlu kaJuda; bazathola amadlelo khona. Kusihlwa bazalala phansi ezindini zase-Ashikheloni. UThixo uNkulunkulu wabo uzabalondoloza; uzabenza baphumelele futhi. **8** “Ngizizwile izithuko zeMowabi lokuchothoza kwama-Amoni, abathuka abantu bami besongela lelizwe labo. **9** Ngakho ngeqiniso elinjengoba ngikhona,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, “impela iMowabi izakuba njengeSodoma, ama-Amoni abe njengeGomora, indawo yokhula lemigodi yetshwayi, ilizwe elichithekileyo nini lanini. Abaseleyo babantu bami bazabaphanga; abaphephileyo babantu bami bazathatha ilizwe labo.” **10** Lokhu yikho abazakuthola kungumvuzo wokuziqqaja kwabo, ngendxa yokuthuka lokuklodela abantu bakaThixo uSomandla. **11** UThixo uzakwesabeka kubo lapho esetshabalalisa bonke onkulunkulu belizwe. Izizwe ezisemakhunjini wonke zizamkhonza, ngulowo elizweni lakhe. **12** “Lani futhi, lina maKhushi lizabulawa ngenkamba yami.” **13** Uzakwelulela isandla sakhe enyakatho achithe i-Asiriya, atshiye iNiniva itshabalele ngokupheleleyo njalo yome njengenkangala. **14** Imihlambi yezimvu leyenkomo izalala phansi khonapho, lezidalwa zezinhlobo zonke. Isikhova senkangala lomandukulo kuzahlala ensikeni zakhe. Ukukhala kwazo kuzezwakala emawindini, imfucuzi izakuba eminyango, imijabo yemisedari ichayeke. **15** Leli lidolobho elingakhathaliyo elalizihlalele livikelekile. Lazitshela lathi: “Ngiyimi, kakho omunye ngaphandle kwami.” Yeka ukuchitheka eseliyikho, isikhundla sezinyamazana zeganga! Bonke abadlula kulo bahleka usulu balikhombe ngenimwe.

3 Maye kulo idolobho labancindezeli, elihlamukayo lelingcolileyo! **2** Kalilaleli muntu, kalivumi kukhuzwa. Kalithembeli kuThixo, kalisondeli kuNkulunkulu walo. **3** Izikhulu zalo ziyizilwane ezibhongayo, ababusi balo bazimpisi zakusihlwa, ezingatshiyi lutho lwekuseni. **4** Abaphrofethi balo bayazalisa; bangabantu bamacebo amabi. Abaphristi balo bangcolisa indawo engcwele bephule lomthetho. **5** UThixo phakathi kwalo ulungile; kenzi okubi, nsuku zonke ekuseni wenza ukulunga kwakhe njalo kaphambanisi ukusa kwamalanga wonke, ikanti abangalunganga kabalanhloni. **6** “Ngizichithile izizwe; izinqaba zazo zidilizwe. Ngitshiye imigwaqo yazo ideliwe kungekho odlula khona. Amadolobho azo adilizwe; kakho ozasala kakho lamunye. **7** Ngathi kulo idolobho, ‘Impela uzangesala uvume ukukhuzwa!’ Lapho ke indlu yalo yokuhlala yayinyayikudilizwa loba isijeziso sami sehlele phezu kwalo. Kodwa babelokhu betshisekela izenzo zokuxhwala kukho konke abakwenzayo. **8** Ngakho ngilindela,” kutsho uThixo, “lolosuku engizasokuma ngalo ngifakaze. Sengimise ukubuthanisa izizwe, ngiqoke imibuso, ngehlisele ulaka lwami phezu kwabo konke ukuthukuthela kwami okukhulu. Umhlaba wonke uzaqothulwa ngomlilo womona wentukuthelo yami.” **9** “Lapho-ke ngizahlambulula izindebe zezizwe, ukuze zonke zikhuleke ebizweni likaThixo zimkhonze zimanyane. **10** Kusukela ngaphetsheya kwemifula yazeKhushi abakhonzi bami, abantu bami abahlakazekileyo, bazangilethela iminikelo. **11** Ngalolosuku kaliyikuyangiswa ngobubi bonke elabenza kimi, ngoba ngizabasusa kulelidolobho

abathokoziswa yikuziqqaja kwabo. Kaliyikuzikhukhumeza futhi entabeni yami engcwele. **12** Kodwa ngizatshiya phakathi kwenu abathambileyo labathobekileyo, abathembele ebizweni likaThixo. **13** Kabayikwenza okubi; kabayikuqamba amanga, loba kube lenkohliso emilonyeni yabo. Bazakudla balale phansi, kakho ozabenza besabe.” **14** Hlabela wena Ndodakazi yeZiyoni, klabalala kakhulu, wena Israyeli! Thaba uthokoze ngenhliziyo yakho yonke wena ndodakazi yaseJerusalema! **15** UThixo usesisusile isijeziso sakho, usesixotshile isitha sakho. UThixo, iNkosi ka-Israyeli, ulawe; akulangozi ozaphinda uyesabe futhi. **16** Ngalolosuku bazakuthi kulo iJerusalema, “Ungesabi, wena Ziyoni; ungavumeli ukuba izandla zakho zibe buthakathaka. **17** UThixo uNkulunkulu wakho ulawe, ulamandla okusindisa. Uzathokoza kakhulu ngawe, uzakududuza ngothando lwakhe, uzakuthokozela ngokuhlabela.” **18** “Insizi zemikhosi emisiweyo ngizazisusa kuwe; zingumthwalo lehlazo kuwe. **19** Ngalesosikhathi ngizababona bonke abalincindezelayo; ngizahlenga abaqhulayo ngibuthe lalabo abahlakazwayo, ngizabapha udumo lenhlonipho kuwo wonke amazwe lapho abahlaziswa khona. **20** Ngalesosikhathi ngizalibutha; ngalesosikhathi ngizalisa ekhaya. Ngizalipha inhlonipho lodumo phakathi kwezizwe zonke zasemhlabeni lapho sengiliphumelelisa futhi phambi kwamehlo enu uqobo,” kutsho uThixo.

UHagayi

1 Ngomnyaka wesibili wenkosi uDariyu, ngosuku lokuqala lwenyanga yesithupha, ilizwi likaThixo lafika ngomphrofethi uHagayi lisiya kuZerubhabheli, indodana kaSheyalithiyeli, umbusi wakoJuda, lakuJoshuwa, indodana kaJozadaki, umphristi omkhulu: **2** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla: “Abantu laba bathi, ‘Isikhathi sokwakha indlu kaThixo kasikafiki.’” **3** Ngakho ilizwi likaThixo lafika ngomphrofethi uHagayi lisithi: **4** “Kuyisikhathi senu lina ngokwenu ukuba lihlale ezindlini zenu ezinhle, kodwa indlu le ilokhu ilunxiwa na?” **5** Khathezi nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla: “Cabangani kuhle ngezindlela zenu. **6** Lihlanyele okunengi kodwa livuna okulutshwana. Liyadla, kodwa kalisuthi. Liyana, kodwa kalikholwa. Liyagqoka izigqoko, kodwa kalifudumali. Lihola imiholo liyifake esikhwameni esivuzayo.” **7** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla: “Cabangani kuhle ngezindlela zenu. **8** Khwelani ezintabeni lehlise izigodo lakhe indlu ukuze ngithokoze ngayo njalo ngidunyiswe,” kutsho uThixo. **9** “Kade lilindele okunengi, kodwa khangeleni, kusuke kwaba yingcosana. Elikulethe ekhaya, mina ngikuphephulele khatshana. Kungani na?” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. “Kungenxa yendlu yami elokhu ilunxiwa, ngesikhathi lina, omunye lomunye wenu, ebambeke ngendlu yakhe. **10** Ngakho-ke, ngenxa yenu amazulu asegodle amazolo lomhlaba amabele. **11** Ngilethe ukoma emasimini lasezintabeni, emabeleni, ewayinini elitsha, emafutheni lakukho konke okuvela emhlabathini, ebantwini lasenkomeni kanye lasemsebenzini wezandla zenu.” **12** Lapho-ke uZerubhabheli, indodana kaSheyalithiyeli, loJoshuwa, indodana kaJozadaki, umphristi omkhulu lensalela yonke yabantu balilalela ilizwi likaThixo uNkulunkulu wabo kanye lombiko kaHagayi umphrofethi ngoba wayethunywe nguThixo uNkulunkulu wabo. Abantu bamesaba uThixo. **13** Emva kwalokho, uHagayi isithunywa sikaThixo, wanika abantu ilizwi likaThixo leli: “Ngilani,” kutsho uThixo. **14** Ngakho uThixo waqubula umoya kaZerubhabheli indodana kaSheyalithiyeli, umbusi wakoJuda, lomoya kaJoshuwa indodana kaJozadaki, umphristi omkhulu, lomoya wensalela yabantu. Beza baqalisa ukusebenza endlini kaThixo uSomandla uNkulunkulu wabo, **15** ngosuku lwamatshumi amabili lane lwenyanga yesithupha ngomnyaka wesibili wenkosi uDariyu.

2 Ngosuku lwamatshumi amabili lanye lwenyanga yesikhombisa ilizwi likaThixo lafika ngoHagayi umphrofethi lisithi: **2** “Khuluma loZerubhabheli indodana kaSheyalithiyeli, umbusi wakoJuda, loJoshuwa indodana kaJozadaki, umphristi omkhulu kanye lensalela yabantu. Babuze uthi, **3** ‘Ngubani kini owasalayo owabona indlu le enkazimulweni yayo yakuqala na? Khathezi ikhangeleka injani kini na? Kayikhangeleki njengeze na? **4** Kodwa khathezi qina wena Zerubhabheli,’ kutsho uThixo. ‘Qina wena Joshuwa ndodana kaJozadaki, umphristi omkhulu. Qinani, lonke lina bantu belizwe,’ kutsho uThixo. ‘Lisebenze, ngoba ngilani,’ kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **5** ‘Lokhu yikho engakuvumelana lani ekuphumeni kwenu eGibhithe. UMoya wami uhlahla phakathi kwenu. Lingesabi.’ **6** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla: ‘Ngesikhathshana nje ngizaphinda nginyikinye amazulu lomhlaba, ulwandle lelizwe elomileyo. **7**

Ngizanyikinye izizwe zonke, abathandwayo kuzozonke izizwe bazakuza, njalo indlu le ngizayigcwalisa ngenkazimulo,’ kutsho uThixo uSomandla, **8** ‘Isiliva ngesami legolide ngelami,’ kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **9** ‘Inkazimulo yale indlu yakhathezi izakuba nkulu kuleyendlu yakuqala,’ kutsho uThixo uSomandla. ‘Njalo indawo le ngizayipha ukuthula,’ kutsho uThixo uSomandla.” **10** Ngosuku lwamatshumi amabili lane lwenyanga yesificamunwemunye, ngomnyaka wesibili kaDariyu, ilizwi likaThixo lafika kuHagayi umphrofethi lisithi: **11** “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla uthi: ‘Buza abaphristi ukuthi umthetho uthini: **12** Nxa umuntu ethwele inyama engcwele ngomphetho wesigqoko sakhe, umphetho lowo uthinte isinkwa loba inyama ephekiweyo, iwayini, amafutha loba okunye ukudla, kuba ngcwele na?’” Abaphristi baphendula bathi, “Hatsii.” **13** UHagayi wasesithi, “Nxa umuntu ongcoliswe yikuthinta isidumbu ethinta okunye kwalezizinto, kuyangcola na?” “Ye,” kwaphendula abaphristi, “kuyangcola.” **14** UHagayi wasesithi, “Kunjalo-ke emehlweni ami ngabantu laba langesizwe lesi,’ kutsho uThixo. ‘Lokho abakwenzayo loba abakunikelayo lapho kungcolile. **15** Khathezi cabangani kuhle ngalokhu kusukela ngalolusuku kusiya phambili, khumbulani ukuthi izinto zazingjani kungakabekwa elinye ilitshe phezu kwelinye ethempelini likaThixo. **16** Kwakusithi lapho umuntu efika enqunjini yezilinganiso ezingamatshumi amabili, kwakulezilitshumi kuphela. Kuthi lapho umuntu eye efatshini lewayini ukuba akhe izilinganiso ezingamatshumi amahlana, kwakulezingamatshumi amabili kuphela. **17** Wonke umsebenzi wezandla zenu ngawutshaya ngomkhuhlane, ngesikhwekhwe langesiqhoho, kodwa kaliphendukelanga kimi,’ kutsho uThixo. **18** ‘Kusukela lamhla kusiya phambili, kusukela ngalolusuku lwamatshumi amabili lane lwenyanga yesificamunwemunye, cabangani kuhle ngosuku okwabekwa ngalo isisekelo sethempeli likaThixo. Cabangani kuhle: **19** Kuselenhlanyelo eseleyo esiphaleni na? Kuze kube khathezi, ivini lomkhiwa, iphomegranathi lesihlahla se-Oliva asikatheli izithelo. Kusukela ngalolusuku kusiya phambili ngizalibusisa.” **20** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika ngokwesibili kuHagayi ngosuku lwamatshumi amabili lane lwenyanga lisithi: **21** ‘Tshela uZerubhabheli umbusi wakoJuda ukuthi ngizanyikinye amazulu lomhlaba. **22** Ngizagenqula izihlalo zobukhosi ngichithe amandla emibuso yezizweni. Ngizagenqula izinqola zempi labagadi bazo; amabhiza labagadi bawo bazakuwa, ngamunye ngenkamba yomfowabo. **23** Ngalolusuku,’ kutsho uThixo uSomandla, ‘ngizakuthatha wena ncek uYami Zerubhabheli ndodana kaSheyalithiyeli,’ kutsho uThixo, ‘njalo ngizakwenza ube njengesongo eliluphawu lwami, ngoba sengikukhethile,’ kutsho uThixo uSomandla.”

UZekhariya

1 Ngenyanga yesificaminwemibili yomnyaka wesibili kaDariyu, ilizwi likaThixo lafika kumphrofethi uZakhariya indodana kaBherekhiya, indodana ka-Ido lisithi: **2** "UTHixo wazondiswa kakhulu ngokhokho benu. **3** Ngakho tshela abantu uthi: Nanku akutshoyo uThixo uSomandla: 'Buyelani kimi,' kutsho uThixo uSomandla, 'lami ngizabuya kini,' utsho njalo uThixo uSomandla. **4** Lingabi njengabokhokho benu, okwatsho kubo abaphrofethi bamandulo, bathi: Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla, uthi: 'Phendukani ezindleleni zenu zobubi lezeno zenu ezimbi.' Kodwa kabafunanga ukulalela loba ukukunanza okwakutshiwo, kutsho uThixo. **5** Bangaphi manje okhokho benu na? Bona abaphrofethi kamba baphila okungapheliyo na? **6** Kodwa amazwi ami lemithetho yami engangilaye ngakho izinceku zami abaphrofethi kakuzange kuze kubafice yini okhokho benu? Kwayikhona bephenduka besithi, 'UTHixo uSomandla wenzile kithi okufanele izindlela zethu lezeno njengalokho amisa ukukwenza.'" **7** Ngelanga amatshumi amabili lane ngenyanga yetshumi lanye, inyanga uShebhathi, ngomnyaka wesibili kaDariyu, ilizwi likaThixo lafika kumphrofethi uZakhariya indodana kaBherekhiya, indodana ka-Ido. **8** Ebusuku ngafikelwa ngumbono, khonapho phambi kwami kwakulendoda egade ibhiza elibomvul Yayimi phakathi kwezihlahla zomethile edongeni. Ngemva kwayo kwakulamanye amabhiza, elibomvu, eliyinsundu lelimhlophe. **9** Ngayibuzwa ngathi, "Kuyini lokhu, nkosi yami na?" Ingilosi eyayikhuluma lami yaphendula yathi, "Ngizakutshengisa ukuthi kuyini." **10** Kwasekusithi leyondoda eyayimi ezihlahleni zomethile yachaza yathi, "Laba yibo uThixo abathumileyo ukuba bahambe emhlabeni wonke." **11** Basebebika engilosini kaThixo eyayimi phakathi kwezihlahla zomethile bathi, "Sesiwuhambile wonke umhlaba safumana ukuthi ilizwe lihlezi kuhle phakathi kokuthula." **12** Ingilosi kaThixo yasisithi, "Thixo Somandla, koze kube nini ulokhu ugodla isihawu sakho phezu kweJerusalemama lamadolobho akoJuda alokhu uwathukuthelele yonke iminyaka le engamatshumi ayisikhombisa?" **13** Ngakho uThixo wasekhuluma amazwi omusa, aduduzayo kuleyongilosi eyayikhuluma lami. **14** Kwasekusithi ingilosi eyayikhuluma lami yathi, "Memezela leli ilizwi: Nanku akutshoyo uThixo uSomandla, uthi: 'Ngilobukhwele ngeJerusalemale leZiyoni, **15** kodwa ngizondile ngalezozizwe ezihlezi zanaba zaziba. Ngangithukuthele kancane kodwa zawengezelela lowo monakalo.' **16** Ngakho-ke nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: 'Ngizabuya eJerusalemale ngilomusa, khonapho indlu yami izakwakhiwa kutsha. Intambo yesilinganiso izakwelulwa eJerusalemale,' kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **17** Memezela njalo uthi: Nanku akutshoyo uThixo uSomandla, uthi: 'Amadolobho ami azaphinda njalo aphuphume ngenotho, njalo uThixo uzaphinda ayiduduze iZiyoni, ayikhethe iJerusalemale.'" **18** Ngase ngiphakamisa amehlo ami, phambi kwami kwakulempondo ezine! **19** Ngabuza ingilosi leyo eyayikhuluma lami, ngathi, "Kuyini lokhu?" Yaphendula yathi, "Lezi yizo impondo ezachitha uJuda, lo-Israyeli leJerusalemale." **20** UThixo wasengitshengisa abakhandi abane. **21** Ngabuza ngathi, "Laba bazekwenzani na?" Waphendula wathi, "Lezi yimpondo ezachitha uJuda ukuze angabikhona ovusa ikhanda, kodwa abakhandi balande ukuxegisa amadolo abo, bazilahlele phansi impondo lezi

eezizwe ezaphakamisa impondo zazo phezu kwelizwe lakojuda ukuchitha abantu balo."

2 Ngaphakamisa amehlo, phambi kwami kwakulomuntu ophethe intambo yokulinganisa! **2** Ngabuza ngathi, "Uya ngaphi na?" Wangiphendula wathi, "Ngiyalinganisa iJerusalemale, ukubona ukuthi ibanzi njalo inde kangamani." **3** Ingilosi leyo eyayikhuluma lami yasisuka, kweza enye ingilosi iyihlangabeza **4** yathi kuyo: "Gijima utshele ijaha leliyana uthi, 'IJerusalemale izakuba lidolobho elingelamiduli ngenxa yobunengi abantu lezifuyo phakathi kwalo. **5** Mina ngokwami ngizakuba ngumduli womlo olizungezileyo,' kutsho uThixo, 'njalo ngizakuba yinkazimulo ngaphakathi kwalo.' **6** Wozani! Wozani! Balekani kulelolizwe lasenyakatho," kutsho uThixo, "ngoba ngilichithachithi kuyo yonke imimoya yomine yezulu," kutsho uThixo. **7** "Woza, yeyi wena Ziyoni! Balekani lina elihlala eNdodakazini yaseBhabhiloni!" **8** Ngoba lokhu kutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla, uthi: "Ngemva kokuba Olodumo esengithumile ukumelana lezizwe eziliphangileyo ngoba loba ngubani oke alithinte lina uthinta igugu lakhe **9** ngempela ngizaphakamisela isandla sami kubo ukuze izigqili zabo zibhange. Lapho-ke lizakwazi ukuthi uThixo uSomandla nguye ongithumileyo. **10** Memeza ujabule, we Ndodakazi yaseZiyoni. Ngoba ngiyeza, njalo ngizahlala phakathi kwenu," kutsho uThixo. **11** "Izizwe ezinengi zizahlanganiswa loThixo ngalelolanga njalo zizakuba ngabantu bami. Ngizahlala phakathi kwenu njalo lizakwazi ukuthi uThixo uSomandla ungithumile kini. **12** UThixo uzamthatha uJuda njengelifa abe yisabelo sakhe elizweni elingcwele njalo uzaphinda ayikhethe iJerusalemale. **13** Pholani lithule phambi kukaThixo, bantu lonke, ngoba uphakamile waphuma endaweni yakhe engcwele."

3 Yase ingitshengisa uJoshuwa umphristi omkhulu emi phambi kwengilosi kaThixo, loSathane emi kwesokunene sakhe ephikisana laye. **2** UThixo wathi kuSathane, "UTHixo uyakukhuza, Sathane! UThixo oyikhetshileyo iJerusalemale, uyakukhuza! Umuntu lo kasisikhuni esihwathshwe sibhebha na?" **3** UJoshuwa wema phambi kwengilosi egqoke ezingcolileyo. **4** Ingilosi yasisithi kulabo ababemi phambi kwayo, "Mkhululeni izigqoko lezi ezingcolileyo." Yasisithi kuJoshuwa, "Uyabona, sengisisusile isono sakho, yikho sengizagugqokisa izigqoko ezinhle kakhulu." **5** Ngasengisithi, "Mthwaliseni iqhiye ehlanzekileyo ekhanda lakhe." Basebemthwalisa iqhiye ehlanzekileyo ekhanda, bamgqokisa njalo, ingilosi kaThixo ilokhu imi khonapho. **6** Ingilosi kaThixo yasimupha umlayo lo uJoshuwa, yathi: **7** "Nanku akutshoyo uThixo uSomandla: 'Nxa uzahamba ngezindlela zami ugcine izimiso zami, lapho-ke uzabusa indlu yami, uwaphathe lamaguma ami, njalo mina ngizakupha indawo phakathi kwalaba abemiyo lapha. **8** Lalela, wena mphristi omkhulu Joshuwa, kanye labakhula bakho abahlezi phambi kwakho, abangamadoda ayisitshengiselo sezinto ezizayo: Ngizaletha inceku yami ihlumele. **9** Uyabona, iIitshe engilimise phambi kukaJoshuwa! Kulamehlo ayisikhombisa phezu kwelitshe lilinye, njalo ngizagubha umbhalo kulo,' kutsho uThixo uSomandla, 'njalo ngizasisusa isono salelilizwe ngelanga elilodwa zwi. **10** Ngalelolanga lowo lalowo wenu uzamema umakhelwane wakhe ukuthi ahlane ngaphansi kwevini lomkhiza wakhe,' kutsho uThixo uSomandla."

4 Ingilosi eyayikhuluma lami yabuya njalo yazangivusa njengomuntu evuswa ebuthongweni. **2** Yangibuza yathi, “Ubonani na?” Ngaphendula ngathi, “Ngibona uluthi lwesibane olwenziwe ngokugcweleyo ngegolide, lulomganu phezulu lezibane eziyisikhombisa lezimbobo zezibane eziyisikhombisa. **3** Njalo kulezihlahla zama-oliva ezimbili eduze kwalo, esinye ngakwesokunene komganu, esinye kwesokhohlo.” **4** Ngayibuza ingilosi eyayikhuluma lami, ngathi, “Kuyini lokhu, nkosi yami?” **5** Yaphendula yathi, “Kawukwazi ukuthi yizinto bani lezi?” Ngathi, “Hatshi, nkosi yami.” **6** Yasisithi kimi, “Nanti ilizwi likaThixo kuZerubhabheli, Hatshi ngempi kumbe ngamandla, kodwa ngoMoya wami, kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **7** Uvele uyini, wena ntaba enkulu? KuZerubhabheli uzakuba ngumhlabathi owendlalekileyo. Khonapho usezaletsa ilitshe lokuphetha abantu bememeza besithi, ‘Nkulunkulu libusise! Nkulunkulu libusise!’” **8** Kwasekufika ilizwi likaThixo kimi lisithi: **9** “Izandla zikaZerubhabheli zisibekile isisekelo saleli ithempeli; izandla zakhe zizaliqedisa ukulakha. Ngakho lizakwazi ukuthi uThixo uSomandla ungithumile kini. **10** Ngubani oludelelayo usuku lwezinto ezincane? Amehlo kaThixo ayisikhombisa agcwala umhlaba wonke jikelele azathokozelela ukubona intambo yokuqondisa esandleni sikaZerubhabheli?” **11** Ngasengiyibuza ingilosi, ngathi, “Lezi zihlahla ezimbili zama-oliva kwesokunene lakwesokhohlo phezu koluthi lwesibane ngezani?” **12** Ngayibuza futhi ngathi, “Amahlumela la amabili om’oliva eceleni kwezinti ezimbili zegolide okumpompoza kuzo amafutha aligolide zona ziyini?” **13** Yaphendula yathi, “Kawuzazi ukuthi ziyini na?” Ngathi, “Hatshi, nkosi yami.” **14** Yasisithi, “Laba yibo ababili abagcotshiweyo ukukhonza iNkosi yomhlaba wonke.”

5 Ngaphinde ngakhangele, phambi kwami kwakulomqulu wencwadi ondizayo! **2** Yangibuza yathi, “Ubonani na?” Ngaphendula ngathi, “Ngibona umqulu wencwadi ondizayo, omude izingalo ezingamatshumi amathathu lobubanzi obulitshumi lanhlano.” **3** Yasisithi kimi, “Lesi yisithuko esizakwehlela lonke ilizwe; ngoba ithi incwadi kwelinye icele layo, amasela wonke azaxotshwa elizweni, ibisisithi ngakwelinye icele, wonke lowo ofunga ngamanga uzaxotshwa elizweni. **4** UThixo uSomandla uthi, ‘Ngizayithumezela ingene endlini yesela lasendlini yalowo ofunga ngebizo lami. Umqulu lo uzahlala endlini yakhe, uchithize izigodo zayo kanye lamatshe.’” **5** Ingilosi eyayikhuluma lami yasondela yathi kimi, “Vusa amehlo ubone ukuthi kuyini lokhu yana okuvelayo.” **6** Ngabuza ngathi, “Kuyini?” Yaphendula yathi, “Yisilulu sokulinganisa.” Yengeza yathi, “Lobu yibubi babantu elizweni lonke leli.” **7** Kwasekusibukulwa isiciko sesilulu lesa, kwabonakala phakathi kuhlezi owesifazane! **8** Yathi, “Lobu yibubi,” yasimfuqela phakathi esilulwini wawala ngesiciko emlonyeni wesilulu. **9** Ngasengikhangele, khonapho phambi kwami kwakulabesifazane ababili belemipiko ezigcwele umoya! Babelemipiko ezifana lezengabuzane, baphakamisa isilulu saba phakathi kwezulu lomhlaba. **10** Ngabuza ingilosi eyayikhuluma lami ngathi, “Basisa ngaphi isilulu lesi na?” **11** Yaphendula yathi, “Basisa elizweni laseBhabhiloni ukuyasakhele indlu khonale. Nxa isiphelile isilulu sizahlaliswa kuhle khonale endaweni yaso.”

6 Ngaphinde ngaphakamisa amehlo njalo phambi kwami kwakulezinqola zempi ezine ziqhamuka okhalweni lwezintaba ezimbili, izintaba zethusi! **2** Inqola yakuqala

yayilamabhiza abomvu, eyesibili ilamnyama, **3** eyesithathu amhlophe, eyesine alamabala, wonke elamandla. **4** Ngayibuza ingilosi eyayikhuluma lami ngathi, “Kuyini lokhu, nkosi yami?” **5** Ingilosi yangiphendula yathi, “Le yimimoya emine yasezulwini, ephumayo ekumeni phambi kukaThixo womhlaba wonke. **6** Le elamabhiza amnyama iqonda elizweni elisenyakatho, eyawamhlophe iqonda entshonalanga, kuthi eyawamabala iqonda eningizimu.” **7** Kwathi lawomabhiza alamandla esephuma ayesadalala ezama ukuya kuwo wonke umhlaba. Yathi kuwo, “Hambani kuwo wonke umhlaba.” Lakanye aya kuwo wonke umhlaba. **8** Yase ingibiza yathi, “Uyabona, lawana aqonda elizweni elisenyakatho asenike uMoya wami ukuphumula elizweni lasenyakatho.” **9** Ilizwi likaThixo lafika kimi lathi: **10** “Thatha isiliva legolide kwabathunjweyo uHelidayi loThobhiya loJedaya asebebuyile eBhabhiloni. Hamba ngalelolangi endlini kaJosiya indodana kaZefaniya. **11** Thatha isiliva legolide wenze umqhele uwethese umphristi omkhulu uJoshua indodana kaJozadaki. **12** Umtshele ukuthi nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla, uthi: ‘Nansi indoda obizo layo liHlumela, njalo uzahluma endaweni yakhe akhe ithempeli likaThixo. **13** Nguye ozakwaka ithempeli likaThixo, njalo uzagqokiswa ubukhosi, futhi uzahlala esihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi. Njalo uzakuba ngumphristi esihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi. Lokhu kokubili kuzahambelana kuhle.’ **14** Umqhele uzaphiwa uHelidayi, loThobhiya, loJedaya kanye loHenri indodana kaZefaniya njengesikhumbuzo ethempelini likaThixo. **15** Labo abasekudeni bazakuba bazakwelelela ukwakha ithempeli likaThixo njalo lizakwazi ukuthi uthixo uSomandla ungithumile kini. Lokhu kuzakwenzeka nxa limlalele ngokukhuthala uThixo uNkulunkulu wenu.”

7 Ngomnyaka wesine wenzosi uDaryu, ilizwi likaThixo lafika kuZakhariya ngelanga lesine lenyanga yesificamunye, inyanga ethiwa nguKhisilevu. **2** Abantu baseBhetheli babethume uShareza loRegemi-Meleki, kanye lamadoda asuka kubo ukuyancenga uThixo uSomandla **3** ngokucela abaphristi bendlu kaThixo uSomandla labaphrofethi ukuthi, “Ngilile yini njalo ngizile ukudla ngenyanga yesihlanu njengalokhu engihlala ngikwenza okweminyaka eminengi na?” **4** Laselifika ilizwi likaThixo uSomandla kimi lisithi: **5** “Buza bonke abantu belizwe kanye labaphristi uthi, ‘Lapho lalizila ukudla lilila ngenyanga yesihlanu leyesikhombisa okweminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa esidlule kamba lalizilela mina ngeqiniso na? **6** Njalo nxa lalisidla, linatha, angithi lalizikholisela lina na? **7** Kawasiwo yini la amazwi amenezelwa nguThixo ngabaphrofethi bamandulo lapho iJerusalem lamadolobho aseduzane ayelokuthula ephumelela, leNegebi kanye lamaqaqa asentshonalanga kwakhiwe kuhle na?’” **8** Laphinde lafika njalo ilizwi likaThixo kuZakhariya lathi: **9** “Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla, uthi: ‘Yahlulelani ngobuqotho; litshengise isihawu lozwelo omunye komunye. **10** Lingamcindezeli umfelokazi noma intandane, lowezizweni noma umyanga. Lingakhumbulelani okubi ezinhliziyweni zenu.’” **11** Kodwa bala ukulalela; baqholoza bafulathela njalo bagcika indlebe zabo. **12** Benza inhliziyiyo zabo zaba lukhuni njengelitsheshe kabaze balalela umlayo loba amazwi kaThixo uSomandla ayewathumile ngoMoya ngabaphrofethi bamandulo. Yikho uThixo uSomandla wathukuthela kabuhlungu. **13** ‘Ngababiza, kodwa kabalalelanga; yikho labo

sebememeza kangibalalanga,' kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **14** 'Ngabachithachitha ngesivunguzane baya ezizweni zonke lapho ababa yizihambi khona. Ilizwe lasala selilihlane nje kungasahlaleki kulo futhi kungasedluleki khona. Balenza lajuka kanjalo ilizwe elihle laba yinkangala.'"

8 Lafika njalo kimi ilizwi likaThixo uSomandla. **2** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla: "Ngilobukhwele kabi ngeZiyoni; ngiyatsha ngobukhwele ngayo." **3** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo: "Ngizabuyela eZiyoni ngihlale eJerusalem. Lapho-ke iJerusalem izathiwa nguMuzi weQiniso, lentaba kaThixo uSomandla izabizwa ngokuthi yiNtaba eNgcwele." **4** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla, uthi: "Kuzakwenzakala njalo ukuthi amaxhegu lezalukazi bahlale nje ezitaladini zeJerusalem, ngulowo lodondolo lwakhe esandleni ngenxa yokuluphala. **5** Izitalada zedolobho zizaphithizela abafana lamantombazana bezidlalela khona." **6** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla, uthi: "Kungabonakala njengesimanga kwabayinsalela yalababantu ngalesosikhathi, kodwa kambe kungabonakala njengesimanga kimi na?" kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **7** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla, uthi: "Ngizabasindisa abantu bami emazweni asempumalanga lasemazweni asentshonalanga. **8** Ngizababuyisela bayehlala eJerusalem; bazakuba ngabantu bami, lami ngizathembeka njalo ngibe lokulunga kubo njengoNkulunkulu wabo." **9** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla, uthi: "Lina okwamanje eliwezwayo amazwi la akhulunywa ngabaphrofethi ababekhona kubekwa isisekelo sendlu kaThixo uSomandla, qinisani izandla zenu ukuze ithempeli lakhiwe. **10** Mandulo kwesikhathi leso kwakungekho imbadalo ngomsebenzi womuntu loba owenyamazana. Umuntu loba engubani wayengazihambeli loba azenze okwakhe ekhululeki ngenxa yezitha, ngoba abantu ngasengibaxabanise labomakhelwane babo. **11** Kodwa khathesi kangisayikwenza kulaba abayinsalela njengalokho engakwenzayo endulo," kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **12** "Inhlanyelo izakhula kuhle, ivini lizakhupha izithelo zalo, umhlabathi uzakhulisa amabele, lamazulu azakwehlisa amazolo awo. Zonke izizintlo ngizazinika njengelifa kwabayinsalela yalababantu. **13** Njengoba beliyinto eqalekisiweyo phakathi kwezizwe, wena Juda lo-Israyeli, ngakho ngizalisindisa libe yisibusiso. Lingesabi, kodwa qinisani izandla zenu." **14** Nanku akutsho uThixo uSomandla, uthi: "Kanjengalokhu ngasengimisile ukwehlisela umonakalo phezu kwenu angaze ngatshengisa uzwelo lapho okhokho benu bangizondisa," kutsho uThixo uSomandla, **15** "yikho manje sengimisile ukwenza ubuhle njalo eJerusalem lakoJuda. Lingesabi. **16** Nanzi izinto okumele lizenze: Khlukamani iqiniso omunye komunye, njalo lehlulelane ngeqiniso langokuqonda emithethwandaba yenu; **17** lingakheli umakhelwane wenu amacebo amabi, njalo lingaze lathanda ukufunga ngokungamanga. Konke lokhu ngiyakuzonda," kutsho uThixo. **18** Ilizwi likaThixo uSomandla laphinda labuya kimi. **19** Nanku akutsho uThixo uSomandla, uthi, "Amazilo awenyanga yesine, leyesihlanu, leyesikhombisa kanye leyetshumi azakuba yizikhathi zokuthokoza lokujabula, abe yimikhosi yokuthaba koJuda. Ngakho-ke thandani iqiniso lokuthula." **20** Nanku akutsho uThixo uSomandla: "Abantu abanengi lezakhamizi zamadolobho amanengi basezakuba, **21** njalo izakhamizi zedolobho leli zizakuya kwezakuleliyana zifike zithi, 'Kasihambe khathesi lokhu siyocenga uThixo, simfune uThixo uSomandla. Mina sengihamba.' **22** Kuzakuthi

abantu abanengi lezizwe ezilamandla zizakuba eJerusalem ukuzafuna uThixo uSomandla bezocela kuye." **23** Nanku akutsho uThixo uSomandla, uthi: "Ngalezonsuku amadoda alitshumi aphuma kuzozonke izindimi lezizwe azagagadlala umphetho wengubo yomJuda oyedwa athi, 'Wothi sihambe lawe ngoba sesizwile ukuthi uNkulunkulu ulani.'"

9 Isiphrofethi: Ilizwi likaThixo liqophe ilizwe laseHadiraki lize liyokweyama phezu kweDamaseko ngoba amehlo abantu lawezizwana zonke zika-Israyeli akuThixo **2** lapho kweHamathi layo, engcecelane layo, lapho kweThire leSidoni, lokuba nje zilobungcitshi. **3** IThire isizakhele inqaba; isibuthelele isiliva kwangathi luthuli; legolide njengomhlabathi wemigaweni. **4** Kodwa uThixo uzayemuka inothi yayo achithe lamandla ayo asowandle, kuthi yona iqedwe ngumlilo. **5** I-Ashikheloni izakubona lokho yesabe; iGaza izathuthumela izwe ubuhlungu, le-Ekroni layo, ngoba ithemba layo lizabuna. iGaza izabuhelwa yinkosi yayo le-Ashikheloni isale ingaselamuntu. **6** Abezizwe bazayithatha i-Ashidodi bahlale kuyo, njalo ngizakuqeda ukuzigqaja kwamafilistiya. **7** Ngizathatha igazi emiloneni yabo, okuyikudla okungavunyelwayo ngikukhuphe emazinyweni abo. Labo abaseleyo bazakuba ngabakaNkulunkulu wethu njalo babengabakhokheli koJuda, le-Ekroni izakuba njengamajebusi. **8** Kodwa ngizayivikela indlu yami kulabo abangabaphangi. Kakusayikuphinda kwenzeke ukuthi umncindezeli achithe abantu bami, ngoba manje sengihlezi ngiqaphele. **9** Thokoza kakhulu, wena Ndodakazi yaseZiyoni! Memeza, Ndodakazi yaseJerusalem! Khangela, inkosi yakho iyeza kuwe, iza ilungile ilensindiso, imnene, ihamba igade ubabhemi, iphezu kwenkonyane, inkonyane kababhemi. **10** Ngizazisusa izinqola zempi ko-Efrayimi lamabhiza empi eJerusalem, ledandili lempi lizakwepulwa. Izamemezela ukuthula phakathi kwezizwe. Umbuso wayo uzasukela elwandle usiya elwandle, njalo kusukela eMfuleni kusiya emaphethelweni omhlaba. **11** Wena pho, ngenxa yegazi lesivumelwano lawe, ngizakuhlala izibotshwa zakho emgodini ongelamanzi. **12** Buyelani enqabeni yenu, lina zibotshwa ezilethemba; sengihle ngibika ukuthi ngizalibuyisela izibusiso ngokuphindwe kabili. **13** Ngizamgoba uJuda njengalokhu ngigoba idandili lami besengicwalisa ngo-Efrayimi. Ngizawahlakoza amadodana akho, wena Ziyoni, avukele amadodana akho, wena Grisi, ngikwenze ube njengenkamba yebutho. **14** Kulapho-ke uThixo azaqhamuka ngaphezu kwabo; umtshoko wakhe uzabenezela njengonyezi. UThixo Wobukhosi uzatshaya icilongo; uzahaluzela ngeziphepho zaseningizimu, **15** njalo uThixo uSomandla uzabavikela. Bazabubhisa njalo banqobe ngamatsho ezavutha. Bazanatha baklabalale njengabadakwe liwayini; bazagcwala lona njengomganu osetshenziswa kuchelwa amagumbi e-alithare. **16** UThixo uNkulunkulu wabo uzabasindisa ngalelolang njengoba bengumhlambi wezimvu zakhe. Bazakhazimula elizweni lakhe njengamatsho aligugu acecise umqhele. **17** Yeka ukukhanga kwabo lobuhle abazakuba yibobona! Isivuno esihle sizatshwaphulula izinsizwa, lewayini elitsha lithokozise izintombi.

10 Celani kuThixo izulu ngesikhathi sentwasahlobo; nguye uThixo owenza amayezi aleziphepho. Unika imikhizo yezulu ebantwini, lezihlahla zeganga ebantwini bonke. **2** Izithombe zikhuluma inkohliso, izangoma zibona imibono yamanga; zikhuluma amaphupho amanga; ziphe

induduzo engesulutho. Kungakho abantu bephumputheka njengezimvu bahlupheke ngoba bengamelusi. **3** “Ulaka lwami luyavutha kubelusi, njalo ngizabajezisa abaholi; ngoba uThixo uSomandla uzawunakekela umhlambi wezimvu zakhe, indlu kaJuda, abenze babe njengebhiza elisesithunzi empini. **4** Iilitshe lekhenoni lizvela kuJuda, kuye kuzavela isikhonkwane sethente, kuye kuzavela idandili lokulwa impi, kuye kuzavela bonke ababusi. **5** Ndawonye bazakuba njengamaqhawe alamandla empini enyathelela izitha zawo odakeni lwemigwaqo. Bazakulwa ngoba uThixo ephakathi kwabo, babanqobe abagadi bamabhiza. **6** Ngizayiqinisa indlu kaJuda, ngisindise indlu kaJosefa. Ngizababuyisa ngoba ngilesihawu kubo. Bazakuba sengathi kangizange ngibakhalale, ngoba nginguThixo uNkulunkulu wabo njalo ngizabaphendula. **7** Abako-Efrayimi bazakuba njengamaqhawe, lezinhliziyi zabo zizajabula kungathi banathe iwayini. Abantwababo bazakubona lokho bathokoze; inhliziyi zabo zizathokoza kuThixo. **8** Ngizabamema ngibabuthe ndawonye. Ngempela ngizabahlenga; bazakuba banengi njengakuqala. **9** Lanxa ngibahlakazile phakathi kwezizwe, kodwa bazangikhumbula khonale emazweni akude. Bona kanye labantwababo bazaphila, njalo bazabuya. **10** Ngizababuyisa basuke eGibhithe ngibaqoqe e-Asiriya. Ngizabaletha eGilyadi leLebhanoni, kuze kungasabi lendawo ebanelewo. **11** Bazadabula phakathi kolwandle lokuhlupheka; ulwandle oluphuphumayo luzadediswa lezinzi zonke zeNayili zizakoma qha. Ukuzikhukhumeza kwe-Asiriya kuzakwehliswa lentonga yobukhosi yaseGibhithe izaphela. **12** Ngizabaqinisa kuThixo, bona bazahamba ngebizo lakhe,” kutsho uThixo.

11 Vula iminyango yakho, wena Lebhanoni, ukuze umlilo uqhunjise imisedari yakho! **2** Lila, wena sihlahla sephayini, ngoba imisedari isiwile; ngoba izihlahla zobukhosi ziqhunjile! Lilani, mi-okhi yaseBhashani; igusu elivitshileyo selicakazelwe phansi! **3** Lalela ukulila kwabelusi; amadlelo abo amahle asetshabalalisiwe! Lalela ukubhonga kwezilwane; ihlathi elihle leJodani liqhunjile! **4** Nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uNkulunkulu wami, uthi: “Sana emadlelweni umhlambi wezimvu zokuhlathsha. **5** Abathengi bazo bayazihlaba bangajeziswa. Labo abazithengisayo bathi, ‘Makadunyiswe uThixo, senginohle!’ Abelusi bazo ngokwabo labo kabaziyekeli. **6** Ngoba kangisayikuba lozwelo ebantwini belizwe,” kutsho uThixo. “Ngulowo lalowo ngizamnika kumakhelwane wakhe lenkosini yakhe. Bazalincindezela ilizwe, kodwa kangiyikubalamelela ezandleni zabo.” **7** Ngakho ngizafaka emadlelweni izimvu ezasezikhethelwe ukuya esilaheni, ikakhulu lezo ezaziphathwa kabuhlungu. Ngasengithatha ingwegwe ezimbili ngabiza enye ngokuthi nguThandeka kwathi enye ngathi nguNhlanganis, ngasengizelusa izimvu. **8** Ngenyanga eyodwa ngaxotsha abelusi abathathu. Izimvu zanengeka ngami, lami zangidina **9** ngathi, “Kangisayikuba ngumelusi wenu. Yekela efayo ife, lehubhubho ibhubhe. Yekela lezo eziseleyo zidlane inyama yazo.” **10** Ngasengithatha ingwegwe yami ethiwa nguThandeka ngayephula, ngidiliza isivumelwano engangisenzile lezizwe zonke. **11** Sadilizwa ngalelolanga, yikho abadubekayo emhlambini ababengikhangele bakwazi ukuthi lokho kwakulilizwi likaThixo. **12** Ngabatshelela ngathi, “Nxa libona kufanele, ngiphani iholo lami; nxa njalo kungenjalo, yekelani.” Yikho basebengiholisa inhlamvu

zesiliva ezingamatshumi amathathu. **13** UThixo wasesithi kimi, “Iphosele kumbumbi,” imali engaka ababengilinganisele yona! Ngasengizithatha lezonhlamvu zesiliva ezingamatshumi amathathu ngaziphosela kumbumbi wembiza endlini kaThixo. **14** Ngasengiqamula ingwegwe yami yesibili ethiwa nguNhlanganis, ngiqamula ubuzalwane phakathi kukajuda lo-Israyeli. **15** UThixo wasesithi kimi, “Thatha futhi izikhali zomelusi oyisithutha. **16** Ngoba ngizamisa umelusi welizwe leli ongezukunanza ngezilahlekileyo, angawadingi amazinyane, angawelaphi alimeleyo, angawaphi ukudla aphilayo, kodwa adle inyama yezinonileyo, adlithize lamangqina azo. **17** Maye kumelusi oyisithutha, ohlamukela izifuyo! Sengathi angadliwa yinkemba igalele engalweni lelihlueni lakhe lakwesokunene! Sengathi ingalo yakhe ingahle yome qha, ilihlo lakhe langakwesokunene lihle life kokuphela!”

12 Isiphrofethi: ilizwi likaThixo mayelana lo-Israyeli. UThixo owachayayo amazulu, obeka isisekelo somhlaba, njalo owenza umphefumulo womuntu phakathi kwakhe, uthi: **2** “Ngizakwenza iJerusalem ibe njengenkele ezadakisa bonke abantu abakhelene layo. UJuda uzavinjezelwa laye njengeJerusalem. **3** Ngalelolanga, lapho izizwe zonke zomhlaba sezihlangene ukulwa laye, ngizakwenza iJerusalem ibe lidwala elingagudlukiyo elezizwe zonke. Bonke abazama ukulitshedisa bazazilimaza. **4** Ngalelolanga ngizakwenza wonke amabhiza ethuje labagadi bawo bahlanye,” kutsho uThixo. “Indlu kaJuda ngizahlala ngiyiqaphela, kodwa ngizaphumputhekisa wonke amabhiza ezizwe. **5** Lapho abakhokheli bakaJuda bazakuthi ezinhliziyweni zabo, ‘Abantu baseJerusalem baqinile, ngoba uThixo uSomandla unguNkulunkulu wabo.’ **6** Ngalelolanga ngizakwenza abakhokheli bakaJuda babe njengebhodo phezu kwezikhuni, njengobaqa oluvuthayo phakathi kwezithungo. Bazathungela ngapha langapha kutshe bonke abantu abakhelene labo, kodwa iJerusalem izasala imi injalo endaweni yayo. **7** UThixo uzasindisa imizi yakoJuda kuqala ukuze udumo lwendlu kaDavida lolwezakhamizi zaseJerusalem lungabi lukhulu kulokujuda. **8** Ngalelolanga uThixo uzabavikela labo abahlala eJerusalem, kuze kuthi lobuthakathaka kakhulu phakathi kwabo uzakuba njengoDavida, lendlu kaDavida izakuba njengoNkulunkulu, njengeNgilosi kaThixo ihamba phambi kwabo. **9** Ngalelolanga ngizaphuma ngiyebhubhisa zonke izizwe ezihlasela iJerusalem. **10** “Ngizathululela phezu kwendlu kaDavida laphezu kwabakhileyo eJerusalem umoya womusa lobubele. Bazakhangela kimi, mina abamgwazayo, bangililele njengomuntu elilela umntanakhe ozelwe yedwa, bamkhalele kabuhlungu njengomuntu ekhalela indodana yakhe elizibulo. **11** Ngalelolanga isililo eJerusalem sizakuba sikhulu njengesililo sikaHadadi-Rimoni emagcekeni aseMegido. **12** Ilizwe lizalila, yilesosizwana sisodwa, labafazi babo bebodwa; isizwana sendlu kaDavida labafazi babo, isizwana sendlu kaNathani labafazi babo, **13** isizwana sendlu kaLevi labafazi babo, isizwana sikaShimeyi labafazi babo, **14** lazozonke izizwana labafazi babo.”

13 “Ngalelolanga umthombo uzavulelwa indlu kaDavida labakhileyo eJerusalem, ukubahlanza izono lokungcola. **2** Ngalelolanga ngizawasusa amabizo ezithombe elizweni ukuze zingakhunjulwa njalo,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. “Ngizabasusa abaphrofethi kanye lomoya wokungcola phakathi kwelizwe. **3** Nxa ezabe elokhu ekhona ophrofethayo,

uyise lonina abamazalayo bazakuthi kuye, 'Kumele ufe ngoba usukhulume amanga ngegama likaThixo.' Uzakuthi ephrofitha abazali bakhe ngokwabo bazamgwaza. **4** Ngalelolanga ngulowo lalowo umphrofethi uzaba lamanhloni ngombono wakhe wokuphrofetha. Akayikwembatha isivunulo somphrofethi esoboya ezama ukukhohlisa. **5** Uzakuthi, 'Kangisuye umphrofethi, ngingumlimi; umhlabathi uyilapho okukokuphila kwami kusukela ebutsheni bami' **6** Aluba ebuzwa kuthiwe, 'Ngawani amanxeba la asemzimbeni wakho?' Uzaphendula athi, 'Ngamanxeba engawazuza endlini yabangane bami.' **7** Vuka, wena nkemba, vukela umelusi wami, uvukele umuntu osekhwapheeni lami!" kutsho uThixo uSomandla. "Tshaya umelusi, izimvu zizahlakazeka, njalo ngizaphendula isandla sami ngitshaye ezincinyane. **8** Kulolonke ilizwe," kutsho uThixo, "ezimbili kwezintathu zizatshaywa zife; kodwa ingxenye yesithathu izasala kulo. **9** Le ingxenye yesithathu ngizayifaka emlilweni; ngizabancibilikisa ngibacenge njengesiliva ngibahlolisise njengegolide. Bazalibiza ibizo lami, lami ngizabaphendula; ngizakuthi, 'Bangabantu bami,' labo bazakuthi, 'UTHixo unguNkulunkulu wethu.'"

14 Usuku lukaThixo luyeza mhla impango yenu izakwabiwa phakathi kwenu. **2** Ngizaqoqa zonke izizwe eJerusalem zilwe layo, idolobho lizathunjwa, izindlu ziguduzwe, abesifazane badlwengulwe. Ingxenye yedolobho izathunjwa isiwe ebugqilini, kodwa abaseleyo edolobheni kabayikubuthwa bathathwe. **3** Kuzakuthi kunjalo uThixo uzaphuma alwe lalezozizwe, njengokulwa kwakhe nxa kulilanga lempi. **4** Ngalelolanga inyawo zakhe zizakuma phezu kwentaba yama-Oliva, empumalanga kweJerusalem njalo intaba yama-Oliva izadabuka phakathi kusuka empumalanga kusiya entshonalanga, kudaleke isigodi esikhulu, ingxenye yentaba isudukele enyakatho, enye ingxenye yentaba iye enyakatho kuthi enye ingxenye isondele eningizimu. **5** Lizabaleka ngesigodi sami sentaba ngoba sihamba size siyofika e-Azeli. Lizabaleka njengalokho elakwenza libalekela ukuzamazama komhlaba ngezinsuku zika-Uziya inkosi yakoJuda. Lapho-ke uThixo uNkulunkulu wami uzakuza elabo bonke abangcwele bakhe. **6** Mhlalokho akuyikuba lokukhanya, kumbe ukuqanda loba unqwaqwane. **7** Kuzakuba lusuku olungajayelekanga, olungelamini njalo olungelabusuku, usuku olwaziwa nguThixo. Ukuhlwa kungafika kuzavela ukukhanya. **8** Ngalolosuku amanzi aphilisayo azageleza esuka eJerusalem, ingxenye iyethela olwandle lwempumalanga kuthi eyinye ithele entshonalanga, ehlobo kanye lebusika. **9** UThixo uzakuba yinkosi kuwo wonke umhlaba. Ngalolosuku kuzakuba loThixo oyedwa, lebizu lakhe libe yilo lodwa ibizo. **10** Ilizwe lonke kusukela eGebha kusiya eRimoni eningizimu kweJerusalem lizakuba njenge-Arabha. Kodwa iJerusalem izaphakanyiswa ihlale isendaweni yayo, kusukela eNtubeni kaBhenjamini kusiya eNtubeni Yokuqala, eNtubeni yaseJikweni, njalo kusukela emphotshongweni kaHananeli kusiya esikhanelweni sewayini. **11** Kuzakuba yindawo ehlala abantu, kayisayikuphinde njalo ibhidlizwe lanini. IJerusalem izahlala ivikelekile. **12** Lesi yiso isifo uThixo azatshaya ngaso zonke izizwe ezalwa leJerusalem. Inyama yabo izabola bona belokhu besazihambela ngezinyawo zabo, amehlo abo azabolela ezingoxweni zawo, lezindimi zabo zizabolela emilonyeni yabo. **13** Ngalelolanga abantu bazakwehliselwa nguThixo ukwethuka okwesabekayo. Ngulowo uzaxhakalaza isandla

somunye, bahlaselane. **14** UJuda laye uzakulwa eJerusalem. Inotho yazo zonke izizwe eziseduze izabuthwa, inqwaba yegolide lesiliva kanye lezizqoko. **15** Isifo esifana lalesi sizakwehlela amabhiza, imbongolo, amakamela labobabhemi lazozonke izinyamazana ezizabe zikulezozihonqo. **16** Kuzakuthi bonke abayinsalela kulezozizwe ezahlasela iJerusalem, bazakuphuka umnyaka ngomnyaka ukuyakhonza Inkosi, uThixo uSomandla lokuthakazelela uMkhosi weziHonqo. **17** Nxa bezakuba khona abesinye isizwe emhlabeni abangayikuya eJerusalem ukuyakhonza Inkosi, uThixo uSomandla, labo kabayikunelwa lizulu. **18** Aluba abantu baseGibhithe bengayi ukuyakhonza, kabayikuziza izulu. UThixo uzabehlisela isifo asehlisela lezozizwe ezingayiyi ukuyathakazelela uMkhosi weziHonqo. **19** Lesi sizakuba yisijeziso seGibhithe lesijeziso sazo zonke izizwe ezingayiyi ukuyathakazelela uMkhosi weziHonqo. **20** Ngalolosuku kuzalotshwa ukuthi "Kungcwele kuThixo" ezinsimbini ezikhencezayo zamabhiza, lezimbiza zokupheka endlini kaThixo zizakuba njengemiganu engcwele ephambi kwe-alithari. **21** Yiphi layiphi imbiza eJerusalem lakoJuda izaba ngcwele kuThixo uSomandla, njalo bonke abafikayo ukuza kwenza umhlatsshelo bazathatha ezinye zezimbiza bapheke ngazo. Njalo ngalolosuku kakusayikuba lomKhenani endlini kaThixo uSomandla.

UMalaki

1 Isiphrofethi, Ilizwi likaThixo ku-Israyeli ngoMalaki. **2** “Ngilithandle,” kutsho uThixo. “Kodwa liyabuza lithi, ‘Usithande njani?’” UThixo uthi, “U-Esawu wayengasimfowabo kajakhobe na? Yebo uJakhobe ngimthandle, **3** kodwa u-Esawu ngimzondile, futhi ngenze izintaba zakhe zaba lugwadule lelifa lakhe ladliwa ngamakhanka asenkangala.” **4** U-Edomi angathi, “Kungaze kubu sinyathezelwe phansi kodwa sizawuselela amanxwama.” Kodwa nanku okutshiwo nguThixo uSomandla, uthi: “Bangakha, kodwa ngizadiliza. Bazakuthiwa Yilizwe Elibi, abantu abazahlala bethukuthelwe nguThixo. **5** Lizakubona ngawenu amehlo lithi, ‘Umkhulu uThixo, angale kwemingcele yako-Israyeli!’” **6** “Indodana iyamesaba uyise, lenceku iyayesaba inkosi yayo. Aluba nginguyihlo kungaphi pho ukwesatshwa kwami? Aluba ngiyinkosi kungaphi ukuhlonitshwa kwami na?” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. “Yini, hawu baphristi, eleyisa ibizo lami. Kodwa lingabuza lithi, ‘Sileyise ngani ibizo lakho?’” **7** Libeka ukudla okungcolileyo e-alithareni lami. Kodwa lingabuza lithi, ‘Sikungcolise kanjani wena na? Ngokuthi itafula likaThixo liyeyiseka. **8** Nxa liletha izifuyo eziyiziphofu ukuba ngumhlatshe, kambe kakukubi lokho na? Nxa lisenza umhlatshe ngezifuyo eziyizilima loba ezilezifo, kakukubi lokho na? Ake lizame ukukunika umbusi wenu! Angalithabela lina na? Angalithanda kambe lina yini?’” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **9** “Ngakho-ke ncengani uNkulunkulu ukuthi abe lobubele kithi. Ngeminikelo enjalo ephuma ezandleni zenu, kambe angalamukela?” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **10** “Oh, sekuze kungathi omunye wenu angavala iminyango yethempeli ukuze lingabi lilokhu libasa imililo engelambezini e-alithareni lami! Kangithokozi ngani lina,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla, “njalo kangiyikwamukela umnikelo wezandla zenu. **11** Ibizo lami libaza likhulu phakathi kwezizwe, kusukela ekuphumeni kwelanga kusiya ekutshoneni kwalo. Ezindaweni zonke impepha leminikelo ehlanzekileyo izalethwa ebizweni lami, ngoba ibizo lami lizakuba likhulu phakathi kwezizwe,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **12** “Kodwa liyalingcolisa ngoba lithi, ‘Itafula kaThixo ingcolisiwe,’ lokudla okukulo, ‘Kuyadeleleka.’” **13** Njalo lichila amakhala ngokweyisa lithi, ‘Kuyasidina thina lokhu!’” Kutsho uThixo uSomandla. “Nxa liletha izifuyo ezilimeleyo kumbe ezigulayo lizozinikela zibe yimihlatshelo, lithi ngizemukele yini ezandleni zenu?” uyabuza uThixo. **14** “Uqalekisiwe umkhohlisi olenqama enhle emhlambini wakhe, athembise ukunikela ngayo, kodwa abesenikela ngesifuyo esilesici kuThixo. Ngoba ngiyinkosi enkulu,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla, “njalo ibizo lami kufanele lesatshwe phakathi kwezizwe.”

2 “Manje-ke nanku owenu umlayo, lina baphristi. **2** Nxa lingalaleli, njalo nxa lingalungisi inhliziyi zenu ukuhlonipha ibizo lami,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla, “ngizaletha isiqalekiso phezu kwenu, njalo ngiziqalekise izibusiso zenu. Yebo, kuvele nje sengiziqalekisiwe ngoba kalizimisela ezinhliziyweni zenu ukungesaba. **3** Ngenxa yenu ngizabakhalimela abantwabenu; ngizalihuqa ebusweni ngomswane wemihlatshelo yemikhosi yenu lithathwe linjalo lisiya ekuthunjweni. **4** Ngalokho lizakwazi ukuthi ngilithumele lesi isixwayiso ukuze isivumelwano sami loLevi siqhubeke,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **5** “Isivumelwano sami wayelaso, isivumelwano sokuphila lokuthula, izinto

engamupha zona; lokhu kwakuswela inhlonipho, lakanje wanginglonipha walesaba ibizo lami. **6** Imfundiso eqotho yayisemlonyeni wakhe njalo kakufunyanwanga lutho oluyinkohliso ezindebeni zakhe. Wahamba lami ngokuthula langobuqotho, waphendula abanengi ababesesonweni. **7** Ngoba izindebe zomphristi kumele zilonde ulwazi, abantu badinge kuye ukufundiswa ngoba uyisithunywa sikaThixo uSomandla. **8** Kodwa seliphambukile endleleni, kwathi njalo ngokufundisa kwenu lenza abanengi bakhubeka; lisephule isivumelwano loLevi,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **9** “Ngakho sengenze ukuthi leyiswe njalo liyangiswe phambi kwabantu bonke, ngoba kalilandelanga izindlela zami kodwa latshengisa ukubandlulula ekusebenziseni umthetho.” **10** KasilaBaba munye thina sonke na? Kasidalwanga nguNkulunkulu munye na? Pho singcoliselani isivumelwano sabokhokho bethu na ngokungathembani thina ngokwethu? **11** UJuda ukhohlisile. Kwenziwe amanyala ko-Israyeli laseJerusalem: uJuda useyitshaphazile indlu engcewe uThixo ayithandayo, ngokutshada lendodakazi kankulunkulu wabezizwe. **12** Leyondoda ekwenzayo lokho, lokuba ingubani, sengathi uThixo angayisusa emathenteni kajakhobe lanxa iletha iminikelo kuThixo uSomandla. **13** Enye into eliyenzayo nansi: Ligcwalisa i-alithari likaThixo ngezinyembezi. Liyakhala libubala ngoba kasayinanzi iminikelo yenu, njalo kasayamukeli ngokuthokoza ezandleni zenu. **14** Liyabuza lithi, “Kungani na?” Kungenxa yokuthi uThixo umi njengomfakazi phakathi kwakho lomfazi wobutsha bakho, ngoba umkhohlisile yena eyingxenyeyakho, umfazi wesivumelwano sakho somtshado. **15** UThixo kabenzanga baba munye na? Enyameni lemphefumulweni bangabakhe. Kungani bemunye? Ngoba wayedinga inzalo ekholwayo kuNkulunkulu. Ngakho ziqaphele emphefumulweni wakho, ungaze wamkhohlisa umfazi wobutsha bakho. **16** “Ngiyakuzonda ukuchitha umtshado,” kutsho uThixo, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uqhubeke esithi, “njalo ngiyayizonda indoda evala ngolaka kumkayo umkayo njengalokhu izivala ngesivunulo,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. Ngakho ziqaphele wena emphefumulweni wakho, ungaze wakhohlisa. **17** Selimdinile uThixo ngamazwi enu. Lingabuza lithi, “Simdinise kanjani?” Ngokuthi, “Bonke abenza ububi balungile emehlweni kaThixo, njalo uyathokoza ngoba,” loba ngokuthi, “Ungaphi uNkulunkulu wokwahlulela kuhle na?”

3 “Ngizathuma isithunywa sami esizangilungisela indlela. Kuzakuthi masinyane uThixo elimdingayo uzakuba ethempelini lakhe; isithunywa sesivumelwano, elisilangazelelayo sizakuza,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **2** Kodwa ngubani na ngalumela usuku lokuza kwaso? Ngubani ongema nxa eqhamuka na? Ngoba sizakuba njengomlilo womcengi wensimbi kumbe njengesepa yomgezisi. **3** Sizahlala njengomcengi lomhlambululi wesiliva; sizahlambulula abaLevi sibacenge njengesiliva legolide. Kulapho-ke uThixo azakuba lawo amadoda azaletsa iminikelo ngokulunga, **4** kuthi-ke iminikelo kajuda leyeJerusalem yamukeleke kuThixo, njengezinsukwini ezedlulayo, njengeminyakeni yekadeni. **5** “Ngakho ngizasondela kini ukuzakwahlulela. Ngizaphangisa ukufakaza okubi ngezangoma, ngeziphingi, labafungela amanga, labalo abadlezela izisebenzi ngomholo wazo, labo abancindezela abafelokazi lezintandane, abangahluleli kuhle abezizweni, kodwa abangangesabiyo mina,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **6** “Mina Thixo

kangiguquki. Ngalokho lina, bazukulu bakajakhobe, kalibhujiswanga. **7** Kulokhu kwasukela esikhathini sabokhokho benu laphambuka emilayweni yami kalaze layigcina. Buyani kimi, lami ngizabuya kini,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. “Kodwa liyabuza lithi, ‘Sibuyele kanjani na?’ **8** Umuntu angamphanga uNkulunkulu na? Lina liyangiphanga. Kodwa liyabuza lithi, ‘Sikuphanga kanjani na?’ Ngokwethumi langeminikelo. **9** Liphwiwe isiqalekiso, isizwe sakini sonke ngoba liyangiphanga. **10** Lethani konke okwethumi esiphaleni ukuze kube lokudla endlini yami.” Uthi uThixo uSomandla, “Ngilingani kulokhu libone ingabe kangikuwavula amasango ezulu ngithulule izibusiso elizaze liswele ukuthi lizithele ngaphi. **11** Ngizaxotsha izibungu ukuze zingadli amabele enu, lamavini emasimini enu kawayikukhithiza izithelo zawo,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **12** “Lapho izizwe zonke zizakuthi libusisiwe, ngoba elenu lizakuba yilizwe elibukekayo,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **13** Uthi uThixo, “Selikhuluma amazwi abuhlungu ngami. Kodwa liyabuza lithi, ‘Kuyini okubi esikutshiloyo ngawe na?’ **14** Lithe lina, ‘Kakusizi ngalutho ukukhonza uNkulunkulu. Sazuzani ngokulandela izimiso zakhe, saziphatha njengabalilayo phambi kukaThixo uSomandla na? **15** Kodwa manje isiqholo sithi singobusisiweyo. Ngeqiniso izigangi ziyaphumelela, kanye lalabo abamhwedelayo uNkulunkulu kabenziwa lutho.” **16** Kwathi labo ababemesaba uThixo bakhulumisana, uThixo walalela, wezwa. Umqulu wencwadi yesikhumbuzo walotshwa phambi kwakhe mayelana lalabo ababemesaba uThixo ababehlonipha ibizo lakhe. **17** Uthi uThixo uSomandla, “Bazakuba ngabami, ngosuku mhla ngibenza inotho yami eligugu. Ngizabayekela, njengoba indoda yayibe lesihawu ixolele indodana yayo eyincedisayo. **18** Njalo lizawubona umahluko phakathi kwabalungileyo lababi, phakathi kwalabo abamkhonzayo uNkulunkulu lalabo abangamkhonziyo.”

4 “Ngeqiniso luyeza usuku; luzavutha njengesithando somlilo. Zonke iziqholo njalo zonke izixhwali zizakuba ngamabibi, njalo lolosuku oluzayo luzabathungela ngomlilo,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. “Kakuyikusala mpande loba gatsha kubo. **2** Kodwa lina elilesabayo ibizo lami, ilanga lokulunga lizaphuma lilokusiliswa emaphikweni alo. Njalo lizaphuma liqolotshe njengamathole evulelwe esibayeni sawo. **3** Lapho-ke lizabanyathezela phansi ababi; bazakuba ngumlotha ngaphansi kwezinyawo zenu ngosuku lolo engizazenza ngalo lezizinto,” kutsho uThixo uSomandla. **4** “Khumbulani umthetho wenceku yami uMosi, izimiso kanye lemithetho engamupha yona eHorebhi ingeyawo wonke ama-Israyeli. **5** Khangelani, ngizalithumela umphrofethi u-Elija lungakafiki lolosuku olukhulu olwesabekayo lukaThixo. **6** Uzaguqulela inhlizyo zaboyise ebantwaneni babo, lezinhlizyo zabantwana zigqukele kuboyise; kungenjalo ngizakuza ngilitshaye ilizwe ngesiqalekiso.”

Itestamende elitsha



*UJesu wathi, "Baba, baxolele, ngoba kabakwazi abakwenzayo."
Njalo basebesabelana izigqoko zakhe ngokutshaya inkatho.
ULukha 23:34*

UMathewu

1 Umbhalo wosendo lukaJesu Khristu indodana kaDavida, indodana ka-Abrahamama: **2** U-Abrahamama wayenguyise ka-Isaka, u-Isaka uyise kaJakhobe, uJakhobe uyise kaJuda labafowabo, **3** uJuda uyise kaPherezi loZera, unina owayenguThamari, uPherezi uyise kaHezironi, uHezironi uyise kaRamu, **4** uRamu uyise ka-Aminadabi, u-Aminadabi uyise kaNashoni, uNahishoni uyise kaSalimoni, **5** uSalimoni uyise kaBhowazi, unina owayenguRahabi, uBhowazi uyise ka-Obhedi, unina owayenguRuthi, u-Obhedi uyise kaJese, **6** uJese uyise wenkosi uDavida. UDavida wayenguyise kaSolomoni, unina owayeke waba ngumka-Uriya, **7** uSolomoni uyise kaRehobhowami, uRehobhowami uyise ka-Abhija, u-Abhija uyise ka-Asa, **8** u-Asa uyise kaJehoshafathi, uJehoshafathi uyise kaJehoram, uJehoram uyise ka-Uziya, **9** u-Uziya uyise kaJothamu, uJothamu uyise ka-Ahazi, u-Ahazi uyise kaHezekhiya, **10** uHezekhiya uyise kaManase, uManase uyise ka-Amoni, u-Amoni uyise kaJosiya, **11** uJosiya owayenguyise kaJekhoniyi labafowabo ngesikhathi bethunjwe eBhabhiloni. **12** Enva kokuthunjwa eBhabhiloni: uJekhoniyi wayenguyise kaSheyalithiyeli, uSheyalithiyeli uyise kaZerubhabheli, **13** uZerubhabheli uyise ka-Abhiyudi, u-Abhiyudi uyise ka-Eliyakhimu, u-Eliyakhimu uyise ka-Azori, **14** u-Azori uyise kaZadokhi, uZadokhi uyise ka-Akhimu, u-Akhimu uyise ka-Elihudi, **15** u-Elihudi uyise ka-Eliyazari, u-Eliyazari uyise kaMathani, uMathani uyise kaJakhobe, **16** uJakhobe uyise kaJosefa, umkaMariya, owazala uJesu obizwa ngokuthi nguKhristu. **17** Ngokunjalo-ke, kwakulezizukulwane ezililishumi lane sezizonke kusukela ku-Abrahamama kusiyu kuDavida, ezililishumi lane kusukela kuDavida kusiyu ekuthunjweni yiBhabhiloni njalo ezililishumi lane kusukela ekuthunjweni kusiyu kuKhristu. **18** UJesu Khristu wazalwa kanje: Unina uMariya wayethembise ukuthi uzakwendela kuJosefa kodwa kwathi bengakahlangani wabonakala esezithwele kwenziwe ngoMoya oNgcwele. **19** Ngoba umkakhe uJosefa wayeyindoda elungileyo emthethweni, njalo engafuni ukumyangisa ebantwini, wacabanga ukumala ngasese. **20** Uthe esekucabangile lokhu, kwafika kuye ingilosi yeNkosi ephutsheni yathi, "Josefa ndodana kaDavida, ungesabi ukuthatha uMariya ukuba abe ngumkakho ngoba lokhu akhulelwe ngakho kuvela kuMoya oNgcwele. **21** Uzabeletha indodana ozayetha ibizo uthi nguJesu ngoba uzasindisa abantu bakhe ezonweni zabo." **22** Konke lokhu kwenzakala ukuze kugcwaliseke okwatshiwo yiNkosi ngomphrofethi ukuthi: **23** "Intombi egcweleyo izakhulelwa izale indodana, bayibize ngokuthi ngu-Emanuweli" (okutsho ukuthi, "uNkulunkulu ulathi"). **24** UJosefa esevukile ebuthongweni wenza lokho ingilosi yeNkosi eyayimlaye khona, wamthatha uMariya waba ngumkakhe. **25** Kodwa kazange embathe laye waze wabeletha indodana. Wayetha ibizo wathi nguJesu.

2 UJesu esezelwe eBhethilehema laseJudiya ngesikhathi sokubusa kwenkosi uHerodi, kwafika eJerusalema iZazi zivela empumalanga, **2** zabuza zathi, "Ungaphi lowo ozalelwe ukuba yinkosi yamaJuda na? Sibone inkanyezi yakhe empumalanga ngakho size ukuzamkhonza." **3** Kwathi inkosi uHerodi isikuzwile lokhu yakhathazeka, kanye leJerusalema lonke. **4** Kwathi esebizele ndawonye abaphristi abakhulu bonke labafundisi bomthetho, wababuza

ukuthi uKhristu wayezazalelwa ngaphi. **5** Baphendula bathi, "EBhethilehema laseJudiya, ngoba lokhu yikho okwalotshwa ngumphrofethi ukuthi: **6** 'Kodwa wena Bhethilehema, elizweni laJuda, kawumncinyane kulabo bonke ababusi bakoJuda; ngoba kuzavela umbusi kuwe, ozakuba ngumelusi wabantu bami bako-Israyeli.'" **7** UHerodi wasezibiza iZazi ngasese wadingisisa kuzo isikhathi inkanyezi eyaphuma ngaso ngqe. **8** Wabathuma eBhethilehema wathi, "Hambani liyemdinga umntwana. Lingamfumana lingazise masinyane ukuze lami ngihambe ngiyemkhonza." **9** Sezizwile okwatshiwo yinkosi, zasuka zahamba, inkanyezi leyo ezaziyibonile empumalanga yahamba phambi kwazo yaze yayakuma lapho umntwana ayekhona. **10** Zathi ziyibona inkanyezi zagcwala intokozo. **11** Zangena endlini zambona umntwana lonina uMariya, zakhothama zamkhonza. Zasezivula impahla zazo eziligugu zamkhunga zegzipho zegolide lempepha lemure. **12** Kwathi ngoba zixwayiswe ephutsheni ukuthi zingabuyeli kuHerodi, zaqonda elizweni lakibo ngenye indlela. **13** Kwathi sezihambile, ingilosi yeNkosi yabonakala kuJosefa ngephupho. Yathi, "Vuka uthathe umntwana lonina libalekele eGibhithe. Lihlale khonale ngize ngilitshele ngoba uHerodi uzamdinga umntwana efuna ukumbulala." **14** Ngakho wavuka wathatha umntwana lonina ebusuku waya eGibhithe **15** lapho abahlala khona uHerodi waze wafa. Ngakho kwagcwaliseka lokho iNkosi eyayikutshilo ngomphrofethi ukuthi, "Indodana yami gayikhupha eGibhithe." **16** Kwathi ukuba uHerodi ananzelele ukuthi iZazi zazimphicile wazonda kakhulu, wasekhupha umlayo wokuthi kubulawe bonke abantwana abangabafana eBhethilehema lasemangweni wonke oseduze, bonke ababeleminyaka emibili kusehla, kuhambelana lesikhathi lesi ayesitshelwe yiZazi. **17** Ngakho lokho okwakutshiwo ngumphrofethi uJeremiya kwagcwaliseka ukuthi: **18** "Ilizwi lizwakala eRama, ukukhala lesililo esikhulu, uRasheli ekhalele abantwana bakhe njalo wala ukududuzwa, ngoba kabasekho." **19** UHerodi esefile, ingilosi yeNkosi yabonakala ngephupho kuJosefa eseGibhithe **20** yathi, "Sukuma uthathe umntwana lonina liye elizweni lako-Israyeli ngoba labo ababefuna ukubulala umntwana sebefile." **21** Ngakho wasukuma wathatha umntwana lonina waya elizweni lako-Israyeli. **22** Kodwa wathi ngokuzwa ukuthi u-Akhelasi wayebusa eJudiya esikhundleni sikayise uHerodi wesaba ukuya khona. Kwathi esexwayiswe ephutsheni wahamba wayahlala eGalile, **23** edolobheni elalithiwa yiNazareth. Ngakho kwagcwaliseka okwatshiwo ngabaphrofethi ukuthi: Uzabizwa ngokuthi ngoweNazareth.

3 Ngalesosikhathi kwafika uJohane uMbaphathizi etshumayela enkangala yaseJudiya **2** esithi, "Phendukani ngoba umbuso wezulu ususondele." **3** Nguye lo okwakhulunywa ngaye ngumphrofethi u-Isaya kwathiwa: "Ilizwi lomemezayo enkangala lithi, 'Lungiselani iNkosi indlela, yenzani izindlela zayo ziqonde.'" **4** Izigqoko zikaJohane zazenzile ngoboya bekamela, elebhati lesikhumba okhalweni lwakhe. Ukudla kwakhe kwakuzintethe loluju lwenyosi zeganga. **5** Abantu baphuma baya kuye bevela eJerusalema lakulo lonke elaseJudiya lemangweni wonke waseJodani. **6** Bevuma izonzo zabo, babhaphathizwa nguye emfuleni uJodani. **7** Kodwa wathi ebona abaFarisi labaSadusi abanengi besiza lapho ayebhaphathizela khona wathi kubo, "Lina nzalo yezinyoka! Lilimukiswe ngubani ukuthi libalekele ulaka oluzayo na? **8** Thelani izithelo ezihambelana

lokuphenduka. **9** Njalo lingacabangi ukuthi lingazitshela ukuthi, 'Silu-Abhrahama ongubaba wethu.' Mina ngilitshela ukuthi kuwona amatshe uNkulunkulu angamenzela u-Abhrahama abantwana. **10** Ihloka selivele selisezimpandeni zezihlahla njalo zonke izihlahla ezingatheli izithelo ezinhle zizaganyulwa, ziphoselwe emlilweni. **11** Mina ngilibhaphathiza ngamanzi okutshengisa ukuphenduka. Kodwa ngemva kwami kuza olamandla kulami njalo kakungilingananga ukuthwala amanyathela akhe. Uzalibhaphathiza ngoMoya oNgcwele langomlilo. **12** Isitsha sakhe sokwela sisesandleni sakhe njalo uzathanyela isiza sakhe, abuthele amabele akhe wonke esiphahleni, kuthi amakhoba awatshise ngomlilo ongacitshekiyo." **13** UJesu weza eJodani evela eGalile ukuba abhaphathizwe nguJohane. **14** Kodwa uJohane wazama ukwenqaba ngokuthi, "Yimi engidinga ukubhaphathizwa nguwe, kanti pho ungeza njani kimi?" **15** UJesu waphendula wathi, "Yekela kube njalo okwakhathesi ngoba kufanele ukuba sikwenze lokhu ukuze sigcwalise konke ukulunga." Ngakho uJohane wasevuma. **16** Masinyane nje uJesu eqeda kubhaphathizwa waphuma emanzini. Khonkoko nje izulu lavuleka, wasebona uMoya kaNkulunkulu usehla njengejuba njalo usehla phezu kwakhe. **17** Ilizwi elavela ezulwini lathi, "Lo yiNdodana yami engiyithandayo; ngiyathokoza kakhulu ngayo."

4 UJesu wasekhokhela nguMoya wamusa enkangala ukuthi ayelingwa nguSathane. **2** Emva kokuzila ukudla okwensuku ezingamatshumi amane lobusuku obungamatshumi amane wayeselambile. **3** Umlingi weza kuye wathi, "Nxa uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu tshela amatshe la aphenduke abe yisinkwa." **4** UJesu waphendula wathi, "Kulotshiwe ukuthi: 'Umuntu kayikuphila ngesinkwa kuphela kodwa ngelizwi lonke eliphuma emlonyeni kaNkulunkulu.'" **5** USathane wasemthatha wamusa emzini ongcwele, wamisa engqongweni yethempeli. **6** Wathi kuye, "Nxa uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu, ziphosele phansi. Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: 'Uzalaya izingilosi zakhe ngawe, zikuqage ngezandla zazo, ukuze ungatshayeki nkonyawo lwakho elitshini.'" **7** UJesu waphendula wathi, "Kulotshiwe ukuthi, 'Ungayilingi iNkosi uNkulunkulu wakho.'" **8** Waphinda njalo uSathane wamusa entabeni ephakemayo kakhulu, wamtshengisa yonke imibuso yomhlaba lokucwebezela kwayo. **9** Wathi, "Ngizakunika konke lokhu nxa ungankhothamela, ungikhonze." **10** UJesu wathi kuye, "Suka kimi Sathane! Ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: 'Khonza iNkosi uNkulunkulu wakho njalo usebenzele yena yedwa.'" **11** USathane wasemtshiya, izingilosi zabuya zazomkhonza. **12** UJesu wathi esizwa ukuthi uJohane wayesevallewe entolongweni, wabuyela eGalile. **13** Wasuka eNazareth wayahlala eKhapenawume eyayisokhunjini lomfula emangweni wakoZebhuluni lakoNafithali, **14** ukugcwalisa lokho okwatshiwo ngomphrofethi u-Isaya ukuthi: **15** 'Lizwe likaZebhuluni lelizwe likaNafithali, iNdlela eya oLwandle, phetsheya kweJodani, iGalile yabeZizweni, **16** abantu ababehlezi emnyameni sebebone ukukhanya okukhulu; kulabo abahlezi elizweni lethunzi lokufa, ukukhanya sekufikile.'" **17** Kusukela ngalesosikhathi uJesu waqalisa ukutshumayela esithi, "Phendukani ngoba umbuso wezulu usondele." **18** Kwathi uJesu ehamba okhunjinini loLwandle lwaseGalile wabona izelamani ezimbili, uSimoni owayethiwa nguPhethro lomfowabo u-Andrea. Babephosela umambule

olwandle ngoba bengabagoli benhlanzi. **19** UJesu wathi, "Wozani lingilande, ngizalenza abagoli babantu." **20** Masinyane nje batshiya omambule babo bamlandela. **21** Esuka lapho wabona ezinye izelamani ezimbili, uJakhobe indodana kaZebhediya lomfowabo uJohane. Babephakathi kwesikepe loyise uZebhediya, belungisa omambule babo. UJesu wababiza, **22** baphanga batshiya isikepe kanye loyise bamlandela. **23** UJesu wahamba kulolonke iGalile efundisa emasinagogweni abo, etshumayela izindaba ezinhle zombuso, esilisa zonke izifo lemikhuhlane ebantwini. **24** Udumo lwakhe lwagcwala kulolonke elase-Asiriya, abantu baletha kuye bonke ababegula belezifo ezehlukeneyo, labo ababesebuhlungwini obukhulu, ababephetshwe ngamadimoni, ababelezithuthwane lababeyizilima, bonke wabasalisa. **25** Amaxuku amakhulu ayevela eGalile, eDekhapholisi, eJerusalem, eJudiya lasemangweni ongaphetsheya kweJodani amlandela.

5 Kwathi ebona amaxuku wakhwela entabeni wahlala phansi. Abafundi bakhe beza kuye. **2** Waseqalisa ukubafundisa esithi: **3** 'Babusisiwe abampofu emoyeni ngoba umbuso wezulu ungowabo. **4** Babusisiwe labo abakhalayo ngoba bazakududuzwa. **5** Babusisiwe abathobekileyo ngoba bazakuba zindlalifa zomhlaba. **6** Babusisiwe labo abalambela labomela ukulunga ngoba bazakusuthiswa. **7** Babusisiwe abalesihawu ngoba bazakuhawukelwa. **8** Babusisiwe abahlanzekileyo enhliziyweni ngoba bazabona uNkulunkulu. **9** Babusisiwe abagcina ukuthula ngoba bazathiwa ngamadodana kaNkulunkulu. **10** Babusisiwe abahlukunyezwayo ngenxa yokulunga, ngoba umbuso wezulu ungowabo. **11** Libusisiwe lina nxa abantu belithuka, belihlukumeza njalo beligcena ngobubi bonke ngenxa yami. **12** Thokozani lijabule ngoba mkhulu umvuzo wenu ezulwini, njengoba bahlukunyezwa ngaleyondlela abaphrofethi ababephambi kwenu.'" **13** "Lina lilitswayi lomhlaba. Kodwa nxa itswayi lingalahlekelwa yibumnyu balo, lingavuselelwa njani na? Kaliselamsebenzi ngaphandle kokuthi lichithelwe phandle linyathelwe ngabantu. **14** Lina liyikukhanya kwezwe. Idolobho elakhelwe entabeni kalisitheki. **15** Njalo abantu kabalumathisi isibane basibeke ngaphansi kwesitsha. Kodwa basibeka phezu koluthi lwaso ukuze sikhanyisele bonke abasendlini. **16** Ngokunjalo, yenzi ukukhanya kwenu kukhanye phambi kwabantu ukuze babone izenzo zenu ezinhle baze badumise uYihlo osezulwini.'" **17** "Lingacabangi ukuthi ngilande ukuzadiliza uMthetho kumbe abaPhrofethi. Kangilandanga ukuzediliza kodwa ukuzogcwalisa. **18** Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi kuze kunyamalale izulu lomhlaba kakuyikususwa lutho eMthethweni, loba libadlana kumbe lichatshana elilotshiweyo, kuze kuphelelise konke. **19** Loba ngubani owephula owodwa nje wale imilayo emincinyane, afundise abanye ukwenzanjalo uzathiwa mncinyane embusweni wezulu kodwa loba ngubani olandela njalo afundise imilayo le njengokuba, uzathiwa mkhulu embusweni wezulu. **20** Ngakho ngiyalitshela ukuthi ngaphandle kokuthi ukulunga kwenu kwedule okwabaFarisi labafundisi bomthetho, ngempela kalizukuwungena umbuso wezulu.'" **21** "Lezwa ukuthi kwathiwa kwabasendulo, 'Ungabalali; lowo obulalayo uzakwahlulelwa.'" **22** Kodwa ngilitshela ngithi loba ngubani ozondela umfowabo loba udadewabo uzakwahlulelwa emthethwandaba. Njalo lowo othi kumfowabo loba kudadewabo, 'Raca,' okutsho

ukuthi 'Silimandini,' uzathonisiswa emphakathini. Njalo lowo othi, 'Wena siwulal!' uzakuba sengozini yomlilo wesihogo. (Geenna g1067) 23 Ngakho-ke, nxa uletha isipho sakho e-alithareni ubusukhumbula ukuthi umfowenu kumbe udadewenu ulesikhwili lawe, 24 tshiya khonapho isipho sakho phambi kwe-alithari. Qala uyebuyisana laye umfowenu kumbe udadewenu andubana ubuye uzonikela umnikelo wakho. 25 Phangisa uqedelane lalowo okumangalelayo lisahamba lisiya emthethwandaba funa akunikele kumahluleli ozakunikela kumlindijele ukuthi akuphosele entolongweni. 26 Ngilitshela iqiniso, kawusoze uphume uze uhlawule kanye lohlamvana lokucina lwemali." 27 "Lezwa ukuthi kwathiwa, 'Ungaphingeni.' 28 Kodwa ngilitshela ukuthi lowo okhangela owesifazane amfise usephinge laye enhliziyweni yakhe. 29 Nxa ilihlo lakho lokunene likwenzisa isono, likopole, ulikhuphe ulilahlele khatshana. Kungcono kuwe ukuthi ulahlekelwe ngesisodwa isitho somzimba wakho kulokuthi umzimba wakho wonke uphosele esihogweni somlilo. (Geenna g1067) 30 Njalo nxa isandla sakho sokunene sikwenzisa isono, siqume usiphosele khatshana. Kungcono kuwe ukuthi ulahlekelwe ngesisodwa isitho somzimba wakho kulokuthi umzimba wakho wonke uye esihogweni somlilo." (Geenna g1067) 31 "Kwathiwa, 'Lowo owehlukana lomkakhe kamuphe incwadi yokuquma umtshado.' 32 Kodwa mina ngilitshela ngithi lowo ohlukana lomkakhe, ngaphandle kokuba ehlobongile, umenza afebe, njalo lowo othatha umfazi ohlukene lomkakhe uyaphinga." 33 "Njalo selezwa ukuthi kwathiwa kwabendulo, 'Ungephuli isifungo sakho kodwa gcwalisa izifungo zakho ozenzileyo eNkosini.' 34 Kodwa mina ngithi, lingafungi loba sokutheni, kumbe ngezulu ngoba liyisihlalo sobukhosi sikaNkulunkulu; 35 loba ngomhlaba ngoba uyisinyathelo sakhe loba ngeJerusalema ngoba lidolobho leNkosi enkulu. 36 Njalo ungafungi ngekhandla lakho ngoba unke wenze lalunye unwele lube mhlophe kumbe lube mnyama. 37 Okumele likutsho yikuthi 'Yebo' kumbe 'Hatshi'; okunye okungasilokhu kuvela komubi." 38 "Selezwa ukuthi kwathiwa, 'Ilihlo ngelihlo njalo izinyo ngezinyo.' 39 Kodwa mina ngiyalitshela ngithi, lingamelani lomuntu omubi. Nxa omunye angakutshaya esihlathini sokunene, muphe njalo esinye isihlathi. 40 Njalo nxa omunye efuna ukukumangalela ukunye akuthathele isigqoko sakho, myekele athathe leziza lakho njalo. 41 Nxa omunye ekubamba ngamandla ukuthi uhambe ikhilomitha elilodwa, hamba laye abe mabili. 42 Muphe lowo ocela kuwe njalo ungamfulatheli lowo ofuna ukweboleka kuwe." 43 "Selezwa ukuthi kwathiwa, 'Thanda umakhelwane wakho, uzonde isitha sakho.' 44 Kodwa mina ngilitshela ukuthi, thandani izitha zenu, libakhulekele labo abalihlukuluzayo, 45 ukuze libe ngamadodana kaYihlo osezulwini. Wenza ilanga lakhe liphume kwababi labalungileyo njalo anise izulu kwabalungileyo lakwabangalungaka. 46 Nxa lithanda labo abalithandayo kuphela, libazazwa mvuzo bani na? Kabenzi njalo na labathelisi? 47 Nxa libingelela abafowenu bodwa, kuyini elikwenzayo okwedlula abanye na? Kabenzi lokho labahedeni na? 48 Ngakho wobani ngabapheleleyo njengalokhu uYihlo osezulwini ephelele."

6 "Qaphelani ukuthi lingenzi izenzo zokulunga phambi kwabantu ukuze balibone. Nxa lisenza njalo kaliyikuba lomvuzo ovela kuYihlo ezulwini. 2 Ngakho nxa lisipha abaswelayo, lingamemezeli indawo yonke njengokwenziwa ngabazenzisi emasinagoweni lasezitaladini ukuze badunyiswe

ngabantu. Ngilitshela iqiniso, sebewemukele owabo umvuzo ngokugcweleyo. 3 Kodwa nxa lina lisipha abaswelayo isandla senu sokhohlo kasingakwazi lokho esikwenzayo esokunene, 4 ukuze ukupha kwenu kube sensitha. Ngakho uYihlo obona okwenziwa ensitha uzalipha umvuzo wenu." 5 "Nxa likhuleka lingabi njengabazenzisi ngoba bona bathanda ukukhuleka bem emasinagoweni lasemakhoneni ezitalada ukuze babonwe ngabantu. Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi sebewutholile owabo umvuzo ngokugcweleyo. 6 Nxa likhuleka, ngenani ezindlini zenu, livale iminyango beselikhuleka kuYihlo ongabonakaliyo. Ngakho uYihlo obona okwenziwa ensitha uzalipha umvuzo wenu. 7 Njalo nxa likhuleka lingenzi ubugabazi, lingqongoloz njengabahedeni ngoba bacabanga ukuthi bazezwakala ngenxa yamazwi abo amanengi. 8 Lingabi njengabo ngoba uYihlo uyakwazi elikuswelayo loba lingakacuceli kuye." 9 "Kumele likhuleke kanje: 'Baba wethu osezulwini, kalidunyiswe ibizo lakho, 10 umbuso wakho kawuze, intando yakho kayenziwe emhlabeni njengalokhu isenziwa ezulwini. 11 Siphe lamuhla isinkwa sethu sansukuzonke. 12 Njalo usithethelele izono zethu, njengoba lathi sibathethelela abasonelayo. 13 Njalo ungasingeni ekulingweni, kodwa usisindise komubi.' 14 Ngoba nxa libathethelela abayabe belonile, uYihlo osezulwini laye uzalithethelela. 15 Kodwa nxa libathetheleli abantu izono zabo, uYihlo kayikulithethelela lani izono zenu." 16 "Lapho lizila ukudla, lingabonakali linyukubele njengalokhu okwenziwa ngabazenzisi ngoba bakhangeleka bedanile ebusweni babo ukuze abantu babone ukuthi bazilile. Ngilitshela iqiniso ngithi sebewutholile owabo umvuzo ngokugcweleyo. 17 Kodwa lina nxa lizila, gcobani amafutha emakhanda enu, ligeze ubuso benu, 18 ukuze kungabonakali ebantwini ukuthi lizilile, kodwa kuYihlo kuphela ongabonakaliyo njalo yena obona okwenziwa ensitha uzalipha umvuzo wenu." 19 "Lingazibutheleli inotho emhlabeni lapho okubhubhisa khona inondo lokuthomba njalo lapho okugqokeza khona amasela. 20 Kodwa zibutheleleni inotho ezulwini lapho kungabhujiswa khona linondo lokuthomba njalo lapho okungagqokezi khona amasela. 21 Ngoba lapho okulenotho yakho khona kulapho inhliziyo yakho ezakuba khona. 22 Ilihlo liyisibane somzimba. Nxa amehlo akho elungile umzimba wakho wonke uzagcwala ukukhanya. 23 Kodwa nxa amehlo akho engahlambulukanga umzimba wakho wonke uzagcwala ubumnyama. Nxa ukukhanya okungaphakathi kwakho kungumnyama, pho mkhulu kanganani lowomnyama! 24 Kakalanceku engakhonza amakhosi amabili. Funa izonde enye kodwa ithande enye, kumbe izininkele kwenye yeiyise enye. Lingezake likhonze uNkulunkulu lemali." 25 "Ngakho ngiyalitshela ukuthi lingakhathazeki ngokuphila kwenu, ukuthi lizakudlani loba lizanathani; kumbe ngemizimba yenu, ukuthi lizagqokani. Impilo kayiqakathekanga ukwedlula ukudla na, lomzimba ukwedlula izigqoko na? 26 Khangelani izinyoni zasemoyeni; kazihlanyeli, kazivuni kumbe ukubuthela eziphaleni kodwa uYihlo osezulwini uyazipha ukudla. Lina kaliqakathekanga ukwedlula zona na? 27 Ngubani kini othi ngokukhathazeka angezelele ihola elilodwa empilweni yakhe na? 28 Kanti lizihluphelani ngezigqoko na? Ake libone ukuthi amaluba eganga akhula njani. Kawasebenzi njalo aweluki. 29 Kodwa ngilitshela ukuthi laye uSolomoni ekucwebezeleni kwakhe kazange acece njengawo. 30 Nxa kuyiyo indlela uNkulunkulu ahlobisa ngayo utshani beganga, obukhona namuhla kodwa kusasa sebuphoselela emlilweni,

pho lina kazukuligqokisa ngcono yini, lina bokukholwa okuncinyane? **31** Ngakho lingazihluphi lisithi, 'Sizakudlani?' kumbe 'Sizanathani?' loba 'Sizavunulani na?' **32** Ngoba abezizweni bagijimela zonke lezizinto kodwa uYihlo osezulwini uyakwazi ukuthi liyazinga. **33** Kodwa funani kuqala umbuso wakhe lokulunga kwakhe, kuzakuthi-ke zonke lezizinto liziphiwe lazo. **34** Ngakho lingazihluphi ngelakusasa ngoba ikusasa lizazingqekela lona. Usuku lunye ngalunye luhlenhlupho zalo oluzaneleyo."

7 "Lingahluleli funa lani lahlulelwe. **2** Ngoba ngaleyondlela elahlulela ngayo abanye lani lizakwahlulelwa ngayo, langalesosilinganiso elisisebenzisayo lani lizalinganiselwa ngaso. **3** Kungani ukhangelwa uvava lokhuni oluselihlweni lomfowenu unganqinekelel ukhuni olukwelakho ilihlo na? **4** Ungatsho kanjani kumfowenu ukuthi, 'Wothi ngikukhuphe uvava oluselihlweni lakho,' wena ulokhu ulokhuni kwelakho ilihlo? **5** Wena mzenzisi, qala ukhuphe ukhuni oluselihlweni lakho ukuze ubone kuhle nxa usukhupha uvava oluselihlweni lomfowenu. **6** Linganiki izinja okungcwele, lingaphoseli imicciso ezingulubeni, ngoba lingakwenza lokhu zizayinyathela ngezinyawo ziphinde ziphenduke ziyidabudabule." **7** "Celani lizaphiwa; dingani lizafumana; qoqodani lizavulelwa. **8** Ngoba wonke ocelayo uyaphiwa; odingayo uyafumana; lalowo oqoqodayo uzavulelwa umnyango. **9** Ngubani kini bobaba okuthi nxa indodana yakhe icela isinkwa ayiphe ilitshe na? **10** Loba ithi icela inhlanzi yena ayiphe inyoka? **11** Nxa lina elibabi likwazi ukupha abantwabenu izipho ezilungileyo, pho uYihlo osezulwini uzabapha kangakanani izipho ezinhle labo abacela kuye! **12** Kuzozonke izinto, yenzani kwabanye lokho elifuna bakwenze kini, ngoba lokhu yikho okuqoqela uMthetho labaPhrofethi." **13** "Ngenani ngesango elincinyane ngoba isango elikhulu lendlela ebanzi iholela ekubhujisweni njalo abanengi bangena ngalo. **14** Kodwa isango elincinyane lendlela yalo encinyane iholela ekuphileni, njalo balutshwana abayifumanayo." **15** "Qaphelani abaphrofethi bamanga abeza kini bezigqokise isikhumba semvu kodwa ngaphakathi bezimpisi ezifihlozayo. **16** Lizabazi ngezithelo zabo. Abantu bayawakha na amavini esihlahleni sameva kumbe amakhiwane edolofiyeni na? **17** Kanjalo-ke, sonke isihlahla esihle sithela izithelo ezinhle kodwa isihlahla esibi sithela ezimbi. **18** Isihlahla esihle ngeke sithela izithelo ezimbi njalo lesihlahla esibi kasingethele sithelo ezinhle. **19** Zonke izihlahla ezingatheli izithelo ezinhle ziyaganyulwa ziphoselwe emlilweni. **20** Ngakho-ke, lizabazi ngezithelo zabo." **21** "Kakusibo bonke abathi kimi, 'Nkosi, Nkosi' abazangena embusweni wezulu, kodwa ngulowo kuphela owenza intando kaBaba osezulwini. **22** Abanengi bazakuthi kimi ngalolosuku, 'Nkosi, Nkosi, kasiphrofithanga ngebizo lakho, njalo ngebizo lakho sakhupha amadimoni, senza lezimangaliso na?' **23** Lapho-ke, ngizabatshela kakuhle ngithi, 'Ngivele kangilazi. Sudulukani kimi, lina benzi bobubi!'" **24** "Ngakho lowo owezwayo amazwi ami la awenze unjengendoda ehlananiphileyo eyakhela indlu yayo edwaleni. **25** Lathaleka izulu, izifula zagcwala, wavunguza umoya watshaya phezu kwaleyondlu; kodwa kayiwanga ngoba yayixilise isisekelo sayo edwaleni. **26** Kodwa lowo owezwayo amazwi ami la angawenzi unjengendoda eyisiwula eyakhela indlu yayo etshebetsheni. **27** Lathaleka izulu, izifula zagcwala, umoya wavunguza watshaya phezu kwendlu leyo

yawa yabhidlika." **28** UJesu eseqedile ukukhuluma lezizinto, amaxuku abantu amangaliswa yikufundisa kwakhe, **29** ngoba wafundisa njengomuntu olamandla, hatshi njengabafundisi babo bomthetho.

8 Kwathi esehlile entabeni amaxuku abantu amlandela. **2** Indoda eyayilobulephero yeza yaguqa phambi kwakhe yathi, "Nkosi nxa uthanda ungangenza ngihlambuluke." **3** UJesu welula isandla sakhe wayithinta wathi, "Ngiyathanda, hlambuluka!" Masinyane nje yasila ebulepherweni bayo. **4** UJesu wasesithi kuyo, "Zwana, ungatsheli muntu ngalokhu. Kodwa hamba uyeziveza kumphristi, unikele ngesipho esamiswa nguMosi njengobufakazi ebantwini." **5** UJesu esengenile eKaphenawume, kwafika kuye induna yekhulu izocela uncedo. **6** Yathi, "Nkosi, inceku yami ilele phansi endlini, yome umhlubulo, isebuhlungwini obukhulu." **7** UJesu wathi kuyo, "Ngizakuza ngizeyisilisa." **8** Induna yekhulu yaphendula yathi, "Kakungilingananga ukuthi ungeza ungene ngaphansi kophahla lwami. Kodwa tshono ilizwi nje kuphela, inceku yami izasila. **9** Ngoba mina ngokwami ngingumuntu ongaphansi komthetho, ngilamabutho angaphansi kwami. Lo ngimthshela ngithi, 'Hamba, ahambe; ngithi kuloyana, 'Buya,' lakanye abuye. Ngithi encekwini yami, 'Yenza lokhu,' ikwenze." **10** UJesu wathi ekuzwa lokhu wamangala wathi kulabo ababemlandela, "Ngilithshela iqiniso, kangikamboni loyedwa ko-Israyeli olokukholwa okukhulu kangaka. **11** Ngithi kini abanengi bazavela empumalanga lentshonalanga, bahlale edilini lo-Abrahama, lo-Isaka loJakhobe embusweni wezulu. **12** Kodwa abanini bombuso bazaxotshelwa phandle emnyameni lapho okuzakuba khona ukukhala lokugedla kwamazinyo." **13** UJesu wasesithi enduneni yekhulu, "Hamba! Kuzakwenziwa njengalokhu ukholwa ukuthi kuzakwenziwa." Inceku yayo yahle yasila ngalesosikhathi. **14** Kwathi lapho uJesu esengenile endlini kaPhethro, wabona uninazala kaPhethro elele embhedeni ephethwe ngumkhuhlane woququho. **15** Wamthinta esandleni umkhuhlane wahle waphuma kuye, wavuka waqala ukumphakela. **16** Sekuntambama abanengi ababelamadimoni baletswa kuye wayikhupha imimoya ngelizwi njalo wasilisa bonke abagulayo. **17** Lokhu kwakugcwalisa okwakhulunywa ngomphrofethi u-Isaya ukuthi: "Wathatha ubuthakathaka bethu wathwala izifo zethu." **18** Wathi uJesu ebona amaxuku abantu abanengi bambuthanele, wathi akuchaphelwe ngaphetsheya ngakuleliyana icele lechibi. **19** Kwasesusiza kuye umfundisi womthetho wathi, "Mfundisi, ngizakulandela ungaze uye ngaphi." **20** UJesu waphendula wathi, "Amakhanka alemilindi lezinyoni zemoyeni zilezidleke, kodwa iNdodana yoMuntu kayilandawo yokufihla ikhanda layo." **21** Omunye umfundi wathi kuye, "Nkosi, akuthi ngiqale ngihambe ngyingcwaba ubaba." **22** Kodwa uJesu wamtshela wathi, "Ngilandela, uyekele abafuleyo bangcwabe abafuleyo babo." **23** UJesu wasengena esikepeni abafundi bakhe bamlandela. **24** Masinyane nje kwaphakama isiphopho esesabekayo echibini, amagagasi atshaya phezu kwesikepe. Kodwa uJesu wayelele. **25** Abafundi bahamba bayamvusa besithi, "Nkosi, sihlenge, Sesigalula!" **26** Waphendula wathi, "Lina bokukholwa okuncinyane, kungani lisesaba kangaka?" Wasephakama wawukhuza umoya kanye lamagagasi, kwasekuthula cwaka. **27** Amadoda amangala abuza athi, "Ngumuntu bani lo? Oze alalelwe ngumoya kanye lamagagasi!" **28** Wathi ekufikeni kwakhe ngakwelinye icele emangweni wamaGadarini wahlangabezwa

ngamadoda amabili ayelamadimoni eqhamuka emathuneni. Ayelodlakela, kungasadluli muntu ngaleyondlela. **29** Amemeza athi, “Ufunani kithi, Ndodana kaNkulunkulu? Uze lapha ukuzasihlupha singakafiki isikhathi esimisiweyo na?” **30** Bucwala kwawo umhlambi omkhulu wengulube wawusidla. **31** Amadimoni amncenga uJesu athi, “Nxa usikhupha, sithumele emhlambini wengulube.” **32** Wathi kuwo, “Hambani!” Aphuma ayangena engulubeni, umhlambi wonke waphaphatheka waqonda eliweni wangena echibini, wafela emanzini. **33** Labo ababezelusile baphaphatheka baqonda edolobheni bayabika konke lokhu, besitho lalokho okwenzakala kulawomadoda ayelamadimoni. **34** Khonapho idolobho lonke laphuma ukuyahlangana loJesu. Bathi sebembonile bamncenga ukuba asuke emangweni wakibo.

9 UJesu wangena esikepeni wachaphela ngasedolobheni lakibo. **2** Amanye amadoda aletha kuye indoda eyayome umhlubulo ilele ecansini. UJesu ebona ukholo lwawo wathi kweyome umhlubulo, “Woba lesibindi, ndodana; izono zakho sezithethelelwe.” **3** Bekuzwa lokho abanye abafundi bomthetho bahlela bodwa bathi, “Umuntu lo uyahlambazali!” **4** Esazi imicabango yabo uJesu wathi kubo, “Kungani licabanga izinto ezimbi ezinhliziyweni zenu na? **5** Yikuphi okulula ukuthi, ‘Izono zakho sezithethelelwe’ kumbe ukuthi, ‘Sukuma uhambe?’ **6** Kodwa ngifuna lazi ukuthi indodana yoMuntu ilamandla okuthethelela izono emhlabeni.” Wasesithi kweyome umhlubulo, “Sukuma uthathe icansi lakho uhambe uye ekhaya.” **7** Indoda yasukuma yaqonda ekhaya. **8** Ixuku labantu lathi likubona lokhu lesaba kakhulu; lamdumisa uNkulunkulu owayenike amandla la ebantwini. **9** Kwathi uJesu eseqhubeka esuka lapho, wabona indoda eyayithiwa nguMatewu ihlezi endaweni yokutheluma. UJesu wathi kuyo “Ngilandela,” uMatewu wahle wasukuma wamlandela. **10** Kwathi uJesu esidla endlini kaMatewu kweza abathelisi abanengi lezoni bonke bezokudla laye kanye labafundi bakhe. **11** Kuthe abaFarisi bekubona lokho babuza abafundi bakhe bathi, “Kungani umfundisi wenu esidla bathelisi lezoni na?” **12** UJesu wakuzwa lokho wathi, “Abaphilileyo kabayidingi inyanga kodwa idingwa ngabagulayo. **13** Kodwa hambani liyefunda ukuthi kutshoni lokhu ukuthi, ‘Ngoba ngifuna isihawu hatshi umhlatshelo. Ngoba kangilandanga ukubiza abalungileyo, kodwa izoni.’ **14** Kwasekufika abafundi bakaJohane bambuza bathi, ‘Kungani thina labaFarisi sizila kodwa abafundi bakho kabazili?’ **15** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Izethekeli zomyeni zingalila kanjani esesekhona phakathi kwazo na? Sizafika isikhathi lapho umyeni ezasuswa kuzo; kulapho-ke ezizazila khona. **16** Kakho umuntu othungela isichibi selembu elitsha elingakafinyeli esigqokweni esidala, ngoba isichibi sizadonsa esigqokweni ukudabuka kuqhele ngamandla. **17** Futhi abantu kabatheli iwayini elitsha emigodleni emidala. Bangenzenjalo imigodla izadabuka, iwayini lichitheke lemigodla ihle iguge iphele. Kodwa, bathela iwayini elitsha emigodleni emitsha besekulondolozeka kuhle kokubili.” **18** Wathi esakhuluma lokhu kwafika umbusi waguqa phambi kwakhe wathi, “Indodakazi yami isanda kufa. Kodwa ngicela uzebekisa isandla sakho phezu kwayo, izaphila.” **19** UJesu wasuka wahamba laye kanye labafundi bakhe. **20** Khonokho owesifazane owayehlutshwa ngumopho okweminyaka elitshumi lambili weza ngemva kwakhe wabamba umphetho wesembatho sakhe. **21** Wazitshela

wathi, “Nxa ngingathinta nje isembatho sakhe kodwa lokhu, ngizasila.” **22** UJesu wanyemukula wabona. Wathi kuye, “Mana isibindi ndodakazi, ukholo lwakho lukusilisile.” Lakanye owesifazane lowo wasila ngalesosikhathi. **23** UJesu wathi esengenile endlini yombusi wesinagoga wabona ababetsihaya imihubhe kanye lexuku elalixokozela, **24** wathi kubo, “Phumani. Intombazana kayifanga kodwa ilele.” Kodwa bamhleka usulu. **25** Ixuku labantu selikhutshelwe phandle, wangena wayibamba ngesandla intombazana yaphakama. **26** Indaba yesehlakalo lesi yamemetheka kuwo wonke umango wakuleyondawo. **27** Kwathi uJesu esuka lapho amadoda ayiziphofu amabili amlandela ememeza esithi, “Sihawukele, Ndodana kaDavida!” **28** Esengenile endlini iziphofu lezo zeza kuye wazibuza wathi, “Liyakholwa na ukuthi ngingakwenza lokhu?” Zamphendula zathi, “Yebo Nkosi.” **29** Wasezithinta amehlo wathi kuzo, “Kuzakwenziwa kini njengokukholwa kwenu?” **30** zasiliswa zabona. UJesu waziqonqosela wathi, “Akungabi lomuntu ozakwazi ngalokhu.” **31** Kodwa zasuka lapho zafakaza ngaye indawo yonke yelizwe lelo. **32** Ekuphumeni kwalezoziphofu, kwaletshwa kuJesu indoda eyayiledimoni iyisimungulu. **33** Kwathi idimoni selikhutshiwe indoda leyo eyayisimungulu yakhuluma. Ixuku labantu lamangala, abantu bathi, “Akukuzi kubonakale okunje ko-Israyeli.” **34** Kodwa abaFarisi bathi, “Amadimoni uwakhupha ngenkosi yamadimoni.” **35** UJesu wangena kuwo wonke amadolobho lemizi efundisa emasinagoweni abo, etshumayela izindaba ezinhle ezombuso njalo eselapha zonke izifo lemikhuhlane. **36** Wathi ebona amaxuku abantu wawazwela usizi ngoba ayehlukuluzekile njalo ephelelwe, enjengezimvu ezingelamelusi. **37** Wasesithi kubafundi bakhe, “Isivuno sinengi kodwa izisebenzi zimbawo. **38** Ngakho celani inkosi yokuvuna ukuba ithumele izisebenzi ensimini yokuvuna.”

10 UJesu wabizela ndawonye abafundi bakhe abalitshumi lambili wabapha amandla okukhupha imimoya emibi lokusilisa zonke izifo lemikhuhlane. **2** Amabizo abafundi abalitshumi lambili ayeyila: Owokuqala wayenguSimoni, othiwa nguPhethro lomfowabo u-Andriya; uJakhobe indodana kaZebhediya loJohane umfowabo; **3** uFiliphu, uBhatholomewu; uThomasi, uMatewu umthelisi; uJakhobe indodana ka-Alifewu, uLabhewu osibongo sakhe sasinguThediyasi; **4** uSimoni umZilothi loJudasi Iskariyothi onguye owannikelayo. **5** Laba abalitshumi lambili uJesu wabathuma, wabalaya wathi, “Lingayi phakathi kwabeZizwe futhi lingangeni lakuliphi idolobho lamaSamariya. **6** Kodwa hambani liyebutha izimvu ezilahlekileyo zaka-Israyeli. **7** Ekuhambeni kwenu, litshumayele lelizwi: ‘Umbusi wezulu usondole.’ **8** Silisani abagulayo, livuse abafuleyo, lihlambulule abalobulephero, likhuphe amadimoni. Lamukelisiwe kungelambadalo ngakho lani phanini kungelambadalo. **9** Lingaphathi igolide loba isiliva loba ithusi emixhakeni yamabhanti enu; **10** lingathwali izikhwama ekuhambeni kwenu loba isigqoko sokuntshintsha, loba amanye amanyathela kumbe olunye udondolo ngoba osebenzayo kufanele aphiwe okokuziphilisa. **11** Loba yiliphi idolobho kumbe umuzi elingena kuwo, dingani umuntu ofaneleyo ukuba lihlale endlini yakhe kokuphela lize lisuke khona. **12** Akuthi nxa lingena kulowomuzi, liwunxusele ukuthula. **13** Nxa lowomuzi ufanele, ukuthula kwenu akube kuwo, kodwa nxa lingemukelwa aginyeni amazwi enu okuthula. **14** Nxa engekho olamukelayo kumbe

olalela amazwi enu, sukani kulowomuzi kumbe idolobho lithintithe uthuli ezinyaweni zenu. **15** Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi, kuzakuba ngcono elizweni leSodoma leGomora ngelanga lokwahlulelwa kulokuzakwehlela lelodolobho. **16** Ngilithuma linjengezimvu phakathi kwempisi. Ngakho qaphani njengezinyoka kodwa libemsulwa njengamajuba. **17** Libalimuke abantu; bazalimangalela ezinkundleni zamacala, balibhaxabule emasinagoweni abo. **18** Ngenxa yami lizamiswa phambi kwababusi lamakhosi ukuze libe ngofakazi kubo lakwabeZizwe. **19** Kodwa nxa belibopha lingazihluphi ngokuthi lizakuthini lokuthi likutsho kanjani. Ngalesosikhathi lizakwambulelwa okumele likutsho, **20** ngoba akuzakuba yini elikhulumayo kodwa kuzakuba nguMoya kaYihlo ozabe ukhuluma ngani. **21** Umuntu uzanikela umfowabo ukuthi abulawe, loyise anikele umntanakhhe; abantwana bazahlamakela abazali babo bababulale. **22** Bonke abantu bazalindana ngenxa yebizo lami kodwa lowo oma aqine kuze kube sekupheleni uzasindiswa. **23** Nxa lihlukekulwa endaweni ethile, balekelani kwenye. Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi kaliyikuqeda ukuwahambela wonke amadolobho ako-Israyeli iNdodana yoMuntu ingakafiki. **24** Umfundi ungaphansi kombalisi wakhe, lenceku ingaphansi kwenkosi yayo. **25** Kwenele kumfundi ukuba njengombalisi wakhe, lenceku ukuba njengenkosi yayo. Nxa umninimuzi kungathiwa nguBhelizebhubhi pho kuzathiwani ngabendlu yakhe na? **26** Ngakho lingabesabi. Ngoba kakukho okuthukuziweyo okungayi kubekwa obala, lokufihliweyo okungayikwaziwa. **27** Lokhu engilitshela khona emnyameni kukhulumeni ekukhanyeni kwemini, okunyenyezwa ezindlebeni zenu kumemezeleni lisophahleni lwezindlu. **28** Lingabesabi labo ababulala umzimba kodwa bengeke babulale umphefumulo. Kodwa yesabani lowo ongabhuhisa kokubili, umphefumulo lomzimba esihogweni. **(Geenna g1067)** **29** Intaka ezimbili kazithengiswa ngendibiltshi na? Kodwa kayikho leyodwa yazo ewela ngani ingavunyelwanga nguYihlo. **30** Kwala zona inwele zamakhanda enu zibaliwe. **31** Ngakho lingesabi; liligugu elidlula intaka ezinengi. **32** Loba ngubani ongivuma phambi kwabantu lami ngizamvuma phambi kukaBaba ezulwini. **33** Kodwa lowo ongiphikayo phambi kwabantu lami ngizamphika phambi kukaBaba ezulwini. **34** Lingakhumbuli ukuthi ngilethe ukuthula emhlabeni. Kangilandanga ukuzeletha ukuthula kodwa inkemba. **35** Ngoba ngize ukuxabanisa 'indoda loyise, indodakazi lonina umalukazana loninazala, **36** izitha zomuntu zizakuba ngabendlu yakhe.' **37** Lowo othanda uyise loba unina kulami kangifanelanga; lowo othanda indodana yakhe loba indodakazi yakhe kulami kangifanelanga; **38** njalo lowo ongathathi isiphambano sakhe angilandeke kangifanelanga. **39** Loba ngubani ozusa impilo yakhe izamlahlekela njalo lalowo olahlekela yimpilo yakhe ngenxa yami uzayizwa. **40** Lowo olamukelayo wamukela mina, lalowo owamukela mina wamukela lowo ongithumileyo. **41** Loba ngubani owamukele umphrofethi ngoba engumphrofethi uzazusa umvuzo womphrofethi njalo lalowo owamukela umuntu olungileyo ngoba engumuntu olungileyo uzakwamukela umvuzo womuntu olungileyo. **42** Njalo nxa ekhona onika iloba yinkezo yamanzi aqandayo komunye walaba abancinyane ongumfundi wami, ngilitshela iqiniso, lowomuntu akayikulahlekela ngumvuzo wakhe."

11 UJesu wathi eseqedile ukulaya abafundi bakhe abalitshumi lambili wasuka kuleyondawo ukuyafundisa lokutshumayela emadolobheni aseGalile. **2** UJohane esentolongweni wathi esizwa ukuthi uKhristu wayesenzani, wathuma abafundi bakhe **3** ukuba bayembuza bathi, "Unguye yini ozayo kumbe silindele omunye na?" **4** UJesu waphendula wathi, "Buyelani liyebikela uJohane lokhu elikuzwayo lelikubonayo ukuthi **5** Iziphofu zenziwa zibone, abaqhuzazelayo bayahamba, abalobulephero bayahlanjululwa, izacuthe zizeywa, abafuleyo bayavuswa, levangeli liyatshunyayelwa kubayanga. **6** Ubusisiwe umuntu ongakhubekiyo ngenxa yami." **7** Kwathi abafundi bakajohane sebesuka, uJesu waqala ukukhuluma labantu ngoJohane esithi: "Laphuma lisiyabonani enkangala na? Umhlanga owazunguzwa ngumoya na? **8** Nxa kungayisikho, pho lalisiyabonani? Indoda eyayicecele na? Hatshi, labo abagqoka izigqoko ezinhle basezigodweni zamakhosi. **9** Pho laphuma lisiyabonani na? Umphrofethi? Yebo, ngiyalitshela, odlula umphrofethi. **10** Lo nguye okulotshwe ngaye ukuthi: 'Ngizathuma isithunywa sami phambi kwakho, esizalungisa indlela yakho phambi kwakho.' **11** Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi, phakathi kwabo bonke abazelwe ngabesifazane akukaveli loyedwa omkhulu kuloJohane uMbaphathizi ikanti lowo ongomcinyane kakhulu embusweni wezulu mkhulu kulaye. **12** Kusukela ensukwini zikaJohane uMbaphathizi kuze kube khathesi, umbuso wezulu wala uqhubeke ngamandla ngoba abantu abalamandla bawubambile. **13** Ngoba bonke abaPhrofethi kanye loMthetho baphrofitha kwaze kwafika uJohane. **14** Ngakho nxa likwamukela lokhu, ungu-Elija okwathiwa uyeza. **15** Lowo olendlebe zokuzwa, kezwe. **16** Kambe ngingasifanisa lani isizukulwane lesi na? Banjengabantwana abahlezi emikambo bememeza abanye besithi: **17** 'Salitshayela umhubhe, kodwa kaligidanga; salihlabelela ingoma yesililo kodwa kalililanga.' **18** Ngoba uJohane wafika engadli njalo enganathi basebesithi, 'Uledimoni,' **19** iNdodana yoMuntu yafika yadla, yanatha, bathi, 'Nansi isidli lesidakwa, umngane wabathelisi lezoni.' Kodwa, ukuhlakanipha kuziveza ukuthi kuqondile ngemisebenzi yakho." **20** UJesu waseqalisa ukuwasola amadolobho lawo lapho izimangaliso zakhe ezinengi ezazeniwe khona ngoba kabazange baphenduke: **21** "Maye kuwe Khorazini! Maye kuwe Bhetthisayida! Aluba izimangaliso lezo ezenziwa kuwe zazenziwe eThire leSidoni, ngabe kudala baphenduka begqoke izigqoko zamasaka, bazibhuqa lemlotheni. **22** Kodwa ngiyalitshela, kuzakuba ngcono eThire leSidoni ngosuku lokwahlulelwa kulalokho okuzalehla lina. **23** Lawe Khaphenawume, kambe uzaphakanyiselwa emazulwini na? Hatshi, uzatshona phansi uye eHadesi. Ngoba aluba izimangaliso ezenziwa kuwe zazenziwe eSodoma ngabe ikhona lanamuhla. **(Hadēs g86)** **24** Kodwa ngiyalitshela ukuthi kuzakuba ngcono elizweni leSodoma ngelanga lokwahlulelwa kulakuwe." **25** Ngalesosikhathi uJesu wathi, "Ngiyakubonga Baba, Nkosi yezulu lomhlaba ngoba uzifihlile lezizinto kwabahlakaniphileyo labafundileyo, wazambulela abantwana abancinyane. **26** Yebo Baba, lokhu kwaba yikuthanda kwakho. **27** Zonke izinto zethulwe kimi nguBaba. Kakho oyaziyo iNdodana ngaphandle kukaBaba, njalo kakho omaziyo uBaba ngaphandle kweNdodana lalabo iNdodana ekhethe ukuba imveze kubo. **28** Wozani kimi lina lonke elikhathelweyo lelisindwayo, ngizaliphumuza. **29** Zithwaliseni ijigwe lami,

lifunde kimi, ngoba ngimnene futhi ngithobekile enhliziyweni njalo lizazusa ukuphumula kwemiphfumulo yenu. **30** Ngoba ijogwe lami lilula, lomthwalo wami kawusindi.”

12 Ngalesosikhathi uJesu wadabula phakathi kwamasimu amabele kulilanga leSabatha. Abafundi bakhe basebelambile, basebekhwebula izikhwebu zamabele badla. **2** AbaFarisi bakubona lokhu, bathi kuye, “Khangelal! Abafundi bakho benza okuphambene lomthetho ngeSabatha.” **3** Waphendula wathi, “Kalifundanga yini okwenziwa nguDavida lapho yena labakhula bakhe sebelambile? **4** Wangena endlini kaNkulunkulu, yena labakhula bakhe, badla isinkwa esingcwelisiweyo, into eyayingavunyelwa ngomthetho ukuba bayenze, kodwa ivunyelwe abaphristi kuphela. **5** Kumbe kalifundanga yini emthethweni ukuthi ngeSabatha abaphristi ethempelini bayalungcolisa lolusuku kodwa kabalacala. **6** Ngiyalitshela ukuthi lowo omkhulu kulethempeli ukhona lapha. **7** Kube lalikwazile ukuthi amazwi la atshoni, ‘Ngifuna isihawu hatsi umhlatshe’lo belingasozze libalahle abangelacala. **8** Phela iNdodana yoMuntu iyiNkosi yeSabatha.” **9** Esuka lapho wayangena esinagongweni labo, **10** khonapho kulendoda eyayitshwabhene isandla. Kwathi ngoba beddinga indlela yokubeka uJesu icala bambuza bathi, “Kuyavunyelwa emthethweni ukusilisa ngeSabatha na?” **11** Wathi kubo, “Nxa omunye wenu engaba lemvu esuka iwele egodini ngeSabatha, kakuyiyibamba ayikhuphe na? **12** Pho umuntu uligugu elinganani kulemvu! **13** Khowe, kusemthethweni ukwenza okuhle ngeSabatha.” **13** Wasesithi kuleyondoda, “Yelula isandla sakho.” Ngakho yaselula sahle sabuyela ngokupheleleyo, sesiqinile njengesinye. **14** Kodwa abaFarisi basuka lapho bayakwakha icebo lokuthi bangambulala njani uJesu. **15** UJesu esekunanzelele lokho wasuka kuleyondawo. Abanengi bamlandela, wasilisa bonke abagulayo babo, **16** ebalaya ukuthi bangakhulumi ukuthi ungubani. **17** Lokhu kwakuyikugcwalisa lokho okwakukhulunywe ngumphrofethi u-Isaya ukuthi: **18** “Nansi inceku yami engiyikhethelelo, yona engiyithandayo, engithokoza ngayo; ngizabeka uMoya wami phezu kwayo, izamemezela ukulungisa phakathi kwezizwe. **19** Kayiyikuphika inkani loba imemeze; kakho ozalizwa ilizwi layo emigwaqweni. **20** Umhlanga ofecekileyo kayiyikuwephula lentambo yesibane ethunqayo kayiyikuyicima, ize ilethe ukunqoba kokulungisa. **21** Izizwe zizabeka ithemba lazo ebizweni layo.” **22** Basebeletha kuye indoda eyayiledimoni, iyisiphofu njalo iyisimungulu. UJesu wayisilisa yakwazi ukukhuluma lokubona. **23** Bonke abantu bamangala bathi, “Kambe lo angabe eyiNdodana kaDavida na?” **24** Kodwa kwathi abaFarisi bekuwza lokhu bathi, “Ngamandla kaBhelizebhubhi inkosi yamadimoni amenza enelise ukuxotsha amadimoni.” **25** UJesu wayeyazi imicabango yabo wasesithi kubo, “Loba yiwuphi umbuso odabuke phakathi kwawumi njalo idolobho kumbe indlu edabuke phakathi kayimi. **26** Nxa uSathane exotsha uSathane, wehlukene phakathi. Pho umbuso wakhe ungema kanjani? **27** Nxa ngikhupha amadimoni ngoBhelizebhubhi, pho abalandeli benu bawakhupha ngobani? Ngakho bazakuba ngabahluleli benu. **28** Kodwa nxa ngxotsha amadimoni ngoMoya kaNkulunkulu, kutsho ukuthi umbuso kaNkulunkulu usufikile kini. **29** Umuntu angangena kanjani endlini yesiqhwaga aphanje impahla zaso ngaphandle kokuba aqale asibophe isiqhwaga leso? Lapho-ke usengayiphanga indlu yaso. **30** Lowo ongemanga lami uphikisana lami, lalowo ongabuthi lami uyachithiza. **31**

Ngakho ngiyalitshela ngithi imihlobo yonke yezono lezithuko izathethelelwa, kodwa ukuthuka uMoya akuyi kuthethelelwa. **32** Lowo okhuluma okubi ngeNdodana yoMuntu uzathethelelwa kodwa lowo othuka uMoya oNgcwele akayikuthethelelwa kulesisikhathi kumbe esizayo. (aiōn g165) **33** Ungenza isihlahla sibe sihle lezithelo zaso zizakuba zinhle loba ungenza isihlahla sibe sibi lezithelo zaso zizakuba zimbi ngoba isihlahla saziwa ngezithelo zaso. **34** Lina nzalo yezinyoka, lingakukhuluma kanjani okuhle lina libabi na? Ngoba lokho okusenhliziyweni yikho umlomo okukhulumayo. **35** Umuntu olungileyo uveza izinto ezinhle azigcine ngaphakathi kwakhe njalo lomuntu omubi ukhohliza izinto ezimbi azigcine ngaphakathi kwakhe. **36** Kodwa ngiyalitshela ukuthi umuntu munye ngamunye uzaziphendulela ngosuku lokwahlulelwa ngawo wonke amazwi ayize awakhulumayo. **37** Ngoba lizakhuluma ngamazwi enu njalo lizalahla ngamazwi enu.” **38** Abanye abaFarisi labafundisi bomthetho basebithi kuye, “Mfundisi, sifuna ukubona isibonakaliso esivela kuwe.” **39** Waphendula wathi, “Isizukulwane esixhwalileyo lesiphingayo sicela isibonakaliso! Kodwa kasisoze sisiphiwe ngaphandle kwesibonakaliso somphrofethi uJona. **40** NjengoJona owahlala insuku ezintathu lobusuku obuthathu esiswini senhlanzi enkulu, kanjalo iNdodana yoMuntu izahlala insuku ezintathu lobusuku obuthathu phansi komhlabathi. **41** Abantu baseNiniva bazasukuma kanye lalesi sizukulwane ngosuku lokwahlulelwa basilahle ngoba bona baphenduka ekutshumayeleni kukaJona, kodwa khathele lowo omkhulu kuloJona uselapha. **42** IIndlovukazi yaseNingizimu izavuka mhla wokwahlulelwa kanye lalesi sizukulwane isilahle; ngoba yeza ivela emaphethelweni omhlaba izolalela uSolomoni; pho manje omkhulu kuloSolomoni usekhona. **43** Nxa umoya omubi uphuma emuntwini, uyazula enkangala udinga ukuphumula kodwa uyakuswela. **44** Ubususithi, ‘Ngizabuyela endlini engaphuma kuyo.’ Uthi ufika uthole leyondawo ingelamuntu, ithanyelwe yahlanzeka, konke kumihle. **45** Ubusuhamba uyethatha eminye imimoya eyisikhombisa exhwalile okudlula wona, ingene ihlale khona. Isiphetho salowomuntu sizakuba sibi kulasekuqaleni. Kuzakuba njalo kulesisizukulwane esixhwalileyo.” **46** UJesu elokhu esakhuluma lamaxuku abantu, unina labafowabo babemi phandle befuna ukukhuluma laye. **47** Omunye wamtshela wathi, “Unyoko labafowenu bemihle phandle, bafuna ukukhuluma lawe.” **48** Wamphendula wathi, “Ngubani umama njalo ngobani abangabafowethu na?” **49** Wakhomba abafundi bakhe wathi, “Nampa abangumama labangabafowethu. **50** Loba ngubani owenza intando kaBaba osezulwini ungumfowethu, ungudadewethu njalo ngumama.”

13 Ngalolosuku uJesu waphuma endlini wayahlala eceleni kwechibi. **2** Amaxuku abantu aminyezelana kuye waze wangena esikepeni wahlala kuso, abantu bonke bona babemi okhunjinjini. **3** Wasebatshela izinto ezinengi esebenzisa imizekeliso, wathi, “Umlimi waphuma wayahlanyela inhlangano yakhe. **4** Kwathi eyihaza inhlangano, eyinye yawela endloleni, izinyoni zafika zayidobha yonke. **5** Eyinye yawela okhetheni lapho okwakhungela mhlabathi owanelelo. Yaphanga yamila ngoba umhlabathi wawungatshoni. **6** Kodwa kwathi ilanga seliphumile yahanguleka yabuna ngoba yayingelampande. **7** Eyinye yawela phakathi kwameva, asuka akhula ayiminye inhlangano. **8** Eyinye inhlangano yawela emhlabathini omuhle lapho eyathela khona izithelo

eziphindwe okungabalikhulu, kumbe okungamatshumi ayisithupha loba okungamatshumi amathathu ukudlula leyo eyayihlanyelwe. **9** Lowo olendlebe kezwe.” **10** Abafundi beza kuye bambuza bathi, “Kungani ukhuluma ebantwini ngemizekeliso na?” **11** Waphendula wathi, “Ulwazi lwemfihlakalo yombuso wezulu luphiwe lina hatshi bona. **12** Lowo olakho, uzaphiwa kwengezele abesesiba lokunengi kakhulu. Lowo ongelakho, lalokho alakho uzakwemukwa. **13** Lokhu yikho okungenza ngikhulume kubo ngemizekeliso: Ngoba loba bekhangele kababoni; loba belalele kabezwa njalo kabaqedisisi. **14** Kubo isiphrofethi sika-Isaya siyagcwaliseka, esokuthi: ‘Lizahlala lisizwa kodwa lingaqedisisi; lizahlala libona kodwa lingabonisi. **15** Ngoba inhliziso zalabantu sezaba lukhuni; kabasezwa ngezindlebe zabo njalo sebawavala amehlo abo. Funa babone ngamehlo abo, bezwe ngezindlebe zabo, baqedisise ngezhliziyiyo zabo, baphenduke bese ngibasilisa.’ **16** Kodwa abusiwe amehlo enu ngoba ayabona lezindlebe zenu ziyezwa. **17** Ngoba ngilshela iqiniso ukuthi abaphrofethi abanengi lamadoda alungileyo balangazela ukukubona lokhu elikubonayo kodwa kabakubonanga, lokuzwa lokhu elikuzwayo kodwa kabakuzwanga. **18** Lalelani-ke lizwe ukuthi utshoni umzekeliso womhlanyeli: **19** Nxa umuntu esizwa ilizwi ngombuso kodwa engabambisi, omubi uyeza ahwithe lokho obekuhlanyelwa enhliziyweni yakhe. Yiyo le inhlangano eyahlanyelwa endleleni. **20** Inhlangano eyawela okhetheni ngumuntu olizwayo ilizwi aphanje alamukele ngentokozi. **21** Kodwa ngenxa yokuthi kalampande, nxa okwesikhathana kuphela. Nxa kufika uhluho lokuhlukunyezwa ngenxa yelizwi uphanga akhubeke. **22** Inhlangano eyawela phakathi kwameva ngumuntu olizwayo ilizwi kodwa lisuke landelwe yizinhlopheko zale impilo lenkohlo yenotho, lingabe lisaba lezithelo. (aiōn g165) **23** Kodwa leyonhlangano eyawela emhlabathini ovundileyo ngumuntu olizwayo ilizwi alizwiswe. Lo ngye othela izithelo ezinengi ngekulu, ngamatshumi ayisithupha loba ngamatshumi amathathu okudlula lokho okwahlanyelwayo.” **24** UJesu wabatshela omunye umzekeliso wathi, “Umbuso wezulu unjengomuntu owahlanyela inhlangano enhle ensimini yakhe. **25** Kodwa kwathi ngesikhathi wonke umuntu elele, isitha sakhe seza sahlanyela ukhula phakathi kwengqoloyi, sahamba. **26** Kwathi ingqoloyi isikhahlele yabumba izikhwebu, ukhula lalo lwavela. **27** Izinceku zominisivini zeza kuye zathi, ‘Nkosi, kanti kawuhlanyelanga yini inhlangano enhle ensimini yakho na? Pho ukhula lulele ngaphi?’ **28** Waphendula wathi, ‘Kwenziwe yisitha lokhu.’ Zambuzwa izinceku zathi, ‘Uyafuna yini ukuthi siyelusiphuna na?’ **29** Waphendula wathi, ‘Hatshi, ngoba lizakuthi lisiphuna ukhula liqabuke selisiphuna amabele kanye lalo. **30** Kuyekeleni kukhule ndawonye kuze kube yisikhathi sokuvuna. Lapho-ke, ngizakuthi kubavuni, Qalani ngokuqoqa ukhula lilubophe izinyanda ukuba lutshiswe, beseliqoqa amabele liwalethe esiphahleni sami.’” **31** Wabatshela omunye umzekeliso wathi, “Umbuso wezulu ufana lentanga yemastadi eyathathwa ngenye indoda yayihlanyela ensimini yayo. **32** Lanxa incinyane kulentanga yenhlanyelo zonke, kodwa ithi ingakhula ibe yisihlahla esikhulu kulazo zonke, izinyoni zezulu zibuye, zithole ukuphumula ezingatsheni zaso.” **33** Waphinda wabatshela omunye umzekeliso wathi, “Umbuso wezulu ufana lemvelo eyathathwa ngowesifazane wayixubanisa lempuphu enengi, yabala yagcwala inhlangano yonke.” **34** UJesu wakuhluma zonke lezizinto exukwini

labantu ngemizekeliso; kazange akhulume lutho kubo engasebenzisanga umzekeliso. **35** Ngakho kwagcwaliseka okwakhulunywa ngomphrofethi ukuthi: “Ngizavula umlomo wami ngemizekeliso, ngizakutsho izinto ezifihliweyo selokhu kwadathulwa umhlaba.” **36** Wasesuka exukwini waya endlini. Abafundi bakhe beza kuye bathi, “Sichazele umzekeliso wokhula ensimini.” **37** Waphendula wathi, “Lowo owahlanyela inhlangano enhle yiNdodana yoMuntu. **38** Insimu ngumhlaba njalo inhlangano enhle imele abantu bombuso. Ukhula lungabantu bomubi **39** njalo isitha esiluhlanyelayo nguSathane. Isivuno siyikuphela kwesikhathi njalo abavuni yizingilosi. (aiōn g165) **40** Njengalokhu ukhula lusitshunwa lutshiswe emlilweni, kuzakuba njalo ekupheleni kwesikhathi. (aiōn g165) **41** Indodana yoMuntu izathuma izingilosi zayo, zikhuphe konke okuyizikhubekiso embusweni wayo, labo bonke abenza ububi. **42** Zizabaphosela esihogweni somlilo ovuthayo okuzakuba khona ukukhala lokugedla kwamazinyo. (questioned) **43** Lapho-ke, abalungileyo bazakhazimula njengelangana embusweni kaYise wabo. Lowo olendlebe, kezwe.” **44** “Umbuso wezulu unjengentho efihliweyo esivandeni. Kwathi indoda isiyitholile yayifihla njalo, kwathi ngoba iphakathi kokuthokoza, yahamba yayathengisa konke eyayilakho yayathenga lesosivande. **45** Njalo umbuso wezulu ufana lomthengi edinga amaphareli amahle. **46** Kwathi esefumene elinye elalilentengo ephezulu wahamba wayathengisa konke ayelakho walithenga.” **47** “Futhi umbuso wezulu ufana lomambule owehliselwa phansi echibini wagola zonke inhlobo zezinhlanzi. **48** Wathi usugcwele, abagoli bezinhlanzi bawondonsela okhunjini. Basebehala phansi, baqoqela ezitsheni zonke inhlanzi ezinhle kodwa ezimbi bazilahlala. **49** Lokhu yikho okuzakwenzakala ekupheleni kwesikhathi. Izingilosi zizakuza zehlukanise ababi kwabalungileyo, (aiōn g165) **50** zibaphosele esihogweni somlilo ovuthayo, lapho okuzakuba khona lokukhala kanye lokugedla kwamazinyo.” (questioned) **51** UJesu wababuzwa wathi, “Selizizwisile zonke lezizinto na?” Bathi, “Yebo.” **52** Wathi kubo, “Ngakho wonke umfundisi womthetho osephenduke waba ngumfundi wombuso wezulu unjengomnini wendlu okhupha esiphahleni sakhe amagugu amatsha lamadala.” **53** UJesu eseqedile imizekeliso le wasuka lapho wahamba. **54** Wafika edolobheni lakibo waqalisa ukufundisa abantu esinagogweni labo, bamangala. Babuza bathi, “Indoda le yayithatha ngaphi inhlangano pho le lamandla la ayisimangaliso kangaka? **55** Kanti lo kayisiyo indodana yombazi na? Ibizo likanina kasuMariya na, labafawaba kakusijakhobe, uJosefa, uSimoni loJudasi na? **56** Odadewabo kabakho lapha kanye lathi na? Pho indoda le yazizuzwa ngaphi izinto zonke lezi?” **57** Bakhubeka ngaye. Kodwa uJesu wathi kubo, “Umprofethi kaladumo edolobheni lakibo lasendlini yakwabo.” **58** Kasenzanga izimangaliso ezinengi khona ngenxa yokusilela kwabo ekukholweni.

14 Ngalesosikhathi uHerodi umbusi wezwa imibiko ngoJesu, **2** wasesithi ezincekweni zakhe, “Lo nguJohane uMbhaphathizi; usevukile kwabafuleyo! Yikho izimangaliso zisenziwa nguye.” **3** UHerodi wayembophile uJohane, wamfaka insimbi, wamphosela entolongweni ngenxa kaHerodiyasi, umkamfowabo uFiliphu, **4** ngoba uJohane wayelokhu esithi kuye, “Kungaphandle komthetho ukuthi umthathe.” **5** UHerodi wayefuna ukumbulala uJohane kodwa wayesabababantu ngoba babesithi unumphrofethi. **6** Ngelanga lesikhumbuzo sokuzalwa kukaHerodi indodakazi kaHerodiyasi yasinela

izethekeli, yamjabulisa kakhulu uHerodi 7 waze wathembisa ngesifungo ukuyiphela loba yini eyayingayicela. 8 Isicetshiswe ngunina yathi, “Ngipha ikhanda likaJohane uMbhaphathizi lisemganwini.” 9 Inkosi yadana kakhulu kodwa kwathi ngenxa yezifungo zayo langenxa yezethekeli zayoyalaya ukuba isicelo lesenziwe, 10 uJohane wahle waqunywa ikhanda entolongweni. 11 Ikhanda lakhe lalethwa lisemganwini laphiwa intombazana eyalithwalela kunina. 12 Abafundi bakaJohane beza bathatha isidumbu sakhe bayasingcwaba. Basebehamba bayatshela uJesu. 13 UJesu wathi ekuzwa lokho okwenzakalayo wathi nyelele ngesikepe waya endaweni engelabantu. Amakuxo athi ekuzwa lokhu asuka emadolobheni amlandela ngenyawo. 14 UJesu uthe esehla esikepeni wabona ixuku labantu elikhulu walizwela usizi ngakho wasesilisa abagulayo babo. 15 Kwathi selithambeme abafundi beza kuye bathi, “Le yindawo ekhatshana kakhulu njalo sekuntambama. Wothi lababantu bahambe ukuze bayozithengela ukudla emizini.” 16 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Kakudingeki ukuthi bahambe. Bapheni lina ukudla.” 17 Baphendula bathi, “Thina esilakho lapha yizinkwa ezinhlanu lenhlanzi ezimbili.” 18 Wathi, “Kuletheni lapha.” 19 Waselaya abantu ukuthi bahlale phansi phezu kotshani. Wathatha izinkwa ezinhlanu lenhlanzi ezimbili wakhangela ezulwini wabonga, washelephuna izinkwa. Waseziqhubela abafundi, bazinika abantu. 20 Bonke badla basutha, abafundi bakhe babutha okuseleyo bagcwalisa izitsha ezilithshumi lambili. 21 Inani lalabo abadlayo lalingaba ngamadoda azinkulungwane ezinhlanu kungabalwa abesifazane labantwana. 22 Masinyane nje uJesu wathi abafundi bakhe bangene esikepeni bamandulele ngakwelinye iphetsheya, yena esavalelisana labantu. 23 Esebakhulule, waya ewatheni lwentaba ukuyakhuleka eyedwa. Sekuhlwile ngalobobusuku wayekhonale eyedwa, 24 kodwa isikepe sasesihambe umango ukusuka okhunjini, siyaluziswa ngamagagasi ngoba sasiphikisana lomoya. 25 Kwathi ngomlindo wesine ebusuku uJesu waya kubo ehamba phezu kwechibi. 26 Kwathi abafundi bembona ehamba phezu kwechibi besaba kakhulu. Bakhala ngokwesaba bathi, “Lithonga.” 27 Kodwa uJesu waphanga wathi kubo, “Manini isibindi! Yimi. Lingesabi.” 28 UPhethro waphendula wathi, “Nkosi, nxa kunguwe, tshono ukuba ngize kuwe phezu kwamanzi.” 29 Wathi, “Woza.” Khonapho uPhethro wasephuma esikepeni, wahamba phezu kwamanzi weza kuJesu. 30 Kodwa wathi ebona umoya wesaba, kwathi eseqala ukutshona wakhala wathi, “Nkosi, akungisize!” 31 Khonokho uJesu welula isandla sakhe wambamba. Wathi kuye, “Wena olokholo oluncinyane, kungani uthandabuzile?” 32 Bonela ukungena esikepeni umoya wathula. 33 Kwathi labo ababesikepeni bamkhonza bathi, “Ngempela uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu.” 34 Bathi sebecaphile, bafikela eGenesaretha. 35 Kwathi amadoda akuleyondawo semnanzelele uJesu athumela ilizwi kuwo wonke umango wakulelo dolobho. Abantu baletha bonke abagulayo babo kuye 36 bamncenga ukuthi avumele labo abagulayo ukuthi bathinte nje umpetho wesigqoko sakhe, kwathi bonke labo abamthintayo basiliswa.

15 Ngalesosikhathi abanye abafarisi labafundisi bomthetho beza kuJesu bevela eJerusalem bambuza bathi, 2 “Kungani abafundi bakho besephula isiko labadala na? Kabagezi izandla zabo bengakadli!” 3 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Kungani lina lisephula umlayo kaNkulunkulu ngenxa

yamasiko enu na? 4 Phela uNkulunkulu wathi, ‘Hlonipha uyihlo lonyoko’njalo ‘Lowo othuka uyise loba unina ufanele ukubulawa.’ 5 Kodwa lina lithi nxa umuntu esithi lokho obekungaba lusizo kuyise kumbe unina kuphawulelwe uNkulunkulu, 6 akasamelanga ahloniphe uyise lonina ngakho. Ngaleyondlela lichitha ilizwi likaNkulunkulu ngenxa yesiko lenu. 7 Lina bazenzisi! U-Isaya wayeqinisile aze aphrofithe ngani esithi: 8 ‘Lababantu bangidumisa ngezindebe zabo, kodwa inhliziyi zabo zikhathshana lami. 9 Bangikhonza ngeze; imfundiso yabo yimithetho yabantu.’” 10 UJesu wabizela ixuku labantu kuye wathi, “Lalalani lizwisise. 11 Lokho okungena emlonyeni womuntu ‘kakumngcolisi’ kodwa lokho okuphuma emlonyeni wakhe yikho ‘okumngcolisayo.’” 12 Abafundi basebesiza kuye bambuza bathi, “Uyakwazi yini ukuthi abafarisi kubakhubile ukuzwa lokhu?” 13 Waphendula wathi, “Zonke izihlahla ezingahlanyelwanga nguBaba osezulwini zizasitshunwa lezipande zazo. 14 Bayekeleni; ngabakhokheli abazimpumpethe. Nxa impumpethe ihola impumpethe zombili zizawela egodini.” 15 UPhethro wathi, “Sichasisele umzekeliso lowo.” 16 UJesu wababuza wathi, “Lilokhu lingelakuqedisisa na? 17 Kaliboni yini ukuthi noma yini engena emlonyeni iya esiswini besekuphuma emzimbeni? 18 Kodwa lezinzito eziphuma emlonyeni womuntu zivela enhliziyweni yizo ezenza umuntu angcole. 19 Ngoba enhliziyweni kuphuma imicabango emibi, ukubulala, ukufeba, ukuhlobonga, ubusela, ukufakaza amanga, ukunyeya lokuhlambaza. 20 Lokhu yikho okwenzayo umuntu angcole, kodwa ukudla ngezendla ezingagezwanga kakumenzi angcole.” 21 Esuka kuleyondawo uJesu waya emangweni waseThire leSidoni. 22 Umfazi ongumKhenani wakuleyondawo weza kuye ezokhala esithi, “Nkosi, Ndodana kaDavida, ake ungihawukele! Indodakazi yami ithwele nzima, ihlutshwa ngamadimoni.” 23 UJesu kazange amphendule. Ngakho abafundi bakhe beza kuye bamkhuthaza bathi, “Mxotshe, nangu uselokhu ememeza esilandela.” 24 Waphendula wathi, “Ngathunywa kuphela ezimvini ezilahlekileyo zaka-Israyeli.” 25 Owesifazane lowo weza waguqa phambi kwakhe wathi, “Nkosi, ake ungisize.” 26 Waphendula uJesu wathi, “Kakulunganga ukuthatha isinkwa sabantwana usiphosele izinja.” 27 Owesifazane wathi, “Yebo Nkosi, angithi izinja ziyayidla imvutho eziwa etafuleni yabaninizo.” 28 UJesu wasephendula wathi, “Nkosazana, ulokukholwa okukhulu! Isicelo sakho sesamukelwe.” Indodakazi yakhe yahle yasila ngalesosikhathi. 29 UJesu wasuka lapho wehla egudlana loLwandle lwaseGalile. Wasekhwela entabeni wahlala phansi. 30 Waze kuye amaxuku amakhulu abantu eletha abaqhulayo, iziphofu, izigoga, izimungulu labanye abanengi, bababeka phambi kwakhe; wabasilisa. 31 Abantu bamangala ukubona izimungulu sezikhuluma, izigoga sezitshwaphulukile, abaqhuzelayo sebezihambela leziphofu sezibona. Bamdumisa uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli. 32 UJesu wabiza abafundi bakhe wathi, “Ngibazwela usizi lababantu; sebhale lami insuku ezintathu bengadlanga lutho. Angifuni kubakhulula belambile funa bayathe endleleni.” 33 Abafundi bakhe bamphendula bathi, “Singakuthatha ngaphi ukudla okwaneleyo endaweni ekhatshana kanje ukuba sisuthise ixuku elingaka na?” 34 UJesu wabuza wathi, “Lilezinkwa ezingaki?” Bathi, “Eziyisikhombisa lenhlanzi ezincane ezimbalwa.” 35 Wasetshela ixuku labantu ukuba lihlale phansi. 36 Wasethatha lezinzinkwa eziyisikhombisa lenhlanzi, kwathi esebongile, wazihlephula waziqhubela abafundi, labo bazinika

abantu. **37** Bonke badla basutha. Ngemva kwalokho abafundi babutha imvuthu kwagcwala izitsha eziyisikhombisa. **38** Inani lalabo abadlayo lazinkulungwane ezine kungabalwa abafazi labantwana. **39** UJesu eselikhulule ixuku labantu, wangena esikepeni waya emangweni waseMagadani.

16 AbaFarisi labaSadusi beza kuJesu bamlinga ngokumcela ukuthi abathengise isibonakaliso esivela ezulwini. **2** Waphendula wathi, “Nxa kufika ukuhlwa lithi, ‘Umkhathi uzakuba muhle ngoba isibhakabhaka sibomvu,’ **3** ekuseni lithi, ‘Lamuhla kuzaqubuka isiphapho ngoba isibhakabhaka sibomvu njalo kugubuzele.’ Liyakwazi ukuchaza umumo womkhathi kodwa kalenelisi ukuchaza izibonakaliso zesikhathi. **4** Isizukulwane esixhwalileyo lesiphingayo sifuna isibonakaliso kodwa kasisoze sisiphaye ngaphandle kwesibonakaliso sikajona.” UJesu wasebatshiya wahamba. **5** Bathi sebekhuphukele ngaphetsheya kwechibi, abafundi babekholiwe ukuza lesinkwa. **6** UJesu wathi kubo, “Limukani. Liqaphele imvubelo yabaFarisi labaSadusi.” **7** Bakhulumisana ngalokhu bathi, “Kungena yokuba kasizanga lesinkwa.” **8** UJesu wakwazi abakuhlumayo wasebusa wathi, “Lina elilokholo oluncinyane, kungani likhulumisana ngokungabi lasinkwa na? **9** Lilokhu lingaqedisisi yini? Kalikhumbuli na izinkwa ezinhlanu ezasuthisa abantu abazinkulungwane ezinhlanu, lokuthi laqoqa izitsha ezingaki? **10** Kumbé izinkwa eziyisikhombisa ezasuthisa abantu abazinkulungwane ezine lokuthi laqoqa izitsha ezigcweleyo ezingaki? **11** Kungani lingezwisi ukuthi bengingakhulami lani ngesinkwa? Kodwa qaphelani imvubelo yabaFarisi labaSadusi.” **12** Basebezwisisa ukuthi wayengabatsheleli ukuqaphela imvubelo esetshenziswa esinkweni kodwa ukunanzelela imfundiso yabaFarisi labaSadusi. **13** Kwathi uJesu esefike emangweni waseKhesariya Filiphi wabuza abafundi bakhe wathi, “Abantu bathi iNdodana yoMuntu ingubani na?” **14** Baphendula bathi, “Abanye bathi nguJohane uMbhaphathizi; abanye bathi ngu-Elija; abanye njalo bathi nguJeremiya loba omunye nje wabaphrofethi.” **15** Wabuza wathi, “Lina-ke, lithi ingubani?” **16** USimoni Phethro waphendula wathi, “UnguKristu iNdodana kaNkulunkulu ophilayo.” **17** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ubasisiwe wena Simoni, ndodana kaJona ngoba lokhu kawukwambulelwanga ngumuntu wegazi lenyama kodwa nguBaba osezulwini. **18** Ngakho ngiyakutshela ukuthi ukuPhethronjalo phezu kwalelidwala ngizakwakha ibandla lami, futhi amasango eHadesi akayikulehlula. (Hadēs g86) **19** Ngizakupha izihluthulelo zombuso wezulu; loba yini oyibophayo emhlabeni izabotshwa lasezulwini njalo loba yini oyithukululayo emhlabeni izathukululwa lasezulwini.” **20** Waseqonqosela abafundi bakhe ukuba langatsheli muntu ukuthi wayengukhristu. **21** Kusukela ngalesikhathi uJesu waqalisa ukuchazela abafundi bakhe ukuthi kumele aye eJerusalema ayehlupheka ngezinto ezinengi ezandleni zabadala bebandla, abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho njalo lokuthi kumele abulawe, kuthi ngelanga lesithathu avuswe kwabafileyo. **22** UPhethro wamondonsela eceleni waqalisa ukumkhuzisa wathi, “Ngeke kwenzeka Nkosi! Lokhu kakusozwe kwafa kwenzeka kuwe!” **23** UJesu waphendula wathi kuPhethro, “Suka emva kwami Sathane! Uyisikhubekiso kimi; engqondweni yakho kawuluzo izinto zikaNkulunkulu kodwa ucabanga ezabantu.” **24** UJesu wasesithi kubafundi bakhe, “Nxa ekhona ofuna ukungilandela, kazidele athathe isiphambano sakhe angilande. **25** Ngoba lowo ofuna ukusindisa impilo

yakhe izimlahlekela kodwa lowo olahlekelwa yimpilo yakhe ngenxa yami uzayizuzwa. **26** Kuzamsiza ngani umuntu ukuzuzwa wonke umhlaba kodwa alahlekelwe ngumphefumulo wakhe na? Kambe umuntu angaphani esikhundleni sempilo yakhe na? **27** Phela iNdodana yoMuntu izakuza ngobukhosi bukaYise kanye lezingilosi zakhe, ibisisipha umvuzo emuntwini munye ngamunye ngalokho akwenzileyo. **28** Ngilitshela iqiniso, abanye abemiyo khonapha kabayikukuzwa ukufa bengakayiboni iNdodana yoMuntu isiza embusweni wayo.”

17 Ngemva kwensuku eziyisithupha, uJesu wathatha uPhethro, loJakhobe loJohane umfowabo kaJakhobe wakhwela labo entabeni ephakemeyo lapho ababa bodwa khona. **2** Bekhona lapho waguquka isimo emehlweni abo. Ubuso bakhe bakhazimula njengelanga lezigqoko zakhe zaba mhlophe njengokukhanya. **3** Khonokho kwasekubonakala umosi lo-Elija bekhuluma loJesu. **4** UPhethro wathi kuJesu, “Nkosi, kuhle kithi ukuba lapha. Nxa uthanda ngizakwakha izihonqo ezintathu, esakho, esinye esikaMosi lesinye esika-Elija.” **5** Wathi elokhe esakhuluma, iyezi elikhazimulayo labagubuzela, ilizwi elavela eyezini lathi, “Le yiNdodana yami engiyithandayo; ngiyathokoza kakhulu ngayo. Ilaleleni!” **6** Abafundi bathi bekuzwa lokhu bathi mbo phansi ngobuso, besaba. **7** Kodwa uJesu weza wabathinta. Wathi, “Sukumani. Lingesabi.” **8** Bathi bevusa amehlo kabasabonanga muntu ngaphandle kukaJesu. **9** Bathi sebesehla entabeni, uJesu wabalaya wathi, “Lingatsheli muntu ngalokhu elikubonileyo iNdodana yoMuntu ize ivuswe kwabafileyo.” **10** Abafundi bambuza bathi, “Kungani pho abafundisi bomthetho besithi u-Elija kumele aqale afike?” **11** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ngeqiniso, u-Elija uyeza azolungisa kutsha izinto zonke. **12** Kodwa ngiyalitshela ngithi u-Elija uvele sewafika njalo kabamazanga kodwa bazenzela kuye kungeni ababekufuna. INdodana yoMuntu bazayihlukuluzisa ngaleyondlela.” **13** Lapho-ke abafundi basebezwisisa ukuthi wayekhuluma labo ngoJohane uMbhaphathizi. **14** Bathi sebefike exukwini labantu, indoda ethile yamqonda uJesu yaguqa phambi kwakhe. **15** Yathi, “Nkosi, ake uhawuleke indodana yami. Ilezithuthwane njalo iyahlupheka kakhulu. Kanengi iwela emlilweni kumbé emanzini. **16** Ngiyilethile kubafundi bakho kodwa behlulekile ukuyisilisa.” **17** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Oh, lina sizukulwane esingakholwaye lesonakeleyo. Ngizahlala lani kuze kube nini na? Ngizalibekezelela kuze kube nini na? Mletheni lapha kimi umfana lowo.” **18** UJesu walikhuzisa idimoni laphuma emfaneni wahle wasila ngalesosikhathi. **19** Abafundi basebesiza kuJesu ngasese bambuza bathi, “Kungani sehlulekile ukulikhupha idimoni na?” **20** Waphendula wathi, “Ngoba ukhoho lweni luncinyane. Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi nxa lingaba lokukholwa loba kukuncinyane njengentanga yemastadi, lingathi entabeni le, ‘Suduluka lapha uye laphayana’ izasuduluka. Kakukho kini okungasozwe kwenzeka. [**21** Kodwa uhlobo olunje aluphumi ngaphandle kwangomkhulelo lokuzila ukudla.]” **22** Bathi sebebuthene eGalile wathi kubo, “INdodana yoMuntu izanikelwa ezandleni zabantu. **23** Bazayibulala, kuthi ngosuku lwesithathu izavuswa kwabafileyo.” Abafundi badabuka kakhulu. **24** UJesu labafundi bakhe sebefikile eKaphenawume, abaqoqi bomthetho wamadrahima amabili beza kuPhethro bambuza bathi, “Umfundisi wenu kawuhlawuli yini umthetho wethempeli?” **25** Wathi, “Yebo, uyawuthela.” Kwathi uPhethro engena endlini, uJesu nguye owakhuluma kuqala, wabuza

wathi, “Ucabangani kambe Simoni? Amakhosi omhlaba ayithatha kubani inkongozelo lemithelo, emadodaneni abo na loba kwabanye abantu?” **26** UPhethro waphendula wathi, “Kwabanye abantu.” UJesu wasesithi kuye, “Ngakho-ke amadodana akhululekile. **27** Kodwa ukuze singabakhubi, yana echibini uphosele iwuka yakho khona. Ubothatha inhlanzi yokuqala ozayibamba, uvule umlomo wayo uzafumana khona uhlamvu lwemali engamadrakhima amane. Uyithathe ubaphe ibe ngumthelo wami lowenu.”

18 Ngalesosikhathi abafundi beza kuJesu babuza bathi, “Ngubani omkhulu kulabo bonke embusweni wezulu na?” **2** Wabiza umntwana omncinyane wamisa phakathi kwabo. **3** Wasesithi, “Ngqiqinisele ngithi kini, ngaphandle kokuba liguquke libe njengabantwana abancinyane, kalisoze lafa langena embusweni wezulu. **4** Ngakho lowo ozithobayo njengomntwana lo nyuye omkhulu kulabo bonke embusweni wezulu. **5** Njalo lowo owamukela umntwana omncane njengalo ebizweni lami wamukela mina.” **6** “Nxa umuntu ekhubekisa oyedwa walaba abancinyane abakholwa kimi ukuthi enze isono, kungabangcono kuye ukuthi kulengiswe entanyeni yakhe inkalakatha yembokodo yokuchola agaluliswe enzikini yolwandle. **7** Maye kuwo umhlaba ngenxa yezinto ezenza abantu benze isono! Izinto ezinjalo zivele ziyafika kodwa maye kulowomuntu ezifika ngaye! **8** Nxa isandla sakho loba unyawo lwakho kukwenzisa isono, kuqume ukulahle. Kungcono kuwe ukuba ungene ekuphileni uyingini kumbe ugegokile kulokuba lezandla zombili kumbe inyawo zombili uphoselwe emlilweni ongapheliyo. (aiōnios g166) **9** Nxa ilihlo lakho likwenzisa isono, likopole ulilahle. Kungcono kuwe ukungena ekuphileni ulelihlo elilodwa kulokuba lamehlo amabili kodwa uphoselwe esihogweni somlilo.” (Geenna g1067) **10** “Nanzelelani ukuthi lingeyisi lamunye walaba abancinyane. Ngoba ngilitshela ukuthi izingilosi zabo zezulu zihlezi zibona ubuso bukaBaba ezulwini. [**11** INdodana yoMuntu yalanda ukusindisa okwakulahlekile.] **12** Kambe likhumbulani? Nxa indoda ilezimvi ezilikhulu, enye iqambuke kwezinye, kanyiyikuzitshiya yini lezo ezingamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye lasificamunwemunye ezintabeni iyedinga leyo eqambukileyo? **13** Ithi ingayithola, ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi, iyathokoza ngaleyo ukwedlula lezo ezingamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye lasificamunwemunye ezingazange zilahleke. **14** Ngokufanayo, uYihlo osezulwini kafisi ukuthi lamunye walaba abancinyane abhubhe.” **15** “Nxa umfowenu ekona, yana kuye umtshengise isiphambeko sakhe lilodwa lobabili. Nxa ekulalela usumzuzile umfowenu. **16** Kodwa nxa engakulaleli, biza omunye loba ababili ukuzetha ‘indaba yonke ivele obala ilabofakazi ababili loba abathathu.’ **17** Nxa esala ukubalalela, tshela ibandla, nxa esala ukulilalela loba ibandla mthatheni njengomhedeni kumbe njengomthelisi. **18** Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi, loba yini eliyibophayo emhlabeni izabotshwa lasezulwini njalo lokho elikuthukululayo emhlabeni kuzathukululwa lasezulwini. **19** Njalo ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi nxa ababili kini emhlabeni bevumelana loba ngalutho bani abalucelayo bazalwenzelwa nguBaba osezulwini. **20** Ngoba lapho okuhlangana khona ababili loba abathathu ngebizo lami, ngizabe ngikhona lami.” **21** UPhethro weza kuJesu wabuza wathi, “Nkosi, umfowethu loba udadewethu ngizamthethelela kangaki nxa elokhu engona na? Kuze kube kasikhombisa na?” **22**

UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ngithi hatshi kasikhombisa kodwa okwezikhathi ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa lesikhombisa. **23** Ngakho umbuso wezulu unjengenkosi eyayifuna ukuqeda izikwelede zayo lezinceku zayo. **24** Yathi isiqalisa ukuthonisa kwaletswa kuyo indoda eyayilesikwelede samathalenta azinkulungwane ezilitshumi. **25** Kwathi ngoba ingelamandla okuhlawula inkosi yalaya ukuthi yona, umkayo, abantwana lakho konke eyayilakho kuthengiswe ukuze kuqedwe umlandu. **26** Inceku yaguqa phambi kwenkosi yayincenga yathi, ‘Ake ungibekezelele, ngizahlawula konke.’ **27** Inkosi yenceku leyo yayizwela usizi, yayithethelela, yawesula umlandu yayiyikelela yahamba. **28** Kodwa leyo yonela ukuphuma, yafumana eyinye inceku eyayilesikwelede layo samadenari alikhulu. Yayibamba ngomphimbo, yayiklinya, yathi ngolaka, ‘Hlawula isikwelede sami!’ **29** Leyonceku layo yawa ngamadolo yayincenga yathi, ‘Ake ungibekezelele, ngizakuhlawula.’ **30** Kodwa yona yala. Endaweni yalokho, yahamba yenza ukuba leyondoda iphoselwe entolongweni ize iqale ihlawule isikwelede. **31** Kwathi ezinye izinceku sezibonile okwakwenzakele, zathukuthela kakhulu zayaceba enkosini ngalokho okwenzakele. **32** Inkosi yayibiza leyonceku, yathi, ‘Wena nceku embi. Ngikuthethelele, ngasesula sonke isikwelede sakho ngoba ungincengile. **33** Kungani pho ungazwelanga omunye wakho isihawu njengalokho ngenzile kuwe?’ **34** Inkosi yayo yathukuthela kakhulu, yayinikela kubaphathi bejele ukuthi bayihlukuluze ize isihlawule sonke isikwelede. **35** Yiyo le indlela uBaba osezulwini azaphatha ngayo lowo lalowo wenu nxa lingathetheleli abazalwane kuphuma enhliziyweni.”

19 UJesu eseqedile ukutsho lezizinto, wasuka eGalile waya emangweni waseJudia ngaphetsheya kweJordan. **2** Walandelwa ngamaxuku amakhulu abantu, wabasilisa khona lapho. **3** Abanye abaFarisi beza kuye ukuzamlinga. Bambuza bathi, “Kusemthethweni yini ukuthi indoda ilahle umkayo loba kungasiphi isizatho?” **4** Waphendula wathi, “Kalikubalanga yini ukuthi ekuqaleni uMdali ‘wabenza baba ngwesilisa lowesifazane,’ **5** wathi, ‘Ngalesi isizatho indoda izatshiya uyise lonina ihlanganiswe lomkayo, kuthi laba ababili bazakuba nyamanye?’ **6** Ngakho kabasebabili, kodwa sebenyamanye. Ngakho, lokho uNkulunkulu asekuhlanganisile akungehlukaniswa muntu.” **7** Babuza bathi, “Kungani pho uMosi walaya ukuthi indoda imuphe umkayo incwadi yokuquka umtshado ibisimxotsha?” **8** UJesu waphendula wathi, “UMosi walivumela ukuthi lilahle omkenu ngobulukhuni bezinhliziyu zenu. Kodwa kwakungenjalo ekuqaleni. **9** Ngilitshela ukuthi lowo ohlukana lomkakhe, ngaphandle kokuba ehlobongile, athathe omunye umfazi, uyaphinga.” **10** Abafundi bathi kuye, “Nxa kumi kanjalo phakathi kwendoda lomkayo kungcono ukungathathi.” **11** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Akusibo bonke abangalemukela lelizwi, kodwa labo kuphela abaliphiweyo. **12** Ngoba abanye bangabathenwa ngenxa yokuthi bazalwa benjalo, abanye benziwa ngabantu njalo abanye bakudela ukutshada ngenxa yombuso wezulu. Lowo ongakwamukela lokho kakwemukele.” **13** Kwasekulethwa abantwana abancinyane kuJesu ukuba ababeke izandla lokubakhulekela. Kodwa abafundi babakhuza labo ababaletshayo. **14** UJesu wathi, “Yekelani abantwana beze kimi, lingabavimbeli ngoba umbuso wezulu ungowabanjanjalaba.” **15** Esebakele izandla wasuka lapho wahamba. **16** Kweza enye insizwa kuJesu yabuza yathi, “Mfundisi, ngingenzani okulungileyo ukuze

ngizuze ukuphila okungapheliyo na?” (aiōnios g166) 17 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ungibuzelani ngokulungileyo na? Munye kuphela olungileyo. Nxa ufuna ukungena ekuphileni, landela imilayo.” 18 Insizwa yabuza yathi, “Yiphi na?” UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ungabulali, ungaphingi, ungatshontshi, ungafakazeli amanga, 19 hlonipha uyihlo lonyoko, njalo thanda umakhelwane wakho njengoba uzithanda wena.” 20 Insizwa yathi, “Yonke le ngiyigcinile. Pho ngisaswelani na?” 21 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Nxa ufuna ukuthi uphelele, thengisa yonke inotho yakho uphe abampofu, lapho-ke inotho yakho izakuba sezulwini. Ubusubuya ungilande!” 22 Kwathi insizwa ikuzwa lokho, yasuka idanile ngoba yayilenotho enengi kakhulu. 23 UJesu wasesithi kubafundi bakhe, “Ngilitshele iqiniso ukuthi kunzima emuntwini onothileyo ukuthi angene embusweni wezulu. 24 Njalo ngiyalitshela ukuthi kungaba lula ukuthi ikamela lingene embotsheni yenalithi kulokuthi umuntu onothileyo angene embusweni kaNkulunkulu.” 25 Kwathi abafundi sebekuzwile lokhu bamangala kakhulu babuza bathi, “Pho ngubani ongasindiswa na?” 26 UJesu wabakhangelwa wathi, “Ngokwabantu, lokhu kakwenzeki kodwa ngoNkulunkulu zonke izinto ziyenzeka.” 27 UPhetsho wamphendula wathi, “Sesitshiye konke ukuze sikulandele! Pho sizazuzani na?” 28 UJesu wathi kubo, “Ngilitshele iqiniso ukuthi, emhlabeni omutha, lapho iNdodana yoMuntu isihlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi, lina elingilandelayo lani lizahlala ezihlalweni zobukhosi ezilitshumi lambili, lahlulele izizwana ezilitshumi lambili zako-Israyeli. 29 Njalo bonke labo abatshiye izindlu zabo, loba abafawo, loba odadewabo kumbe uyise loba unina kumbe abantwana loba amasimu ngenxa yami bazakwamukeliswa okwandiswe ngekulu njalo bazakudla ilifa lokuphila okungapheliyo. (aiōnios g166) 30 Kodwa abanengi abangabokuqala bazakuba ngabokucina njalo abanengi abangabokucina bazakuba ngabokuqala.”

20 “Ngoba umbuso wezulu unjengomlimi owaphuma ekuseni kakhulu wayaqhatsha amadoda okusebenza esivini sakhe. 2 Wathemba ukubaholisa idenari okwalolosuku wasebathumela esivini sakhe. 3 Waphuma njalo ngehola lesificamunwemunye ekuseni wabona abanye bezimele nje emsikeni bengenzi lutho. 4 Wabatshela wathi, ‘Lani hambani liyesebenza esivini sami, ngizalihalisa okufaneleyo.’ 5 Ngakho bahamba. Wabuye waphuma emini sekubanga ihola lesithathu emini wenza okufanayo. 6 Sekusondele ihola lesihlanu waphuma wafumana abanye bezimele nje khonapho. Wababuza wathi, ‘Kungani belilokhu limi lapha ilanga lonke lingenzi lutho na?’ 7 Bamphendula bathi, ‘Ngoba kakho osiqhatshileyo.’ Wathi kubo, ‘Lani hambani liyesebenza esivini sami.’ 8 Kwathi sekuntambama, umninisivini wathi enduneni yezinceku, ‘Biza izinceku uziphe ihola lazo, uqalise ngabokucina usehla usiya kwabokuqala.’ 9 Izinceku ezaqhatshwa sekubanga ihola lesihlanu ntambama zenza ngamunye zaphiwa idenari. 10 Kwathi sekufike labo abaqhatshwa kuqala balindela ukuphiwa okwedlulayo. Kodwa ngamunye wabo waphiwa idenari. 11 Bonela ukuyamukela baqalisa ukumsola umnininsimu besithi, 12 ‘Lababantu abaqhatshwe ekucineni basebenze ihola elilodwa kuphela kodwa usubalinganise lathi thina esithwale kanzima ngomsebenzi sitshiswa lilanga usuku lonke.’ 13 Kodwa waphendula omunye wabo wathi, ‘Mnakwethu, angikudlelezi ngalutho. Kawumungama yini ukusebenzela idenari? 14 Thatha umholo wakho uhambe. Mina ngithanda

ukupha indoda leyo eqhatshwe muva okulingana lalokho engikunike khona. 15 Kangilalungelo na lokwenza loba yini engiyithandayo ngemali yami? Kumbe ulomhawu ngokuphama kwami na?’ 16 Ngakho owokucina uzakuba ngowokuqala, lowokuqala abe ngowokucina.” 17 Kwathi UJesu esesiya eJerusalema wathatha abafundi abalitshumi lambili wema labo eceleni wathi kubo, 18 “Sesisiya eJerusalema lapho iNdodana yoMuntu ezanikelwa khona kubaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho. Bazayigwebela ukufa, 19 bayinikele kwabeZizwe ukuba iyangiswe, itshaywe njalo ibethelwe. Ngosuku lwesithathu izavuswa kwabafileyo!” 20 Kwasekufika unina wamadodana kaZebhediya kuJesu elamadodana akhe waguqa phansi wacela ukuthi enzelwe umusa. 21 UJesu wabuza wathi, “Kuyini okufunayo?” Yena wathi, “Tshono ukuthi omunye wala amadodana ami amabili uzahlala kwesokunene sakho kuthi omunye laye ahlale kwesokhohlo sakho embusweni wakho.” 22 UJesu wathi kubo, “Kalikwazi elikucelayo. Lingayinatha na inkezo engizayinatha?” Bathi, “Yebo singayinatha.” 23 UJesu wathi kubo, “Yebo lizanatha kuyo inkezo yami kodwa ukuhlala kwesokunene kumbe kwesokhohlo kwami kakusikho kwami ukukuvumela. Izindawo lezi ngezalabo abazilungiselwe nguBaba.” 24 Kwathi abalitshumi bekuzwa lokhu bazithukethelela lezozelamani. 25 UJesu wasebabizela ndawonye wathi, “Liyakwazi ukuthi ababusi beZizwe bazibusa kalukhuni, kuthi lezikhulu zazo zikhonye phezu kwazo. 26 Kakunjalo kini. Kodwa loba ngubani ofuna ukuba mkhulu phakathi kwenu kabe yinceku yenu, 27 lalowo ofuna ukuba ngowokuqala kabe yinceku yenu, 28 njengalokhu iNdodana yoMuntu ingezanga ukuzokhonza kodwa ukuzokhonza lokunikela impilo yayo njengenhlawulo yabanengi.” 29 Kwathi UJesu labafundi bakhe sebesuka eJeriko ixuku elikhulu labantu lamlandela. 30 Amadoda amabili ayiziphofu ayehelezi eceleni komgwaqo athi esizwa ukuthi UJesu wayesedlula khonapho amemeza athi, ‘Nkosi, Ndodana kaDavida, sihawukele!’ 31 Ixuku labantu lawakhuza lathi kawathule kodwa amemeza ngamandla athi, ‘Nkosi, Ndodana kaDavida, sihawukele!’ 32 UJesu wema wawabiza, wawabuza wathi, ‘Lifuna ukuba ngilenzeleni?’ 33 Aphenndula athi, ‘Nkosi, sifuna ukuthi sibone.’ 34 UJesu wawazwela isihawu wawathinta emehlweni. Masinyane nje ahle abona asemlandela.

21 Bathi sebesondela eJerusalema, bafika eBhethifage eNtabeni yama-Oliva, UJesu wathuma abafundi ababili, 2 wathi kubo, “Yanini emzini ophambi kwenu, khonapho lizabona inkonyane kababhemi lobabhemi ebotschelwe khonapho. Libakhulule libuye labo kimi. 3 Nxa kungaba lozalibuzela, limtshele ukuthi iNkosi yiyo ebafunayo, uzahle abayekele bahambe masinyane.” 4 Lokhu kwenzeka ukuze kugcwaliseke okwakhulunywa ngomphrofethi ukuthi: 5 “Tshela iNdodakazi yaseZiyoni ukuthi, ‘Khangela, inkosi yakho iyeza kuwe, imnene igade ubabhemi, iphezu kwenkonyane, inkonyane kababhemi.’” 6 Abafundi bahamba benza njengokulaywa kwabo nguJesu. 7 Baletha inkonyane kababhemi lobabhemi, bendlala amajazi abo phezu kwabobabhemi ukuze UJesu ahlale phezu kwawo. 8 Ixuku elikhulu lendlala amajazi alo endleleni, kukanti abanye bephula ingatsha ezihlahleni bazendlala endleleni. 9 Amaxuku ayeahamba phambi kwakhe lalawo ayelandela amemeza athi, “Hosana kuyo iNdodana kaDavida!” “Ubusisiwe lowo obuya

ngebizo likaThixo!" "Hosana ezulwini eliphezulu!" **10** Kwathi uJesu esengenile eJerusalem, umuzi wonke wanyakazela, abantu babuzana bathi, "Kanti ngubani lo?" **11** Amaxuku aphenhula athi, "Lo nguJesu, umphrofethi waseNazareth eGalile." **12** UJesu wangena egumeni lethempeli wabaxotsha bonke ababethenga lababethengisa khona. Wagenqula amatafula alabo ababentshintshela abanye izimali lezihlalo zabathengisa amajuba. **13** Wathi kubo, "Kulotshiwe ukuthi, 'Indlu yami izabizwa ngokuthi yindlu yokukhuleka, kodwa lina seliyenza 'ubhalu lwabaphangi.'" **14** Iziphofu labaghezelayo beza kuye ethempelini wabasalisa. **15** Kodwa kwathi abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho bebona izimanga ayezenza labantwana bememeza egumeni lethempeli besithi, "Hosana kuyo iNdodana kaDavida," banengeka. **16** Bambuza bathi, "Uyabezwa nje abantwana laba ukuthi bathini?" Waphendula uJesu wathi, "Yebo, kalikaze lifunde ukuthi, 'Ezindebeni zabantwana lensane wena Nkosi uyimisile indumiso?'" **17** Wasebatshiya waphuma edolobheni waya eBethani lapho alala khona. **18** Ekuseni kakhulu esebuyela edolobheni wezwa eselambile. **19** Wabona isihlahla somkhiwa eceleni kwendlela, waqambukela kuso kodwa wathola kungelalutho kuso ngaphandle kwamahlamvu nje. Wasesithi kuso, "Ungaphindi uthele izithelo lanini!" Khonapho nje isihlahla sahle sabuna. **(aiōn g165)** **20** Abafundi bathi bekubona lokhu bamangala kakhulu. Babuza bathi, "Kwenzeka kanjani ukuthi isihlahla somkhiwa sibune masinyane kangaka?" **21** UJesu waphendula wathi, "Ngilitshela iqiniso ngithi nxa lilokukholwa njalo lingathandabuzi, kalisoze lenze okwenziwe kulesi isihlahla somkhiwa kuphela kodwa njalo lingathi kule intaba, 'Suka, uziphosele olwandle,' lakanye kuzenzeka. **22** Nxa likholwa, lizaphiwa loba yini eliyicelayo ngomkhuleko." **23** UJesu wangena ethempelini, kwathi elokhu efundisa abaphristi abakhulu labadala babantu beza kuye. Bambuza bathi, "Izinto lezi uzenza ngawaphi amandla na? Ngubani okunike amandla la?" **24** UJesu waphendula wathi, "Lami ngizalibuza umbuzo owodwa. Lingangiphendula, ngizalitshela ukuthi ngizenza ngawaphi amandla lezizinto. **25** Ubhaphathizo lukaJohane lwavela ngaphi na? Lwavela ezulwini loba ebantwini na?" Bangunguna bodwa ngalokho bathi, "Nxa singathi, 'Lwavela ezulwini,' uzakuthi, 'Pho kungani lingazange limkholwe na?' **26** Kodwa singathi, 'Lwavela ebantwini,' sesaba abantu ngoba bonke uJohane bamthatha njengomphrofethi." **27** Ngakho bamphendula uJesu bathi, "Kasikwazi." Ngakho wasesithi, "Lami kangiyikulisithela ukuthi izinto lezi ngizenza ngamandla bani." **28** "Likhumbulani kambe? Kwakulendoda eyayilamadodana amabili. Yaya kweyokuqala yathi, 'Ndodana, lamuhla hamba uyesebenza esivini.' **29** Yaphendula yathi, 'Kangisoze ngiye mina,' kodwa yaphinde yazisola yahamba. **30** Uyise wasesiya kwenye indodana watsho okufanayo. Yaphendula yathi, 'Ngizahamba, baba,' kodwa kayihambanga. **31** Yiphi phakathi kwawo womabili eyenza lokho okwakufunwa nguyise na?" Baphendula bathi, "Ngeyakuqala." UJesu wathi kubo, "Ngilitshela iqiniso ngithi abathelisi lezifebe bazangena embusweni kaNkulunkulu kuqala kulani. **32** Ngoba uJohane weza kini ukuzalitshenga indlela yokulunga kodwa kalimkholwanga ikanti abathelisi lezifebe bamkholwa. Kwathi lokuba selikubonile konke lokhu kalimkholwanga." **33** "Zwanini omunye umzekeliso: Kwakukhona umnini wesiqinti owahlanyela isivini. Wasihonqolozela ngomduli, wagebha isikhanelo sewayini phakathi, wasesakha isilindo.

Waseqhatshisa isivini leso kubalimi wasuka wathatha uhambo. **34** Kuthe sekufika isikhathi sokuvuna wathuma izinceku zakhe kulabobalimi ukuyathatha izithelo. **35** Abalimi bazibamba izinceku zakhe; eyinye bayitshaya, eyinye bayibulala kwathi eyesithathu bayikhanda ngamatshe. **36** Wasethuma ezinye izinceku kubo, ezinengi kulezakuqala, njalo abalimi baziphatha ngendlela efanayo. **37** Ekucineni wasethuma indodana yakhe kubo. Wathi, 'Bazayihlonipha indodana yami.' **38** Kodwa kwathi abalimi beyibona indodana batshelana bathi, 'Lo yindlalifa. Wozani simbulale sithathe ilifa lakhe.' **39** Ngakho bamdumela bamphosela ngaphandle kwesivini bambulala. **40** Ngakho-ke nxa umnisisivini esesiza uzabathini abalimi labo na?" **41** Baphendula bathi, "Uzababonisa into yamehlo, abeseqhatshisa isivini sakhe kwabanye abalimi abazamnika ingxenye yakhe yezithelo ngesikhathi sokuvuna." **42** UJesu wathi kubo, "Kalibalanga yini emibhalweni ukuthi: 'Iiltshe elalahlwa ngakhi seliyolona iltshe lensika; inkosi ikwenzile lokhu, njalo kuyamangalisa emehlweni ethu?'" **43** Ngakho ngiyalitshela ukuthi umbuso kaNkulunkulu lizawuthathela uphiwe abantu abazathela izithelo zawo. **44** Lowo ozawela phezu kwaleliltshe uzavudlaka kodwa lowo elizawela phezu kwakhe uzafihlizwa." **45** Kwathi abaphristi abakhulu labaFarisi besizwa imizekeliso kaJesu, bakwazi ukuthi wayekhuluma ngabo. **46** Badinga indlela yokumbopha kodwa besaba ixuku labantu ngoba abantu bambona njengomphrofethi.

22 UJesu wakhuluma kubo njalo ngemizekeliso wathi: **2** "Umbuso wezulu unjengenkosi eyalungisela indodana yayo idili lomthimba. **3** Yathuma izinceku zayo kulabo ababaxusiwe edilini ukuba beze kodwa bala ukuza. **4** Yaphinda yathuma ezinye izinceku yathi, 'Batshelani labo abanxusiweyo ukuthi sengililungisile idili. Ngihlabe inkabi lenkomo ezinonisiweyo, konke sekulungile. Wozani edilini lomthimba.' **5** Kodwa kabakunanzanga lokho, bazihambela, omunye waya ensimini yakhe, omunye emsebenzini wakhe. **6** Abanye bazibamba izinceku zayo, bazihlukuluza bazibulala. **7** Inkosi yathukuthela. Yathumela impi yayo yababhuqa labobabulali yathisha idolobho labo. **8** Yasisithi ezincekweni zayo, 'Idili lomthimba selilungile kodwa labo engibanxusileyo bebengasafanele ukuza. **9** Hambani liye emahlanganweni ezindlela linxuse loba ngubani elimbonayo.' **10** Ngakho izinceku zangena ezitaladini zabutha bonke abantu ezababonayo, abalungileyo lababi, indlu yomthimba yagcwala izethekeli. **11** Kodwa kwathi inkosi ingena ukuzabona izethekeli, yananzelela khonapho indoda eyeyingavunulanga izigqoko zomthimba. **12** Yabuza yathi, 'Mngane, ungene njani lapha ungelazigqoko zomthimba?' Indoda yatsha amathe. **13** Inkosi yasitshela izinceku zayo yathi, 'Mbopheni izandla lezinyawo limphosele ngaphandle ebumnyameni, lapho okuzakuba khona ukukhala lokugedla kwamazinyo.' **14** Ngoba banengi ababiziweyo kodwa balutshwana abakhethiweyo." **15** Lapho-ke abaFarisi basuka baphuma bayaceba ukuthi bambambe ngamazwi akhe. **16** Bathuma abafundi babo kuye behamba lamaHerodiya. Bathi, 'Mfundisi, siyazi ukuthi uyindoda eqotho lokuthi ufundisa indlela kaNkulunkulu ngokweqiniso. Kawusuye uthathekile ngoba kawulani lokuthi bangobani. **17** Sitshele-ke, uthini ngalokhu? Kusemthethweni na ukuthela kuKhesari kumbe hatshi?' **18** UJesu ngokwazi inhloso yabo embi wathi, "Lina bazenzisi, lenzani lizama ukungithiya na? **19** Ake lingitshengise uhlamvu lwemali

okuthelwa ngayo.” Bamiethela idenari, 20 wasebabuza wathi, “Ngumfanekiso kabani lo? Njalo luphawu lukabani lolu?” 21 Baphendula bathi, “NgokukaKhesari.” Wasesithi kubo, “Phanini uKhesari okungokukaKhesari loNkulunkulu okungokukaNkulunkulu.” 22 Bathi besizwa lokhu bamangala. Ngakho basuka kuye bahamba. 23 Ngalelolanga abaSadusi, abathi kakukho ukuvuka kwabafileyo, beza kuye belombuzo. 24 Bathi, “Mfundisi, uMosi wasitshela wathi, nxa indoda ingafa ingazalanga mntwana, umfowabo kamthathe umfelokazi amzalele abantwana. 25 Kwakulabafowabo abayisikhombisa phakathi kwethu. Wathatha owakuqala wasesifa, kwathi ngoba egazuzanga mntwana watshiyela umkakhe umfowabo. 26 Kwaphinda lokho kwesibili lwesithathu njalo kwaze kwaba ngowesikhombisa. 27 Ekucineni wafa lowomfazi. 28 Phoke, ekuvukeni kwabafileyo uzakuba ngumkabani phakathi kwabayisikhombisa njengoba bonke babemthethe?” 29 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Liyalahleka ngoba kaliyazi imibhalo lamandla kaNkulunkulu. 30 Ekuvukeni kwabafileyo abantu kabayikuthatha loba bendiswe; bazakuba njenjezingilosi ezulwini. 31 Kodwa mayelana lokuvuka kwabafileyo, kalibalanga yini lokho uNkulunkulu akutsho kini ukuthi, 32 ‘NginguNkulunkulu ka-Abrahama, uNkulunkulu ka-Isaka loNkulunkulu kajakhobe?’ KasuNkulunkulu wabafileyo abantu owabaphilayo.” 33 Kwathi amaxuku abantu esizwa lokhu amangaliswa yikufundisa kwakhe. 34 AbaFarisi sebezwile ukuthi uJesu wayesebathulisile abaSadusi, bahlangana ndawonye. 35 Omunye wabo owayeyisazi somthetho wamlinga ngombuzo wathi, 36 “Mfundisi, yiwuphi umlayo omkhulu kulayo yonke eMthethweni?” 37 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Thanda iNkosi uNkulunkulu wakho ngenhliziyo yakho yonke langomphefumulo wakho wonke langengqondo yakho yonke.” 38 Yiwo owokuqala njalo odlula yonke imilayo. 39 Owesibili unjengawo: ‘Thanda umakhelwane wakho njengoba uzithanda wena.’ 40 Wonke uMthetho labaPhrofethi kweyeme kuyonale imilayo emibili.” 41 Kwathi abaFarisi behlangene ndawonye uJesu wababuzwa wathi, 42 “Licabangani ngoKristu? Uyindodana kabani?” Baphendula bathi, “Yindodana kaDavida.” 43 Wathi kubo, “Kungani pho uDavida wathi ehlukuma ngoMoya umbiza athi ‘Nkosi?’ Ngoba uthi, 44 ‘Inkosi yathi eNkosini yami: ‘Hlala ngakwesokunene sami ngize ngibeke izitha zakho ngaphansi kwenyawo zakho.’” 45 Pho, nxa uDavida esithi kuye, ‘Nkosi,’ angaba yindodana yakhe njani?” 46 Kakho loyedwa owaba lelizwi lokumphendula. Kwathi-ke kusukela ngalolosuku kakho owaqunga isibindi sokumbuzwa eminye imibuzo.

23 UJesu wasesithi emaxukwini abantu lakubafundi bakhe: 2 ‘Abafundisi bomthetho labaFarisi bahlezi esihlalweni sikaMosi. 3 Ngakho kumele libalalele lenze konke abalithshela khona. Kodwa lingakwenzi abakwenzayo, ngoba kabakulandeli lokho abakutshumayelayo. 4 Baqoqa imithwalo enzima bayetshate emahlombe abantu kodwa bona bengafuni lokulokotha bayithwale. 5 Konke abakwenzayo bakwenzela ukuba babonwe ngabantu, benza imicwatswo yabo yemibhalo ibe banzi lezintshaka zezigqoko zabo zibe zinde; 6 bathanda izindawo eziphezulu emadilini lezihlalo eziqakathekileyo emasinagogweni, 7 bathanda ukubingelelwa emisikeni lokuthi abantu babazibe ngokuthi ‘Rabi.’ 8 Kodwa lina nxa lingabizwa kuthiwe ‘Rabi,’ ngoba munye kuphela oyiNkosi yenu njalo lina lonke liyizinini. 9 Futhi lingabizi muntu emhlabeni ngokuthi ‘baba,’ ngoba liloYihlo oyedwa, yena osezulwini.

10 Njalo lingabizwa ngokuthi bafundisi, ngoba liloMfundisi oyedwa, uKristu. 11 Omkhulu kulani lonke phakathi kwenu uzakuba yinceku yenu. 12 Ngoba lowo oziphakamisayo uzathotshiswa, lalowo ozithobayo uzaphakanyiswa.” 13 “Maye kini, bafundisi bomthetho lakubaFarisi, lina bazenzisi! Livalela abantu umbuso wazulu. Lina ngokwenu kalingeni liphinde livimbele labo bazama ukungena. [14 Maye kini bafundisi bomthetho lakini baFarisi, lina bazenzisi! Liphanga izindlu zabafelokazi, beselizenzisa lisenza imikhuleko emide, ngalokho lizakwamukeliswa ukulahlwa okukhulu.] 15 Maye kini bafundisi bomthetho lakini baFarisi, lina bazenzisi! Lidabula ilizwe lihambe laphezu kolwandle lidinga ukuphendula oyedwa zwi, lithi selimzuzile limphendule abe yindodana yesihogweni okuphindwe kabili kulani. (Geenna g1067) 16 Maye kini, baholi abayiziphofu! Lithi, ‘Nxa umuntu efunga ngethempeli kakutsho lutho; kodwa nxa umuntu efunga ngegolide lethemphi usezibophile ngesifungo sakhe.’ 17 Lina ziphofundini! Yikuphi okukhulu kulokunye: igolide kumbe ithempeli elenza igolide libengcwele? 18 Lithi njalo, ‘Nxa umuntu efunga nge-alithare, akusilutho; kodwa nxa umuntu efunga ngesipho esikulo usezibophile ngesifungo sakhe.’ 19 Lina ziphofu zabantu! Yikuphi okudlula okunye: isipho langabe i-alithari elenza isiphu sibe ngcwele? 20 Ngakho lowo ofunga nge-alithare ufunga ngalo langakho konke okukulo. 21 Njalo lowo ofunga ngethempeli ufunga ngalo njalo langaye lowo ohlala kulo. 22 Njalo lalowo ofunga ngezulu ufunga ngesihlalo sobukhosi sikaNkulunkulu langaye ohlezi phezu kwazo. 23 Maye kini, bafundisi bomthetho lakini baFarisi, bazenzisi! Linika okwethumi okweziyoliso zenu, iminti ledili lekhamini. Kodwa liyekethise izinto ezimqoka emthethweni, eziyikulunga, isihawu kanye lokwethembeka. Bekufanele lithi likwenza lokhu lingawuyekethisanga umthetho. 24 Lina baholi abayiziphofu! Liyacenga ukukhupha ubuyane kodwa liginye ikamela. 25 Maye kini, bafundisi bomthetho lakini baFarisi, lina bazenzisi! Ligezisa inkezo lomganu ngaphandle kodwa ngaphakathi kugcwele ubuhwaba lokuzisuthisa. 26 MFarisi oyisiphofu! Qala uhlambulule ingaphakathi yenkezo lomganu, ukuze ingaphandle layo ihlambuluke. 27 Maye kini, bafundisi bomthetho lakini baFarisi, lina bazenzisi! Linjengamathuna anconjweyo, akhanya ebukena ngaphandle, kodwa ngaphakathi agcwele amathambo abantu abafileyo lakho konke okungcolileyo. 28 Kanjalo, ngaphandle libonakala ebantwini linjengabalungileyo, kodwa ngaphakathi ligcwele ukuzenzisa lobubi. 29 Maye kini, bafundisi bomthetho lakini baFarisi, lina bazenzisi! Lakhela abaphrofethi amathuna njalo licecise amathuna abalungileyo. 30 Beselisithi, ‘Ngabe saphila ngezinsuku zabokhokho bethu sasingeyikuhlanganyela labo ekuchitheni igazi labaphrofethi.’ 31 Ngalokho yini elipha ubufakazi bokuthi liyisizukulwane salabo ababulala abaphrofethi. 32 Nanko-ke, wohlani liqedise lesosono sabokhokho benu! 33 Lina zinyoka! Lina nzalo yezinhlanguana! Lizaphepha kanjani ukuba lilahllele esihogweni na? (Geenna g1067) 34 Ngakho ngilithumela abaphrofethi lamadoda ahlakaniphileyo labafundisi. Abanye babo libababulala libabethele; abanye libababhaxabula emasinagogweni enu, libandelelane labo kuleli laleliyana idolobho. 35 Ngakho-ke, lonke igazi elilungileyo elachithwayo emhlabeni kusukela egazini lika-Abheli owayelungile kusiya egazini likaZakhariya indodana kaBherekhiya elambulala phakathi laphakathi kwethempeli le-alithari lizakwehliselwa phezu kwenu. 36

Ngilitshela iqiniso, konke lokhu kuzakuba phezu kwalesi isizukulwane. **37** Jerusalema, Jerusalema, wena obulala abaphrofethi, ubakhande ngamatshe labo abathunywe kuwe, sekukanengi ngiloyisa ukuqoqa ndawonye abantwabakho, njengesikhukhukazi siqoqa amatsiyane aso ngaphansi kwamaphiko aso, kodwa wena wawungathandi. **38** Khangela, indawo yakho isitshiywe ilunxiwa. **39** Ngoba ngiyalitshela, kalisayikungibona futhi lize lithi, 'Ubusiwe lowo obuya ngebizo likaThixo.'"

24 UJesu wathi esuka ethempelini esehamba abafundi bakhe beza kuye bathi kake ananzelele izakhiwo zalo. **2** Wathi, "Liyazibona na zonke lezizinto? Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi akulalitshe lapha elizasala liphezu kwelinye; wonke abazhidliza." **3** Kwathi uJesu ehlezi eNtabeni yama-Oliva abafundi bakhe beza kuye ngasese bathi, "Sitshele, kuzakwenzakala nini lokhu na, njalo kuzakuba lesibonakaliso bani sokuza kwakho lokuphela kwesikhathi na?" (aiōn g165) **4** UJesu waphendula wathi, "Qaphelani ukuze lingakhohliswa muntu. **5** Ngoba abanengi bazakuba ngebizo lami besithi, 'NginguKhristu,' bakhohlise abanengi. **6** Lizakuzwa ngezimpi lamahungahunga azo, kodwa lingaze lethuka. Izinto ezinjalo zizakwenzeka, kodwa ukucina kulokhu kuseza. **7** Isizwe sizavukela isizwe, lombuso uvukele umbuso. Kuzakuba lendlala lokuzamazama komhlaba ezindaweni ezitshiyeneyo. **8** Konke lokhu kuyikuqalisa kobuhlungu bokuhelelwa. **9** Lapho lizanikelwa ukuba lihlutshwe njalo libulawe, futhi lizazondwa yizizwe zonke ngenxa yami. **10** Ngalesosikhathi abanengi bazadela ukukholwa banikelane njalo bazondane, **11** kuvele abaphrofethi bamanga abanengi abazakhohlisa abantu abanengi. **12** Ngenxa yokwanda kobubi, uthando lwabanengi luzaphola, **13** kodwa lowo oma aqine kuze kube sekupheleni uzasindiswa. **14** Njalo lelivangeli lombuso lizatshunyayelwa kuwo wonke umhlaba njengobufakazi kuzozonke izizwe, besekufika ukuphela. **15** Nxa libona kumi endaweni engcwele 'amanyala aletha incithakalo,' okwakhulunywa ngomphrofethi uDanyeli, ofundayo kezwiswe. **16** Lapho-ke akuthi labo abaseJudiya babalekele ezintabeni. **17** Akungabikhona osophahleni lwendlu ozakwehla phansi ukuyathatha ulutho endlini. **18** Lowo osemasimini kangabuyeli ngekhyaya ukuyathatha ijazi lakhe. **19** Yeka ubulukhuni obuzakuba khona ngalezonsuku kwabesifazane abakhulelweyo labangabadlezane! **20** Khulekelani ukuba ukuphaphatheka kwenu kungabi sebusika loba ngeSabatha. **21** Ngoba ngalesosikhathi kuzakuba lokuhlupheka okukhulu, okungazange kube khona kulokhu kwadabuka umhlaba kuze kube manje, njalo kakusoze kube khona futhi. **22** Aluba lezinsuku bezingaphungulwanga, kakho obezaphepha, kodwa ngenxa yabakhethiweyo lezinsuku zizaphungulwa. **23** Nxa ngalesosikhathi omunye esithi kini, 'Khangela, nangu uKhristu!' loba 'Ulaphaya!' lingakukholwa lokho. **24** Ngoba oKhristu bamanga labaphrofethi bamanga bazavela benze libonakaliso lezimangaliso ezinkulu ukukhohlisa kanye labakhethiweyo, nxa lokho kungenzeka. **25** Zwanini, sengihle ngalitshela mandulo kwesikhathi. **26** Ngakho-ke, nxa umuntu elitshela esithi, 'Nanguyana, laphayana egangeni,' lingayi khona loba athi, 'Nangu lapha ezindlini ezingaphakathi,' lingaze lakukholwa lokho. **27** Ngoba njengombane osuka empumalanga uhle ubonakale lasentshonalanga, kuzakuba njalo ukufika kweNnodana yoMuntu. **28** Lapho okulesidumbu

khona kulapho amanqe abuthana khona. **29** Masinyane ngemva kokuhlupheka kwalezonsuku, 'ilanga lizafiphala lenyanga kayiyikukhanya; izinkanyezi zizakuwa esibhakabhakeni, izisekelo zasezulwini zizazanyazanyiswa.' **30** Kulesosikhathi isibonakaliso seNnodana yoMuntu sizavela emkhathini, kuthi zonke izizwe zomhlaba zilile. Zizabona iNnodana yoMuntu isiza ngamayezi esibhakabhakeni, ilamanda lobukhosi obukhulu. **31** Njalo izathumela izingilosi zayo zitshaya icilongo ngomsindo omkhulu, beseziqoqa abakhethiweyo bayo emagumbini womane omhlaba, kusukela ngapha kwamazulu kusiya ngale kwano. **32** Manje-ke, fundani lesisifundo esihlahleni somkhwa: Amahlumela aso angaqalisa ukuba buthakathaka lamahlamvu aso ahlume, lihle lazi ukuthi ihlobo selisondele. **33** Kanjalo-ke, nxa lingabona zonke lezizinto, lazi ukuthi sekusondele, khonapho emnyango. **34** Ngilitshela iqiniso, lesisizukulwane kasiyikudlula zize zenzakale zonke lezizinto. **35** Izulu lomhlaba kuzedlula, kodwa amazwi ami kawayikwedlula lanini." **36** "Kodwa kakho olwaziyo lolosuku lehola, loba izingilosi zasezulwini, kumbe iNnodana, kodwa uBaba kuphela. **37** Njengoba kwakunjalo ensukwini zikaNowa, kuzakuba njalo ekufikeni kweNnodana yoMuntu. **38** Ngoba ensukwini ezandulela uzamcolo, abantu babesidla, benatha, bethatha njalo besenda, kwaze kwafika usuku uNowa angena ngalo mkhunjini; **39** futhi babengazi lutho ngalokho okwazakwenzeka uzamcolo waze wafika wabatshabalalisa. Kuzakuba njalo ekufikeni kweNnodana yoMuntu. **40** Kuzakuthi amadoda emabili esensimini, eyodwa izathathwa, eyinye isale. **41** Kuzakuthi abesifazane bebabili bechola ngebokodo, oyedwa uzathathwa omunye asale. **42** Ngakho, lindani ngoba kalikwazi ukuthi iNkosi yenu izafika ngaluphi usuku. **43** Kodwa zwisani lokhu: Kube umninindlu wayekwazile ukuthi isela lizafika ngasiphi isikhathi sobusuku ngabe walinda kaze avumela ukuthi indlu yakhe igqekwezwe. **44** Ngakho lani hlalani lilindile, ngoba iNnodana yoMuntu izafika ngesikhathi leso elizabe lingayikhumbuleli sona. **45** Ngubani kambe oyinceku ethembekileyo lehlakani phileyo umninimuzi ayibeke esikhundleni sokukhangela izisebenzi zalapha ekhaya ukuthi azinike ukudla kwazo ngesikhathi esifaneleyo? **46** Kuzakuba kuhle kuleyo nceku inkosi ezayifika isenza njalo ekuphendukeni kwayo. **47** Ngilitshela iqiniso, izakumbeka ukuthi apha the yonke impahla yayo. **48** Kodwa cabanga mhlawumbe inceku leyo ikhohlakele njalo ingazitshela ithi, 'Inkosi yami isesekhatshana ukubuya,' **49** ibisiqalisa ukutshaya ezinye izinceku njalo lokudla inatha lezidakwa. **50** Inkosi yalayonceku izabuya ngosuku engacatshangelwa khona langesikhathi inceku engasaziyo. **51** Izayiqumaquma, iyiphe indawo kanye labazenzisi, lapho okuzakuba khona ukukhala lokugedla kwamazinyo."

25 "Kulesosikhathi umbuso wezulu uzakuba njengezintombi ezizigcweleyo ezilithumi ezathatha izibane zazo zaphuma ukuyahlangabeza umyeni. **2** Ezinhlanu zazo zaziyiziwula, ezinhlanu zihlakani phile. **3** Eziziyiziwula zathatha izibane zazo, kodwa kazithathanga amafutha. **4** Kodwa ezihlakani phileyo zathwala imbodlela zamafutha kanye lezibane zazo. **5** Umyeni waphuza ukufika zonke zaze zawozela zajunywa yibuthongo. **6** Phakathi kobusuku kwamanyezelwa kwathiwa, 'Nangu umyeni! Phumani limhlangabeze!' **7** Zasezivuka zonke izintombi zalumathisa izibane zazo. **8** Lezo ezaziyiziwula zathi kwezihlakani phileyo, 'Ake lisiphe lathi amanye amafutha enu;

izibane zethu sezicitsha.’ **9** Zaphendula ezihlakaniphileyo zathi, ‘Hatsi, kakulamafutha angasanela thina lani. Hambani liye kulabo abathengisa amafutha liyeczithengela awenu.’ **10** Kodwa kwathi besayathenga amafutha umyeni wafika. Izintombi ezazilungiselele zangena laye edilini lomthimba. Umnyango wasuwalwa. **11** Ngemva kwesikhathi ezinye lazo zatsho sezifikile. Zathi, ‘Nkosi! Nkosi! Ake usivulele umnyango!’ **12** Kodwa waphendula wathi, ‘Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi, kangilazi.’ **13** Ngakho lindani ngoba kalilwazi usuku loba ihola.” **14** “Njalo unjengendoda eyathatha uhambo, yabiza izinceku zayo yazigcinisa impahla yayo. **15** Oyedwa yamupha amathalenta amahlanu emali, omunye amabili omunye njalo ithalenta elilodwa, ngulowo kusiya ngamandla akhe. Yasisuka ingena uhambo lwayo. **16** Leyondoda eyayiphiwe amathalenta amahlanu yahle yasuka yayayisebenzisa leyomali yazuza amanye amahlanu. **17** Yenza njalo laleyo eyayiphiwe amabili, yazuza amanye amabili. **18** Kodwa indoda eyayiphiwe ithalenta elilodwa yasuka yemba igodi emhlabathini yayifihla imali yenkosi yayo. **19** Ngemva kwesikhathi eside umnini walezozinceku wabuya wafisa ukwazi ukuthi babehambise njani ngaleyomali. **20** Leyondoda eyayiphiwe amathalenta amahlanu yalettha amanye amahlanu. Yathi, ‘Nkosi, wangethemba ngamathalenta amahlanu. Khangela, sengizuze amanye amahlanu.’ **21** Umnini wayo waphendula wathi, ‘Wenze kuhle, nceku elungileyo lethembekileyo! Uthembekile ezintweni ezilutshwane; ngizakugcinisa izinto ezinengi. Woza uzojabula kanye lenkosi yakho!’ **22** Indoda eyayilamathalenta amabili layo yeza. Yathi, ‘Nkosi, wangethemba ngamathalenta amabili; khangela, sengizuze amanye amabili.’ **23** Umniniyo waphendula wathi, ‘Wenze kuhle, nceku elungileyo lethembekileyo! Uthembekile ngezinto ezilutshwane; ngizakugcinisa izinto ezinengi. Woza uzojabula kanye lenkosi yakho!’ **24** Kwasekusiza leyondoda eyayiphiwe ithalenta elilodwa. Yathi, ‘Nkosi, bengikwazi ukuthi uyindoda elukhuni, evuna lapho engahlanyelanga khona njalo ibuthe lapho engazange ihaze khona inhlanyelo. **25** Yikho ngesaba ngasuka ngayafihla ithalenta lakho emhlabathini. Khangela, nanku okungokwakho.’ **26** Inkosi yaphendula yathi, ‘Wena nceku embi lelivila! Utsho ukuthi wazile ukuthi ngivuna lapho engingahlanyelanga khona njalo ngibuthe lapho engingahazanga khona inhlanyelo? **27** Kube imali yami uyifake ebhanga, ukuze kuthi ekubuyeni kwami ngiyizuze isizele. **28** Mthatheleni ithalenta lelo liliphe lowo olamathalenta alitshumi. **29** Ngoba lowo olakho uzaphiwa okunye njalo abesebisa lokunengi. Lowo ongelakho, lalokho alakho uzakwemukwa. **30** Manje-ke, iphoseni ngaphandle inceku engelamsebenzi, ebumnyameni lapho okuzakuba khona ukukhala lokugedla kwamazinyo.” **31** “Nxa indodana yoMuntu isisiza ngenkazimulo yayo, ikanye lezingilosi zonke, izahlala esihlalweni sayo sobukhosi ilenkazimulo yasezulwini. **32** Zonke izizwe zizabuthaniswa phambi kwayo, ibe isisahlukanisa abantu omunye komunye njengomelusi esehlukanisa izimvu embuzini. **33** Izabeka izimvu ngasekwesokunene kwayo lembuzi ngakwesokhohlo. **34** Lapho-ke inkosi izakuthi kulabo abangakwesokunene sayo, ‘Wozani, lina elibusiswe nguBaba; thathani ilifa lenu, umbuso owalungiselwa lina kusukela kudalweni komhlaba. **35** Ngoba ngangilambile, langinika ulutho oludliwayo, ngangomile langipha okunathwayo, ngangiyisihambi langinxusela endlini, **36** ngangiswele izembatho langiqqokisa, ngangigula

langonga, ngangisentolngweni lazongibona.’ **37** Abalungileyo bazamphendula bathi, ‘Nkosi, sakubona nini ulambile sakupha ukudla na, kumbe womile sakunathisa? **38** Sakubona nini uyisihambi sakunxusela endlini na, kumbe uswele izembatho sakugqokisa? **39** Sakubona nini ugula kumbe usentolngweni seza sazakubona na?’ **40** Inkosi izaphendula ithi, ‘Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi loba yini elayenzela loba ngomncinyane kanganani walaba abazalwane bami, lakwenzela mina.’ **41** Inkosi izakuthi kulabo abakwesokhohlo sayo, ‘Xekani kimi lina eliqalekisiweyo liye emlilweni ongapheliyo owalungiselwa uSathane lezingilosi zakhe. (aiōnios g166) **42** Ngoba ngangilambile, kalingiphanga lutho lokudla, ngangomile kalingiphanga lutho lokunatha, **43** ngangiyisihambi kalinginxusela endlini, ngangiswele izembatho kalingiqqokisanga, ngangigula njalo ngisentolngweni kalizange lingethekelele.’ **44** Labo bazaphendula bathi, ‘Nkosi, sakubona nini ulambile kumbe womile kumbe uyisihambi kumbe ungelazigqoko kumbe ugula noma usentolngweni asaze sakunceda na?’ **45** Izaphendula ithi, ‘Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi, loba kuyini elingakwenzelanga oyedwa nje omncinyane kulabo bonke walaba, kalikwenzelanga mina.’ **46** Bazasuka baye ekujezisweni kwaphakade, kodwa abalungileyo baye ekuphileni okungapheliyo.” (aiōnios g166)

26 UJesu eseqedile ukukhuluma zonke lezi izinto, wathi kubafundi bakhe, **2** “Njengoba lisazi, sekusele insuku ezimbili ukuba iPhasika lifike, njalo indodana yoMuntu izanikelwa ukuba ibethelwe.” **3** Abaphristi abakhulu labadala babantu basebeqoqana egumeni lomphristi omkhulu owayethiwa nguKhayifasi, **4** baceba ukubopha uJesu ngasese bambulale. **5** Bathi, “Kakangabi ngesikhathi somkhosi funa kube lesiphithiphithi ebantwini.” **6** Kwathi uJesu eseBethethani endlini yendoda eyayithiwa nguSimoni owayelobulephero, **7** kweza kuye owesifazane ephethe imbodlela yamakha adula kakhulu wawathela ekhanda likajesu owayeyeme etafuleni. **8** Abafundi bathi bekubona lokho bacasuka. Basebebuza bathi, “Adaliselwani kanje na? **9** Amakha la abengathengiswa ngemali ephezulu leyomali iphiwe abampofu.” **10** UJesu esekunanzelele lokhu wathi kubo, “Limkhathazelani owesifazane lo na? Wenze into enhle kimi. **11** Abampofu lizahlala lilabo kokuphela, kodwa kalisoze libe lami kokuphela. **12** Utthe ethululela amakha la emzimbeni wami ubesenzela ukungilungiselela ukungcwatshwa. **13** Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi langaphi lapho okuzatshunyayelwa ivangeli leli emhlabeni wonke, lokhu akwenzileyo kuzakhulunywwa, kube yisikhumbuzo ngaye.” **14** Kwathi omunye wabalitshumi lambili, lowo owayethiwa nguJudasi Iskariyothi, waya kubaphristi abakhulu **15** wabuza wathi, “Lizangaphani nxa ngamnikela kini?” Base bembalela inhlamvu zesiliva ezingamatshumi amathathu. **16** Kusukela khonapho uJudasi wadinga ithuba lokuba amnikela. **17** Ngosuku lokuqala loMkhosi weSintwa esingelaMvubelo abafundi beza kuJesu bambuza bathi, “Ufuna senzele ngaphi amalungiselelo okuthi udle iPhasika na?” **18** Waphendula wathi, “Ngenani edolobheni komunye umuntu limtshela lithi, ‘UMfundisi uthi: Isikhathi sami esimisiweyo sesiseduze. Ngizakudla iPhasika labafundi bami endlini yakho.’” **19** Ngakho abafundi benza njengokulayelwa kwabo nguJesu balungisa iPhasika. **20** Kwathi kusihlwa, uJesu wayehlezi eyeme etafuleni elabalitshumi lambili. **21** Kwathi besidla wathi, “Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi omunye wenu uzanginikela.” **22** Badana kakhulu basebesithi kuye ngamunye,

“Pho kawutsho mina Nkosi?” **23** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Lowo odle kanye lami emganwini uzanginikela. **24** INdodana yoMuntu kwenzakala kuyo njengoba kulotshiwe ngayo. Kodwa maye kulowomuntu ozanikela iNdodana yoMuntu! Bekungaba ngcono kuye ngabe wayengazalwanga.” **25** Wasesithi uJudasi, lowo owayezamnikela, “Pho kawutsho mina, Rabi?” UJesu waphendula wathi, “Yebo, nguwe okutshoyo.” **26** Bathi besadla uJesu wathatha isinkwa wabonga, wasihlephula wasipha abafundi bakhe esithi, “Thathani lidle; lokhu kungumzimba wami.” **27** Wasethatha inkezo, esebongile, wabanika esithi, “Nathani kuyo, lonke. **28** Leli ligazi lami lesivumelwano, elichithelwe abanengi ekuthethelelweni kwezono. **29** Ngiyalitshela, angisayikuphinda ngingathe okwesithelo seveni, kusukela manje kuze kube yilolosuku lapho engizakunatha khona kabutsha lani embusweni kaBaba.” **30** Bathi sebhalebele ihubo baphuma baya eNtabeni yama-Oliva. **31** UJesu wasebatshela wathi, “Ngabona lobubusuku lizakwenyela ngami, ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: ‘Ngizats haya umelusi izimvu zomhlambi zizahlakazeka.’ **32** Kodwa ngemva kokuba sengivukile kwabafuleyo, ngizalandulela ukuya eGalile.” **33** UPhethro waphendula wathi, “Loba bonke bangaze benyele ngenxa yakho, mina kimi ngezake kwenzeke.” **34** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ngikutsihela iqiniso ukuthi ngabona lobubusuku, iqhude lingakakhali uzangiphika kathathu.” **35** Kodwa uPhethro wala wagomela wathi, “Loba kungenzeka ukuba ngife lawe, ngeke lanini ngikuphike.” Abanye abafundi labo batsho njalo. **36** UJesu wasehamba labafundi bakhe endaweni eyayithiwa yiGetsemane, wasesithi kubo, “Hlalani lapha, mina ngisaya laphayana ukuyakhuleka.” **37** Wathatha uPhethro lamadodana kaZebhediyi womabili wahamba labo, waseqala ukuhlululukelwa lokukhathazeka. **38** Wasesithi kubo, “Umphefumulo wami ugajelwa lusizi kuze kuthi ngife. Hlalani lapha lilinde lami.” **39** Wahamba ibanganyana, wazilahla phansi wathi mbo ngobuso wakhuleka wathi, “Baba, nxa kungenzeka, sengathi inkezo le ingasuya kimi. Kodwa akungabi yintando yami, kodwa kube yintando yakho.” **40** Wasephenduka kubafundi bakhe wabafica belele. Wabuza uPhethro wathi, “Lina madoda kambe kulehlile ukulinda kanye lami okwehola eliloda nje? **41** Lindani likhuleke ukuze lingaweli ekulingweni. Umoya uyathanda kodwa umzimba ubuthakathaka.” **42** Wahamba njalo okwesibili wakhuleka wathi, “Baba wami, nxa kungenzeki ukuthi linkezo isuswe ngaphandle kokuthi ngiyinathe, intando yakho mayenziwe.” **43** Wathi esebuya wabafica njalo sebelele, ngoba amehlo abo ayenzima. **44** Ngakho wasebatshiya waphinda wahamba njalo wayakhuleka okwesithathu ephinda into yinye. **45** Wasebuyela kubafundi wathi kubo, “Lilele, liyaphumula na? Khangelani, isikhathi sesisondele, iNdodana yoMuntu isizanikelwa ezandleni zezoni. **46** Phakamani! Kasihambeni! Nangu usesiza onginikelayo.” **47** Wathi esakhuluma, uJudasi, omunye wabalitshumi lambili wafika. Wayehamba lexuku elikhulu lihlomile ngezinkemba lezinduku lithunywe ngabaphristi abakhulu labadala babantu. **48** Omnikelayo wayelungisile labo isiboniso wathi: “Lowo engizamanga nguye; mbopheni.” **49** UJudasi wahle waqonda kuJesu wathi, “Sabona, Rabi!” wamanga. **50** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Mfowethu, yenza lokho okulandileyo.” Aseondela amadoda, amdumela uJesu ambopha. **51** Khonapho omunye wabaphelekezeli bakajesu wakhokha inkemba yakhe wagadla encekwini yomphristi omkhulu, wayiquma indlebe. **52** UJesu wathi kuye, “Buyisela inkemba yakho endaweni yayo,

ngoba bonke abakhokha inkemba bazakufa ngenkemba. **53** Ucabanga ukuthi ngingaze ngacela kuBaba, masinyane nje angiphe amaviyo alitshumi lambili ezingilosi? **54** Kodwa phela ibingagcwaliseka kanjani imibhalo ethi kumele kwenzeke ngale indlela na? **55** Khonapho uJesu wathi exukwini labantu, “Kanti ngikhokhela umvukela yini lize lihlome ngezinkemba lezinduku ukuzangibamba na? Insuku zonke ngangihlala emagumeni ethempeli ngifundisa, kodwa kalingibophanga. **56** Kodwa lokhu kwenzeke ukuze kugcwalisike imibhalo yabaphrofethi.” Khonapho abafundi bonke bamtshiya babaleka. **57** Labo abambophayo uJesu bamusa kuKhayifasi, umphristi omkhulu, lapho okwasekubuthene khona abafundisi bomthetho labadala. **58** Kodwa uPhethro wayemlandela ehambela khatshana waze wayangena egumeni lomphristi omkhulu. Wangena wahlala phansi lamanxusa efuna ukubona okwakuzakwenzakala. **59** Abaphristi abakhulu leSanihedrini yonke babedanga ubufakazi bamanga ngoJesu ukuze bambulale. **60** Kodwa babuswela, lanxa abanengi ofakazi bamanga bavela. Ekucineni ababili beza phambili **61** bathi, “Umfokazi lo wathi, ‘Ngilamandla okulidiliza ithempeli likaNkulunkulu ngiphinde ngilakhe kutsha ngezinsuku ezintathu.” **62** Umphristi omkhulu wasesukuma wathi kuJesu, “Kawuyikuphendula na? Kuyini kanti lokhu okufakazwa ngamadoda na ngawe na?” **63** Kodwa uJesu wala elokhu ethule. Umphristi omkhulu wathi kuye, “Ngiyakulaya, ngifunga ngoNkulunkulu ophilayo ngithi: Sitshele ingabe unguKhristu, iNdodana kaNkulunkulu.” **64** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Yebo, kunjengoba usitsho. Kodwa ngithi kini lonke: Ngesikhathi esizayo lizayibona iNdodana yoMuntu ihlezi kwesokunene sikaMninimandla isehla ngamayezi ezulwini.” **65** Khonapho umphristi omkhulu wadabula izigqoko zakhe wathi, “Uyahlambaza! Sisafumelani abanye ofakazi na? Khangelani, manje selikuzwile ukuhlambaza. **66** Lithini ngakho?” Baphendula bathi, “Ufanele ukufa.” **67** Basebemkhafulela emehlweni njalo bamdutshuza ngenqindi. Abanye bamakala **68** bathi, “Phrofitha kithi, wena Khristu. Ngubani okutshayileyo?” **69** UPhethro wayehlezi phandle egumeni, kwasesusiza kuye intombazana eyincekukazi yathi kuye, “Lawe njalo wawuloJesu waseGalile.” **70** Kodwa walandula phambi kwabo bonke. Wathi, “Angikwazi lokho okhuluma ngakho.” **71** Wasesuka ephuma entubeni lapho abonwa khona ngenye intombazana eyathi ebantwini khonapho, “Umfokazi lo wayeloJesu waseNazaretha.” **72** Walandula njalo efunga esithi, “Kangiyazi indoda leyo!” **73** Ngemva kwesikhathshana labo ababemi khonapho baya kuPhethro bathi, “Ngempela ungumunye wabo ngoba indlela okhuluma ngayo iyakuceba.” **74** Wasekhihliza iziqalekiso phezu kwakhe wafunga kubo wathi, “Angimazi mina lowomuntu!” Masinyane iqhude lakhala. **75** UPhethro waselikhumbula ilizwi elakhulunywa nguJesu esithi: “Iqhude lingakakhali uzangulandula kathathu.” Waphumela ngaphandle wakhala kabuhlungu.

27 Ekuseni ngovivi bonke abaphristi abakhulu labadala babantu benza isinqumo sokumbulala uJesu. **2** Bambopha, bamqhuba, bamnikela kuPhilathu umbusi. **3** Kwathi uJudasi, owayemnikele, esebona ukuthi uJesu wayesegwetshiwe, wadabuka ngokuzisola, wabuyisela inhlamvu zesiliva ezingamatshumi amatathu kubaphristi abakhulu labadala. **4** Wathi, “Ngenze isono, ngoba nginikele igazi elingelacala.” Baphendula bathi, “silani lalokho thina? Lokho kungumlandu wakho.” **5** Ngakho uJudasi wayiphosela

ethempelini leyomali wahamba. Wasuka lapho wayazibophela. **6** Abaphristi abakhulu bazidobha inhlamvu zemali lezo bathi, “Kungaphandle komthetho ukufaka imali le esitsheni somnikelo ngoba yimali yegazi.” **7** Ngakho basebemisa ukuyisebenzisa ukuthenga isiqinti sombumbi sibe yindawo yamangcwaba abantu bezizweni. **8** Yikho yabizwa ngokuthi yiNsimu yeGazi kuze kube namuhla. **9** Kwasekugcwaliseka okwakhulunywa nguJeremiya umphrofethi ukuthi: “Bathatha inhlamvu zesiliva ezingamatshumi amathathu, intengo eyamiswa ngaye ngabantu bako-Israyeli, **10** bazisebenzisa ukuthenga insimu yombumbi, njengokulaywa kwami yiNkosi.” **11** Ngalesosikhathi uJesu wamiswa phambi kombusi, umbusi wasebuza wathi, “Uyinkosi yamaJudu na?” “Njengoba usitsho,” kuphendula uJesu. **12** Wayesithi nxa ethonisiswa ngabaphristi abakhulu labadala angaze aphenndula. **13** UPhilathu wasebuza wathi, “Awubuzwa yini ubufakazi abakwethesa bona?” **14** Kodwa uJesu wathula, kazaphendula lamlandu munye, okwamangalisa umbusi kakhulu. **15** Kwakungumkhuba wakhe umbusi ukuthi ngomkhosi akhulule isibotshwa esikhethwe lixuku labantu. **16** Ngalesosikhathi kwakulesibotshwa esasigange kubi, sithiwa nguJesu isibongo saso singuBharabhasi. **17** Kuthe abantu sebebutsheni uPhilathu wababuzwa wathi, “Lifuna ngilikhululele wuphi na, uBharabhasi loba uJesu othiwa nguKhristu?” **18** Ngoba wayesazi ukuthi kwakungenxa yomhawu okwenza banikela uJesu kuye. **19** Kwathi uPhilathu esahlezi esihlalweni sakhe sokwahlulela, umkakhe wamthumela ilizwi wathi: “Ungayingeni indaba yomuntu lowo ongelacala, ngoba lamuhla ngihluphekile kakhulu ngaye emaphutsheni.” **20** Kodwa abaphristi abakhulu labadala bakhuthaza abantu ukuthi bacele uBharabhasi, bathi uJesu kabulawe. **21** Wabuzwa umbusi wathi, “Lifuna ngilikhululele wuphi phakathi kwalaba ababili na?” Baphendula bathi, “UBharabhasi.” **22** UPhilathu wabuzwa wathi, “Pho ngenzeni ngoJesu othiwa nguKhristu?” Bonke bamphendula bathi, “Mbethele!” **23** UPhilathu wabuzwa wathi, “Yindaba? Woneni?” Kodwa bamemeza ngamandla bathi, “Mbethele!” **24** Kwathi uPhilathu esebona ukuthi akusela enye indlela, kwasekuzavuka isiyaluyaluy, wathatha amanzi wageza izandla zakhe phambi kwexuku wathi, “Angilacala ngegazi lalumuntu. Ngumlandu wenul!” **25** Bonke abantu bamphendula bathi, “Yekela igazi lakhe libe phezu kwethu laphezu kwabantwabethul!” **26** Wasebakhululela uBharabhasi. Wathi uJesu katshaywe, wasemnikeza ukuba abethelwe. **27** Amabutho ombusi asemthatha uJesu amngenisela ePhritoriyamu, inkundla yombusi, wabuthanelwa liviyu lonke lamabutho. **28** Bamkhulula izigqoko zakhe bamgqokisa ijazi elibomvu, **29** basebeseluka umqhele wameva bamethesa wona. Bamphathisa intonga kwesokunene sakhe baguqa phambi kwakhe bamklolodela. Bathi, “Bayethe, Nkosi yamaJudu!” **30** Bamkhafulela, bamthathela lowomqwazi bamthshaya bemphindaphinda ekhanda. **31** Sebemklolodela, bamhlubula ijazi bamgqokisa ezakhe. Basebemqhuba besiya mbethela. **32** Bathi sebephumela ngaphandle bahlangana lendoda yaseKhureni, ethiwa nguSimoni, bayibamba ngamandla ukuthi ithwale isiphambano. **33** Bafika endaweni ethiwa kuseGoliqotha (okuthus ukuthi “Indawo yoKhakhayi”). **34** Khonapho uJesu bamupha iwayini ukuba anathe, litutshaniswe lenyongo; kodwa wonela ukulinambitha wasesala ukulinatha. **35** Kwathi sebembethele behlukaniselana izigqoko zakhe ngokwenza inkatho. **36** Bahlala phansi bamlanda khonapho.

37 Phezu kwekhanda lakhe babeka umbhalo wecala lakhe owawusithi, Lo nguJesu, iNkosi yamaJudu. **38** Izigebenga ezimbili zabethelwa kanye laye, esinye ngakwesokunene sakhe, esinye ngakwesokhohlo. **39** Labo ababesedlula lapho babemhlambaza, benikina amakhanda besithi, **40** “Wena ozadiliza ithempeli ulakhe ngezinsuku ezintathu, zisindise! Yehla esiphambanweni nxa uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu!” **41** Ngokunjalo abaphristi abakhulu, labafundisi bomthetho kanye labadala bamklolodela. **42** Bathi, “Wasindisa abanye, kodwa uyehluleka ukuzisindisa yena! UyiNkosi yako-Israyeli! Kehle manje esiphambanweni ukuze simkholwe.” **43** Uthembele kuNkulunkulu. UNkulunkulu kamsindisa phela manje nxa emfuna, ngoba wathi, ‘NgiyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu.’” **44** Ngaleyondlela izigebenga ezazibethelwe kanye laye lazo zamthethisa ngenhlamba. **45** Kusukela emini kwaze kwaba lihola lesithathu emini ubumnyama bembesa lonke ilizwe. **46** Ngehola lesithathu emini uJesu wamezama ngelizwi elikhulu wathi, “Eloyi, Eloyi, lamasabakithani?” (okutsho ukuthi, “Nkulunkulu wami, Nkulunkulu wami, kungani usungidelile na?”). **47** Kwathi abanye kwababemi lapho bekuzwa lokho bathi, “Ubiza u-Elia.” **48** Masinyane omunye wabo wagijima wathatha isipontshi. Wasicwilisa phakathi kweyayini elimunyu, wasixhuma oluthini wasidluliseka kuJesu ukuthi anathe. **49** Abanengi bathi, “Myekele. Ake sibone ingaba u-Elia uzakuba azomsindisa.” **50** UJesu esephindile ukumemeza ngelizwi elikhulu, umoya wakhe waphuma. **51** Ngalesosikhathi ikhetheni lethempeli laqhekezeka kabili kusukela phezulu kusiya phansi. Umhlaba wazamazama lamatshe aqhekezeka. **52** Amathuna avuleka, izidumbu zabantu abanengi abangcwele abafayo zavuswa kwabafileyo. **53** Baphuma emathuneni, kwathi ngemva kokuvuka kukaJesu kwabafileyo baya edolobheni elingcwele bavela ebantwini abanengi. **54** Kwathi ukuba induna yekhulu kanye labo ababelinde uJesu bebona ukuzamazama komhlaba kanye lakho konke okwakwenzakele, besaba kakhulu, bababaza bathi, “Ngempela ubeyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu!” **55** Kwakulabesifazane abanengi, bebukele bebucwala. Babelandele uJesu besuka eGalile ukuthi banakekele izinswelo zakhe. **56** Phakathi kwabo kwakuloMariya Magadalini, loMariya unina kaJakhobe loJosefa kanye lonina wamadodana kaZebhediyi. **57** Kwathi ilanga selithambeme, kwafika indoda enothileyo yase-Arimathiya, eyayibizwa ngokuthi nguJosefa, yena owayesengumfundi kaJesu. **58** Waya kuPhilathu wayacela isidumbu sikaJesu, uPhilathu walaya ukuba asiphwe. **59** UJosefa wasithatha isidumbu wasigoqela ngelembu elihlanzekileyo lelineni, **60** wayasibeka ethuneni lakhe elitsha ayeligubhe edwaleni. Wagiqela ilitsho elikhulu emlonyeni wethuna wasehamba. **61** UMariya Magadalini lomunye uMariya babehlezi khonapho malungana lethuna. **62** Ngosuku olulandelayo, oluza ngemva kosuku lokuLungisela, abaphristi abakhulu labaFarisi baya kuPhilathu. **63** Bathi, “Nkosi, siyakhumbula ukuthi esaphila umkhohlisi loyana wathi yena, ‘Ngemva kwensuku ezintathu ngizavuka kwabafileyo.’” **64** Ngakho yenza ukuthi ithuna lilindwe kuze kube lusuku lwesithathu. Engxenye abafundi bakhe bangeza bantsontshe isidumbu sakhe, batshela abantu ukuthi usivukile kwabafileyo. Inkohliso le ingabambi kakhulu kuleyakuqala. **65** UPhilathu waphendula wathi, “Thathani abalindi. Hambani liyevikela ithuna njengokubona kwenu.” **66** Basebehamba ukuyalinda lokuqinisa ithuna ngokubeka uphawu phezu kwelitshe njalo bamisa abalindi.

28 Ngemva kweSabatha, ekuseni ngovivi losuku lokuqala lweviki, uMariya Magadalini lomunye uMariya baya ethuneni besiyakhangela. **2** Kwaba lokuzamazama komhlaba okukhulu ngoba ingilosi yeNkosi yehla ivela ezulwini, yaya ethuneni yaligiqela ilitshe eceleni yahlala phezu kwalo. **3** Ukubonakala kwayo kwakunjengombane, lezigqoko zayo zimhlophe nke njengongqwaqwane. **4** Abalindi besaba baze bathuthumela baba njengabafileyo. **5** Ingilosi yathi kwabesifazane, “Lingesabi, ngoba ngiyazi ukuthi lidinga uJesu obebethelwe. **6** Kakho lapha; usevukile kwabafileyo njengoba watsho. Wozani libone indawo abelele kuyo. **7** Hambani masinyane liyetshela abafundi bakhe lithi: ‘Usevukile kwabafileyo, uselandulele ukuya eGalile. Kulapho elizambona khona.’ Mina sengilitshelile manje.” **8** Ngakho abesifazane basuka ngokuphangisa ethuneni, besesaba kodwa begcwele intokozo, bagijima ukuyatshela abafundi bakhe. **9** Khonokho uJesu wahlangana labo. Wathi, “Salibonani.” Beza kuye, bamnamathela ngezandla ezinyaweni zakhe bamkhonza. **10** UJesu wasesithi kubo, “Lingesabi. Hambani liyetshela abafowethu ukuthi baye eGalile; kulapho abazangibona khona.” **11** Kwathi abesifazane sebehambile besendleleni, abanye babalindi bangena edolobheni bayabika kubaphristi abakhulu ngakho konke okwakwenzakele. **12** Kwathi abaphristi abakhulu sebehlangene labadala babopha icebo, bafumbathisa abalindi imali ezwayo, **13** babatshela bathi, “Libokuthi, ‘Abafundi bakhe beze ebusuku bamntshontsha thina silele.’ **14** Nxa lelizwi lifika kumbusi, sizamsuthisa ukuze lani lingangeni enkathazweni.” **15** Ngakho amabutho ayithatha imali enza njengokulaywa kwawo. Yikho indaba le seyandiswa yakhula phakathi kwamaJuda kuze kube lamuhla. **16** Abafundi abalithumi lanye basuka baya eGalile, baqonda entabeni uJesu ayethe baye kuyo. **17** Bathi ukumbona bamkhonza; kodwa abanye bathandabuza. **18** UJesu weza kubo wathi, “Wonke amandla ezulwini lasemhlabeni aphiwe mina. **19** Ngakho hambani lenze abafundi ezizweni zonke, libabhaphathize ebizweni likaBaba, leleNdodana lelikaMoya oNgcwele, **20** njalo libafundise ukulalela konke engililaye ngakho. Ngempela ngilani kokuphela, kuze kube sekupheleni kwesikhathi.” (aiōn g165)

UMakho

1 Ukuqala kwevangeli ngoJesu Khristu, indodana kaNkulunkulu. **2** Kulotshiwe kumphrofethi u-Isaya ukuthi: “Ngizathuma isithunywa sami phambi kwakho, esizalungisa indlela yakho”: **3** “ilizwi lalowo omemezayo enkangala, ‘Lungiselani iNkosi indlela, yenzeleni izindledlana eziqondileyo.” **4** Kwasekufika uJohane Umbhaphathizi, etshumayela emangweni wasenkangala ubhaphathizo lokuphenduka ukuze kuthethelelwe izono. **5** Umango wonke waseJudiya kanye labantu bonke baseJerusalem baphuma baya kuye. Bevuma izono zabo, babhaphathizwa nguye eMfuleni uJodani. **6** UJohane wayevunula izigqoko ezazenziwe ngoboya bekamela, elebhanti lesikhumba okhalweni lwakhe, esidla intethe loluju lwezinyosi zeganga. **7** Intshumayelo yakhe yayisithi: “Ngemva kwami kuzafika omunye ozaba lamandla kulami, imichilo yamanyathela akhe akungilingananga ukuthi ngikhothame ngiyithukulule. **8** Mina ngilibhaphathiza ngamanzi, kodwa yena uzalibhaphathiza ngoMoya oNgcwele.” **9** Ngalesosikhathi uJesu weza evela eNazareth a eGalile wabhaphathizwa nguJohane kuJodani. **10** UJesu ephuma emanzini wabona izulu livuleka uMoya usehlela phezu kwakhe unjengejuba. **11** Kwafika ilizwi livela ezulwini lathi: “Wena uyiNdodana yami engiyithandayo; ngiyathokoza kakhulu ngawe.” **12** Masinyane uMoya wamthumela enkangala, **13** wahlala khona enkangala insuku ezingamatshumi amane elingwa nguSathane. Wayehlala lezinyamazana zeganga, izingilosu zazomnakekela. **14** UJohane esevalelwe entolongweni, uJesu waya eGalile ememezela izindaba ezinhle zikaNkulunkulu. **15** Wathi, “Isikhathi sesifikile. Umbuso kaNkulunkulu ususeduze. Phendukani likholwe izindaba ezinhle!” **16** Kwathi uJesu ehambahamba okhunjini loLwandle lwaseGalile wabona uSimoni lomfowabo u-Andrey a bephosa umambule olwandle ngoba babengabagoli benhlanzi. **17** Wathi kubo, “Wozani lingilande, ngizalenza abagoli babantu.” **18** Bahle batshiya omambule babo bamlandela. **19** Wathi esehambile elinye ibanga wabona uJakhobe indodana kaZebhediy a elomfowabo uJohane besesikepeni, belungisa omambule babo. **20** Wahle wababiza, batshiya uyise uZebhediy a esikepeni kanye lezisebenzi bamlandela. **21** Baya eKhapenawume, kwathi iSibatha selifikile, uJesu waya esinagogeni waqalisa ukufundisa. **22** Abantu bamangalisa yikufundisa kwakhe ngoba wayefundisa njengomuntu olamandla, hatshi njengabafundisi bomthetho. **23** Khonokho nje indoda eyayisesinagogeni labo eyayiphethwe ngumoya omubi yamemeza wathi, **24** “Ufunani kithi, Jesu waseNazareth? Ulande ukuza sibhuhisa na? Ngiyakwazi ukuthi ungubani, ungoNgcwele kaNkulunkulu!” **25** UJesu wakhwaza wathi kuye “Thula! Phuma kuyel!” **26** Umoya omubi wayidlukuz a ngamandla indoda waphuma kuyo uklabalala. **27** Abantu bamangala baze babuzana bathi, “Kuyini lokhu? Yikufundisa okutsha njalo okulamandla! Ngoba ulaya imimoya emibi imlalele.” **28** Izindaba ngaye zamemetheka ngokuphangisa kuwo wonke umango waseGalile. **29** Bonela ukusuka esinagogeni bahamba loJakhobe loJohane baya emzini kaSimoni lo-Andrey a. **30** Uninazala kaSimoni wayeele phansi ephethwe ngumkhuhlane, basebetshelela uJesu ngaye. **31** Ngakho wasesiy a kuye, wambamba isandla wasemvusa.

Umkhuhlane waphuma kuye, wahle waqalisa ukubaphakela. **32** Ngaleyontambama ilanga selitshonile abantu baletha kuJesu bonke abagulayo labaphethwe ngamadimoni. **33** Idolobho lonke lagcwala emnyango, **34** uJesu wasilisa abanengi ababelezifo ezehlukeneyo. Njalo wakhupha amadimoni amanengi, kodwa kaze awavumela amadimoni ukuthi akhulume ngoba ayemazi ukuthi ungubani. **35** Ekuseni kakhulu, kusesempondozankomo, uJesu wavuka, waphuma endlini waya endaweni esekusithekeni, lapho akhuleka khona. **36** USimoni labakhula bakhe bahamba ukuyamdinga, **37** sebembonile, bathi, “Abantu bonke bayakudinga!” **38** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Kasiyeni kwenye indawo, emizini eseduze ukuze ngiyetshumayela lakhona. Yikho engakulandayo.” **39** Kanjalo walibhoda lonke elaseGalile etshumayela emasinagogweni abo njalo ekhupha amadimoni. **40** Kweza kuye indoda eyayilobulephero yamncenga iguqe phansi ngamadolo yathi, “Nxa uthanda ungangihlambulula.” **41** UJesu eyizwela isihawu welula isandla sakhe wayibamba indoda. Wathi, “Ngiyathanda. Hlanzeka!” **42** Masinyane ubulephero baphela, wahlambuluka. **43** UJesu wahle wathi kahambe, wamqonqosela wathi, **44** “Zwana, ungatsheli muntu ngalokhu. Kodwa hamba uyezeveza kumphristi ubusunikela umhlatshe wokuhlanjululwa kwakho owamiswa nguMosi ukuze kube yibufakazi kubo.” **45** Kodwa wasuka wahle wavula isifuba sakhe wayisakaza indaba. Ngenxa yalokho uJesu wayengabe esangena obala edolobheni, kodwa wasehlala ngaphandle endaweni eziyinkangala. Loba kunjalo abantu babelokhu bethululeka besiza kuye beqhamuka inxa zonke.

2 Ngemva kwezinsukwana, uJesu esengenile njalo eKhapenawume, abantu bezwa ukuthi wayesebuyile ekhaya. **2** Bathi cwi ndawonye kwaze kwasweleka indawo langasemnyango, watshumayela ilizwi kubo. **3** Kwafika amadoda amane ethwele eyayome umhlubulo. **4** Kwathi ngoba bengafinyeleli kuJesu ngenxa yexuku, bavula isikhala ephahleni malungana loJesu, emva kokuphendla ngaso, behlisele umendlo oawulele indoda eyome umhlubulo. **5** Kwathi uJesu ebona ukholo lwawo wathi endodeni eyome umhlubulo, “Ndodana, izono zakho sezithethelelwe.” **6** Khonapho kwakuhlezi abanye abafundisi bomthetho, benakana besithi, **7** “Umuntu lo ukhulumeleni kanjalo? Uyahlambaza! Ngubani ongathethelela izono ngaphandle kukaNkulunkulu yedwa?” **8** Masinyane uJesu wakwazi emoyeni wakhe ukuthi yilokho ababekucabanga ezinhliziyweni zabo, wasesithi kubo, “Kungani linakana izinto ezinje ezinhliziyweni zenu? **9** Yikuphi okulula: ukuthi kowome umhlubulo: ‘Izono zakho sezithethelelwe,’ loba ukuthi, ‘Phakama, thatha icansi lakho uhabe?’ **10** Kodwa ukuze lazi ukuthi iNdodana yoMuntu ilamandla emhlabeni ukuthethelela izono.” Wathi kowome umhlubulo, **11** “Ngiyakutshela, phakama, thatha icansi lakho uye ekhaya.” **12** Waphakama wathatha icansi lakhe waphuma wahamba bonke bemkhangele. Lokho kwamangalisa umuntu wonke, bamdumisa uNkulunkulu besithi, “Kasikaze sikubone okunje!” **13** UJesu waphinde wayahambahamba eduzane lechibi. Ixuku elikhulu labantu leza kuye, wasebafundisa. **14** Wathi elokhu ehambahamba wabona uLevi indodana ka-Alifewu ihlezi endaweni yokuthelisa. UJesu wathi wathi, “Ngilandela,” ULevi wasukuma wamlandela. **15** Kwathi uJesu esidla okwakusihlwa endlini kaLevi kwakulabathelisi abanengi “lezoni” zisidla laye kanye labafundi bakhe, ngoba babebanengi ababemlandela. **16** Kuthe abafundisi

bomthetho ababe ngabaFarisi bembona esidla “lezoni” labathelisi babuza abafundi bakhe bathi, “Wenzelani ukudla labathelisi kanye ‘lezoni?’” **17** Wathi ekuzwa lokho uJesu wathi kubo, “Abaphilayo kabamdingi umelaphi, kodwa abagulayo bayamdinga. Kangilandanga ukuzobiza abalungileyo, kodwa izoni.” **18** Ngalesosikhathi abafundi bakaJohane labaFarisi babezila. Abanye abantu beza babuza uJesu bathi, “Kungani abafundi bakaJohane labafundi babaFarisi bezila, kodwa abakho kabazili?” **19** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Izethekeli zomyeni zingazila kanjani eseselazo na? Zingeke, nxa elokhu eseselazo. **20** Kodwa sizafika isikhathi lapho umyeni ezasuswa kuzo, zizazila mhloko-ke. **21** Kakho othungela isichibi selembu elitsha esigqokweni esidala. Nxa ekwenza lokho, isichibi esitsha sizadonsa esidala, ukudabuka kuqhele ngamandla. **22** Njalo kakho othela iwayini elitsha emigodleni yezikhumba emidala. Angakwenza lokho iwayini liziziqhekeza izikhumba kuthi iwayini kanye lemigodla leyo yezikhumba kuhle konakale. Hatshi, uthela iwayini elitsha emigodleni yezikhumba emitsha.” **23** Ngelinye iSabatha uJesu wayedabula emasimini amabele, kwathi abafundi bakhe belokhu behamba bakha izikhwebu zamabele. **24** AbaFarisi bathi kuye, “Khangela, bakwenzelani ukwephula umthetho ngokwenza lokhu ngeSabatha na?” **25** Waphendula wathi, “Kalifundanga yini okwenziwa nguDavida labakhula bakhe lapho basebelambile sebeswele? **26** Ngezinsuku zika-Abhiyatha umphristi omkhulu wangena endlini kaNkulunkulu wadla isinkwa esingcwelisiweyo, esivunyelwe ukudliwa ngabaphristi kuphela. Futhi wasabela abakhula bakhe.” **27** Wasesithi kubo, “ISabatha lenzelwa abantu, hatshi ukuthi umuntu wenzelwa iSabatha. **28** Yikho iNdodana yoMuntu iyiNkosi njalo yeSabatha.”

3 Ngesinye isikhathi uJesu wangena esinagogweni, kukhona lapho indoda elesandla esitshwabheneyo. **2** Abanye babo babedinga izaba lokubeka uJesu icala, yikho bamlinda ukubona ingabe wayezasilisa ngeSabatha. **3** UJesu wathi endodeni yesandla esitshwabheneyo, “Sukuma ume phambi kwabo bonke.” **4** UJesu wasebabuza wathi, “Kuyini okusemthethweni ngeSabatha; ukwenza okuhle loba ukwenza okubi, ukusindisa impilo kumbe ukubulala?” Kodwa bathula zwi. **5** Wabakhangela ngolaka, ehlutshwa yibuqholo bezinhliziyo zabo, wasesithi kuleyondoda, “Yelula isandla sakho.” Yaselula, isandla sesilunge saphelela. **6** AbaFarisi basebephuma bayacebisana lamaHerodiya ukuthi bangambulala njani uJesu. **7** UJesu wasuka labafundi bakhe baya ngasechibini, ixuku elikhulu labalandela lisuka eGalile. **8** Bathi ngokuzwa konke ayekwenza abantu abanengi beza kuye besuka eJudiya, eJerusalem, eIdumiya lemimangweni engaphetsheya kweJodani lezindaweni zeThire leSidoni. **9** Ngenxa yobunengi babantu watshela abafundi bakhe ukuba bamlungisele isikepe esincane ukuze angaminyezelwa ngabantu. **10** Phela wayesesilise abanengi, yikho labo ababelezifo babeminyezela befuna ukumthinta. **11** Kwakusithi imimoya emibi ingambona iguqe phambi kwakhe imemeze ithi, “UyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu.” **12** Kodwa wayiqonqosela ukuthi ingaze yakhuluma ukuthi ungubani. **13** UJesu wakhwela waya ewatheni lwentaba wabiza labo ayebafuna, beza kuye. **14** Wakhetha abalithshumi lambili ukuthi babelaye ukuze abathume ukuyatshumayela **15** lokuthi babelamandla okuxotsha amadimoni. **16** Yilaba abalithshumi lambili abakhethayo: uSimoni (ametha ibizo wathi

nguPhethro), **17** uJakhobe indodana kaZebhediya lomfowabo uJohane (laba wabetha ibizo wathi bango Bhowanegesi, okutsho ukuthi Amadodana Omdumo), **18** u-Andreya, uFiliphu, uBhatholomewu, uMatewu, uThomasi, uJakhobe indodana ka-Alifewu, uThediyasi, uSimoni umZilothi **19** lojudasi Iskariyothi onguye owamnikelayo. **20** UJesu wangena kwenye indlu kwaphinda njalo kwabuthana kuye ixuku, yena labafundi bakhe baze behluleka ukudla. **21** Kwathi abendlu yangakwabo bekuzwa lokho bamlanda ukuyambuyisa ngoba bathi, “usephambene.” **22** Kwathi abafundi bomthetho abehla bevela eJerusalem bathi, “Ungenwe nguBhelizebhubhi! Ukhupha amadimoni ngenkosi yamadimoni.” **23** Ngakho uJesu wasebabiza wakhuluma labo ngemizekeliso wathi, “Kambe uSathane angamkhupha kanjani uSathane? **24** Nxa umbuso udabuke phakathi, uvukelana, lowombuso ngeke ume. **25** Nxa indlu ingabambananga, ivukelana, leyondlu ngeke ime. **26** Njalo nxa uSathane eziphika, edabuke phakathi, ngeke ame; useyatshabalala. **27** Ngempela, akakho ongangena endlini yesiqhwaga, abuthe impahla zaso ngaphandle kokuthi aqale asibophe lesosiqhwaga, andubana aphanje indlu yaso. **28** Ngeqiniso ngithi kini, abantu bazakuthethelelwa zonke izono lokuhlambaza kwabo, **29** kodwa loba ngubani othuka uMoya oNgcwele akayikuthethelelwa; ulecala lesono saphakade.” (aiōn g165, aiōnios g166) **30** Wakutsho lokhu ngoba babesithi, “Ulomoya omubi.” **31** Kwasekufika unina kaJesu labafowabo. Bema phandle bathuma omunye umuntu ukuyambiza. **32** Abantu abanengi babehlezi bemhanqile, basebemtshela bathi, “Unyoko labafowenu baphandle bayakudinga.” **33** Wabuza wathi, “Ngobani abangumama labafowethu na?” **34** Wasekhangela labo ababehlezi laye bemhanqile wathi, “Nampa abangumama labangabafowethu! **35** Loba ngubani owenza intando kaNkulunkulu ungumfowethu, ungodadewethu njalo ngumama.”

4 UJesu waphinda njalo wafundisa okhunjini lwesiziba. Ixuku labantu elaqoqana labuthana kuye laba likhulu kakhulu waze wangena esikepeni wahlala kuse siphakathi kwamanzi, kodwa abantu bonke bona bethe gwaqa okhunjini ekucineni kwamanzi. **2** Wabafundisa izinto ezinengi ngemizekeliso, ekufundiseni kwakhe wathi: **3** “Lalelani! Umlimi waphuma wayahlanyela inhlanyelo yakhe. **4** Kwathi eyihaza inhlanyelo, enye yawela endleleni, kwafika izinyonyi ziyadobha. **5** Eyinye yawela okhetheni lapho okwakungela mhlabathi owaneleyo. Yamila masinyane ngoba umhlabathi wawungatshoni. **6** Kodwa kwathi ilanga seliphumile, yahanguka yabuna ngoba yayingelampande. **7** Enye inhlanyelo yawela emveni asuka akhula aminya leyonhlanyelo yaze yehluleka ukuthela izikhwebu. **8** Eyinye inhlanyelo yawela emhlabathini omuhle. Yamila, yakhula, yathela amabele yanda ngamatshumi amathathu, ayisithupha ngitsho langekhulu.” **9** UJesu wasesithi, “Lowo olendlebe zokuzwa kezwe.” **10** Kwathi eseyedwa, abalithshumi lambili labanye ababeseduze laye bambuza mayelana lemizekeliso leyo. **11** Wabatshela wathi, “Imfihlakalo yombuso kaNkulunkulu seliyambulelwe. Kodwa kulabo abangaphandle konke kukhulunywa ngemizekeliso **12** ukuze, ‘bazahlala bebona kokuphela kodwa bengabonisisi, njalo bahlale besizwa kodwa bengaqedisisi funa baphenduke bathethelelwe!” **13** UJesu wasesithi kubo, “Kaliwuzwisisi na umzekeliso lo? Pho lizawuzwa kanjani loba yiwuphi umzekeliso? **14** Umlimi uhlanyela ilizwi. **15** Abanye abantu bafana lenhlanyelo esendleleni okuhlanyelwe khona

ilizwi. Bonela ukuthi balizwe uSathane uyafika alithathe ilizwi elihlanyelwe kubo. **16** Abanye, njengenhlangano eyahlanyelwa okhetheni bayalizwa ilizwi bahle balamukele ngentokozo. **17** Kodwa ngenxa yokuthi kabalampande bema okwesikhatshana kuphela. Kungafika uhlu pho loba ukhululuzwa komhlaba baphanga bawe. **18** Kunjalo abanye, njengenhlangano ehlanganyelwe eveneni, bayalizwa ilizwi; **19** kodwa ukuphisekela izinto zalumhlaba, inkohliso yenotho kanye lezinkanuko zezinye izinto konke kuyeza kuliminyanise ilizwi, kulenze lingatheli. **(aiōn g165)** **20** Abanye, njengenhlangano ehlanganyelwe emhlabathini omuhle, bayalizwa ilizwi, balamukele, bathele izithelo, bedlele okwakhanyelwe ngamatshumi amathathu, ayisithupha loba ngekhu. **21** Wathi kubo, “Uyalumathisa isibane usifake ngaphansi kwesitsha kumbe ngaphansi kombhedana? Kawusibeki oluthini lwaso yini? **22** Ngoba loba yini efihliweyo kumele yambulwe, lalokho okuthukuziweyo kumele kuvezwe obala. **23** Nxa ekhona olendlebe kuzukwa kezwe.” **24** Waqhubeka wathi, “Kuqapheliseni lokho elikuzwayo. Ngaleso isilinganiso elisisebenzisayo lizalinganiselwa ngaso kumbe kuze kwedlulise. **25** Lowo olakho uzakwengezelelwa; lowo ongelakho lalokho alakho uzakwemukwa.” **26** Waphinda wathi, “Umbuso wezulu ufana lalokhu. Indoda ihaza inhlangano emhlabathini. **27** Ebusuku lemini ingabe ilele loba ikhangele inhlangano iyamila ikhule loba yona ingakwazi ukuthi kwenzeka njani. **28** Umhlabathi uyiwo wodwa uthela amabele, kuqala ikhaba kuze isikhwebu besekusiza inhlamvu ezikhwetshini. **29** Kuthi amabele angavuthwa iwavune ngesikela ngoba ukuvuna sekufikile.” **30** Waphinde wathi, “Sizakuthi umbuso kaNkulunkulu unjengani, kumbe sizasebenzisa umzekeliso bani ukuwuchaza? **31** Unjengentanga yemastadi encinyane kulazo zonke intanga ezihlanyelwa emhlabathini. **32** Kodwa nxa ihlanganyeliwe iyakhula ibe yisihlahla esikhulu kulazo zonke esivandeni, sibe lengatsha ezinkulu ezihlalwa emthunzini waso yizinyoni zezulu.” **33** UJesu walikhuluma ilizwi kubo ngemizekeliso eminengi enjalo ukuze bazwisise. **34** Kazange atsho ulutho kubo engasebenzisanga umzekeliso. Kodwa nxa wayeyedwa labafundi bakhe wachaza konke. **35** Ngalelolanga sekuntambama wathi kubafundi bakhe, “Kasihambeni sichaphele ngaphetsheya.” **36** Batshiya ixuku, bahamba laye esikepeni enjalo. Zazikhona njalo ezinye izikepe zihamba laye. **37** Kwaqubuka isiphapho esesabekayo, amagagasi atshaya esikepeni kwaze kwangathi sesitshona. **38** UJesu wayengemva ezilalele emendlalweni obuthakathaka. Abafundi bamvusa bathi, “Awu, mfundisi kawunanzi yini nxa sigalula?” **39** Waphakama wawukhuza umoya wathi emagagasini, “Thulani lithi cwaka!” Ngakho umoya wadeda, kwasekuthula cwaka. **40** Wathi kubafundi bakhe, “Kungani lisesaba kangaka? Lilokhu lingakholwa na?” **41** Babethuthumela babuzana bathi, “Ungubani lo na? Kambe aze alalelwe ngumoya lamagagasi!”

5 Bawela ichibi bafika emangweni wamaGerazini. **2** Kwathi uJesu ephuma esikepeni, kwaqhamuka indoda elomoya omubi ivela emathuneni yamhlangabeza. **3** Indoda le yayihlala emathuneni, kungaselamuntu ongayibopha loba langeketane. **4** Ngoba yayihlezi ibotshiwe izandla lenyawo, kodwa iqamule amaketane lezinsimbi ezinyaweni zayo. Kwakungekho muntu owayelamandla okuyinqoba. **5** Ubusuku lemini yayihlaba umkhosi isemathuneni lasezintabeni, izisike ngamatshe. **6** Yathi ibona uJesu esesebucwala,

yagijima yafika yazilahlala phansi ngamadolo phambi kwakhe. **7** Yaklabalala ngelizwi elikhulu yathi, “Ufunani ngami, Jesu, Ndodana kaNkulunkulu oPhezukonke? Ngegama likaNkulunkulu ungangihlukuluzi!” **8** Ngoba uJesu wayesethe kuyo, “Phuma kuyo indoda le, wena moya omubi!” **9** UJesu wayeyibuza wathi, “Ungubani ibizo lakho?” Yaphendula yathi, “Ibizo lami nguLigiyoni, ngoba sibanengi.” **10** Yamncenga uJesu futhifuthi ukuthi angabaxotshi kulowomango. **11** Umhlambi omkhulu wengulube wawusidla ewatheni lwentaba eduzane. **12** Amadimoni amncenga uJesu athi, “Sithumele ezingulubeni; sivumele singene kuzo.” **13** Wawavumela, omoya ababi baphuma bayangena ezingulubeni. Umhlambi wazo, owawungaba zinkulungwane ezimbili, wagijima usehla eliweni lodonga wangena echibini wagalula. **14** Labo ababazelusile babaleka bayabika lokho edolobheni kanye lasemaphandleni, yikho abantu baqubuka bayabona lokho okwakwenzakele. **15** Bathi befika kuJesu bayibona indoda eyayikade ilamadimoni ngobunengi bawo, ihlezi khonapho, igqokile njalo ingqondo isibuyile, besaba kakhulu. **16** Labo ababekubonile kusenzakala batshela abantu okwenzakalayo endodeni eyayilamadimoni, balandisa njalo langezingulube. **17** Abantu basebemncenga uJesu ukuthi asuke emangweni wakibo. **18** Kwathi uJesu esengena esikepeni indoda leyo eyayikade ilamadimoni yamncenga ukuthi ahambe layo. **19** UJesu kayivumelanga, kodwa wathi kuyo, “Hamba ekhaya kwabakini ubatshela ukuba inkosi ikwenzele okunganani, lokuthi ibe lesihawu kuwe.” **20** Ngakho indoda yasihamba yabatshela eDekapholis konke uJesu ayeyenzele khona. Bonke abantu bamangala. **21** Kwathi lapho uJesu esewele njalo ngesikepe waya ngakuleliyana iphetsheya lechibi, kwabuthana kuye ixuku elikhulu ekhonapho eceleni kwechibi. **22** Kwasekufika omunye wabaphathi besinagogu okwakuthiwa nguJayirosi, wathi ebona uJesu wazilahlala ezinyaweni zakhe. **23** Wamncenga kakhulu wathi, “Indodakazi yami encinyane iyafa. Ngicela ubuye uzobeka izandla zakho phezu kwakho ukuze isile njalo iphile.” **24** UJesu wahamba laye. IXuku elikhulu lamlandela laminyezela. **25** Kwakulowesifazane khonapho owayephethwe yikopha sekumhlophe iminyaka elitshumi lambili. **26** Wayesehlupheke kakhulu loba wayeselathiswa ngabelaphi, njalo esechithe konke ayelakho, kodwa ekubeni abe ngcono kwakusiyi phambili. **27** Wathi esezwile ngoJesu, weza ngemva kwakhe phakathi kwexuku labantu wabamba isembatho sakhe, **28** ngoba wacabanga wathi, “Nxa ngingathinta izigqoko zakhe kodwa nje, ngizasila.” **29** Masinyane nje ukopha kwakhe kwaphela njalo wezwa emzimbeni wakhe ukuthi wayesekhululekile ekuhluphekeni kwakhe. **30** Khonokho uJesu wananzelela ukuthi amandla ayephumile kuye. Waphendukela exukwini labantu wabuza wathi, “Ngubani othinte izigqoko zami?” **31** Abafundi bakhe bamphendula bathi, “Lawe uyababona abantu beminyezelana kuwe, kodwa uyabuza uthi, ‘Ngubani ongithintileyo?’” **32** Kodwa uJesu wala elokhu ethalaza ukuze abone ukuthi ngubani okwenzileyo lokho. **33** Ngakho owesifazane owayekwazi okwasekwenzakele kuye weza wazilahlala ezinyaweni zakhe eqhaqhazela ngokwesaba wahle wafakaza iqiniso. **34** Wathi kwesifazane, “Ndodakazi, ukhohlo lwakho lukusilisile. Hamba ngokuthula ukhululeke ekuhluphekeni kwakho.” **35** UJesu elokhu esakhuluma kweza amanye amadoda ephuma endlini kaJayirosi, umphathi wesinagogu. Athi, “Indodakazi yakho isifile. Kambe usamhlopheleli umfundisi

na?" **36** Akaze akunaka lokho ababekutsho uJesu, wasetshela induna yesinagogu wathi, "Ungesabi, kholwa nje kuphela." **37** Kavumelanga muntu ukuba amlandele ngaphandle kukaPhethro, lojakhobe loJohane umfowabo kajakhobe. **38** Bathi befika emzini wenduna yesinagogu uJesu wabona isiphithiphithi abantu bekhala benqongolozo. **39** Wangena wathi kubo, "Ngesani isiphithiphithi sonke lesi lomkhosi wonke lo? Umntwana kafanga, kodwa ulele." **40** Kodwa bamhleka usulu. Esebakhuphele phandle bonke wathatha uyise womntwana lonina kanye labafundi ayelabo wangena lapho umntwana ayekhona. **41** Wambamba ngesandla wathi kuye, "Thalitha khumil!" (okutsho ukuthi, "Ntombazana, ngithi kuwe, sukuma!") **42** Masinyane intombazana yasukuma yahambahamba (wayemdala okweminyaka elitshumi lambili). Lokhu kwabamangalisa baphela amandla. **43** Wabaqonqosela wathi bangazisi muntu ngalokho, wasesithi kabamuphe ukudla untombazana.

6 UJesu wasuka lapho waya edolobheni lakibo, ehamba labafundi bakhe. **2** Kwathi ngeSabatha wafundisa esinagogweni, abanengi abamuzwayo bamangala. Babuzana bathi, "Indoda le yazithatha ngaphi izinto zonke lezi? Yinhlakanipho enganani le ayiphiwayo aze akwazi lokwenza imimangaliso! **3** Kanti angithi nguye yini umbazi lo? Kayisindodana kaMariya yini le, umnawabo kaJakhobe, loJesefa, loJuda loSimoni? Odadewabo angithi bakhona khonapha?" Lokho kwenza bamsola. **4** UJesu wathi kubo, "Umphrofethi kalalo udumo kuphela edolobheni lakibo, phakathi kwezihlobo zakhe lendlini yakwabo." **5** Wayengeke enze izimangaliso khona, ngaphandle kokubeka izandla ebantwini abalutshwana abagulayo ukuba abasilise. **6** Njalo wamangalisa yikusilela kwabo ekukholweni. UJesu wasenquma efundisa imizi ngemizi. **7** Wabiza abalitshumi lambili beza kuye, wabathumela ngababili wabapha amandla phezu kwemimoya emibi. **8** Imilayo yakhe yayiyile: "Lingathwali lutho kuloluhambo ngaphandle kwentonga, lingathwali isinkwa, isikhwama loba yimali emabantwini enu. **9** Ligqoke amanyathela kodwa lingathwali esinye isigqoko. **10** Lapho lingena endlini ethile, hlalani khona lize lisuke kulelodalobho. **11** Nxa indawo ethile ingalamukeli loba ingalilaleli, dlulani kuleyondawo lithintithe uthuli ezinyaweni zenu kube yibufakazi bokubalahlala." **12** Basuka bahamba betshumayela ukuthi abantu kabaphenduke. **13** Bakhupha amadimoni amanengi njalo bagcoba abantu abanengi abagulayo ngamafutha babasilisa. **14** Inkosi uHerodi yezwa ngalokhu, ngoba ibizo likaJesu laselisaziwa kakhulu. Abanye babesithi, "UJohane uMbaphathizi uvukile kwabafileyo, yikho amandla amangaliso ebezenza kuye." **15** Abanye bathi, "Ungu-Eliza." Kwabuye njalo abanye bathi, "Ungumphrofethi, njengomunye wabaphrofethi basendulo." **16** Kodwa kwathi uHerodi ekuzwa lokhu wathi, "UJohane, indoda engayiquma ikhanda usevukile kwabafileyo!" **17** Ngoba uHerodi yena ngokwakhe wayekhuphe ilizwi lokuthi uJohane abanjwe, wathi kabotshwe aphoneswe entolongweni. Wakwena lokho ngenxa kaHerodiyasi, umfazi womfowabo uFiliphu ayesemthethe. **18** Ngoba uJohane wayelokhu esithi kuHerodi, "Kawuvunyelwa ukuthi uthathele umfowenu umfazi." **19** Ngakho uHerodiyasi wahlala elesikhwili loJohane efuna ukumbulala. Kodwa waswela indlela yokumbulala, **20** ngoba uHerodi wayemesaba uJohane emvikelwa, ngokumazi ukuthi wayeyindoda elungileyo njalo engcwele. Nxa wayemuzwa uJohane, wayedideka kakhulu,

kodwa ethanda ukumlalela. **21** Ekucineni lafika elingaliyo. Ngelanga lesikhumbuzo sokuzalwa kwakhe uHerodi wenza idili lezikhulu zakhe labalawuli bempi kanye labakhokheli abaziwayo eGalile. **22** Kuthe indodakazi kaHerodiyasi isifikile yagida kammandi yathokozisa uHerodi lezethekeli zakhe edlini. Inkosi yasisithi entombazani, "Ngicela loba yini, ngizakupha." **23** Wamthembisa wafunga wathi, "Loba yini oyicelayo ngizakupha kungaze kube yingxenyeyombuso wami." **24** Yaphuma intombazana yayakuthi kunina, "Kambe ngiceleni?" Waphendula wathi, "Ikhanda likaJohane uMbaphathizi?" **25** Masinyane intombazana yatheleka enkosini isihlesicelo leso, yathi: "Ngifuna ukuthi ungiphe khathezi nje ikhanda likaJohane uMbaphathizi lisemganwini." **26** Inkosi yakhathazeka kakhulu, kodwa ngenxa yezifungo zayo langenxa yezethekeli zayo kayithandanga ukusala isicelo. **27** Ngakho yahle yathumela umbulali ukuba aithe ikhanda likaJohane. Yahamba indoda yamquma ikhanda uJohane entolongweni, **28** yaliletha ikhanda lisemganwini. Yalithula entombazani, yona yalipha unina. **29** Bathi bekuzwa lokho abafundi bakaJohane beza bathatha isidumbu bayasingcwaba ethuneni. **30** Abapostoli babuthana kuJesu bambikela konke ababekwenzile labakufundisayo. **31** Kwathi ngoba kwakufika abantu abanengi kakhulu abanye besuka baze baswele ithuba lokudla, wathi kubo, "Ngilandelani lodwa siye endaweni ethuleyo ukuze siphumule." **32** Yikho bahamba bebodwa ngesikepe baya endaweni esithekileyo. **33** Kodwa abanengi abababonayo besuka babanazelela babaxhuma begijima ngezinyawo bevela kuwo wonke amadolobho babaqalela ukuyafika. **34** UJesu uthe esehla esikepeni wabona ixuku labantu elikhulu wabazwela usizi ngoba babenjengezimvu ezingelamelusi. Ngakho wasebafundisa izinto ezinengi. **35** Ngalesi isikhathi kwasekusemini kakhulu, ngakho abafundi bakhe beza kuye bathi, "Le yindawo esesikheleni, njalo sekusemini kakhulu. **36** Tshela abantu bahambe ukuze baziyele emadolobheni lasemizini bayezithengela abangakudla." **37** Kodwa waphendula wathi, "Bapheni lina ukudla." Bathi kuye, "Lokho kungathatha umhlo wendoda owenyanga eziyisificaminwembili! Uthi sihambe siyochitha imali engako sihenge isinkwa sibaphe badle?" **38** Wabuza wathi, "Lilezinkwa ezingaki na? Ake liyokhangela." Sebezibonile bathi, "Zinhlalu lenhlanzi ezimbili." **39** UJesu wasebalaya ukuthi bahlalise bonke abantu phansi etshanini ngamaxuku. **40** Yikho bahlala phansi ngamaxuku alikhulu. Abanye ngamatshumi amahlanu. **41** Ethatha izinkwa ezinhlalu lenhlanzi ezimbili wakhangela ezulwini, wabonga, wasehlephuna izinkwa. Waseziqhubela abafundi bakhe ukuba bazabele abantu. Waphinda wabehlukanisela inhlanzi zombili. **42** Bonke badla basutha, **43** abafundi basebebutha imvuthu zezinkwa lenhlanzi bagcalwisa izitsha ezilitshumi lambili. **44** Abadlayo babangamadoda azinkulungwane ezinhlalu. **45** Masinyane uJesu wenza ukuthi abafundi bakhe bangene esikepeni bahambe bamandulele eBethethisayida, yena esavalelisana labantu. **46** Eshlukene labo, waya ewatheni lwentaba ukuyakhuleka. **47** Kwathi sekuhlwile isikepe sasiphakathi laphakathi kwechibi, yena eyedwa emhlabathini. **48** Wabona abafundi begwedla ngamandla emagagasini ngoba umoya wawuphambana labo. Kwathi ngomlindo wesine ebusuku waya kubo ehamba phezu kwechibi. Wayengathi usesedlula kubo **49** kodwa bathi bembona ehamba phezu kwesiziba

bacabanga ukuthi lithonga. Bahlaba umkhosi 50 ngoba bonke bambona besaba. Masinyane wabakhulumisa wathi, “Manini isibindi! Yimi. Lingesabi.” 51 Wasengena kubo esikepeni umoya wahle wathula. Bamangala kakhulu, 52 ngoba babengazwisanga ngezinkwa; inhliziyiyo zabo zazilukhuni. 53 Bathi sebecapheli, bafikela eGenesaretha bamisa khonapho. 54 Bonela ukuphuma esikepeni abantu bahle bamnanzelela uJesu. 55 Bagijima indawana yonke kulowomango bethwala abagulayo ngamacansi bebasa kuzozonke indawo ababemzwela khona. 56 Loba wayengaze aye ngaphi, emizini, emadolobheni loba emaphandleni, babeka abagulayo ezindaweni zokuthengisela. Bamncenga ukuthi abavumele bathinte nje umpetho wesigqoko sakhe, kwathi bonke labo abamthintayo basila.

7 AbaFarisi labanye abafundisi bomthetho ababesuka eJerusalem babuthana kuJesu 2 babona abanye abafundi bakhe besidla ukudla ngezandla ezingahlanzekanga, okutsho ukuthi zazingagezwanga. 3 (AbaFarisi labajuda bonke kabadli bengazanga izandla zabo ngokomthetho, belandela isiko labadala. 4 Nxa bevela emskeni kabadli bengaqalanga bageza. Balandela amasiko amanengi, njengokugezisa amankomithso, indiwo lamagedlela.) 5 Ngakho abaFarisi labafundisi bomthetho bambuza uJesu bathi, “Kungani abafundi bakho bengalandeli amasiko abadala kulokudla ukudla kwabo ngezandla ‘ezingahlanzekanga na?’” 6 Waphendula wathi, “U-Isaya wayeqinisile aze aphrofitha ngani lina bazenzisi; njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: ‘Lababantu bangidumisa ngezindebe zabo, kodwa inhliziyiyo zabo zikhatshana lami. 7 Bangikhonza ngeze; imfundiso yabo yimithetho kuphela evela ebantwini.’ 8 Seliyekele imilayo kaNkulunkulu labambelela emasikweni abantu.” 9 Wasesithi kubo, “Lilendledlana yenu yokufuqela eceleni imilayo kaNkulunkulu ukuze lilandele amasiko enu! 10 Phela uMosi wathi, ‘Hlonipha uyihlo lonyoko’njalo, ‘Lowo othuka uyise loba unina kumele abulawe.’ 11 Kodwa lina lithi nxa umuntu esithi lokho obekungaba lusizo kuyise kumbe unina liKhubhani (okutsho ukuthi yisipho esabelwe uNkulunkulu), 12 beselisithi angamenzeli lutho uyise loba unina. 13 Ngaleyondlela lichitha ilizwi likaNkulunkulu ngamasiko enu eliwedlulisela kuzizukulwane zenu. Futhi lenza izinto ezinengi ezinjalo.” 14 UJesu waphinda wabiza ixuku labantu wathi, “Lalalani kimi lonke, lizwisise lokhu. 15 Kakalulutho olungaphandle komuntu olungamenza ‘angahlanzeki’ ngokungena kuye. Kodwa yilokho okuphuma phakathi komuntu okuyikho okumenza ‘angahlanzeki.’ [16 Nxa ekhona olendlebe zokuzwa kezwe.]” 17 Esesukile exukwini labantu wangena endlini abafundi bakhe bambuza ngomzekeliso lo. 18 Wabuzwa wathi, “Kaliqedisisi ngani na? Kalikuboni yini ukuthi kakalulutho olungena emuntwini lusuka ngaphandle olungamenza ‘angahlanzeki’? 19 Ngoba kalungeni enhliziyweni yakhe kodwa luya esiswini sakhe luphinde luphume emzimbeni wakhe.” (Ngokutsho lokhu uJesu waphawula ukuthi konke ukudla kuhlanzekile.) 20 Waqhubeka wathi: “Okuphuma phakathi komuntu yikho okumngcolisayo. 21 Ngoba okusuka ngaphakathi, okusuka enhliziyweni, kuphuma imicabango emibi, ukuhlobonga, ubusela, ukubulala, ukufeba, 22 ubuhwaba, umona, ubuqili, ukuxhwala, umhawu, ukugcona, ubuqholo lobuthutha. 23 Zonke lezi izono ziphuma ngaphakathi zenze umuntu angcole.” 24 UJesu wasuka kuleyondawo waya emangweni

waseThire. Wangena endlini kodwa kafunanga ukuthi kwaziwe; kodwa wayengeke azifihle ukuthi ukhona. 25 Owesifazane owayelendodakazi yakhe encinyane eyayilomoya omubi wonela ukuzwa ngaye weza wayazilahla ezinyaweni zakhe. 26 Umfazi lo wayengumGrikhi, owazalelwa eFenikhe yaseSiriya. Wancenga uJesu ukuthi akhuphe idimoni endodakazini yakhe. 27 Wamthshela wathi kuye, “Qala wekele abantwana badle basuthe, ngoba kakulunganga ukuthathisa isinkwa sabantwana usiphosele izinja.” 28 Wathi owesifazane, “Yebo, Nkosi, kodwa izinja lazo ezingaphansi kwetafula ziyadla imvuthuluka.” 29 UJesu wamthshela wathi, “Ngenxa yempendulo enhle kangaka usungahamba; idimoni seliphumile endodakazini yakho.” 30 Owesifazane wabuyela ekhaya wafumana umntanakhe elele embhedeni, idimoni selihambile. 31 UJesu wasesuka endaweni yeThire wadabula eSidoni waze wayafika olwandle lwaseGalile wehla waya emangweni waseDekapholisi. 32 Khonale abantu bamlethela indoda eyayiyisacuthe isehluleka lokukhuluma, bamcela ukuthi abeke isandla sakhe phezu kwayo. 33 UJesu wayisusela eceleni kwexuku labantu wasefaka iminwe yakhe ezindlebeni zaleyondoda. Wasekhafula wathinta ulimi lwayo indoda. 34 Wakhangele ezulwini wakhokha umoya wathi kuyo, “Efifathal!” (okutsho ukuthi, “Vuleka!”). 35 Ngalokhu indlebe zendoda zavuleka, ulimi lwayo lwatshwaphuluka yahle yaqalisa ukukhuluma kuhle. 36 UJesu wabaqngqosela ukuthi bangatsheli muntu. Kodwa wathi ngokwenza njalo baqhubeka ngamandla befakaza ngakho. 37 Abantu bamangala baphela amandla. Bathi, “Konke asekwenzile kuhle. Uyenza futhi lezacuthe zizwe, lezimungulu zikhulume.”

8 Ngalezonsuku kwaphinde kwabuthana elinye ixuku labantu. Kwathi ngoba bengalutho lokudla uJesu wabiza abafundi bakhe wathi kubo, 2 “Ngilosizi ngalaba abantu; sebebe lami okwensuku ezintathu, kodwa bengadli lutho. 3 Ngingababuyisela emakhaya belambile bazayatha endleleni ngoba abanye babo bavela khatshana.” 4 Abafundi bakhe baphendula bathi, “Kodwa kungaphi endaweni emi yodwa kanje umuntu angathola khona izinkwa ezanele ukubapha?” 5 UJesu wababuzwa wathi, “Lilezinkwa ezingaki na?” Bathi, “Eziyisikhombisa.” 6 Wasethshela ixuku labantu ukuthi lihlale phansi. Wathi esezithethe izinkwa eziyisikhombisa njalo esebongile, wazihlephula waziqhubela abafundi bakhe ukuba baqhubele abantu. Lakanye benza khonkoho. 7 Njalo babelenhlanzi ezincane ezimbalwa, wazikhulekela lazo wathi abafundi bazabele abantu. 8 Abantu badla basutha. Ngemva kwalokho abafundi badobha imvuthu kwagcwala izitsha eziyisikhombisa. 9 Ababekhona kwakungamadoda azinkulungwane ezine. Esebabuyisele emakhaya, 10 wangena esikepeni labafundi bakhe baya emangweni waseDalimanutha. 11 AbaFarisi beza baqalisa ukumbuzisa uJesu. Bamlinga ngokuthi kabatshengise isibonakaliso esivela ezulwini. 12 Wakhokha umoya ngamandla wathi, “Kungani isizukulwane lesi sicela isibonakaliso? Ngqiqinisile ngithi kini, kakulasibonakaliso esizakuphiwa lesisizukulwane.” 13 Wasesuka kubo wabuyela esikepeni wachaphela ababekukhuluma, wasebaba wathi, “Kungani bakhohlwa ukuza lesinkwa ngaphandle kwesisodwa ababelaso esikepeni. 15 UJesu wabaxwayisa wathi, “Limukani, liqaphele imvubelo yabaFarisi lekaHerodi.” 16 Bakhulumisana ngalokhu bathi, “Utsho ngoba singelasinkwa.” 17 UJesu wanakanzelela ababekukhuluma, wasebaba wathi, “Kungani likhuluma ngokungabi lasinkwa na? Lilokhu lingaboni njalo lingazwisisi na? Inhliziyiyo zenu sezintunyile na? 18

Kungani lithi lilamehlo lehluleke ukubona, lilezindlebe lehluleke ukuzwa? Kalikhumbuli yini? **19** Ngize ngihlephunele abazinkulungwane ezinhlanu izinkwa ezinhlanu labutha izitsha ezingaki zemvuthu?" Bathi, "Ezilitshuri lambili." **20** "Ngize ngihlephunele abazinkulungwane ezine izinkwa eziyisikhombisa labutha imvuthu kwaba yizitsha ezingaki na?" Baphendula bathi, "Eziyisikhombisa." **21** Wasesithi kubo, "Lilokhu lingezwisi yini?" **22** Bafika eBhethisayida, abanye abantu baletha indoda eyayiyisiphofu bancenga uJesu ukuba ayibeke izandla. **23** Wasithatha isiphofu leso wasibamba ngesandla wasiholela ngaphandle komuzi. Esekhafulele emehlweni aso wasibeka izandla uJesu wabuzwa wathi, "Kukhona okubonayo na?" **24** Sathalaza sathi, "Ngibona abantu; bakhangeleka njengezihlahla ezihambahambayo." **25** UJesu waphinde wabeka izandla zakhe emehlweni ayo indoda leyo. Amehlo ayo avuleka, yabona kuhle, isibona zonke izinto kakuhle. **26** UJesu wayibuyisela ekhaya layo wathi, "Ungayi edolobheni ukuyakhuluma ngale indaba." **27** UJesu labafundi bakhe baya emizini eduze leKhesariya Filiphi. Besendleleni wababuzwa wathi, "Kambe abantu bathi ngingubani?" **28** Baphendula bathi, "Abanye bathi unguJohane uMbaphathizi; abanye bathi ungu-Elija; njalo abanye bathi ungomunye wabaphrofethi." **29** Wasebabuzwa wathi, "Kodwa lina-ke? Lithi ngingubani?" UPhetro waphendula wathi, "UnguKristu." **30** UJesu wabaqonqosela ukuthi bangatsheli muntu ngaye. **31** Waqalisa ukubafundisa ngokuthi iNdodana yoMuntu imele ihlupheke kakhulu, yaliwe ngabadala bebandla, abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho, njalo lokuthi kumele ibulawe kuthi ngemva kwensuku ezintathu ivuke njalo. **32** Wakukhuluma kamhlophe lokho, uPhethro wamdonsela eceleni waqalisa ukumkhuya. **33** Kodwa waphenduka wakhangela abafundi bakhe, wasemkhuya uPhethro wathi, "Suka emuva kwami, Sathanel Kawunakani ngezinto zikaNkulunkulu, kodwa ngezinto zabantu." **34** Wasebiza ixuku labantu kanye labafundi bakhe wathi, "Nxa umuntu efuna ukungilandela, kumele azidele athathe isiphambano sakhe angilande. **35** Ngoba yilowo ofuna ukulondoloza impilo yakhe izamlehleka, kodwa olahlekelwa yimpilo yakhe ngenxa yami kanye levangeli ozayilondoloza. **36** Kumsizani umuntu ukuzwa wonke umhlaba, kodwa olahlekelwe ngumphefumulo wakhe? **37** Loba, kuyini umuntu angakunika kube yinhlawulo yomphefumulo wakhe na? **38** Nxa umuntu eyangeka ngami kanye lamazwi ami kulesi sizukulwane esifebayo lesonayo, iNdodana yoMuntu izakuyangeka ngaye nxa isifika enkazimulweni kaYise lezingilosi ezingcwele."

9 Wasesithi kubo, "Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi abanye abemiyo lapha kabayikukuzwa ukufa bengakawuboni umbuso kaNkulunkulu ufika ngamandla." **2** Ngemva kwensuku eziyisithupha uJesu wathatha uPhethro, loJakhobe loJohane wakhwela labo entabeni ephakemeyo lapho ababa bodwa khona. Bekhona lapho waguquka isimo emehlweni abo. **3** Izigqoko zakhe zaba mhlophe njengokukhanya, zaba mhlophe okungazake kwenziwe muntu emhlabeni. **4** Khonapho kwabonakala u-Elija loMosi bekhuluma loJesu. **5** UPhetro wathi kuJesu, "Rabi, kumnandi kithi ukuba lapha. Kasakhe izihonqo ezintathu esakho, esinye esikaMosi lesinye esika-Elija." **6** (Wayengazi ukuthi athini, babesesaba kakhulu.) **7** Kwabuya iyezi labagubuzela, ilizwi labuya livela eyezini lisithi,

"Lo yiNdodana yami, engiyithandayo. Ilaleleni!" **8** Khonokho nje bathi bayakhangele kababe besabona muntu eduze kwabo ngaphandle kukaJesu. **9** Bathi sebesehla entabeni uJesu wabanika imilayo yokuthi bangatsheli muntu ngabakubonileyo iNdodana yoMuntu ize iqale ivuke kwabafileyo. **10** Indaba le bayigcina ezifubeni zabo, bebuzana ukuthi, "ukuvuka kwabafileyo" kwakusitshoni. **11** Bambuzwa bathi, "Kungani abafundisi bomthetho besithi u-Elija kumele afike kuqala?" **12** UJesu waphendula wathi, "Ngeqiniso u-Elija uza kuqala abuyisele izinto zonke esimeni sazo. Kungani pho kulotshiwe ukuthi iNdodana yoMuntu imele ihlupheke kakhulu yaliwe? **13** Kodwa ngiyalitshelela, u-Elija usefikile, sebemenze konke ababekufisa kuye njengoba kulotshiwe ngaye." **14** Bathi befika kwabanye abafundi babona bebuthanelwe ngabantu abanengi kulabafundisi bomthetho bephikisana labo. **15** Abantu bonke bonela ukubona uJesu bamangala kakhulu bamgijimela besiyambengelela. **16** Wabuzwa wathi, "Kuyini eliphikisana labo ngakho na?" **17** Kwaphendula indoda ethile ekukwini yathi, "Mfundisi, ngikulethele indodana yami ilomoya oyenza ibe yisimungulu. **18** Uthi ungayibamba uyilahlele phansi. Isuka ibhubhude amagwebu, igedle amazinyo, yome qha umzimba. Ngibacelile abafundi bakho ukuthi bawukhuphe umoya, kodwa behluleka." **19** UJesu waphendula wathi, "Oh, lina sizukulwane esingakholwayo, ngizahlala lani kuze kube nini na? Ngilibekezelele kuze kube nini? Mletheni kimi umfana." **20** Basebemletha kuye. Umoya wonela ukumbona uJesu wamlahla phansi umfana wazigiqagiqqa ekhahliza amagwebu ngomlomo. **21** UJesu wabuzwa uyise womfana wathi, "Sekulesikhathi esingakanani enje umfana?" Wathi, "Kusukela ebuntwaneni. **22** Kuhlezi kumphosela emlilweni loba emanzini kufuna ukumbulala. Kodwa nxa kukhona ongakwenza ake usihawukele usisize." **23** UJesu wathi, "Uthi 'engingakwenza?' Yonke into iyeneliseka kulowo okholwayo." **24** Masinyane uyise womfana wamezeka wathi, "Ngiyakholwa; ake ungisize ngehule ukungakholwa kwami!" **25** UJesu esebona ukuthi ixuku laligijimela kuye wawukhuya umoya omubi wathi, "Wena moya oyisacuthe lesimungulu, ngiyakulaya mina, ngithi phuma kuye ungangaphindi ungene kuye futhi." **26** Umoya waklabalala, wamgijimela phansi umfana, waphuma emva kokumhlukuluka okukhulu. Umfana wathi daka, waba njengesidumbu, abanengi bathi, "Usefile." **27** Kodwa uJesu wambamba ngesandla wamdonsa wamisa ngezinyawo wema. **28** UJesu esesukile wayangena endlini abafundi bakhe bambuzwa ngasese bathi, "Kungani sehlulekile ukuwuxotsha na?" **29** Waphendula wathi, "Lolu uhlobo luphuma ngomkhuleko kuphela." **30** Basuka kuleyondawo badabula eGalile. UJesu kazange afune ukuthi kube khona owaziyo ukuthi babengaphi, **31** ngoba wayefundisa abafundi bakhe. Wathi kubo, "iNdodana yoMuntu izanikelwa ezandleni zabantu. Bazayibulala, kuthi ngemva kwensuku ezintathu izavuka." **32** Kodwa kabezwiswisa ukuthi wayesitshoni njalo besaba ukumbuzwa ngakho. **33** Bafika eKhaphenawume. Wathi esendlini wababuzwa wathi, "Beliphikisana ngani endleleni?" **34** Kodwa bathula zwi ngoba endleleni babephikisana ngokuthi ngubani omkhulu kulabanye bonke. **35** Wahlala phansi uJesu wabiza abalitshuri lambili wathi kubo, "Nxa ekhona ofuna ukuba ngowokuqala, kabe ngosekucineni, abe yisisebenzi sabo bonke." **36** Wathatha umntwana omncinyane wamisa phakathi kwabo. Wamthatha wamanga wathi kubo, **37** "Yilowo owamukela oyedwa walababantwana abancinyane ebizweni lami wamukela mina;

njalo lowo ongamukelayo kemukeli mina, kodwa wamukela lowo owangithumayo.” **38** UJohane wathi, “Mfundisi, sibone indoda ikhupha amadimoni ngebizo lakho, sayenqabela ngoba ingayisuye omunye wethu.” **39** UJesu wathi, “Lingamaleli. Kakho ongenza umangaliso ngebizo lami aphinde masinyane ajike akhulume okubi ngami, **40** ngoba lowo ongamelani lathi ukanye lathi. **41** Ngilitshela iqiniso, lowo olipha inkezo yamanzi ngebizo lami ngoba lingabakaKhristu ngempela akayikulahlekelwa ngumvuzo wakhe.” **42** “Nxa umuntu ekhubekisa oyedwa walaba abancinyane abakholwa kimi kuwaba enze isono, bekungaba ngcono kuye ukuthi aphoselwe olwandle ebotschelwe ilitshe elikhulu entanyeni yakhe. **43** Nxa isandla sakho sikwenza wone, siqume. Kungcono kuwe ukuthi ungene ekuphileni ungunyini kulokuya esihogweni ulezandla ezimbili, lapho umlilo wakhona ongacitshiyo, [**Geenna g1067**] **44** lapho ‘impethu yakhona engafiyo lomlilo wakhona ongacitshiyo.’ **45** Njalo nxa unyawo lwakho lukwenzisa isono, luqume. Kungcono kuwe ukuthi ungene ekuphileni uyisilima kulokuthi ulenyawo ezimbili uphoselwe esihogweni, [**Geenna g1067**] **46** lapho ‘impethu zakhona ezidlayo zingafi lomlilo ongacitshiyo.’ **47** Njalo nxa ilihlo lakho likwenza wone, likopole liphume. Kungcono kuwe ukungena embusweni kaNkulunkulu ulelihlo elilodwa kulokuba lameliso amabili kodwa uphoselwe esihogweni, (**Geenna g1067**) **48** lapho ‘impethu zakhona ezidlayo zingafi, lomlilo ongacitshiyo.’ **49** Umuntu wonke uzakuvuzelwa itswayi ngomlilo. **50** Itswayi lilungile, kodwa nxa lingalahlekelwa yibumnyu balo, ungalivuselela njani na? Wobani letswayi ngaphakathi kwenu, lihlalisane ngokuthula.”

10 UJesu wasesuka kuleyondawo waya emangweni waseJudiya langaphetsheya kweJodani. Njalo kweza kuye amaxuku abantu, kwathi njengenjayelo yakhe wabafundisa. **2** Abanye abafaris beza bamlinga ngokumbuzwa bathi, “Kusemthethweni yini ukuthi indoda imale umfazi wayo na?” **3** Waphendula wathi, “UMosi walilaya wathini?” **4** Bathi, “UMosi wayivumela indoda ukuthi ibhale incwadi yokuquma umtshado ibisimxotsha.” **5** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Kwakungena yokuthi zazilukhuni inhlizyo zenu okwenza uMosi walibhalela umthetho lo. **6** Kodwa ekuqaleni kwendalo uNkulunkulu ‘wabenza baba ngowesilisa lowesifazane.’ **7** ‘Ngalesisizatho indoda izatshiya uyise lonina imanyane lomfazi wayo, **8** kuthi labo bobabili babe nyamanye.’ Yikho kabasebabili, sebemunye. **9** Ngakho, lokho uNkulunkulu asekuhlanganisile akungehlukisanisa muntu.” **10** Bathi sebengenile endlini njalo, abafundi bambuzwa uJesu ngalokhu. **11** Waphendula wathi, “Loba ngubani olahla umfazi wakhe athathe omunye umfazi uyafeba kuye. **12** Laye nxa elahla indoda yakhe endeke kwenye, uyafeba.” **13** Abantu babelletha abantwana abancinyane kuJesu ukuze ababekwe izandla, kodwa abafundi babakhuza. **14** UJesu wathi ekubona lokho wacaphuka. Wathi kubo, “Yekelani abantwana abancane beze kimi, lingavaleli, ngoba umbuso kaNkulunkulu ungowabanjengalaba. **15** Ngqiqinisile ngithi kini, lowo ongayikwemukela umbuso kaNkulunkulu njengomntwana omncane kayikungena kuwo.” **16** Wasebathatha abantwana ebaphatha, wababeka izandla wababusisa. **17** UJesu wathi esesuka ehamba, indoda yagijimela kuye yafika yazilahlala ngamadolo phambi kwakhe. Yabuzwa yathi, “Mfundisi olungileyo, ngingenzani ukuze ngizuze ilifa lokuphila kwaphakade na?” (**aiōnios g166**) **18** UJesu waphendula

wathi, “Ungibizelani ngokuthi ngilungile na? Kakho olungileyo ngaphandle kukaNkulunkulu kuphela. **19** Uyayazi imilayo: ‘Ungabulali, ungangabi, ungebi, ungangaphi ubufakazi bamanga, ungangadlezeli, hlonipha uyihlo lonyoko.’” **20** Wachaza wathi, “Mfundisi zonke lezi izinto ngiyazigcina kusukela ngisesengumfana.” **21** UJesu wamkhangela wamthanda. Wathi, “Usilela ngento eyodwa. Hamba uyethengisa konke olakho uphe abampofu, lapho-ke inotho yakho izakuba sezulwini. Ubusubuya ungilandele.” **22** Isizwa lokhu indoda yathelwa ngamanzi. Yasukuma yahamba isidanile ngoba yayinolithile kakhulu. **23** UJesu wathalaza wasesithi kubafundi bakhe, “Koba nzima kakhulu ukuthi isinithi singene embusweni kaNkulunkulu!” **24** Abafundi bamangalisa ngamazwi akhe lawo. Kodwa uJesu waphinda wathi, “Bantwana, kunzima kanganani ukungena embusweni kaNkulunkulu! **25** Kulula ukuba ikamela lingene embotsheni yenalithi kulokuba umuntu onothileyo angene embusweni kaNkulunkulu.” **26** Abafundi bamangala okwedlulayo, bathi omunye komunye, “Pho ngubani ongasindiswa na?” **27** UJesu wabakhangelwa wathi, “Ngokwabantu kakwenzeki, kodwa hatshi ngoNkulunkulu; zonke izinto ziyenzakala ngoNkulunkulu.” **28** UPhetsho wathi kuye, “Sesitshiye konke ukuba sikulandele!” **29** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ngilitshela iqiniso ngithi kakho osesitshiye ikhaya kumbe abafowabo, loba odadewabo, kumbe unina loba uyise, loba umntwana kumbe amasimu ngenxa yami levangeli **30** ozakwehluleka ukwamukeliswa okuphindwe ngekholo kuso lesi isikhathi samanje: amakhaya, abafowabo, odadewabo, onina, abantwana lamasimu, kwengezwe ukuhlukunyezwa, lasesikhathini esizayo, ukuphila kwaphakade. (**aiōn g165, aiōnios g166**) **31** Kodwa abanengi abangabokuqala bazakuba ngabokucina, abokucina babe ngabokuqala.” **32** Babesendleleni besiya eJerusalema, uJesu ekhokhele, abafundi bedidekile, kwathi labo ababelandela babasesaba. Waphinda njalo wathatha abalitshumi lamibili wabadonsela eceleni wabatshele lokho okwakuzakwenzakala kuye. **33** Wathi, “Sesisiya eJerusalema, iNnodana yoMuntu izanikelwa kubaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho. Bazayigwebela ukufa bayinikele kwabeZizwe, **34** abazayiyangisa, bayikhafulele, bayitshaye njalo bayibulale. Ngemva kwensuku ezintathu izavuka.” **35** Kwathi uJakhobe loJohane, amadodana kaZebhediyi, beza kuye. Bathi, “Mfundisi, sifuna ukuthi usenzele loba yini esiyicelayo.” **36** Wababuzwa wathi, “Lifuna ukuthi ngilenzeleni?” **37** Baphendula bathi, “Wothi omunye wethu ahlale ngakwesokunene kwakho, kuthi omunye kwesokholo ebukhosini bakho.” **38** UJesu wathi, “Kalikwazi elikucelayo. Lingayinatha na inkezo engiyinathayo kumbe libhaphathizwe ngobhaphathizo engibhaphathizwa ngalo, na?” **39** Baphendula bathi, “Singakwenza.” UJesu wathi kubo, “Lizayinatha inkezo engiyinathayo njalo libhaphathizwe ngobhaphathizo engibhaphathizwa ngalo, **40** kodwa ukuhlala kwesokunene kumbe kwesokholo kwami kakusikho kwami ukukuvumela. Izindawo lezi ngezalabo abazilungiselweyo.” **41** Kwathi abalitshumi bezukwa lokhu bazondela uJakhobe loJohane. **42** UJesu wababizela ndawonye wathi, “Liyakwazi ukuthi labo abangabusi kwabeZizwe bababusa kalukhuni, lezinduna zabo ezinkulu zitshengisa amandla phezu kwabo. **43** Akunjalo kini. Kodwa lowo othanda ukuba mkhulu phakathi kwenu kumele abe yinceku yenu, **44** lalowo ofuna ukuba ngowokuqala kabe yisigqili senu lonke. **45** Ngoba leNnodana yoMuntu kayibuyelanga ukuzokhonza, kodwa ukuzokhonza

lokunikela impilo yayo njengenhlawulo yabanengi.” 46 Basebefika eJericho. Kwathi uJesu labafundi bakhe kanye lexuku elikhulu sebesuka edolobheni, indoda eyisiphofu, uBhathimewu (kutsho indodana kaThimewu) yayihlezi eceleni kwendlela icela. 47 Yathi isizwa ukuthi kwakunguJesu waseNazaretha yameza yathi, “Jesu, Ndodana kaDavida, ake unghawukele!” 48 Abanengi bayikhuza bathi kayithule, kodwa yaqhubeka yameza ngamandla isithi, “Ndodana kaDavida, ake unghawukele!” 49 UJesu wema wathi, “Mbizeni.” Basebeyibiza indoda eyisiphofu bathi, “Thokoza ndodal Phakama! Uyakubiza.” 50 Walahla ijazi lakhe phansi wasukuma weza kuJesu. 51 UJesu wambuzwa wathi, “Ufuna ngikwenzeleni na?” Indoda eyisiphofu yathi, “Rabi, ngifuna ukuthi ngibone.” 52 UJesu wathi, “Hamba-ke, ukukholwa kwakho sekukusilile.” Masinyane yahle yabona yasilandela uJesu endleleni.

11 Bathi sebesondele eJerusalem bafika eBethifage leBethani eNtabeni yama-Oliva. UJesu wathuma abafundi bakhe ababili 2 wathi kubo, “Yanini emzini ophambi kwenu, okuzakuthi nxa lingena kuwo lizabona inkonyane kababhemi engakaze igadwe muntu ibotshelwe khonapho. Ikhululeni liyilethe lapha. 3 Nxa kungaba lolalibuzwa ukuthi, ‘Likwenzeleni lokho na?’ limtshela ukuthi, ‘INKosi iyalifuna, izalibuyisa masinyane.’” 4 Bahamba bathola inkonyane kababhemi phandle maqondana lomnyango ibotshelwe. Bayikhulula, 5 abantu ababemi khonapho babuza bathi, ‘Lenzani, liyikhululelani inkonyane leyo na?’ 6 Baphendula njengoba uJesu wayebathshelile, abantu basebeyayekela bahamba. 7 Sebelilethile ithole kuJesu bendlala amajazi abo phezu kwalo uJesu waseligada. 8 Abantu abanengi bendlala amajazi abo endleleni, kukanti abanye bendlala ingatsha abaziqamula emasimini. 9 Labo ababehamba phambili labo ababelandela bameza besithi, “Hosana!” “Ubusiwe lowo obuya ngebizo leNkosi!” 10 “Ubusiwe umbuso ozayo okababa wethu uDavida!” “Hosana ezulwini eliphezulu!” 11 UJesu wangena eJerusalem waya ethempelini. Wathalaza wakhangela konke, kodwa kwathi ngoba kwasekuhlwile wehlela eBethani labalithumi lambili. 12 Ngelanga elilandelayo bathi besuka eBethani uJesu wayeselambile. 13 Wabona bucwadlana isihlahla somkhiwa sihlumile amahlamvu, wasondela ukuyabona ingabe sasilezithelo yini. Wafika wabona kungamahlamvu kuphela ngoba kwakungasiso isikhathi sezithelo zomkhiwa. 14 Wasesithi esihlahleni, “Akungabi lamuntu lanini ozaphinda adle izithelo zakho.” Abafundi bakhe bamuzwa esitsho lokho. (aiōn g165) 15 Bathi befika eJerusalem uJesu wangena egumeni lethempeli wafika wabaxotsha labo ababethenga lababethengisa khona. Wagenqula amatafula abantshintshi bezimali lezihlalo zababethengisa amajuba, 16 kaze avumela muntu ukungena okuthengiswayo ezindlini zethempeli. 17 Wathi esabafundisa wathi, “Kakulotshwanga yini ukuthi: ‘Indlu yami izabizwa ngokuthi yindlu yokukhuleka ezizweni zonke?’ Kodwa lina selyenze ‘ubhalu lwabaphangi.’” 18 Abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho bakuzwa lokhu basebeqalisa ukudinga indlela yokumbalala, ngoba babemesaba ngoba ixuku lonke lalimangaliswa yikufundisa kwakhe. 19 Kusihlwa baphuma edolobheni. 20 Ekuseni babehambahamba basebebona isihlahla somkhiwa esasibunile kusukela empandeni. 21 UPhetsho wakhumbula wasesithi kuJesu, “Rabi, khangela! Isihlahla somkhiwa owasiqalekisaayo sibunile!” 22 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Woba lokholo

kuNkulunkulu. 23 Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi nxa omunye esithi entabeni le, ‘Suka, ziphosele olwandle,’ engelakuthandabuza enhliziyweni yakhe, kodwa ekholwa ukuthi lokho akutshoyo kuzakwenzakala, kuzakwenziwa kuye. 24 Ngakho ngiyalitshela ukuthi loba kuyini elikucelayo ngomkhuleko, kholwani ukuthi selikwamukele, sekuzakuba ngokweni. 25 Njalo nxa lisima likhuleka, nxa lilesikhwili komunye, mthetheleleni, ukuze uYihlo ezulwini alithethelele izono zenu. [26 Kodwa nxa lingathetheleli, loYihlo osezulwini kazukulithethelele izono zenu.] 27 Bafika njalo eJerusalem, kwathi uJesu ezihambela emagumeni ethempeli kweza kuye abaphristi abakhulu, labafundisi bomthetho kanye labadala. 28 Bambuza bathi, “Konke lokhu ukwenza ngawaphi amandla na? Ngubani owakupha amandla okwenza lokhu?” 29 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ngizalibuzwa umbuzo owoedwa. Lingangiphendula ngizalitshela ukuthi ngizenza ngawaphi amandla lezizinto. 30 Ukubhaphathiza kukaJohane, kwakuvela ezulwini loba ebantwini? Ngitsihlani!” 31 Bahlanganisa amakhanda bathi, Singathi, “Kwakuvela ezulwini, uzabuzwa athi, ‘Kungani lingazange limkholwe?’ 32 Kodwa singathi, ‘Kwakuvela ebantwini ...’ (Besaba abantu ngoba bonke babesithi ngeqiniso uJohane wayengumphrofethi.) 33 Ngakho bamphendula uJesu bathi, “Kasikwazi.” UJesu wathi, “Lami kangalisitheli ukuthi izinto lezi ngizenza ngawaphi amandla.”

12 Wasekhuluma kubo ngemizekeliso wathi, “Indoda yahlanyela isivini. Yakha ukumeli yasihonqolozela, yemba igodi lesihluzo yasisakha umphotshong wesilindo. Yasiqhatshisa isivini kubalimi abathile yona yasuka yathatha uhambo. 2 Ngesikhathi sokuvuna yathuma isisebenzi kubaqhatshi besivini ukuthi siyothatha ingxenye yezithelo zesivino. 3 Kodwa basidumela basitshaya basixotsha singaphathanga lutho. 4 Yathuma esinye isisebenzi kubo; leyondoda bayitshaya ekhanda bayiphatha kubi. 5 Yaphinde yathuma esinye njalo isisebenzi, leso bahle basigongoda basibulala. Yathuma ezinye ezinengi; ezinye zazo bazitshaya, ezinye bazibulala. 6 Kwasekusele oyedwa wokuthuma, indodana, ayeiyithanda. Wayithuma ekucineni kwabo bonke esithi, ‘Bazayihlonipha indodana yami.’ 7 Kodwa abaqhatshi besivini batshelana bathi, ‘Lo yindlalifa. Wozani, simbulale, ilifa libe ngelethu.’ 8 Ngakho bamthatha bambulala bamphosela ngaphandle kwesivini. 9 Kambe kuyini azakwenza umnini wesivini na? Uzakuza afike ababulale labo baqhatshi besivini, isivini leso asinike abanye abalimi. 10 Kalibalanga yini umbhalo lo othi: ‘Ilitshe elahlwa ngabakhi seliyilona ilitshe lekheneni; 11 iNkosi ikwenzile lokhu, kuyamangalisa emehlweni ethu?’ 12 Basebedinga iqinga lokumbopha ngoba babesazi ukuthi wayekhulume umzekeliso lowo eqonde bona. Kodwa besaba ixuku labantu; basebemtshiya bahamba. 13 Muva basebethumela abanye babaFarisi lamaHerodiya kuJesu ukuthi bambambe ngamazwi akhe. 14 Beza kuye bathi, “Mfundisi, siyakwazi ukuthi uyindoda eqotho. Kawugququlwanga ngabantu ngoba kawulandeli ukuthi bangobani; kodwa ufundisa indlela kaNkulunkulu mayelana leqiniso. Kulungile yini ukuthela kuKhesari, kumbe hatshi? 15 Sithela yini kumbe hatshi?” Kodwa uJesu wayekubona ukuzenzisa kwabo, wathi, “Lizamelani ukungithiya na? Ake lingiphe idenari ngibone.” 16 Baluletha uhlamvu lolo, wasebabuza wathi, “Ngumfanekiso kabani lo? Lombhalo ngokabani?” Baphendula bathi, “NgokaKhesari.” 17 UJesu

wasesithi kubo, “Phanini uKhesari okukaKhesari loNkulunkulu okungokukaNkulunkulu.” Bamangala kakhulu ngaye. **18** Kwasekusithi abaSadusi abathi kakukho ukuvuka kwabafileyo, beza kuye belombuzo. **19** Bathi, “Mfundisi, uMosi wasibhalela ukuthi nxa umfowabo wendoda angafa atshiye umfazi, kodwa bengelabantwana, leyondoda kayimthathe umfelokazi izalele umfowabo abantwana. **20** Manje-ke, kwakulabafowabo abayisikhombisa. Owokuqala wathatha wasesifa engazalanga. **21** Owesibili wamthatha umfelokazi waphinda laye wafa engelamntwana. Kwabanjalo lakwesithathu. **22** Iqiniso yikuthi kakho kubo bonke beyisikhombisa owaba labantwana. Ekucineni kwafa yena umfazi. **23** Ekuvukeni kwabafileyo uzakuba ngumkabani njengoba bonke boyisikhombisa babemthethe?” **24** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Kalilahleki yini ngoba lingayazi imibhalo loba amandla kaNkulunkulu? **25** Nxa abafileyo sebevuka kabayikuthatha loba bende; bazakuba njengezingilosi ezulwini. **26** Mayelana lokuvuka kwabafileyo, kalibalanga yini encwadini kaMosi, emlandweni wesixuku esasibhebha umlilo ukuthi uNkulunkulu wathi kuye, ‘NginguNkulunkulu ka-Abrahama, uNkulunkulu ka-Isaka loNkulunkulu kajakhobe?’ **27** KasuNkulunkulu wabafileyo, kodwa owabaphilayo. Lilahlekile kakhulu!” **28** Omunye wabafundi bomthetho wafika wabazwa bephicana ngamazwi. Ngokubona ukuthi uJesu wayebaphe impendulo enhle, wabuza wathi, “Phakathi kwayo yonke imilayo yiwuphi oqakatheke okudlula yonke?” **29** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Oqakatheke kakhulu yilo: ‘Zwana, wena Israyeli, iNkosi uNkulunkulu wethu, iNkosi yinye. **30** Thanda iNkosi uNkulunkulu wakho ngenhliziyo yakho yonke langomphefumulo wakho wonke langengqondo yakho yonke langamandla akho wonke.’ **31** Owesibili yilo: ‘Thanda umakhelwane wakho njengoba uzithanda.’ Kawukho umlayo omkhulu kulale.” **32** Indoda yaphendula yathi, “Utsho kuhle, mfundisi. Uqondile nxa usithi uNkulunkulu munye, kakho omunye ngaphandle kwakhe. **33** Ukumthanda ngenhliziyo yakho yonke, ngokuzwisisa konke kwakho langamandla akho wonke, lokuthanda umakhelwane wakho njengoba uzithanda wena kuqakathekile kulayo yonke iminikelo yokutshiswa lemihlatshelo.” **34** UJesu wathi ebona ukuthi uphendule kuhle wathi kuye, “Kawukho khatshana kombuso kaNkulunkulu.” Kusukela kulesosikhathi kabusabanga khona owaba lesibindi sokumbuzo eminye imibuzo. **35** Kwathi uJesu efundisa emagumeni ethempeli wabuza wathi, “Kungani abafundi bomthetho besithi uKhristu uyindodana kaDavida na? **36** UDavida yena ngokwakhe ekhuluma ngoMoya oNgcwele wathi: ‘iNkosi yathi eNkosini yami: “Hlala ngakwesokunene sami ngize ngibeke izitha zakho ngaphansi kwenyawo zakho.”’ **37** UDavida yena ngokwakhe umbiza athi ‘Nkosi.’ Pho-ke angaba yindodana yakhe kanjani?” Ixuku labantu elikhulu lamalalela ngokuthokoza. **38** Wathi elokhu efundisa, uJesu wathi, “Libanazelele abafundi bomthetho. Bathanda ukuhambahamba becece ngezembatho ezinde eziphephezelayo lokube bebingelelwa emisikeni, **39** futhi bathatha izihlalo eziphakemayo emasinagoweni lezindawo zabahlonitshwa emadilini. **40** Bahuquleza izindlu zabafelokazi njalo bazibonakalisa ngokwenza imikhuleko emide. Abantu abanjalo bazajeziswa kabuhlungu.” **41** UJesu wahlala phansi malungana lendawo yokunikela wakhangelana inengi lifaka imali yalo esitsheni somnikelo ethempelini: Izikhulu ezinengi zazifaka imali ezwayo. **42** Kodwa kweza

umfelokazi ongumyanga wafaka okuzinhlamvana kwethusi okubili okulingana lengxenyana yendibilitshi. **43** Esebizele kuye abafundi bakhe uJesu wathi kubo, “Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi umfelokazi lo ongumyanga ufake okunengi esitsheni somnikelo kulabo bonke. **44** Bona bonke baphe ngokwenotho yabo, kodwa yena, ebuyangeni bakhe ufake konke abelakho ukuthi kumphilise.”

13 Wathi esuka ethempelini omunye wabafundi wathi kuye, “Khangela, Mfundisi! Amatshe anganani! Bona ubuhle bezindlu!” **2** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Liyazibona yini zonke lezi izindlu ezinkulu kangaka? Kakuyikusala litshe phezu kwelinye; wonke azaphoselwa phansi.” **3** Kwathi uJesu ehlezi eNtabeni yama-Oliva malungana lethempeli uPhethro, loJakhobe, loJohane lo-Andreyka bambuza ngasese bathi, **4** “Sitshele, zizakwenzakala nini izinto lezi? Njalo kuzakuba lesibonelo bani ukuthi sezizagwaliseka?” **5** UJesu wathi kubo: “Qaphelani ukuze lingakhohliswa muntu. **6** Banengi abazakuza ngebizo lami, besithi, ‘Nginguye,’ bakhohlise abanengi. **7** Nxa lisizwa ngezimpi lamahungahunga ngezimpi, lingaze lethuka. Lezizinto kumele zenzakale, kodwa ukucina kulokhu kuzeza. **8** Isizwe sizavukela isizwe, lombuso uvukele umbuso. Kuzakuba lokuzamazama komhlaba ezindaweni ezinengi, lezindlala. Lezi ziyiquqala kokuhelelwa. **9** Libohlala liqaphele. Bazalimangalela ezinkundleni zamacala njalo balibhaxabule emasinagoweni abo. Ngenxa yami lizamiswa phambi kwababusi lamakho libe ngofakazi kubo. **10** Njalo ivangeli kwafanele liqale litsahunyayelwe ezizweni zonke. **11** Lapho libotshwa njalo lilethwa emthethwandaba lingaze lazihlupha ngokuthi lizakuthini phambi kwabo. Khulumani ingqe yini eliyiphiwa ngalesosikhathi, ngoba kakusini elikhulumayo, kodwa nguMoya oNgcwele. **12** Umfowabo uzanikela umfowabo ukuthi abulawe, loyise anikele umntanakehe. Abantwana bazahlamukela abazali baba bababulalise. **13** Bonke abantu bazalizona ngenxa yami, kodwa lowo oma aqine kuze kube sekupheleni uzasindiswa. **14** Kodwa nxa libona ‘amanyala aletha incithakalo’ kumi lapho okungesikwakhona, ofundayo ezwezise, lapho-ke akuthi labo abaseJudia ba balekele ezintabeni. **15** Akungabikhona osephahleni lwendlu yakhe ozakwehla loba angene endlini ukuthatha ulutho. **16** Akungabi loyedwa osensimini ozabuyela emuva ukuyathatha ijazi lakhe. **17** Yeka ubulukhuni obuzakuba khona ngalezonsuku kwabesifazane abakhulelweyo labangabadlelane! **18** Khulekani ukuthi lokhu kungenzakali ebusika, **19** ngoba lezo zizakuba yizinsuku zokuhlukuluzeka okungakaze kube khona kwasekuqaleni, lapho uNkulunkulu adala umhlaba, kuze kube manje, njalo kakuzukubuye kube khona. **20** Nxa iNkosi yayingaziphungulanga lezinsuku, kwakungeyi kuphepha muntu. Kodwa ngenxa yabakhethiweyo, eyabakhethayo, iziphungulile. **21** Ngalesosikhathi nxa umuntu esithi kini, ‘Khangelani, nangu uKhristu!’ loba ‘Khangelani, nanguya,’ lingamkholwa. **22** Ngoba oKhristu bamanga labaphrofethi bamanga bazavela benze izibonakaliso lezimangaliso ukukhohlisa abakhethiweyo, nxa lokho kungenzeka. **23** Ngakho lilimuke; sengilitshelile konke ngaphambili. **24** Kodwa ngalezonsuku, kulandela lokho kuhlukuluzeka, ‘ilanga lizafiphala, lenyanga kayiyikukhanya; **25** izinkanyezi zizakuwa esibhakabhakeni, lezisekelo zasezulwini zizazanyazanyiswa.’ **26** Ngalesosikhathi abantu bazayibona iNdodana yoMuntu isiza emayezini ilamandla amakhulu lobukhosi. **27** Izathuma

izingilosi zayo ziqoqe abakhethiweyo bayo kumagumbi womane omhlaba, kusukela emikhawulweni yomhlaba kusiya emikhawulweni yamazulu. **28** Manje-ke, fundani lesisifundo esihlahleni somkhwa: Amahlumela aso angaqalisa ukuba buthakathaka lamahlamvu aso ahlume, lihle lazi ukuthi ihlobo selisondele. **29** Kanjalo-ke nxa lingabona lezizinto sezisenzakala, lazi ukuthi sekusondele, khonapho emnyango. **30** Ngilitshela iqiniso, lesisizukulwane kasiyikudlula zize zenzakale zonke lezizinto. **31** Izulu lomhlaba kuzedlula, kodwa amazwi ami kawayikwedlula lanini.” **32** “Kodwa kakho olwaziyo lolosuku lehola, loba izingilosi zasezulwini, kumbe iNdodana, kodwa uBaba kuphela. **33** Lindani! Qaphelani! Kalikwazi ukuthi sizafika nini lesosikhathi. **34** Kunjengomuntu ezathatha uhambo: utshiya indlu yakhe ayinikele izisebenzi zakhe ukuba ziyilinde, yilesa sabelwe owaso umsebenzi, atshele lowo olinda emnyango ukuthi aqaphele. **35** Ngakho lindani ngoba kalikwazi ukuthi umninindlu uzabuya nini, mhlawumbe kusihlwa, kumbe phakathi kwamabili, loba inkukhu sezikhala kumbe emathathakusa. **36** Nxa efika masinyane, akangalifici lilele. **37** Engikutshoyo kini ngikutsho emuntwini wonke: ‘Lindani!’”

14 Kwasekusele insuku ezimbili kuphela ukuba ufike uMkhosi wePhasika loMkhosi weSinkwa esingelaMvubelo. Abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho babedinga indlela ecathileyo yokubopha uJesu ukuze bambulale. **2** Kodwa bathi, “Kakungabi ngesikhathi somkhosi, funa abantu benze isiphithiphithi.” **3** Kwathi eseBhethani eyeme etafuleni emzini wendoda eyayithiwa nguSimoni owayelobulephero, owesifazane weza ephethe imbodlela yamakha adulayo kakhulu, enziwe ngenadi elipheleleyo. Wayivula imbodlela wathela amakha ekhanda likaJesu. **4** Abanye balabo ababekhona bacaphuka babuzana bathi, “Udlaliselani amakha la? **5** Abengathengiswa ngokudlula umholo womnyaka wonke imali leyo iphiwe abampofu.” Bamkhuzela ngokumkhahlameza kakhulu. **6** UJesu wathi, “Myekeleni. Limkhathazelani kanti? Wenze into enhle kimi. **7** Abampofu lizahlala lilabo, yikho lingabasiza noma yisiphi isikhathi elisifunayo. Kodwa kalisoze libe lami kokuphela. **8** Wenze lokho abe lamandla okukwenza. Uthele amakha emzimbeni wami mandulo ukulungisela ukungcwatshwa kwami. **9** Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi loba kungaphi okuzatshunyayelwa ivangeli emhlabeni wonke, lokho akwenzileyo kuzakhulunyuwa, kube yisikhumbuzo ngaye.” **10** Yikho uJudasi Iskariyothi, omunye wabalitshumi lambili waya kubaphristi abakhulu ukuyanikela uJesu kubo. **11** Bathokoza kakhulu bezukwa lokhu, bathembisa ukumapha imali. Yikho walindela ithuba lokumnikele. **12** Ngelanga lokuqala loMkhosi weSinkwa esingelaMvubelo, lapho kwakungumkhuba ukwenza umhlathshelo wezinyane lePhasika, abafundi bakajesu bambuza bathi, “Ufuna ukuthi seyekwenza ngaphi amalungiselelo okuthi udle iPhasika na?” **13** Ngakho wathuma ababili kubafundi bakhe wabathshela wathi, “Yanini edolobheni, kuzakuthi indoda ezabe ithwele isigubhu samanzi izalilhangabeza. Ilandeleni. **14** Libokuthi kumninindlu ezangena kuyo, ‘UMfundisi uyabuza uthi: Ingaphi indlu yezethekeli lapho engingadlala khona iPhasika labafundi bami?’ **15** Izalitshengisa ikamelo laphezulu elikhulu, elilungisiweyo. Senzeleni amalungiselelo khonapho.” **16** Abafundi basuka baya edolobheni bafica izinto zimi njengoba uJesu wayetshilo. Yikho basebelungisela iPhasika. **17** Kwathi

kusihlwa uJesu wafika labalitshumi lambili. **18** Bathi beyeme etafuleni besidla wathi kubo, “Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi omunye wenu uzanginikela, odla lami khonapha.” **19** Badana, bathi kuye ngamunye, “Pho kawutsho mina?” **20** Waphendula wathi, “Ngomunye wabalitshumi lambili, omunye otshesha lami isinkwa emganwini. **21** Indodana yoMuntu izahamba njengokulotshiweyo ngayo. Kodwa maye kuleyondoda enikela iNdodana yoMuntu! Kwakungaba ngcono kuyo aluba yayingazalwanga.” **22** Bathi belokhu besidla uJesu wathatha isinkwa, wabonga, wasihlephula, wasipha abafundi bakhe esithi, “Sithatheni; lo ngumzimba wami.” **23** Wasethatha inkezo, esebongile, wabanika, bonke banatha kuyo. **24** Wathi kubo, “Leli ligazi lami lesivumelwano, elichithelwa abanengi. **25** Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi angisayikuphinda nginathe okwesithelo sevini njalo, kuze kube yilolosuku lapho engizakunatha khona kabutsha embusweni kaNkulunkulu.” **26** Bathi sebhalele ihubo, baphuma baya eNtabeni yama-Oliva. **27** UJesu wabathshela wathi, “Lonke lizachitheka, ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: Ngizatshaya umelusi, izimvu zihlakazeke.” **28** Kodwa ngemva kokuba sengivukile kwabafuleyo, ngizalandulela ukuya eGalile. **29** UPhetsho walandula wathi, “Loba bonke bengahlakazeka, mina kangisoze ngikwenze.” **30** UJesu wamphendula wathi, “Ngikutshela iqiniso ukuthi lamuhla lokhu, ngobusuku balamuhla, iqhude lingakakhali kabili, wena ngokwakho uzangiphika kathathu.” **31** Kodwa uPhetsho waphika wagomela wathi, “Loba kungabe ngifanele ngife lawe, kangisoze ngikuphike.” Bonke abanye labo batsho khona lokho. **32** Baya endaweni eyayithiwa yiGetsemane, uJesu wathi kubafundi bakhe, “Hlalani lapha mina ngisayakhuleka.” **33** Wathatha uPhetsho, uJakhobe loJohane wasuduluka labo, waseqala ukuhlululokelwa kakhulu lokukhathazeka. **34** Wathi kubo, “Umphefumulo wami udabukile kakhulu kuze kuthi ngife. Hlalani lapha lilinde.” **35** Wahamba ibanganyana, wazilahla phansi wakhuleka ukuthi aluba kungenzeka lelohola lingedlula kuye. **36** Wathi, “Abha, Baba, konke kuyeneliseka kuwe. Ake ususe inkezo le kimi. Kodwa kakungabi yintando yami, kodwa kube yintando yakho.” **37** Wasephenduka kubafundi bakhe wabafica belele. Wathi kuPhetsho, “Simoni, ulele? Wehlulekile ukulinda ihola elilodwa kuphela?” **38** Lindani likhuleke ukuze lingaweli ekulingweni. Umoya uyathanda, kodwa umzimba ubuthakathaka.” **39** Waphinda wahamba wayakhuleka umkhuleko munye. **40** Wathi ekubuyeni wabafica njalo sebelele, ngoba ubuthongo babubaphethe. Baswela ukuthi bathini kuye. **41** Esebuya okwesithathu wathi kubo, “Lilokhu lilele liphumula? Sekwanele! Isikhathi sesifikile. Khangelani, iNdodana yoMuntu isinikelwe ezandleni zezoni. **42** Phakamani! Kasihambeni! Nangu usesiza ongimikelayo.” **43** Esakhuluma, uJudasi, omunye wabalitshumi lambili, wafika. Wayehamba lexuku behlomile ngezinkemba lezinduku, bethunyiwe ngabaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho kanye labadala. **44** Umthengisi wayelungise isiboniso sokubatshengisa wathi: “Lowo engizamanga nguyeyi; limbophe lihle lihambe laye elindiwe.” **45** UJudasi wahle waqonda kuJesu wathi, “Rabil!” wamanga. **46** Amadoda ahle amdumela uJesu ambopha. **47** Kwasekusithi omunye owayemi khonapho wakhokha inkemba yakhe wagalela inceku yomphristi omkhulu wayiquma indlebe yayo. **48** UJesu wathi, “Ngingumkhokheli womvukela yini, selingaze lize lihlomile ngezinkemba lezinduku ukuzangibamba? **49** Bengilani insuku

zonke ngifundisa emagumeni ethempeli, kodwa kalingibophanga. Kodwa iMibhalo kufanele igcwaliseke.”

50 Khonokho bonke bamtshiya babaleka. **51** Ijaha elalingagqokanga lutho ngaphandle kwelembu lelineni lalimlandela uJesu. Balibamba, **52** kodwa labaleka laze latshiya isembatho salo. **53** UJesu bamthatha bamusa kumphristi omkhulu, kwathi bonke abaphristi abakhulu, labadala labafundisi bomthetho babuthana ndawonye. **54** UPhethro wamlandela ehambela khatshana, waze wayangena egumeni lomphristi omkhulu. Wahhlala khonapho labalindi esotha umlilo. **55** Abaphristi abakhulu leSanihedrini yonke babedinga ubufakazi obumlahlayo uJesu ukuze bambulale, kodwa babuswela. **56** Abanengi bafakaza amanga ngaye, kodwa amazwi abo kawavumelananga. **57** Kwasekusukuma abanye bethula lobu ubufakazi bamanga ngaye, bathi, **58** “Samuzwa esithi, ‘Ngizalibhidliza ithempeli leli, elakhiwe ngabantu ngakhe elinye ngezinsuku ezintathu, elizabe lingasakhiwanga ngumuntu.’” **59** Lakulokhu bavumelananga ubufakazi babo. **60** Umphristi omkhulu wasesukuma phambi kwabo wabuza uJesu wathi, “Kawuyikuphendula na? Kuyini kanti lokhu okufakazwa ngamadoda la ngawe na?” **61** Kodwa uJesu wala elokhu ethule njalo kazange aphenidule. Umphristi omkhulu waphinde wambuza wathi, “Unguye uKhristu, iNdodana yoBusisiweyo na?” **62** UJesu wathi, “Nginguye. Njalo lizayibona iNdodana yoMuntu ihlezi kwesokunene salowo Olamandla isehla ngamayezi ezulu.” **63** Umphristi omkhulu wadabula izigqoko zakhe wabuza wathi, “Sisabadingelani abanye ofakazi? **64** Selikuzwile ukuhlambaza. Lithini manje?” Bonke bamhlala bathi ufaneele ukufa. **65** Abanye basebeqalisa ukumkhafulela; bamvala amehlo ngokumbopha, bamdutsuza ngenqindi bathi, “Phrofitha!” Abalindi basebemthatha bayamtsheya. **66** UPhethro wayengaphansi egumeni, enye yamantombazana ayeyizincekuzi zomphristi omkhulu yeza khonapho. **67** Yathi ibona uPhethro esotha umlilo yamkhangelisisa. Yathi, “Lawe wawulomNazarini lowaya, uJesu.” **68** Walandula. Wathi, “Angikwazi njalo kangikuzwisi lokho okhuluma ngakho.” Wahle waphuma waya esangweni. **69** Kuthe intombazana leyo isimbona khona lapho yathi kwababemi lapho, “Indoda le ingomunye wabo.” **70** Walandula njalo. Ngemva kwesikhathshana ababemi lapho eduze kukaPhethro bathi, “Ngeqiniso ungomunye wabo, ngoba ungumGalile.” **71** Watshinga uPhethro, waziqalekisa wabuye wafunga kubo wathi, “Kangiyazi indoda le elikhuluma ngayo.” **72** Masinyane lakhala iqhude ngokwesibili. Khonapho uPhethro waselikhumbula ilizwi uJesu ayelitshilo kuye, ukuthi: “Iqhude lingakakhali kabili uzangiphika kathathu.” Ngakho waphihlika wakhala.

15 Ekuseni kakhulu abaphristi abakhulu, labadala, labafundisi bomthetho kanye leSanihedrini yonke bavumelana ngesinqumo sabo. Bambopha uJesu bamqhuba bayamethula kuPhilathu. **2** UPhilathu wambuza wathi, “Uyinkosi yamaJuda na?” UJesu waphendula wathi, “Usukutshilo lokho.” **3** Abaphristi abakhulu bamethesa amacala amanengi. **4** Ngakho uPhilathu wambuza njalo wathi, “Kanti kungani ungaphenduli na? Khangela, bakubeka amacala amanengi.” **5** Kodwa uJesu wala elokhu ethule, uPhilathu wamangala. **6** Kwakungumkhulu ukuthi ngomkhosi kukhululwe isibotshwa esasizabe sicelwe ngabantu. **7** Indoda eyayithiwa nguBharabhasi yayisentolongweni kanye

labahlamuki ababebulele abantu kulowomvukela. **8** Ixuku labantu leza kuPhilathu ukuthi abenzele leyo nhlalayenza. **9** “Lifuna ukuthi ngilikhululele inkosi yamaJuda na?” UPhilathu wabuza, **10** esazi ukuthi kwakungenxa yomhawu okwenza abaphristi abakhulu banikela uJesu kuye. **11** Kodwa abaphristi abakhulu badunga abantu babakhuthaza ukuthi bacele uPhilathu abakhululele uBharabhasi. **12** UPhilathu wasebabuza wathi, “Pho ngithini ngalo elimbiza ngokuthi uyinkosi yamaJuda na?” **13** Bamemeza bathi, “Mbethele!” **14** UPhilathu wabuza wathi, “Yindaba? Woneni?” Kodwa bamemeza ngamandla bathi, “Mbethele!” **15** UPhilathu wasebakhululela uBharabhasi ngoba wayefuna ukusuthisa ixuku labantu. Wathi uJesu katshaywe, ngemva kwalokho wasebapha ukuba bambethele. **16** Amabutho amqhuba uJesu amusa esigodlweni (kutshiwo iPhrethoriyamu) basebebiza iviyo lonke lamabutho lazoqana ndawonye. **17** Bamgqokisa ijazi eliyibubende, basebeseluka umqhele wameva bamethesa wona. **18** Basebememeza besithi kuye, “Bayethe, nkosi yamaJuda!” **19** Bamtsheya ekhanda ngomqwayi baphindaphinda, bamkhafulela. Baguqa phansi ngamadolo bamkhonza. **20** Sebemhozile, bamhlubula ijazi eliyibubende bamgqokisa ezakhe izigqoko. Basebephuma laye bamqhuba ukuba bayombethela. **21** Indoda ethile yaseKhureni, eyayithiwa nguSimoni, uyise ka-Alekizanda loRufasi, wayezedlulela khonapho evela emaphandleni, basebembamba ngamandla ukuthi athwale isiphambano. **22** Baletha uJesu endaweni eyayithiwa yiGoligotha (okutsho ukuthi, “Indawo yoKhakhayi”). **23** Basebemupha iwayini elihlanganiswe lemure, kodwa wala ukulinatha. **24** Basebembethela. Bahlukanisa izigqoko zakhe basebesenza inkatho ukuze babone ukuthi ngulowo athathe kuphi. **25** Kwakulihola lesithathu isikhathi abambethela ngaso. **26** Umbhalo wecala lakhe wawusithi: INKosi yamaJuda. **27** Babethela kanye laye abaphangi ababili, omunye kwesokunene sakhe, omunye kwesokhohlo. [**28** Kwagcwaliseka umbhalo othi, “Wabalwa ndawonye lezephulamthetho.”] **29** Labo ababedlula lapho babemthuka benikina amakhanda abo besithi, “Ehe! Wena ozadiliza ithempeli ulakhe ngezinsuku ezintathu, **30** yehla esiphambanweni uzisindise!” **31** Ngaleyondlela labaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho bamklolodela behlekisana ngaye phakathi kwabo. Bathi, “Wasindisa abanye, kodwa uyehluleka ukuzisindisa yena!” **32** Ake kuthi uKhristu lo, iNkosi le yako-Israyeli, yehle esiphambanweni ukuze sibone, sikholwe. **33** Ngehola lesithupha ubumnyama bembesa ilizwe lonke kwaze kwaba lihora lesificamunwemunye. **34** Kwathi ngehola lesithathu emini uJesu wakhala ngelizwi elikhulu wathi, “Eloyi, Eloyi, lamasabakithani?” (okutsho ukuthi, “Nkulunkulu wami, Nkulunkulu wami, ungitshiyelani na?”). **35** Kwathi abanye balabo ababemi eduzane bezukwa lokho bathi, “Zwanini, ubiza u-Eliza.” **36** Enye indoda yagcwalisa zipho ngewayini elimunyu, yaluxhumela oluthini, yasiluqhubela uJesu ukuthi anathe. Yasisithi, “Ake simyekele manje, kesibone ingabe u-Eliza uzakua azomehlisa.” **37** Ngomkhosi omkhulu, uJesu waphfumula okokucina. **38** Ikhetheini lethempeli ladabuka kabili lisuka phezulu kusiya phansi. **39** Kwathi induna yekhulu eyayimi khonapho phambi kukaJesu isizwa ukukhala kwakhe njalo ikubonile ukuthi ufe kanjani yathi, “Ngeqiniso indoda le ibe iyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu!” **40** Abanye abesifazane

babebukele bebucwala. Phakathi kwabo kwakuloMariya Magadalini loMariya unina kaJakhobe omncinyane loJosefa loSalome. **41** Laba abesifazane babemlandele bemsebenzela eseGalile. Labanye abesifazane abanengi ababeze laye eJerusalema labo babekhona. **42** Kwakulusuku lokuLungiselela (kutsho usuku olwandulela iSabatha). Kwathi sekuntambama **43** uJosefa wase-Arimathiya indoda elesithunzi eNkundleni, yona ngokwayo eyayilindele umbuso kaNkulunkulu, yaqunga isibindi yaya kuPhilathu yacela isidumbu sikaJesu. **44** UPhilathu wamangala ukuthi wayesefile. Wabiza induna yekhulu wayibuza ukuthi uJesu wayesefile yini. **45** Wathi esezwile ngenduna yekhulu ukuthi kwasekwenzakele, wamupha uJosefa isidumbu. **46** Ngakho uJosefa wasethenga amalembu elineni, wathatha isidumbu wasigoqela ngelineni wasibeka ethuneni elaligujiwe edwaleni. Wasegiqela ilitsho emlonyeni wethuna. **47** UMariya Magadalini loMariya unina kaJosefa babona lapho abekwa khona.

16 Kwathi iSabatha seledlule, uMariya Magadalini, loMariya unina kaJakhobe loSalome bathenga amakha ukuze bayeqhola ngawo isidumbu sikaJesu. **2** Ekuseni kakhulu ngosuku lokuqala lweviki, ilanga liphuma basebesendleleni besiya ethuneni, **3** babuzana bathi, “Ngubani ozasigqela ilitsho lisuke emlonyeni wethuna na?” **4** Kodwa bathi bayakhangela babona ilitsho, elalilikhulu kakhulu, seligiqelwe eceleni. **5** Bathi bengena ethuneni babona ijaha ligqoke isembatho esimhlophe lihlezi ngakwesokunene, bethuka kakhulu. **6** Lathi, “Lingaze lethuka. Lidinga uJesu umNazarini obebethelwe. Usevukile! Kakho lapha. Bonani, nansi indawo lapho bebembeke khona. **7** Kodwa hambani liyotshela abafundi bakhe loPhethro lithi, ‘Usehamba phambi kwenu ukuya eGalile. Lizambona khonale, njengoba walitshela.’” **8** Ngokuthuthumela langokudideka, abesifazane baphuma bebaleka ethuneni. Kabakhulumanga lutho lakubani ngoba babesesaba. [**9** (note: **The most reliable and earliest manuscripts do not include Mark 16:9-20.**) UJesu esevukile ekuseni ngelanga lokuqala evikini waqala wabonakala kuMariya Magadalini yena lowo ayekhuphe kuye amadimoni ayisikhombisa. **10** Yena wahamba wayabikela labo uJesu ayephile labo ababesililweni sakhe. **11** Bathi besizwa ukuthi uJesu uyaphila lokuthi uMariya wayembonile, kabazange bakukholwe. **12** Ngemva kwalokho uJesu wabonakala ngesinye isimo kwababili babo abafica behamba kulelolizwe emaphandleni. **13** Labo babuyela bayabikela abanye, kodwa labo kabazange babakholwe. **14** Ngemva kwalokho uJesu wabonakala kwabalitshumi lanye besidla; wabakhuza ngokungakholwa kwabo langobulukhuni benhliziyo zabo bengabakholwa labo ababembonile ngemva kokuvuka kwakhe. **15** Wathi kubo, “Hambani emhlabeni wonke litshumayele ivangeli kukho konke okwadlalwayo. **16** Loba ngubani okholwayo abhaphathizwe uzasindiswa, kodwa lowo ongakholwayo uzalahlwa. **17** Lezizibonakaliso zizabalandela labo abakhulwayo: Ngebizo lami bazakhupha amadimoni; bazakhuluma ngendimi ezintsha; **18** bazadobha izinyoka ngezandla zabo; bazakuthi banganatha okubulalayo kungaze kwabalimaza lakancinyane; bazabeka izandla zabo phezu kwabantu abagulayo, basile.” **19** Ngemva kokuba iNkosi uJesu esekhulume labo, wenyukiselwa ezulwini, wahlala ngakwesokunene sikaNkulunkulu. **20** Abafundi bahamba bayatshumayela ezindaweni zonke iNkosi yasebenza labo yaqinisa ilizwi layo ngezibonakaliso ezazilizekela.]

ULukha

1 Banengi asebazimisela ukuqoqa umlando wezinto esezigcwalisekile phakathi kwethu, **2** njengokwedluliselwa kwazo kithi yilabo ababekhona ekuqaleni bengabafakazi lezincedu zelizwi. **3** Ngakho-ke, njengoba mina ngokwami sengichwayisile konke kusukela ekuqaleni, lami ngikubone kufanele ukuthi ngikulobele umlando oqondileyo, komkhulu ohloniphekayo uTheyofelasi **4** ukuze wazi iqiniso lezinto lezo ozifundisiweyo. **5** Ngesikhathi sikaHerodi inkosi yaseJudiya kwakulomphesti okwakuthiwa nguZakhariya, owaye ngowesigaba sika-Abhija, umkakhe u-Elizabethi laye wayengowosendo luka-Aroni. **6** Bobabili babelungile emehlweni kaNkulunkulu beyilandela yonke imilayo leziqondiso zeNkosi bengasoleki. **7** Kodwa babangelabantwana ngoba u-Elizabethi wayeyinyumba njalo bobabili basebeluphele. **8** Kwenzakala ukuthi isigaba sikaZakhariya siyiso esasimiselwe umsebenzi wethempeli ngalesosikhathi, **9** wadliwa yinkatho ngokomkhuba wobuphristi, ukuthi angene ethempelini leNkosi ayetshisa imphepha. **10** Kwathi isikhathi sokutshisa imphepha sesifikile, wonke amakholwa ayebuthene lapho ayekhuleka ephandle. **11** Kwasekubonakala kuye ingilosi yeNkosi imi ngakwesokunene kwe-alithari lempepha. **12** Uzakhariya wathi eyibona wethuka wesaba kakhulu. **13** Kodwa ingilosi yathi kuye, “Ungesabi, Zakhariya; umkhuleko wakho usuzwakele. Umkakho u-Elizabethi uzakuzalela indodana kufanele uyinike ibizo elithiwa nguJohane. **14** Uzakuba yintokozo lenjabulo kuwe njalo abanengi bazathokoza ngenxa yokuzalwa kwakhe, **15** ngoba uzakuba mkhulu emehlweni eNkosi. Kakumelanga anathe iwayini lanini loba yini ebilisiweyo enathwayo, njalo uzagcwaliswa ngoMoya oNgcwele kusukela ekuzalweni kwakhe. **16** Uzaletha abantu bako-Israyeli abanengi eNkosini uNkulunkulu wabo. **17** Uzahamba phambili kweNkosi ngomoya langamandla ka-Elija, ukuguqulela inhliziyi zaboyise ebantwaneni babo labayiziqholo elwazini lwabalungileyo, ukuqondisa abantu abalungiselele iNkosi.” **18** Uzakhariya wabuza ingilosi wathi, “Ngingaba leqiniso lakho njani lokho? Sengilixhegu njalo lomkabi useluphele.” **19** Ingilosi yaphendula yathi, “NginguGabhuriyeli mina. Ngima phambi kukaNkulunkulu, ngithunywe ukuzokhuluma lawe ngikutshela ngalezi izindaba ezinhle. **20** Okwamanje uzakuba yisimungulu wehluleke ukukhuluma kuze kufike lolosuku okuzakwenzakala ngalo lokhu, ngoba kawuzange uwakholwe amazwi ami, wona azagcwaliseka ngesikhathi sawo esifaneleyo.” **21** Sonke lesisikhathi abantu babelokhu bamlindele uZakhariya sebemangele ukuthi kungani wayethethe isikhathi eside kangako ethempelini. **22** Waphuma eseshuleka ukukhuluma labo. Babona ukuthi wayebone umbono ethempelini ngoba wayelokhu eqhweba ngezandla, kodwa esehluleka ukukhuluma. **23** Izopha lakhe seliphelile wabuyela ekhaya. **24** Ngemva kwalokhu umkakhe u-Elizabethi wazithwala wasezifihla okwezinyanga ezinhlano, **25** esithi, “Inkosi ingenzele lokhu. Kulezi insuku ilutshengisile uthando Lwayo yasusa ihlazo lami ebantwini.” **26** Ngenyanga yesithupha yokuzithwala kuka-Elizabethi, uNkulunkulu wathuma ingilosi uGabhuriyeli eNazareth, idolobho elaliseGalile, **27** ukuya entombini egcweleyo eyayithembise ukutshada lendoda eyayithiwa nguJosefa, owesizukulwane

sikaDavida. Ibizo lentombi egcweleyo le kwakunguMariya. **28** Ingilosi yaya kuye yathi, “Sabona wena othole umusa kakhulukazi iNkosi ilawe.” **29** Amazwi ayo amhlupha kakhulu uMariya wamangala ukuthi kanti kwakuyikubingelela bani lokhu. **30** Kodwa ingilosi yathi kuye, “Ungesabi Mariya, uthole umusa kuNkulunkulu. **31** Uzakhulelwa ubethele indodana, uyethe ibizo uthi nguJesu. **32** Uzaba ngumuntu omkhulu abizwe ngokuthi yiNdodana yoPhezukonke. INkosi uNkulunkulu izamupha isihlalo sikayise uDavida, **33** njalo uzabusa phezu kwendlu kajakhobe laphakade; umbuso wakhe kawuyikuphela.” (aiōn g165) **34** UMariya wayibuza ingilosi wathi, “Lokho kukwenzakala njani njengoba mina ngimsulwa ngingayazi indoda?” **35** Ingilosi yaphendula yathi, “UMoya oNgcwele uzakwehlela phezu kwakho, lamandla akhe oPhezukonke azakusibekela. Ngakho ongcwele ozazalwa uzathiwa yiNdodana kaNkulunkulu. **36** Lo-Elizabethi isihlobo sakho uzakuba lomntwana ekuluphaleni kwakhe, yena okwakuthiwa yinyumba usesenyangeni yakhe yesithupha. **37** Ngoba kakukho okwehlulayo kuNkulunkulu.” **38** UMariya waphendula wathi, “Ngiyincekuzazi yeNkosi. Kakwenzeke kimi njengoba utshilo.” Ingilosi yasisuka kuye. **39** Ngalesosikhathi uMariya waphanga wenza amalungiselelo waya edolobheni elizweni lamaqaaq ejudiya, **40** lapho angena khona emzini kaZakhariya wabingelela u-Elizabethi. **41** Kwathi u-Elizabethi esizwa ukubingelela kukaMariya, umntwana weqa esiswini sakhe, u-Elizabethi wagcwala ngoMoya oNgcwele. **42** Wakhuluma ngelizwi eliphezulu wathi, “Ubusisiwe wena phakathi kwabesifazane, njalo ubusisiwe umntwana ozamazala! **43** Kodwa kungani ngithole umusa ongaka mina, ukuba ngethekelelwe ngunina weNkosi yami? **44** Ngonele ukuzwa ukubingelela kwakho, umntwana osesiswini sami weqa ngentokozo. **45** Ubusisiwe lowo osekholiwe ukuthi lokho iNkosi ethe kuzakwenzeka kuye kuzagcwaliseka!” **46** UMariya wathi: “Umphefumulo wami uyayidumisa iNkosi **47** lomoya wami uyathokoza kuNkulunkulu uMsindisi wami, **48** ngoba ukunanzile ukuzehlisa kwencekuzazi yakhe. Kusukela manje zonke izizukulwane zizakuthi ngibusisiwe, **49** ngoba uSomandla ungenzele izinto ezinkulu, lingcwele ibizo lakhe. **50** Isihawu sakhe sifinyelela kulabo abamesabayo, kulandela isizukulwane ngesizukulwane. **51** Uyenzile imisebenzi emikhulu ngengalo yakhe: ubachithizile labo abaziqakisa ngemicabango yezinhliziyi zabo. **52** Uwethule amakhosi ezihlalweni zawo, kodwa wabaphakamisa abantukazana. **53** Ubasuthisile abalambileyo ngezinto ezinhle, kodwa abanothileyo ubaxotshe bengaphantso lutho. **54** Uyisizile incedu yakhe u-Israyeli, wakhumbula ukuba lesihawu **55** ku-Abrahamama lezizukulwane zakhe laphakade, njengoba wakatsho kubokhokho bethu.” (aiōn g165) **56** UMariya wahlala lo-Elizabethi izinyanga ezazingaba ntathu wasebuyela ekhaya. **57** Kwathi isikhathi sika-Elizabethi sesiphelele esokubeletha wazala indodana. **58** Omakhelwane bakhe lezihlobo bezwa ukuthi iNkosi yayimzwele isihawu esikhulu bathokoza kanye laye. **59** Ngosuku lwesificaminwembili beza ukuzasoka umntwana, bafuna ukuthi bamethe ibizo likayise uZakhariya, **60** kodwa unina wala wathi, “Hatshi! Kathiwe nguJohane.” **61** Bathi kuye, “Kakho ebantwini bakini olebizho lelo.” **62** Bakhuluma ngezandla kuyise bedinga ukuthi yena uthanda ukuthi umntwana aphiwe liphi ibizo. **63** Wacela isibhebhedu sokulobela, wamangalisa wonke umuntu ngoba waloba ukuthi, “Ibizo lakhe nguJohane.” **64** Masinyane umlomo

wakhe wavuleka lolimi lwakhe lwatshwaphuluka, waqalisa ukukhuluma edumisa uNkulunkulu. **65** Omakhelwane bonke bamangala kakhulu, kwathi elizweni lonke lamaqaqa eJudiya abantu babekhuluma ngalezizinto. **66** Wonke owezwayo ngalokho wamangala ebuza esithi, “Kambe uzakuba yini umntwana lo?” Ngoba isandla seNkosi sasilaye. **67** Uyise uZakhariya wagcwala ngoMoya oNgcwelo waphrofitha wathi: **68** “Udumo kalube seNkosini, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, ngoba ubuyile ukuzahlenga abantu bakhe. **69** Iluphakamisile uphondo lwensindiso yethu endlini yenceku yayo uDavida **70** (njengoba yatsho ngabaphrofethi bayo abangcwele ekadeni), (aiōn g165) **71** ukusindiswa ezitheni zethu lesandleni sabo bonke abasizondayo, **72** ukuze atshengise isihawu kubokhokho bethu lokukhumbula isivumelwano sakhe esingcwele, **73** isifungo asifunga kubaba wethu u-Abraham: **74** ukusikhulula esandleni sezitha zethu, size siyikhonze singelakwesaba **75** ngobungcwele langokulunga phambi kwayo ngazozonke insuku zethu. **76** Wena mntanami, uzathiwa ungumphrofethi woPhezukonke; ngoba uzahamba phambili kweNkosi uyilungisele indlela, **77** ukunika abantu bayo ukwazi insindiso ngokuthethelelwa kwezono zabo, **78** ngexxa yomusa kaNkulunkulu wethu, ilanga liphuma lize kithi livela ezulwini, **79** likhanyise kulabo abahlezi ebunmyameni lasethunzini lokufa, ukukhokhelela inyawo zethu endleleni yokuthula.” **80** Umntwana wakhula waqina emoyeni; waphila enkangala waze wavela obala ku-Israyeli.

2 Ngalezonsuku uKhesari Agastasi wakhupha isimemezelo sokuthi abantu babalwe kulolonke ilizwe lombuso wamaRoma. **2** (Lokhu kwakuyikubalwa kwabantu kokuqala okwenzakala uKhwirinu engumbusi wase-Asiriya.) **3** Wonke umuntu waya edolobheni lakibo wayabhalisa. **4** UJosefa laye wahamba esuka edolobheni leNazareth aseGalile waya eJudiya, eBethlehem idolobho likaDavida, ngoba wayengowendlu losendo lukaDavida. **5** Waya khona ukuyabhalisa eMariya, owayesethembise ukwendela kuye, esekhulelwe. **6** Bathi bekhonale safika isikhathi sokubelethwa komntwana, **7** wazibula ngendodana. Wayigoqela ngamalembu, wayilalisa emkolweni wokudlela izifuyo ngoba babengelandawo endlini yezihambi. **8** Kwakulabelusi ababehlala emlageni eduze kwalapho, belinda imihlambi yabo yezimvu ebusuku. **9** Ingilosi yeNkosi yabonakala kubo, inkazimulo yeNkosi yakhanya ibazingelezile, ngakho besaba kakhulu. **10** Kodwa ingilosi yathi kubo, “Lingesabi. Ngizolitshelela izindaba ezinhle ezizaletha intokozo enkulu ebantwini bonke. **11** Lamuhla lizalelwe uMsindisi emzini kaDavida; unguKhristu iNkosi. **12** Lokhu kukubuya yisibonakaliso kini: Lizathola umntwana ogoqelwe ngamalembu elele emkolweni.” **13** Masinyane kwaqhamuka ixuku lebandla lasezulwini lengilosi lidumisa uNkulunkulu lisithi, **14** “Udumo kuNkulunkulu emazulwini aphezulu, lokuthula emhlabeni kulabo abathole umusa kuye.” **15** Kwathi izingilosi sezibatshiyile zabuyela ezulwini, abelusi bakhulumisana bathi, “Kasihambeni siye eBethlehem siyobona into le esiyenzakele, iNkosi esisitshela ngayo.” **16** Bahle basuka ngokuphangisa, bafica uMariya loJosefa losane olwalulele emkolweni wokudlela izifuyo. **17** Bathi sebembonile umntwana, batshela abanengi ngalokho ababekutshelwe mayelana lomntwana lo, **18** kwathi bonke abalizwayo bamangaliswa yilokho abakuzwa ngabelusi. **19** Kodwa

uMariya wazenza igugu zonke lezizinto wazishicilela enhliziyweni yakhe. **20** Abelusi babuyela, bedumisa njalo bebabaza uNkulunkulu ngezinto zonke ababezizwile njalo bazibona, zaba yikho kanye ababekutsheliwe. **21** Ngosuku lwesificaminwembali, sekuyisikhathi sokuthi asokwe, wethiwa ibizo elithi nguJesu, ibizo ayelithiwe yingilosi engakabunjwa esiswini. **22** Kwathi lapho sesiphelile isikhathi sabo sokuhlunjululwa ngokomthetho kaMosi, uJosefa loMariya bamusa eJerusalem ukuyamnika eNkosini **23** (njengokulotshiweyo eMthethweni weNkosi ukuthi, “Lonke izibulo lesilisa kumele linikelwe eNkosini”), **24** njalo kwenziwe umhlatshelelo kulandela lokho okuthiwo nguMthetho weNkosi othi: “amajuba amabili loba inkwilimba ezisesezincane ezimbili.” **25** Kwakukhona eJerusalem indoda eyayithiwa nguSimiyoni, yayilungile njalo ikholwa. Yayilindele ukududuzwa kuka-Israyeli, njalo uMoya oNgcwelo wawuphezu kwayo. **26** Kwakwambuliwe kuye nguMoya oNgcwelo ukuthi wayengayikufa engakaboni uKhristu weNkosi. **27** Waholwa nguMoya wangena emagumeni ethempeli. Kwathi abazali sebemlethile umntwana uJesu ukumenzela lokho okwakufunwa ngumkhuba woMthetho, **28** uSimiyoni wangona ngezingalo zakhe wadumisa uNkulunkulu esithi: **29** “Thixo, Nkosi, njengoba wavela wathembisa, manje-ke iyekele ihambe ngokuthula inceku yakho. **30** Ngoba amehlo ami aseiyibonile insindiso yakho, **31** oyilungisileyo phambi kwezizwe zonke, **32** ukukhanya kokwambulela abeZizwe lokwenkazimulo yabantu bakho bako-Israyeli.” **33** Oyise lonina womntwana bamangala kakhulu ngalokho okwakukhulunywa ngaye. **34** USimiyoni wasebabusisa, wathi kuMariya unina: “Umntwana lo umiselwe ukuwa lokuvuka kwabanengi ko-Israyeli, lokuba yisibonakaliso esizagconwa, **35** ukwenzela ukuthi imicabango yabanengi ivele obala. Njalo inkemba izawugwaza umphefumulo wakho lawe.” **36** Kwakukhona njalo umphrofethikazi, u-Ana, indodakazi kaFanuweli, owesizwana sika-Asheri. Wayesemdala kakhulu: wayephile lomkakhe okweminyaka eyisikhombisa ngemva kokwenda kwakhe, **37** wasesiba ngumfelokazi waze waba leminyaka engamatshumi ayisificaminwembali lane. Kazange lanini asuke ethempelini kodwa wayekhonza ubusuku lemini, ezila njalo ekhuleka. **38** Wabuya kubo ngalesisikhathi wabonga kuNkulunkulu, wakhuluma ngomntwana kubo bonke ababelindele ukuhlangwa kweJerusalem. **39** Kwathi lapho uJosefa loMariya sebekwenzile konke okwakufuneka ngoMthetho weNkosi babuyela eGalile, edolobheni lakibo elaseNazareth. **40** Umntwana wakhula, waqina; wagcwala inhlakanipho, njalo umusa kaNkulunkulu waba phezu kwakhe. **41** Iminyaka yonke abazali bakhe baya eJerusalem belanda uMkhosi wePhasika. **42** Kwathi eseleminyaka elitshumi lambili baya emkhosini njengenjayelo. **43** Kwathi uMkhosi usuphelile, abazali bakhe sebebuyela ekhaya, umfana uJesu wasala eJerusalem, kodwa bona belibele. **44** Bazihambela ilanga lonke bona becabanga ukuthi ukhona edwendweni lwabo. Basebeqalisa ukumdinga phakathi kwezihlobo zabo labangane. **45** Bathi sebemswela babuyela eJerusalem bayamdinga. **46** Ngemva kwensuku ezintathu bamfumana emagumeni ethempeli ehlezi phakathi kwabafundisi elalele njalo ebabuzwa imibuzo. **47** Wonke umuntu owamuzwayo wamangala ngokuzwisisa kwakhe kanye lempendulo zakhe. **48** Abazali bakhe bathi bembona bamangala kakhulu. Unina wathi kuye, “Ndodana, kungani usinqinekisa kangaka? Uyihlo lami besesikhathazekile sikudinga.” **49** Yena wabuza wathi,

“Belivele lingidingelani kanti? Belingazi yini ukuthi bekumele ngibe sendlini kaBaba?” **50** Kodwa kabazwisisanga lokho ayekutsho kubo. **51** Wasehamba labo eNazarethahlala ebalalela. Kodwa unina wazenza igugu zonke lezi izinto enhliziyweni yakhe. **52** UJesu wakhula ngenhlanipho, langomzimba langokuthandwa nguNkulunkulu labantu.

3 Ngomnyaka wetshumi lanhlanu wokubusa kukaThibheriyasi Khesari ngesikhathi uPhontiyasi Philathu engumbusi eJudiya, uHerodi engumbusi eGalile, umfowabo uFiliphu engumbusi wase-Ithuriya leThrakhonithi, njalo loLisaniya engumbusi wase-Abhilene **2** ngesikhathi lesi u-Anasi loKhayifasi bengabaphristi abakhulu, kwafika ilizwi likaNkulunkulu kuJohane indodana kaZakariya esenkangala. **3** Wawuhamba wonke umango waseJodani, etshumayela ubhaphathizo lokuphenduka ukuze izono zithethelelwe. **4** Njengoba kulotshiwe encwadini yamazwi ka-Isaya umphrofethi: “Ilizwi lalowo omemezayo enkangala, ‘Lungisani indlela kaThixo, wenzani indlela zakhe ziqonde. **5** Zonke izigodi zizagcwaliswa, izintaba zonke lamaqaqa zizakwehliselwa phansi. Izindlela zonke ezimazombe zizaqonda, izindlela ezimakhilikithi zizakuba butshelezi. **6** Abantu bonke bazayibona insindiso kaNkulunkulu.” **7** UJohane wathi emaxukwini abantu ababuya ukuzobhaphathizwa nguye, “Lina nzalo yezinyoka! Lilimukiswe ngubani ukuthi libalekele ulaka oluzayo na? **8** Thelani izithelo ezihambelana lokuphenduka. Njalo lingaqali ukuzitshela ukuthi, ‘Silo-Abrahama ongubaba wethu.’ Ngoba ngilitshelela ukuthi kuwonala amatshe uNkulunkulu angamenzela u-Abrahama abantwana. **9** Ihloka selivele selisezimpandeni zezihlahla, njalo zonke izihlahla ezingatheli izithelo ezilungileyo zizaganyulwa, ziphoselwe emlilweni.” **10** Abantu bambuza bathi, “Pho kumele senzeni?” **11** UJohane waphendula wathi, “Leyondoda elamajazi amabili kayimuphe ongelalo elinye lalowo olokudla kenze njalo.” **12** Labathelisi loba beza ukuzabhaphathizwa. Babuza bathi, “Mfundisi, kumele senzeni?” **13** Wabathelisi wathi, “Lingathelisi ledlulise okufunekayo.” **14** Abanye abebutho bambuza bathi, “Thina-ke senzeni?” Waphendula wathi, “Lingancindezeli ukuthi liphiwe imali njalo lingabeki muntu umlandu wamanga njalo lisuthiseke ngomholo wenu.” **15** Abantu babehlezi belindele njalo bonke babezibuzwa ezinhliziyweni zabo ingabe uJohane wayenguye yini uKhristu. **16** UJohane wabaphendula bonke wathi, “Mina ngilibhaphathiza ngamanzi. Kodwa yena olamandla kulami umeza, akungilingananga ukuthukulula imichilo yamanyathela akhe. Uzalibhaphathiza ngoMoya oNgcwele langomlilo. **17** Isitsha sakhe sokwela sisesandleni sakhe ukuba athanyele isiza sakhe njalo abuthela amabele akhe esiphahleni, kodwa uzatshisa amakhoba ngomlilo ongacitshekiyo.” **18** Waphinda walaya abantu ngamanye amazwi amanengi njalo watshumayela kubo ivangeli. **19** Kodwa kwathi uJohane esekhuze uHerodi umbusi ngenxa kaHerodiyasi, umkamfowabo, langezinye izinto ezimbi ayenzenzile, **20** uHerodi wakuhlanganisa lokhu konke: Wamvalela uJohane entolongweni. **21** Kwathi bonke abantu bebhaphathizwa, loJesu laye wabhaphathizwa. Wathi ekhuleka izulu lavuleka **22** uMoya oNgcwele wehlela kuye elesimo sejuba. Kweza ilizwi livela ezulwini lathi: “Wena uyindodana yami engiyithandayo; ngiyathokoza kakhulu ngawe.” **23** UJesu wayeseleminyaka engaba ngamatshumi amathathu equalisa umsebenzi wakhe wokutshumayela. Kwakukhunjulwa ukuthi

uyindodana kaJosefa, indodana kaHeli, **24** indodana kaMathathi, indodana kaLevi, indodana kaMeliki, indodana kaJanayi, indodana kaJosefa, **25** indodana kaMathathiyasi, indodana ka-Amosi, indodana kaNahumi, indodana ka-Esili, indodana kaNagayi, **26** indodana kaMahathi, indodana kaMathathiyasi, indodana kaSemeyini, indodana kaJoseki, indodana kaJoda, **27** indodana kaJohanani, indodana kaResa, indodana kaZerubhabheli, indodana kaSheyalithiyeli, indodana kaNeri, **28** indodana kaMeliki, indodana ka-Adi, indodana kaKhosamu, indodana ka-Elmadami, indodana ka-Eri, **29** indodana kaJoshuwa, indodana ka-Eliyezeri, indodana kaJorimu, indodana kaMathathi, indodana kaLevi, **30** indodana kaSimiyoni, indodana kaJuda, indodana kaJosefa, indodana kaJonami, indodana ka-Eliyakhimu, **31** indodana kaMeleya, indodana kaMena, indodana kaMathatha, indodana kaNathani, indodana kaDavida, **32** indodana kaJese, indodana ka-Obhedi, indodana kaBhowazi, indodana kaSalimoni, indodana kaNashoni, **33** indodana ka-Aminadabi, indodana kaRamu, indodana kaHezironi, indodana kaPherezi, indodana kaJuda, **34** indodana kaJakhobe, indodana ka-Isaka, indodana ka-Abrahama, indodana kaThera, indodana kaNahori, **35** indodana kaSerugi, indodana kaRewu, indodana kaPhelegi, indodana ka-Ebha, indodana kaShela, **36** indodana kaKhayinani, indodana ka-Ariphazadi, indodana kaShemu, indodana kaNowa, indodana kaLameki, **37** indodana kaMethusela, indodana ka-Enoki, indodana kaJaredi, indodana kaMahalaleli, indodana kaKhenani, **38** indodana ka-Enoshi, indodana kaSethi, indodana ka-Adamu, indodana kaNkulunkulu.

4 UJesu egcwele uMoya oNgcwele wasuka evela eJodani wasekhokhelwa nguMoya wamusa enkangala, **2** lapho alingwa khona nguSathane okwensuku ezingamatshumi amane. Kadlanga lutho ngalezonsuku, ekupheleni kwazo, wayeselambile. **3** USathane wathi kuye, “Nxa uyindodana kaNkulunkulu, tshela ilitsheli leli ukuthi liphenduke libe yisinkwa.” **4** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Kulotshiwe ukuthi: ‘Umuntu kaphili ngesinkwa kuphela.’” **5** USathane wamholela endaweni ephakemeyo wamtshengisa ngesikhathi esifitshane yonke imbuso yomhlaba. **6** Wasesithi kuye, “Ngizakunika amandla lenkazimulo yayo yonke ngoba kuphiwe mina njalo ngingapha loba ngubani engifuna ukumupha. **7** Ungangikhonza konke kuzakuba ngokwakho.” **8** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Kulotshiwe ukuthi: ‘Khonza iNkosi uNkulunkulu wakho njalo usebenzelele yena yedwa.’” **9** USathane wamholela eJerusalema wayamisa engqongeni yethempeli. Wathi kuye “Nxa uyindodana kaNkulunkulu, ziphosele phansi usuka lapha. **10** Kalokho kulotshiwe ukuthi: ‘Uzayala izingilosi zakhe ngawe ukuthi zikulondolozwe ngokunanzelele; **11** zizakuphakamisa ezandleni zazo, ukuze ungatshayeki ngonyawo lwakho elitsheni.’” **12** UJesu waphendula wathi “Kuthiwa khona, ‘Ungayilingi iNkosi uNkulunkulu wakho.’” **13** Kwathi uSathane eseqedile ukumlinga konke wamtshiya walindela ukuzamlinga njalo ngesinye isikhathi. **14** UJesu wabuyela eGalile elamandla kaMoya, izindaba ngaye zanda kuwo wonke umango. **15** Wafundisa emasinagogweni abo, abantu bonke bamdumisa. **16** Waya eNazarethalapho akhulela khona kwathi ngeSabatha waya esinagogweni njengenjayelo yakhe. Wasukuma wabala. **17** Umqulu womphrofethi u-Isaya wedluliselwa kuye.

Wawutshombulula wafumana indawo okulotshwe khona kwathiwa: **18** “Umoya kaThixo uphezu kwami, ngoba uThixo ungigcobile ukuba ngitshumayele izindaba ezinhle kwabampofu. Ngithumile ukuba ngimemezele ukukhululwa kwabathunjweyo lokusiliswa kweziphofu ukuthi zibone, ukukhululwa kwabancindezelweyo, **19** lokumemezela umnyaka womusa kaThixo.” **20** Wasewugoqa, wawubuyisela esikhonzini sebandla, wahlala phansi. Amehlo abo bonke esinagoweni athi nhlo kuye, **21** waseqalisa ngokuthi kubo, “Lamhla umbhalo usugcwalisekile lizizwela.” **22** Bonke bakhuluma kuhle ngaye bemangalisa ngamazwi amnandi ayephuma emlonjeni wakhe. Babuzana besithi, “Kanti lo kasindodana kaJosefa na?” **23** UJesu wathi kubo, “Ngeqiniso lizasitsho kimi lesi isaga esithi: ‘Nyanga, zelaphe! Yenza lapha edolobheni lakini lokho esizwa kuthiwa wakwenza eKhapenawume.’” **24** Waqhubeka wathi, “Ngiqinisile ngithi kakulamphrofethi oyamukelekayo edolobheni lakibo. **25** Ngiyaqinisa kini ukuthi babebanengi abafelokazi ko-Israyeli ngesikhathi sika-Elija, lapho umkhathi wavaleka okweminyaka emithathu elengxenye kwaba lendlala enzima elizweni lonke. **26** Kodwa u-Elija kazange athunye lakoyedwa wabo, ngaphandle komfelokazi waseZarefathi emangweni waseSidoni. **27** Babebanengi ko-Israyeli ababelobulephero ngesikhathi sika-Elisha umphrofethi, kodwa mune kuphela phakathi kwabo owahlanjululwayo, uNamani waseSiriya.” **28** Bonke abantu ababesinagoweni bathi bekuzwa lokhu bathukuthela kakhulu. **29** Basukuma, bamtshovela phandle kwedolobho bamusa eliwani loqaqa okwakwakhelwe kulo idolobho beqonde ukumfunduzela phansi edongeni. **30** Kodwa wasuka wahamba wadabula phakathi kwexuku labantu. **31** Wasesiya eKhapenawume, idolobho elaliseGalile, kwathi ngeSabetha wafundisa abantu. **32** Bamangaliswa yikufundisa kwakhe ngoba intshumayelo yakhe yayilesisindo. **33** Esinagoweni lapho kwakulendoda eyayiphethwe lidimoni, umoya ongcobileyo. Yaklabalala ngelizwi layo lonke yathi, **34** “Hamba khatshana! Ufunani kithi, Jesu waseNazareth? Ulande ukuza sibhubhisa na? Ngiyakwazi ukuthi ungubani, ungoNgcwele kaNkulunkulu!” **35** UJesu wamkhuza wathi, “Thula! Phuma kuye!” Idimoni layilahlala phansi indoda phambi kwabo bonke laphuma lingayilimazanga indoda. **36** Bonke abantu bamangala kakhulu bakhulumisana besithi, “Yikufundisa bani lokhu? Ulaya imimoya emibi ngegunya langamandla layo iphume!” **37** Zamemetheka izindaba ngaye kuyo wonke umango walapho. **38** UJesu wasuka esinagoweni waya emzini kaSimoni. Uninazala kaSimoni wayegula ebanjwe ngumkhuhlane woqhuhlo onzima basebecela uJesu ukuthi amsize. **39** Wasekothamela kuye wakhuza umkhuhlane lowo wahle waphuma kuye. Yena wathi lothu, waqalisa ukubaphakela. **40** Kwathi ilanga selitshona abantu baletha kukaJesu bonke ababe lemikhuhlane eyehlukeneyo, wabalisela ngokubeka izandla phezu kwalowo lalowo ngamunye. **41** Phezu kwalokho amadimoni aphuma kwabanengi ememeza esithi, “Wena uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu!” Kodwa wakhuza kazawavumela ukuthi akhulume ngoba ayemazi ukuthi unguKhristu. **42** Emadabukakusa uJesu wasuka waya endaweni ethuleyo. Abantu babemdinga bathi sebefike lapho ayekhona, bazama ukumvimba ukuthi angabatshiyi. **43** Kodwa wathi, “Kumele ngitshumayele izindaba ezinhle zombuso kaNkulunkulu kwamanye amadolobho, ngoba yikho

engakulandayo.” **44** Waqhubeka etshumayela emasinagoweni aseJudiya.

5 Ngelinye ilanga uJesu emi eduze kweChibi laseGenezareth abantu beminyezelana kuye belalela ilizwi likaNkulunkulu, **2** wabona ekhunjinini lechibi izikepe ezimbili zitshiywe khonapho ngabagoli benhlanzi ababegezisa omambule babo. **3** Wangena kwesinye isikepe esasingesikaSimoni, wamcela ukuthi akathi gudlu asuke kancane okhunjinini. Wasehlala phansi wafundisa abantu ehlezi esikepeni. **4** Eseqedile ukukhuluma wathi kuSimoni, “Gwedla ungene enzima ukuthi uphosele omambule bakho ukuze ubambe inhlanzi.” **5** USimoni waphendula wathi, “Nkosi, sisebenze gadalala ubusuku bonke, kodwa kasibambanga lutho. Kodwa njengoba usitsho njalo ngizabelhlisa omambule.” **6** Kwathi sebenze njalo babamba inhlanzi ezaba zinengi kwaze kwaqalisa ukudabuka omambule. **7** Basebezisa abakhula babo kwesinye isikepe ukuthi bazobekelele. Beza abakhula babo kwesinye isikepe ukuthi bazobekelele. Beza bazigcwalisa zombili izikepe zathi phamu zaze zaqalisa ukutshona. **8** Kwathi uSimoni Phethro ekubona lokhu wazilahlala phansi phambi kukaJesu wathi, “Suka kimi, Nkosi; ngingumuntu oyisoni!” **9** Ngoba yena labakhula bakhe babemangele ngenhlanzi ababezibambile, **10** kwamangalisa njalo uJakhobe loJohane amadodana kaZebhediyi, ababe phathisana loSimoni. UJesu wasesithi kuSimoni, “Ungesabi; kusukela manje usuzagola abantu.” **11** Basebedonsela izikepe zabo okhunjinini batshiya konke bamlandela. **12** Kwathi uJesu ekwinye lamadolobho kweza indoda eyayigcwele ubulephero. Yathi ibona uJesu yathi mbo phansi ngobuso yamncenga yathi, “Nkosi, nxa uthanda ungangihlambulula.” **13** UJesu welula isandla sakhe wayithinta indoda leyo. Wathi, “Ngiyathanda. Hlambuluka!” Masinyane nje ubulephero bahle baphela. **14** UJesu waseyilaya wathi, “Ungatsheli muntu kodwa hamba uyezizwe kumphristi ubusunikela umhlathshelo wokuhlajululwa kwakho owamiswa nguMosi ukuze kube yibufakazi kubo.” **15** Kodwa udumo lwakhe lwanda ngamandla, yikho amaxuku abantu eza ukuzamuzwa lokusiliswa emikhuhlaneni yabo. **16** Kodwa kanengi uJesu wayesithi nyelele ayesithela ezindaweni ezithuleyo ayekhuleka. **17** Ngelinye ilanga elokhu efundisa, kwakuhlezi khonapho abaFarisi labafundisi bomthetho ababephuma emizini yonke yaseGalile abanye bevela eJudiya laseJerusalem. Amandla eNkosi ayekhona kuye ukuze asilise abagulayo. **18** Kwafika amanye amadoda ethwele indoda eyayome umhlubulo ngecani efuna ukungena laye endlini ambeke phambi kukaJesu. **19** Athi esehlulekile ngenxa yokuminyana kwabantu, akhwela ephahleni, amehlisela phansi ngesikhala amuthi qithi phakathi laphakathi kwabantu phambi kukaJesu. **20** Kwathi uJesu ebona ukholo lwawo wathi, “Mngane, izono zakho sezithethelelwe.” **21** ABAFarisi labafundisi bomthetho bakhonona bathi, “Ungubani yena lo umuntu okhuluma ehlambaza na? Ngubani ongathethelela izono ngaphandle kukaNkulunkulu kuphela?” **22** UJesu wayekwazi abakucabangayo wasebuza wathi, “Kungani linakana izinto ezinje ezinhliziyweni zenu? **23** Yikuphi okulula: ukuthi, ‘Izono zakho sezithethelelwe,’ loba ukuthi, ‘Sukuma uhambe?’ **24** Kodwa ukuze lazi ukuthi iNdodana yoMuntu ilamandla okuthethelela izono emhlabeni.” Wasesithi kuyo indoda eyome umhlubulo, “Sukuma, thatha icansi lakho uhambe uye ekhaya.” **25** Masinyane wathi lothu phambi kwabo, wabutha ayekade elele phezu kwakho waya

ekhaya edumisa uNkulunkulu. **26** Wonke umuntu wamangala, badumisa uNkulunkulu. Bamangala kakhulu bathi, "Lamuhla sibone izimanga." **27** Ngemva kwalokhu uJesus waphuma wasebona umthelisi owayethiwa nguLevi ehlezi endaweni yakhe yokuthelisa. UJesus wathi kuye, "Ngilandela," **28** uLevi wasukuma watshiya konke wamlandela. **29** ULevi wasesenzela uJesus idili elikhulu endlini yakhe kukhona ixuku labathelisi labanye besidla labo. **30** Kodwa abaFarisi labafundisi bomthetho abeqembu labo basola kubafundi bakhe bathi, "Lenzelani ukudla linathe labathelisi kanye lezoni na?" **31** UJesus wabaphendula wathi, "Kakusibo abaphilayo abaswela umelaphi, kodwa ngabagulayo. **32** Kangilandanga ukubiza abulungileyo, kodwa ukubiza izoni ukuba ziphenduke." **33** Bathi kuye, "Abafundi bakaJohane bazila kanengi bekhuleka njalo labafundi babaFarisi labo benza njalo, kodwa abakho bahlala besidla, benatha." **34** UJesus wabaphendula wathi, "Kungenzeka yini ukuzilisa izithelisi zomyeni emthimbeni umyeni eseselazo na? **35** Kodwa sizafika isikhathi lapho umyeni ezasuswa kuzo; zizazila ngalezonsuku." **36** Wabatshela umzekeliso lo: "Kakho odabula isichibi esigqokweni esitsha asithungele esigqokweni esidala. Angenzenjalo, uzakuba esesidabule isigqoko esitsha, ikanti isichibi sesitsha kasiyikufanela esidala. **37** Njalo kakho othela iwayini elitsha emigodleni yezikhumba emidala. Angenza njalo iwayini elitsha lizaziqhekeza izikhumba iwayini livuze kuthi lemigodla yezikhumba leyo ihle yonakale. **38** Hatshi, iwayini elitsha lithelwa emigodleni yezikhumba emitsha. **39** Njalo kakho othi eseqale wanatha iwayini elidala afune elitsha, ngoba uthi, 'Elidala lingcono.'"

6 Ngelineye iSabatha uJesus wayedabula emasimini alamabele, abafundi bakhe basebekhwebula izikhwebu zamabele, bakha bazihlikihlela ezandleni, badla inhlamvu zakhona. **2** Abanye abaFarisi babuza bathi, "Kungani lisenza okungaphandle komthetho ngeSabatha na?" **3** UJesus wabaphendula wathi, "Kalifundanga yini okwenziwa nguDavida lapho yena labakhula bakhe sebelambe? **4** Wangena endlini kaNkulunkulu wathatha isinkwa esingcwelisiweyo wadla lokho umthetho owawusithi kudliwe ngabaphristi kuphela. Futhi okunye wakupha abakhula bakhe." **5** UJesus wasesithi kubo, "INdodana yoMuntu iyiNkosi yeSabatha." **6** Ngelineye iSabatha waya esinagogweni wafundisa, khonapho kulendoda elesandla sokudla esitshwabheneyo. **7** AbaFarisi labafundisi bomthetho babedinga izaba lokubeka uJesus icala, yikho bamlinda ukubona ingabe wayezasilisa ngeSabatha. **8** Kodwa uJesus wakwazi ababekucabanga, wasesithi endodeni yesandla esitshwabheneyo, "Sukuma ume phambi kwabantu bonke." Lakanye yasukuma yema khonapho. **9** UJesus wasesithi kubo, "Ngiyalibuza, kuyini okusemthethweni ngeSabatha: ukwenza okuhle loba ukwenza okubi, ukusindisa impilo kumbe ukuyibhubhisa?" **10** Wabakhangela wababhoda bonke, wasesithi endodeni leyo, "Yelula isandla sakho." Yenza njalo, isandla sayo sasiliswa ngokupheleleyo. **11** Kodwa bazonda babheda basebecabisana ukuthi benzeni ngoJesus. **12** Ngelineye ilanga uJesus waphuma waya ewatheni lwentaba esiya khuleka, waba khonale ubusuku bonke ekhuleka kuNkulunkulu. **13** Kwathi sokusile wasebiza abafundi bakhe wakhetsha kubo abalithumi lambili, wasebaphawula ngokuthi ngabapostoli: **14** uSimoni (owambiza ngokuthi Phethro), lomfowabo u-Andraya, uJakhobe, uJohane, uFiliphu, uBhatholomewu, **15** uMatewu, uThomasi, uJakhobe umfoka-Alifewu, uSimoni owayethiwa ngumZilothi, **16** uJudasi

umfokajakhobe loJudasi Iskariyothi, owaba ngumthengisi. **17** Wehla labo bema esigcawini. Kwakubuthene ixuku elikhulu elabafundi bakhe njalo kulabantu abanengi bevela kulolonke elaseJudiya, leJerusalema lasemakhunjini olwandle eThire leSidoni, **18** ababeze ukuzamuzwa lokuzakwelatshwa izifo zabo. Labo ababehlutshwa yimimoya emibi basiliswa, **19** bonke abantu bazama ukumthinta ngoba amandla ayephuma kuye ayebasilisa bonke. **20** Wakhangela abafundi bakhe wathi: "Libusisiwe lina elimpofu, ngoba umbuso kaNkulunkulu ngowenu. **21** Libusisiwe lina elilambileyo manje, ngoba lizasuthiswa. Libusisiwe lina elililayo manje, ngoba lizahleka. **22** Libusisiwe lina nxa abantu belizona, nxa belibandlulula njalo belichothoza, bephika ibizo lenu besithi lingcolile, ngenxa yeNdodana yoMuntu. **23** Thokozani ngalolosuku liqolotshe ngokuthokoza ngoba mkhulu umvuzo wenu ezulwini. Ngoba yiyo indlela okhokho babo abaphatha ngayo abaphrofethi. **24** Kodwa maye kini lina elinothileyo, ngoba livele selikwamukele ukuhlala kuhle kwenu. **25** Maye kini lina elidla kamandi manje, ngoba lizalamba. Maye kini lina elihlekayo manje, ngoba lizakhala lilile. **26** Maye kini nxa bonke abantu belincoma, ngoba yiyo indlela okhokho benu abaphatha ngayo abaphrofethi bamanga." **27** "Kodwa ngiyalitshela lina elingizwayo, ngithi: Thandani izitha zenu, lenze okuhle kwabalizodayo, **28** libusise labo abaliqulekisayo, libakhulekele labo abalikhulukuluzayo. **29** Umuntu angakutshaya esihlathini, muphe esinye. Umuntu angakwemuka ijazi lakho ungamaleli ukuthatha leyembe. **30** Phanini loba ngubani ocela kini, njalo nxa umuntu ethatha ulutho lwakho ungaluthonisi. **31** Yenza kwabanye lokho ofuna ukuthi bakwenze kuwe. **32** Nxa lithanda labo abalithandayo kuphela, lizazuzani kulokho? Lezoni lazo ziyabathanda abazithandayo. **33** Njalo nxa lisenza okuhle kulabo abalungileyo kini, lizazuzani kulokho? Lezoni ziyakwenza lokho. **34** Njalo nxa liseboleka labo elizazuya imbadalo kubo, lizazuzani kulokho? Lezoni ziboleka izoni zilindele ukubhadalwa ngokugcweleyo. **35** Kodwa thandani izitha zenu, lizenzele okuhle, njalo lizeboleke lingalindeli lutho kuzo. Lapho-ke umvuzo wenu uzakuba mkhulu, njalo lizakuba ngamadodana akhe oPhezukonke, ngoba ulomusa kwabangabongiyo labayizigangi. **36** Wobani lesihawu njengoYihlo olesihawu." **37** "Lingahluleli ukuze lani lingahlulelwa. Lingamlahli omunye ukuze lani lingalahlwa. Thethelelani ukuze lani lithethelelewe. **38** Phanini, lani lizaphiwa. Kuzathiwa qithi kini kugcwalise phamu, kwagqitshwa, kwakhuhluza kwaze kwaphuphuma. Ngoba nesilinganiso elisisebenzisayo, lani lizalinganisela ngaso." **39** Waphinde wabatshela umzekeliso lo, "Isiphofu kame singakhokhela isiphofu na? Kazizukuwela emgodini zombili na? **40** Umfundi ungaphansi kombalisi wakhe, kodwa wonke osefundiswe ngokupheleleyo usenjengombalisi wakhe. **41** Kungani ukhangela uvava lokhuni oluselihlweni lomfowenu, unganqinikeli ukhuni olukwelakho ilihlo na? **42** Ungatsho kanjani kumfowenu ukuthi, 'Mfowethu, wothi ngikukhuphe uvava oluselihlweni lakho,' kodwa wena usehluleka ukubona ukhuni oluselihlweni lakho na? Wena mzenzisi, qala ukhuphe ukhuni oluselihlweni lakho ukuze ubone kuhle nxa usukhupha uvava oluselihlweni lomfowenu." **43** "Kakulasihlahla esihle esithela izithelo ezimbi njalo lesihlahla esibi kasitheli izithelo ezinhle. **44** Isihlahla sinye ngasinye saziwa ngezithelo zaso. Abantu kabakhi umkhiwa ezihlahleni zameva loba amagrebisi esingeni. **45** Umuntu olungileyo uveza izinto ezinhle eziphuma

kokuhle okugcinwe enhliziyweni yakhe, njalo lomuntu omubi uphuhliza ububi obugcinwe enhliziyweni yakhe. Ngoba umlomo ukhuluma lokho okuphuphuma enhliziyweni.” **46** “Kungani lingibiza lisithi, ‘Nkosi, Nkosi,’ kodwa lingakwenzi engikutshoyo? **47** Lowo oza kimi ezwe amazwi ami akwenze akutshoyo, ngizalitshelela ukuthi unjengani. **48** Unjengendoda eyakha indlu, yagebha yatshona phansi, yasibeka isisekelo sayo phezu kwedwala. Kwathi kufika isikhukhula, isiphepho sayitshaya indlu, kodwa asaze sayizamazamisa, ngoba yayakhiwe kuhle. **49** Kodwa lowo owezwayo amazwi ami, kodwa angakwenzi akutshoyo, unjengomuntu owakha indlu emhlabathini kungelasisekelo. Umzinga wonela ukuyitshaya leyondlu, yabhidlika yaphela du.”

7 Kwathi uJesu eseqedile ukukhuluma konke lokhu abantu labo besizwa wayangena eKhaphenawume. **2** Khonapho inceku yenduna yekhulu eyayiligugu kakhulu enkosini yayo, yayigula isibangwa lezibi. **3** Induna yekhulu yezwa ngoJesu yathuma kuye abanye abadala bamaJuda icela ukuba eze azosilisa inceku yayo. **4** Bafika kuJesu bamncenga kakhulu bathi, “Indoda le ifanele ukuthi uyenzele lokhu, **5** ngoba iyasithanda isizwe sakithi njalo yiyo eyakha isinagogu yethu.” **6** Ngakho uJesu wahamba labo. Wayengasekhathshana lendlu lapho induna yekhulu yathuma abangane bayo ukuyakuthi kuye, “Nkosi, ungazihluphi, akungifanelanga mina ukuthi ungene ngaphansi kophahla lwami. **7** Yikho okwenze ngazibona ngingafanele ukuthi ngize kuwe. Kodwa tshono ilizwi nje inceku yami izasila. **8** Ngoba mina ngokwami ngingumuntu ongaphansi komthetho, ngilamabutho angaphansi kwami. Lo ngimtshele ngithi, ‘Hamba,’ ahambe; ngithi kuloyana, ‘Buya,’ lakanye abuye. Ngithi encekwini yami, ‘Yenza lokhu,’ ikwenze.” **9** UJesu wathi ekuzwa lokhu wamangala ngaye, wasephendukela exukwini labantu ababemlandela wathi, “Ngiyalitshela, kangikaluboni ukhoho olukhulu kangaka kanye lako-Israyeli.” **10** Abantu ababethunywe babuyela endlini bafica inceku isiziphilela. **11** Kungakabi yisikhathi eside ngemva kwalokhu, uJesu waya edolobheni okwakuthiwa yiNayini, abafundi bakhe kanye lexuku labantu elikhulu babehamba laye. **12** Wathi esebanga entubeni yedolobho, khonapho umuntu ofileyo wayethwelwe ekhutshelwa ngaphandle. Indodana eyiyo yodwa kunina njalo unina engumfelokazi. Ixuku elikhulu labantu bedolobheni lalilaye. **13** Kwathi uJesu embona umfelokazi, wamhawukela wathi kuye, “Ungakhali.” **14** Wasesondela wathinta ithala elalilesidumbu, kwathi labo ababelithwele bema mpo. Wathi, “Jaha, ngithi kuwe, vuka!” **15** Indoda efileyo yavuka yahlala, yasikhuluma, uJesu wayinika unina. **16** Bonke bamangala kakhulu badumisa uNkulunkulu. Bathi, “Umphrofethi omkhulu usevelile phakathi kwethu. UNkulunkulu usefikelele ukuzasiza abantu bakhe.” **17** Udumo lukaJesu lwamemetheka kulolonke elaseJudiya lemangweni wakhona. **18** Abafundi bakaJohane bamtshele ngazozonke lezizinto. Wabiza ababili babo **19** wabathuma eNkosini ukuyabuza ukuthi, “Unguye yini ozayo, kumbe silindele omunye?” **20** Amadoda lawo athi efika kuJesu athi, “UJohane uMbhaphathizi usithumile kuwe ukuthi sizobuza sithi, ‘Unguye yini ozayo kumbe silindele omunye?’” **21** Ngalesosikhathi uJesu wasilisa abanengi ababelezifo, lemikhuhlane lemimoya emibi, wazivula amehlo iziphofu ezinengi. **22** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Buyelani liyebikela uJohane lokhu elikubonayo

lelikuzwayo ukuthi iziphofu zenziwa zibone, abaqhuzelayo bayahamba, abalobulephero bayahlanjululwa, izacuthe ziyezwa, abafileyo bayavuswa, levangeli liyatshunyayelwa kubayanga. **23** Ubusiwe lowomuntu ongakhubekiyo ngenxa yami.” **24** Sezihambile izithunywa zikaJohane uJesu waqala ukukhuluma labantu ngoJohane esithi: “Laphuma lisiyabonani enkangala na? Umhlanga owazunguzwa ngumoya na? **25** Nxa kwakungenjalo, pho lalisiyabonani? Indoda eyayicecele na? Hatshi, labo abagqoka izigqoko ezidulayo bazitike ngezinto ezinhle basezigodlweni. **26** Kodwa kanti kuyini elaphuma lisiyakubona? Umphrofethi yini? Yebo, ngiyalitshela, omkhulu kulomphrofethi. **27** Lo nguye okulotshwe ngaye ukuthi: ‘Ngizathuma isithunywa sami phambi kwakho, esizalungisa indlela yakho phambi kwakho.’ **28** Ngiyalitshela ukuthi kubo abazalwa ngabesifazane kakho omkhulu kuloJohane; ikanti lowo omncinyane kakhulu embusweni kaNkulunkulu mkhulu kulaye.” **29** (Bonke abantu, kanye labathelisi, bathi sebewazwile amazwi kajeju bavuma ukuthi indlela kaNkulunkulu yayilungile, ngoba babebhaphathizwe nguJohane. **30** Kodwa abafarisani lezazi zomthetho bayala injongo kaNkulunkulu ngabo, ngoba babengabhaphathizwanga nguJohane.) **31** UJesu waqhubeka wathi, “Pho ngingabafanisa lani abantu besizukulwane lesi? Bafanana lani? **32** Babengabantwana behlezi emkambo bememeza abanye besithi: ‘Salitshayela umhubhe, kodwa kaligidanga, salihlabela ingoma yesililo, kodwa kalililanga.’ **33** Ngoba uJohane uMbhaphathizi weza engadli isinkwa njalo enganathi iwayini, lina lithi, ‘Uledimoni.’ **34** Indodana yoMuntu yafika yadla, yanatha, laselisisithi, ‘Nansi isidli lesidakwa, umngane wabathelisi lezoni.’ **35** Kodwa ukuhlakanipha kuziveza ukuthi kuqondile ebantwaneni bakho bonke.” **36** Omunye wabafarisani wanxusa uJesu ukuzakudla laye isidlo sakusihlwa, ngakho waya endlini yalowo mFarisani wahlala etafuleni. **37** Kwathi owesifazane othile owayephila impilo yesono kulelodolobho esezwile ukuthi uJesu wayesidla endlini yomFarisani weza ephethe imbodlela yamakha, **38** kwathi esemi ngemva kukajeju ngasezinyaweni ekhala, wamanzisa inyawo zakhe ngezinyembezi. Wasesezula inyawo zikaJesu ngenwele zakhe, wazanga wasethela amakha kuzo. **39** Kwathi lowomFarisani owayemnxusile ekubona lokho wazitshela wathi, “Aluba indoda le ibingumphrofethi, ibizakwazi ukuthi ngubani oyibambabambayo lokuthi umfazi lo uyisoni.” **40** UJesu wamphendula wathi, “Simoni, kukhona engifuna ukukutshela khona.” Wathi, “Ngitshele, mfundisi.” **41** “Amadoda amabili ayesikwelede semali kumboleki wemali. Oyedwa wayesikwelede samadenari angamakulu amahlanu, omunye esamatshumi amahlanu. **42** Bobabili babengelayo imali yokumbhadala, ngakho wasewesula umlandu wabo bobabili. Manje nguphi wabo ozamthanda okudlula omunye na?” **43** USimoni waphendula wathi, “Ngibona kungathi ngulowo owesulelwa isikwelede esikhulu.” UJesu wathi, “Wahlulele kuhle.” **44** Wasephendukela kowesifazane wathi kuSimoni, “Uyambona na owesifazane lo? Ngifikile endlini yakho, kawungiphanga amanzi okugeza inyawo zami, kodwa yena uthambise inyawo zami ngezinyembezi zakhe, wazesula ngenwele zakhe. **45** Kawunganganga, kodwa owesifazane lo selokhu ngingenileyo lapha akemanga ukwanga inyawo zami. **46** Kawuthelanga amafutha ekhanda lami, kodwa yena uthethele amakha ezinyaweni zami. **47** Yikho-ke ngiyakutshela ukuthi izono zakhe ezinengi sezithethelele, ngoba utshengise uthando olukhulu. Kodwa lowo othethelele okuncinyane

uthanda kancinyane.” 48 UJesu wasesithi kowesifazane, “Izono zakho sezithethelele.” 49 Ezinye izethekeli zasezibuzana zisithi, “Ungubani kanti yena lo oze athethelele izono na?” 50 UJesu wasesithi kowesifazane, “Ukukholwa kwakho kukusindisile; hamba ngokuthula.”

8 Ngemva kwalokho uJesu wahambahamba engena kuleli laleli idolobho lemizi, ememezela izindaba ezinhle zombuso kaNkulunkulu. Abalitshumi lambili babelave, 2 kanye labafazane ababesilwase emimoyeni embi lemikhuhlaneni: uMariya (owayethiwa nguMagdalini) okwakuphume kuye amadimoni ayisikhombisa; 3 uJowana umkaTshuza, umlawuli wendlu kaHerodi; uSusana labanye abanengi. Abesifazane laba babebasiza ngabakuswelayo. 4 Kwathi sekubuthana ixuku labantu elikhulu labantu besiza kuJesu beqhamuka emadolobheni atshiyeneyo wabatshela lo umzekeliso: 5 “Umlimi waphuma wayahlanyela. Wathi elokhu eyihaza inhlangano, eyinye yawela endleleni; yanyathelwa, izinyoni zemoyeni zayidobha. 6 Eyinye yawela edwaleni, yathi isathi iyakhula yabuna ngoba yayingelabumanzi. 7 Eyinye inhlangano yawela phakathi kwameva, akhula kanye layo ayiminyezela. 8 Eyinye inhlangano yawela emhlabathini ovundileyo. Yakhula yathela amabele, yanda ngekulu.” Wathi esetsho lokhu wamezeza wathi, “Lowo olendlebe zokuzwa, kezwe.” 9 Abafundi bakhe bambuza ukuthi umzekeliso lowo wawusitshoni. 10 Wathi, “Ulwazi lwemfihlo yombuso kaNkulunkulu seluphiwe lina, kodwa kwabanye ngikhuluma kubo ngemizekeliso, ukuze kuthi, ‘loba bekhangela, bangaboni; loba besizwa, bengaqedisisi.’ 11 Nansi ingcazelo yomzekeliso: Inhlangano iyilizwi likaNkulunkulu. 12 Labo abasendleleni ngabalizwayo, kodwa uSathane eze alihluthene ilizwi ezinhliziyeni zabo, ukuze bangakhulwa basindiswe. 13 Labo abasokhetheni ngabemukela ilizwi ngentokozo nxa belizwa, kodwa kabalampande. Bayakhulwa okwesikhatshana, kodwa kuthi ngesikhathi sobunzima bawe. 14 Inhlangano eyawela emeveni imele labo abezwayo, kodwa baqhubeke ngeyabo indlela bakhanywe yizinhlupheko zempi, inotho kanye lezikholisisayo, bangabe besakhula baphelele. 15 Kodwa inhlangano esemhlabathini ovundileyo imele labo abalenziziyeni enhle, elungileyo, abalizwayo ilizwi, baligcine bathi ngokubambelela bathele izithelo.” 16 “Kakho olumathisa isibane asifihle ngaphansi kwesitsha kumbe asibeke ngaphansi kombhedha. Kodwa usibeka esiqobaneni ukuze labo abangenayo babone ukukhanya. 17 Ngoba kakukho okufihliweyo okungayi kudazululwa, njalo akukho okuthukuziweyo okungayikwaziwa kumbe kuvezwe obala. 18 Ngakho nanzelelani ukuthi lilalela kanjani. Lowo olakho uzakwengezelelwa; lowo ongelakho lalokho athi ulakho uzakwemukwa.” 19 Unina kaJesu labafowabo beza ukuzambona, kodwa behluleka ukufinyelela kuye ngenxa yokuminyana kwabantu. 20 Omunye wantshela wathi, “Unyoko labafowenu bakulindele phandle, bafuna ukukubona.” 21 Waphendula wathi, “Umama labafowethu yilabo abalizwayo ilizwi likaNkulunkulu balenze.” 22 Ngelinye ilanga uJesu wathi kubafundi bakhe, “Kasiyeni ngaphetsheya kwechibi.” Basebengena esikepeni bahamba. 23 Bathe belokhu behamba yena walala. Kwafika isiphetho echibini isikepe saqalisa ukugalula, baba sengozini embi. 24 Abafundi bahamba bayamvusa besithi, “Nkosi, Nkosi, sesigalula bol!” Wavuka wawukhulisa umoya kanye lamagagasi; isiphetho sadeda, kwasekuthula cwaka. 25 Wababuzwa abafundi bakhe, wathi, “Kungaphi ukukholwa

kwenu?” Babuzana ngokumangala lokwesaba bathi, “Kanti ungubani lo? Ukhuza kanye lomoya lamanzi kumlalele.” 26 Bagwedla isikepe baya emangweni wamaGerazini, okungaphetsheya kwechibi kusuka eGalile. 27 Kwathi uJesu esehla okhunjini wahlangabezwa yindoda eyayiledimoni iqhamuka ngasedolobheni. Indoda le yayisilesikhathi eside ingavumeli zigqoko, ingahlali endlini, kodwa ihlala emathuneni. 28 Yathi ibona uJesu yahlaba umkhosi yazilahla ezinyaweni zakhe iklabalala ngelizwi elikhulu isithi, “Ufuna ukungenzani, Jesu, Nnodana kaNkulunkulu oPhezukonke? Ngiyakuncenga, ungaze wangihlukuluzal!” 29 Ngoba uJesu wayeseyale umoya omubi ukuthi uphume kuleyondoda. Izikhathi ezinengi wawumbamba, kuthi loba ebotshe ngamaketane ezandleni lezinyaweni njalo elindiwe, wayewaqamula amaketane idimoni limuse enkangala. 30 UJesu wambuza wathi, “Ungubani ibizo lakho?” Waphendula wathi, “NginguLigiyoni,” ngoba amadimoni amanengi ayengene kuye. 31 Amncenga ukuthi angawalayni ukuthi ayewolokohlela emgodini ongelamkhawulo. (Abysos g12) 32 Umhlambi omkhulu wengulube wawusidla khonapho eceleni koqaqa. Amadimoni amncenga uJesu ukuthi awavumele ukuyangena engulubeni, laye wawavumela. 33 Amadimoni aphuma endodeni ayangena ezingulubeni, umhlambi wathi zimu usehlela eliwini lodonga wangena echibini wagalula. 34 Labo ababebelusile bonela ukubona okwasekwenzakele babaleka bayabika edolobheni lemangweni wakhona, 35 abantu basebeqonda khonela ukuyabona okwasekwenzakele. Bathi befika kuJesu bayifumana indoda okwakukhutshwe kuyo amadimoni ihlezi ezinyaweni zikaJesu, igqokile njalo ingqondo isibuyile; besaba kakhulu. 36 Labo ababebonile kusenzakala batshela abantu ukuthi indoda eyayiphethwe lidimoni yasiliswa njani. 37 Kwasekusithi bonke abantu bomango wamaGerazini bamcela uJesu ukuthi kasuke kubo ngoba babekhulelwa yikwesaba. Ngakho wangena esikepeni wahamba. 38 Indoda leyo eyakhutshwa amadimoni yamncenga ukuthi ahambe layo, kodwa uJesu wala wathi, 39 “Buyela ekhaya uyefakaza ukuthi uNkulunkulu ukwenzeleni.” Yikho indoda yahamba yafakaza kulolonke idolobho konke uJesu ayeyenzele khona. 40 Kwathi uJesu esebuyile wahlangabezwa lixuku labantu elikhulu, ngoba bonke babemlindele. 41 Indoda eyayithiwa nguJayiroso, umbusi wesinagogu, yeza yazilahla ezinyaweni zikaJesu, imncenga ukuthi eze endlini yayo 42 ngoba indodakazi yayo eyodwa zwi, intombazana eyayileminyaka elitshumi lambili, yayisifa. Kwathi uJesu esesiya khona abantu baminyezela ingathi bazampatshaza. 43 Khonapho kwakulowesifazane owayeseleminyaka elitshumi lambili esopha kodwa kungekho owayengamelapha. 44 Weza ngemva kuKaJesu wathinta umphetho wesembatho sakhe, masinyane nje ukopha kwahle kwaphela. 45 UJesu wabuza wathi, “Ngubani ongithintileyo?” Kwathi ngoba bonke bephika uPhethro wathi, “Nkosi, abantu bayaminyezelana besondela kuwe.” 46 Kodwa uJesu wathi, “Ukhona ongithintileyo; ngiyazi ukuthi amandla aphumile kimi.” 47 Owesifazane esebone ukuthi uzacina eboniwe weza ethuthumela wazilahla ezinyaweni zakhe. Wachaza phambi kwabantu bonke ukuthi kungani wayemthintile uJesu lokuthi wasiliswa njani masinyane. 48 UJesu wasesithi kuye, “Ndodakazi, ukhohlo lwakho lukusilile. Hamba ngokuthula.” 49 Kwathi uJesu elokhu esakhuluma omunye weza evela endlini kaJayirasi umphathi wesinagogu, wafika wathi, “Indodakazi yakho isifile.

Ungabe usamhlupha umfundisi.” 50 UJesu wathi ekuzwa lokhu wathi kujayirasi, “Ungesabi, kholwa nje kuphela, izasiliswa.” 51 Wathi esefikile endlini kaJayirasi, kavumelanga muntu ukuthi angene laye ngaphandle kukaPhethro, uJohane loJakhobe, kanye loyise womntwana lonina. 52 Ngalesosikhathi abantu bonke babeqhinqa isililo bekhalanga intombazana. UJesu wathi kubo, “Thulani, lingakhali. Kafanga kodwa ulele.” 53 Bamhleka usulu uJesu ngoba besazi ukuthi intombazana yayisifile. 54 Kodwa wayibamba ngesandla wathi, “Mntamani, vuka!” 55 Umoya wayo wabuya, masinyane yasukuma yathi lothu! UJesu wasesithi kabamnikhe ukudla. 56 Abazali bakhe bamangala, kodwa wabalaya ukuthi bangatsheli muntu ngalokho okwakwenzakele.

9 UJesu wabizela ndawonye abalitshumi lambili wabapha amandla lemvumo yokuthi baxotshe wonke amadimoni, belaphe lemikhuhlane, 2 njalo wasebathuma ukuyatshumayela umbuso kaNkulunkulu lokuphilisa abagulayo, 3 Wabatshela wathi, “Lingathwali lutho kululuhambo, loba udondolo, isikhwama, loba isinkwa, imali loba isigqoko sokuntshintsha. 4 Loba yiphi indlu elingena kuyo, hlalani kuyo lize lisuke kulelodoblo. 5 Nxa abantu bengalemukeli, sukani kulelodoblo lithintithe uthuli ezinyaweni zenu, kube yibufakazi bokubalaha.” 6 Basebesuka bangena imizi ngemizi, betshumayela ivangeli njalo besilisa abantu ezindaweni zonke. 7 Ngalesosikhathi uHerodi umbusi wakuzwa konke lokho okwakwenzakala. Wakhathazeka kakhulu ngoba abanye babesithi uJohane wayesevusiwe kwabafileyo, 8 abanye labo bathi u-Elia wayebonakele, kanti abanye njalo bathi omunye wabaphrofethi bekadeni wayesevukile waphila. 9 Kodwa uHerodi wathi, “UJohane ngamquma ikhanda. Pho ungubani-ke lo engizwa izinto ezinje ngaye?” Wazama ukuthi ambone. 10 Abapostoli sebuyile babika kuJesu ngakho konke ababekwenzile. Wasebathatha waya labo edolobheni elalithiwa yiBhethisayida beyibo bodwa, 11 kodwa amaxuku abantu ezwa ukuthi ukhonale basebemlandela. Wabemukela wabatshele ngombuso kaNkulunkulu, wasilisa labo ababekuswela ukusiliswa. 12 Emini abalitshumi lambili beza kuye bathi, “Wothi abantu bahambe ukuze baye emadolobheni lasemizini bayezidingela ukudla lezindawo zokulala ngoba lapha sisendaweni ekhatshana eyisikhala.” 13 Waphendula wathi, “Bapheni lina ukudla.” Baphendula bathi, “Thina silezinkwa ezinhlanu lenhlanzi ezimbili kuphela, ngaphandle kokuthi sihambe siyothenga ukudla kwabantu bonke laba.” 14 (Kwakulamadoda angaba zinkulungwane ezinhlanu khonapho.) Kodwa wathi kubafundi bakhe, “Bahlaliseni phansi ngamaxuku abantu abangamatshumi amahlanu ngalinye.” 15 Benza njalo abafundi, wonke umuntu wahlala phansi. 16 Ethatha izinkwa ezinhlanu lenhlanzi ezimbili wakhangela ezulwini, wabonga wazihlephula. Waseziqhubela abafundi ukuba bazabele abantu. 17 Bonke badla basutha, abafundi basebebutha bagcwalisa izitsha ezilitshumi lambili imvuthu ezasalayo. 18 Ngesinye isikhathi uJesu wathi ekhuleka ekusitheneni, abafundi bakhe belaye, wabuza wathi, “Kanti abantu abanengi bathi ngingubani na?” 19 Baphendula bathi, “Abanye bathi ungUJohane uMbhaphathizi; abanye bathi ungu-Elia; kuthi abanye njalo bathi ungomunye wabaphrofethi bekadeni osephila njalo.” 20 Wabuza bona wathi, “Pho lina-ke? Lithi ngingubani?” Waphendula uPhethro wathi, “UnguKhristu kaNkulunkulu.”

21 UJesu wabaqonqosela ukuthi lokhu bangakutsheli muntu. 22 Wasesithi, “Indodana yoMuntu kumele ihlupheke kakhulu, yaliwe ngabadala bebandla, abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho, njalo lokuthi kumele ibulawe, kuthi ngelanga lesithathu ivuswe kwabafileyo.” 23 Wasesithi kubo bonke: “Nxa ekhona ofisa ukungilandela kufanele azidele athwale isiphambano sakhe insuku zonke angilande. 24 Ngoba lowo ofisa ukulondoloza impilo yakhe izamlehleka, kodwa lowo olahlekelwa yimpilo yakhe ngenxa yami uzayiphaphisa. 25 Kumsizani umuntu ukuzuzwa wonke umhlaba, kodwa alahlekelwe loba ancitshwe ubunguye bakhe na? 26 Lowo oyangeka ngami kanye lamazwi ami, indodana yoMuntu izayangeka ngaye nxa isifikile ngenkzimomo yayo langenkzimomo kaYise lezingilos ezingcwele. 27 Ngilitshele iqiniso ngithi abanye abemi khonapha kabayikukuzwa ukufa bengakawuboni umbuso kaNkulunkulu.” 28 Emva kwensuku eziyisifocaminwembili uJesu ekukhulumele lokho, wathatha uPhethro loJohane loJakhobe waya entabeni ukuyakhuleka. 29 Wathi ekhuleka isimo sobuso bakhe saguquka lezigqoko zakhe zakhazimula njengokuphazima kombane. 30 Amadoda amabili, uMosi lo-Elia, 31 abonakala ecwebezela ngenkzimomo, ekhuluma loJesu. Babekhuluma ngokufa kwakhe okwasekusondele ukuthi kugcwaliseke eJerusalem. 32 UPhethro labakhula bakhe babe lobuthongo kakhulu, kodwa sebebapheme, bayibona inkazimulo yakhe lamadoda amabili ayemi laye. 33 Kwathi amadoda lawo esesuka kuJesu uPhethro wathi kuye, “Nkosi, kumnandi kithi ukuba lapha. Kasakhe izihonqo ezintathu, esakho, esinye esikaMosi lesinye esika-Elia.” (Wayengakwazi lokho ayekutsho.) 34 Wathi esakhluma, iyezi labuya labagubuzela, baba lokwesaba ekungeneni kwabo eyezini. 35 Ilizwi labuya livela eyezini lisithi, “Le yiNdodana yami engiyikhethileyo; ilaleleni.” 36 Ilizwi selikhulumile, uJesu bambona eseyedwa. Abafundi bakugcina ezifubeni bono lokhu kabaze batshele muntu ngalesosikhathi ngababekubonile. 37 Ngosuku olulandelayo sebhile entabeni, wahlangabezwa lixuku labantu abanengi. 38 Enye indoda exukwini yamemeza yathi, “Mfundisi, ngiyakuncenga, khangelana indodana yami yiyo yodwa umntwana engilaye. 39 Umoya uyamjuma abeseklabalala; uyamgqqa abhinjike abuye abhubhude amagwebu emlonjeni. Ushulezi udlala ngaye nje usufuna ukumbulala. 40 Bengicela abafundi bakho ukuthi bawuxotshe, kodwa behlulekile.” 41 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Oh, sizukulwane esingakholwayo, esixhwalileyo, ngihlale lani kuze kube nini ngilokhu ngilibekezelela na? Ilethe lapha indodana yakho.” 42 Kwathi lapho umfana elokhu esalethwa kuye idimoni lambhuqa phansi ebhinqika. Kodwa uJesu wawukhuza umoya omubi, wamsilisa umfana wambuyisela kuyise. 43 Bonke bamangala kakhulu ngobukhulu bukaNkulunkulu. Kwathi wonke umuntu esamangele ngalokho uJesu ayekwenzile, wathi kubafundi bakhe, 44 “Likulelele kuhle lokhu esengizalitshele khona: Indodana yoMuntu izanikelwa ezandleni zabantu.” 45 Kodwa kabezwiswisa ukuthi lokhu kwakusithoni. Kwakufihliwe kubo, yikho kabakubambisiswisa, kodwa besaba ukumbuza ngakho. 46 Kwaba lokuphikisana kubafundi ngokuthi ngubani kubo owayezabamkhulu kulabanye. 47 UJesu eyazi imicabango wayo wathatha umntwana omncinyane wamisa eceleni kwakhe. 48 Wasesithi kubo, “Lowo owamukela lo umntwana omncane ngebizo lami wamukela mina, lalowo owamukela mina wamukela lowo ongithumileyo. Ngoba lowo onguye omncinyane kulani lonke phakathi kwenu lonke,

ngube omkhulu kini lonke.” **49** UJohane wathi, “Nkosi, sibone indoda ikhupha amadimoni ngebizo lakho sazama ukuyenqaba ngoba ingayisuye omunye wethu.” **50** UJesu wathi, “Lingamaleli ngoba lowo ongamelani lani ukanye lani.” **51** Kwathi isikhathi sesisondele ukuthi athathwe aye ezulwini, uJesu wazimisela ukuthi aye eJerusalema. **52** Wasethuma izithunywa phambi kwakhe zaya eSamariya emzini othile ukumlungisela ukufika kwakhe; **53** kodwa abantu bakhona kabamemukelanga ngoba wayesedlulela eJerusalema. **54** Kwathi abafundi uJakobe loJohane bekubona lokho bathi, “Nkosi, uyafuna na ukuthi sibize umlilo uvele ezulwini uzobabhuhisa?” **55** Kodwa uJesu waphenduka wabakhuzisa **56** Yikho yena labafundi bakhe basebesiya komunye umuzi. **57** Bathi belokhu behamba endleleni, enye indoda yathi kuye, “Ngizakulandela loba ungaze uye ngaphi.” **58** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Amakhanka alemlindi lezinyoni zemoyeni zilezidleke, kodwa iNdodana yoMuntu kayilandawo yokufihla ikhanda layo.” **59** Wathi kwenye indoda, “Ngilandela.” Kodwa indoda yaphendula yathi, “Nkosi, akuthi ngiqale ngihambe ngiyengcwaba ubaba wami.” **60** UJesu wathi kuyo, “Yekela abafuleyo bangcwabe abafuleyo babo, kodwa wena hamba uyememezela umbuso kaNkulunkulu.” **61** Kwathi omunye njalo wathi, “Ngizakulandela, Nkosi, kodwa akuthi kengiyevalelisa abakithi.” **62** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Kakho othi angabamba ikhuba elima athalaze emuva owufaneleyo umsebenzi oqondane lombuso kaNkulunkulu.”

10 Ngemva kwalokhu iNkosi yakhetha abanye abangamatshumi ayisikhombisa lambili ukuba bamandulele baye kuwo wonke amadolobho lezindawo lezo ayesezazihambela. **2** Wabatshela wathi, “Isivuno sinengi, kodwa izisebenzi zimbalwa. Ngakho celani iNkosi yesivuno ukuthi ithumele izisebenzi ensimini yayo yokuvuna. **3** Hambani! Ngilithuma linjengamazinyane ezimvu phakathi kwempisi. **4** Lingathwali isikhwama kumbe umxhaka loba amanyathela; njalo lingabingeleli muntu endleleni. **5** Nxa lingena endlini, qalani lithi, ‘Ukuthula akube kule indlu.’ **6** Nxa kulomuntu woxolo lapho, ukuthula kwenu kakube kuye; nxa kungenjalo kuzabuyela kini. **7** Hlalani kuleyondlu, lidle njalo linathe loba yini abalinika khona ngoba osebenzayo ufanele aphiwe iholo lakhe. Linganqumi ngezindlu lihlah lapha lalapha. **8** Nxa lifika edolobheni lamukelwe khona, dlanini lokho elikuphiwayo. **9** Silisani abagulayo abayabe belapho, njalo libatshela ukuthi, ‘Umbuso kaNkulunkulu useduze kwenu.’ **10** Kodwa nxa lingafika edolobheni lingemukelwa, yanini emigwaqweni yalo lithi, **11** ‘Lalo uthuli lwedolobho lenu olunamatehe ezinyaweni zethu siyaluthintithela kini. Kodwa yazini lokhu: Umbuso kaNkulunkulu ususeduze.’ **12** Ngiyalithshela, okweSodoma kuzakuba ngcono ngalelola ngokwalelodalobho. **13** Maye kuwe Khorazini! Maye kuwe Bhethisayida! Aluba izimangaliso lezo ezenziwa kuwe zazenziwe eThire leSidoni ngabe kudala baphenduka begqoke izigqoko zamaska bazithela ngomlutha. **14** Kodwa kuzakuba ngcono okweThire leSidoni mhla wokwahlulela kulokuza kuwe. **15** Lawe, Khaphenawume, kambe uzaphakanyiselwa emazulwini na? Hatshi, uzatshona phansi uye eHadesi. (Hadēs g86) **16** Lowo olalela lina ulalela mina; lowo olahla lina ulahla mina; kodwa lowo ongalayo wala yena owangithumayo.” **17** Abangamatshumi ayisikhombisa lambili babuya bethokoza bathi, “Nkosi, lamadimoni

ayasithobela ngebizo lakho.” **18** Waphendula wathi, “Ngimbonile uSathane esiwa njengombane esuka ezulwini. **19** Ngiliphile amandla okugxoba izinyoka lenkume lokunqoba wonke amandla esitha; kakukho okuzalimizaza. **20** Kodwa lingathatshiswa yikuthi imimoya iyazithoba kini, kodwa thokoziwani yikuthi amabizo enu alotshiwe ezulwini.” **21** Ngalesosikhathi uJesu egcwele intokozo ngoMoya oNgcwele wathi, “Ngiyakudumisa, Baba, Nkosi yasezulwini lasemhlabeni, ngoba uzifihlile lezizinto kwabahlakaniphileyo labafundileyo wazambula ebantwaneni abancinyane. Yebo, Baba, ngoba lokhu kwakuyikuthanda kwakho okuhle. **22** Zonke izinto zethulwe kimi nguBaba. Kakho owaziyo ukuthi ungubani iNdodana ngaphandle kukaBaba, njalo kakho omaziyo uBaba ukuthi ungubani ngaphandle kweNdodana lalabo iNdodana ekhethe ukuba imveze kubo.” **23** Wasephendukela kubafundi bakhe wathi kubo ngasese, “Abusisiwe amehlo abona lokhu elikubonayo lina. **24** Ngoba ngiqinisile ukuthi abaphrofethi abanengi lamakhosi bafesisa ukubona lokhu elikubonayo, kodwa kabakubonanga, lokuzwa lokhu elikuzwayo, kodwa kabakuzwanga.” **25** Ngesinye isikhathi isazi somthetho saphakama samlinga uJesu. Sabuza sathi, “Mfundisi, ngingenzani ukuze ngizuze ilifa lempilo engapheliyo na?” (aiōnios g166) **26** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Kubhalweni emthethweni, uwufunda njani?” **27** Waphendula wathi, “Thanda iNkosi uNkulunkulu wakho ngenhliziyo yakho yonke, langomphefumulo wakho wonke, langamandla akho wonke, njalo langengqondo yakho yonke; njalo, ‘Thanda umakhelwane wakho njengoba uzithanda wena.’” **28** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Uphendule kuhle. Kwenze lokhu, uzaphila.” **29** Kodwa wayefuna ukuzigeza, wasebuza kuJesu, wathi, “Kanti ngubani ongumakhelwana wami na?” **30** UJesu waphendula ngokuthi: “Indoda yayihamba iphuma eJerusalema isiya eJericho, yaqabuka isihlaselwa ngabaphangi. Bayihluluba izigqoko zayo, bayitshaya basebehamba, beyitshiya iqalekile. **31** Kwakulomphristi owayehamba ngaleyondlela, owathi eyibona indoda leyo waceza kwelinye icele. **32** Wenza njalo lomLevi, wafika kuleyondawo wayibona indoda wakhakeheleza wedlula. **33** Kodwa uSamariya, wathi ezihambela wafika lapho indoda eyayikhona, wathi eyibona wayizwela usizi. **34** Waya kuyo, wabopha amanxeba ayo, wawathela amafutha lewayini. Waseyikhweza kubabhemi wakhe, wayisa endlini yezihambi, wayinakekela. **35** Ngosuku olulandelayo wakhupha inhlamvu ezimbili zamadenari wazinika umphathi wendawo. Wathi, ‘Mgcine, kuzakuthi nxa sengibuya ngizabhadala lezondleko eziyabe zisele.’ **36** Ngubani pho kulaba abathathu ombona ukuthi wayengumakhelwane wendoda leyo eyahlaselwa ngabaphangi na?” **37** Isazi somthetho saphendula sathi, “Ngulowo owaba lesihawu kuyo.” UJesu wamtshela wathi, “Hamba wenzenjalo.” **38** Kwathi uJesu labafundi bakhe besekuhambeni kwabo, wafika emzini okwakukhona owesifazane othiwa nguMatha, owamamukela ngesihle emzini wabo. **39** Wayelodadawo owayethiwa nguMariya, owahlala ezinyaweni zeNkosi elalele lokho eyayikukhuluma. **40** Kodwa uMatha waphazanyiswa yikulungiselela konke okwakumele kwenziwe. Wabuya kuJesu wabuzela wathi, “Nkosi, kawukhathali na ukuthi udadewethu ungitshiye ukuba ngenze ngedwa umsebenzi? Mtshela ukuthi angincedisel!” **41** INkosi yaphendula yathi, “Matha, Matha, uhlutshwa njalo ukhathazeke ngezinto ezinengi, **42** kodwa kusweleka into

eyodwa. UMariya ukhethe okungcono, okungasoze akwemukwe futhi.”

11 Ngelinye ilanga uJesu wayekhuleka kwenye indawo. Wathi eseqedile, omunye wabafundi bakhe wathi kuye, “Nkosi, sifundise ukukhuleka, njengeJohane owafundisa abafundi bakhe.” **2** Wathi kubo, “Nxa likhuleka, alibokuthi: ‘Baba, kalidunyiswe ibizo lakho, umbuso wakho kawuze. **3** Siphe ukudla kwethu kwansukuzonke usuku ngosuku. **4** Sithethelela izono zethu, njengoba lathi sibathethelela bonke abasonelayo. Njalo ungaseningeni ekulingweni.”” **5** Wasesithi kubo, “Akesithi omunye wenu ulomngane, aye kuye phakathi kobusuku athi, ‘Mfowethu, akungeboleke izinkwa ezintathu, **6** kulomngane wami ophakathi kohambo ozofihla ikhanda kwami, kodwa kaphilalutho engingamupha lona.’ **7** Besekusithi osendlini aphendule athi, ‘Ungangikhathazi. Umnyango usukhiyiwe njalo mina labantwabami sesilele. Ngingezake ngivuke ngikuphe loba yini.’ **8** Ngiyalitshelela ukuthi loba ubengafuni ukuvuka amuphe isinkwa ngoba engumngane, kodwa ngenxa yokuphikelela kwendoda uzaze avuke amuphe konke akufunayo. **9** Ngakho ngithi kini: Celani lizaphiwa; dingani lizafumana; qoqodani lizavulelwa. **10** Ngoba wonke ocelayo uyaphiwa; lowo odingayo uyafumana; lalowo oqoqoda emnyango uzavulelwa. **11** Ngubani kini bobaba, okuthi nxa indodana yakhe icela inhlanzi yena ayiphe inyoka? **12** Loba icela iqanda ayiphe inkume na? **13** Nxa lina, elithi loba libabi likwazi ukupha abantwabenu izipho ezilungileyo, pho uYihlo osezulwini uzabapha ngokwengeze kangakanani uMoya oNgcwele labo abacela kuye!” **14** UJesu wayexotsha idimoni elaliyisimungulu. Lathi idimoni seliphumile, indoda eyayiyisimungulu yakhuluma, ixuku labantu lamangala. **15** Kodwa abanye bathi, “Ukhupha amadimoni ngoBhelizebhubhi inkosi yamadimoni.” **16** Abanye bamlinga ngokumcela isibonakaliso esivela ezulwini. **17** UJesu wayeyazi imicabango yabo wasesithi kubo: “Umbuso ongabambananga uyadilika, lendlu engabambananga iyawa. **18** Nxa uSathane engabambananga, umbuso wakhe ungema kanjani na? Ngikutsho lokhu ngoba lithi mina ngikhupha amadimoni ngoBhelizebhubhi. **19** Nxa ngikhupha amadimoni ngoBhelizebhubhi, pho abalandeli benu bawakhupha ngobani? Ngakho, bazakuba ngabahluleli benu. **20** Kodwa nxa ngikhupha amadimoni ngomunwe kaNkulunkulu, kutsho ukuthi umbuso kaNkulunkulu usufikile kini. **21** Nxa indoda eyisiqhwaga ihlome yaphelulela, ilinde indlu yayo, impahla zayo zivikelekile. **22** Kodwa kungahlasela umuntu olamandla kulayo ayehlule, uyayemuka izikhali ebikade izithembile, abesezehlukanisela impango. **23** Lowo ongemanga lami uphikisana lami, lalowo ongabuthi lami uyachithiza. **24** Lapho umoya omubi uphuma emuntwini, uyazula enkangala izinga ukuphumula, kodwa nxa ungakuswela, uyathi ‘Ngizabuyela endlini engaphuma kuyo.’ **25** Uthi ufika, uthole leyondlu ithanyelwe yahlanzeka konke kumi kuhle. **26** Ubusuhamba uyethatha eminye imimoya eyisikhombisa exhwale ukwedlula wona, ingene ihlale khona. Isiphetho salwomuntu sizakuba sibi kulasekuqaleni.” **27** Kwathi uJesu elokhu esakhuluma lezizinto, owesifazane wamemeza exukwini wathi, “Ubusiwe lowomama owakuzalayo wakondla.” **28** Waphendula wathi, “Kungenani, ababusiweyo yilabo abalizwayo ilizwi likaNkulunkulu baliphile.” **29** Kwathi amaxuku esanda uJesu wathi, “Lesi yisizukulwane

esixhwalileyo. Sidinga isibonakaliso kodwa kasisoze sisiphiwe ngaphandle kwesibonakaliso sikaJona. **30** NjengeJona owaba yisibonakaliso kwabaseNiniva, ngokunjalo iNdodana yoMuntu izakuba njalo kulesizukulwane. **31** INdlovukazi yaseNingizimu izavuka ekwahlulelweni kanye labantu balesi sizukulwane ibalahlale ngoba yeza ivela emaphethelweni omhlaba izokuzwa inhlakanipho kaSolomoni kodwa manje lowo omkhulu kuloSolomoni usekhona lapha. **32** Abantu baseNiniva bazasukuma kanye lalesi sizukulwane ngosuku lokwahlulelwa basilahlale ngoba bona baphenduka ekutshumayeleni kukaJona, kodwa khathesi lowo omkhulu kuloJona uselapha.” **33** “Kakho olumathisa isibane abesibeka ekusithakeni kumbe ngaphansi kwesitsha. Kodwa usibeka esiqobaneni ukuze labo abangenayo babone ukukhanya. **34** Ilihlo lakho liyisibane somzimba. Nxa amehllo akho elungile umzimba wakho wonke ugcewele ukukhanya. Kodwa nxa emabi, umzimba wakho lawo ugcewele ubumnyama. **35** Qaphelani-ke ukuthi ukukhanya okuphakathi kwenku kakusibumnyama. **36** Ngakho-ke, nxa umzimba wakho wonke ugcewele ukukhanya kungekho ingxenywe esemnyameni, wonke uzagcwala ukukhanya njengokukhanya kwesibane kukukhanyisa.” **37** UJesu eseqedile ukukhuluma umFaris othile wamnxusa ukuthi azokudla laye; wasehamba wayahlala etafuleni. **38** Kodwa umFaris wananzelela ukuthi uJesu kaqalanga ngokugeza engakadli, kwamangalisa. **39** INkosi yathi kuye, “Lina baFaris lizezisa inkezo lomganu ngaphandle kodwa ngaphakathi ligcwele ubuhwaba lobubi. **40** Lina bantu abayiziwula! Lowo owenza ingaphandle kenzanga lengaphakathi na? **41** Ngakho-ke, mayelana lokungaphakathi kwenku, wobani lomusa kwabampofu, lapho-ke konke kuzabe sekuhlanzekile kini. **42** Maye kini baFaris, ngoba lipha uNkulunkulu okwetshumi kweminti, lazonke izithelo zesivande senu, kodwa lidele ukwenza okulungileyo kanye lokuthanda uNkulunkulu. Kumele likwenze konke okulungileyo, ukuthanda uNkulunkulu lokukhipha lokwetshumi. **43** Maye kini baFaris, ngoba lithanda izihlalo eziqakathekileyo emasinagogweni njalo lithanda lokubingelelwa ezindaweni zokuthengisela. **44** Maye kini, ngoba linjengamathuna angakhelwanga, abantu abahamba phezu kwawo bengazi ukuthi akhona.” **45** Omunye wezazi zomthetho wamphendula wathi, “Mfundisi, nxa usitsho njalo uyasithuka lathi.” **46** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Lani zazi zomthetho, maye kini, ngoba lethesa abantu ngemithwalo abangeke bayithwale, ikanti lani livele kalithi thika lokuyithwala. **47** Maye kini, ngoba lakha amathuna abaphrofethi, bona ababulawa ngokhokho benu. **48** Lifakaza ukuthi liyakuvuma lokho okhokho benu abakwenzayo; bababulala abaphrofethi, lina-ke selisakha amangcwaba abo. **49** Ngenxa yalokhu, uNkulunkulu wathi, ngokuhlakanipha kwakhe, ‘Ngizabathumela abaphrofethi labapostoli, abanye bazababulala abanye babapathethe ngochuku.’ **50** Ngakho-ke, lesisizukulwana yiso esizathwala umlandu wegazi labaphrofethi bonke elachithwa kusukela ekudabukeni komhlaba, **51** kusukela egazini lika-Abheli kusiya egazini likaZakharariya owabulawa phakathi laphakathi kwe-alithari lendlu engcwele. Yabo, ngiyalitshelela, isizukulwane lesi sizakwetheswa umlandu wakho konke. **52** Maye kini zazi zomthetho, ngoba seliyivalile intuba yolwazi. Lina ngokwenu kalingenanga, laphinda lavimbela labo abebefuna ukungena.” **53** UJesu wathi esesuka lapho, abaFaris labafundisi bomthetho

baqala ukuphikisana laye kubi, bemthela ngemibuzo, 54 bezama ukumgconga ngokunye ayengakutsho.

12 Ngalesosikhathi sekubuthene ixuku lezinkulungwane zabantu, sebenyathelana, uJesu waqala ukukhuluma kubafundi bakhe esithi, “Qaphelani imvubelo yabaFarisi, iyikuzenzisa. 2 Kakukho okufihliweyo okungayi kuvezwa obala, lokufihliweyo okungayikwaziwa. 3 Lokho okukhulume emnyameni kuzazwakala emini lithe bha, lalokho obukunyenyezela endlebeni ezindlini zangaphakathi kuzamnyezelwa phezu kophahla lwezindlu. 4 Ngiyalitshelela bangane, lingabesabi labo ababulala umzimba kungabikhona okunye abangakwenza ngemva kwalokho. 5 Kodwa ngizalitshengisa lowo okumele limesabe: Mesabeni lowo, othi esebulele umzimba, abe lamandla okuwuphosela esihogweni. Eyo, ngithi mesabeni. (Geenna g1067) 6 Intaka ezinhlanu kazithengiswa ngendibiltshi ezimbili na? Kodwa kayikho lanye yazo uNkulunkulu ayilibalayo. 7 Ngempela, inwele zekhanda lakho zibaliwe. Lingesabi; lina liligugu ukwedlula intaka ezinengi. 8 Ngiyalitshelela, lowo ongivuma phambi kwabantu, iNdodana yoMuntu layo izamvuma phambi kwezingilosi zikaNkulunkulu. 9 Kodwa lowo ongiphikayo phambi kwabantu uzaphikwa phambi kwezingilosi zikaNkulunkulu. 10 Njalo wonke umuntu okhuluma okubi ngeNdodana yoMuntu uzathethelelwa kodwa lowo ohlambaza uMoya oNgcwele akayikuthethelelwa. 11 Nxa limiswa phambi kwamasinagogo, phambi kwababusi labaphathi, lingazihluphi ngokuthi lizazivikela lisithini kumbe ukuthi lizakuthini, 12 ngoba uMoya oNgcwele uzalifundisa ngalesosikhathi lokho elifanele likutsho.” 13 Omunye emphakathini wathi kuye, “Mfundisi, tshela umfowethu ukuthi angabele ilifa lami.” 14 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ndoda, ngibekwe ngubani ukuba ngumahluleli kumbe umlamuli wenu?” 15 Wasesithi kubo, “Qaphelani! Limukani inhlobo zonke zobuhaga; isiqoqela sempilo yomuntu kasikho ebunengini benotho yakhe.” 16 Wasebatshela umzekeliso wathi, “Insimu yenye indoda eyayinothile yaba lenala eyesabekayo. 17 Yasinakana yathi, ‘Kambe ngenzeni? Angilandawo yokubeka amabele ami.’ 18 Yasisithi, ‘Nanku engizakwenza. Ngizadiziliza iziphala zami ngakhe ezinkulu kulalezi, besengithela khona wonke amabele ami kanye lezinye impahla zami. 19 Ngizazitshela ngithi, ‘Usulezinto ezinengi ezinhle njalo ezizakwanela iminyaka eminengi. Kholisa impilo, udle, unathe uthokoze.’” 20 Kodwa uNkulunkulu wathi kuye, “Wena siwula ndini! Ngalobubusuku impilo yakho izathathwa. Pho ngubani ozazusa lokhu obusuzilungisele khona na?” 21 Yikho lokhu okuzakwenzeka kulowo ozibekela inotho kodwa enganothanga kuNkulunkulu.” 22 UJesu wasesithi kubafundi bakhe: “Ngakho ngilitshelela ukuthi lingakhathazeki ngokuphila kwenu, ukuthi lizakudlani kumbe ngomzimba wenu, ukuthi lizagqokani. 23 Impilo iyakudlula ukudla, lomzimba uyazedlula izembatho. 24 Khumbulani amawabayi, kawahlanyeli, kawavuni, kawalaso isiphala kodwa uNkulunkulu uyawapha ukudla. Manje lina liqakatheke okwedlula izinyoni! 25 Ngubani kini othi ngokhathazeka angezelele ihola elilodwa empilweni yakhe na? 26 Njengoba lingeke liyenze linto encinyane kangaka, lizihluphelani na ngokunengi? 27 Ake libone ukuthi amaluba eganga akhula njani. Kawasebenzi njalo aweluki. Kodwa ngilitshelela ukuthi laye uSolomoni ekucwebezeleni kwakhe kazange acece njengawo. 28 Nxa uNkulunkulu ececisa kunjalo

utshani beganga, obukhona namuhla, kusasa sebuphoselwa emlilweni, kambe uzalicesisa kanganani na, lina bokukholwa okuncinyane! 29 Lingazihluphi ezinhliziyweni zenu ngokuthi lizakudlani kumbe lizanathani; lingakhathazeki ngalokho. 30 Ngoba umhlaba wabezizwe uxotshana lezinto ezinjalo, ikanti uYihlo uyazi ukuthi liyazidinga. 31 Kodwa funani umbuso wakhe, zonke lezizinto lizaziphiswa lazo. 32 Lingesabi, mhlambi omncane, ngoba uYihlo uthandle ukulipha umbuso. 33 Thengisani impahla yenu liphe abampofu. Zidingeleni izikhwama ezingagugiyi, inotho ezulwini engayikuphela, lapho okungasondeli khona isela loba impehlane engabhuhisi khona. 34 Ngoba lapho okulenotho yakho khona, inhliziyi yakho layo ilapho.” 35 “Gqokani lilindele inkonzo lezibane zenu zihlale zibhebha 36 njengamadoda elindele inkosi yawo ukuba ibuye edilini lomthimba ukuze kuthi nxa ifika iqoqoda aphanje ayivulele umnyango. 37 Kuzakuba kuhle kulezozinceku inkosi yazo ezazifika zilindile nxa ifika. Ngilitshelela iqiniso ukuthi yona izagqokela ukubaphakela, bona bahlale etafuleni, yona ibaphakele. 38 Kuzakuba kuhle kulezozinceku inkosi yazo ezazifika zilindile loba ingabe ifika ngomlindo wesibili loba owesithathu ebusuku. 39 Kodwa zwisisani lokhu: Aluba umninindlu ubesazi ukuthi isela lizafika ngasiphi isikhathi ubengasoze ayekele indlu yakhe igqokezwe. 40 Lani hlalani lilindlele ngoba iNdodana yoMuntu izafika ngesikhathi elingayilindelanga ngaso.” 41 UPhethro wabuza wathi, “Nkosi, umzekeliso lo uwuqondise kithi kumbe ebantwini bonke na?” 42 Inkosi yaphendula yathi, “Ngubani kambe ongumphathi othembekileyo, ohlakaniphileyo, othi inkosi yakhe imbeke ukukhangela izisebenzi zayo ukuba aziphe isabelo sazo sokudla ngesikhathi esifaneleyo? 43 Kuzakuba kuhle kuleyo nceku inkosi ezayifika isenza njalo ekuphendukeni kwayo. 44 Ngilitshelela iqiniso, izakumbeka ukuthi apathe yonke impahla yayo. 45 Kodwa cabanga nxa inceku ingazitshela ithi, ‘Inkosi yami isiphuzule ukubuya, aze isinqalisa ukutshaya ezinye izisebenzi zesilisa lezesifazane, ibisisidla, inatha idakwe. 46 Inkosi yaleyonceku izabuya ngosuku engacatshangelwa khona langesikhathi inceku engasaziyo. Izayiquamaquma iyiphe indawo phakathi kwabangakhulwayo. 47 Leyonceku ethi ikwazi okufunwa yinkosi yayo kodwa ingalindi kumbe ingalungisi lokho inkosi yayo ekufunayo izatshaywa okuzwayo. 48 Kodwa lowo ongaziyo njalo owenza izinto eziholela ekubhujisweni uzatshaywa mbijana. Kulowo ophiwe okunengi, kuzafuneka okunengi kuye; lakulowo ogciniswe okunengi, kuzafuneka okunengi kulalokho.” 49 “Ngilande ukuzalumatshisa umlilo emhlabeni, ngize ngifise ukuthi ngabe uelele usungunguma! 50 Kodwa ngiseselobhaphathizo okusamele ngilungene, kodwa ngikhathazekile kakhulu kuze kugcwaliseke lokho! 51 Licabanga ukuthi ngalanda ukuletha ukuthula emhlabeni na? Hatshi, zwanini, ngalanda ukuzehlukanisa. 52 Kusukela manje bazakuthi bebhalanu emulini behlukanisa, abathathu bexabana lababili, lababili bexabana labathathu. 53 Bazakwehlukana, uyise axabane lendodana, indodana ixabane loyise, unina lendodakazi, indodakazi ixabane lonina, uninazala axabane lomalukazana, umalukazana loninazala.” 54 Wathi exukwini labantu: “Lithi lingabona iyezi liqhamuka entshonalanga liphange lithi, ‘Izulu lizakuna,’ lakanye line. 55 Kuthi kungavunguza umoya weningizimu lithi, ‘Kuzatshisa,’ lakanye kube njalo. 56 Bazenzisi! Liyakwazi ukuchaza izibonakaliso zomhlaba lezomkhathi. Kungani pho lingakwazi ukuchaza isikhathi lesi esikuso na? 57 Kungani kanti lingaziboneli

lina ngokwenu okuyikho okulungileyo na? **58** Nxa uhamba lalowo ukumangalelayo lisiya kumahleleli, zama ngamandla ukuthi liqedelane lisesendleleni, funa akudonsele kumahleleli, lomahluleli abeskudlulisela enxuseni lona inxusa likuthele entolongweni. **59** Ngiyakutshela, kawusoze uphume uze uhlawule kanye lohlamvana lokucina lwemali.”

13 Bakhona ababelapho ngalesosikhathi abatshele uJesu ngamaGalile uPhilatho axubaniya imihlatshelo yawo legazi lawo. **2** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Kambe likhumbula ukuthi amaGalile lawo ayeyizini kulamanye amaGalile ngoba ahlupheka kanjalo na? **3** Ngithi, hatshi! Kodwa, ngaphandle kokuba liphenduke lani lonke lizabhubha. **4** Kumbelabo abalithumi lasificaminwembili abafayo baze bawelwe ngumphotshongo waseSilowami, licabanga ukuthi babonile okudlula bonke ababehlala eJerusalem na? **5** Ngithi, hatshi! Kodwa, ngaphandle kokuba liphenduke lani lonke lizabhubha.” **6** Wasebatshela umzekeliso lo wathi, “Indoda ethile yayilesihlahla somkhiwa uhlanyelwe esivini sayo, yasisiyacinga izithelo kuwo, kodwa yaziwela. **7** Yasisithi kuleyondoda eyayigcina isivini, ‘Sekuyiminyaka emithathu ngilokhu ngisiza ngizofuna izithelo kulesisihlahla somkhiwa kodwa ngingatholi lutho. Sigamule! Senzani kambe siqeda ukudla emhlabathini?’ **8** Indoda yaphendula yathi, ‘Nkosi, ake usiyekele nje okomnyaka owodwa, kengisihlakulele kuhle ngithele umvundo. **9** Singathela ngomnyaka ozayo, kuzabe kulungile! Kodwa singangatheli, usungasigamula.” **10** Ngelinye iSabatha uJesu wayefundisa kwelinye isinagogu, **11** khonapho kulowesifazane owangenwa ngumoya wamenza waba yisilima okweminyaka elitshumi lasificaminwembili. Wayegokekile esehluleka ukuhlala aqonde. **12** Kwathi uJesu embona wambizela phambili wathi kuye, “Mama, usukhululwe ekugokekeni kwakho.” **13** Wasebeka izandla zakhe phezu kwakhe, masinyane nje owesifazane watshwaphuluka, waqonda, wasedumisa uNkulunkulu. **14** Umphathi wesinagogu wacunuka ngoba uJesu wayesilise ngeSabatha, wathi ebantwini, ‘Ziyisithupha insuku zokwenza umsebenzi. Ngakho libobuya lizosilisa ngalezonsuku, hatshi ngeSabatha.” **15** Inkosi yamphendula yathi, “Lina bazenzisi! Kalizikhululi yini lonke lapha izifuyo zenu ngeSabatha esibayeni liyezintathisa na? **16** Manje-ke, owesifazane lo oyindodakazi ka-Abraham, obebotshwe nguSathane okweminyaka eminingi, elitshumi lasificaminwembili, lithi kangakhululwa yini ngeSabatha kulokho obekumbophile?” **17** Wathi esekutshilo lokhu, bonke ababephikisana laye bayangeka, kodwa abantu babethokoza ngazozonke izinto ezimangalisayo ayezena. **18** UJesu wasebuza wathi, “Umbuso kaNkulunkulu ufana lani na? Kambe ngiwulinganise lani? **19** Unjengentanga yemastadi eyathathwa ngenye indoda yayihlanyela esivandeni sayo. Yamila yakhula yaba yisihlahla, izinyoni zemoyeni zahlala engatsheni zaso.” **20** Waphinda wabuza wathi, “Ngiwufanise lani umbuso kaNkulunkulu na? **21** Unjengemvubelo eyathathwa ngowesifazane wayixubaniya lempuphu enengi, yabila yagcwala inhlama yonke.” **22** UJesu wasehamba engena emadolobheni lemizini efundisa, ejonge ukuya eJerusalem. **23** Omunye wambuza wathi, “Nkosi, ngabalutshwana kuphela abazasindiswa na?” Wathi kubo, **24** “Zamani ngamandla ukuthi lingene ngomnyango omncinyane, ngoba ngiyalitshela ukuthi abanengi bazazama ukungena kodwa ngizakwehluleka. **25** Angavele aphakame umninindlu avale umnyango lizakuma phandle liqoqode lincenga

lisithi, ‘Nkosi, sivulele umnyango.’ Kodwa uzaphendula athi, ‘Kangilazi, kangazi njalo ukuthi livela ngaphi.’ **26** Lapho lizakuthi, ‘Sadla lawe, sanatha sonke, njalo wafundisa emigwaqweni yakithi.’ **27** Kodwa uzaphendula athi, ‘Kangilazi, njalo kangikwazi ukuthi livela ngaphi. Sukani kimi, lonke lina benzi bobubi!’ **28** Kuzakuba khona ukukhala lokugedla kwamazinyo nxa selibona u-Abraham, u-Isaka lojakhobe labo bonke abaphrofethi embusweni kaNkulunkulu, kodwa lina ngokwenu lilahlelwe phandle. **29** Abantu bazavela empumalanga lasentshonalinga kanye lasenhla laseningizimu, bathathe izindawo zabo edilini lombuso kaNkulunkulu. **30** Ngempela bakhona labo abangabokucina abazakuba ngabokuqala, labangabokuqala abazakuba ngabokucina.” **31** Ngalesosikhathi abanye abafarisi beza kuJesu bathi kuye, “Suka lapha uye kwenye indawo. UHerodi ufuna ukukubulala.” **32** Waphendula wathi, “Hambani liyotshela ikhanka lelo lithi, ‘Ngizawaxotsha amadimoni, ngisilise abantu, lamuhla lakusasa langosuku lwesithathu ngize ngiyiphethe indima yami.’ **33** Loba kunjani kumele ngiqhubeke ngohambo lwami lamuhla lakusasa langelanga elilandelayo, ngoba ngempela kakho umphrofethi ongafela ngaphandle kweJerusalem! **34** Jerusalem, Jerusalem, wena obulala abaphrofethi, ubakhande ngamatshe loba abathunywe kuwe, sekukanengi ngiloyisa ukuqoqa ndawonye abantwabakho, njengesikhukhuzazi siqoqa amatsiyane aso ngaphansi kwamaphiko aso, kodwa wawulokhu ungfuni!” **35** Khangela, indlu yakho isitshiywe ilunxiwa. Ngiyalitshela, kalisayikungibona futhi lize lithi, ‘Ubusiwe lowo obuya ngebizo leNkosi.”

14 Ngelinye iSabatha uJesu wayakudla endlini yomFarisi owayedume kakhulu, babemkhangele kakhulu. **2** Phambi kwakhe khonapho kwakulendoda eyayilesifo sikambanzakulu, esivuvukisa izitho. **3** UJesu wasebuza abafarisi lezazi zomthetho wathi, “Kusemthethweni yini ukusilisa ngosuku lweSabatha kumbe hatshi?” **4** Kodwa bathula. Ngakho waseyibamba indoda leyo wayisilisa wathi kayihambe. **5** Wasebabuza wathi, “Nxa omunye wenu elendodana loba inkabi yakhe ewele emgodini ngeSabatha, kayikuphanga ayikhuphe masinyane na?” **6** Baswela ukuthi bathini. **7** Wananzelela ukuthi izethekeli zazikhetha izindawo eziqakathekileyo etafuleni wasebatshela umzekeliso wathi: **8** “Nxa omunye ekunxusa edilini lomthimba, ungene wathatha indawo eqakathekileyo funa kunxuswe umuntu omkhulu kulawe. **9** Nxa kunjalo umalinxusa uzakuba athi kuwe, ‘Ake uxekele lo omunye isihlahlo sakho.’ Uzabe usuyangekile ususiyahlala endaweni ephansi kakhulu. **10** Kodwa nxa unxusiwe, hlala endaweni ephansi kakhulu ukuze kuthi nxa umakunxusa efika kuwe athi, ‘Mngane, sukuma uye endaweni engcono.’ Lapho-ke, uzabe uphakanyisiwe phambi kwabo bonke abanxuswe kanye lawe. **11** Ngoba wonke umuntu oziphakamisayo uzakwehliswa, kuthi lowo ozehliso aphakanyiswe.” **12** UJesu wasesithi emanxuseni, “Nxa usenza idili emini loba kusihlwa unganxusi abangane bakho loba abafowenu kumbe izihlobo kumbe omakhelwane abanothileyo; ungenza njalo labo bangakunxusa, kuthi-ke lawe usuwananisiwe. **13** Kodwa nxa usenza idili, nxusa abayanga, izilima, izigoga, iziphofu, **14** lapho uzabiswela. Loba bengasozize bakwanenise lawe, uzakwanenisiwa ekuvukeni kwabalungileyo.” **15** Kwathi omunye waloba abahlezi etafuleni laye esekuzwile lokhu, wathi kuJesu, “Ubusiwe lowomuntu ozakuda edilini embusweni kaNkulunkulu.” **16** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Umuntu

othile wayesenza idili elikhulu ngakho wanxusa abantu abanengi. **17** Sekuyisikhathi sedili wathuma isisebenzi sakhe ukuyatshela ababenzusiwe ukuthi, 'Wozani, konke sekulungile.' **18** Kodwa bonke baqala ukuxolisa. Owokuqala wathi, 'Ngisanda kuthenga isivande ngakho kusamele ngiyesibona. Ngicela ungixolisele.' **19** Omunye wathi, 'Khathesi nje ngisanda kuthenga izipani ezinhlanu zenkabi, ungifika ngivele ngisendleleni yokuyazihlola. Ngicela ungixolisele.' **20** Omunye njalo wathi, 'Ngisanda kutshada nje khathesi ngakho angingenge ngize.' **21** Inceku yabuya yakubika konke lokhu enkosini yayo. Inkosi yathukuthela yasilaya inceku yayo yathi, 'Hamba khathesi, uye ezitaladini lemikotweni yedolobho umeme abayanga, abagokekileyo, iziphofu labaqlulayo.' **22** Inceku yathi, 'Nkosi, lokho okulayileyo sokwenziwe kodwa indawo isekhona.' **23** Inkosi yatshela inceku yayo yathi, 'Hamba uye emigwaqweni lasezindleleni zemaphandleni uze labo ukuzo indlu yami igcwalwe.' **24** Ngiyalitshela kakho loyedwa walabo bantu ababenzusiwe ozalizwa idili lami.' **25** Abantu abanengi babehamba loJesu, wasephendukela kubo wathi: **26** "Nxa umuntu esiza kimi, kodwa engeke azonda uyise lonina, umkakhe labantwana, abafowabo labodadewabo, kanye lempilo yakhe uqobo, ngeke abe ngumfundi wami. **27** Lowo ongathwali isiphambano sakhe angilandeke ngeke abe ngumfundi wami. **28** Akesithi omunye wenu afune ukwakha umphotshongo. Kambe kazukuqala ahlale phansi abalise indleko ukuzo abone ingabe ulayo yini imali yokuwuqeda na? **29** Ngoba engakha isisekelo, kodwa ehluleke ukusiqeda, wonke okubonayo uzamhleka, **30** esithi, 'Indoda le yaqalisa ukwakha, kodwa yehluleka ukuqeda.' **31** Kumbe sithi inkosi ilungisela ukuya empini isilwa lenye inkosi. Kayizukuqala ihlale phansi yini ihluzisise engqondweni ingabe yona ngamabutho ayo azinkulungwane ezilithumi ingaqondana lalayo ezingkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili na? **32** Nxa ingeyikuma, izathuma amanxusa kuleyana isesekude icele uxolo. **33** Ngaleyondlela, loba ngubani phakathi kwenu ongadeli konke alakho ngeke abe ngumfundi wami. **34** Itswayi lilungile kodwa lingalahlekelwa yibumnyu balo, lingavuselelwa kanjani na? **35** Kaliwulungelanga lomhlabathi loba inqumbi yomvundiso kodwa liyalahlwa. Lowo olendlebe zokuzwa, kezwe."

15 Ngalesosikhathi kwasekubuthana kuye abathelisi lezoni ukuzokuzwa imfundiso yakhe. **2** Kodwa abafaris labafundisi bomthetho bakhonona bathi, "Umuntu lo wemukela izoni adle lazo." **3** UJesu wasebatshela umzekeliso lo, wathi: **4** "Ake kuthiwe omunye wenu uluzimvu ezilikhulu besekulahleka eyodwa kuzo. Kazukuzitshiya yini lezo ezingamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye lasificamunwemunye khonale egangeni ayidinge leyo elahlekileyo aze ayithole na? **5** Kuthi lapho eseyitholile ayithwale emahlombe ngokuthokoza **6** aye layo ekhaya. Abesebiza abangane bakhe labomakhelwane athi, 'Thokozani lami; sengiyitholile imvu yami ebilahlakile.' **7** Ngilitshela ukuthi ngaleyondlela kuzakuba lokuthokoza ezulwini ngokuphenduka kwesoni esisodwa okudlula labobantu abalungileyo abangamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye lasificamunwemunye abangakudingiyo ukuphenduka." **8** "Kumbe kuthi owesifuzane elenhlamvu zesilwa ezilithumi kulahleke uhlamvu olulodwa. Kalumathisi yini isibane, athanyele endlini, adingisise kuhle aze aluthole na? **9** Kuthi eselutholile abize abangane bakhe labomakhelwane, athi kubo, 'Thokozani lami; sengilutholile

uhlamvu lwami lwesilwa obelulahlekile.' **10** Ngiyalitshela ukuthi ngaleyondlela kulokuthokoza phambi kwezingilosi zikaNkulunkulu ngokuphenduka kwesoni esisodwa." **11** UJesu waqhubeka wathi: "Kwakukhona indoda eyayilamadodana amabili. **12** Encinyane yathi kuyise, 'Baba, ngipha esami isabelo selifa.' Ngakho uyise wabehlukanisela impahla yakhe bobabili. **13** Ngemva kwesikhathshana indodana encane yabutha konke okungokwayo yasuka yaya elizweni elikhatshana, yafika khonale yayichitha inotho yayo ngempilo yokuxhwala. **14** Isitshaye yachitha konke, kwaba lendlala enkulu kulolonke ilizwe, yasiswela kakhulu. **15** Yasisiyadinga umsebenzi komunye umuntu wakulelolizwe owayisa esiqintini sakhe ukuyagcina ingulube. **16** Yabona kungcono kuyo ukuthi ixotshe iphango ngokudla okwakudliwa zingulube, kodwa kayizange iphiwe lutho langubani. **17** Kwathi lapho ingqondo yayo isicabanga kuhle, yathi, 'Kambe zingaki izinceku zikababa ezidla zizezitshiye kodwa nanku mina ngifa ngendlala! **18** Ngizasuka ngibuyele kubaba ngifike ngithi kuye: Baba, ngenze isono phambi kwezulu lakuwe. **19** Kangisafanelanga ukuthiwa ngiyindodana yakho; ngenza ngibe njengomunye wezinceku zakho.' **20** Ngakho yaphakama yaya kuyise. Kodwa yathi isesebucwala uyise wayibona wayizwela isihawu; wagijimela kuyo indodana yakhe, wayigona, wayanga. **21** Indodana yathi kuye, 'Baba, ngenze isono phambi kwezulu lakuwe. Kangisafanelanga ukuthiwa ngiyindodana yakho.' **22** Kodwa uyise wathi ezincekwini zakhe, 'Phangisani! Lethani isembatho esihle ukwedlula ezinye limgqokise. Lifake indandatho emunweni wakhe, limgqokise lamanyathela ezinyaweni zakhe. **23** Besileletha ithole elinonisiweyo lilihlabbe. Asenzeni idili sithokoze. **24** Ngoba indodana yami le yayisifile, kodwa isiphila njalo; yayilahlekile manje isifunyenwe.' Waqalisa manje umkhosi wokujabula. **25** Sonke lesisikhathi indodana endala yayisensimini. Yathi isibanga endlini yezwa kuhlatshelwa njalo kugidwa. **26** Yasibiza omunye wezinceku yambuza ukuthi kwakusenzakalani. **27** Waphendula wathi, 'Umfowenu usebuyile, ngakho uyihlo usemhlabele ithole elinonisiweyo ngoba ubuye ephilile, epehelele.' **28** Umnewabo wazonda kakhulu, wala ukungena ngekheya. Uyise wasephuma esiya kuye ukuyamncenga. **29** Kodwa waphendula uyise wathi, 'Khangel! Iminyaka yonke le bengikusebenzela kanzima njalo kangizange ngeqe imilayo yakho. Kodwa kawuzange engiphe lokulizinyane kodwa lokhu ukuthi lami kengithokoze labangane bami. **30** Kodwa lokhu kuthi nxa indodana yakho le esitshaye yathintitha inotho yakho lezifefe, isibuyile ekhaya uyihlabele ithole elinonisiweyo!' **31** Uyise wathi, 'Ndodana yami, uhlezi ulami sonke isikhathi njalo konke engilakho ngokwakho. **32** Kodwa bekufanele sithokoze sijabule ngoba umfowenu lo wayesefile, manje usephila njalo; ubelahlakile, usefunyenwe.'"

16 UJesu watshela abafundi bakhe wathi, "Kwakulendoda eyayinothile ilomphathi owetheswa icala lokuthi wayechithachithe inotho yayo. **2** Yambiza yambuza yathi, 'Kuyini lokhu engikuzwayo ngawe? Landisa kuhle ukuthi uhambisa njani izinto ngoba ungenge usaba ngumphathi njalo.' **3** Umphathi wazibiza wathi, 'Ngizakuthini? Inkosi yami isingithathela umsebenzi wami. Kangilamandla okugebha, njalo ngilenhloni zokucela. **4** Ngiyazi engizakwenza ukuthi nxa ngilahlekelwa ngumsebenzi wami abantu bangamukele ezindlini zabo.' **5** Ngakho yasibiza labo ababelezikwelede enkosini yayo munye ngamunye yathi, kowokuqala, 'Isikwelede

sakho enkosini yami singakanani?’ 6 Wathi, ‘Ngamalitha amafutha e-oliva azinkulungwane ezine.’ Umphathi wamtshela wathi, ‘Phangisa, thatha incwadi yakho yesikwelede ubhale izinkulungwane ezimbili.’ 7 Yasibuza owesibili yathi, ‘Wena ulesikwelede esingakanani?’ Wathi, ‘Yimigodla yengqoloyi eyinkulungwane.’ Yamtshela yathi, ‘Thatha incwadi yakho yesikwelede ubhale amakhulu ayisificaminwembali.’ 8 Inkosi yamncoma lowomphathi owayeliqili ngoba wayenze ukuhlakanipha. Ngoba abantu balumhlaba balezindledlana zabo zokuhlakanipha ekuphatheni kwabo ukwedlula abantu bokukhanya. (aiōn g165) 9 Ngiyalitshela ngithi, sebenzisani inotho yomhlaba ukuza abangane ukuze kuthi nxa isiphelile lamukeleke ezindlini ezimi laphakade. (aiōnios g166) 10 Lowo othembeke kokuncinyane uzakwethembeka njalo kokunengi, ikanti lowo ongathembekanga kokuncinyane angeke njalo athembeke kokunengi. 11 Ngakho-ke, nxa lingathembekanga ekuphatheni inotho yasehmabeni, pho ngubani ongalithemba ngenotho yeqiniso na? 12 Njalo nxa belingathembekanga ngempahla yomunye umuntu, ngubani kambe ozalipha impahla ibe ngeyenu na? 13 Kakulanceku engakhonza amakhosi amabili. Funa izonde enye kodwa ithande enye, kumbe izinikele kwenye yeiyene enye. Ngezake likhonze uNkulunkulu lemal ngokufanayo.” 14 AbaFarisi ababethanda imali bakuzwa konke lokhu, banklodela uJesu. 15 Wathi kubo, “Yini elizigazayo emehlweni abantu kodwa uNkulunkulu uyazazi inhliziyu zenu. Lokho okuligugu ebantwini kuyisiningiso kuNkulunkulu.” 16 “UMthetho labaPhrofethi kwatshunyayelwa kwaze kwaba yisikhathi sikaJohane. Kusukela kulesosikhathi izindaba ezinhle zombuso kaNkulunkulu ziyatshunyayelwa njalo bonke abantu bazifuqela kuwo. 17 Kungaba lula ukuthi izulu lomhlaba kunyamalale kulokuthi kucitshe ichatha loMthetho elilodwa nje. 18 Loba ngubani olahla umkakhe athathe omunye umfazi uyafeba njalo lendoda ethatha umfazi owalahlwayo iyafeba.” 19 “Kwakulendoda enothileyo eyayigqoka izigqoko zombala oyibubende lezelembu lelineni, iphakathi kobutifitifi insuku zonke. 20 Entubeni yomuzi wayo kwakuhlezi isiceli esasithiwa nguLazaro, sigcwele izilonda emzimbeni, 21 siloyisa ukudla lokho okwakukhithika etafuleni yalesosicebi. Izinja zazifika zikhothe izilonda zaso. 22 Kwafika isikhathi lapho isiceli esafa khona, izingilosi zasithwala zasisa eceleni lika-Abrahama. Lesicebi laso safu, sabekwa. 23 Esihogweni lapho esasisitsha khona; savusa ubuso sabona u-Abrahama ekude le, kuloLazaro eceleni kwakhe. (Hadēs g86) 24 Sasesimemeza sathi, ‘Baba Abrahama, ake unghawukele uthume uLazaro agxamuze umunwe wakhe emanzini athambise ulimi lwami, ngoba ngisebuhlungwini emlilweni lo.’ 25 Kodwa u-Abrahama waphendula wathi, ‘Nodana, khumbula ukuthi ngesikhathi usaphila wazusa izinto zakho ezinhle kodwa uLazaro wemukela izinto ezimbi, khangelana manje usebuduzwa lapha, ikanti wena usebuhlungwini. 26 Njalo ngaphandle kwakho konke lokhu, phakathi kwethu lawe kulodonga olukhulu, ukwenzela ukuthi labo abafisa ukuza ngapho besuka lapha behluleke, futhi kakho ongapo ongachaphela ngakithi.’ 27 Saphendula sathi, ‘Nxa kunjalo-ke, ngiyakuncanga, baba, thuma uLazaro endlini kababa, 28 ngoba ngilabafowethu abahlanu. Ayebaxwayisa ukuze labo bangezi kule indawo yobuhlungu.’ 29 U-Abrahama waphendula wathi, ‘BaloMosi labaPhrofethi; kabalalele bona.’ 30 Sathi, ‘Hatshi, baba Abrahama, kodwa nxa kusuka umuntu kwabafileyo aye kubo bazaphenduka.’ 31 Wathi kuso, ‘Nxa

bengalaleli uMosi labaPhrofethi, kabasoze bavume loba omunye angaze avuke kwabafileyo.”

17 UJesu wathi kubafundi bakhe: “Izinto ezenza abantu benze isono zizakuba khona kodwa maye kulowomuntu ezizafika ngaye. 2 Bekungaba ngcono kuye ukuphoselwa olwandle kubotshelwe imbokodo entanyeni yakhe kulokuba yena akhwebekise omunye walaba abancinyane ukuthi enze isono. 3 Ngakho lina ziqapheleni. Nxa umfowenu esenza isono, mkhuze, kuthi nxa ezisola, mthethelele. 4 Nxa engakonela kasikhombisa ngosuku lunye, ebuze kuwe kasikhombisa esithi, ‘Ngiyaxolisa,’ mthethelele.” 5 Abapostoli bathi eNkosini, “Yengeza ukholo lwethu!” 6 Waphendula wathi, “Nxa lilokukholwa loba kukuncinyane njengentanga yemastadi, lingathi kulesisihlahla somabhulosi, ‘Quphuka lapha uyowela olwandle,’ sizalilalele. 7 Kesithi omunye wenu ulesisebenzi, silima loba siselusa izimvu. Kambe kungenzeka yini ukuthi nxa isisebenzi singena sivele emasimini athi kuso, ‘Kulungile, hlala phansi udle’? 8 Kambe kayikuqala athi, ‘Lungisa ukudla kwami, ulungele ukungiphakela ngize ngidle, nginathe; ngemva kwalokho lawe usungadla, unathe’? 9 Angasibonga na isisebenzi ngoba senze lokho ebekuyaliwe na? 10 Kunjalo lani nxa selenzile konke okuthiwe likwenze kufanele lithi, ‘Siyizinceku ezingafanelanga; sesenze kuphela lokho okungumlandu wethu.” 11 Ngalesosikhathi eseqonde ukuya eJerusalem, uJesu wahamba ngendlela esemngceleni phakathi kweSamariya leGalile. 12 Wathi efika komunye umuzi, wahlangabeza ngamadoda alitshumi ayelobulephero. Ema bucwala, 13 amezeza ngelizwi elikhulu athi, ‘Jesu, Nkosi, sihawukele!’ 14 Wathi ewabona wathi kuwo, “Hambani liyoziveza kubaphristi.” Athi esahamba ahlambuluka. 15 Omunye wawo wathi ngokubona ukuthi usesilile waphenduka, edumisa uNkulunkulu ngelizwi elikhulu. 16 Wazilalwa phansi ezinyaweni zikaJesu wambonga, yena wayengumSamariya. 17 UJesu wabuza wathi, “Kanti kabahlanjululwanga bonke abalitshumi yini? Bangaphi abanye abayisificamunwemunye na? 18 Ubengekho yini obengabuya azoletha udumo kuNkulunkulu ngaphandle kwalo owenzweni na?” 19 Wasesithi kuye, “Phakama uhambe; ukukholwa kwakho kukusilile.” 20 Ngesinye isikhathi uJesu ebuzwe ngabaFarisi ukuthi umbuso kaNkulunkulu wawuzafika nini, waphendula wathi, “Umbuso kaNkulunkulu kawuzi ngendlela yokucubungula kwenu ukuma kwenzito, 21 njalo abantu kabayikutsho bathi, ‘Nanku lapha,’ loba bathi, ‘Nanku laphaya,’ ngoba umbuso kaNkulunkulu uphakathi kwenu.” 22 Wasesithi kubafundi bakhe, “Siyeza isikhathi lapho elizaloyisa khona ukubona olunye lwezinsuku zeNnodana yoMuntu kodwa kalisoze lilubone. 23 Abantu bazalitshela bathi, ‘Nanguyana laphaya!’ kumbe, ‘Nangu lapha!’ Lingathatheki ngabo. 24 Ngoba ngosuku lwayo iNnodana yoMuntu izakuba njengombane ophazima ukhanyise umkhathi kusukela ngapha kusiyafika ngale. 25 Kodwa kumele iqale ihlupheke ezintweni ezinengi njalo ilahlwe iyilesizukulwane. 26 Njengoba kwakunjalo ensukwini zikaNowa, kuzakuba njalo ensukwini zeNnodana yoMuntu. 27 Abantu babesidla, benatha, bethathana njalo besendelana kwaze kwafika usuku uNowa angena ngalo emkhunjini. Kwasekufika uzamcolo wababhubhisa bonke. 28 Kwakunjalo futhi ngezinsuku zikaLothi. Abantu babesidla, benatha, njalo bethenga, bethengisa, behlanyela njalo besakha. 29 Kodwa ngosuku uLothi aphuma ngalo eSodoma, umlilo lesalufa kwathululeka

kuvela ezulwini kwababhuhisa bonke. **30** Kuzakuba njalo langosuku lapho iNdodana yoMuntu ifika. **31** Ngalolosuku kakho ozakuthi ephezulu ophahleni lwendlu yakhe, impahla zakhe ziphakathi, ehle ukuyazithatha. Njalo kakho osensimini ozakuyathatha loba yini. **32** Khumbulani umkaLothi! **33** Lowo ozama ukulondoloza impilo yakhe izamlahlekela, lalowo olahlekela yimpilo yakhe uzayilondoloza. **34** Ngiyalitshela, kuzakuthi ngalobobusuku abantu bebabili embhedeni omunye uzathathwa, kodwa omunye atshiywe. **35** Abesifazane ababili bazabe bechola elitsheni ndawonye; omunye uzathathwa omunye atshiywe. [**36** Ababili bazabe besensimini; oyedwa uzathathwa omunye atshiywe.] **37** Babuza bathi, “Ngaphi, Nkosi?” Waphendula wathi, “Lapho okulesidumbu khona, kulapho okuqoqana khona amanqe.”

18 UJesu wasetshela abafundi bakhe umzekeliso ukubatshengisa ukuthi kumele bakhuleke kokuphela bangadinwa. **2** Wathi, “Kwelinye idolobho kwakulomahluli owayengamesabi uNkulunkulu njalo engakhathaleli muntu. **3** Kwakukhona umfelokazi kulelodalobho owayehlezi esiza kuye kokuphela emncenga esithi, ‘Akungcinde ngalowo engixabana laye.’ **4** Okwesikhathi eside umahluli wayesala. Kodwa wacina esithi, ‘Loba ngingamesabi uNkulunkulu njalo ngingakhathali ngomuntu, **5** kodwa ngenxa yokuthi umfelokazi lo usengijinge kakhulu sengizamlungisela ukuthi angaze abuya anginenge ngoba elokhu engilanda!’” **6** Njalo iNkosi yasisithi, “Likuzwisise lokho okutshiwo ngumahluli ongalunganga. **7** Kambe uNkulunkulu kayikubalwela yini abakhethiweyo bakhe, abakhuleka kuye imini lobusuku? Uzabe elokhu ebanina yini? **8** Ngiyalitshela, uzabalwela, njalo masinyane. Kodwa, nxa iNdodana yoMuntu isifika, izakufumana ukukholwa emhlabeni na?” **9** Kulabo ababezethemba ngokulunga kwabo beseyisa abanye, usi wakhuluma umzekeliso lo wathi: **10** “Amadoda amabili aya ethempelini ukuyakhuleka, omunye engumFarisi njalo omunye engumthelisi. **11** UmFarisi wasukuma wakhuleka ngalokho ayeyikho khona wathi: ‘Nkulunkulu, ngiyakubonga ukuthi kanginjengabanye abantu, izigebenga, izixhwalu, izifebe njalo kangifani lomthelisi lo. **12** Ngizila kabili ngeviki njalo nginikela okwetshumi okwenzuzo yami yonke.’ **13** Kodwa umthelisi wema bucwadlana laye. Wesaba lokukhangela ezulwini kodwa wazehlisa kakhulu wathi, ‘Nkulunkulu, woba lesihawu kimi, ngiyisoni.’ **14** Ngiyalitshela ukuthi indoda le, hatshi leyana enye, yabuyela ekhaya isilungisiwe phambi kukaNkulunkulu. Ngoba lowo oziphakamisayo uzakwehliswa, lozehlisayo uzaphakanyiswa.” **15** Abantu njalo babeletha abantwana kuJesu ukuthi ababeke izandla. Abafundi bonela ukukubona lokhu babakhuza. **16** Kodwa uJesu wabizela kuye abantwana wathi, “Yekelani abantwana beze kimi, lingabavimbeli ngoba umbuso kaNkulunkulu ungowabanjengalaba. **17** Ngiqinisile ngithi kini, lowo ongayikwemukela umbuso kaNkulunkulu njengomntwana omncane kayikungena kuwo.” **18** Umbusi othile wambuza wathi, “Mfundisi olungileyo, ngingenzani ukuze ngizuze ilifa lokuphila kwaphakade na?” (aiōnios g166) **19** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ungibizelani ngokuthi ngilungile na? Kakho olungileyo ngaphandle kukaNkulunkulu kuphela. **20** Uyayazi imilayo: ‘Ungafebi, ungabaluli muntu, ungebi, ungaphi ubufakazi bamanga, hlonipha uyihlo lonyoko.” **21** Wathi umbusi, “Yonke le ngiyigcine kusukela ebutsheni

bami.” **22** UJesu esekuzwile lokho wathi kuye, “Usasile into eyodwa. Thengisa konke olakho uphe abampofu, lapho-ke inotho yakho izakuba sezulwini. Ububuyisa ungilandele.” **23** Wathi esezwe lokhu wadana kakhulu ngoba wayeyindoda eyayinothe kakhulu. **24** UJesu wamkhangela wathi, “Koba nzima kakhulu ukuthi isinothi singene embusweni kaNkulunkulu! **25** Ngempela kulula ukuthi ikamela lingene embotsheni yenalithi kulokuthi umuntu onothileyo awungene umbuso kaNkulunkulu.” **26** Labo abakuzwayo lokho babuza bathi, “Ngubani pho ongasindiswa?” **27** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Lokho okungenzekiyo emandleni abantu kuyenzakala kwakaNkulunkulu.” **28** UPhetro wathi kuye, “Sesadela konke esasilakho sakulandela!” **29** UJesu wathi kubo, “Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi kakho osetshiye ikhaya loba umfazi kumbe abafowabo loba abazali kumbe abantwana ngenxa yombuso kaNkulunkulu **30** ozakwehluleka ukuzuzwa ngokuphindwe kanengi esikhathini samanje lesikhathini esizayo, ukuphila okungapheliyo.” (aiōn g165, aiōnios g166) **31** UJesu wasebizela abalitshumi lambili eceleni wabatshela wathi, “Sesisiya eJerusalema lapho konke okulotshwe ngabaphrofethi ngeNdodana yoMuntu sekusiyi gcwaliseka. **32** Izanikelwa kwabeZizwe. Bazayihloza, bayithuke, bayikhafulele, bayibhule njalo bayibulale. **33** Ngosuku lwesithathu izavuka.” **34** Abafundi kabazange bakuzwisise konke lokhu. Ingcizelo yakho yayifihlakele kubo yikho kabazanga ukuthi wayekhuluma ngani. **35** UJesu esebanga eJeriko kwakulendoda eyisiphofu eyisiceli ihlezi eceleni kwendlela icela. **36** Yathi isizwa kudlula ixuku labantu yabuza ukuthi kuyini okwakusenzakala. **37** Bayitshela bathi, “UJesu waseNazareth uyeidlula khonapha.” **38** Yamemeza yathi, “Jesu, Ndodana kaDavida, ake ungihawukele!” **39** Labo ababehamba phambili bayikhuza bathi kayithule, kodwa yona yasimemeza ngamandla yathi, “Ndodana kaDavida ake ungihawukele!” **40** UJesu wema wathi indoda leyo ilethwe kuye. Isifikile uJesu wayibuzwa wathi, **41** “Ufuna ukuthi ngikwenzeleni?” Yaphendula wathi, “Nkosi, ngifuna ukuthi ngibone.” **42** UJesu wathi kuyo, “Kuzuze-ke ukubona; ukukholwa kwakho kukusindisile.” **43** Masinyane yahle yabona, yasimlandela uJesu idumisa uNkulunkulu. Kwathi bonke abantu bekubona lokho, labo bamdumisa uNkulunkulu.

19 UJesu wangena eJeriko kodwa esedlula. **2** Kwakulendoda eyayithiwa nguZakhewu; wayeyinduna yabathelisi njalo enothile. **3** Wayefuna ukubona uJesu ukuthi wayengumuntu onjani, kodwa ngenxa yokuthi wayengumuntu omfritshane, wehluleka ngenxa yesiminyemuntu. **4** Wasegijimela phambili, wakhwela phezu komkhiwa wesikhamore ukuze ambone njengoba uJesu wayesiza ngaleyondlela. **5** Kwathi uJesu esefikile kuleyondawo, wakhangela phezulu wathi kuye, “Zakhewu, yehla masinyane. Ngizakwethekelela endlini yakho lamuhla.” **6** Wasesehla uZakhewu masinyane wamamukela ngokuthokoza. **7** Bonke abantu bakubona lokhu bangunguna besithi, “Useyekuba yisethekeli sesoni.” **8** Kodwa uZakhewu wasukuma wathi eNkosini, “Khangela, Nkosi! Okwamanje senginika ingxenye yenotho yami kwabampofu njalo nxa ngike ngadlelezela omunye umuntu loba ngakuphi, ngizambhadala ngokuphindwe kane lokho engakuthathayo.” **9** UJesu wasesithi kuye, “Lamuhla insindiso isifikile kulindlu ngoba indoda le layo iyindodana ka-Abrahamama. **10** Ngoba iNdodana yoMuntu yalanda ukudinga lokusindisa lokho okwakulahlekile.” **11**

Bathi besalalele lokhu, wabatshele omunye umzekeliso, ngoba wayesondele eJerusalem, abantu sebecabanga ukuthi umbuso kaNkulunkulu wawusuzahle uele masinyane. **12** Wathi, "Indoda ethile yasesikhosini ngokuzalwa yaya elizweni elikhatshana isiyagcotshwa ukuba yinkosi andubana iphenduke. **13** Yasibiza inzceku yayo ezilitshumi yazinika imali engamama alitshumi. Yathi, 'Isebenziseni imali le ngize ngiphenduke.' **14** Kodwa labobantu ayezababusa babemzonda lumuntu, bathumela izithunywa ukuthi zimlandele ziyekuthi, 'Kasimfuni lumuntu ukuthi abe yinkosi yethu.' **15** Lanxa kunjalo wagcotshwa waba yinkosi, waphenduka ekhaya. Wasebiza inzceku lezo ayezinike imali ukuze ezwe ukuthi zazithole nzuzo bani ngayo. **16** Owokuqala weza wathi, 'Nkosi, imali yakho isizele amanye amadola alitshumi.' **17** Inkosi yayo yathi, 'Wenze kuhle, nceku yami elungileyo! Ngenxa yokuthi uthembekile entweni encinyane, usuzabusa amadolobho alitshumi.' **18** Owesibili weza wathi, 'Nkosi, imali yakho isizele amanye amadola amahlanu.' **19** Inkosi yayo yaphendula yathi, 'Busa phezu kwamadolobho amahlanu.' **20** Kwasekusiza enye inceku yathi, 'Nkosi, nansi imali yakho; bengiyigoqele ngelembu. **21** Bengikwesaba wena ngoba uyindoda elukhuni. Ucupha lapho ongathelanga khona njalo ubuye uvune lapho ongahlanyelanga khona.' **22** Inkosi yayo yaphendula yathi, 'Ngizakwahlulela ngamazwi akho wena nceku exhwalileyo! Angithi ubukwazi ukuthi ngingumuntu olukhuni, ocupha lapho angathelanga khona lovuna lapho angahlanyelanga khona? **23** Kungani pho ungabekanga imali yami ebhanga ukuze kuthi ekubuyeni kwami ngiyithathe isilenzuzo na?' **24** Yasisithi kwababemi khonapho, 'Mthatheleni lelo alalo liliphe lowo olalitshumi.' **25** Basebesithi, 'Nkosi, angithi uele uselalitshumi?' **26** Yaphendula yathi, 'Ngithi kini, lowo olakho uzaphiwa okunye okunengi kodwa lowo ongelalutho, lalokho alakho uzakwemukwa. **27** Kodwa izitha zami lezo ebezizafuni ukuthi ngizibuse, ziletheni lapha lizibulalele phambi kwami.'" **28** UJesu esezitshilo zonke lezizinto wahamba wabandulela eqonda eJerusalem. **29** Wathi esebanga eBethethifage kanye leBethethani entabeni eyayithiwa yiNtaba yama-Oliva wathuma abafundi bakhe ababili wathi kubo: **30** "Yanini emzini ophambi kwenu, lizakuthi lingena kuwo libone inkonyane kababhemi ibotshelwe khonapho, engakaze igadwe muntu. 'Ikhululeni liyilethe lapha. **31** Nxa kungaba lozalibuza ukuthi, Liyikhulululeni na?' kumele lithi, 'INKOSI iyayifuna.'" **32** Labo ababethunyiwe bahamba njalo bathola kunjengoba ebetshilo. **33** Besayikhululeni inkonyane kababhemi, abanani bayo bababusa bathi, 'Liyikhulululeni na?' **34** Baphendula bathi, 'INKOSI iyayifuna.'" **35** Bayiletha kuJesu, baphosela amajazi abo phezu kwenkonyane, bagadisa uJesu phezu kwayo. **36** Wathi eseqhubeka, abantu bendlala amajazi abo endleleni. **37** Esekile eduze kwalapho indlela eyehla khona isuka eNtabeni yama-Oliva abafundi lexuku lonke lasuka ngokuthokoza ladumisa uNkulunkulu ngamazwi amakhulu ngenxa yemimangaliso yonke ababeyibonile, bathi: **38** "Ibusisiwe inkosi ebuya ngebizo likaThixo!" "Ukuthula ezulwini lodumo kweliphezulu!" **39** Abanye abafarisi exukwini bathi kuJesu, "Mfundisi, khuya abafundi bakho!" **40** Waphendula wathi, "Ngiyalitshela ngithi nxa bethula amatshe azameza." **41** Wathi esebanga eJerusalem ekhangele idolobho, walikhalela **42** wathi, "Nxa wena, wena ngokwakho, ubukwazi namhla lokho obekungakulethela ukuthula kodwa okwamanje kufihliwe emehlweni akho.

43 Zizafika insuku kuwe lapho izitha zakho zizakwakha umthangala zikuhonqolozele njalo zikuphahle inxa zonke. **44** Zizakusakazela phansi emhlabathini, wena kanye labantwana abaphakathi kwemiduli yakho. Kaziyikutshiya lalinye ilitshe phezu kwelinye ngoba kawusinanzelelanga isikhathi sokuza kukaNkulunkulu kuwe." **45** Wasengena ethempelini wadudula ababethengisa khona **46** esithi kubo, "Kubhaliwe ukuthi, 'Indlu yami iyindlu yokukhuleka, kodwa lina seliyenze ubhalu lwabaphangi.'" **47** Insuku zonke wayefundisa ethempelini. Kodwa abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho kanye labakhokheli ababephakathi kwabantu babezama ukumbulala. **48** Kodwa kabayizuzanga indlela yokukwenza lokho ngoba abantu bonke babewakholwa amazwi akhe.

20 Ngelinye ilanga kwathi efundisa abantu ethempelini, etshumayela ivangeli, abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho, kanye labadala bebandla beza kuye. **2** Bathi, "Ake usitshele ukuthi uwathatha ngaphi amandla okwenza lezizinto. Ngubani okunike amandla la?" **3** Waphendula wathi, "Lami ngizalibuza umbuzo. Ngitshelelani, **4** ukubhaphathiza kukaJohane kwakuvela ezulwini loba ebantwini na?" **5** Bahlanganisa amakhanda bathi, "Singathi, 'Kwakuvela ezulwini,' uzabuzathi, 'Kungani lingazange limkholwe?' **6** Kodwa singathi, 'Kwakuvela ebantwini,' abantu bonke bazasikhanda ngamatshe ngoba bakholwa ukuthi uJohane wayengumphrofethi." **7** Ngakho baphendula bathi, "Kasikwazi ukuthi kwakuvela ngaphi." **8** UJesu wathi, "Lami kangizukulitshela ukuthi lezizinto ngizange ngawaphi amandla." **9** Waseqhubeka ngokutshela abantu umzekeliso lo wathi: "Indoda yahlanyela isivini yasiqhatshisa abanye abalimi, yasihamba okwesikhathi eside. **10** Ngesikhathi sokuvuna yathuma inceku yayo kubaqhatshi besivini ukuze bayiphe ingxenywe yezithole zesivini. Kodwa abalimi bayitshaya, bayixotsha ingaphathanga lutho. **11** Yathuma enye inceku kodwa laleyo bayitshaya bayiphatha kabuhlungu, bayixotsha ingaphathanga lutho. **12** Waphinda wathuma eyesithathu, bayilimaza bayiphosela phandle. **13** Umninisivini wasesithi, 'Mngeluzi! Ngizathuma indodana yami engiyithandayo; mhlawumbe bazayihlonipha.' **14** Kodwa kwathi abaqhatshi besivini beyibona, bahlanganisa amakhanda ngaleyondaba. Bathi, 'Le yindlalifa. Kasiyibulaleni, ilifa libe ngelethu.' **15** Basebeyikhuphela ngaphandle kwesivini, bayibulala. Kambe umninisivini uzabathini? **16** Uzakuza afike ababulale labo baqhatshi besivini, isivini leso asinike abanye abalimi." Abantu bathi bekuzwa lokhu bathi, "Sengathi lokhu kungaze kwafa kwenzeka!" **17** UJesu wabathi nhlo, wabuza wathi, "Pho kutshoni lokho okubhalwe ukuthi: 'Iitshe elahlwa ngabakhi seliyilona ilitshe lekhone?' **18** Wonke owela phezu kwelalolitshe uzakobozeka abe yizicucu, kodwa lowo eliwela phezu kwake uzahlifiza." **19** Abafundisi bomthetho labaphristi abakhulu badinga indlela yokumbopha masinyane ngoba babesazi ukuthi wakhuluma umzekeliso lo eqonde bona. Kodwa babesesaba abantu. **20** Bamthumela inhloli ezazizitshaya ezithembekileyo ukuze zimgolombe. Babefisa ukumbeka icala kokunye ayengakukhuluma ukuze bamedlulisele emandleni ombusi. **21** Ngakho inhloli zambuza zathi, "Mfundisi, siyazi ukuthi wena ukhuluma njalo ufundisa okuqondileyo lokuthi kawubandlululi kodwa ufundisa indlela kaNkulunkulu ngeqiniso elipheleleyo. **22** Kufanele yini ukuthi sithele imithelo kuKhesari loba hatshi?" **23**

Wabubona ubuqili babo wathi kubo, **24** “Ngitshengisani idenari. Kulomfanekiso kabani lombhalo kabani kuyo?” Baphendula bathi, “NgokaKhesari.” **25** Wathi kubo, “Ngakho nikani uKhesari okungokukaKhesari, linike uNkulunkulu okungokukaNkulunkulu.” **26** Behluleka ukumbamba ngalokho akutshoyo lapho obala. Sebemangaliswe yimpendulo yakhe bathula zwi. **27** Amanye amaSadusi athi kakukho ukuvuka kwabafileyo eza kuJesu elombuzo. **28** Athi, “Mfundisi, uMosi wasibhalela ukuthi nxa umfowabo wendoda angafa atshiye umfazi, kodwa bengelabantwana, umfowabo kumele amngene umfelokazi ukuze azalele umfowabo abantwana. **29** Manje kwakulabafowabo abayisikhombisa. Owokuqala wathatha umfazi kodwa wafa engelamntwana. **30** Owesibili **31** njalo lowesithathu laye wamthatha, bonke boyisikhombisa benza njalo bafa bengatshiyanga bantwana. **32** Ekucineni umfazi laye wafa. **33** Pho-ke, ekuvukeni kwabafileyo uzakuba ngumkabani njengoba bonke boyisikhombisa babemthethe?” **34** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Abantu balesisikhathi bayathatha njalo bayendiswa. (aiōn g165) **35** Kodwa labo abazabe befanele ukuba lengxenyane kulesosikhathi lasekuvukeni kwabafileyo kabazukuthatha loba bendiswe, (aiōn g165) **36** njalo kabasayikufa ngoba sebenjengezingilos. Bangabantwana bakaNkulunkulu, ngoba bengabantwana bokuvuka kwabafileyo. **37** Kodwa emlandweni wesixuku esasibhebha umlilo, uMosi laye wakuveza ukuthi abafileyo bayavuka, ngoba ubiza uThixo ngokuthi ‘uNkulunkulu ka-Abrahama, uNkulunkulu ka-Isaka, loNkulunkulu kaJakhobe.’ **38** KasuNkulunkulu wabafileyo, kodwa owabaphilayo, ngoba kuye bonke bayaphila.” **39** Baphendula abanye abafundisi bomthetho bathi, “Utsho kahle Mfundisi!” **40** Kasabanga khona owaba lesibindi sokumbuza eminye imibuzo. **41** UJesu wasesithi kubo, “Kungani besithi uKhristu uyinDodana kaDavida na? **42** UDavida yena ngokwakhe uyakufakaza eNcwadini yamaHubo utshi: ‘Inkosi yathi eNkosini yami: ‘Hlala ngakwesokunene sami, **43** ngize ngenze izitha zakho zibe yisinyathelo senyawo zakho.’” **44** UDavida umbiza athi ‘Nkosi.’ Pho angaba yindodana yakhe njani?” **45** Kwathi bonke abantu besalalele, uJesu wathi kubafundi bakhe, **46** “Limukani abafundisi bomthetho. Bathanda ukuhambahamba becece ngezembatho ezinde eziphephezelayo njalo bathanda ukubingelelwa emisikeni, futhi bathatha izihlalo eziphakemayo emasinagogweni lezindawo zabahlonitshwa emadilini. **47** Bahuquluzela izindlu zabafelokazi njalo bazibonakalisa ngokwenza imikhuleko emide. Abantu abanjalo bazajeziswa kabuhlungu.”

21 UJesu wathi ekhangela wabona izinoti zifaka iminikelo yazo esitsheni somnikelo. **2** Wabona njalo umfelokazi ongumyanga efaka okuzinhlamvana kwethusi okubili. **3** Wathi, “Ngilithshela iqiniso ngthi umfelokazi lo ongumyanga unikele okudlula bonke abanye. **4** Bonke lababantu banikele izipho zabo ngokwenotho yabo, kodwa yena ebuyangeni bakhe ufake konke abelakho.” **5** Abanye abafundi bakhe babekhulukuluma ngokubalazwa kwethempeli ngamatshe amahle langezipho ezazinikelwe kuNkulunkulu. Kodwa uJesu wathi, **6** “Mayelana lalokhu elikubona lapha, sizafika isikhathi lapho okungeyikutshiywa ilitshe phezu kwelinye; wonke azaphoselwa phansi.” **7** Babuza bathi, “Mfundisi, izinto lezi zizakwenzakala nini? Njalo sizakuba yini isibonakaliso sokuthi sezizakwenzeka na?” **8** Waphendula wathi, “Qaphelani lingakhohliswa. Ngoba abanengi bazakuba ngebizo lami besithi, ‘Nginguye,’ njalo bathi, ‘Isikhathi

sesisondele.’ Lingabalandeli. **9** Nxa lisizwa ngezimpi lezikhukulambuso, lingethuki. Lezizinto kuzamele zenzeke kuqala, kodwa isiphetho kasizukufika ngalesosikhathi.” **10** Wasesithi kubo: “Isizwe sizavukela isizwe, lombuso uvukele umbuso. **11** Kuzakuba lokuzamazama komhlaba okukhulu, indlala lezifo ezindaweni ezinengi, izehlakalo ezesabekayo lezibonakaliso ezinengi zivela emkhathini. **12** Kodwa kungakenzakali konke lokhu bazalibamba, balihlukuluzwe. Bazalinikela emasinagogweni baliphosele lasezintolongweni njalo lizamiswa phambi kwamakhosi lababusi ngenxa yebizo lami. **13** Lokhu kuzalenza libe ngofakazi kimi. **14** Kodwa bekani amaphaphu phansi, lingazihluphi ngokuthi lizazivikela lisithini. **15** Ngoba ngazalinika amazwi lokuhlakanipha ukuze angabikhona ezitheni zenu ozalehlula loba aliphikise. **16** Lizanikelwa ngabazali, ngabafowenu layizihlobo labangane njalo abanye benu bazalibulala. **17** Bonke abantu bazalizonda ngenxa yami. **18** Kodwa kakuyikubhubha lanwele olulodwa emakhanda enu. **19** Bekezelani, lizasindiswa. **20** Lingabona iJerusalem isihonqolozelwe yizimpi lizakwazi ukuthi incithakalo isisondele. **21** Lapho-ke akuthi labo abaseJudiya babalekele ezintabeni, abasedolobheni kabaphume, kuthi labo abasemaphandleni bangani edolobheni. **22** Ngoba lesi yisikhathi sokujeziswa ukugcwalisa konke okwalotshwayo. **23** Yeka ubulukhuni obuzakuba khona ngalezonsuku kwabesifazane abakhulelweyo labangabadlezane! Kuzakuba khona ukhulukuluzeka okukhulu elizweni lolaka phezu kwabantu. **24** Bazakuwa ngenkamba babuthwe babe yizibotshwa zezizwe zonke. IJerusalem izagadigwa ngabeZizwe kuze kugcwaliseke izikhathi zabeZizwe. **25** Kuzabakhona izibonakaliso elangeni, enyangeni lasezinkanyezini. Emhlabeni izizwe zizakuba phakathi kosizi lokudideka ngenxa yokuhuba lokukhaphaza kolwandle. **26** Abantu bazaphela amandla ngokwesaba, behlutshwa yilokho okuzayo emhlabeni, ngoba izisekelo zasezulwini zizazanyanyiswa. **27** Ngalesosikhathi bazayibona iNdodana yoMuntu isiza ngeyezi ilamandla lenkazimulo enkulu. **28** Nxa lezizinto seziqala ukwenzakala manini liqine, liphakamise amakhanda enu, ngoba ukuhlelwa kwenu sekusondela.” **29** Wabatshela umfanekiso lo wathi, “Khangalani esihlahleni somkhiwa kanye lezinye zonke izihlahla. **30** Nxa zihluma lizazibonela lani njalo lazi ukuthi ihlobo selisondele. **31** Kanjalo-ke, nxa lingabona lezizinto sezisenzakala, lazi ukuthi umbuso kaNkulunkulu ususondele. **32** Ngilithshela iqiniso, lesisizukulwane kasiyikudlula zize zenzakale zonke lezizinto. **33** Izulu lomhlaba kuzedlula, kodwa amazwi ami kawayikwedlula lanini. **34** Nanzelelani funa inhliziyi zenu zithundubale ngokuzitika lokudakwa lokunqineka ngezinto zalimpilo, ngoba lolosuku luzalijuma njengomjibila. **35** Ngoba luzafikela bonke labo abahlala kuwo wonke umhlaba. **36** Hlalani lilindle, likhulekele ukuthi liphephe kukho konke osekuzawenzeka masinyane, lokuthi libe lamandla okuma phambi kweNdodana yoMuntu.” **37** Insuku zonke uJesu wayefundisa ethempelini kuthi kushlwa aphume ayechitha ubusuku eqaqeni olwaluthiwa yiNtaba yama-Oliva, **38** njalo abantu bonke babesiza ekuseni kakhulu ukuzamuzwa ethempelini.

22 Umkhosi weSinkwa esingelaMvubelo owawubizwa ngokuthi liPhasika wawusondele, **2** njalo abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho babedinga enye indlela yokumsusa uJesu, ngoba babesesaba abantu. **3** USathane

wasengena kujudasi owayethiwa ngu-Iskariyothi, omunye wabalitshumi lambili. **4** UJudasi waya kubaphristi abakhulu lezikhulu zabavikeli bethempeli wabonisa labo ukuthi amnikele njani uJesu. **5** Bathokoza kakhulu, basebevuma ukumupha imali. **6** Wavuma, wasemelela ithuba lokunikela uJesu kungesikhathi kungelaxuku labantu. **7** Lwaselufika usuku lweSinkwa esingelaMvubelo okwakusenziwa ngalo umhlathshelo wewundlu lePhasika. **8** UJesu wathuma uPhethro loJohane wathi, “Hambani liyesilungisela ukuthi siyekudla iPhasika.” **9** Babuza bathi, “Ufuna siyelilungisela ngaphi?” **10** Waphendula wathi, “Lizakuthi nje lingena edolobheni, lizahlangana lendoda iphethe inkonxa yamanzi. Liyilandele kuleyondlu ezangana kuyo, **11** beselisithi kumninindlu, ‘Umfundisi uyabuza uthi: Ingaphi indlu yezethekeli, lapho engingadlela khona iPhasika labafundi bami?’ **12** Izalitshengisa ikamelo laphezulu elikhulu, elilungisiweyo. Yenzani amalungiselel khonapho.” **13** Bahamba bayafika izinto zimi njengokutshelwa kwabo nguJesu. Ngakho balilungisa iPhasika. **14** Kwathi isikhathi sesifikile uJesu wahlala etafuleni labapostoli bakhe. **15** Wasesithi kubo, “Bengitshiseka kakhulu ukudla iPhasika leli lani ngingakahlupheki. **16** Ngoba ngiyalitshelela ukuthi kangisoze ngiphinde ngilidle njalo lize lizuze ukugcwaliseka embusweni kaNkulunkulu.” **17** Esethethe inkezo wabonga wasesithi, “Kuthatheni lokhu likwabelane. **18** Ngoba ngiyalitshelela ukuthi angiyikuphinda nginathe okwesithelo sevini umbuso kaNkulunkulu uze ufike.” **19** Wasethatha isinkwa, wabonga wasesihlephuna wabapha, wathi, “Lo ngumzimba wami ophiwe lina; kwenzeni lokhu kube yisikhumbuzo sami.” **20** Ngaleyondlela, ngemva kokudla kwakusihlwa wathatha inkezo, esithi, “Inkezo le iyisivumelwano esitsha egazini lami, elichithelwa lina. **21** Kodwa isandla sakhe lowo ozanginikela sikanye lesami etafuleni. **22** INdodana yoMuntu izahamba njengoba kumisiwe, kodwa maye kulowomuntu oyinikelayo.” **23** Baqala ukubuzana ukuthi kambe ngabe ngubani kubo owayezakwenza lokhu. **24** Njalo kwaba lokuphikisana phakathi kwabo mayelana lokuthi ngubani kubo owayebonakala emkhulu kulabo bonke. **25** UJesu wathi kubo, “Amakhosi abeZizwe azitshengisela amandla awo kulabo ababusayo; leziphatshamandla zakhona zibizwa ngokuthi Mcoli. **26** Kodwa akumelanga libe njalo. Endaweni yalokho, lowo omkhulu kulani lonke kabe njengomncinyane kini lonke, lalowo obusayo abe nguye okhonza abanye. **27** Kambe ngubani omkhulu kulomunye, lowo ohlezi etafuleni yokudla loba lowo ophakayo na? Kakusilowo osetafuleni na? Kodwa mina ngiphakathi kwenu njengalowo oliphakelayo. **28** Liyilabo abame lami ebunzimeni bami. **29** Ngakho ngiyalinika umbuso njengoba uBaba wanginika lami, **30** ukuze lidle njalo linathe etafuleni lami embusweni wami njalo lihlale ezihlalweni zobukhosi, lisahlulela izizwana zika-Israyeli ezilitshumi lambili. **31** Simoni, Simoni uSathane usecele ukulihlungula lonke njengengqoloyi. **32** Kodwa sengikukhulekele wena Simoni, ukuthi ukhoho lwakho lungaze lwawela phansi. Ubokuthi nxa usuphendukile uqinise abafowenu.” **33** Kodwa waphendula wathi, “Nkosi, ngizimiselele ukuhamba lawe entolongweni lasekufeni.” **34** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ngiyakutshela, Phethro, ukuthi iqhude lingakakhali lamuhla, uzaphika kathathu ukuthi uyangazi.” **35** UJesu wasebabuza wathi, “Ngize ngilithume lingelamxhaka, loba isikhwama kumbe amanyathela, kukhona yini elake lakusilela?” Baphendula bathi, “Akubanga lalutho.”

36 Wathi, kubo, “Kodwa manje nxa ulesikhwama semali, sithathe, kanye lomgodla; njalo nxa ungelankemba, thengisa isigqoko sakho uyithenge. **37** Kulotshiwe ukuthi, ‘Wabalwa ndawonye lezoni;’ njalo ngiyalitshelela ukuthi lokhu kumele kugcwalisike kimi. Yebo, lokho okubhaliweyo ngami sekufika ekugcwalisweni kwakho.” **38** Abafundi bathi, “Khangela, Nkosi, nazi inkemba ezimbili.” Waphendula uJesu wathi, “Kwanele.” **39** UJesu wahamba njengenjayelo waya eNtabeni yama-Oliva, abafundi bakhe bamlandela. **40** Esefikile kuleyondawo, wathi kubo, “Khulekani ukuze lingaweli ekulingweni.” **41** Watsheda kubo okwebanga lokuphosa ilitshwe, waguqa phansi wakhuleka wathi, **42** “Baba, nxa uthanda susa inkezo le kimi; kodwa akungabi yintando yami, kodwa kwenziwe eyakho.” **43** Ingilosu yabonakala kuye ivela ezulwini yamqinisa. **44** Kwathi edabukile kakhulu, wakhuleka ngokutshiseka, izithukuthuku zakhe zangathi ligazi lithontela phansi. **45** Wathi esephakeme ekukhulekeni wabuyela kubafundi bakhe wabafika belele, bekhathele ngenxa yosizi. **46** Wababuza wathi, “Kungani lilele na? Vukani likhuleke ukuze lingaweli ekulingweni.” **47** Kwathi elokhu esakhuluma kwafika ixuku labantu, indoda ethiwa nguJudasi omunye wabalitshumi lambili, wayebahola. Wasondela uJesu ukumanga, **48** kodwa uJesu wambuza wathi, “Judasi, uyayinikela na iNdodana yoMuntu ngokuyanga?” **49** Kwathi abalandeli bakajesu sebebona okwasekuzakwenzeka bathi, “Nkosi, sigalele yini ngenkemba zethu?” **50** Omunye wabo wayigalele inceku yomphristi omkhulu, wayiquma indlebe yayo yokunene. **51** Kodwa uJesu waphendula wathi, “Kakufuneki lokhu!” Waseyibamba indlebe yalowomuntu wamsilisa. **52** UJesu wasesithi kubaphristi abakhulu, lezikhulu zabalindi bethempeli kanye labadala bebandla ababemlandile, “Ngikhokhela umvukela yini lize liphethe izinkemba lenduku? **53** Zonke insuku bengilani emagumeni ethempeli, kodwa kalizange lingithinte. Kodwa lesi yisikhathi senu, lapho kubusa umnyama.” **54** Bamdumela, bamusa endlini yomphristi omkhulu. UPhethro wayemlandela ebucwala. **55** Kodwa kwathi sebebase umlilo phakathi kweguma bahlala phansi ndawonye, uPhethro wahlala phansi labo. **56** Intombazana eyisisebenzi yambona ehlezi khonapho ekukhanyeni komlilo. Yamkhangela yathi, “Indoda le yayilaye.” **57** Kodwa yena waphika wathi, “Ntombazana, kangimazi.” **58** Ngemva kwesikhathshana omunye wambona wathi, “Lawe ungomunye wabo.” UPhethro waphendula wathi, “Ndoda, angisuye.” **59** Sekudlule phose ihola omunye waggizelela wathi, “Ngeqiniso umuntu lo wayelaye, ngoba ungomuGalile.” **60** Waphendula uPhethro wathi, “Ndoda, angikwazi okhuluma ngakho!” Elokhu esakhuluma, iqhude lakhala. **61** INkosi yatshibilika, yamkhangela yamuthi nhlo uPhethro. UPhethro waselikhumbula ilizwi iNkosi eyayilikhulumile kuye isithi: “Iqhude lingakakhali lamuhla, uzangiphika kathathu.” **62** Ngakho wasephumela ngaphandle wakhala kabuhlungu. **63** Amadoda ayelinde uJesu aqalisa ukumhoza lokumtshaya. **64** Amvala amehlo athi kuye, “Phrofitha! Ngubani okutshayileyo?” **65** Amthuka ngezindlela ezinengi. **66** Emadabukakusa inkundla yabakhokheli babantu, kanye labaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho yahlangana ndawonye, uJesu walethwa phambi kwabo. **67** Bathi, “Nxa unguKhristu sitshela.” UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ngingaze ngilitshele kalisoze lingikholwe, **68** njalo nxa bengingalibuzela belingeke liphendule. **69** Kodwa kusukela khathesi iNdodana yoMuntu izahlala kwesokunene sikaNkulunkulu olamandla

amakhulu.” 70 Bonke babuza bathi, “Kutsho ukuthi-ke uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu na?” Waphendula wathi, “Liqondile ukuthi ngiyiyo.” 71 Basebesithi, “Sisabudingelani obunye ubufakazi na? Sesikuzwe kuphuma kowakhe umlomo.”

23 Ibandla lonke laseliphakama lamqhuba lamusa kuPhilathu. 2 Basebemethesa icala besithi, “Indoda le siyifice ixhwalisa isizwe sakithi. Iphikisana lokuthela imithelo kuKhesari njalo izenza uKhristu, inkosi.” 3 Ngakho uPhilathu wasembuza uJesu wathi, “Uyinkosi yamaJuda na?” “Kunjengoba usitsho,” waphendula uJesu. 4 UPhilathu wasebikela abaphristi abakhulu kanye lexuku labantu wathi, “Kangiboni lutho lokwethesa umuntu lo icala.” 5 Kodwa bagcizelela bathi, “Udunga abantu kulolonke elaseJudiya ngemfundiso yakhe. Waqalisa eGalile, usehambe wonke umango waze wazafika lapha.” 6 Esezwe lokhu uPhilathu wabuza ingabe indoda leyo yayingumGalile na. 7 Esezwile ukuthi uJesu wayengaphansi kombuso kaHerodi wamthumela kuHerodi owayeseJerusalema ngalesosikhathi. 8 UHerodi wathi embona uJesu wathaba kakhulu ngoba wayevele etshisekela ukumbona. Ethathela kulokho ayekuzwile ngaye, wayelindele ukumbona esenza omunye umangaliso. 9 Wamjinga ngemibuzo, kodwa uJesu akaze amphendula. 10 Abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho labo babemi khonapho bemangalela ngokuthukuthela. 11 UHerodi lamabutho akhe basebemchothoza njalo bamhoza. Bamgqokisa isigqoko esihle, basebembuyisela kuPhilathu. 12 Ngalelolanga uHerodi loPhilathu babangabangane kodwa mandulo kwalokhu babeyizitha. 13 UPhilathu wabizela ndawonye abaphristi abakhulu lababusi kanye labantu 14 wathi kubo, “Lingilethele umuntu obekhuthaza abantu ukwenza umvukela. Sengimhlolile phambi kwenu, kodwa kangifumananga lutho kulokho elimangalela khona. 15 LoHerodi kafumananga lutho, ngoba usemphen dukisile kithi; njengoba libona, kenzanga lutho olufanele ukuthi abulawe. 16 Ngakho ngizamjezisa nje besengimkhulula.” [17 Kwakumele akhulule isibotshwa esisodwa esiyabe sikhethwe ngabantu mhla wedili.] 18 Bameza ngalizi linye bathi, “Msusele khatshana umuntu lo! Sikhululele uBharabhasi!” 19 (UBharabhasi wayeposelwe entolongweni ngenxa yokuvusa isiphithiphithi edolobheni langenxa yokubulala.) 20 Kwathi ngoba efuna ukumkhulula uJesu, uPhilathu waphinda wathi kabake bacabange njalo. 21 Kodwa baqhubeke bememeza besithi, “Mbethele! Mbethele!” 22 Waphinda wakhuluma labo okwesithathu wathi, “Ngani na? Umuntu lo wenze cala bani? Angiboni lutho kuye olungafanela isigwebo sokuthi abulawe. Ngakho-ke, ngizakuthi kajeziswe besengimkhulula.” 23 Kodwa baklabalala beqinisa ukuba kabethelwe, lakanye ukugcizelela kwabo kwaphumelela. 24 Ngakho uPhilathu wasemisa ukwemukela izifiso zabo. 25 Wayikhulula indoda leyo eyayiphoselwe entolongweni ngenxa yesiphithiphithi lokubulala, eyiyo abayicelayo, wanikela uJesu kubo ukuthi benze intando yabo. 26 Bathi sebemqhuba babamba uSimoni waseKhureni owayesuka emaphandleni, bamethesa isiphambano bathi kasithwale ngemva kukajesu. 27 Walandelwa ngabantu abanengi kakhulu, kanye labesifazane ababemkhalela bebubula. 28 UJesu wanyemukula wathi kubo, “Madodakazi aseJerusalema, lingangikhaleli; zikhaleleni lina kanye labantwabenu. 29 Ngoba sizafika isikhathi lapho elizakuthi, ‘Babusisiwe abafazi abazinyumba, lezibeletso ezingazange zithwale kanye lamabele angazange amunyise!’ 30 Lapho-ke ‘bazakuthi

ezintabeni, ‘Sembeseni!’ Lakuwo amaqqa bathi, ‘Welani phezu kwethu!’” 31 Ngoba nxa abantu bezenza lezizinto lapho isihlahla simanzi, kuzakwenzakalani pho nxa sesomile?” 32 Amanye amadoda amabili, onke ayeyizigebenga, lawo aqhutshwa kanye laye esiyabulawa. 33 Bathi sebefike endaweni ethiwa luKhakhayi bambethela esiphambanweni kanye lezigebeza lezo, omunye ngakwesokunene kwakhe, omunye ngakwesokhohlo. 34 UJesu wathi, “Baba, baxolele, ngoba kabakwazi abakwenzayo.” Njalo basebesabelana izigqoko zakhe ngokutshaya inkatho. 35 Abantu bema bakhangelana, ababusi bona bamklolodela. Bathi, “Wasindisa abanye, laye kasisindise nxa enguKhristu kaNkulunkulu, oKhethiweyo.” 36 Amabutho lawo eza amklolodela. Amnika iwanyini elimunyo 37 athi, “Nxa uyinkosi yamaJuda, zisindise.” 38 Kwakulombhalo wokwazisa ngaphezulu kwakhe owawusithi: Lo yiNkosi yamaJuda. 39 Omunye wezigebeza owayelenga khonapho wamthuka wathi, “Kanti kaysiwe uKhristu? Zisindise wena kanye lathi!” 40 Kodwa esinye isigebeza samkhiza sathi, “Kawumesabi na uNkulunkulu, njengoba ulesigwebo sinye laye. 41 Thina sijeziwa ngokusifaneleyo ngoba sizuzo lokho okufanele izenzo zethu. Kodwa umuntu lo kenzanga lutho olungalunganga.” 42 Wasesithi, “Jesu, ungikhumbule nxa ungfika embusweni wakho.” 43 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ngiyakutshela iqiniso ngithi, lamuhla uzakuba lami epharadise.” 44 Kwasekuyisikhathi esingaba lihloa lesithupha, ubumnyama bembesa lonke ilizwe kwaze kwaba lihloa lesificamunwemunye, 45 ngoba ilanga lema ukukhanya. Ikhethele lethempele ladabuka kabili. 46 UJesu wameza ngelizwi elikhulu wathi, “Baba, ezandleni zakho nginikela umphefumulo wami.” Esekutshilo lokhu waphefumula okokucina. 47 Induna yekhulu isibonile okwenzakeleyo yadumisa uNkulunkulu yathi, “Ngeqiniso lo ubeyindoda elungileyo.” 48 Kwathi bonke abantu ababebuthene ukuzabona isiga lesi sebonile okwakwenzakele, bababuhlungu, babalosizi, babuyela emizini yabo. 49 Kodwa bonke ababemazi, kanye labesifazane abamlandela besuka laye eGalile, bema bucwala babukela okwakusenzakala. 50 Kwakukhona indoda eyayithiwa nguJosefa, elilanga loMphakathi, eyindoda elungileyo njalo eqondileyo, 51 owayengakuvumanga lokho abakuqumayo labakwenzayo. Yena wayewele edolobheni lakoJuda okwakuthiwa yi-Arimathiya, njalo wayelindele umbuso kaNkulunkulu. 52 Waya kuPhilathu wayacela isidumbu sikaJesu. 53 Wasesethula wasigoqela ngelembu lelineni, wasibeka ethuneni elaliguje edwaleni lingakaze lilale muntu. 54 Kwakulusuku lokuLungiselela, iSabatha selizaqalisa. 55 Abesifazane ababebuyela loJesu esuka eGalile bamlandela uJosefa balibona ithuna lokuthi isidumbu sakhe salaliswa njani kulo. 56 Basebebuyela ekhaya bayalungisa amagcobo lamakha. Kodwa baphumula ngeSabatha bethobela umlayo.

24 Ngosuku lokuqala lweviki ekuseni kakhulu abesifazane bathatha amakha ababewalungisile baya ethuneni. 2 Bafumana ilitshe ligiqiwe, lasuswa ethuneni, 3 kodwa bathi bengena kabaze basithola isidumbu seNkosi uJesu. 4 Bathi belokhu besathithibe ngakho, masinyane kwema eduze labo amadoda amabili egqoke izigqoko ezazikhazimula njengombane. 5 Bethuka abesifazane bathi mbo phansi ngobuso, kodwa amadoda lawo athi kubo, “Lidingelani ophilayo kwabafileyo na? 6 Kakhlo lapho; usevukile! Khumbulani ukuthi walitshelani eseseleni eGalile: 7 INdodana yoMuntu kumele inikelwe ezandleni zezoni, ibethelwe esiphambanweni kuthi

ngosuku lwesithathu ivuswe njalo.” **8** Basebewakhumbula amazwi akhe. **9** Kwathi sebebuyile bevela ethuneni, zonke lezizinto bazibikela abalitshumi lanye labanye bonke. **10** KwakunguMariya Magadalini, loJowana, loMariya unina kajakhobe labanye ababelabo abatshele abapostoli ngalokhu. **11** Kodwa kababakholwanga abesifazane laba, ngoba amazwi abo ayengathi yikuwumana kubo. **12** Kodwa uPhethro wasukuma wagjijimela ethuneni. Walunguza wabona amaqhele elineni ethe qekele wodwa, wasebuyela emangele ukuthi kambe kwakwenzakaleni. **13** Kwathi ngalelolangaba ababili babo babehamba besiya emzini owawuthiwa yi-Emawusi, ongaba ngamakholomitha alitshumi lanye usuka eJerusalem. **14** Babekhulumisana ngakho konke okwakwenzakele. **15** Bathi belokhu bekhuluma bebonisana ngazo lezizinto, uJesu yena ngokwakhe wabaxhuma wasehambisana labo; **16** kodwa abaze bamnanzelela ukuthi nguye. **17** Wababuza wathi, “Likhuluma ngani kanti lilokhu liphakathi kohambo lwenu?” Bema mpo, ubuso babo bubunile. **18** Omunye wabo owayethiwa nguKlophasi wambuza wathi, “Kanti wena uyisihambi yini eJerusalem ukhanya ungazazi izinto ezenzakele kuzolezi insuku?” **19** Wabuza wathi, “Yizinto bani na?” Baphendula bathi, “Mayelana ngoJesu waseNazareth. Wayengumphrofethi; elomfutho ngokukhuluma langezenzo phambi kukaNkulunkulu lasebantwini bonke. **20** Abaphristi abakhulu lababusi bethu bamnikela ukuba agwetshelwe ukufa, basebembethela; **21** kodwa thina sasithembe ukuthi nguye owayezahlenga u-Israyeli. Futhi okunye yikuthi sekulusuku lwesithathu kulokhu kwenzakala konke lokhu. **22** Phezu kwalokhu, abanye besifazane bethu basimangalisile. Bahambe ethuneni ekuseni kakhulu lamuhla, **23** kodwa kabasifumananga isidumbu sakhe. Babuyile bazasitshela ukuthi babone umbono wezingilosi ezithe uyaphila. **24** Kwasekusithi abanye babakhula bethu baya ethuneni bathola kunjengokuba abesifazane betshilo, kodwa yena kabamtholanga.” **25** Wathi kubo, “Uthi liyizithutha ezinjani, njalo lilezinhliziyi ezithundubeleyo ekukholweni konke lokho okwakhulunywa ngabaphrofethi! **26** UKhristu wayengamelanga ahlupheke yini zonke lezi izinto andubana angene ebukhosini bakhe na?” **27** Wasesukela kuMosi kanye labaPhrofethi bonke wabachazela okwatshiwo emibhalweni mayelana laye. **28** Bathi sebebanga emzini lowo ababesiya kuwo uJesu wenza ingathi wayesedlula. **29** Kodwa bamncenga kakhulu bathi, “Hlala lathi ngoba sekusihlwa; usuku luphose selwedule.” Wasengena ukuthi ayehlala labo. **30** Wathi esehlezi labo etafuleni wathatha isinkwa wabonga, wasesihlephuna wasebaqhubela. **31** Kwathi dlwe emehlweni abo, bamazi, yena wasenyamalala kubo. **32** Babuzana bathi, “Konje inhliziyi zethu bezingatshiseki yini lapho abe ekhuluma lathi endleleni esivulela imibhalo na?” **33** Bahle bathi lothu masinyane babuyela eJerusalem. Khonale bathola abalitshumi lanye kanye lalabo ababelabo bebuthene ndawonye **34** besithi, “Kuliqiniso! Inkosi isivukile kwabafuleyo yabonakala kuSimoni.” **35** Kwathi labo ababili balandisa ngalokho okwakwenzakele endleleni, lokuthi uJesu bamnanzelela njani lapho aze ahlephune isinkwa. **36** Bathi belokhu besakhuluma ngakho lokhu, uJesu yena ngokwakhe wema phakathi kwabo wathi, “Ukuthula kakube kini.” **37** Bethuka besaba, bekhumbula ukuthi babebona ithonga **38** Wathi kubo, “Kungani lihluphekile, njalo kungani kulokuthandabuza ezingqondweni zenu? **39** Khangelani izandla zami lezinyawo zami. Yimi mina ngokwami! Ngithintani libone; ithonga kalilanyama

lamathambo njengoba libona ukuthi mina ngilakho.” **40** Esetshilo lokhu wabatshe ngisa izandla lezinyawo zakhe. **41** Kwathi belokhu bengakholwa ngenxa yokuthaba lokumangala wababuza wathi, “Lilakho okokudla lapha na?” **42** Bamupha iqatha lenhlanzi exatshiweyo, **43** wayithatha wayidla phambi kwabo. **44** Wathi kubo, “Lokhu yikho engalitshela khona ngiseselani ukuthi: Konke kumele kugcwaliseke okwalotshwa ngami eMthethweni kaMosi labaPhrofethi lamaHubo.” **45** Wasebavula ingqondo zabo ukuze bakwazi ukuzwisisa imibhalo. **46** Wabatshelela wathi, “Nanku okulotshiweyo: UKhristu uzahlupheka aphinde avuke kwabafuleyo ngosuku lwesithathu, **47** njalo ukuphenduka lokuthethelela kwezono kuzatshunyayelwa ebizweni lakhe ezizweni zonke, kuqala eJerusalem. **48** Lingofakazi balezizinto. **49** Ngizalithumezela lokho uBaba akuthembisileyo; kodwa libohlala edolobheni lize liphiwe amandla avela phezu.” **50** Kwathi esebakhokhele waya labo eduze leBethani waphakamisa izandla zakhe wababusisa. **51** Uthe elokhu esababusisa, wabatshiya, wenyukiselwa ezulwini. **52** Basebemkhonza, babuyela eJerusalem bethokoza kakhulu. **53** Bahlala kokuphela ethempelini bedumisa uNkulunkulu.

UJohane

1 Ekuqaleni wayekhona uLizwi, uLizwi wayeloNkulunkulu, njalo uLizwi wayenguNkulunkulu. **2** WayeloNkulunkulu ekuqaleni. **3** Izinto zonke zenziwa ngaye; ngaphandle kwakhe kube akukho okwenziwayo. **4** Kwakukhona ukuphila kuye, lokho kuphila kwakuyikukhanya kwabantu. **5** Ukukhanya kukhanya emnyameni, kodwa umnyama awukakuzwisi. **6** Kwafika umuntu ethunywe nguNkulunkulu, ibizo lakhe wayenguJohane. **7** Weza njengomfakazi ezoqinisa mayelana lalokho kukhanya ukuze kuthi ngaye bonke abantu bakholwe. **8** Yena qobo lwakhe wayengesi lokho kukhanya; weza nje njengomfakazi wokukhanya lokho. **9** Ukukhanya okuliqiniso okunika ukukhanya emuntwini wonke kwakusiza emhlabeni. **10** Wayesemhlabeni, kodwa lanxa umhlaba wenziwa ngaye, umhlaba kawumazanga. **11** Weza kulokho okwakungokwakhe, kodwa khona kakumemukelanga. **12** Ikanti kulabo bonke abamamukelayo, kulabo abakhokhwayo ebizweni lakhe, wabapha ilungelo lokuba ngabantwana bakaNkulunkulu, **13** abantwana abangalawanga ngokwemvelo, kumbe ngokukhetha komuntu, loba ngokufuna kwendoda kodwa bezelwe nguNkulunkulu. **14** ULizwi waba yinyama, wahlala phakathi kwethu. Siyibonile inkazimulo yakhe; inkazimulo yeNdodana eyiyo yodwa, eyavela kuYise, igcwele umusa leqiniso. **15** UJohane wafakaza ngayo. Wamemezisa esithi, “Lo nguye engangikhuluma ngaye ngisithi, ‘Lowo oza ngemva kwami usengedlule ngoba wayevele ephambi kwami.’” **16** Ngenxa yokujula komusa wakhe sonke sesamukele umusa emuseni esasivele siwuphiwe. **17** Ngoba umthetho walethwa ngoMosi; umusa leqiniso kweza ngoJesu Khristu. **18** Kakho osewake wambona uNkulunkulu, kodwa iNdodana eyiyo yodwa, yona nguNkulunkulu njalo eseceleni eduze kukaYise, isimenze waziwa. **19** Lobu yibo ubufakazi bukajohane lapho abakhokheli bamaJuda aseJerusalema abathuma khona abaphristi labaLevi ukuyambuza ukuthi wayengubani. **20** Kehlulekanga ukuzichaza, kodwa wazichaza ekhululekile wathi, “Kangisuye uKhristu.” **21** Bambuza bathi, “Pho ungubani na? Ungu-Elija yini?” Wathi, “Kangisuye.” “Ungumphrofethi na?” Waphendula wathi, “Hatshi.” **22** Bacina ngokuthi, “Ungubani? Siphe impendulo esizayisa kulabo abasithumileyo. Uzibiza ngokuthi ungubani na?” **23** UJohane wabaphendula ngamazwi ka-Isaya umphrofethi wathi, “Ngiyilizwi lalowo omemezayo enkangala lisithi, ‘Lungiselani iNkosi indlela iqonde.’” **24** Kwasekusithi abaFarisi ababethunyiwe **25** bambuza bathi, “Kungani pho ubhaphathiza nxa ungasuye uKhristu, kumbe u-Elija loba umphrofethi na?” **26** UJohane waphendula wathi, “Mina ngibhaphathiza ngamanzi, kodwa phakathi kwenu kumi elingamaziyo. **27** Nguye lowo ozayo ngemva kwami, mina engingafanelanga ukuthukulula imichilo yamanyathela akhe.” **28** Konke lokhu kwenzeka eBethani ngaphetsheya kweJodani lapho uJohane ayebhaphathiza khona. **29** Ngelanga elilandelayo uJohane wabona uJesu esiza kuye wathi, “Khangalani, nanti iWundlu likaNkulunkulu elisusa isono somhlaba! **30** Nguye lo engangimutsho ngize ngithi, ‘Umuntu ozayo ngemva kwami usengedlule ngoba wayevele ephambi kwami.’” **31** Mina ngokwami bengingamazi, kodwa okwenze ngeza ngibhaphathiza ngamanzi kwakuyikwenzela ukuthi abonakaliswe ku-Israyeli.” **32** UJohane waseletha lobubufakazi: “Ngabona uMoya esehla evela ezulwini enjengejuba wahlala

phezu kwakhe. **33** Lami uqobo lwami ngangingamazi, kodwa lowo owangithumayo ukubhaphathiza ngamanzi wathi, ‘Lowomuntu ozabona uMoya usehla uhlala kuye nguye kanye ozabhaphathiza ngoMoya oNgcwele.’ **34** Sengibonile yikho sengifakaza ukuthi lo ungoKhethiweyo kaNkulunkulu.” **35** Ngelanga elilandelayo uJohane wayekhona, elabafundi bakhe ababili. **36** Wathi ebona uJesu esedlula lapho wathi, “Khangalani, nanti iWundlu likaNkulunkulu!” **37** Abafundi ababili labo bathi bekuzwa lokhu basebelandela uJesu. **38** UJesu wathi enyemukula wababona bemlandela, wababuza wathi, “Lifunani na?” Bathi, “Rabi” (okutsho ukuthi “Mfundisi”), “uhlala ngaphi?” **39** Waphendula wathi, “Wozani, lizabona.” Ngakho bahamba bayabona lapho ayehlala khona, batshona laye mhlalokho. Kwakungaba lihola letshumi. **40** U-Andreya, umfowabo kaSimoni Phethro wayengomunye wababili abezwayo okwakukhulunywa nguJohane njalo abayibo abalandela uJesu. **41** Into yokuqala ayenzayo u-Andreya yikudinga umfowabo uSimoni wamtshela wathi, “Sesimfumene uMesiya” (okutsho uKhristu). **42** Wasemletha kuJesu. UJesu wamkhangela wathi, “UnguSimoni indodana kaJohane. Usuzathiwa unguKhefasi” (okuchasiswa ngokuthi, nguPhethro). **43** Ngelanga elilandelayo uJesu wafuna ukusuka aye eGalile. Wabona uFiliphu wathi kuye, “Ngilandela.” **44** UFiliphu wayengowedolobheni lase-Bhethisaida, njengo-Andreya loPhethro. **45** UFiliphu wadinga uNathaneli wamtshela wathi, “Sesimfumene lowo uMosi aloba ngaye eMthethweni, njalo abaphrofethi labo abaloba ngaye, uJesu waseNazaretha, indodana kaJosefa.” **46** UNathaneli wabuza wathi, “ENazaretha! Kulutho oluhle olungavela khona na?” UFiliphu wathi, “Woza uzebona.” **47** Kwathi uJesu ebona uNathaneli eqhamuka laphaya wathi ngaye, “Nangu um’Israyeli oqotho, okungekho nkohliso kuye.” **48** UNathaneli wambuza wathi, “Ungazela ngaphi na?” UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ngikubonile usahlezi ngaphansi kwesihlahla somkhiwa uFiliphu engakakubizi.” **49** UNathaneli wasefakaza wathi, “Rabi, uyindodana kaNkulunkulu; uyiNkosi ka-Israyeli.” **50** UJesu wathi, “Ukholwa ngoba ngithe ngikubone ngaphansi kwesihlahla somkhiwa. Usazobona izinto ezinkulu kulalokho.” **51** Waphinda wengeza wathi, “Ngikutshela iqiniso, uzabona izulu livuleka, lezingilosu zikaNkulunkulu zikhwela zisehla eNdodaneni yoMuntu.”

2 Ngosuku lwesithathu kwaba khona umthimba eKhana laseGalile. Unina kaJesu wayekhona, **2** loJesu labafundi bakhe labo babenusiwe emthimbeni. **3** Kwathi iwayini seliphelile unina kaJesu wathi kuye, “Sebephelelwe liwayini.” **4** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Mama, mina lawe singena njani kulokho na? Isikhathi sami kasikafiki.” **5** Unina wasesithi ezincekweni, “Libokwenza loba kuyini azalitshela khona.” **6** Eduze kwalapho kwakumi imbiza zamatshe eziyisithupha, uhlobo lolo amaJuda ayelusebenzisa enkonzweni yokuzihlambulula, imbiza yinye ingagcwala amalitha alikhulu kusiya ekhulwini elilamatshumi amahlanu. **7** UJesu wathi ezincekweni, “Zigcwaliseni amanzi imbiza lezi”; ngakho bazigcwalisa zathi phamu. **8** Wasezitshelela wathi, “Khaninike liphe umphathi wedili.” Benza njalo, **9** umphathi wedili wahubula wawanambitha amanzi ayesehendulwe abaliwayini. Kakwazanga ukuthi lavela ngaphi, kodwa izinceku ezaziwakhile amanzi zazisazi. Wasebizela umyeni eceleni **10** wathi, “Wonke umuntu uletha iwayini elimnandi kuqala,

kuthi nxa izethekeli sezinathe kakhulu abesekhupha elibi; kodwa wena ugodle elimnandi kuze kube khathesi.” **11** Lo waba ngumangaliso wakhe wokuqala, uJesu awenza eKhana laseGalile. Wabonakalisa kanjalo inkazimulo yakhe, abafundi bakhe basebebeka ukholo lwabo kuye. **12** Ngemva komthimba wasuka waya eKhapenawume wayahlala insukwana ezimbalwa elonina, labafowabo labafundi bakhe. **13** Kwasekuyisikhathi sePhasika lamajuda eleminyaka yonke, uJesu wasesiya eJerusalem. **14** Emagumeni ethempeli wafumana abantu bethengisa inkomo, izimvu lamajuba, labanye behleze ematafulweni bentshintsha izimali. **15** Waseseluka izintambo wenza isaswebhu wabadudula bonke emagumeni ethempeli, konke izimvu lenkomo; wayichithiza imali yabantshintshi bayo, wagenqula lamatafula abo. **16** Wathi kulabo ababethengisa amajuba, “Akhupheni lapha! Likuthatha ngaphi ukwenza indlu kaBaba umsika wokuthengiselana na?” **17** Abafundi bakhe bakhumbula ukuthi kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Ukuqinikelela indlu yakho kuzangidla ngaphakathi.” **18** Lapho amajuda asemncindezela ngokuthi, “Ungasithengisa simangaliso bani ukubonisa amandla akho okwenza zonke lezizinto?” **19** Wabaphendula uJesu wathi, “Dilizani ithempeli leli, kodwa mina ngizalimisa njalo ngezinsuku ezintathu.” **20** Amajuda aphendula athi, “Sekuthethe iminyaka engamatshumi amane lesithupha ukwakha ithempeli leli, kodwa wena ungalivusa ngezinsuku ezintathu na?” **21** Kodwa ithempeli ayekhulume ngalo kwakungumzimba wakhe. **22** Ngemva kokovuswa kwabafuleyo abafundi bakhe bakhumbula lokho ayekhululume. Ngakho babukholwa uMbhala kanye lamazwi uJesu awakhulumayo. **23** Kwathi ngesikhathi eseMkhosini wePhasika eJerusalem, abantu abanengi bayibona imimangaliso ayeyenza basebekholwa ebizweni lakhe. **24** Kodwa uJesu kazange azidele kubo, ngoba wayebazi bonke abantu. **25** Wayengabudingi ubufakazi bomuntu ngoba wayekwazi okungaphakathi komuntu munye ngamunye.

3 Kwakulendoda engumFarisi eyayithiwa nguNikhodimasi, lililunga lomphakathi wamajuda abusayo. **2** Yaya kuJesu ebusuku yathi, “Rabi, siyazi ukuthi ungumfundisi ovela kuNkulunkulu. Ngoba kakho obengayenza imimangaliso oyenzayo wena nxa uNkulunkulu engelaye.” **3** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ngempela ngiqinisele ngithi kini, akakho ozawubona umbuso kaNkulunkulu ngaphandle kokuba azalwe kutsha.” **4** UNikhodimasi wathi, “Kanti umuntu angazalwa kanjani yena esemdala na? Ngeqiniso, angazake angene ngokwesibili esiswini sikanina ukuze azalwe!” **5** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ngempela ngiqinisele ngithi, ngaphandle kokuthi umuntu azalwe ngamanzi langoMoya, angeke awungene umbuso kaNkulunkulu. **6** Inyama izala inyama, kodwa uMoya uzala umoya. **7** Ungamangalisa yikuthi ngithi, ‘Kumele lizalwe kutsha.’ **8** Umoya uphethela loba kungaphi lapho othanda khona. Ungakuzwa ukuvunguza kwawo, kodwa ungeke utsho ukuthi uvela ngaphi loba ukuthi uya ngaphi. Ngakho kunjalo emuntwini wonke ozelwe ngoMoya.” **9** UNikhodimasi wabaza wathi, “Lokhu kungenzeka kanjani na?” **10** UJesu wathi, “Ungumfundisi wako-Israyeli, pho kungani ungazwisi izinto lezi na? **11** Ngiqinisele ngithi sikhuluma ngesikwaziyo njalo sifakaza ngesikubonileyo, kodwa lina bantu kalibamukeli ubufakazi bethu. **12** Ngikhulume kini ngezinto zalapha emhlabeni, kodwa kalikholwa; pho

lizakholwa kanjani nxa ngingakhuluma ngokwasezulwini? **13** Kakho osewake waya ezulwini ngaphandle kwalowo owavela ezulwini, iNdodana yoMuntu. **14** NjengoMosi owaphakamisa inyoka enkangala, ngokunjalo iNdodana yoMuntu kumele iphakanyiswe, **15** ukuze kuthi lowo lalowo okholwa kuyo abe lokuphila okungapheliyo.” (aiōnios g166) **16** UNkulunkulu walithanda ilizwe kangaka waze wanikela iNdodana yakhe eyiyo yodwa ukuze kuthi loba ngubani okholwa kuyo angabhubhi, kodwa abe lokuphila okungapheliyo. (aiōnios g166) **17** Ngoba uNkulunkulu kathumanga iNdodana yakhe emhlabeni ukuze iwulahle umhlaba, kodwa ukuze umhlaba usindiswe ngayo. **18** Loba ngubani okholwa kuyo kalahla, kodwa ongakholwayo uvele eselahlwe ngoba kakholwanga ebizweni leNdodana eyiyo yodwa kaNkulunkulu. **19** Nanku ukuqunywa kwecala: Ukukhanya sekufikile emhlabeni, kodwa abantu bathanda ubumnyama kulokukhanya ngoba imisebenzi yabo yayimibi. **20** Wonke umuntu owenza ububi uyakuzonda ukukhanya, njalo kezi ekukhanyeni ngoba esesaba ukuthi izenzo zakhe zizabekwa obala. **21** Kodwa loba ngubani ophila ngeqiniso uyeza ekukhanyeni ukuze kubonakale kamhlophe ukuthi lokho akwenzileyo ukwenze ngoNkulunkulu. **22** Ngemva kwalokhu uJesu labafundi bakhe basuka baya emaphandleni aseJudiya lapho ahlala labo okwesikhathi esithile ebhaphathiza. **23** Ngalesosikhathi uJohane laye wayebhaphathiza e-Ayenoni eduze leSalimi ngoba kwakulamanzi amanengi njalo abantu babethululeka kokuphela bezobhaphathizwa. **24** (Lokhu kwakumandulo kokuphoselwa kukaJohane entolongweni.) **25** Kwavuka ukuphikisana phakathi kwabanye abafundi bakaJohane lomunye umJuda mayelana lomkhuba wokuzihlambulula. **26** Beza kuJohane bathi kuye, “Rabi, indoda leyana eyayilawe ngaphetsheya kweJodani; yona leyana owafakaza ngayo; iyabhaphathiza bonke abantu sebesiya kuyo.” **27** Waphendula uJohane wathi, “Umuntu wamukela kuphela lokho akuphiwayo kuvela ezulwini. **28** Lina ngokwenu lingakufakaza ukuthi ngathi, ‘Kangisuye uKhristu, kodwa ngithunyiwe ukumandulele.’ **29** Umntshakazi ngowomyeni. Umkhaphi womyeni uyamnakelela, amlalele, abelokuthokoza nxa esizwa ilizwi lomyeni. Lokho kuthokoza ngokwami njalo okwamanje sekuphelele. **30** Yena ufanele abemkhulu; mina kufanele kunciphe ukuqakatheka kwami.” **31** Lowo ovela phezulu ungaphezulu kwakho konke; lowo ovela emhlabeni ungowomhlaba, ukhuluma njengalowo ovela emhlabeni. Lowo ovela ezulwini ungaphezu kwakho konke. **32** Ufakaza ngalokho akubonileyo lakuzwileyo, kodwa kakho owamukela ubufakazi bakhe. **33** Lowomuntu obamukelayo usegcizelele ukuthi uNkulunkulu uqinisele. **34** Ngoba lowo uNkulunkulu amthumileyo ukhuluma amazwi kaNkulunkulu; yena uNkulunkulu umupha umoya kungelakulinganiswa. **35** Uyise uyayithanda iNdodana njalo useyiphe amandla phezu kwezinto zonke. **36** Loba ngubani obeke ithemba lakhe eNdodaneni ulokuphila okungapheliyo, kodwa loba ngubani oyilahlayo iNdodana kazukuyibona leyompilo ngoba ulaka lukaNkulunkulu lohlala luphezu kwakhe. (aiōnios g166)

4 UJesu wezwa ukuthi abaFarisi basebekuzwile ukuthi usebhaphathize abantu wabuye waba labafundi abanengi kuloJohane, **2** loba nje iqiniso kuyikuthi kwakungasuye uJesu owayebhaphathiza, kodwa kubhaphathiza abafundi bakhe. **3** Kwathi esekuzwile lokho, wasuka eJudiya wabuyela

futhi eGalile. **4** Manje kwakumele adabule eSamariya. **5** Ngakho wafika emzini waseSamariya owawuthiwa yiSikhari, eduzane lesiqinti uJakhobe ayesinike indodana yakhe uJosefa. **6** Umthombo kaJakhobe wawukhonapho, uJesu wathi esediniwe ngohambo, wahlala phansi malungana lomthombo. Kwakusemini enkulu. **7** Kwathi umfazi waseSamariya efika ukuzakakha amanzi uJesu wathi kuye, “Ake unginathise.” **8** (Abafundi bakhe babeye emzini ukuyathenga ukudla.) **9** Umfazi waseSamariya wathi kuye, “UngumJuda, mina ngingumfazi waseSamariya. Pho ungacela kanjani ukuthi unathiswe yimi?” (Phela amajuda kawadlalani lamaSamariya.) **10** UJesu wamphendula wathi, “Aluba ubusazi isipho sikaNkulunkulu lokuthi ungubani lowo ocela ukuthi umnathise, ngabe umcelile wakupha amanzi okuphila.” **11** Umfazi wathi, “Nkosi, wena kawulakho okokukhisa amanzi, futhi umthombo uyatshona. Ungawathatha ngaphi lawomanzi okuphila na? **12** Wena umkhulu na kulobaba uJakhobe owasipha umthombo lo laye wanatha kuwo kanye lamadodana akhe lezimvu zakhe kanye lezifuyo zakhe?” **13** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Wonke umuntu onatha amanzi la uzaphinda ome futhi, **14** kodwa lowo onatha amanzi engimnika wona, kasoze abuye ome lanini. Ngempela amanzi engimnika wona azakuba ngumfala ogelezela ekuphileni okungapheliyo.” (aiōn g165, aiōnios g166) **15** Umfazi wathi kuye, “Nkosi, ngipha lawomanzi ukuze ngingaphindi ngome, ngingabi ngilokhu ngisiza lapha ngizokukha amanzi.” **16** Wathi kowesifazane, “Hamba uyebiza umkakho uze laye lapha.” **17** Waphendula wathi, “Kangilandoda.” UJesu wathi kuye, “Uqondile nxa usithi kawulandoda. **18** Iqiniso yikuthi usube lamadoda amahlanu, futhi indoda le olayo khathesi kayisiyakho. Lokho okutshiloyo kuliqiniso.” **19** Owesifazane wathi, “Nkosi, sengibona ukuthi ungumphrofethi. **20** Okhokho bethu babekhonza phezu kwentaba le, kodwa lina majuda lithi indawo okumele sikhonzele kuyo iseJerusalema.” **21** UJesu wathi, “nkosazana, ngikholwa, siyeza isikhathi lapho elingezukumkhonza uBaba entabeni kumbe eJerusalema. **22** Lina maSamariya likhonza elingakwaziyo; thina sikhonza lokho esikwaziyo, ngoba insindiso ivela kumaJuda. **23** Kodwa siyeza isikhathi, yebo manje sesifike lapho abakhonzi beqiniso bezamkhonza uBaba ngomoya langeqiniso, ngoba yibo abakhonzi abanjalo uBaba abadingayo. **24** UNkulunkulu ungumoya, labo abamkhonzayo kumele bamkhonze ngomoya langeqiniso.” **25** Owesifazane wathi, “Ngiyakwazi ukuthi uMesiya (othiwa nguKhristu) uyeza. Esefikele uzasichazela konke.” **26** UJesu wasesithi, “Mina engikhuluma lawe nginguye.” **27** Ngalesikhathi abafundi bakhe baphenduka, bamangala ukufumana uJesu ekhuluma lowesifazane. Kodwa kakho owabuzayo wathi, “Ufunani na?” kumbe athi, “Kungani ukhuluma lowesifazane na?” **28** Owesifazane watshiya inkonxa yakhe wabuyela emzini wakibo wathi ebantwini, **29** “Wozani lizobona indoda engitshele konke esengake ngakwena. Kambe angaba nguye yini uKhristu?” **30** Baphuma emzini lowo baqonda kuye. **31** Kusenzakala konke lokhu abafundi bakhe bamncenga bathi, “Rabi, ake udle ulutho.” **32** Kodwa wathi kubo, “Ngilokudla engikudlayo elingakwaziyo lina.” **33** Abafundi babuzana bathi, “Kambe ngabe ukhona omlethele ukudla na?” **34** UJesu wathi, “Okwami ukudla yikwenza intando yalowo ongithumileyo lokuphelelisa umsebenzi wakhe. **35** Kanti angithi lithi, ‘Kusele izinyanga ezine ukuthi kufike isikhathi sokuvuna?’ Ngithi vulani amehlo enu likhangele

amasimul! Amabele aselungele ukuvunwa. **36** Khathesi lokhu, umvuni uvele usehle ezuya iholo lakhe, usebuthela amabele ekuphileni kwaphakade, ukuze umhlanyeli lomvuni bajabule ndawonye. (aiōnios g166) **37** Ngakho ilizwi elithi, ‘Omunye uyahlanyela, omunye avune’ liliqiniso. **38** Ngalithuma ukuyavuna lokho elingakusebenzelanga. Abanye bawenzile umsebenzi onzima, lina selivune umvuzo womsebenzi wabo.” **39** AmaSamariya amanengi akulowomuzi akholwa kuye ngenxa yobufakazi bowesifazane owathi, “Ungitshele konke esengake ngakwenza.” **40** Ngakho amaSamariya esefike kuye amcela ukuthi ahlele labo, wasehlala insuku ezimbili. **41** Ngenxa yamazwi akhe abanengi baba ngamakholwa. **42** Bathi kowesifazane, “Kasisakholwa kuphela ngenxa yalokho okutshiloyo; manje sesizizwele thina ngokwethu, ngakho sesisazi ukuthi umuntu lo ngeqiniso unguMsindisi womhlaba.” **43** Ngemva kwalezonsuku ezimbili, uJesu wasuka waya eGalile. **44** (Phela uJesu yena ngokwakhe wayetshilo ukuthi umphrofethi kalalo udumo elizweni lakibo.) **45** Wathi efika eGalile, amaGalile amamukela ngokumthakazelela. Ayekubonile konke lokho akwenzayo eJerusalema, eMkhosini wePhasika, ngoba lawo ayekhona khonale. **46** Wabuya njalo wethekelela eKhana laseGalile, lapho aphenkela khona amanzi abaliwayini. Kwakuhona lapho isiphathamandla sasesikhosini esasigulelwa yindodana yaso eKhapenawume. **47** Kwathi indoda leyo isizwile ukuthi uJesu wayesefikile eGalile evela eJudiya, yaya kuye yamncenga ukuthi eze azosilisa indodana yayo eyayisibangwa lezibi. **48** UJesu wasitshela wathi, “Ngaphandle kokuthi lina bantu libone izibonakaliso ezididayo lezimangaliso kalisoze lafa lakholwa.” **49** Sathi isiphathamandla sasesikhosini, “Nkosi, woza umntanami engakafi.” **50** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Usungahamba. Indodana yakho izaphila.” Indoda yalikholwa ilizwi likajesu yayhamba. **51** Yathi ilokhu isesendleleni, izinceku zayo ziyahlangabeza ziyibikela ukuthi indodana yayo yayisiluleme. **52** Isibuzile ukuthi kwakuyisikhathi bani lapho indodana yayo eyasila ngaso, zathi kuyo, “Umkhuhlane uyixolele izolo ngehola lakuqala emini.” **53** Uyise wananzelela ukuthi leso yiso kanye isikhathi uJesu atsho kuye ukuthi, “Indodana yakho izaphila.” Ngakho yena kanye labendlu yakhe bonke bakholwa. **54** Lo kwakungumangaliso wesibili uJesu awenzayo esefikile eGalile evela eJudiya.

5 Emva kwesikhathi esithile uJesu waya eJerusalema emkhosini wamaJuda. **2** EJerusalema kukhona ichibi eduze lesango leZimvu, elithiwa ngesi-Aramu yiBhethisayida, elalihonqolozelwe ngensika ezinhlanu ezibiyelweyo. **3** Khonapho abantu abayizilima abanengi babandise ukuhlala khona, iziphofu, abaqhulayo, abome imihlulubo [belindele ukudungwa kwamanzi; **4** ngoba kwakusithi ngezikhathi ezithile ingilosi yeNkosi yayisehlela echibini, idungadunge amanzi besekusithi umuntu oqalayo ukungena emanzini ngemva kokudungeka kwawo asilise loba kuwuphi umkhuhlane owawumbambile]. **5** Omunye owayelapho wayeyisigoga okweminyaka engamatshumi amathathu lesificaminwembili. **6** Kwathi uJesu embona elele khonapho njalo esetsheliwe ukuthi kade abanjalo okwesikhathi eside, wambuza wathi, “Uyafuna na ukusila?” **7** Oyisilima waphendula wathi, “Nkosi, kangilamuntu wokungisiza angingenise echibini lapho amanzi edungwa. Ngithi lapho ngizama ukungena omunye angingenele kuqala.” **8** UJesu wasethi kuye, “Sukuma! Thatha

icansi lakho uhambe.” **9** Khonokho nje indoda yasila; yathatha icansi layo yahamba. Lokhu kwenzakala ngelanga leSabatha, **10** amaJuda asesithi endodeni eyayisilisiwe, “KuliSabatha; umthetho uyakwalela ukuthi uthwale icansi lakho.” **11** Kodwa yaphendula yathi, “Umuntu ongisilisiwe uthe, “Thatha icansi lakho uhambe.”” **12** Aseyibuza athi, “Ngubani yena lowo okutshela ukuthi uthathe icansi uhambe?” **13** Indoda leyo eyasiliswayo yayingafanisi lakufanisa ukuthi kambe ngabe wayengubani, ngoba uJesu wayesethe nyelele wangena phakathi kwabantu. **14** Emva kwalokho uJesu wayifumana ethempelini indoda leyo wathi kuyo, “Khangelale ususilile njalo. Khawula ukwenza isono funa okubi ukwedlula okokuqala kukwehlele.” **15** Indoda leyo yasuka yayatshela amaJuda ukuthi kwakunguJesu owayeyisilisiwe. **16** Ngakho amaJuda amkhahlameza uJesu ngoba wayesenza izinto lezi ngeSabatha. **17** UJesu wathi kubo, “UBaba uhlezi esemebenzini wakhe kuze kube namuhla, lami njalo ngiyasebenza.” **18** Ngalesisizatho amajuda azama kakhulu ukumbalala; wayengephuli iSabatha kuphela kodwa wayebiza uNkulunkulu ngokuthi nguYise, ezenza yena olingana loNkulunkulu. **19** UJesu wabanika impendulo le: “Ngiqinisile ngithi iNdodana ingeke yenze lutho ngokwayo; ingenza kuphela lokho ebona uYise ekwenza, ngoba loba kuyini uYise akwenzayo leNdodana iyakwenza. **20** Ngoba uYise uyayithanda iNdodana, uyitshengisa konke akwenzayo. Yebo, lizamangala ukuthi uzayitshengisa izinto ezinkulu kulalezi. **21** Njengalokhu uYise evusa abafuleyo abaphe ukuphila, kanjalo iNdodana inika ukuphila kulabo ethanda ukubanika khona. **22** Okunye njalo, uYise kahluleli muntu, kodwa usebeke konke ukwahlulela ezandleni zeNdodana, **23** ukuze bonke bayidumise iNdodana njengalokhu bedumisa uYise. Lowo ongayidumisiyo iNdodana kamdumisi uYise oyithumileyo. **24** Ngiqinisile ngithi lowo owezwayo amazwi ami amkhohle lowo ongithumileyo ulokuphila okungapheliyo njalo kazukulahlwa; usechaphile wasuka ekufeni waya ekuphileni. (aiōnios g166) **25** Ngiqinisile ngithi, isikhathi siyeza njalo sivele sesifikile lapho abafuleyo bezalizwa ilizwi leNdodana kaNkulunkulu, kuthi bonke abezwayo baphile. **26** Njengoba uYise elokuphila kuye yena ngokwakhe, ngakho useyinikile iNdodana ukuba ibe lokuphila kuyo yona ngokwayo. **27** Njalo useyiphile amandla okwahlulela ngoba iyiNdodana yoMuntu. **28** Kakungalimangalisi lokhu ngoba siyeza isikhathi lapho bonke abasemathuneni abo bezalizwa ilizwi layo **29** baphume, labo abenze okuhle bazavuka baphile, labo abenze ububi bazavuka balahlwe. **30** Mina ngokwami ngingeke ngenze lutho; ngahlulela njengokutshelwa kwami, futhi ukwahlulela kwami kuqondile, ngoba kangidingi kuzithabisa, kodwa ukuthabisa lowo ongithumileyo.” **31** “Nxa ngizifakazela mina ngokwami ubufakazi bami kabuqinisekanga. **32** Ukhona omunye ofakaza kuhle ngami njalo ngiyazi ukuthi ubufakazi bakhe ngami buqinisekile. **33** Selike lathumela kuJohane yena walifakazela iqiniso. **34** Kakutsho ukuthi ngamukela ubufakazi bomuntu; kodwa ngikuthinta lokhu ukuze lisindiswe. **35** UJohane wayeyisibane esabhebhayo sanika ukukhanya, lakhetha ukuthokoza ngokukhanya kwakhe okwesikhathshana. **36** Ngilabo ubufakazi obulesisindo esikhulu kulobukaJohane. Ngoba umsebenzi uBaba anginike wona ukuba ngiwuqedise, wona engiwenzayo uyafakaza ukuthi uBaba ungithumile. **37** Njalo uBaba ongithumileyo usefakazile yena ngokwakhe ngami. Kalikaze lilizwe ilizwi lakhe kumbe libone isimo sakhe **38** njalo ilizwi lakhe kalihlali kini ngoba kalimkhohla

lowo amthumileyo. **39** Liphenyisisa imibhalo liyihlola ngoba licabanga ukuthi ngayo lilakho ukuphila okungapheliyo. Yiyo le imibhalo efakaza ngami, (aiōnios g166) **40** ikanti liyala ukuza kimi lizozuza ukuphila. **41** Kangilwamukeli udumo olusuka ebantwini, **42** kodwa ngiyalazi lina. Ngiyazi ukuthi kalilalo uthando lukaNkulunkulu ezinhliziyweni zenu. **43** Ngibuyele ngebizo likaBaba kodwa kalingamukeli; kodwa nxa omunye efika ngebizo lakhe, lizamamukela. **44** Lingakhohla kanjani nxa lisamukela udumo elizipha lona kodwa lingenzi mizamo yokuzuzwa udumo oluvela kuNkulunkulu onguye yedwa na? **45** Kodwa lingacabangi ukuthi ngizaletsa icala phambi kumaBaba. Umangaleli wenu nguMosi, okunye elibeke khona amathemba enu. **46** Kube lamkhohla uMosi, ngabe liyangikhohla ngoba wabhala ngami. **47** Kodwa njengoba lingakukhohla lokho akubhalayo, lizakukhohla kanjani lokho engikutshoyo na?”

6 Ngemva kwalokhu uJesu wachaphela ngaphetsheya koLwandle lwaseGalile (kutshiwo uLwandle lwaseThibheriyasi), **2** njalo walandelwa lixuku elikhulu labantu ngoba babona imimangaliso ayeenzile kwabegula. **3** UJesu wasesiya eceleni kwentaba walala khona labafundi bakhe. **4** UMKhosi wePhasika wamaJuda wawusondele. **5** UJesu wathi uyakhangelwa wabona ixuku labantu elikhulu lisiza kuye, wathi kuFiliphu, “Singasithenga ngaphi isinkwa ukuze abantu laba badle?” **6** Wabuza lokhu emlinga nje kuphela ngoba wayevele esekwazi ayezakwenza. **7** UFiliphu wamphendula wathi, “Amadenari angamakhulu amabili ngeke athenge isinkwa esenela ukuthi umuntu munye nje azuze ucezwana!” **8** Omunye wabafundi bakhe, u-Andreya, umfowabo kaSimoni Phethro wakhuluma wathi, **9** “Nangu umfana olezinkwa zebhali ezinhlanu lenhlanzi ezimbili ezincinyane, kodwa zingafika ngaphi ebantwini abanengi kangaka na?” **10** UJesu wathi, “Hlalisani abantu phansi.” Kwakulotshani obunengi kuleyondawo, asehlala phansi (amadoda ubunengi bawo bungaba zinkulungwane ezinhlanu). **11** UJesu wasezithatha izinkwa, wakhuleka, wasezabela labo abasebehlizi phansi, wabapha njengokufuna kwabo. Wenza njalo langenhlanzi. **12** Kwathi bonke sebesuthi, wasesithi kubafundi bakhe, “Buthani imvuthu eziseleyo. Kakungalahlwa lutho.” **13** Ngakho bazibutha bagcwalisa izitsha ezilitshumi lambili ngemvuthu zezinkwa zebhali ezatshiywa yilabo ababedile. **14** Abantu sebewubonile umangaliso awenzayo uJesu baqalisa ukuthi, “Ngeqiniso lo nguye uMphrofethi ozafika emhlabeni.” **15** UJesu esazi ukuthi babeqonde ukuzomenza inkosi ngenkani, wathi nyelele wabuyela entabeni yedwa. **16** Kwathi kusihlwa abafundi behlela ezisibeni, **17** lapho abawela khona isikepe bachapha isiziba baya eKaphenawume. Ngalesosikhathi kwasekuhlwile, uJesu elokhu engakabuyi kubo. **18** Kwakuvunguza umoya omkhulu amanzi asequbuka kubi. **19** Sebegwedle okwamakhilomitha amahlanu loba ayisithupha bambona uJesu esiza esikepeni ehamba phezu kwamanzi; bethuka kakhulu. **20** Kodwa wathi kubo, “Yimi; lingesabi.” **21** Babefuna ukumngenisisa esikepeni, kwathi masinyane isikepe sahle safika ekhunjini lapho ababeqonde khona. **22** Ngelanga elilandelayo ixuku labantu elalisele ekhunjini elinganeno lananzelela ukuthi kwakukade kulesikepe esisodwa, lokuthi uJesu kangenanga kuso kanye labafundi bakhe, kodwa babehambe bodwa. **23** Kwasekufika ezinye izikepe zivela eThibheriyasi zamiswa eduze lalapho abantu ababedlele khona isinkwa ngemva kokuba inkosi

isiqale yakhuleka. **24** Ixuku lonela ukunanzelela ukuthi uJesu kanye labafundi bakhe babengasekho lapho, bangena ezikepeni baya eKhaphenawume ukuyadinga uJesu. **25** Bathi sebemfumene ngaphetsheya kwechibi bambuza bathi, “Rabi, kanti ufike nini lapha?” **26** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ngiqinisele ukuthi kalingidingi ngoba libone imimangaliso, kodwa ngoba lidle izinkwa lasutha. **27** Lingasebenzeli ukudla okubolayo, kodwa sebenzelani ukudla okuhlala okwempilo engapheliyo elizakuphiwa yiNdodana yoMuntu. UBaba uNkulunkulu usebeke kuyo uphawu lwakhe.” (aiōnios g166) **28** Basebembuza bathi, “Kumele senzeni ukuze senze umsebenzi kaNkulunkulu na?” **29** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Umsebenzi kaNkulunkulu yilo: ukukholwa kulowo amthumileyo.” **30** Basebembuza bathi, “Uzasitshengisa simangaliso bani esizasibona ukuze sikukholwe na? Kuyini ozakwenza? **31** Okhokho badla imana enkangala; njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: ‘Wabapha isinkwa sivela ezulwini ukuba badle.’” **32** UJesu wathi kubo, “Ngiqinisele ngithi, kakusuye uMosi olinike isinkwa sivela ezulwini, kodwa nguBaba olinika isinkwa seqiniso sivela ezulwini. **33** Ngoba isinkwa sikaNkulunkulu singulowo owehla ezulwini anike ukuphila emhlabeni.” **34** Bathi, “Nkosi, kusukela manje siphe lesisinkwa sokuphila.” **35** UJesu wachaza wathi, “Ngiyisinkwa sokuphila. Lowo ozayo kimi kasoze afa alamba, lalowo okholwa kimi kasoze aphinde ome. **36** Kodwa njengoba ngilithelile selingibonile, kodwa lokhe lingakholwa. **37** Konke lokho uBaba anginika khona kuzakuba kimi njalo lowo oza kimi kangisoze ngimlahle. **38** Ngoba ngehlile ezulwini, hatshi ukuzokwenza eyami intando kodwa ukwenza intando yalowo ongithumileyo. **39** Intando yakhe ongithumileyo yile, ukuthi ngingalahlekelwa langokukodwa kwalokho anginike khona, kodwa ngibavuse ngosuku lokucina. **40** Ngoba intando kaBaba iyikuthi bonke abakhangele eNdodaneni bakholwe kuyo bazakuba lokuphila okungapheliyo njalo ngizabavusa ngosuku lokucina.” (aiōnios g166) **41** Esizwa lokhu amaJuda aqalisa ukukhonona ngaye ngoba wathi, “Ngiyisinkwa esehlayo sivela ezulwini.” **42** Athi, “Kanti kasujesu lo indodana kaJosefa na? Oyise lonina kasibazi na? Pho angakutsho kanjani manje ukuthi, ‘Ngehla ngivela ezulwini?’” **43** UJesu wathi, “Yekelani ukukhonona phakathi kwenu. **44** Kakho ongeza kimi ngaphandle kokuthi uBaba ongithumileyo amsondeze, mina-ke ngizamvusa ngosuku lokucina. **45** Kulotshiwe kubaphrofethi ukuthi: ‘Bonke bazafundiswa nguNkulunkulu.’ Wonke lowo olalela uBaba afunde kuye uyeza kimi. **46** Kakho osewake wambona uBaba ngaphandle kwalowo ovela kuNkulunkulu; nguye kuphela ombonileyo uBaba. **47** Ngiqinisele ukuthi lowo okholwayo ulokuphila okungapheliyo. (aiōnios g166) **48** Ngiyisinkwa sokuphila. **49** Okhokho benu bayidla imana enkangala, kodwa bafa. **50** Kodwa nansi isinkwa esehla sivela ezulwini, umuntu angasidla angabe esafa. **51** Ngiyisinkwa esiphilayo esehlela phansi sivela ezulwini. Nxa umuntu angasidla lesisinkwa, uzaphila laphakade. Lesosinkwa siyinyama yami engizayinikela ukuphila komhlaba.” (aiōn g165) **52** Lapho-ke, amaJuda aseqalisa ukuphikisana ngamandla esithi, “Umuntu lo angasipha kanjani inyama yakhe ukuba siyidle na?” **53** UJesu wathi kubo, “Ngiqinisele ngithi, ngaphandle kokuba lidle inyama yeNdodana yoMuntu, linathe igazi layo, kalilakuphila phakathi kwenu. **54** Lowo odla inyama yami njalo anathe igazi lami ulokuphila okungapheliyo njalo ngizamvusa ngosuku lokucina. (aiōnios g166) **55** Ngoba inyama

iyikhona kudla okuqotho legazi lami liyikumatha okuqotho. **56** Lowo odla inyama yami njalo anathe igazi lami uhlala kimi, lami kuye. **57** Njengoba uBaba ophilayo wangithuma njalo ngiphila ngenxa kaBaba, kanjalo lowo odla mina uzaphila ngenxa yami. **58** Lesi yiso isinkwa esehla sivela ezulwini. Okhokho benu badla imana, kodwa bafa, kodwa odla lesisinkwa uzaphila lanininini.” (aiōn g165) **59** Wakutsho lokhu efundisa esinagoweni eKhaphenawume. **60** Bathi bekuzwa lokhu abafundi bakhe abanengi bathi, “Le yimfundiso enzima. Kambe ngubani ongayamukela na?” **61** UJesu wathi ngokunanzelela ukuthi abafundi bakhe babekhona ngalokhu wathi kubo, “Lokhu kuyalikhuba yini? **62** Kungaba njani pho nxa lingayibona iNdodana yoMuntu isenyuka ibuyela lapho eyayikhona ngaphambilini! **63** UMoya unika ukuphila; inyama kayisizi lutho. Amazwi engiwakhulume kini angumoya njalo ayikuphila. **64** Kodwa bakhona abanye benu abangakhulwayo.” Ngoba uJesu wayevele esazi kusukela ekuqaleni ukuba yibaphi phakathi kwabo ababengakholwa lokuthi ngubani owayezamnikela. **65** Waqhubeka wathi, “Yikho ngalithshela ngathi kakho ongeza kimi ngaphandle kokuba ephiwe amandla nguBaba.” **66** Kusukela kulesosikhathi abafundi bakhe abanengi bamdela ababe besamlandela. **67** UJesu wabuzab abalithshumi lambili wathi, “Lina kalifuni kudela lihambe na?” **68** USimoni Phethro waphendula wathi, “Nkosi, sizakuba kubani na? Wena ulamazwi okuphila okungapheliyo. (aiōnios g166) **69** Thina siyakholwa njalo siyazi ukuthi ungoNgcwele kaNkulunkulu.” **70** UJesu wasephendula wathi, “Kangilikhethanga yini, lina elilitshumi lambili na? Ikanti omunye wenu unguSathane!” **71** (Wayesitsho uJudasi, indodana kaSimoni Iskariyothi, owathi loba engomunye wabalithshumi lambili wamnikela.)

7 Ngemva kwalokhu uJesu wahambahamba eGalile, kazathanda ukuya eJudiya ngoba amaJuda alapho ayefuna indlela yokumbulala. **2** Kwathi uMkhosi wamaJuda weziHonqo ususondele **3** abafowabo bakajesu bathi kuye, “Sekumele usuke lapha uye eJudiya ukuze abafundi bakho babone imimangaliso ejenzayo. **4** Kakho umuntu othi efuna ukuba lodumo asebenzele ensitha. Njengoba usenza izinto lezi ziveze emhlabeni.” **5** Ngoba labafowabo babengakholwa kuye. **6** Ngakho uJesu wabatshelela wathi, “Kasikafiki isikhathi sami salokho; kini loba yisiphi isikhathi sililungele. **7** Umhlaba ngeke ulizonde, kodwa mina uyangizonda ngoba ngiveza ukuthi lokho okwenzayo kubi. **8** Hambani lina emkhosini. Mina kangikayi emkhosini lowo ngoba kimi kasikafiki isikhathi esifaneleyo.” **9** Esetsho lokhu wazihlalela eGalile. **10** Kodwa ngemva kokuba abafowabo sebhambile emkhosini laye waya khona, hatshi obala kodwa wahamba ensitha. **11** Khonapho emkhosini amaJuda ayemlindele ebuza esithi, “Ingaphi indoda leyana?” **12** Phakathi kwamaxuku abantu kwakulokunyenyezela ngaye. Abanye bathi, “Ungumuntu olungileyo.” Abanye baphendula bathi, “Hatshi, ukhohlisa abantu.” **13** Kodwa kakho owakhuluma ngaye obala ngokwesaba amaJuda. **14** Kwathi isikhathi somkhosi sesiphakathi laphakathi uJesu wasesiya egumeni lethempeli waqalisa ukufundisa. **15** AmaJuda amangala, abuzathi, “Indoda le yaluzuzuka kanjani ulwazi olungaka yona ingafundanga?” **16** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Imfundiso yami kayisiyami. Ivela kulowo ongithumileyo. **17** Nxa umuntu ekhetha ukwenza intando kaNkulunkulu uzabona ingabe

imfundiso yami ivela kuNkulunkulu loba ngiyazikhulumela. **18** Lowo ozikhulumelayo wenzela ukuzizuzela udumo, kodwa lowo osebenzela udumo lwalowo omthumileyo ngumuntu weqiniso; kakulankohliso kuye. **19** UMosi kalinikanga yini umthetho? Kodwa kakho lamunye kini owugcinayo umthetho. Kungani lifuna ukungibulala na? **20** IXuku labantu laphendula lathi, “Ulamadimoni wena. Ngubani ofuna ukukubulala?” **21** UJesu wathi kubo, “Ngenza umgangaliso owodwa lamangala kakhulu lonke. **22** Kodwa ngoba uMosi walipha ukusoka (loba iqiniso liyikuthi kakuvelanga kuMosi kodwa kubokhokho), liyamsoka umntwana ngeSabatha. **23** Manje-ke, nxa umntwana engasokwa ngeSabatha kungabi yikuwephula umthetho kaMosi, pho mina lingizondelani ngokuthi ngisilise umuntu ngokupheleleyo ngeSabatha na? **24** Khawulani ukusola ngokubona kwamehlo kodwa yahlulelani ngokuqondileyo.” **25** Ngalesosikhathi abanye abantu baseJerusalemaba babuza bathi, “Kanti kasuye yini umuntu lo abafuna ukumbulala na? **26** Nangu phela ekhuluma egcekeni kodwa kabatsho lutho kuye. Kambe iziphathamandla zingabe sezibone ukuthi nguye uKhristu na? **27** Kodwa siyakwazi thina lapha indoda le edabuka khona; nxa uKhristu esefika, kakho ozakwazi lapho avela khona.” **28** Kwathi uJesu elokhu esafundisa egumeni lethempeli, wamemeza wathi, “Yebo, liyangazi njalo liyakwazi lapho ngivela khona. Kangizibuyelanga lapha kodwa lowo ongithumileyo uqinisele. Kalimazi **29** kodwa mina ngiyamazazi ngoba ngivela kuye, nguye ongithumileyo.” **30** Besizwa lokhu bazama ukumbamba kodwa kakho owambeka isandla ngoba isikhathi sakhe sasingakafiki. **31** Loba kunjalo, abanengi esukwini labantu bakholwa kuye. Bathi, “Nxa uKhristu angafika, kambe uzakwenza imimangaliso okwedlula umuntu lo?” **32** AbaFarisi bezwa abantu benyenyeza izinto ezinjalo ngaye. AbaFarisi labaphristi abakhulu basebethuma amanxusa ethempelini ukuba ayembopha. **33** UJesu wathi, “Ngilani okwesikhathi esifitshane, besengihamba ngisiya kuye ongithumileyo. **34** Lizangidinga kodwa lingangifumani; lalapho engikhona lingeke lifike.” **35** AmaJuda abuzana athi, “Umuntu lo ufuna ukuya ngaphi lapho esingeke samfumana khona na? Uzakuya ebantwini bakithi abahlakazekileyo abahlala phakathi kwamaGriki, afundise amaGriki na? **36** Ubesitshoni esithi, ‘Lizangidinga, kodwa lingangifumani,’ njalo wathi, ‘Lapho engikhona lingeke lifike?’” **37** Ngelanga lokucina elaliqakatheke kakhulu emkhosini, uJesu wasukuma wakhuluma ngelizwi elikhulu wathi, “Nxa ekhona owomileyo keze kimi azonatha. **38** Loba ngubani okholwa kimi njengoba uMbhalo utshilo, imifula yamanzi aphilayo izageleza ngaphakathi kwakhe.” **39** Ngalokhu wayesitsho uMoya, okwakuzakuthi labo abakholwa kuye bamamukele ngesikhathi esizayo. Kuze kube yilesosikhathi uMoya wawungakathelwa ebantwini, njengoba uJesu wayengakakhazimuliswa. **40** Sebewazwile amazwi akhe abanye bathi, “Ngeqiniso umuntu lo nguye umphrofethi.” **41** Abanye bathi, “Nguye uKhristu.” Abanye njalo babuza bathi, “Kungenzeka kanjani ukuthi uKhristu avele eGalile na? **42** Umbhalo kawutsho yini ukuthi uKhristu uzavela kusendo lukaDavida, eBethlehemema, umuzi lapho uDavida ayehlala khona.” **43** Kanjalo abantu badabukana phakathi ngenxa kaJesu. **44** Abanye babefuna ukumbamba, kodwa kakho owambeka isandla. **45** Amanxusa ethempelini acina esebuyela kubaphristi abakhulu labaFarisi athi, “Kungani lingezanga laye?” **46** Amanxusa afakaza athi, “Kakho osewake wakhuluma njengaloyamuntu.” **47** AbaFarisi

bakhwaza bathi, “Litsho ukuthi lani uselikhohlisile? **48** Ukhona na kubabusi loba kubFarisi osebeke ithemba lakhe kuye? **49** Hatshi! Kodwa inkunkuma yabantu le engazilutho ngezomthetho, iqalekisiwe.” **50** UNikhodimasi owayeye kujesu mandulo, owayengomunye wabo wabuza wathi, **51** “Kanti umthetho wakithi uyamhlala na umuntu engaqalanga wabuzwa ukuthi yena uthini ngokwakhe?” **52** Baphendula bathi, “Lawe uvela eGalile yini? Ake ukudingisise, uzabona ukuthi kakulamphrofethi ongaphuma eGalile.” [**53** Ngakho bonke basuka baya emizini yabo.

8 Kodwa uJesu waya eNtabeni yama-Oliva. **2** Kwathi kusisa wabonakala njalo emagumeni ethempeli, abantu bonke babuthana kuye, wahlala phansi wabafundisa. **3** Abafundisi bomthetho labaFarisi baetha owesifazane owayebanjwe ephinga. Bamisa phambi kwabantu **4** bathi kujesu, “Mfundisi, owesifazane lo ukhandwe efebha. **5** EMthethweni uMosi wasilaya ukuthi abesifazane abanjalo kabakhandwe ngamatshe. Manje wena uthini?” **6** Umbuzo lo wawungumjibila wabo ukuze bazuze izaba lokumbeka icala. Kodwa uJesu wakhothama waseloba phansi ngomunwe. **7** Kwathi ngoba belokhu bephikelela ngokumbuzwa wabakhangela wathi kubo, “Nxa ekhona phakathi kwenu ongelasono kaqale ukumkhanda ngamatshe.” **8** Waphinda wakhothama waloba phansi emhlabathini. **9** Esetshonjalo labo abezwayo baqala ukuthi nyelele munye ngamunye bahamba, kwaqala ngabadala bakhona, kwaze kwasala uJesu yedwa lowesifazane lowo elokhu emi khonapho. **10** UJesu wamkhangela wambuza wathi, “Mama, kanti sebeye ngaphi? Kasekho yini okwethesa icala?” **11** Owesifazane wathi, “Kabasekho, nkosi.” UJesu waphendula wathi, “Lami-ke, kangikulahlali, zihambeke, kodwa ungangaphindi wenze isono futhi.” **12** Kwathi uJesu esekhuluma ebantwini njalo wathi, “Ngiyikukhanya komhlaba. Loba ngubani ongilandelayo kasoze ahambe ebumnyameni lanini kodwa uzakuba lokukhanya kokuphila.” **13** AbaFarisi bahle bamqaga bathi, “Nanko-ke, wena uyazifakazela; ubufakazi bakho kabulaqiniso.” **14** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Loba ngizifakazela mina, ubufakazi bami buqinisele ngoba ngiyakwazi lapho engavela khona lalapho engiyakhona. Kodwa lina kumnyama nje kini ukuthi ngivela ngaphi lokuthi ngiya ngaphi. **15** Lina lahlulela ngendlela yabantu; mina kangahluleli muntu. **16** Kodwa ngithi nxa ngingehlulela, izinqumo zami zilungile ngoba kangingedwa. Ngimi loBaba ongithumileyo. **17** EMthethweni wenu kulotshiwe ukuthi ubufakazi babantu ababili buqinisele. **18** Yimi ngokwami engizifakazelayo; omunye umfakazi nguBaba ongithumileyo.” **19** Basebembuza bathi, “Ungaphi uyihlo?” UJesu waphendula wathi, “Kalingazi mina kanye loBaba. Aluba belingazi, belizamazi loBaba njalo.” **20** Wawakhuluma amazwi la efundisa egumeni lethempeli eduze lalapho okwakubekwa khona iminikelo. Kodwa kakho owambambayo ngoba isikhathi sakhe sasingakafiki. **21** Waphinda njalo uJesu wathi kubo, “Ngiyasuka lapha, futhi lizangidinga, kodwa lizafela esonweni senu. Lapho engiyakhona alingeke lize khona.” **22** AmaJuda asebzuzana athi, “Uzazibulala yini? Yikho yini esithi, ‘Lapho engiyakhona lingeke lize khona?’” **23** Kodwa waqhubeka wathi, “Lina lingabalapha phansi; mina ngivela phezu. Lingabomhlaba; mina kangisiwalo umhlaba. **24** Ngilitshelele ukuthi lizafela esonweni zenu; nxa lingakholwa ukuthi nginguye engithi nginguye, ngempela lizafela esonweni zenu.” **25** Bambuza bathi, “Uvele ungubani?” UJesu waphendula wathi, “Khonokho ebengivele ngikutsho

sonke lesisikhathi. **26** Kunengi engingalahulela ngakho. Kodwa lowo ongithumileyo uthembekile njalo lokho engikuzwileyo kusuka kuye ngikutshela umhlaba.” **27** Kabazange bazwise ukuthi wayebatshele ngoYise. **28** Ngakho uJesu wasesithi, “Lapho selyiphakamisile iNdodana yoMuntu lizakwazi ukuthi ngubani lokuthi kangenzi lutho ngokwami kodwa ngikhuluma kuphela lokho uBaba angfundise khona. **29** Lowo ongithumileyo ulami; kangitshiyanga ngingedwa ngoba ngihlezi ngisenza lokho okumthokozisayo.” **30** Wathi esakhuluma lokhu abanengi bakholwa kuye. **31** UJesu wathi kumaJuda amkholwayo, “Nxa libambelela emfundisweni yami lingabafundi bami ngempela. **32** Ngakho lizalazi iqiniso, njalo iqiniso lizalikhulula.” **33** Amphendula athi, “Siyinzalo ka-Abrahama futhi kasizange lanini sibe yizigqili zamuntu. Ukutsho kanjani pho ukuthi sizakhululwa?” **34** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ngiqinisile ngithi wonke owenza isono uyisigqili sesono. **35** Phela isigqili kasilandawo emiyo emulini, kodwa oyindodana ungowakhona lanininini. (aiōn g165) **36** Ngakho-ke, nxa iNdodana ilikhulula, lizakhululeka ngempela. **37** Ngiyakwazi ukuthi lingabosendo luka-Abrahama. Kodwa selizimisele ukungibulala ngoba ilizwi lami kalilandawo kini. **38** Ngilithshela lokho engikubone phambi kukaBaba kodwa lina lenza lokho elikuzwileyo ngoyihlo.” **39** Aphendula athi, “U-Abrahama nguye ubaba.” UJesu wathi, “Aluba belingabantwana baka-Abrahama ngabe lenza izinto ezenziwa nguye u-Abrahama. **40** Kodwa kunje nje lizimisele ukungibulala, mina muntu oselitshela iqiniso engilizwileyo livela kuNkulunkulu. U-Abrahama kazenzanga izinto ezinjalo. **41** Lenza izinto ezenziwa ngowenu uyihlo.” Amvukela athi, “Kasisibantwana abazuzwa ngobufefe thina. UBaba esilaye kuphela nguNkulunkulu ngokwakhe.” **42** UJesu wathi kuwo, “Kube uNkulunkulu ubenguYihlo, belizangithanda ngoba ngavela kuNkulunkulu, okwamanje sengilapha. Kangizibuyelanga kodwa uNkulunkulu wangithuma. **43** Kungani lingaluzwisisi ulimi engilukhulumayo na? Ngoba liyehluleka ukuzwa engikutshoyi. **44** Lingabakayihlo uSathane ngakho lifuna ukusenza isifiso sikayihlo. Wavele waba ngumbulali mdabuko wakhe, kemanga eqinisweni ngoba uvele engelalo iqiniso. Uthi nxa ewaqamba amanga, akhulume ulimi lomdabuko wakhe ngoba ungomangase loyise wamanga. **45** Kodwa kalingikholwa ngoba ngilithshela iqiniso! **46** Ukhona na kini ongaveza ukuthi ngilecala lesono? Nxa ngikhuluma iqiniso kungani lingangikholwa na? **47** Lowo ongokaNkulunkulu uyakuzwa lokho uNkulunkulu akutshoyi. Isizatho sokuthi lingezwa yikuthi kalisiba bakaNkulunkulu.” **48** Amajuda aphendula athi, “Siyalahleka yini nxa sisithi ungumSamariya njalo ulamadimoni?” **49** UJesu wathi, “Kangiladimoni mina, kodwa ngidumisa uBaba ikanti lina liyangigcona. **50** Kangizidingeli udumo mina kodwa ukhona olufunayo, yena ungumahluleli. **51** Ngiyaqinisa ngithi, nxa umuntu egcina ilizwi lami kasoze akubone ukufa lanini.” (aiōn g165) **52** Esizwa lokhu amaJuda ababaza athi, “Khathesi sesisazi ukuthi uledimoni! U-Abrahama wafa kanye labo abaphrofethi kodwa wena uthi nxa umuntu egcina ilizwi lakho kasoze akuzwe ukufa lanini. (aiōn g165) **53** Wena umkhulu kulobaba u-Abrahama na? Wafa, kanye labo abaphrofethi. Wena uzenza bani na?” **54** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Nxa ngizidumisa mina ngokwami, luyize udumo lwami. UBaba, elithi unguNkulunkulu wenu nguye ongidumisayo. **55** Lanxa lina lingamazi, mina ngiyamazi. Ngabe ngithe kangimazi, bengizabe ngingumqambi wamanga

njengani kodwa ngiyamazi njalo ngiyaligcina ilizwi lakhe. **56** Uyihlo u-Abrahama wathakazelela umnakano wokulubona usuku lwami; walubona wathokoza.” **57** AmaJuda athi kuye, “Kawukafikisi iminyaka engamatshumi amahlanu obudala, kodwa uthi usumbonile u-Abrahama!” **58** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ngilithshela iqiniso ukuthi u-Abrahama engakazalwa, mina ngasengikhona!” **59** Besizwa lokhu badobha amatshe befuna ukumkhanda kodwa uJesu wasithela, waphunyuka wasuka emagumeni ethempeli.

9 UJesu wathi elokhu ehamba wabona indoda eyayiyisiphofu kusukela ekuzalweni kwayo. **2** Abafundi bakhe bambuza bathi, “Rabi, ngubani owenza isono, indoda le loba abazali bayo ukuze izalwe iyisiphofu na?” **3** UJesu wathi, “Kakusikho ukuthi abazali bayo loba yona indoda le yenza isono kodwa lokhu kwenzakala ukuze umsebenzi kaNkulunkulu ubonakaliswe empilweni yayo. **4** Nxa kulokhu kusemini kumele siwenze umsebenzi wakhe ongithumileyo. Ubusuku buyeza lapho kungelamuntu ongasebenza khona. **5** Nxa ngisesemhlabeni, ngiyikukhanya komhlaba.” **6** Eskutshilo lokhu wakhafulela emhlabathini, wavuba udaka ngamathe walunakeka emehlweni endoda. **7** Wayitshela wathi, “Hamba uyegeza esizibeni saseSilowami” (ibizo leli litsho ukuthi “Ukuthunywa”). Ngakho indoda yahamba yayageza, yabuyela ekhaya isibona. **8** Omakhelwane bayo lalabo abahlezi beyibona icela babuza bathi, “Kakusiyo yini indoda le eyayihlala icela?” **9** Abanye baqinisa ukuthi kwakuyiyo. Abanye bathi, “Hatshi, lo ufana layo nje kuphela.” Kodwa yona yagcizelela yathi, “Ngiiyo leyondoda.” **10** Bamjinga ngemibuzo bathi, “Pho amehlo akho avuleke kanjani?” **11** Waphendula wathi, “Indoda abayithi nguJesu ivube udaka yalunakeka emehlweni ami. Ingitshela yathi kangiye eSilowami ngiyegeza. Ngakho ngiyile ngayageza, ngasengibona.” **12** Bayibuza bathi, “Ingaphi leyondoda?” Wathi, “Kangazi.” **13** Indoda leyo eyayikade iyisiphofu yalethwa kubaFarisi. **14** Usuku uJesu enza ngalo udaka wavula amehlo endoda leyo lwaluyiSabatha. **15** AbaFarisi baphinde bayibuzisa ukuthi kwenziwani ukuze ibone. Indoda yaphendula yathi, “Uninde udaka emehlweni ami, ngageza, manje sengibona.” **16** Abanye abaFarisi bathi, “Umuntu lo kaveli kuNkulunkulu ngoba kaligcini iSabatha.” Kodwa abanye babuza bathi, “Isoni singayenza kanjani imimangaliso enje na?” Kanjalo adabukana. **17** Bacina sebephendukela endodeni eyayiyisiphofu njalo bathi, “Wena uthini ngaye? Ngamehlo akho awavulileyo.” Indoda yaphendula yathi, “Ungumphrofethi.” **18** Amajuda kawazange akholwe ukuthi indoda le yayikade iyisiphofu lokuthi yayisiyenziwe yabona kwaze kwabizwa abazali bayo. **19** Bababuza bathi, “Lo yindodana yenu yini? Nguye lo elithi wazalwa eyisiphofu? Sekwenzeke kanjani ukuthi khathesi usebona?” **20** Abazali baphendula bathi, “Thina sazi ukuthi uyindodana yethu, njalo siyakwazi ukuthi wazalwa eyisiphofu. **21** Kodwa ukuthi khathesi usebona lokuthi amehlo akhe avulwe ngubani kasikwazi. Mbuzeni. Usekhulile; uzazikhulumela.” **22** Abazali bakhe baktsho lokhu ngoba babesabisa amaJuda, ngoba amaJuda ayesevele aquma ukuthi loba ngubani owayezakuthi uJesu nguKhristu wayezaxotshwa esinagoweni. **23** Yikho abazali bakhe bathi, “Usekhulile; mbuzeni yena.” **24** Aphinda ayibiza okwesibili indoda eyayiyisiphofu athi, “Nika udumo kuNkulunkulu. Siyakwazi ukuthi umuntu lo uyisoni.” **25** Yaphendula yathi, “Ukuthi uyisoni kumbe

hatshi kangikwazi. Mina kunye engikwaziyo. Bengiyisiphofu kodwa manje sengibona!” **26** Aseyibuza athi, “Wenzi kuwe na? Uwavule njani amehlo akho?” **27** Yaphendula yathi, “Sengilitshelele kodwa kalifunanga ukuzwa. Lifunelani ukuzwa njalo? Lani lifuna ukuba ngabafundi bakhe na?” **28** Khonapho asemthaka esithi, “Ungumfundi walumuntu! Thina singabafundi bakaMosi!” **29** Siyakwazi ukuthi uNkulunkulu wakhuluma kuMosi, kodwa umfokazi lo kasimazi lokuthi uvela ngaphi.” **30** Indoda yaphendula yathi, “Manje lokhu kuyamangalisa! Kalimazi lapho avela khona kodwa uwavulile amehlo ami. **31** Siyakwazi ukuthi uNkulunkulu kazilaleli izoni. Ulalela umuntu olobunkulunkulu, owenza intando yakhe. **32** Kakho osewake wezwa ngokuvulwa kwamehlo omuntu owazalwa eyisiphofu. (aiōn g165) **33** Aluba umuntu lo ubengaveli kuNkulunkulu ubengasoze enze lutho.” **34** Apendula lokhu ngokuthi, “Wazalwa ucwile nya esonweni; ngeke sifundiswe nguwe thina!” Asemxotshela phandle. **35** Ujesu wakuzwa ukuthi ayemxotshela phandle, wathi esembonile wathi kuye, “Uyakholwa eNdodaneni yoMuntu na?” **36** Indoda yabuza yathi, “Ingubani na, nkosi? Ngitshela ukuze ngikhohle kuyo.” **37** Ujesu wathi, “Khatheisi usuyibonile; iqiniso yikuthi yiyo le ekhuluma lawe.” **38** Indoda yasisithi, “Nkosi, ngiyakholwa,” yasimkhonza. **39** Ujesu wathi, “Ngeza lapha emhlabeni ukuzakwahlulela, ukuze iziphofu zibone kuthi labo ababonayo babonakale beyiziphofu.” **40** Abanye abafarisi ababelaye bamuzwa ujesu esitsho lokhu babuza bathi, “Uthini? Lathi siyiziphofu yini?” **41** Ujesu waphendula wathi, “Kube beliyiziphofu ngabe kalilamlandu wesono. Kodwa umlandu wenu umi ngoba lizenza abakwaziyo abakwenzayo.”

10 “Ngikhuluma iqiniso ukuthi umuntu onganengi nesango esibayeni sezimvu kodwa akhwele kwenye indawo ulisele lomphangi. **2** Umuntu ongena ngesango nguye umelusi wezimvu. **3** Umlindi wesango uyamvulela, lezimvu ziyalilalela ilizwi lakhe. Izimvu zakhe uzibiza ngamabizo azikhokhele. **4** Nxa esezivulele zonke ezakhe, uhamba phambi kwazo, izimvu zakhe zimlandele ngoba ziyalazi ilizwi lakhe. **5** Kodwa kazisoze zilande owemnzani; iqiniso yikuthi zizambalekela ngoba kazilazi ilizwi lowemnzani.” **6** Ujesu wasebenzisa umzekeliso lo kodwa kabakuzwisisanga lokho ayebatshela khona. **7** Ngakho ujesu waphinda wathi, “Ngilitshelela iqiniso ukuthi mina ngiyilo isango lezimvu. **8** Bonke asebakhe bakhe phambi kwami babengamasela labaphangi kodwa izimvu kazibalalelanga. **9** Mina ngiyilo isango; loba ngubani ongena ngami uzasindiswa. Uzangena, aphume, afumane idlelo. **10** Isela lilanda ukweba lokubulala lokubhubhisa kuphela; mina ngilande ukuze zibe lokuphila, zibe lakho ngokugcwelelo. **11** Ngingumelusi olungileyo. Umelusi olungileyo unikela ukuphila kwakhe izimvu zakhe. **12** Oqhatshwayo kasuye umelusi ongumnini wezimvu. Yikho nxa ebona iganyana lisiza, uyazitshiya izimvu abaleke. Iganyana beseliwuhlasela umhlambi liwuhlakaze. **13** Umuntu lo ubaleka ngoba eyisiqhatshwa, kazikhathaleli izimvu. **14** Mina ngingumelusi olungileyo; ngiyazazi izimvu zami njalo lezimvu zami ziyangazi **15** njengoba uBaba engazi lami ngiyamazazi, nginikela ukuphila kwami ezimvini zami. **16** Ngilazo ezinye izimvu ezingasizo zalumhlambi. Lazo kumele ngizilethe. Lazo futhi zizalilalela ilizwi lami ukuze kube lomhlambi owodwa lomelusi oyedwa. **17** Isizatho sokuba uBaba angithande yikuthi ngiyayinikela impilo yami, ngizaphinde ngiyithathe futhi. **18**

Kakho ongithathela yona kodwa ngiyinikela ngokufisa kwami. Ngilalo ilungelo lokuyinikela lelungelo lokuphinde ngiyithathe. Umlayo lo ngawamukela uvela kuBaba.” **19** Amazwi aphinda enza amaJuda adabuka phakathi. **20** Amanengi kuwo athi, “Uledimoni, uyawumana njalo uyahlanya. Limalalelani?” **21** Kodwa amanye athi, “La kayisiwo mazwi omuntu oledimoni. Idimoni lingawavula njani amehlo esiphofu?” **22** Kwafika uMkhosi Wokuzinikela eJerusalem. Kwakusebusika, **23** ujesu esemagumeni ethempeli ezihambela eKhusini likaSolomoni. **24** Amajuda ayembuthanele athi kuye, “Kuzaze kube nini ulokhu usitshiya silengile na? Nxa ungueye uKhristu, sitshela kuhle.” **25** Ujesu waphendula wathi, “Ngalitshela kodwa kalikholwa. Imimangaliso engiyenzayo ngebizo likaBaba iyangifakazela, **26** kodwa kalikholwa ngoba kalisizo zimvu zami. **27** Ezami izimvu ziyalilalela ilizwi lami; ngiyazazi lazo ziyangilandela. **28** Ngizipha ukuphila okungapheliyo, kazisoze zabhubha; kakho ongazihlwathisa esandleni sikaBaba. (aiōn g165, aiōnios g166) **29** UBaba wami yena ongiphe zona mkhulu kulakho konke, kakho ongazihlwathisa esandleni sikaBaba **30** Mina loBaba simunye.” **31** Aphinda njalo amajuda adobha amatshe ukuba amkhande, **32** kodwa ujesu wathi kuwo, “Ngilitshengisile imimangaliso emikhulu eminengi evela kuBaba. Yiwuphi phakathi kwayo elingikhandela wona ngamatshe?” **33** “Kasikukhandeli misebenzi emihle oyenzileyo kodwa sikukhandela ukuhlambaza, ngoba wena, umuntu nje, uzenza uNkulunkulu.” **34** Ujesu waphendula wathi, “Kakulotshwanga yini eMthethweni wenu ukuthi, ‘Ngitshilo ukuthi ‘lingonkulunkulu?’” **35** Nxa wababiza ngokuthi ‘ngonkulunkulu,’ bona labo ilizwi elafika kubo, njalo uMbhala kawepfulwa **36** pho-ke kungathiwani kulowo uBaba amkhethelelo ukuba ngowakhe wamthumela emhlabeni na? Kungani pho lingibeka icala lokuhlambaza ngoba ngithe ngiyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu?” **37** Lingangikholwa ngaphandle kokuba ngenze okwenziwa nguBaba. **38** Kodwa nxa ngikwenza, lanxa lingangikholwa, kholwani ubufakazi bemimangaliso ukuze lifunde njalo lizwisise ukuthi uBaba ukimi, lami ngikuBaba.” **39** Baphinda njalo bazama ukumbamba kodwa waphunyuka. **40** Ujesu wabayela ngaphetsheya kweJodani kuleyondawo lapho uJohane ayebhaphathizela khona esukwini ezedlulayo. Wahhala khona, **41** abantu abanengi beza kuye. Bathi, “Lanxa uJohane engazange enze umangaliso, kodwa konke lokho uJohane akutshoyo ngomuntu lo kwakuliqiniso.” **42** Kuleyondawo abanengi bakholwa kuJesu.

11 Kwakulendoda eyayithiwa nguLazaro eyayigula. YayingeyaseBhethani, umuzi okwakhulala khona uMariya lodadewabo uMama. **2** (UMariya lo olomnewabo uLazaro wayephethele ngumkhuhlane nguye owathela amakha ezinyaweni zeNkosi wazesula ngenwele zakhe.) **3** Ngakho odadewabo laba bathumela ilizwi kuJesu bathi, “Nkosi, lowo omthandayo uyagula.” **4** Ujesu esekuzwile lokhu wathi, “Ukugula lokhu kakuzukucina ngokufa. Kodwa kungokodumo lukaNkulunkulu ukuze iNdodana kaNkulunkulu idunyiswe ngakho.” **5** Ujesu wayemthanda uMama lodadewabo kanye loLazaro. **6** Kodwa loba esezwile ukuthi uLazaro wayegula wazihlalela khona lapho ayekhona okwezinye insuku ezimbili. **7** Wasesithi kubafundi bakhe, “Kasibuyeleni eJudiya.” **8** Bathi, “Oh, Rabi, muvuna nje amaJuda ake azama ukukukhanda ngamatshe kodwa wena usubuyela khona futhi?” **9** Ujesu waphendula wathi, “Kakusikho

yini ukuthi kulamahola alitshumi lambili okukhanyisa kwelanga na? Umuntu ohamba emini kayikukhubeka ngoba ebona ngokukhanya kwalapha emhlabeni. **10** Ukhubeka nxa ehamba ebusuku ngoba kalakho ukukhanya.” **11** Esekutshilo lokhu wasebatshela wathi, “Umgane wethu uLazaro uselele kodwa ngiya khonale ukuyamvusa.” **12** Abafundi bakhe baphendula bathi, “Nkosi, nxa kuvuma ukuthi alale, uzabangcono.” **13** UJesu wayekhuluma ngokufa kwakhe kodwa abafundi bakhe babesithi kumbe utsho ukulala okujayelekileyo. **14** Wasebatshela ephumela egcekeni wathi, “ULazaro usefile, **15** kodwa ukuze lina likholwe, ngiyathaba ukuthi bengenikeho lapho. Kodwa kasiyeni khona.” **16** UThomasi (othiwa nguDidimasi) wathi kwabanye abafundi, “Lathi kasihambeni ukuze siyekufa laye.” **17** Ekufikeni kwakhe uJesu uLazaro wayesehlale ethuneni okwensuku ezine. **18** EBhethani kwakungaphansi kwamakhilomitha amathathu usuka eJerusalem, **19** yikho amaJuda amanengi ayebuyile ukuzakhalela uMatha loMariya ngokulahlekela kwabo ngumnewabo. **20** Kwathi uMatha esizwa ukuthi uJesu wayesiza, waphuma wamhlangabeza kodwa uMariya wasala ngekhyaya. **21** UMatha wathi kujesu, “Nkosi, aluba ubukhonapha ngabe umnewethu kafanga. **22** Kodwa ngiyazi ukuthi lamanje nNkulunkulu uzakunika loba yini oycelayo.” **23** UJesu wathi kuye, “Umfowenu uzavuka njalo.” **24** UMatha waphendula wathi, “Ngiyazi ukuthi uzavuka futhi ekuvukeni kwabafuleyo ngosuku lokucina.” **25** UJesu wathi kuye, “Mina ngiyikuvuka kwabafuleyo lokuphila. Lowo ekholwa kimi uzaphila loba enyaka; **26** njalo lowo ophilayo ekholwa kimi kasoze afa lanini. Uyakukholwa lokhu na?” (aiōn q165) **27** Waphendula wathi, “Yebo Nkosi, ngiyakhohla ukuthi unguye uKhristu, iNdodana kaNkulunkulu, ozabuya emhlabeni.” **28** Esekutshilo lokho wabuyela ngekhyaya wabizela udadewabo uMariya eceleni wathi, “UMfundisi usekhona, uyakucela.” **29** UMariya wathi ekuzwa lokhu wasuka masinyane waya kujesu. **30** UJesu wayelokhu engakangeni phakathi komuzi elokhu elapho ayehlangane khona loMatha. **31** Kwathi amaJuda ayeloMariya endlini emduduzisa esebonile ukuthi wasukuma masinyane njani ephuma, amlandela ecabanga ukuthi mhlawumbe wayesiya ethuneni ukuyakhalela khona. **32** UMariya wonela ukufika lapho uJesu ayekhona, wambona, wazilahla phansi ezinyaweni zakhe wathi, “Nkosi, kube ubukhona lapha, umnewethu ngabe kafanga.” **33** UJesu embona ekhala kanye lamaJuda ayemlandele wadabuka kakhulu emoyeni, wakhathazeka. **34** Wabuza wathi, “Limbeke ngaphi na?” Baphendula bathi, “Woza uzobona Nkosi.” **35** UJesu wakhala. **36** AmaJuda asesithi, “Liyabona ukuthi wayemthanda njani!” **37** Kodwa amanye awo athi, “Kanti yena lo owavula amehlo endoda eyayiyisiphofu wehlulekile ukwenza ukuthi umuntu lo angafi na?” **38** UJesu waphinda njalo wadabuka, wasondela ethuneni. Ithuna lalilubhalu, kulelitshe elalivala intuba. **39** Wathi, “Lisuseni ilitshe.” UMatha, udadewabo wendoda efileyo wathi, “Nkosi, khathesi sekulephunga elibi ngoba selensuku ezine simbekile.” **40** UJesu wasesithi, “Kangikutshelanga ukuthi nxa ukholwa uzabona inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu na?” **41** Ngakho balisusa ilitshe. UJesu wasekhangele phezu wathi, “Baba ngiyakubonga ukuthi ungizwile. **42** Mina bengisazi ukuthi uhlala ungizwa, kodwa ngikutshela lokhu ngisenzela abantu abemi lapha ukuze bakhohle ukuthi ungithumile.” **43** Esekutshilo lokhu uJesu wamemeza ngelizwi elikhulu wathi, “Lazaro, phuma!” **44** Umuyi waphuma, izandla lenyawo

zakhe zithandelwe ngamaqhele elineni, kulelinye ilembu elalembese ubuso bakhe. UJesu wathi kubo, “Khuophani izivunulo zokungcwaba limyekele ahambe.” **45** Ngakho amaJuda amanengi ayeze ukuzakhalela uMariya esekubonile uJesu akwenzayo, amkholwa. **46** Kodwa amanye aya kubaFarisi bayabatshela lokho okwakwenziwe nguJesu. **47** Abaphristi abakhulu labaFarisi basebebiza umhlangano weSanhedrini. Babuzana bathi, “Kanti sivele senzani? Nangu phela umuntu lo esenza imimangaliso eminengi. **48** Singamyekele aqhubeke ngalindlela, wonke umuntu uzakholwa kuye njalo amaRoma azakuza athathe indawo yethu lesizwe sethu.” **49** Kwasekusithi omunye wabo owayethiwa nguKhayifasi, owayengumphristi omkhulu ngalowomnyaka, wakhuluma wathi, “Kalazi lutho! **50** Kalikuboni lina ukuthi kungcono ukuba umuntu oyedwa afele abantu kulokuthi kubhubhe isizwe sonke.” **51** Lokhu kazikhulumelanga yena ngokwakhe, kodwa njengomphristi omkhulu kwabanye ngalowomnyaka waphrofitha ukuthi uJesu wayezafela isizwe samajuda, **52** kungasisizwe lesi sodwa, kodwa labantwana bakaNkulunkulu abahlakazekileyo ukuze balethe ndawonye, benziwe babemunye. **53** Kusukela ngalesosikhathi bakha amacebo okumbulala. **54** Ngakho uJesu wayengasahambahambi obala phakathi kwamajuda. Wasuka lapho waya emangweni owawuseduze kwenkangala, emzini owawuthiwa yi-Efrayimu, lapho ahlala khona labafundi bakhe. **55** Kwathi sekuzakuba yisikhathi sePhasika lamaJuda, abanengi baqubuka elizweni baya eJerusalem ukuyahlanjululwa ngokomkhuba kungakabi yiPhasika. **56** Babelokhu bethalaza befuna uJesu, kwathi bemi egumeni lethempeli babuzana bathi, “Licabangani? Ukuthi angaphutha yini emkhosini?” **57** Kodwa abaphristi abakhulu labaFarisi basebelayele ukuthi nxa ekhona owayekwazi ukuthi uJesu wayengaphi, ahle abike ukuze bambophe.

12 Kwasekusele insuku eziyisithupha ukuthi kufike iPhasika, uJesu waya eBhethani, lapho okwakuhlala khona uLazaro owayevuswe kwabafuleyo nguJesu. **2** Kwaphakwa ukudla kwakusihlwa kuhlonitshwa yena uJesu. UMatha nguye owayedidizela, uLazaro ehlezi labanye etafuleni loJesu. **3** UMariya wasethatha amafutha enadi acengekileyo njalo adulayo kakhulu, ayengaba yingxeny yelitha, wawathela ezinyaweni zikaJesu wasezesula ngenwele zakhe. Indlu yagcwala ngephunga elimnandi lamakha lawo. **4** Kodwa omunye wabafundi bakhe, uJudas Iskariyothi owayezamnika wasola wathi, **5** “Kungani amakha la engathengiswanga imali yaphiwa abampofu? Intengo yawo ibinganela umholo womnyaka wonke.” **6** Kakutshongo lokhu ngoba ebanakekela abampofu, kodwa ngoba elisela; njengomgcinisikhwama wayandise ukuzisiza ngalokho okwakufakwa phakathi kwaso. **7** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Myekele. Kwakuqondwe ukuthi amakha la awabekele usuku lokungcwatshwa kwami. **8** Lizahlala lilabo abampofu phakathi kwenu kodwa mina kaliyikuhlala lilami.” **9** Ngalesosikhathi ixuku elikhulu lamaJuda lezwa ukuthi uJesu wayelapho, leza lingalandanga yena kuphela kodwa lokuthi libone uLazaro ayemvuse kwabafuleyo. **10** Ngakho abaphristi abakhulu benza amacebo okuba bambulale laye uLazaro, **11** ngoba ngenxa yakhe amaJuda amanengi ayesiya kujesu ebeka ukholo lwawo kuye. **12** Ngosuku olulandelayo ixuku elikhulu elalaze emkhosini lezwa ukuthi uJesu wayesendleleni esiza eJerusalem. **13** Lathatha amatagatha elala laphuma ukuyamhlangabeza, limemeza lisithi, “Hosana!” “Ubusisiwe lowo obuya ngebizo

likaThixo!" "Ubusisiwe oyiNkosi ka-Israyeli!" **14** UJesu wathola inkonyane kababhemu wayigada njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: **15** "Ungesabi, Oh Ndodakazi yeZiyoni; khangelana, inkosi yakho iyeza, ihlezi phezu kwenkonyane kababhemu." **16** Kuqala abafundi bakhe kabakuzwisisanga konke lokhu. Kwaze kwaba ngemva kokuba uJesu esekhazimulisiwe lapho abanzelela khona ukuba izinto lezi zazilotshwe ngaye lokuthi babezizile kuye lezozinto. **17** Ngalesosikhathi ixuku elalilaye mhla ebiza uLazaro ethuneni wabuye wamvusa ekufeni laqhubeka lilifakaza ilizwi. **18** Abantu abanengi bahamba ukuyamhlangabeza ngoba basebezwlile ukuthi wayewenzile umangaliso lo. **19** AbaFarisi bakhulumisana besithi, "Liyabona, into le izasitshiya esikheleni. Khangelani ukuthi umhlaba wonke usuthe zalezale kuye!" **20** Kwakukhona amaGrikhi phakathi kwalabo abayakhonza emkhosini. **21** Beza kuFiliphu owayevela eBethisayida eGalile lesicelo esithi, "Nkosi, sifuna ukubona uJesu." **22** UFiliphu wayatshela u-Andreya; u-Andreya loFiliphu basebentshela uyatshela. **23** UJesu waphendula wathi, "Sesifikile isikhathi sokuba iNdodana yoMuntu ikhazimulisiwe. **24** Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi ngaphandle kokuthi uhlamvu lwengqoloyi luwele emhlabathini lufe, lusala lulokhu luluhlumvu olulodwa. Kodwa lungaze lufe luthela inhlamvu ezinengi. **25** Umuntu othanda impilo yakhe izamlahlekela ikanti umuntu ozonda impilo yakhe kulo umhlaba uzayilondolozela ingunaphakade. (aiōnios g166) **26** Lowo ongikhonzayo kumele angilande, lalapho engikhona lesikhonzi sami sikhona. UBaba uzamdumisa lowo ongikhonzayo. **27** Khathesi inhliziyu yami ikhathazekile. Kambe ngingatsho na ngithi, 'Baba, ngihlenga singafiki lesosikhathi?' Hatshi, kwakungenxa yalesisizatho ukuze ngingene kulesisikhathi. **28** Baba, khazimulisa ibizo lakho!" Kwasekufika ilizwi livela ezulwini lisithi, "Sengilikhazimulisiwe, ngizaphinda ngilikhazimulise." **29** Ixuku labantu elalilapho elalizwayo ilizwi lathi kube lomdumo wezulu; abanye bathi ingilosu yayikhulume laye. **30** UJesu wathi, "Ilizwi leli belingelokusiza lina, hayi mina. **31** Manje sekuyisikhathi sokwahlulela kulo umhlaba; manje inkosi yalo umhlaba isizaxotshwa. **32** Kodwa mina nxa sengiphakanyisiwe ngisuswa emhlabeni, ngizabondela kimi bonke abantu." **33** Wakutsho lokhu eveza ukuthi wayezakufa ukufa okunjani. **34** Ixuku labhoboka lathi, "Sezwa eMthethweni ukuthi uKhristu uzahlala kokuphela, pho ukutsho kanjani ukuthi, 'iNdodana yoMuntu imele iphakanyiswe na?' Ingubani yona 'iNdodana yoMuntu' le?" (aiōn g165) **35** UJesu wabathshela wathi, "Lizakuba lakho ukukhanya okwesikhathshana esithile. Hambani liseselakho ukukhanya, ubumnyama bungakaligubuzeli. Umuntu ophumputha emnyameni kawazi lapho aya khona. **36** Bekani ithemba lenu ekukhanyeni liseselakho ukuze libe ngamadodana okukhanya." Wathi eseqedile ukukhuluma uJesu wasuka kubo wayazifihla. **37** Lanxa uJesu wayeseyenze yonke imingaliso le emehlweni abo babelokhu bengakholwa kuye. **38** Lokhu kwakugcwalisa ilizwi lika-Isaya umphrofethi elithi: "Nkosi, ngubani olikholiweyo ilizwi lethu na, njalo amandla eNkosi ambulelwe ubani na?" **39** Ngalesisizatho babengeke bakholwa ngoba u-Isaya uyatsho komunye umbhalo ukuthi: **40** "Uwafiphazile amehlo abo wathundubeza inhliziyu zabo ukuze bangaboni ngamehlo abo njalo bangezwisisi ngenhliziyu zabo, loba baphenduke, ukuze ngibasilise." **41** U-Isaya wakutsho lokhu ngoba wayibona inkazimulo kaJesu njalo wayekhuluma ngaye. **42** Kodwa loba kunjalo, abanengi labanye abakhokheli

bakholwa kuye. Kodwa ngenxa yabaFarisi kabalufakazanga ukhohlo lwabo besesaba ukuthi bazaxotshwa esinagoweni; **43** ngoba babethanda ukubukwa ngabantu okwedlula ukubukwa okuvela kuNkulunkulu. **44** UJesu wasememeza wathi, "Nxa umuntu ekholwa kimi, kakholwa kimi kuphela kodwa kuye lowo ongithumileyo. **45** Nxa ekhangelana mina ubona yena lowo ongithumileyo. **46** Ngibuye emhlabeni ngiyikukhanya ukuze angabikhona okholwa kimi ozahlala ebumnyameni. **47** Nxa umuntu ewezwa amazwi ami kodwa angawagcini, angimahluleli mina. Phela kangilandanga ukuzowahlulela umhlaba kodwa ukuzowusindisa. **48** Ukhona umahluleli walowo ongalayo, ongewumukeliyo amazwi ami; lawomazwi engawakhulumayo uqobo ezamlahla ngosuku lokucina. **49** Ngoba kangizikhulumelanga ngokwentando yami kodwa uBaba owangithumayo wangilaya ukuthi ngithini lokuthi ngikutsho kanjani. **50** Ngiyazi ukuthi umlayo wakhe uholela ekuphileni kwaphakade. Ngakho loba kuyini engikutsho yikho lokho uBaba angitshele khona ukuthi ngikutsho." (aiōnios g166)

13 Kwakuyisikhathi lapho uMkhosi wePhasika usondele. UJesu wayekwazi ukuthi isikhathi sokuthi asuke kulumhlaba aye kuYise sasesisondele. Wayehlezi ebathanda abakhe abasemhlabeni, lesi kwasekuyisikhathi sokubatshe ngisa ukujula kothando lwakhe. **2** Kwathi kudliwa ukudla kwakusihlwa, uSathane wayevele esemtshutshisile uJudasi Iskariyothi, indodana kaSimoni, ukuthi anikele uJesu. **3** UJesu wayekwazi ukuthi uYise wayenikele zonke izinto emandleni akhe, lokuthi yena wayevela kuNkulunkulu njalo wayebuyela kuNkulunkulu, **4** ngakho wasukuma ekudleni, wakhulula isembatho saphezulu, wabophela ithawulo ekhalweni lwakhe. **5** Ngemva kwalokho, wathela amanzi enditshini waseqalisa ukugeza inyawo zabafundi bakhe, wazesula ngethawulo leyo ayezibophe ngayo. **6** Wafika kuSimoni Phethro owathi kuye, "Nkosi, kambe wena nguwe ongezisa inyawo zami na?" **7** UJesu waphendula wathi, "Kawukuzwisisi lokhu engikwenzayo khathesi kodwa uzakuzwisisa ngesikhathi esizayo." **8** UPhethro wathi, "Hatshi, kawusoze lanini ugeziwe inyawo zami." UJesu waphendula wathi, "Nxa ngingakugezisi kawulabudlelwano lami." (aiōn g165) **9** UPhethro waphendula wathi, "Nkosi, nxa kunjalo, kakungabi zinyawo zami zodwa kodwa lezandla zami kanye lekhandla lami!" **10** UJesu waphendula wathi, "Lowo ogeze umzimba udinga ukugeza inyawo zakhe kuphela, ngoba umzimba wakhe wonke uhlanzekile. Njalo lina lihlanzekile loba nje kungayisini lonke elihlanzekileyo." **11** Ngoba wayemazi lowo owayezamnikela, yikho wathi kakusibo bonke ababehlanzekile. **12** Eseqedile ukubagezisa inyawo, wagqoka isembatho saphezulu wasebuyela endaweni yakhe. Wababuza wathi, "Liyakuzwisisa na esengilenzele khona? **13** Lingibiza lithi 'Mfundisi' lokuthi 'Nkosi,' lisitsho liqondile, ngoba ngiyikho lokho. **14** Manje-ke njengoba mina, iNkosi yenu loMfundisi, sengigezise inyawo zenu, lani kumele ligezisele inyawo. **15** Sengilenzele isibonelo ukuthi lenze njengoba ngilenzele mina. **16** Ngempela ngiqinisile ngithi kini kakulanceku enkulu kulenkosi yayo, njalo isithunywa kasisikhulu kulalowo osithumileyo. **17** Lingaze lizazi lezizinto lizabusiswa nxa lizenza." **18** "Kangikhulumi ngani lonke; ngiyabazi labo esengibakhethile. Kodwa lokhu kuyikugcwalisa umbhalo othi: 'Lowo obesidla lami isinkwa usengihlamukele.'

19 Ngilazisa khathesi kungakenzakali, ukwenzela ukuthi lapho sekusenzakala, likholwe ukuthi ngiNguyey. 20 Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi lowo owamukela loba ngubani engimthumayo wamukela mina njalo lowo owamukela mina wamukela lowo ongithumileyo.” 21 UJesu esatsho lokhu wakhathazeka kakhulu wafakaza wathi, “Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi omunye wenu uzanginikela.” 22 Abafundi bakhe bakhangelana bedidekile ukuthi kambe angabe esitsho wuphi kubo. 23 Omunye wabo owayethandwa nguJesu wayeyeme etafuleni eduzane laye. 24 USimoni Phethro wasemqheba lowomfundi wathi kuye, “Mbuze ukuthi utsho bani.” 25 Waseseyama kujesu wambuza wathi, “Nkosi, ngubani?” 26 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Kungulowo engizamupha ucezu lwesinkwa nxa sengisitshebile emganwini.” Kwathi esesitshebile isinkwa wasiqhubela uJudasi Iskariyothi, indodana kaSimoni. 27 Wonela ukusithatha isinkwa uJudasi uSathane wasengena kuye. UJesu wathi kuye, “Lokho osufuna ukukwenza, kwenze masinyane.” 28 Kodwa kakho etafuleni owawwisayo ukuthi kungani uJesu watsho njalo kuye. 29 Ngenxa yokuthi uJudasi nguye owayephatha imali, abanye bacabanga ukuthi uJesu wayemtshelela ukuthi athenge lokho okwakuzafuneka emkhosini kumbe ukuthi anike okuthile kwabampfu. 30 Wonela ukuthi athathe isinkwa waphuma. Kwasekusebusuku. 31 Esehambile uJesu wathi, “Khathesi iNdodana yoMuntu isikhazimulisiwe njalo uNkulunkulu ukhazimulisiwe kuyo. 32 Nxa uNkulunkulu ekhazimulisiwe kuyo, uNkulunkulu laye uzayikhazimulisa iNdodana kuye njalo uzayikhazimulisa masinyane. 33 Bantwami, ngizakuba lani okwesikhathshana esincane. Lizangidinga kodwa njengoba ngawatshelela amajuda, lani sengilitshelela khathesi ukuthi: Lapho engiyakhona, alingeke lifike. 34 Ngilinika umlayo omutsha: Thandanani. Kumele lithandane njengoba lami ngilithandle. 35 Bonke abantu bazakwazi ukuthi lingabafundi bami nxa lithandana.” 36 USimoni Phethro wambuza wathi, “Nkosi, kanti uya ngaphi na?” UJesu waphendula wathi, “Lapho engiyakhona ungazake ungilandele khathesi kodwa uzangilandela ngesikhathi esizayo.” 37 Wabuza uPhethro wathi, “Nkosi, kungani ngingahle ngikulandele khathesi? Ngizanikela ukuphila kwami kuwe.” 38 UJesu wasemphendula wathi, “Kambe uzinikele ukuphila kwakho ngenxa yami? Ngiziqinisele ngithi uzangiphika kathathu iqhude lingakakhali!”

14 “Inhliziyo zenu kazingakhathazeki. Kholwani kuNkulunkulu; likholwe lakimi. 2 Emzini kaBaba kulezindlu ezinengi; aluba kwakungenjalo ngabe ngalitshele. Ngiya khona ukuyalilungisele indawo. 3 Njalo nxa sengiyile ukulilungisele indawo ngizabuya ngizolithatha ukuthi libe lami, ukuze libe lami lapho engikhona. 4 Liyayazi indlela eya lapho engiyakhona.” 5 UThomasi wathi kuye, “Nkosi, kasi kwazi lapho oya khona, pho singayazi kanjani indlela na?” 6 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Mina ngiyiyo indlela njalo ngilinqiniso lokuphila. Kakho oza kuBaba ngaphandle kwami. 7 Aluba belingazi ngempela, belizamazi loBaba. Kusukela khathesi, selimazi njalo selimbonile.” 8 UFiliphu wathi, “Nkosi, sitshengise uBaba ngoba yikho lokho okuzasanelisa.” 9 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Lokhe ungangazi na Filiphu, emva kwesikhathi eside kangaka ngilani? Lowo ongibonileyo usembonile uBaba. Ungatsho kanjani ukuthi, ‘Sitshengise uBaba?’ 10 Kawukholwa yini ukuthi ngikuBaba lokuthi uBaba ukimi? Amazwi engiwakhuluma yini akusiwami. Kodwa

nguBaba ophila kimi owenzayo umsebenzi wakhe. 11 Kholwani kimi nxa ngisithi ngikuBaba loBaba ukimi; loba ukukholwa ubufakazi bemimangaliso ngokwayo nje zwi. 12 Ngiziqinisele ukuthi lowo okholwa kimi uzakwenza lokho ebengikwenza. Uzakwenza izinto ezinkulu kulalezi ngoba ngiya kuBaba. 13 Njalo ngizakwenza noma yini eliyicelayo ngebizo lami ukuze iNdodana ilethe inkazimulo kuBaba. 14 Lingacela noma yini ngebizo lami, ngizakwenza.” 15 “Nxa lingithanda, gcinani imilayo yami. 16 Ngizacela kuBaba ukuthi alinike omunye umeli ukuthi alisize abe lani kuze kube laphakade, (aiōn g165) 17 uMoya weqiniso. Ilizwe ngeke limamukele ngoba kalimboni njalo kalimazi. Kodwa lina liyamazi ngoba uhlala lani njalo uzakuba lani. 18 Kangisoze ngilitshiye lizintandane, ngizabuya kini. 19 Kakusekhatshana ukuthi umhlaba ungabe usangibona njalo kodwa lina lizangibona. Ngenxa yokuthi ngiyaphila, lina lizaphila futhi. 20 Ngalolosuku lizakunanzelela ukuthi ngikuBaba, lina likimi, lami ngikini. 21 Lowo olayo imilayo yami, ayigcine, nguye ongithandayo. Lowo ongithandayo uzathandwa nguBaba njalo lami ngizamthanda ngiziveze kuye.” 22 Ngakho uJudasi (hatshi uJudasi Iskariyothi) wathi, “Kodwa Nkosi, kungani ujonge ukuziveza kithi, hatshi emhlabeni na?” 23 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Lowo ongithandayo uzalalela imfundiso yami. UBaba uzamthanda njalo sizakuya kuye sakhe umuzi wethu kanye laye. 24 Lowo ongangithandiyi kayikulalele imfundiso yami. Amazwi la elizwe wayo kayisiwo wami, ngakaBaba ongithumileyo. 25 Konke lokhu ngikukhulume ngiseselani. 26 Kodwa uMeli, uMoya ONgcwele, uBaba zamthumela ebizweni lami, uzalufundisa zonke izinto njalo uzalikhumbuza konke engikukhulume kini. 27 Ukuthula ngikutshiya kini; ukuthula kwami ngilini khona. Kangilini njengokunika komhlaba. Lingakhathazeki ezinhliziyweni zenu njalo lingesabi. 28 Langizwa ngisithi, ‘Ngiyahamba njalo ngizabuya kini.’ Kube belingithanda, ngabe liyathokoza ukuthi ngiya kuBaba, ngoba uBaba mkhulu kulami. 29 Sengilitshelele manje kungakenzakali ukuze kuthi nxa sekusenzakala likholwe. 30 Kangisayikukhuluma okunengi kini ngoba inkosi yalo umhlaba isisiza. Kayilamandla phezu kwami, 31 kodwa umhlaba umele wazi ukuthi ngiyamthanda uBaba lokuthi ngenza khona kanye uBaba angilaye khona. Wozani manje; kasisukeni lapha.”

15 “Mina ngilivini eliqotho, uBaba ungumlimi. 2 Zonke ingatsha ezingatheli izithelo uyaziquma, kuthi zonke ingatsha ezithelayo uyazithena kuhle ukuze zithele kakhulu. 3 Lina selihlambululike ngenxa yelizwi esengikhulume kini. 4 Hlalani kimi, lami ngizahlala kini. Kalukho ugatsha olungathela izithelo ngokwalo kodwa kumele luhlale lusevinini. Lami lingeke lithele izithelo ngaphandle kokuthi lihlale kimi. 5 Mina ngilivini; lina lizingatsha. Nxa umuntu ehkala kimi lami kuye, uzathela izithelo ezinengi; ngaphandle kwami kakukho elingakwenza. 6 Nxa lingahlali kimi, lizabe lifana logatsha olulahlweyo lwabuna; ingatsha ezinjalo ziyathezwa, zibaswe besezisitsha. 7 Nxa lihlala kimi lamazwi ami ehkala kini, celani loba yini eliyifunayo, lizayiphwa. 8 Lokhu kungokwenkazimulo kaBaba ukuze lithele izithelo ezinengi, lizitshengisa ukuthi lingabafundi bami. 9 Njengoba uBaba engithanda, lami ngilithande ngendlela angithanda ngayo. Ngakho-ke, hlalani ethandweni lwami. 10 Nxa ligcina imilayo yami, lizahlala lisehandweni lwami, njengoba lami

ngilalele imilayo kaBaba ngihlala ngisethandweni lwakhe. **11** Ngilitshele lokhu ukuze ukuthokoza kwami kube kuni lokuthi ukuthokoza kwenu kuphelele. **12** Umlayo wami yilo: Thandanani njengoba ngilithandle lani. **13** Kakho olothando olukhulu kulonikela ukuphila kwakhe ngenxa yabangane bakhe. **14** Lingabangane bami nxa lisenza lokho engililaya khona. **15** Kangisalibizi ngokuthi liyizinceku ngoba inceku kayiwazisisi umsebenzi wenkosi yayo. Kodwa ngithe kuni lingabangane ngoba konke engakufunda kuBaba ngilazisile. **16** Kalingikethanga, kodwa yimi engalikhethayo, ngalibeka ukuze liyethela izithelo, izithelo ezizahlala isikhathi eside ukuze kuthi konke elikulela ngebizo lami uBaba alinike khona. **17** Nanku umlayo wami: Thandanani.” **18** “Nxa umhlaba ulizonda, khumbulani ukuthi wangizonda kuqala. **19** Ngabe belingabomhlaba, ubuzalithanda njengabantu bawo. Njengoba kunje, kalisiso abomhlaba, kodwa ngilikhetha lisemhlabeni. Yikho umhlaba ulizonda. **20** Khumbulani amazwi engawakhuluma kuni ngisithi: ‘Kakulanceku enkulu kuleNkosi yayo.’ Nxa bangihlukulula, lani bazalikhukulula. Nxa balalela imfundiso yami, bazayilalela leyenu. **21** Bazaliphatha ngaleyondlela ngenxa yebizo lami, ngoba kabamazi lowo ongithumileyo. **22** Aluba bengingezanga ngakhuluma kubo bebengayikuba lomlandu wesono. Kodwa manje kabaselaxolo ngesono sabo. **23** Lowo ozonda mina uzonda loBaba. **24** Aluba angenzanga umangaliso ongenziwanga ngomunye wabo phakathi kwabo, babengayikuba lomlandu wesono. Kodwa khathesi sebeyibonile imimangaliso le, kodwa baphinde bangizonde mina kanye loBaba. **25** Kodwa lokhu kwenzeka ukuze kugcwalise okulotshweyo eMthethweni wabo ukuthi: ‘Bangizonda kungelasizatho.’” **26** “Angaze afike uMeli engizamthumela kuni evela kuBaba, uMoya weqiniso ophuma kuBaba, uzafakaza ngami;” **27** lani kumele lifakaze, ngoba laba lami kusukela ekuqaleni.”

16 “Ngilitshele konke lokhu ukuze ukholo lwenu lunganyikinyeki. **2** Bazalixotsha esinagogweni; ngempela siyeza isikhathi lapho abazalibulala khona bezitshela ukuthi benzela uNkulunkulu into enhle. **3** Bazakwenza lokhu ngoba kabamazanga uBaba loba mina. **4** Ngilitshele lokhu ukuze kuthi isikhathi lesi sifika likhumbule ukuthi ngalixwayisa ngaso. Kangilitshelanga lokhu ekuqaleni ngoba ngangilani.” **5** “Kodwa khathesi sengisiya kuye ongithumileyo. Kakho kuni ongibuzayo ukuthi, ‘Uya ngaphi na?’ **6** Kodwa ngenxa yokuba sengizitshilo lezizinto, selihlululwe. **7** Ngilitshele iqiniso ngithi: Kulungele lina ukuba ngihambe. Ngaphandle kokuthi ngihambe, uMeli akayikuza kuni; kodwa nxa ngihamba, ngizamthuma kuni. **8** Lapho efika uzatshengisa umhlaba ukuthi ulahlekile ngesono, ngokulungisa langokwahlulelwa: **9** ngokwesono, ngoba abantu bakabholwa kimi; **10** ngokulunga, ngoba ngiya kuBaba, lapho elingasayi kungibona khona njalo; **11** langokwahlulelwa, ngoba umbusi walo umhlaba usemiselwe ukulahlwa. **12** Kusasekunengi engingakutsho kuni, kodwa kungalisinda. **13** Kodwa yena uMoya weqiniso nxa esefikile uzalikhokhelela kulonke iqiniso. Kazukuzikhuluma yena; uzakhuluma lokho akuzwayo kuphela, njalo uzalitshele lokho okusazobuya. **14** Uzaletsha inkazimulo kuni ngokuthatha kulokho okungokwami akwenze kwazakale kuni. **15** Konke okungokukaBaba ngokwami. Yikho ngithe uMoya uzathatha kokungokwami akwenze kwazakale kuni.” **16** UJesu waqhubeka esithi, “Ngesikhathshana aliyi kungibona, kodwa ngemva kwesikhathshana lizangibona.” **17** Abanye babafundi bakhe bakhulumisana bathi, “Utshoni

ngokuthi, ‘Ngemva kwesikhathshana kalisayikungibona,’ njalo athi, ‘Kuthi ngemva kwesikhathshana lizangibona njalo, Ngoba ngiya kuBaba na?’” **18** Babelokhu bebuza besithi, “Utshoni nxa esithi ‘isikhathshana’? Kasikuzwisisi lokho akutshoyo.” **19** UJesu wabona ukuthi babefuna ukumbuzisa ngalokhu, wasesithi kubo, “Liyabuzana ukuthi bengisithoni ngize ngithi, ‘Ngemva kwesikhathshana kalisayikungibona?’” **20** Ngilitshele iqiniso ukuthi lizakhala lilile kodwa umhlaba wona uthokoza. Lizakuba losizi, kodwa usizi lwenu luzakuba yintokozo. **21** Owesifazane nxa ebeletha uzwa ubuhlungu ngoba isikhathi sakhe sesifikile; kodwa nxa umntwana esezelwe uyabukhohlwa ubuhlungu lobo ngenxa yentokozo yokuthi sekuzelwe umntwana emhlabeni. **22** Kunjalo lakini: Manje yisikhathi senu sosizi, kodwa ngizaphinda ngilibone beselithokoza, njalo kakho ozaphinda alemuke intokozo yenu. **23** Ngalolosuku kaliyi kungibuzisa lutho. Ngiqinisele ngithi kuni, uBaba wami uzalinika loba yini eliyicela ngebizo lami. **24** Kuze kube manje kalikalici lutho ngebizo lami. Celani, lizakwamukeliswa, ukuze ukuthokoza kwenu kuphelele. **25** Lanxa bengikhuluma ngemizekeliso, siyeza isikhathi lapho ngingasayikukhuluma ngaleyondlela, kodwa engizalitshele khona kamhlophe ngoBaba. **26** Ngalelologa izalacele ngebizo lami. Kangitho ukuthi ngizalicelela kuBaba. **27** Hatshi, uBaba yena ngokwakhe uyalithanda ngoba lingithandle, lakukholwa ukuthi ngavela kuNkulunkulu. **28** Ngavela kuBaba ngangena emhlabeni; okwamanje sengiwutshiya umhlaba sengibuyela kuBaba.” **29** Abafundi bakajesu basebesithi, “Khathesi usukhuluma kamhlophe ungasazekelisi. **30** Khathesi sesibona ukuthi uyazazi izinto zonke lokuthi kakudingeki ukuthi ubuzwe imibuzo. Lokhu kwenza ukuthi sikholwe ukuba wavela kuNkulunkulu.” **31** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Khathesi selikholwa na? **32** Kodwa siyeza isikhathi, sesifikile, lapho elizachitheka khona, ngulowo aye ngakibo. Lizangitshiya ngedwa lonke. Ikanti kangingedwa ngoba uBaba ulami. **33** Ngilitshele izinto lezi ukuze libe lokuthula kimi. Kulumhlaba lizahlupheka. Kodwa wobani lesibindi! Sengiwunqobile umhlaba.”

17 UJesu esekutshilo lokhu, wakhangele ezulwini wakhuleka wathi: “Baba, isikhathi sesifikile. Khazimulisa iNdodana yakho, ukuze iNdodana yakho ikukhazimulise. **2** Ngoba wayinika amandla phezu kwabantu bonke ukuthi ibaphe ukuphila okungapheliyo kubo bonke labo obanike yona. (aiōnios g166) **3** Manje-ke yilokhu ukuphila okungapheliyo: ukuthi bakwazi wena, onguwe wedwa uNkulunkulu weqiniso, loJesu Khristu omthumileyo. (aiōnios g166) **4** Sengikulethele inkazimulo emhlabeni ngokuphelelisa umsebenzi owanginika wona ukuthi ngiwenze. **5** Manje, Baba, akungikhazimulise phambi kwakho ngeayonkazimulo esasilayo sobabili umhlaba ungakabi khona.” **6** “Ngikuvezile kulabo owangipha bona emhlabeni. Babengabakho; wangipha bona njalo labo balilalele ilizwi lakho. **7** Khathesi sebesazi ukuthi konke lokho onginike khona kuvela kuwe. **8** Ngoba ngabanika amazwi owanginika wona bawemukela. Bakwazi ngeqiniso ukuthi ngavela kuwe njalo bakholwa ukuthi ungithumile. **9** Ngikhulekela bona. Kangikhulekeli umhlaba kodwa labo onginike bona ngoba bangabakho. **10** Konke engilakho ngokwakho, lakho konke olakho ngokwami. Lenkazimulo isikimi ngabo. **11** Kangisayikuhlala emhlabeni kusukela khathesi ngoba sengisiza kuwe, kodwa bona balokhu besemhlabeni. Baba

Ongcwele, bavikele ngamandla ebizo lakho, ibizo owanginika lona ukuze babemunye njengalokhu thina simunye. **12** Ngesikhathi ngiphakathi kwabo ngabavikela, ngabagcina bephephile ngalelobizo owanginika lona. Kakulahlelanga loyedwa ngaphandle koyedwa owayefanele ukubhubha ukuze kugcwaliseke uMbhalo. **13** Sengisiza kuwe manje, kodwa ngiyazitsho lezintlo ngisemhlabeni ukuze babe lentokozo yami ngokugcwelelo ngaphakathi kwabo. **14** Ngibaphile ilizwi lakho ngakho umhlaba usubazonda ngoba bengaseyibo bomhlaba njengoba lami ngingasuye womhlaba. **15** Umkhuleko wami kawusi wokuthi ubasuse emhlabeni, kodwa ukuthi ubavikele komubi. **16** Babasibo bomhlaba, njengoba lami ngingasiwawo. **17** Bangcwelise ngalo iqiniso; ilizwi lakho liliqiniso. **18** Njengalokhu wangithuma emhlabeni, lami ngibathumile emhlabeni. **19** Ngenxa yabo ngiyazingcwelisa ukuze labo bangcwelise ngobuqotho.” **20** “Umkhuleko wami kawusiwabo bodwa. Ngikhulekela njalo labo abazakholwa kimi ngenxa yobufakazi babo, **21** ukuthi bonke babemunye Baba njengoba wena ukimi lami ngikuwe. Sengathi labo bangaba kithi ukuze umhlaba ukholwe ukuthi ungithumile. **22** Ngibaphile inkazimulo owangipha yona ukuze babemunye njengalokhu thina simunye: **23** mina ngibe kubo lawe ukimi. Sengathi bangaba lokumanyana okupheleleyo ukutshengisa umhlaba ukuthi ungithumile njalo ubathandle njengalokhu ungithandle lami. **24** Baba, ngifuna ukuthi labo ongiphe bona babe lami lapho engikhona njalo bayibone inkazimulo yami, inkazimulo onginike yona ngoba wangithanda umhlaba ungakadalwa. **25** Baba olungileyo, loba umhlaba ungakwazi, mina ngiyakwazi, njalo bayakwazi ukuthi ungithumile. **26** Ngikuvezile wena kubo njalo ngizaqhubeka ukwenza ukuthi waziwe ukuze kuthi uthando olalo kimi lube ngolwabo njalo lokuthi mina ngokwami ngibe kubo.”

18 Wathi eseqedile ukukhuleka, uJesu wasuka kanye labafundi bakhe bakhuphuka iSigodi seKhidroni. Ngaphetsheya kwakulensimu yama-Oliva lapho angena khona labafundi bakhe. **2** UJuda si owannikelayo wayeyazi leyondawo ngoba uJesu wayehlezi esiyahlalanga khona labafundi bakhe. **3** Ngakho uJuda si weza ensimini leyo, ehola ixuku lamanxusa kanye lezinye izikhulu ezazivela kubaphristi abakhulu labaFarisi. Babepethe izibane lezikhali. **4** UJesu esazi konke okwakuzakwenzakala kuye waya phambili wababuza wathi, “Lifuna bani na?” **5** Baphendula bathi, “UJesu waseNazareth.” UJesu wathi, “Nginguye.” (UJuda si, umthengisi wayemi khonapho labo.) **6** UJesu esethe, “Nginguye,” batsheada bawela phansi. **7** Wababuza njalo wathi, “Lifuna bani na?” Bathi, “UJesu waseNazareth.” **8** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ngilitshelele ngathi nginguye. Nxa lidinga mina, yekelani amadoda la azihambele.” **9** Lokhu kwenzakala ukuze amazwi awakhulumayo athi: “Kangilahlekelwanga lamunye walabo ongiphe bona agcwaliseke.” **10** Kwasekusithi uSimoni Phethro owayelenkamba, wayikhokha wagalela inceku yomphristi omkhulu, wayiquma indlebe yayo yakwesokunene. (Ibizo lenceku leyo lalinguMalikhusi.) **11** UJesu wamkhalimela uPhethro wathi, “Beka khatshana inkemba yakho! Ngingayinathi inkezo uBaba asengiphe yona na?” **12** Kwasekusithi iqembu lamanxusa lomlawuli walo kanye lezikhulu zamaJuda bambamba uJesu. Bambopha, **13** bamusa ku-Anasi kuqala owayenguyisezala kaKhayifasi owayengumphristi omkhulu ngalowomnyaka. **14** UKhayifasi nguyey wayecebise amaJuda ukuthi kwakuzaba kühle

ukuthi indoda eyodwa ifele abantu. **15** USimoni Phethro lomunye umfundi babemlandela uJesu. Kwathi ngoba lowomfundi wayesaziwa ngumphristi omkhulu wangena loJesu egumeni lomphristi omkhulu, **16** kodwa uPhethro yena walinda ngaphandle komnyango. Lowomfundi owayesaziwa ngumphristi omkhulu wabuya wakhuluma lentombazana eyayilindle khonapho, wasengenisa uPhethro. **17** Intombazana eyayilinde emnyango yambuza uPhethro yathi, “Konje wena lawe umgunyane wabafundi bendoda le?” Waphendula wathi, “Kangisuye.” **18** Kwakuqanda, ngakho izinceku lezikhulu zazimi zisotha umlilo ezaziwobasile. UPhethro laye wayemi lazo esotha umlilo. **19** Ngalesosikhathi umphristi omkhulu wayebuzaba uJesu mayelana labafundi bakhe langemfundiso yakhe. **20** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ngikhulume obala kuwo umhlaba. Kokuphela ngangifundisa emasinagogweni kumbe ethempelini lapho amaJuda onke abuthana khona. Kangikhulumanga lutho ensitha. **21** Libuzelani mina? Buzani labo abangizwayo. Ngiqinisele bayakwazi engakukhulumayo.” **22** UJesu esetshonjalo, omunye wezikhulu ezaziseduze kwakhe wamhlankala ebusweni, wambuza wathi, “Yiyo indlela yokuphendula umphristi omkhulu leyo na?” **23** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Nxa ngikhulume okungafanelanga kutsho. Kodwa nxa ngikhulume iqiniso, ungithayelani na?” **24** U-Anasi wasemedlulisela kuKhayifasi umphristi omkhulu elokhu ebotsiwe. **25** USimoni Phethro wayelokhu emi esotha umlilo, abanye bambuza bathi, “Kakusiqiniso yini ukuthi umgunyane wabafundi bakhe na?” Waphika wathi, “Kangisuye.” **26** Omunye wezinceku zomphristi omkhulu, owayeyisihlobo sendoda eyaqunywa indlebe nguPhethro yamqonda yathi, “Kangikubonanga yini ulaye esivandeni sama-oliva na?” **27** UPhethro waphika njalo, khonokho nje iqhude lakhala. **28** AmaJuda asemthatha uJesu kuKhayifasi amusa esigodlweni sombusi ongumRoma. Khonapho kwasekusempondozankomo njalo ukuze angazingcolisi ngokwenkonzo yawo amaJuda kawangenanga esigodlweni; ayefuna ukuthi akulungele ukudla iPhasika. **29** Ngakho uPhilathu waphuma weza kuwo wawabuza wathi, “Limbeke cala bani lumuntu na?” **30** Apendula athi, “Kube ubengesiso isiklwi besingasoze simlethe kuwe.” **31** UPhilathu wathi, “Mthatheni lina lahlelwe ngokomthetho wenu.” AmaJuda atshinga athi, “Phela thina kasilawo amandla okuquma umuntu.” **32** Lokhu kwenzakala ukuze amazwi uJesu ayewakhulumile ngendlela ayezakufa ngayo agcwaliseke. **33** UPhilathu wasengenisa njalo esigodlweni, wabiza uJesu wambuza wathi, “Wena uyinkosi yamaJuda na?” **34** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Lowo ngumcabango wakho yini kumbe kulabanye abake bakhuluma lawe ngami?” **35** UPhilathu waphendula wathi, “Ucabanga ukuthi ngingumJuda na? Ngabantu bakini labaphristi abakhulu abakulethe lapha kimi. Kanti uvele woneni?” **36** UJesu wathi, “Umbuso wami kawusi walumhlaba. Aluba kwakunjalo izinceku zami bezizakulwa ukwenqabela ukuthi ngingabotsiwa ngamaJuda. Kodwa hatshi, umbuso wami uvela kwenye indawo.” **37** UPhilathu wathi, “Ngakho uyinkosi phela?” UJesu waphendula wathi, “Uqondile ukuthi ngiyinkosi. Ngeqiniso ngazalelwa lokho njalo ngalanda khona emhlabeni, ukuzafakaza iqiniso. Bonke abemi eqiniswa bayangilalela.” **38** UPhilathu wabuza wathi, “Yiliphi iqiniso?” Esekutshilo lokhu waphinda waphuma waya kumaJuda wathi, “Angifumani lutho lokumbeka icala. **39** Kodwa kungumkhuba wenu ukuthi ngilikhululele esinye isibotsiwa ngesikhathi sePhasika. Lifuna ukuthi ngilikhululele

inkosi yamaJuda na?" 40 Amemeza athi, "Hatshi, hayi lo! Siphe uBharabhasi!" UBharabhasi wayephatheke ekukhokheleni umvukela.

19 UPhilathu wasemthatha uJesu wathi katshaywe ngemvubu. 2 Amabutho eluka umqhele wameva awubeka ekhanda lakhe. Amgqokisa isigqoko esiyibubende 3 aya kuye aphindaphinda ememeza esithi, "Bayethe! Nkosi yamaJuda!" 4 UPhilathu waphinda waphuma wathi kumaJuda, "Khangelani, sengimkhupha ngimlethe kini ngilizisa ukuthi kangifumani sizatho sokumethesa icala." 5 Kwathi uJesu ephuma egqoke umqhele wameva, egqoke isigqoko esiyibubende, uPhilathu wathi kubo, "Iboneni-ke, nansi indoda!" 6 Abaphristi abakhulu lezikhulu zabo bonela ukumbona bamemeza bathi, "Mbethele! Mbethele!" Kodwa uPhilathu waphendula wathi, "Mkathetheni limbethele lina. Mina, kangifumani sizatho sokumethesa icala." 7 AmaJuda aphikelela athi, "Thina silomthetho, ngakho mayelana lalowomthetho kumele afe ngoba uzithi uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu." 8 UPhilathu wathi ekuzwa lokhu wesaba kakhulu, 9 wasebuyela esigodweni. Wabuza uJesu wathi, "Ungowangaphi wena?" Kodwa uJesu kamphendulanga. 10 UPhilathu wathi, "Kawufuni kukhuluma lami? Awuboni yini ukuthi mina ngilamandla okukukhuluma lawokukubethela?" 11 UJesu waphendula wathi, "Kawulawo amandla phezu kwami ongawaphiwanga evela phezulu. Ngakho-ke, lowo onginikele kuwe ulecala lesono esikhulu kakhulu." 12 Kusukela lapho uPhilathu wazama ukukhuluma uJesu, kodwa amaJuda aqhubeka ememeza esithi, "Nxa uyekela umuntu lo ahambe, kawulabungane loKhesari. Lowo ozitshaya inkosi uphikisana loKhesari." 13 UPhilathu esezwe lokhu, wamletha phandle uJesu, yena washlala esihlalweni sakhe sokwahlulela endaweni eyayithiwa yisiGcawu Esigandelwe Ngamatshe (okuthiwa ngesiHebheru yiGabatha). 14 Kwakulusuku lokuLungisela iViki yePhasika, ngehola lesithupha. UPhilathu wathi kumaJuda, "Nansi inkosi yenu." 15 Kodwa amemeza athi, "Msuse! Msuse! Mbethele!" UPhilathu wabuza wathi, "Ngibethele inkosi yenu na?" Abaphristi abakhulu bamphendula bathi, "Kasilankosi ngaphandle kukaKhesari." 16 Ekucineni uPhilathu wamnikela kubo ukuba abethelwe. Ngakho amabutho amthatha uJesu. 17 Wathwala isiphambano, wasuka waya endaweni yoKhakhayi (okuthiwa ngesiHebheru yiGoligotha). 18 Bambethela khona lapho kanye labanye ababili, ngapha langapha kwakhe, uJesu waba phakathi. 19 UPhilathu waloba umbhalo wananyathiselwa esiphambanweni. Wawubhalwe ukuthi: UJesu waseNazaretha, iNkosi yamaJuda. 20 AmaJuda amanengi awufunda umbhalo lowo ngoba lapho uJesu ayebethelwe khona kwakuseduze ledolobho, umbhalo lowo wawulotshwe ngesiHebheru, ngesiLathini langesiGriki. 21 Abaphristi abakhulu bamaJuda basola kuPhilathu bathi, "Ungalobi uthi 'Inkosi yamaJuda,' kodwa umuntu lo wayezibiza ngokuthi uyinkosi yamaJuda." 22 UPhilathu waphendula wathi, "Esengikulobile, sengikulobile." 23 Kwathi amabutho esembethele uJesu, athatha izigqoko zakhe azabelana, zaba zingxenyane ezine, zilingene ibutho linye ngalinye, kwasala isigqoko sangaphansi. Sona sasingelamthungo, silukwe sonke kusukela phezulu kusiya phansi. 24 Bacebisana bathi, "Kasingasidabuli. Kasikhetheni ngenkatho ukuthi sibe ngesikabani." Lokhu kwenzakala ukuze kugcwaliseke umbhalo owathi: "Babelana izembatho zami benza inkatho

ngezigqoko zami." Yikho lokhu amabutho akwenzayo. 25 Eduze kwesiphambano sakhe uJesu kwakumi unina, udadewabo kanina, uMariya umkaKlopasi loMariya Magadalini. 26 UJesu wathi ebona unina lapho lomfundi ayemthanda emi lapho eduze, wathi kunina, "Mama, nansi indodana yakho," 27 wathi kumfundi, "Nangu unyoko." Kusukela kulesosikhathi umfundi lowo wamthatha unina wamusa ekhaya lakhe. 28 Ngemva kwalesosikhathi, uJesu esesazi ukuthi konke kwasekuphelele njalo ukuze umbhalo ugcwaliseke, wathi, "Ngomile." 29 Kwakubekwe imbodlela yewayini yeviniga khonapho, basebegxamuzwa kuyo uziphlo baluxhuma eluthini lizesihlahlazana sehisophi, baluphakamisela endebeni zikaJesu. 30 Esenathile wathi, "Sekuphelele." Esetshonjalo wagobisa ikhanda lakhe wafa. 31 Lolo kwakulusuku lokuLungiselela, ngosuku olulandelayo kwakuzakuba liSabatha eliqakathekileyo. Ngenxa yokuthi amaJuda ayengafuni izidumbu zisale eziphambanweni ngeSabatha, acela uPhilathu ukuthi kwephulwe amalunga emilenze lezidumbu zethulwe. 32 Yikho amabutho eza ephula imilenze yendoda yakuqala eyayibethelwe loJesu, aphinda lakweyinye. 33 Kodwa athi efika kuJesu ebona ukuthi wayevele esefile, kawasazephulanga izitho zakhe. 34 Endaweni yalokho elinye ibutho lamciba uJesu ngomkhonto ohlangothini, kwantshaza igazi lamanzi. 35 Umuntu owakubonayo usebulethile ubufakazi, njalo ubufakazi bakhe buliqiniso. Uyazi ukuthi ukhuluma iqiniso njalo ufakazela ukuthi lani libe lokukholwa. 36 Lezizinto zenzakala ukuze kugcwaliseke umbhalo othi: "Kalikho lalinye ithambo lakhe elizakwephulwa," 37 lomunye umbhalo uthi, "Bazakhangela kulowo abangwazayo." 38 Ngemva kwalokho, uJosefa wase-Arimathiya wacela isidumbu sikaJesu kuPhilathu. UJosefa lo wayengumfundi kaJesu kodwa wayekufihla ngoba wayesesaba amaJuda. Eselemvumo kaPhilathu weza wasithatha isidumbu. 39 Wayephathiswa nguNikhodimasi, indoda leyana eyayike yeza kuJesu ebusuku. UNikhodimasi weza lamakha emure lenhlaba engaba lesisindo samaphawundi angamatshumi ayisikhombisa lanhlana. 40 Bobabili bathatha isidumbu sikaJesu basigcoba ngalawomakha njalo basigoqela ngamaqhele elineni. Lokhu kwakungumkhuba wamaJuda wokungcwaba. 41 Endaweni lapho uJesu abethelwa khona kwakulesivande, esivandeni kulethuna elitsa okwakangakaze kungcwatshwe muntu kulo. 42 Ngenxa yokuthi kwakulusuku lokulungiselela lwamaJuda njalo ngenxa yokuthi ithuna laliseduze, bamngcwaba khonapho uJesu.

20 Ekuseni kakhulu ngosuku lokuqala lweviki, kulokhu kusemnyama, uMariya Magadalini waya ethuneni wafumana ukuthi ilitshe laselisisiwe emlonyeni wethuna. 2 Ngakho wafika egijima kuSimoni Phethro elomunye umfundi, lowo uJesu ayemthanda, wathi, "Sebeyithethe iNkosi ethuneni, kodwa kasazi ukuthi bayise ngaphi!" 3 Yikho uPhethro lalowomfundi omunye baqonda ethuneni. 4 Bobabili babegijima, kodwa lowo omunye umfundi wamtshiya uPhethro wayafika kuqala ethuneni. 5 Wakhothama walunguza phakathi wabona amaqhele elineni ekhonapho, kodwa kangenanga. 6 Khonokho uSimoni Phethro owayengemuva kwakhe wafika wangena ethuneni. Wawabona amaqhele elineni ethe qekele khonapho, 7 kanye lelembu lokungcwaba elalithandele ikhanda likaJesu. Ilembu lelo laseligoqiwe lodwa lingekho kwawelineni. 8 Ekucineni lowo omunye umfundi owayefike kuqala ethuneni laye wangena. Wabona, wakholwa. 9

(Babelokhu bengezisisi emibhalweni ukuthi uJesu wayemele avuke kwabafileyo.) **10** Abafundi basebebuyela emizini yabo. **11** Kodwa uMariya wasala emi ngaphandle kwethuna ekhala. Wathi elokhu ekhala wakhothama walunguza ethuneni **12** wabona izingilosi ezimbili zigqoke okumhlophe zihlezi lapho isidumbu sikaJesu sasikade sikhona, enye ngasemakhanda, enye ngasezinyaweni. **13** Zambuza zathi, “Mama, ukhalelani na?” Wathi, “Bayisusile iNkosi yami, kangazi ukuthi bayibeke ngaphi.” **14** Wasephenduka wabona uJesu emi khonapho, kodwa kananzelelanga ukuthi kwakunguJesu. **15** Wathi, “Mama, ukhalelani na? Ufuna ubani na?” UMariya wayesithi kumbe ngumlimi, wasesithi, “Nkosi, nxa kunguwe omthethayo, ngitshelela ukuthi umbeke ngaphi ukuze ngiyemthatha.” **16** UJesu wathi, “Mariya.” Waphendukela kuye wamemeza ngesiHebheru wathi, “Rabhoni!” (okutsho ukuthi “Mfundisi”). **17** UJesu wathi, “Kungabambi, ngoba kangikabuyeli kuBaba. Kodwa hamba kubafowethu ubatshela uthi, ‘Sengibuyela kuBaba njalo uYihlo, kuNkulunkulu wami, uNkulunkulu wenu.’” **18** UMariya Magdalini waya kubafundi elombiko othi, “ngiyibonile iNkosi!” Njalo wabatshela ukuthi wayekutshilo lokhu kuye. **19** Kushiwa ngalolosuku lokuqala lweviki, abafundi babendawonye behluthulele iminyango ngoba besesaba amaJuda, uJesu wafika wema phakathi kwabo wathi, “Ukuthula kakube kini!” **20** Esekutshilo lokhu wabatshengisa izandla zakhe lohlangothi lwakhe. Abafundi bathaba kakhulu beyibona iNkosi. **21** UJesu waphinda wathi, “Ukuthula kakube kini! Njengoba uBaba engthumile, lami ngiyalithuma.” **22** Esitsho lokho wabaphefumulela wathi, “Yamukelani uMoya oNgcwele.” **23** Nxa lithethelela loba ngubani izono zakhe, zizathethelelwa lezenu, kodwa nxa lingathetheleli ezabanye kazisoze zithethelelwe lezenu.” **24** UThomasi (othiwa nguDidimasi), omunye wabalitshumi lambili, wayengekho kwabanye abafundi uJesu aze afike. **25** Kwathi lapho abanye abafundi bemthshela bathi “sesiyibonile iNkosi,” wathandabuza wathi, “Ngaphandle kokuthi ngibone amanxeba ezipikili ezandleni zakhe ngibeke umunwe wami emanxebeni ezipikili, ngifake isandla sami ehlangothini lwakhe, kangisoze ngikhholwe.” **26** Sekudlule iviki abafundi bakhe babesendlini njalo, loThomasi elabo. Njengoba iminyango yayihluthulelwe uJesu wafika wema phakathi kwabo wathi, “Ukuthula kakube kini!” **27** Wasesithi kuThomasi, “Faka umunwe wakho lapha; bona izandla zami. Yelula isandla sakho usibeke ehlangothini lwami. Yekela ukuthandabuza ukholwe.” **28** UThomasi wathi kuye, “Nkosi yami, Nkulunkulu wami!” **29** UJesu wasemthshela wathi, “Usukholiwe ngoba usungibonile; babusisiwe labo abathi bengabonanga, kodwa sebekholiwe.” **30** UJesu wenza eminye imimangaliso eminengi abafundi bakhe bekhangele, kodwa engabhalwanga kule incwadi. **31** Kodwa le ibhaliwe ukuze likholwe ukuthi uJesu unguKhristu, iNdodana kaNkulunkulu, njalo ukuze kuthi ngokukholwa libe lokuphila ngebizo lakhe.

21 Ngemva kwesikhathi uJesu waphinda waziveza kubafundi bakhe oLwandle lwaseThibheriyasi. Kwenzakala kanje: **2** USimoni Phethro, loThomasi (othiwa nguDidimasi) loNathaneli waseKhana eseGalile, lamadodana kaZebhediyi labanye abafundi ababili babendawonye. **3** USimoni Phethro wabatshela wathi, “Ngisayagola inhlanzi” bona bathi, “Sizahamba lawe.” Ngakho baphuma bayangena esikepeni kodwa kabababanga lutho ngalobobusuku. **4** Ekuseni kakhulu uJesu wema ekhunjini kodwa abafundi kabananzelelanga ukuthi kwakunguJesu. **5** Wabamemeza

wathi, “Bangane, lilokhu lingabambanga nhlanzi yini?” Baphendula bathi, “Hatshi.” **6** Wathi, “Phoselani umambule wenu ngakwesokunene kwesikepe lizagola khona.” Bathe sebenze njalo behluleka ukudonsa umambule ngenxa yobunengi behlanzi. **7** Lowomfundi owayethandwa nguJesu wathi kuPhethro, “YiNkosi!” USimoni Phethro wonela ukuzwa esithi, “YiNkosi,” wazembathisa ngesigqoko sakhe sejazi (ngoba wayesikhulule) weqela emanzini. **8** Abanye abafundi balandela ngesikepe bedonsa umambule ugcwele inhlanzi ngoba babengakhatshana lasokhunjini, kwakungaba yizinyathelo ezilikhulu. **9** Ekufineni kwabo okhunjini babona umlilo wamalable uvutha kulenhlanzi phezu kanye lesinkwa. **10** UJesu wathi kubo, “Lethani ezinye inhlanzi elizibambileyo.” **11** USimoni Phethro wagada esikepeni, wadonsela umambule okhunjini. Wawugcwele inhlanzi ezinkulu, zilikhulu lamatshumi amahlanu lantathu, kodwa loba zinengi kangaka umambule kawudabukanga. **12** UJesu wathi kubo, “Wozani lizokudla.” Kakho kubafundi owaqunga isibindi sokumbuza ukuthi, “Ungubani wena?” Bakwazi ukuthi yiNkosi. **13** UJesu weza, wathatha isinkwa wabanika, wenza njalo langenhlanzi. **14** Lesi kwasekuyisikhathi sesithathu uJesu ezibonakalisa kubafundi bakhe ngemva kokuvuswa kwabafileyo. **15** Sebeqedile ukudla, uJesu wathi kuSimoni Phethro, “Simoni, ndodana kaJohane, ungithanda ngeqiniso na okudlula laba abanye?” Wathi, “Yebo, Nkosi, uyakwazi ukuthi ngiyakuthanda.” UJesu wathi, “Phana amawundlu ami ukudla.” **16** UJesu waphinda wathi, “Simoni, ndodana kaJohane, uyangithanda ngeqiniso na?” Waphendula wathi, “Yebo, Nkosi, uyakwazi ukuthi ngiyakuthanda.” UJesu wathi, “Gcina izimvu zami.” **17** Wasesithi kuye okwesithathu, “Simoni, ndodana kaJohane, uyangithanda na?” UPhethro wadabuka ngoba uJesu wambuza okwesithathu wathi, “Uyangithanda na?” Wathi, “Nkosi, uyazazi izinto zonke; uyakwazi ukuthi ngiyakuthanda.” UJesu wathi, “Phana izimvu zami ukudla. **18** Ngikuthshela iqiniso ngithi, usesematshu wawuziqqokisa, uziyele lapho othanda khona; kodwa nxa usuluphele, uzakwelula izandla zakho, ugqokiswe ngomunye, akuhole akuse lapho ongafuni ukuya khona.” **19** UJesu wakutshilo lokhu ebonisa indlela yokufa uPhethro ayezadumisa uNkulunkulu ngayo. Wasesithi kuye, “Ngilandela!” **20** UPhethro wanyemukela wabona umfundi uJesu ayemthanda ebalandela. (Nguye lowo oweyama kuJesu esidlwani, owabuzayo wathi, “Nkosi, ngubani ozakuthengisa?”) **21** UPhethro wathi embona wathi, “Nkosi, kanti lo-ke?” **22** UJesu waphendula wathi, “Nxa ngifuna ukuthi asale ephila ngize ngibuye kulani lawe lokho? Wena kumele ungilandele.” **23** Ngenxa yalokhu, kwaba lehungahunga phakathi kwabazalwane lokuthi umfundi lo wayengezokufu. Kodwa uJesu katshongo ukuthi wayengezokufu; wathi nje kuphela, “Nxa ngifuna ukuthi asale ephila ngize ngibuye, kulani lawe lokho?” **24** Lo nguye umfundi ozifakazayo lezinto, ongye owazibhala phansi. Siyazi ukuthi ubufakazi bakhe buqotho. **25** UJesu wenza ezinye izinto ezinengi njalo. Aluba zonke zazingabhalwa phansi, ngibona ingathi lomhlaba wonke wawuzaswela indawo yezincwadi ezazingabhalwa.

Imisebenzi

1 Encwadini yami yakuqala, Theyofelasi, ngalandisa ngakho konke uJesu akwenzayo lakufundisayo **2** kwaze kwafika usuku enyukiswa ngalo esiya ezulwini, esenike izeluleko ngoMoya oNgcwele kubapostoli ayebakhethile. **3** Ngemva kokuhlupheka kwakhe, waziveza kubo, wabapha iziqiniseko ezinengi njengobufakazi bokuthi wayephila. Wabonakala kubo okwensuku ezingamatshumi amane, ekhuluma ngombuso kaNkulunkulu. **4** Wathi esidla labo ngelinye ilanga wabalaya wathi, “Lingasuki eJerusalem, lilindele isipho esathenjiswa nguBaba, elangizwa ngikhuluma ngaso. **5** Ngoba uJohane wabhaphathiza ngamanzi, kodwa ngemva kwensuku ezimbalwa lizabhaphathizwa ngoMoya oNgcwele.” **6** Basebesithi gwaqa ndawonye bambuza bathi, “Nkosi, khathesi usuzabuyisela umbuso ko-Israyeli na?” **7** Wathi kubo: “Kakusikho kwenu ukwazi izikhathi loba insuku uBaba azimisileyo ngamandla akhe. **8** Kodwa lina lizakwamukela amandla nxa uMoya oNgcwele esefikile kini, njalo lizakuba ngofakazi bami eJerusalem lakulo lonke elJudiya laseSamariya kanye laseMikhalweleni yomhlaba.” **9** Esekutshilo lokhu, wenyukiswa phambi kwamehlho abo, iyezi lamfihla, abazabe besambona. **10** Babejolozele esibhakabhakeni ngesikhathi esenyuka, masinyazana nje kwema amadoda amabili eduze kwabo egqoke okumhlophe. **11** Athi kubo, “Madoda ezaGalile, limeleni lapha lijolozele esibhakabhakeni na? UJesu lo osethethwe kini waziwa ezulwini uzabuya ngayonale indlela elimbone esenyuka ngayo esiya ezulwini.” **12** Basebebuyela eJerusalem besuka eNtabeni yama-Oliva, okungumango ongaba likhilomitha kusuka edolobheni. **13** Ekufikeni kwabo bakhuphukela endlini ephuzulu lapho ababehlala khona. Ababelapho babebalisa: uPhethro, uJohane, uJakhobe lo-Andreya; uFiliphu loThomasi; uBhatholomewu loMatewu; uJakhobe indodana ka-Alifewu, uSimoni umZilothi, loJudasi indodana kaJakhobe. **14** Bonke laba bahlangana kokuphela bekhuleka, bendawonye labesifazane loMariya unina kaJesu kanye labafowabo bakajesu. **15** Ngalezonsuku uPhethro wasukuma phakathi kwamakholwa (ixuku elalingafika ikhulu elilamatshumi amabili) **16** wathi, “Bazalwane, uMbhalo kwakumele ugcaliseke, lokho okwakhulunywa nguMoya oNgcwele endulo ngomlomo kaDavida mayelana loJudasi owaba ngumkhokheli walabo ababopha uJesu. **17** Wayengomunye wenani lethu njalo waba lengxenywe emsebenzini wethu wobuvangeli.” **18** (Ngomvuzo awuzuzayo ngenxa yobubi bakhe, uJudasi wathenga isiqinti; khonapho wawa ngekhandla, isidumbu sakhe sadubuka, amathumbu akhe wonke agcwala phansi. **19** Bonke eJerusalem bezwa ngalokho, yikho babiza isiqinti leso ngolimi lwabo bathi yi-Akheldidama, okutsho iSiqinti seGazi.) **20** UPhethro wathi, “Ngoba kulotshiwe encwadini yamaHubo ukuthi: ‘Sengathi indawo yakhe ingaba ngamanzi; kungabi lamuntu ozahlala kuyo,’ njalo, ‘Kakube lomunye ozathatha isikhundla sakhe sobukhokheli.’ **21** Ngakho kufanele ukuba sikhethe omunye wamadoda abekade elathi isikhathi sonke iNkosi uJesu isesephakathi kwethu, **22** kusukela ekubhaphathizweni kwakhe nguJohane kuze kufike esikhathini lapho uJesu athathwa khona kithi. Ukuze omunye wabo laba abe ngufakazi kanye lathi ngokuvuka kwakhe kwabafileyo.” **23** Ngakho basebemisa amadoda amabili,

uJosefa owayethiwa nguBhasabasi (esaziwa njalo ngokuthi nguJustusi) loMATHIYASI. **24** Basebekhuleka bathi, “Nkosi, uyayazi inhliziyi yomuntu munye ngamunye. Sitshengise ukuthi nguphi phakathi kwalaba ababili omkhetheleyo **25** ukuba athathe lesisikhundla sobupostoli, uJudasi asitshiyayo esiya lapho ayefanele khona.” **26** Basebesenza inkatho, yadla uMATHIYASI, wasesengezwa kubapostoli abalitshumi lanye.

2 Kwathi kufika usuku lwePhentekhosti, bonke babendawonye. **2** Masinyane nje kwabakhona umsindo onjengokuvunzwa komoya wesiphelo wehla uvela ezulwini, wagcwala indlu yonke ababehlezi kuyo. **3** Babona okwakungathi zinlimi ezingamalangabi omlilo ezehlukana zahlala komunye lomunye wabo. **4** Bonke bagcwaliswa ngoMoya oNgcwele, basebeqalisa ukukhuluma ezinye izindimi njengokwaneliswa kwabo nguMoya. **5** Ngalesikhathi kwakuhlala amajuda ayemesaba uNkulunkulu eJerusalem, evela kuyo yonke imibuso yomhlaba. **6** Athi ngokuzwa umsindo lo, kwabuthana ixuku labantu bemangele ngoba omunye lomunye wabezwa bekhuluma ngolimi lwakhe. **7** Ngokumangala okukhulu babuza bathi, “Kanti bonke laba abakhulumayo kabasimaGalile na? **8** Pho kungani omunye lomunye wethu ebezwa bekhuluma ngolimi lwethu na? **9** AmaPhathiya, amaMede, ama-Elamu; izakhamizi zaseMesophothamiya, lezeJudiya leKhaphadokhiya, lePhontusi le-Ezhiya, **10** leFirigiya lePhamfiliya, leGibhithe leZingxenywe zeLibhiya eduze leKhurini; izethekeli ezivela eRoma **11** (amajuda lamakholwa aphendukele enkolweni yesiJuda); amaKhrethe lama-Arabhu, sibezwa befakaza izimangaliso zikaNkulunkulu ngendimi zethu!” **12** Babedidekile bengelankani, babuzana bathi, “Kutshoni lokhu?” **13** Kodwa abanye benza inhlekisa ngabo bathi, “Banathe iwayini enengi bedlulisa.” **14** UPhethro wasesukuma labalitshumi lanye, waphakamisa ilizwi lakhe wakhuluma emphakathini wathi, “Bantu bakithi elingamaJuda, lani lonke eliseJerusalem, kahleni ngilichasisele lokhu; lalalisani lokhu engikutshoyo. **15** Amadoda la kawadakwanga njengokucabanga kwenu. Kusesilihola lesificamunwemunye nje ekuseni! **16** Hatshi, lokhu yikho okwakhulunywa ngumphrofethi uJeweli ukuthi: **17** ‘Ngezinsuku zokucina, uNkulunkulu uthi, Ngizathululela uMoya wami kubo bonke abantu. Amadodana lamadodakazi enu azaphrofitha, izinsizwa zenu zizabona imibono, lamaxhegu enu azaphupha amaphupho. **18** Lasezincekweni zami, ezesilisa lezesifazane, ngizawuthulula uMoya wami ngalezonsuku, njalo bazaphrofitha. **19** Ngizatshengisa izimanga ezulwini phezu, lezibonakaliso emhlabeni phansi, igazi lomlilo lezikhatha zentuthu. **20** Ilanga lizaphendulwa libe yibumnyama, lenyanga ibelagazi phambi kokuba kufike usuku olukhulu lukaThixo, olukhazimulayo. **21** Njalo wonke obiza ibizo likaThixo uzasindiswa.’ **22** Bantu bako-Israyeli, lalalani lokhu: UJesu waseNazaretha wayeyindoda eyamiswa nguNkulunkulu kini, ngezimangaliso lezibonakaliso uNkulunkulu azenzayo phakathi kwenu ngaye, njengoba lina ngokwenu lisazi. **23** Umuntu lo wanikelwa kini ngecebo likaNkulunkulu ayelimisile langolwazi lokuzayo; njalo lina lincediswa ngabantu ababi, lambulala ngokumbethela esiphambanweni. **24** Kodwa uNkulunkulu wamvusa kwabafileyo, wamkhulula ebuhlungwini bokufa ngoba ukufa kwakungelamandla okumncindezela. **25** UDavida wathi ngaye: ‘Ngayibona iNkosi

iphambi kwami kokuphela. Njengoba isesandleni sami sokunene, angiyi kunyikinywa. **26** Ngakho inhliziyoyi yami iyathaba lolimi lwami luyathokoza; umzimba wami lawo uzahlala ulethemba, **27** ngoba kawuzukungidela ukuba ngiyi endaweni yabafileyo, njalo kawusoze wekele ongcelele wakho ukuthi abone ukubola. (**Hadēs g86**) **28** Ungazisile izindlela zemphilo; uzangicwalisa ngentokozi phambi kwakho. **29** Bazalwane, ngilitshela ngilesibindi ukuthi ukhokho uDavida wafa wangcwatshwa, njalo ithuna lakhe likhona khonapha kuze kube lamuhla. **30** Kodwa wayengumphrofethi, ekwazi ukuthi uNkulunkulu wayemthembisile ngesifungo ukuthi wayezabeka omunye wesizukulwane sakhe esihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi. **31** Ngoba ebona okwakuphambili, wakhuluma ngokuvuka kukaKhristu kwabafileyo, ukuthi kazange atshiywe endaweni yabafileyo njalo umzimba wakhe kawukubonanga ukubola. (**Hadēs g86**) **32** UNkulunkulu usemvusile uJesus lo waphila, thina sonke singofakazi balokho. **33** Njengoba esekhutshulelwe ngakwesokunene sikaNkulunkulu, usamukele kuYise uMoya oNgcwele owathenjiswa njalo usekuthulule lokho elikubonayo lelikuzwayo khathesi. **34** Ngoba uDavida kenyukanga ukuya ezulwini, kodwa wathi, 'INKosi yathi eNkosini yami: "Hlala ngakwesokunene sami **35** ngeze ngenze izitha zakho zibe yisinyathelo senyawo zakho." **36** Ngakho-ke, u-Israelayi wonke kaqiniseke ngalokhu: uNkulunkulu usenze uJesus lo elambethelayo waba yiNkosi loKhristu." **37** Abantu bathi bekuzwa lokhu bathinteka kakhulu ezinhliziyweni, bathi kuPhethro labanye abapostoli, "Bazalwane, senze njani na?" **38** UPhethro waphendula wathi, "Phendukani libhaphathizwe lonke, ebizweni likaJesusu Khristu ukuze lithethelelewe izono zenu. Njalo lizakwamukela isipho soMoya oNgcwele. **39** Isithembiso ngesenu labantwabenu labo bonke abakude, lesabo bonke iNkosi uNkulunkulu wethu ezababiza." **40** Wabaxwayisa langamanye amazwi amanengi; njalo wabancenga wathi, "Zisindiseni kulesizukulwane esonakeleyo." **41** Labo abalemukelayo ilizwi lakhe babhaphathizwa, kwengezwa enanini labo mhlalokho abangaba zinkulungwane ezintathu. **42** Bayikhuthalela imfundiso yabapostoli kanye lokudlelana, lokuhlephuna isinkwa lokukhuleka. **43** Wonke umuntu wagwala ukwesaba ngezimanga lezibonakaliso ezenziwa ngabapostoli. **44** Wonke amakhohla ayendawonye, ehlanganyela kukho konke. **45** Athengisa izinto zawo lempahla zawo anika loba ngubani oswelayo. **46** Insuku zonke aqhubeka ehlangana emagumeni ethempeli njalo ehlephuna isinkwa emakhaya awo esidla ndawonye ngezinhliziyoyi ezimhlophe lezithobekileyo, **47** edumisa uNkulunkulu njalo ethakazelelwa ngabantu bonke. Njalo iNkosi yengeza inani lawo insuku zonke ngalabo abasebesindisiwe.

3 Ngelinye ilanga uPhethro loJohane babesiya ethempelini ngesikhathi sokukhuleka, ngehola lesithathu emini. **2** Indoda eyayigogekile kusukele ekuzalweni kwayo, yayithwalwa isiwe esangweni lethempeli elalibizwa ngokuthi liSango Elihle, lapho eyayibekwa khona nsuku zonke ukuthi icele kulabo ababengana emagumeni ethempeli. **3** Yathi ibona uPhethro loJohane bengena yabacela imali. **4** UPhethro loJohane bayijolozela. UPhethro wasesithi, "Sikhangelali!" **5** Ngakho indoda yabakhangelali, ithembe ukuthi izazuza ulutho kubo. **6** UPhethro wasesithi, "Isiliva kumbe igolide kangilakho, kodwa engilakho ngiyakunika. Ebizweni likaJesusu Khristu

waseNazaretha, sukuma uhambe." **7** Wambamba ngesandla sokudla wamsukumisa, masinyane nje inyawo lenqagala zakhe kwaqina. **8** Wathi lothu ngezinyawo zakhe wahle wahamba. Wasehamba labo ethempelini, ezihambela, eseqa njalo edumisa uNkulunkulu. **9** Kwathi abantu bonke bembona ehamba edumisa uNkulunkulu, **10** bamnanzelela ukuthi nguye owayehlala ecela esangweni lethempeli lele, bamangala baphela amandla ngalokho okwakwenzakele kuye. **11** Isiceli sisathe sece kuPhethro loJohane, bonke abantu bamangala beza kubo begijima endaweni eyayithiwa liKhususi likaSolomoni. **12** UPhethro wathi ekubona lokhu wathi kubo, "Bantu bakozel-Israyeli, kungani kulimangalisa lokhu na? Kungani lisijolozela sengathi ngamandla ethu loba ukholo lwethu okwenzela umuntu lo wahamba na? **13** UNkulunkulu ka-Abrahama, lo-Isaka loJakhobe, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho bethu useyikhazimulisile inceku yakhe uJesus. Lamnikela ukuba abulawe, lamphika phambi kukaPhilathu, loba yena wayesemise ukuthi amyekele ahambe. **14** Lamphika oNgcwele njalo oLungileyo, laceda ukuthi likhululelwe umbulali. **15** Lambulala umsungulo wokuphila, kodwa uNkulunkulu wamvusa kwabafileyo. Singofakazi bakho lokhu. **16** Ngokukholwa ebizweni likaJesusu, indoda le eliyibonayo, eliyaziyo, yenziwe yaqina. Kungenxa yebizo likaJesusu lokukholwa okuza ngaye okulethe ukusila okupheleleyo kuyo njengoba lonke libona. **17** Manje-ke bazalwane, ngiyazi ukuthi lakwenza ngokungazi, njengoba labakhokheli benu labo babengazi. **18** Kodwa yiyo indlela uNkulunkulu agcwalisa ngayo lokho ayekutshilo ngaphambilini ngabo bonke abaphrofethi, esithi uKhristu wakhe wayezahlupheka. **19** Ngakho phendukani, libuyele kuNkulunkulu ukuze izono zenu zesulwe, ukuze kufike izikhathi zokuhlambulula okuvela eNkosini, **20** lokuthi ithumele uKhristu omiselwe lina, yena uJesusu. **21** Kumele ahlale ezulwini kuze kufike isikhathi lapho uNkulunkulu azaqondisa konke ngaso, njengokuthembisa kwakhe endulo ngabaphrofethi bakhe abangcwele. (**aiōn g165**) **22** Ngoba uMosi wathi, 'INKosi uNkulunkulu wenu uzalivusela umphrofethi phakathi kwabafowenu njengami; libokulalela konke alitshela khona. **23** Loba ngubani ongayikumalalela uzakusiswa ngokupheleleyo ebantwini bakibo.' **24** Ngempela, bonke abaphrofethi kusukela kuSamuyeli, bonke abaphrofethi baphrofetha ngazo insuku lezi. **25** Lina lizindlalifa zabo abaphrofethi kanye lesivumelwano uNkulunkulu asenza labokhokho benu. Wathi ku-Abrahama, 'Bonke abantu bomhlaba bazabusiwa ngesizukulwane sakho.' **26** Kuthe uNkulunkulu eseyimisile inceku yakhe, wayithumela kuqala kini ukuba ilibusise ngokuphendula omunye lomunye wenu ezindleleni zenu zobubi."

4 Abaphristi lomlawuli wabalindi bethempeli kanye lamaSadusi beza kuPhethro loJohane belokhu besakuhluma labantu. **2** Bakhathazeka kakhulu ngoba abapostoli babefundisa abantu betshumayela ukuthi kuJesusu kulokuvuka kwabafileyo. **3** Babamba uPhethro loJohane, kwathi ngenxa yokuthi kwasekuntambama, babafaka entolongweni kwaze kwaba kusasa. **4** Kodwa abanengi abalizwayo ilizwi bakholwa, inani lamadoda lakhula okungaba zinkulungwane ezinhlanu. **5** Ngosuku olulandelayo ababusi, abadala, labafundisi bomthetho babuthana eJerusalem. **6** U-Anasi umphristi omkhulu, uKhayifasi, uJohane, u-Alekizanda labanye abendlu yomphristi omkhulu. **7** Bathi uPhethro loJohane baletshwe, baqala

ukubathonisa besithi, “Lokhu likwenze ngamandla bani kumbe ngaliphi ibizo na?” **8** UPhethro egcwele uMoya oNgcwele wathi kubo, “Babusi labadala babantu! **9** Nxa sibekwa umlandu lamuhla ngesenzo somusa owenzelwe indoda ebiyisigoga, besesibuzwa ukuthi isiliswe njani, **10** yazini lokhu, lina kanye labo bonke abantu bako-Israyeli; kungenxa yamandla kaJesu Khristu waseNazarethla elambethelayo kodwa uNkulunkulu wamvusa kwabafileyo, yiwo enza indoda le ime phambi kwenu isilile ngokupheleleyo. **11** Yena uyilo ‘ilitshe lina abakhi elalilahlayo, khathesi seliyilona ilitshe lekhonei.’ **12** Kakho omunye okulensindiso kuye; phela kalikho elinye ibizo ngaphansi kweluzo elaphiwa abantu ukuthi sisindiswe ngalo.” **13** Bathi ngokubona isibindi sikaPhethro loJohane njalo benanzelela ukuthi ngabantu makhaza, ababengafundanga, batsha amathe, bakumanzelela ukuthi amadoda la ake aphila loJesu. **14** Kodwa njengoba babeyibona indoda eyayisiliswe imi khonapho labo, baswela ukuthi bangathini. **15** Ngakho kwathiwa kabasuke emphakathini weSanihedrini, umphakathi wasala uhlanganisa amakhanda. **16** Babuzana bathi, “Kambe senzeni ngamadoda la? Bonke abahlala eJerusalem bayakwazi ukuthi benze umangaliso obabazekayo, lathi asingeke sikulandule lokho. **17** Kodwa ukuze into le siyimise ukuthi ingasabalali phakathi kwabantu, kasibaqonqoseleni ukuthi bangaphindi bakhulume lakubani ngebizo leli.” **18** Basebebabiza njalo, babalaya ukuthi bangaqali ukukhuluma loba ukufundisa ngebizo likajesu. **19** Kodwa uPhethro loJohane baphendula bathi, “Yikuphi okuqondileyo emehlweni kaNkulunkulu ukulalela lina kumbe ukulalela uNkulunkulu? Kwahluleleni lokho. **20** Thina ngokwethu asingeke siyekele ukukhuluma ngalokho esikubonileyo lesikuzwileyo.” **21** Sebebaqonqosele njalo babakhulula. Baswela ukuthi babengabajezisa njani, ngoba abantu bonke babendumisa uNkulunkulu ngalokho okwakwenzakele. **22** Ngoba leyondoda eyasiliswa ngesimanga yayileminyaka engamatshumi amane ubudala. **23** Ekukhululweni kwabo uPhethro loJohane babuyela ebantwini bakibo, bababikela konke okwakukhulunywe kibo ngabaphristi abakhulu labadala. **24** Sebekuzwile lokhu, baphakamisa amazwi abo bonke bakhuleka uNkulunkulu. Bathi, “Thixo Nkosi, wena wenza amazulu lomhlaba, lolwandle lakho konke okukuwo. **25** Wena wakhuluma ngoMoya oNgcwele ngomlomo wenceku yakho, ubaba wethu uDavida wathi: ‘Kungani izizwe zixokozela, labantu besakha amacebo ngeze? **26** Amakhosi omhlaba ayahloma ajame lababusi bahlangana ndawonye bemelana loThixo lalowo Ogcotshiweyo wakhe.’ **27** Ngempela uHerodi loPhontiyasi Philathu bahlangana labeZizwe kanye labantu bako-Israyeli baceba ngenceku yakho engcwele, uJesu owamgobayo. **28** Benza lokho okwakumiswe ngaphambilini ngamandla akho layintando yakho ukuthi kwakuzakwenzakala. **29** Ngakho, Nkosi, zwana ukusonga kwabo, uphe izinceku zakho amandla ukuthi zilikhulume ilizwi lakho ngesibindi esikhulu. **30** Yelula isandla sakho ukusilisa lokwenza imimangaliso lezimanga ngebizo lenceku yakho engcwele uJesu.” **31** Sebekhulekile, indawo ababekuyo yazamazama. Bonke bagcwaliswa ngoMoya oNgcwele, balikhuluma ngesibindi ilizwi likaNkulunkulu. **32** Wonke amakholwa ayenhliziyo nye njalo engqondo nye. Kakho owathi okwakhe ngokwakhe yedwa kodwa babelana konke ababelakho. **33** Abapostoli baqhubeka ukufakaza ngamandla amakhulu ngokuvuka kweNkosi uJesu kwabafileyo, bonke babusiseka kakhulu. **34** Kakho owayeswela

phakathi kwabo. Kwakusithi izikhathi ngezikhathi labo ababe leziqinti loba izindlu bazithengise balethe imali abathengise ngayo **35** bayethule ebapostolini, yabelwe loba ngubani ngokuswela kwakhe. **36** UJosefa, umLevi waseSiphraasi, abapostoli ababembiza ngokuthi nguBhanabhasi (okutsho ukuthi, iNdodana yeNkuthazo), **37** wathengisa isivande sakhe walethe imali wayethula phambi kwabapostoli.

5 Indoda eyayithiwa ngu-Ananiya ilomkayo uSafira labo bathengisa isiqinti sabo. **2** Wavumelana lomkakhe ukuthi afihle enye imali ibe ngeyabo, kwathi enye wayethula kubapostoli. **3** UPhethro wasesithi, “Ananiya, kungani uSathane esegabhele inhliziyi yakho usuze uqamba amanga kuMoya oNgcwele, wazigcinela ingxenye yemali eliyizuzileyo ngesiqinti senu na? **4** Kanti besingesisenu yini singakathengiswa? Njalo lapho sesithengisiwe, imali ibingaqondananga lani na? Kuyini okubangele ukuthi ucabange ukwenza into enje na? Kawuqambelanga muntu lawo manga, kodwa uwaqambe uNkulunkulu.” **5** U-Ananiya wonela ukukuzwa lokhu, wawela phansi wafa. Bonke abezwa ngalesisehlakalo bangenwa yikwesaba okukhulu. **6** Kwasekungena amajaha aqoqela isidumbu sakhe amthwala phandle, ayamngcwaba. **7** Ngemva kwamahala amathathu umkakhe laye wangena engazi okwasekwenzakele. **8** UPhethro wambuza wathi, “Ake ungitshele, yiyo yini le intengo eliyizuzileyo wena lo-Ananiya esiqintini senu?” Wathi, “Yebo, yiyo intengo yaso.” **9** UPhethro wathi kuye, “Kungani livumelane ukulunga uMoya weNkosi na? Lalela! Yizisinde zamadoda asengcwabe umkakho esezisemnyango, bazakuthwala lawe futhi.” **10** Khonokho wasakazeka phansi eduze kukaPhethro, wafa. Asengena amajaha yena esefile, amthwala aphuma laye ayamngcwaba malungana lomkakhe. **11** Ibandla lonke lafikelwa yikwesaba okukhulu kanye labo bonke abazizwayo lezizehlakalo. **12** Abapostoli benza imimangaliso lezimanga ezinengi ebantwini. Amakholwa wonke ayevame ukhlangana ndawonye eKhulusini likaSolomoni. **13** Kakho omunye owaqonga isibindi wahlangana labo, lanxa kunjalo babalodumo ebantwini. **14** Lanxa kunjalo, amadoda labafazi abanengi bakholwa eNkosini, bengezelela ubunengi babo. **15** Kwathi ngenxa yalokho, abantu balethe abagulayo ezitaladini, babalalisa emibhedeni lemacansini ukuze isithunzi sikaPhethro sisithe abanye babo lapho esedlula kuphela nje. **16** Amaxuku abantu abuthana eqhamuka emizini eyayiseduze kweJerusalem, eletha abagulayo labo ababehlukuluzwa yimimoya emibi, bonke basiliswa. **17** Kwasekusithi umphristi omkhulu kanye leqembu lakhe elalingelaxuku labaSadusi bangenwa ngumhawu. **18** Bababopha abapostoli babaphosela entolongweni yomuntu wonke. **19** Kodwa ebusuku ingilosu yeNkosi yavula iminyango yentolongo yabakhupha. **20** Yathi, “Hambani liyekuma emagumeni ethempeli, litshele abantu lonke ilizwi lempilo entsha.” **21** Kwathi emadabukakusa bahle bengenama emagumeni ethempeli, bafundisa abantu njengokutshelwa kwabo. Ekufikeni komphristi omkhulu leqembu lakhe bahle babiza iSanihedrini; inkundla yonke yabadala bako-Israyeli bathumela ilizwi entolongweni lokuthi kulethwe abapostoli, **22** kodwa izithunywa zathi zifika entolongweni zafumana bengasekho. Ngakho zasezibuyela zayabika zathi, **23** “Sifumane intolongo ivalwe kuhle labalindi bemi eminyango; kodwa sithe siyivula kasibonanga muntu phakathi.” **24** Induna yabalindi bethempeli

kanye labaphristi abakhulu bathi bezuzwa lokhu batsha amathe, bamangala ukuthi into le yayikhombani. **25** Kwasekufika omunye umuntu wathi, “Zwanini! Amadoda eliwaphosele entolongweni emi emagumeni ethempeli afundisa abantu.” **26** Besizwa lokho, induna yahle yasuka lamanxusa ayo bayabuya labapostoli. Kabasebenzisanga udlakela ngoba besayaba ukuthi abantu babengabakhanda ngamatshe. **27** Sebebaletshile abapostoli, babamisa phambi kweSanihedrini ukuthi bathonisiswe ngumphristi omkhulu. **28** Wathi, “Salinqosela ukuthi lingafundisi ngebizo leli. Kodwa seligcwalise iJerusalem ngemfundiso yenu njalo lizimisele ukuthesha umlandu ngegazi lomuntu lo.” **29** Uphethro labanye abapostoli baphendula bathi, “Kumele silalele uNkulunkulu kulokulalela abantu! **30** UNkulunkulu wabokhokho bethu wamvusa uJesus kwabafuleyo, yena elalimbulele ngokumlengisa esiphambanweni. **31** UNkulunkulu wamphakamisela kwesokunene sakhe waba yiNkosana loMsindisi ukuze anike ukuphenduka lokuthethelelwa kwezono ku-Israeli. **32** Thina singofakazi balezizinto, njengaye uMoya oNgcwele, uNkulunkulu amnike kulabo abamlalelayo.” **33** Bathi bezuzwa lokhu bathukuthela kakhulu, bafuna ukuthi babulawe. **34** Kodwa umFarisi owayethiwa nguGamaliyeli, engumfundisi womthetho, ehlonitshwa ngabantu bonke, wasukuma wema phambi kweSanihedrini wathi amadoda lawo ake amiswe phandle kancane. **35** Wasesithi emphakathini weSanihedrini, “Madoda ako-Israeli, cabangani kuhle ngalokhu elifuna ukukwenza emadodeni la. **36** Ngesikhathi esadlulayo kwafika uThewuda ezitshaya umuntu oqakathekileyo, wahuga amadoda angaba ngamakhulu amane. Wabulawa, bonke abalandeli bakhe bahlakazeka, konke kwaphelele emoyeni. **37** Ngemva kwakhe, uJudasi umGalile laye wavela ngezinsuku zokubalwa kwabantu, wakhokhela ixuku labantu ukuba lihlamuke. Laye wabulawa, labalandeli bakhe bonke bahlakazeka. **38** Ngakho, mayelana lalindaba yamanje ngixwayisa lokhu: Bayekeleni abantu laba! Kabahambe! Ngoba nxa inhloso yabo kumbe umkhankaso wabo uvela ebantwini, uzakuba yize. **39** Kodwa nxa uvela kuNkulunkulu, kalisoze libe lamandla okubamisa lababantu; lizazifumana seliphikisana loNkulunkulu.” **40** Inkulumo yakhe bayamukela. Bababiza abapostoli bengeniswa kwathiwa kabatshaywe. Basebeqonqoselwa ukuthi bangaqali ukukhuluma ngebizo likaJesus, basebekhululwa. **41** Abapostoli basuka eSanihedrini bethokoza ngoba basebonakalisile ukuthi bangalimela ihlazo lokulihluphekela iBizo. **42** Insuku ngensuku, emagumeni ethempeli, njalo behamba bengena indlu ngendlu, kabazange bame ukufundisa lokutshumayela izindaba ezinhle ukuthi uJesus unguKhristu.

6 Ngalezonsuku inani labafundi lisanda, amajuda esiGrikhi ayephakathi kwabo akhonona kulabo ababengamaHeberu ngoba abafelokazi babo babengananzwa nxa kusabiwa ukudla ngezinsuku zonke. **2** Ngakho abalithumi lambili bahlanganisa bonke abafundi ndawonye bathi, “Kuyabe kungalunganga kithi ukuthi siyekethise ukutshumayela ilizwi likaNkulunkulu silibale ngokulungiselana ukudla. **3** Bazalwane, kethani amadoda ayisikhombisa phakathi kwenu aziwayo ukuthi agcwele uMoya lokuhlakanipha. Umlandu lo sizawubekela wona **4** thina siqinise ukukhuleka lokutshumayela ilizwi.” **5** Umbono lo walithokoza ixuku lonke. Bakhetha uStefane, indoda eyayigcwele ukukholwa loMoya oNgcwele; uFiliphu,

uPhrokorusi, uNikhanori, uThimoni, uPhamenasi loNikholasi wase-Antiyokhi, ikholwa elaphendukela enkolweni yesiJuda. **6** Amadoda la ethulwa kubapostoli, abakhuleka bawabeka izandla. **7** Ngakho ilizwi likaNkulunkulu lamemetheka. Inani labafundi eJerusalem landa ngokuphangisa, kwathi lenani elikhulu labaphristi layilandela inkolo. **8** Kwathi uStefane, indoda eyayigcwele umusa kaNkulunkulu, lamandla, yenza izimanga lemimangaliso phakathi kwabantu. **9** Kwasekuvela umona usuka emalungeni eSinagogu yabaKhululekileyo (njengokubizwa kwakhona) bengamajuda aseKhureni le-Alekizandriya kanye lasemikhonweni yaseSilisiya le-Ezhiya. Abantu laba basuka basebephekisana loStefane, **10** kodwa behluleka ukumelana lenhakanipho yakhe kumbe uMoya ayekhuluma ngawo. **11** Basebefunza abanye abantu amazwi ngasese ukuthi bathi, “Simzwile uStefane ekhuluma amazwi ahlambaza uMosi kanye loNkulunkulu.” **12** Ngaleyondlela wandungulaba abantu labadala kanye labafundisi bomthetho. Bambopha uStefane bamletha phambi kweSanihedrini. **13** Baveza ofakazi bamanga abafakaza bathi, “Indoda le kayikhawuli ukukhuluma kubi ngendawo engcwele langomthetho. **14** Ngoba sesimuzwe esithi uJesus lo waseNazaretho uzayibhidliza indawo le njalo aguqule imikhuba uMosi asipha yona.” **15** Bonke ababehlezi phakathi kweSanihedrini bamnanzelela uStefane babona ukuthi ubuso bakhe babufana lobuso bengilosi.

7 Ngakho umphristi omkhulu wasembuza wathi, “Ukumangalelwa konke lokhu kuliqiniso na?” **2** Kulokhu waphendula wathi: “Bafowethu labobaba ake lingilalele! UNkulunkulu wenkazimulo waziveza kubaba wethu u-Abrahama esahlala eMesophothamiya, engakahlali eHarani. **3** UNkulunkulu wathi, ‘Tshiya ilizwe lakini labantu bakini uye elizweni engizakutshengisa lona.’ **4** Ngakho wasuka elizweni lamaKhaladiya wayahlala eHarani. Ngemva kokufa kukayise, uNkulunkulu wamletha kuleli ilizwe lapho eselihlala khona manje. **5** Kamuphanga lifa lapha loba nje isiqintshana somhlabathi. Kodwa uNkulunkulu wamthembisa ukuthi yena lizizukulwane zakhe ngemva kwakhe babezaluzisa ilizwe lelo libe ngelabo, loba nje ngalesosikhathi u-Abrahama wayengelamntwana. **6** UNkulunkulu wakhuluma laye kanje: ‘Izizukulwane zakho zizakuba ngabezizweni elizweni elingayisilo lazo okweminyaka engamakhulu amane, njalo zizagqilazayo, zihlukuluzwe. **7** Ngizasijezisa lesosizwe esibagqilazayo,’ kusitho uNkulunkulu, ‘emva kwalokho bazaphuma kulelolizwe bangikhonze kuyonale indawo.’ **8** Wasenika u-Abrahama isivumelwano sokusoka. U-Abrahama waba nguyise ka-Isaka, wamsoka ngemva kwensuku eziyisificaminwembali ezelwe. Ngemva kwalokho u-Isaka waba nguyise kajakhobe, uJakhobe yena waba nguyise wabokhokho abalithumi lambili. **9** Ngenxa yokuthi okhokho babalomhawu ngoJosefa, bamthengisela eGibhithe njengesigqili. Kodwa uNkulunkulu waba laye **10** wamephula kuzozonke inhlu pho zakhe. Wanika uJosefa inhakanipho, wamenza wathandwa nguFaro, inkosi yaseGibhithe. Yona yasimenza umbusi eGibhithe lakuso sonke isigodlo sakhe. **11** Indlala yasihlasela lonke elaseGibhithe leleKhenani, kwaba lobunzima obukhulu ngoba okhokho bethu bakuswela ukudla. **12** UJakhobe esezwile ukuthi amabele ayekhona eGibhithe, wathuma okhokho bethu ekuhambeni kwabo kwakuqala. **13** Sebesiya khona okwesibili, uJosefa wabatshelela abanewabo

ukuthi wayengubani, njalo uFaro waziswa ngabakibo kaJosefa. **14** Ngemva kwalokho uJosefa wasebiza uyise uJakhobe ukuthi eze labendlu yakhe bonke, kungabantu abangamatshumi ayisikhombisa lanlanu sebebonke. **15** Ngakho uJakhobe wasesehlela kweGibhithe lapho afela khona yena kanye labokhoko bethu. **16** Izidumbu zabo zabuyiswa eShekhemu zabeke ethuneni elathengwa ngu-Abrahama emadodaneni kaHamori eShekhemu ngemali ethile. **17** Kwathi isikhathi sesisondele esokuthi uNkulunkulu agcwalise isithembiso sakhe ku-Abrahama, inani labantu bakithi eGibhithe landa ngamandla. **18** Kwasekusiba 'lenye inkosi eyayingazi lutho ngoJosefa yaba ngumbusi eGibhithe.' **19** Yaba lesihluku ebantwini bakithi, yancindezela okhokho bethu ngokubabamba ngamandla ukuthi balahlele khatshana insane zabo ezisanda kuzalwa ukuthi zife. **20** Ngalesosikhathi uMosi wazalwa, njalo engasumntwana makhaza. Okwezinyanga ezintathu wondliwa endlini kayise. **21** Kwathi esebekwe phandle, indodakazi kaFaro yamthatha yamkhulisa njengomntanayo. **22** UMosi wafundiswa kuyo yonke inhloko yamaGibhithe, eligagu lokukhuluma lokwenza. **23** Kwathi uMosi eseleminyaka engamatshumi amane obudala, wacabanga ukuya kwethekelela abantu bakibo, abako-Israyeli. **24** Wabona omunye wabo ehlukuluzwa ngumGibhithe, ngakho wayamlamulela, wenanisa ngokubulala umGibhithe lowo. **25** UMosi wakhumbula ukuthi abantu bakibo babezakunanzelela ukuthi uNkulunkulu wayemsebenzisa ukuthi abakhulule, kodwa kabakananzelelanga. **26** Ngosuku olubandelayo uMosi wawela phezu kwabako-Israyeli ababili abalesidela. Wazama ukubalamula ngokuthi, 'Madoda, liyizinini; kungani lihlukuluzana kangaka na?' **27** Kodwa leyondoda eyayihlukuluzwa eyinye, yamfuqela eceleni uMosi yathi, 'Ngubani okwenze umbusi lomahluli phezu kwethu?' **28** Ufuna ukungibulala njengomGibhithe ombuleleyo izolo?' **29** UMosi wathi ekuzwa lokho wabalekela eMidiyani, lapho ahlala khona njengesizwe, wazala khona amadodana amabili. **30** Sekwedlule iminyaka engamatshumi amane, ingilosi yavela kuMosi iselangabini lesixuku esibhebhayo enkangala eduze kweNtaba iSinayi. **31** Wathi ekubona lokhu wamangala kakhulu ngalowombono. Wathi uyasondelela ukuthi abonise, wezwa ilizwi likaThixo lisithi: **32** 'NginguNkulunkulu waboyihlo, uNkulunkulu ka-Abrahama, lo-Isaka loJakhobe.' UMosi wathuthumela ngokwesaba wehluleka ukukhangela. **33** Inkosi yasisithi kuye, 'Khupha amanyathela akho, ngoba indawo omi kuyo ingumhlalathi ongcwele. **34** Ngempela sengikubonile ukuhlukuluzeka kwabantu bami eGibhithe. Sengikuzwile ukububula kwabo, ngakho sengibuyile phansi lapha ukuzebakhulule. Manje-ke zwana, ngizakubuyisela eGibhithe.' **35** Nguye kanye uMosi lo ababemalile ngamazwi athi, 'Ngubani okwenze umbusi lomahluli na?' Wathuyelwa ukuba ngumbusi lomkhulu uNkulunkulu mathupha, ngengilosi eyabonakala kuye isesixukwini. **36** Wabakhokhela baphuma elizweni laseGibhithe, wenza izimanga lemimangaliso eGibhithe lasolwandle olubomvu kanye lasenkangala okweminyaka engamatshumi amane enkangala. **37** Nguye lo uMosi owatshela abako-Israyeli wathi, 'UNkulunkulu wenu uzalivusele umphrofethi phakathi kwabafowenu njengami.' **38** Wayephakathi kwebandla enkangala, elabokhokho bethu njalo elayo ingilosi eyakhuluma kuye eNtabeni yaseSinayi; njalo wemukela amazwi okuphila ukuthi awedlulisele kithi. **39** Kodwa okhokho bethu bala ukumlalela. Bamala, kwathi

ezinhliziyweni zabo babuyela eGibhithe. **40** Batshela u-Aroni bathi, 'Yenza onkulunkulu abazasikhokhela. UMosi lo owasikhupha eGibhithe asisakwazi ukuthi usedliwe yini!' **41** Yiso lesosikhathi abenza ngaso isithombe esasilesimo sethole. Baletha imihlatshelo kulo, benza umkhosi wokuthakazelela lokho okwenziwa yizandla zabo. **42** Kodwa uNkulunkulu wabafulathela, wabakhalala ukuba bakhonze ilanga, inyanga lezinkanyezi. Lokhu kuvumelana lalokho okulotshiweyo encwadini yabaphrofethi ukuthi: 'Wena ndlu ka-Israyeli, langilethela na imihlatshelo leminikelo ngeminyaka engamatshumi amane enkangala?' **43** Hatshi, lathwala isikhonzelo sikaMoleki lenkanyazi kankulunkulu wenu uRefani, izithombe elazenzayo ukuthi lizikhonze. Ngakho-ke, ngizalixotshela ekuthunjweni' ngale kweBhabhiloni. **44** Okhokho bethu babelalo ithabanikeli lobufakazi enkangala. Lalenziwe njengokuqondiswa kukaMosi nguNkulunkulu elandela isimo ayesiboneli. **45** Sebelamukele ithala okhokho bethu bengaphansi kukaJoshua beza lalo ekuthumbeni kwabo izizwe. Lahlala elizweni kwaze kwaba yisikhathi sikaDavida, **46** owathandwa nguNkulunkulu, wacela ukuthi alungisele uNkulunkulu kajakhobe indawo yokuhlala. **47** Kodwa kwaba nguSolomoni owamakhelayo leyondlu. **48** Lanxa kunjalo, oPhezukonke kahlahi ezindlini ezakhiwe ngabantu. Njengoba esitsho umphrofethi ukuthi: **49** 'Izulu liyisihlalo sami sobukhosi, lomhlaba uyisenabelo sami. Lizangakhela ndlu bani? kutsho iNkosi. Kambe izaba ngaphi indawo yami yokuphumula na?' **50** Izinto zonke lezi kazenziwanga yisandla sami na?' **51** Lina ziqholo zabantu, abanziliziyo lezindlebe ezingasokanga! Lifuze oyihlo: Lihlezi lijamelene loMoya oNgcwele! **52** Kambe kwake kwabakhona umphrofethi oyihlo abangazange bamhlukuluze na? Baze bababulala lalabo abaphrofetha ngokuza koLungileyo. Khathesi selimnikele lambulala, **53** lina eseliwemukeye umthetho oweza ngezingilosi kodwa kaliwulandlanga.' **54** Amalunga eSanhedrini esekuzwile lokhu azonda, afuthelana, amgedlela amazinyo. **55** Kodwa uStefane egcwele uMoya oNgcwele wakhangelela ezulwini wabona inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu loJesu emi esandleni sokunene sikaNkulunkulu. **56** Wathi, "Khangalani, ngibona izulu livuliwe leNdodana yoMuntu imi esandleni sokunene sikaNkulunkulu." **57** Besizwa lokhu bagcika indlebe zabo, baklabalala, bamdumela **58** bamhudulela phandle kwedolobho, bamkhanda ngamatshe. Ofakazi babeka izigqoko zabo phambi kwejaha elalithiwa nguSawuli. **59** Kwathi belokhu bemkhanda uStefane wakhuleka wathi, "Nkosi Jesu, yamukela umoya wami." **60** Wathi vutshalala ngamadolo phansi wamezema wathi, "Nkosi, ungababekeli mlandu ngalesisono." Kuthe esetsho lokho, walala.

8 LoSawuli wayekhona evumelana lokubulawa kwakhe. Ngalelolanga kwaqalisa isiphithiphithi esibi sokuhlukuluzwa ibandla eJerusalem, kwathi bonke ngaphandle kwabapostoli bahlakazeka kulolonke iJudiya leSamariya. **2** Abantu abakholwa kuNkulunkulu bamngcwaba uStefane bamlilela kabuhlungu. **3** Kodwa uSawuli waqalisa ukulichitha ibandla. Wahamba engena izindlu ngezindlu ephuthuma abesilisa labesifazane esiyabaphosela entolongweni. **4** Labo ababelhakazekile balitshumayela ilizwi loba kungaphi abaya khona. **5** UFiliphu wehlela edolobheni elithile eSamariya watshumayela ngoKhristu khonale. **6** Kwathi amaxuku

abantu emuzwa uFiliphu njalo ebona izibonakaliso ayezenza bonke bakulalelisa lokho ayekukhuluma. **7** Omoya ababi baphuma ebantwini abanengi beklabalala njalo abanengi ababome imihlulubo labayizilima basiliswa. **8** Ngakho kwaba lentokozi enkulu kuleloloobho. **9** Okwesikhathi esithile indoda eyayithiwa nguSimoni yayisenza amasalumusi edolobheni lelo yamangalisa bonke abantu baseSamariya. Wayezikhukhumeza ezitshaya umuntu omkhulu, **10** njalo bonke abantu, abaphakemeyo labantukazana bambuthanela bababaza bathi, “Indoda le kuqondile ibizwa ngokuthi ingaMandla amakhulu kaNkulunkulu.” **11** Bamlandela ngoba wayebamangalisile okwesikhathi eside ngamasalumusi akhe. **12** Kodwa kwathi sebekholwe uFiliphu etshumayela izindaba ezinhle zombuso kaNkulunkulu kanye lebizwa likaJesusu Khristu, babhaphathizwa, abesilisa labesifazane. **13** USimoni laye ngokwakhe wakholwa wabhaphathizwa. Walandela uFiliphu zonke indawo, emangaliswa yizibonakaliso ezinkulu lemimangaliso ayibonayo. **14** Kwathi abapostoli eJerusalem sebezile ukuthi iSamariya yase ilamukele ilizwi likaNkulunkulu, bathuma uPhethro loJohane kubo. **15** Sebefikile babakhulekela ukuthi bemukele uMoya oNgcwele, **16** ngoba uMoya oNgcwele wawulokhu ungakehleli lakubani kubo; babehaphathizelwe ebizweni leNkosi uJesusu kuphela. **17** Ngakho uPhethro loJohane bababeka izandla, basebewemukela uMoya oNgcwele. **18** Kwathi uSimoni ebona ukuthi uMoya wawuphiwa ngokubekwa izandla ngabapostoli wabahuga ngemali **19** esithi, “Ngiphani lami lawomandla ukuze kuthi wonke lowo engimbeka izandla azuze uMoya oNgcwele.” **20** UPhethro waphendula wathi, “Sengathi imali yakho ingabhubha kanye lawe ngoba ucabanga ukuthi ungasithenga isipho sikaNkulunkulu ngemali! **21** Kawulangxenyi loba isabelo kulinkonzo ngoba inhliziyo yakho kayilunganga phambi kukaNkulunkulu. **22** Phenduka kulobububi ukhuleke eNkosini. Mhlawumbe izakuthethelela ngokuba lomcabango onje enhliziyweni yakho. **23** Ngoba ngiyabona ukuthi ugcwalelene ngomona njalo ugqilazwe yisono.” **24** USimoni wasephendula wathi, “Ngikhulekelani eNkosini ukuze ngingehlelwa laloba yikuphi lwalokho okutshiloyo.” **25** Kwathi sebefakazile njalo balitshumayela ilizwi leNkosi, uPhethro loJohane babuyela eJerusalem, bahamba betshumayela ivangeli emizini emineni yaseSamariya. **26** Ingilosu yeNkosi yathi kuFiliphu, “Yehlela ezansi emgwaqweni, umgwaqo wenkangala, osuka eJerusalem usiya eGaza.” **27** Ngakho wasesuka, kwathi endleleni leyo wahlangana lomTopiya ongumthenwa, eyisikhulu esiqakathekileyo esasiphethe ingcebo kaKhandaki, indlovukazi yamaTopiya. Indoda le yayikade iye eJerusalem ukuyakhonza, **28** isisendleleni yokubuyela ekhaya ihlezi enqoleni yayo ibala incwadi kaIsaya umphrofethi. **29** UMoya watshela uFiliphu wathi, “Hamba usondele enqoleni leyana walele eduze kwayo.” **30** UFiliphu wasegijimela kuyo inqola wezwa indoda leyo ibala uIsaya umphrofethi. UFiliphu wayibuza wathi, “Uyakuzwisisa yini lokho okubalayo?” **31** Yathi, “Ngingakuzwisisa kanjani kungekho muntu ongichazelayo na?” Yasicela uFiliphu ukuthi agade azohlala layo. **32** Indoda engumthenwa yayibala indima umphbalho ethi: “Waqhutshwa njengemvu iswa esilaheni, njengezinyane lemvu elithula zwi phambi komgundi, kanjalo kazange awuvule umlomo wakhe. **33** Ekugconweni kwakhe wancitshwa ukwahlulelwa okulungileyo. Ngubani ongakhuluma ngezizukulwane zakhe na? Ngoba ukuphila

kwakhe kwasuswa emhlabeni.” **34** Indoda engumthenwa yabuza uFiliphu yathi, “Ake ungitshele bakithi, umphrofethi ukhuluma ngobani, yena ngokwakhe kumbe ngomunye umuntu?” **35** UFiliphu wahle waqalisa ngaleyondima yoMbhala, wayitshela izindaba ezinhle ngoJesusu. **36** Bathi belokhu behamba ngomgwaqo bafika lapho okwakulamanzi khona, indoda engumthenwa yathi, “Khangela, nanka amanzi. Kulani ukuthi ngihle ngibhaphathizwe na?” [**37** UFiliphu wathi, “Nxa ukholwa ngenhliziyo yakho yonke ungabhaphathizwa.” Isikhulu saphendula sathi, “Ngiyakholwa ukuthi uJesusu Khristu uyinDoda kaNkulunkulu.”] **38** Isikhulu sathi inqola kwayimiswe. Ngakho bobabili, uFiliphu lendoda engumthenwa baya emanzini uFiliphu wayibhaphathiza. **39** Bathi bephuma emanzini uMoya weNkosi wahle wamthatha uFiliphu, indoda engumthenwa ayabe isambona njalo, kodwa yaqhubeka ngendlela yayo ithokoza. **40** Kodwa uFiliphu wabonakala e-Azotha, walidabula ilizwe etshumayela ivangeli kuyo yonke imizi waze wayafika eKhesariya.

9 Kusenjalo, uSawuli wayelokhu esonga ngomvamvithi ukubulala abafundi beNkosi. Waya kuMphristi omkhulu **2** wayacela izincwazi zokuya emasingogweni aseDamaseko, ukuze kuthi nxa engafumana khonale loba abangabeNdlela, abesilisa loba abesifazane, abalethe eJerusalem beyizibotshwa. **3** Wathi esebanga eDamaseko ngohambo lwakhe, masinyane kwaphazima ukukhanya kuvela ezulwini kwamzingelezela. **4** Wawela phansi, wezwa ilizwi lisithi kuye, “Sawuli, Sawuli, unghlukuluzelani na?” **5** USawuli wabuza wathi, “Ungubani, Nkosi?” Ilizwi lathi, “NginguJesusu omhlukuluzayo. **6** Manje phakama uye edolobheni lapho ozatshelwa khona omele ukwenze.” **7** Amadoda ayehamba loSawuli ema lapho esetshe amathe; balizwa ilizwi, kodwa kababonanga muntu. **8** USawuli wavuka phansi, kodwa wathi evula amehlo akhe wayengasaboni lutho. Ngakho bamhola ngesandla bangena laye eDamaseko. **9** Waba yisiphofu okwensuku ezintathu, engadli njalo enganathi lutho. **10** EDamaseko kwakulomfundi owayethiwa ngu-Ananiya. INkosi yambiza ngombono yathi, “Ananiya!” Waphendula wathi, “Yebo, Nkosi.” **11** INkosi yamthela yathi, “Hamba uye endlini kaJudasi eMgwaqweni oQondileyo, ubuze khona ngendoda yaseThasasi ethiwa nguSawuli, ngoba iyakhuleka. **12** Usebelombono wabona indoda ethiwa ngu-Ananiya ifika imbeka izandla ibuyisa ukubona kwakhe.” **13** U-Ananiya waphendula wathi, “Nkosi sengiyizwile indumela yalumuntu mayelana lokubi konke akwenzayo ebantwini bakho eJerusalem. **14** Uze lapha ngamandla awaphiwe ngabaphristi abakhulu ukuzabopha bonke ababiza ibizo lakho.” **15** Kodwa iNkosi yathi ku-Ananiya, “Hamba! Indoda le iyisitsha sami engisikhethileyo ukuthwala ibizo lami phambi kwabeZizwe lamakhosi abo laphambi kwabantu bako-Israyeli. **16** Ngizamshengisa ukuthi uzahlupheka kangani ngenxa yebizo lami.” **17** U-Ananiya wasehamba esiya kuleyondlu wafika wangena. Wabeka izandla zakhe phezu kukaSawuli wathi, “Mzalwane, Sawuli, iNkosi uJesusu obonakale kuwe endleleni usiza lapha unghumile ukuze ukwazi ukubona njalo futhi ugcwaliswe ngoMoya oNgcwele.” **18** Masinyane, kwakhithika okwakungathi zinkwethu emehlweni kaSawuli, wasebona njalo. Wasukuma wabhaphathizwa, **19** kwathi esedlile, wathola amandla. USawuli wahlala insuku ezithile labafundi eDamaseko. **20** Waseqalisa ukutshumayela

emasinagogweni ukuthi uJesu uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu. **21** Bonke labo abamuzwayo bamangala babuza bathi, “Kasuye yini umuntu lo owenza isihluku eJerusalem kulabo abalibizayo lelibizo na? Njalo kabuyanga yini lapha ukuzabathatha beyizibotshwa abese kubaphristi abakhulu na?” **22** Kodwa uSawuli wasebena ngamandla amakhulu wadidekisa amaJuda ayehlala eDamaseko ngokubonisa kamhlophe ukuthi uJesu unguKhristu. **23** Sekudlule insuku ezinengi amaJuda abumba icebo lokumbulala, **24** kodwa uSawuli walizwa icebo labo. Emini lebusuku bamlindela emasinagogweni edolobho ukuze bambulale. **25** Kodwa abalandeli bakhe bamthatha ebusuku bamehlisa ngesilulu esikhaleni esasisemdluni. **26** Wathi esefikile eJerusalem wazama ukuhlangana labafundi, kodwa bonke babemesaba, bengakholwa ukuthi ngempela wayesengumfundi. **27** Kodwa uBhanabhasi wamthatha wamusa kubapostoli. Wabathshela ngokuthi uSawuli wayibona njani iNkosi esendleleni esiza eDamaseko lokuthi watshumayela njani ngesibindi ngebizo likaJesu. **28** USawuli wasehlala labo, wazihambela ekhululekile eJerusalem, ekhuluma ngesibindi ngebizo leNkosi. **29** Wakhuluma njalo waphikisana lamajuda esiGriki, kodwa azama ukumbulala. **30** Kwathi abazalwane bekwaza lokhu, bambalekilela eKhesariya bafika bamedlulisela eThasasi. **31** Ngalesosikhathi ibandla kulolonke elaseJudiya leGalile leSamariya laba lesikhathi esihle sokuthula. Laqina, njalo ngokukhuthazwa nguMoya oNgcwele landa ngobunengi, lahlala liyeesaba iNkosi. **32** Kwathi uPhethro ebhoda phakathi kwelizwe wayakwethekelela abangcwele eLida. **33** Wafumana khonale indoda eyayithiwa ngu-Eniyasi, eyayiyisigulane esome umhlubulo sihlezi silele okweminyaka eyisificaminwembali. **34** UPhethro wathi kuye, “Eniyasi, uJesu Khristu uyakusilisa. Vuka uthathe icansi lakho.” Masinyane u-Eniyasi wasukuma. **35** Bonke labo ababehlala eLida laseSharoni bambona baphendukela eNkosini. **36** EJopha kwakulomfundi owayethiwa nguThabitha (ngesiGriki ibizo lakhe nguDokhasi), owayehlala esenza okuhle esiza abaswelayo. **37** Ngalesosikhathi wagula wafa, isidumbu sakhe sageziswa, sabekwa endlini ephezulu. **38** ILida yayiseduze kweJopha; yikho abafundi sebezwele ukuthi uPhethro wayeseLida, bathuma amadoda amabili kuye bamncenga bathi, “Sicela ukuthi uze ngokuphangisa!” **39** UPhethro wahamba labo, wathi ekufikeni kwakhe wasiwa endlini ephezulu. Bonke abafelokazi bema bemhanjela, bekhala, bemtshengisa izembatho lezinye izigqoko ezazithungwe nguDokhasi esaphila. **40** UPhethro wabakhupha bonke endlini; waseguqa ngamadolo wakhuleka. Wasephendukela esidunjini sowesifazane wathi, “Thabitha, vuka!” Owesifazane wasevula amehlo akhe, wathi ebona uPhethro wahlala. **41** Wambamba ngesandla wamsukumisa. Wasebiza amakholwa labafelokazi wamethula kubo esephila. **42** Lokhu kwasuka kwaziwa kulolonke iJopha, abantu abanengi bakholwa eNkosini. **43** UPhethro wahlala okwesikhathi eJopha loSimoni umtshuki wezikhumba.

10 EKhesariya kwakulendoda eyayithiwa nguKhoneleyasi, yayingumlawuli webutho lekhulu elalithiwa liViyo lase-Ithaliya. **2** Yena lendlu yakhe yonke babekhonza njalo bemesaba uNkulunkulu. Wayenika ngesihle labo abaswelayo njalo ekhuleka kuNkulunkulu kokuphela. **3** Ngelinye ilanga, sokungaba lihloa lesithathu emini waba

lombono. Wabona kamhlophe ingilosi kaNkulunkulu, eyeza kuye yathi, “Khoneleyasi!” **4** UKhoneleyasi wayiqhuzulela amehlo ngokwesaba. Wabuza wathi, “Kuyini, Nkosi?” Ingilosi yaphendula yathi, “Imikhuleko yakho lezipho zakho kwabaswelayo sekufinyelele kuNkulunkulu kwaba yisikhumbuzo. **5** Ngakho-ke, thumela amadoda eJopha ayebuya lendoda ethiwa nguSimoni owaziwa ngokuthi nguPhethro. **6** Ihlala loSimoni ongumtshuki wezikhumba, olendlu okhunjini lolwandle.” **7** Ingilosi eyakhuluma laye isihambile, uKhoneleyasi wabiza izinceku zakhe ezimbili kanye loyedwa owayengumncedisi webutho owayeyindoda ekhonzo. **8** Wabathshela konke okwakwenzekela, wasebathuma eJopha. **9** Sekungaba phakathi laphakathi kwemini sebebanga edolobheni, uPhethro wakhwela ophahleni ukuyakhuleka. **10** Wezwa eselambile esefuna ulutho lokudla, kwathi ukudla kusalungiswa wehlelwa yisiyeziphupho. **11** Wabona izulu livulekile, kusehliselwa emhlabeni ulutho olwalungengelembu elikhulu libanjwe ngamagumbi alo womane. **12** Lalithwele yonke imihlobo yezinyamazana ezilenyawo ezine, kanye lezinanazakana ezihquzelayo emhlabeni lezinyoni zemoyeni. **13** Ilizwi laselintshela lathi, “Vuka Phethro. Hlaba udle.” **14** UPhethro waphendula wathi, “Hatshi, Nkosi! Kangikaze ngidle lutho olungahlanzekanga lolungcolileyo.” **15** Laphinda ilizwi lakhuluma okwesibili kuye lathi, “Ungabokuthi ulutho oseluhlanjululwe nguNkulunkulu kaluhlanzekanga.” **16** Lokhu kwenzakala kathathu, kwasekusithi masinyane ilembu labuyiselwa ezulwini. **17** Kwathi uPhethro esamangele ngokuthi umbono lowo wawusitshoni, amadoda ayethinywe nguKhoneleyasi ayibona indlu kaSimoni, ema entubeni. **18** Akhuleka abuza ingabe uSimoni owayethiwa nguPhethro wayehlala khonapho yini. **19** Kwathi uPhethro elokhu esacabanga ngombono, uMoya wathi kuye, “Simoni, kulamadoda amathathu akudingayo. **20** Ngakho-ke, phakama wehlele phansi. Ungathandabuzi ukuhamba lawo, ngoba ngiwathumile.” **21** UPhethro wehla wathi emadodeni lawo, “Nginguye lowo elimdingayo. Lilandeni?” **22** Amadoda aphenndula athi, “Sivela kuKhoneleyasi umlawuli wekhulu lamabutho. Ungumuntu olungileyo owesaba uNkulunkulu, ohlonitshwa yiyo bonke abangamaJuda. Ingilosi engcwele imtshela ukuthi kakulethe endlini yakhe ukuze ezwe lokho ongabe uyakutsho.” **23** UPhethro wasewangenisa endlini amadoda lawo njengezethekeli zakhe. Ngosuku olulandelayo uPhethro wasuka labo, kwathi labanye abazalwane beJopha bahamba laye. **24** Ngelanga elilandelayo wafika eKhesariya. UKhoneleyasi wayesebalindele esebize izihlobo zakhe labangane abaseduze. **25** Kuthe uPhethro engena, uKhoneleyasi wamhlangabeza, wazilahla phansi ezinyaweni zakhe ngenhlonipho. **26** Kodwa uPhethro wamsukumisa. Wathi, “Sukuma, mina ngingumuntu nje.” **27** UPhethro wangena endlini elokhu ekhuluma laye, wafumana ixuku labantu elikhulu. **28** Wathi kubo, “Liyakwazi ukuthi kungaphandle komthetho wethu ukuthi umJuda ahlanyele loweZizwe loba ukuthi amethekelele. Kodwa uNkulunkulu usengitshengisile ukuthi kangingakutsho ukuthi omunye umuntu kahlanzekanga loba ungcolile. **29** Yikho kuthe lapho ngibizwa lapha, ngahle ngeza ngingazange ngibalise lokhu lalokhuyana. Sengibuza-ke manje, ungibizelani?” **30** UKhoneleyasi waphendula wathi, “Ensukwini ezintathu ezeduleyo bengisendlini yami ngikhuleka ngasonalesi isikhathi, ngehloa lesithathu emini. Masinyane indoda

ebigqoke izigqoko ezikhazimulayo yema phambi kwami, **31** yathi, 'Khoneliyasi, uNkulunkulu usewuzwile umkhuleko wakho wakhumbula lezipho zakho kwabaswelayo. **32** Thumela ilizwi eJopha ubize uSimoni owaziwa ngokuthi nguPhethro. Wethekelele emzini kaSimoni umtshuki wezikhumba, ohlala malungana lolwandle.' **33** Yikho ngihle ngathuma abantu kuwe ngokuphangisa, kwaba kuhle ukuthi lawe uze. Manje sonke sesikhona lapha phambi kukaNkulunkulu ukuthi sizwe konke iNkosi ekuyale ukuthi usitshele khona." **34** UPhethro waseqalisa ukukhuluma wathi: "Sengibona khathesi ukuthi ngeqiniso uNkulunkulu kalabandlululo, **35** kodwa wamukela abantu behlanga zonke abamesabayo, abenza okungileyo. **36** Yilo leli ilizwi uNkulunkulu alithumela ebantwini bako-Israyeli, elikhuluma ngezindaba ezinhle zokuthula ngoJesu Khristu oyinKosi yabo bonke. **37** Liyakwazi osekwenzakele kulolonke elaseJudiya, kusukela eGalile ngemva kobhaphathizo olwatshunuyelayo nguJohane, **38** ukuthi uNkulunkulu wamgoba kanjani uJesu waseNazaretha ngoMoya oNgcwele langamandla, lokuthi wahamba izindawana zonke esenza ubuhle njalo esilisa bonke ababesemandleni omubi, ngoba uNkulunkulu wayelaye. **39** Singofakazi bakho konke akwenzayo elizweni lamaJuda laseJerusalem. Bambulala ngokumlangisa esiphambanweni, **40** kodwa uNkulunkulu wamvusa kwabafileyo ngosuku lwesithathu, wakwenza ukuthi abonakale. **41** Kabonwanga ngabantu bonke, kodwa ngofakazi uNkulunkulu ayevele esebakhethele, yihi thina esadla sanatha laye ngemva kokuvuka kwakhe kwabafileyo. **42** Wasilaya ukuba sitshumayele ebantwini bonke njalo sifakaze ukuthi unguye uNkulunkulu ambekayo ukuba ngumahluleli wabaphilayo labafileyo. **43** Bonke abaphrofethi bafakaza ngaye ukuthi bonke abakholwa kuye baphiwa ukuthethelwa kwezono ngebizo lakhe." **44** UPhethro elokhu esakhuluma amazwi la uMoya oNgcwele wehlela kubo bonke abalizwayo ilizwi. **45** AmaJuda, amakholwa asokileyo ayeze loPhethro amangaliswa yikuthi uMoya oNgcwele wawuthululelwe lakwabeZizwe. **46** Ngoba babezwa bekhuluma ngendimi bedumisa uNkulunkulu. UPhethro wasesithi, **47** "Kambe ukhona yini umuntu ongalela abantu laba ukuba babhaphathizwe ngamanzi na? Sebemukeye uMoya oNgcwele njengathi." **48** Wasesithi kababhaphathizwe ebizweni likaJesu Khristu. Basebecela uPhethro ukuthi ahlele labo okwensukwana ezithile.

11 Abapostoli labazalwane kulolonke elaseJudiya bezwa ukuthi abeZizwe labo basebelamukele ilizwi likaNkulunkulu. **2** Yikho kwathi uPhethro esebuyele eJerusalem, amaJuda, amakholwa asokileyo, amsola **3** athi, "Wangena endlini yabantu abangasokanga wadla labo." **4** UPhethro wabalondela konke kusukela ekuqaleni, wakuchasisa njengokwenzakala kwakho, wathi, **5** "Ngangisedolobheni laseJopha ngikhuleka, ngehlelwa yisiyephipho ngaba lombono. Ngabona ulutho olwalunjengelembu elikhulu lisehliselwa phansi ngamagumbi alo womane livela ezulwini, lehlela phansi lapho engagikhona. **6** Ngakhangela phakathi kwo ngabona izinyamazana zomhlaba zezinyawo ezine, izilo zeganga, izinanakazana ezihuquzelayo lezinyoni zemoyeni. **7** Ngasengisizwa ilizwi lingitshela lisithi, 'Vuka Phethro. Hlaba udle.' **8** Ngaphendula ngathi, 'Hatshi bo, Nkosi! Kowami umlomo kakukaze kungene ulutho olungahlanzekanga loba olungcolileyo.' **9** Ilizwi lakhuluma okwesibili livela ezulwini

lathi, 'Ungabokuthi ulutho oseluhlanjululwe nguNkulunkulu kaluhlanzekanga.' **10** Lokhu kwenzakala kathathu, konke kwase kubuyiselwa njalo ezulwini. **11** Ngalesosikhathi amadoda amathathu ayethunywe kimi evela eKhesariya afika endlini engangihlala kuyo. **12** UMoya wangitshela ukuthi ngingathandabuzi ukuhamba lawo. Laba abazalwane abayisithupha labo bahamba lami sayangena endlini yendoda leyo. **13** Yasitshela ukuthi yabona ingilosi endlini yayo isithi, 'Thumela eJopha ubize uSimoni owaziwa ngokuthi nguPhethro. **14** Uzakulethela ilizwi eliyilo elizakusindisa wena kanye lendlu yakho.' **15** Kwathi ngiqalisa nje ukukhuluma, uMoya oNgcwele wehlela phezu kwabo njengoba wehlela kithi ekuqaleni. **16** Ngakho ngezagikhumbula okwatshiwo yiNkosi isithi, 'UJohane wabhaphathiza ngamanzi, kodwa lina lizabhaphathizwa ngoMoya oNgcwele.' **17** Ngakho-ke, nxa uNkulunkulu wabanika sona lesosiphosinika sona thina esakholwa eNkosini uJesu Khristu, ngangubani mina engangakhumbula ukuthi ngingamelana loNkulunkulu na?" **18** Bathi sebekuzwile lokhu, kababe besaba lansolo, badumisa uNkulunkulu besithi, "Ngakho-ke, uNkulunkulu usebanikile labo abeZizwe ukuphendukela ekuphileni." **19** Kwathi labo ababehlakazekile ngenxa yokuhlukunyezwa okwaqala ngokufa kukaStefane bahamba baze bayafika eFenikhiya, leSiphrazi le-Antiyokhi betshumayela ilizwi kumaJuda kuphela. **20** Kodwa abanye babo, amadoda ayevela eSiphrazi laseKhureni, aya e-Antiyokhi atshumayela lakumaGrikhi, ebatshela ngezindaba ezinhle ngeNkosi uJesu. **21** INkosi yaba labo, ngakho abantu abanengi bakholwa baphendukela eNkosini. **22** Ibandla eliseJerusalem lakuzwa lokhu laselithumela uBhanabhasi e-Antiyokhi. **23** Ekufikeni kwakhe wazibona izithelo zomusa kaNkulunkulu, wathokoza njalo wabakhuthaza bonke ukuthi baqhubeke ngobuqotho eNkosini ngezinhliziyo zabo zonke. **24** Wayeyindoda elungileyo, egcwele uMoya oNgcwele lokukhuluma. Abantu abanengi kakhulu balethwa eNkosini. **25** UBhanabhasi wasesiya eThasasi ukuyadinga uSawuli. **26** Esemfumene wahamba laye e-Antiyokhi. Ngakho okomnyaka wonke uBhanabhasi loSawuli babehlangana lebandla befundisa abantu abanengi kakhulu. Abafundi baqalisa ukubizwa ngokuthi ngamaKhristu e-Antiyokhi. **27** Ngalesosikhathi abanye abaphrofethi bafika e-Antiyokhi bevela eJerusalem. **28** Omunye wabo owayethiwa ngu-Agabhasi wasukuma eholwa nguMoya wabonisa ukuthi kwakuzakuba lendlala embi eyayizakubakhona kulolonke ilizwe lombuso wamaRoma. (Lokhu kwenzakala ngesikhathi sokubusa kukaKlawudiyasi.) **29** Abafundi bazimisela ukunika usizo kubazalwane ababehlala eJudiya, ngulowo enika ngokwenelisa kwakhe. **30** Bakwenza lokhu, bathumela ezipho zabo ebadaleni ngoBhanabhasi loSawuli.

12 Kungaba yisikhathi lapho iNkosi uHerodi eyabopha khona abanye ababe ngabebandla eqonde ukubahlukumeza. **2** Wabalulisa uJakhobe umfowabo kaJohane ngenkomba. **3** Wathi esebone ukuthi lokho kwakuwathabisa amaJuda, wabopha loPhethro njalo. Lokho kwenzakala ngezinsuku zoMkhosi weSinkwa esingelaMvubelo. **4** Esembophile wamphosela entolongweni, wamnikela ukuba alindwe ngamaviyo amane amabutho, ngalinye lilamabutho amane. UHerodi wayefuna ukuthi ngemva kwePhasika amkhuphele obala athonisiswe phambi kwabantu. **5** Ngakho uPhethro wagcinwa entolongweni, kodwa ibandla

lamkhulekela njalonzalo kuNkulunkulu. **6** Ngobusuku obandulela ukuthonisiswa kukaPhethro nguHerodi, uPhethro wayelele ephahlwe ngamabutho amabili, ebotshe ngamaketane amabili, kumi abalindi emnyango wentolongo. **7** Masinyane ingilosi yeNkosi yavela, kwabakhona ukukhanya kulelokamela lentolongo. Yathinta uPhethro ohlangothini, yamvusa yathi, “Phangisa, vuka!” Amaketane akhithika ezingalweni zikaPhethro. **8** Ingilosi yasisithi kuye, “Gqoka, ufake lamanyathela akho.” UPhethro wenzenjalo. Ingilosi yamtshela yathi, “Yembatha ijazi lakho ungilandele.” **9** UPhethro wayilandela ngaphandle kwentolongo, kodwa wayedidekile engakwazi ukuthi lokho ingilosi eyayikwenza kwakusenzakala ngempela; wayekhumbula ukuthi ubona umbono. **10** Bedlula kubalindi, owokuqala lowesibili bafika esangweni lensimbi elaliphumela edolobheni. Lazivulekela baphuma. Kwathi sebebhambe baphutsha umgwaqo wedolobho, ingilosi yamtshiya. **11** Kwiyikhona uPhethro enanzelela, wathi, “Khathesi sengisazi kungelakuthandaba ukuthi iNkosi ithume ingilosi yayo yangihlenga ezibotshweni zikaHerodi lakukho konke obekufiswa ngamaJuda.” **12** Sekumkhanyeke kuhl lokhu, waqonda endlini kaMariya unina kaJohane, owayethiwa nguMakho njalo, khona lapho abantu abantengi babebuthene bekhuleka. **13** UPhethro waqoqoda enabeni yangaphandle, kwathi incekekazi eyayithiwa nguRoda yayabuza ukuthi ngubani owayesemnyango. **14** Isilizwile ilizwi likaPhethro yathaba kakhulu, yagijimela phakathi ingasawuvulanga, yabika yathi, “UPhethro usemnyango!” **15** Bathi, “Uyahlanya wena.” Kwathi ngoba wala elokhu ephelelela ukuthi liqiniso, bathi, “Kutsho ukuthi yingilosi yakhe.” **16** Kodwa uPhethro wala elokhu eqoqoda, bathi bevula umnyango bambona, bamangala kakhulu. **17** UPhethro wabatshengisa ngesandla ukuthi bathule, wasebalandisela ukuthi iNkosi imkhuphe kanjani entolongweni. Wathi, “Libotshela uJakobe labazalwane ngalokhu.” Wasesuka waya kwenye indawo. **18** Ekuseni kwaba lokunyakazela okukhulu phakathi kwabebutho. Babuza bathi, “Kambe ngabe uPhethro wenzenjani?” **19** Kwathi uHerodi esemthungathe waze wabeka phansi, wathonisisa abalindi wasesithi kabalulawe. UHerodi wasuka eJudiya waya eKhesariya wayahlala khona okwesikhathi esithile. **20** Wayekade exabana labantu beThire labeSidoni; basebhangana ndawonye bacela ukukhuluma laye. Sebezuze ukusekelwa nguBhlastu inceku ethembekileyo enkosini, bacela ukuthula ngoba ukudla kwabo babekuthola elizweni lenkosi. **21** Ngosuku olumisiweyo, uHerodi wagqoka izigqoko zobukhosi wahlala esihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi, wasekhuluma ebantwini. **22** Bamemeza bathi, “Leli yilizwi likaNkulunkulu, hatshi elomuntu.” **23** Masinyane nje, ngenxa yokuthi uHerodi wayengamkhonzi uNkulunkulu, ingilosi yeNkosi yamtshaya yamhlala phansi, wadliwa zimpethu wafa. **24** Kodwa ilizwi likaNkulunkulu laqhubeka likhula njalo lisanda. **25** Kwathi uBhanabhasi loSawuli sebewuqedile umlandu wabo, babuyela besuka eJerusalem, bahamba loJohane, owayethiwa nguMakho.

13 Ebandleni elalise-Antiyokhi kwakulabaphrofethi labafundisi: uBhanabhasi, loSimiyoni owayethiwa nguNigeri, loLusiyi waseKhureni, loManayeni (owayekhuliswe loHerodi umbusi) kanye loSawuli. **2** Kwathi beyikhonza iNkosi njalo bezilile uMoya oNgcwele wathi, “Ngahlukaniselani

uBhanabhasi loSawuli baye emsebenzini engibabizele wona.” **3** Ngakho bathi sebezilile njalo sebekhulekile, bababeka izandla babakhupha. **4** Bonke bobabili baholwa nguMoya oNgcwele, behlela eSelusiyi lapho abawela khona ngomkhumbi baya eSipharsi. **5** Bathi sebefikile eSalami, balitshumayela ilizwi likaNkulunkulu emasinagogweni amaJuda. UJohane wayelabo engumsizi wabo. **6** Basibhoda sonke isihlengi baze bafika ePhafosi. Khonapho bafumana umJuda oyisanuse, njalo engumphrofethi wamanga owayethiwa nguBha-Jesu, **7** wayeyinceku kasibalukhulu, uSegiyasi Phawuli. Usibalukhulu lowo, indoda ekhaliphileyo, yathumela ukuthi kubizwe uBhanabhasi loSawuli ngoba wayefuna ukuzwa ilizwi likaNkulunkulu. **8** Kodwa u-Elima isanuse (phela yikho ibizo lakhe elikutshoyo) waphikisana labo wazama ukuphambula usibalukhulu ekukholweni. **9** Kwasekusithi uSawuli, owayethiwa njalo nguPhawuli, egcwele uMoya oNgcwele, wamjolozela u-Elima wathi, **10** “Wena unyuntkataSathane lesitha sakho konke okungulileyo! Ugcwele zonke inhlobo zenkohliso lokudlelezele. Kawuyikufa wakhawula yini ukuhlinikeza izindlela eziqondileyo? **11** Khathesi-ke, isandla seNkosi sizakutshaya. Uzakuba yimpumpithe, awuzukubona ukukhanya kwelanga okwesikhathi esithile.” Masinyane wehlelwa yinkungu lomnyama, waphumputha, waswela umuntu wokumhola ngesandla. **12** Kwathi usibalukhulu esekubonile lokho okwakwenzakele wakholwa, ngoba wamangaliswa yimfundiso ngeNkosi. **13** Besuka ePhafosi uPhawuli labaphelekezeli bakhe bawela ngomkhumbi baya ePhega esePhamfiliya lapho uJohane abatshiya khona esebuyela eJerusalem. **14** Besuka ePhega baya e-Antiyokhi yasePhisidiya. NgeSabatha bangena esinagogweni bahlala phansi. **15** Sekubaliwe emthethweni labaPhrofethi, abaphathi besinagogo bedlulisela ilizwi kubo lisithi, “Bazalwane, nxa lilelizwi lokukhuthaza abantu, khulumani.” **16** UPhawuli wasukuma welekhela ngesandla wathi, “Madoda ako-Israyeli kanye lani abeZizwe elimesabayo uNkulunkulu, ngilalelani! **17** UNkulunkulu wabantu bako-Israyeli wakhethe okhokho bethu wenza abantu baphumelela ngesikhathi behlezi eGibhithe. Ngamandla amakhulu wabakhupha kulelolizwe **18** wababekizelela ekuhambeni kwabo okweminyaka engamatshumi amane besenkangala. **19** Wachitha izizwe eziyisikhombisa eKhenani wanika ilizwe lazo abantu bakhe laba yilifa labo. **20** Konke lokho kwathatha iminyaka engamakhulu amane lamatshumi amahlanu. Ngemva kwalokhu uNkulunkulu wababekela abahluleli kwaze kwaba yisikhathi sikaSamuyeli umphrofethi. **21** Abantu bacela inkosi, wabanika uSawuli indodana kaKhishi, owesizwana sikaBhenjamini, wabusa iminyaka engamatshumi amane. **22** Ngemva kokuba esemsusile uSawuli, wabeka uDavida waba yinkosi. Wafakaza ngaye wathi, ‘Sengifumane uDavida indodana kaJese, indoda ethandwa yinhlizivo yami; uzakwenza konke engifuna ukuba akwenze.’ **23** Esizukulwaneni salindoda uNkulunkulu uselethe ko-Israyeli uMsindisi uJesu njengokuthembisa kwakhe. **24** Mandulo kokufika kukajesu, uJohane watshumayela ukuphenduka lokubhaphathizwa kubo bonke abantu bako-Israyeli. **25** UJohane esewuphetha umsebenzi wakhe wathi, ‘Licabanga ukuthi ngingubani na? Kangisuye lowo. Hatshi, kodwa uyeza ngemva kwami, omanyathela akhe akungilingananga ukuthi ngiwathukulule.’ **26** Bazalwane, bantwana baka-Abrahamama lani beZizwe elimesabayo uNkulunkulu, leilizwi lensindiso

selithunyelwe kithi. **27** Abantu baseJerusalem kanye lababusi babo kabamamukelanga uJesu, ikanti kwathi ngokumhlala bagcwalisa amazwi abaphrofethi afundwayo ngamaSabatha wonke. **28** Lokuba bengazange bafumane ubufakazi obuqondileyo ukuthi agwethshelwe ukubulawa, bacela uPhilathu ukuthi abulawe. **29** Bathi sebekwenzile konke lokho okwakulotshwe ngaye, bamethula esiphambanweni bamlalisa ethuneni. **30** Kodwa uNkulunkulu wamvusa kwabafuleyo, **31** Wabonwa okwensuku ezinengi yilabo abahamba laye besuka eGalile besiya eJerusalem. Manje yibo asebe ngofakazi ebantwini bakithi. **32** Silithshela izindaba ezinhle ukuthi: Lokho uNkulunkulu akuthembisa okhokho bethu **33** usesigcwalisele khona, thina abantwababo, ngokumvusa uJesu kwabafuleyo. Njengalokhu kulotshiwe eHubeni lesibili ukuthi: 'UyiNdodana yami; lamhla sengibe nguYihlo.' **34** Lokho ukuthi uNkulunkulu wamvusa kwabafuleyo, engasoze abole lanini, kucacisiwe emazwini la: 'Ngizakunika izibusiso ezingcwele ezinqinisekileyo ezathenjiswa uDavidi.' **35** Kanjalo kulotshiwe kwenye indawo ukuthi: 'Kawusoze wekele oNgcwele wakho abone ukubola.' **36** Ngoba kwathi uDavidi eseyifezile injongo kaNkulunkulu ngalesikhathi aphila kuso, walala; wangcwatshwa labokhokho bakhe, umzimba wakhe wabola. **37** Kodwa lowo uNkulunkulu amvusayo kwabafuleyo kazange akubone ukubola. **38** Ngakho-ke, bazalwane bami, ngithanda ukuba lazi ukuthi ngoJesu ukuthethelelwa kwezono kuyatshunyelwa kini. **39** Ngaye bonke abakhulwayo sebhlanjululwe ezonweni zonke abebengeke bhlanjululwe kuzo ngomthetho kaMosi. **40** Qaphelani ukuthi lokho okwakhulunywa ngabaphrofethi kungenzakali kini, ukuthi: **41** 'Khangalani, lina bachothozi, mangalani libhubhe, ngoba ensukwini zenu ngizakwenza into elingasozwe liyikhulwe lanxa kube lalingakutshelwa ngubani.'" **42** Kwathi uPhawuli loBhanabhasi besuka esinagogweni abantu babacela ukuthi babuye bazokhuluma njalo ngalezizinto ngeSabatha elilandelayo. **43** Abantu sebexithekile amaJuda amanengi lamakhohla ayephendukele enkolweni yesiJuda balandela uPhawuli loBhanabhasi, bona bakhuluma labo bebakhuthaza ukuthi baqhubeke bebambelele emuseni kaNkulunkulu. **44** NgeSabatha elilandelayo phose lonke idolobho labuthana ukuzakuzwa ilizwi leNkosi. **45** Kwathi amaJuda ebona amaxuku abantu, aba lomona, akhuluma ehlambaza lokho okwakhutshiwo nguPhawuli. **46** UPhawuli loBhanabhasi basebewaphendula ngesibindi bathi, "Bekumele silikhulume kini ilizwi likaNkulunkulu kuqala. Kodwa njengoba lililahlala ngoba lizibona lina lingakufanelanga ukuphila okungapheliyo, khathesi sesiphendukela kwabeZizwe. (aiōnios g166) **47** Phela nanku iNkosi esisiyale khona yathi: 'Sengilenze isibane sabeZizwe, ukuthi lilethe insindiso emikhawulweni yomhlaba.'" **48** Kwathi abeZizwe bekuzwa lokhu bathaba, balidumisa ilizwi leNkosi; kwathi bonke ababemiselwe ukuphila okungapheliyo bakhohla. (aiōnios g166) **49** Ilizwi leNkosi landa umango wonke. **50** Kodwa amaJuda athela umoya omubi kwabesifazane abahlonitshwayo ababekholwa lamadoda ayengabakhokheli bedolobho. Akhwezela ukuhlukuluzwa kukaPhawuli loBhanabhasi, abaxotsha emangweni wakibo. **51** Ngakho bathintitha utuhlulwazi ezinyaweni zabo njengesixwayiso, baqonda e-Ikhoniyamu. **52** Abafundi bagcwala ngentokozi langoMoya oNgcwele.

14 E-Ikhoniyamu uPhawuli loBhanabhasi baya esinagogweni yamaJuda njengenjaye yabo. Khonapho bakhuluma kwazwela kwaze kwathi amaJuda amanengi lamaGriki akholwa. **2** Kodwa amaJuda ayengafuni ukukholwa adunga abeZizwe, abathela umoya omubi ngabazalwane. **3** UPhawuli loBhanabhasi bahlala isikhathi eside khona lapho bekhulumele iNkosi ngesibindi. INkosi yaqinisa ilizwi lomusa wayo ngokubapha amandla okwenza imimangaliso lezimanga. **4** Abantu bedolobho lelo badabukana phakathi; abanye bema lamaJuda, kwathi abanye basekela abapostoli. **5** AbeZizwe lamaJuda ndawonye labakhokheli babo bakha icebo lokubahlukumeza lokubakhanda ngamatshe. **6** Kodwa balizwa icebo lelo basebebalekela emadolobheni aseLikhawoniya, eListra leDebbe lasemangweni yakhona, **7** lapho abaqhubeka khona ukutshumayela izindaba ezinhle. **8** EListra kwakulendoda eyayiyisigoda ikwazi ukukhala kuphela, ilokhu yazalwayo ingakaze ihambe. **9** Yamalela uPhawuli lapho ekhuluma. UPhawuli wayijolozela wabona ukuthi yayikhohla ukuba ingasiliswa **10** wasememeza wathi, "Sukuma ngezinyawo zakho!" Ngalokho indoda yathi lothu yahle yahamba. **11** Kwathi ixuku labantu selikubonile okwakwenziwe nguPhawuli, lamemeza ngolimi lwesiLikhawoniya lathi, "Onkulunkulu sebhalele kithi belesimo sabantu!" **12** UBhanabhasi bambiza bathi nguZewusi, uPhawuli bathi nguHemesi ngoba nguye owayekhokhela ekukhulumeni. **13** Umphristi kaZewusi owayelethempeli eduze ngaphandle kwedolobho, waletha inkunzi lemigaxo emasangweni edolobho ngoba yena kanye lexuku labantu babefuna ukwenza imihlatshelo kubo. **14** Kodwa kwathi abapostoli, uBhanabhasi loPhawuli bekuzwa lokhu, badabula izigqoko zabo bazithela phakathi kwabantu bememeza besithi: **15** "Madoda, likwenzelani lokhu? Lathi singabantu njengani. Silithshela izindaba ezinhle, silithshela ukuthi litshiye izinto lezi ezizwe liye kuNkulunkulu ophila owenza amazulu lomhlaba, lolwandle lakho konke okokuwo. **16** Endulo waziyekela izizwe zonke zahamba ngezindlela zazo. **17** Ikanti kazange ekele ukuzifakazela: Utshengisile umusa ngokulipha izulu laphezulu lamabele ngesikhathi sawo; ulipha ukudla okunengi njalo agcwalise inhlizyo zenu ngentokozi." **18** Loba sebetsho lamazwi baba lobunzima ukuthi bekelise abantu bonke ukuba babenzele umhlathshelo. **19** Kwasekufika amaJuda evela e-Antiyokhi lase-Ikhoniyamu afika adunga abantu. UPhawuli bamkhanda ngamatshe bamhudulela ngaphandle kwedolobho, becabanga ukuthi wayesefile. **20** Kodwa ngemva kokuba abafundi sebebuthanele, waphaphama wabayela edolobheni. Ngosuku olulandelayo yena loBhanabhasi basuka baya eDebbe. **21** Bazitshumayela izindaba ezinhle kulelolobho bazuzana inani elikhulu labafundi. Basebebuyela eListra, le-Ikhoniyamu le-Antiyokhi **22** beqinisa abafundi njalo bebakhuthaza ukuthi babambelele ekukholweni. Bathi, "Kufanele sedlule ezinhlungweni ezinengi ukuze singene embusweni kaNkulunkulu." **23** UPhawuli loBhanabhasi babakhethela abadala kulelo lalelo banda, babanikela eNkosini ngomkhuleko langokuzila ngoba bebeke ithemba labo kuyo iNkosi. **24** Sebehambe bedlula ePhisidiya, bafika ePhamfiliya, **25** kwathi sebetshumayele ilizwi ePhage basebesiya e-Athaliya. **26** Besuka e-Athaliya bawela ngomkhumbi babuyela e-Antiyokhi, lapho ababenikelwe khona emuseni kaNkulunkulu ukwenza umsebenzi lowo abasebewufezile. **27** Ekufikeni kwabo khona, balihlanganisa

ndawonye ibandla balibikela konke lokho uNkulunkulu ayekwenzile ngabo, lokuthi wayesevulele abeZizwe umnyango wokukholwa. **28** Bahlala khona isikhathi eside labafundi.

15 Amadoda athile eza e-Antiyokhi evela eJudiya, afika afundisa abazalwane esithi: “Ngaphandle kokuthi lisokwe ngendlela yomkhuba eyafundiswa nguMosi lingeke lisindiswe.” **2** Lokhu kwenza uPhawuli loBhanabhasi baphikisana labo kakhulu. Ngakho uPhawuli loBhanabhasi bakhethwa kanye lamanye amakhulwa ukuthi baye eJerusalem ukuyabona abapostoli labadala ngaloludaba. **3** Ibandla labavalelisa. Bathi bedabula eFenikhiya leSamariya balandisa ngokuthi abeZizwe basebephendukile. Indaba le yathokozisa bonke abazalwane. **4** Bafika eJerusalema bemukelwa kuhle libandla langabapostoli labadala, bababikela konke uNkulunkulu ayekwenzile ngabo. **5** Kwasekusithi amanye amakhulwa ayengawululu lwabaFarisi asukuma athi, “AbeZizwe kumele basokwe njalo batshelwe ukuthi balandele umthetho kaMosi.” **6** Abapostoli labadala bahlalanga bakhuluma ngalindaba. **7** Ngemva kokuphikisana okukhulu uPhethro wasukuma wakhuluma kubo wathi: “Bazalwane, liyakwazi ukuthi esikhathini eseduleyo uNkulunkulu wangikhethe phakathi kwenu ukuthi abeZizwe bezwe kwezami izindebe ilizwi levangeli bakholwe. **8** UNkulunkulu owazi inhliziyi wathshengisa ukuthi uyabemukela ngokubapha uMoya oNgcwele, njengalokhu akwenzayo kithi. **9** Kenzanga umahluko phakathi kwethu labo, ngoba wahlanza inhliziyi zabo ngokukholwa. **10** Pho-ke lizamelani ukulunga uNkulunkulu ngokwethesa abafundi beZizweni ijogwe thina labokhokho bethu esehluleka ukulithwala? **11** Hatshi! Sikhulwa ukuthi sisindiswa ngomusa weNkosi uJesu, njengabo labo.” **12** Wonke umhlangano wathula zwi balalela uBhanabhasi loPhawuli balandisa ngemimangaliso lezimanga uNkulunkulu ayezenzile kwabeZizwe ngabo. **13** Bathi basebedile uJakhobe wakhuluma wathi: “Bazalwane, ake lingilalele. **14** USimoni usesilandisele ngokuthi ekuqaleni uNkulunkulu wathshengisa njani ukunakelwa kwakhe abeZizwe ngokukhethe phakathi kwabo abantu ukuba babe ngabakhe. **15** Amazwi abaphrofethi ayavumelana lalokhu, njengalokhu kulotshiwe ukuthi: **16** ‘Ngemva kwalokhu ngizabuya ngakhe kutsha indlu kaDavida ewileyo. Amanxiwa ayo ngizawavuselela, njalo ngizayimisa kutsha, **17** ukwenzela ukuthi lonke uluntu luyidinge iNkosi, kanye labeZizwe abaziwa ngebizo lami, kutsho iNkosi eyenza lezizinto’: **18** ezeleve zisaziwa kusukela endulo. (aiōn g165) **19** Ngokubona kwami, kakumelanga sikwenze kube lukhuni kwabeZizwe abaphendukela kuNkulunkulu. **20** Esikhundleni salokho, kasibalobeleni sibatshele ukuthi baxwaye ukudla okungcoliswe yizithombe, lokuhlobonga, lenyama yenyamazana ekhanyiyweyo lububende. **21** Phela uMosi sekwathshunyayelwa ngaye kuwo wonke amadolobho kusukela ekuqaleni njalo kufundwa ngaye emasinagogweni amaSabatha wonke.” **22** Abapostoli labadala kanye lebandla lonke bamisa ukukhethe abanye babo ukuthi babathume e-Antiyokhi loPhawuli loBhanabhasi. Bakhetha uJudasi owayethiwa nguBhasabhasi, loSayilasi, la engamadoda amabili ayengabakhokheli kubazalwane. **23** Babaphathisa incwadi le: Abapostoli labadala, abazalwane benu, KwabeZizwe abakhulwayo e-Antiyokhi, lase-Asiriya laseSilisiya: Siyalibingelela. **24** Sesizwile ukuthi bakhona abasuka kithi bengelamvumo yethu bafika balidunga, bedida

ingqondo zenu ngalokho ababekutsho. **25** Ngakho sivumelene sonke ukukhethe amadoda athile ukuthi siwathumele kithi labangane bethu abathandekayo, uBhanabhasi loPhawuli, **26** amadoda adele impilo zawo ngenxa yebizo leNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu. **27** Ngakho sithumela uJudasi loSayilasi ukugqwaliswa ngomlomo lokhu esikulobayo. **28** Kubonakale kufanele kuMoya oNgcwele lakithi ukuthi singaletthesi omthwalo omkhulu ngaphandle kwezimiso lezi: **29** Xwayani ukudla okunikelwe ezithombeni, ububende, inyama yenyamazana ekhanyiyweyo kanye lokuhlobonga. Lizabe lenze kuhle nxa lizixwaya lezizinto. Salani kuhle. **30** Bawavalelisa amadoda ahamba aya e-Antiyokhi, lapho afika ahlalanga ibandla ndawonye ethula incwadi. **31** Abantu bayibala bathokoza ngenxa yamazwi ayo akhuthazayo. **32** UJudasi loSayilasi, bona ngokwabo ababengabaphrofethi, bakhuluma okunengi ukukhuthaza lokuqinisa abazalwane. **33** Sebehlale isikhathi esithile khonapho, abazalwane bavavalelisa ngesibusiso sokuthula sebebuyela kulabo ababathumayo. [**34** Kodwa uSayilasi wakhetha ukusala khona.] **35** Kodwa uPhawuli loBhanabhasi basala e-Antiyokhi, lapho bona kanye labanye abanengi bafundisa njalo batshumayela ilizwi leNkosi. **36** Emva kwesikhathshanyana uPhawuli wathi kuBhanabhasi, “Kasibuyele emuva siyebona abazalwane emadolobheni wonke esitshumayele khona ilizwi leNkosi ukuthi baqhuba njani.” **37** UBhanabhasi wayefuna ukuthi bahambe loJohane, owayethiwa nguMakho, **38** kodwa uPhawuli wakubona kungafanele ukuhamba laye ngoba wayeke wabafulathela besePhamfiliya kaze aqhubeke labo emsebenzini. **39** Baphikisana kakubi baze bacina betshiyana. UBhanabhasi wamthatha uMakho bawela eSiphra, **40** kodwa uPhawuli wakhetha ukuhamba loSayilasi, basuka bebekwe ngabazalwane emuseni weNkosi. **41** Wahamba phakathi kwe-Asiriya leSilisiya eqinisa amabandla.

16 Wafika eDebbe wedlulela eListra lapho okwakuhlala khona umfundi owayethiwa nguThimothi, olonina owaye ngumJudakazi, elikhulwa, kodwa uyise engumGrikhi. **2** Abazalwane baseListra lase-Ikhoniyamu babemncma. **3** UPhawuli wayefuna ukuhamba laye, ngakho wasemsoka ngenxa yamaJuda akuleyondawo ngoba bonke babekwazi ukuthi uyise wayengumGrikhi. **4** Ekuhambeni kwabo kulelo lalolodolobho, babezethula izinqumo ezenziwa ngabapostoli labadala eJerusalema ukuze abantu bazilandele. **5** Ngakho amabandla aqiniswa ekukhulweni abantu banda mihla yonke. **6** UPhawuli labaphelekezeleli bakhe bayibhoda yonke imango yaseFirigiya laseGalathiya, uMoya oNgcwele esemalele ukuthi atshumayele ilizwi edolobheni lase-Ezhiya. **7** Bathi sebefike emngceleni waseMisiya, bazama ukungena eBhithiniya, kodwa uMoya kaJesu kawubavumelanga. **8** Ngakho bedlula eceleni kweMisiya behlela eTrowasi. **9** Ebusuku uPhawuli wehlelwa ngumbono wendoda yaseMasedoniya imi imncenga isithi, “Woza eMasedoniya uzosizisa.” **10** UPhawuli esebone umbono lowo, sahle salungisa masinyane ukuthi siye eMasedoniya, sibona ukuthi uNkulunkulu wayesibizile ukuba sitshumayele ivangeli kubo. **11** Sasuka eTrowasi sawela ulwandle santsheza saqonda eSamathrake, ngosuku olulandelayo sedlulela eNiyapholi. **12** Sesisuka lapho saya eFiliphi, elalilyona idolobho elikhulu lesiqinti seMasedoniya eyayibuswa ngamaRoma. Sahlala lapho okwensuku ezinengi. **13** NgeSabatha saphumela ngaphandle kwamasango omuzi saya emfuleni sifuna indawo yokukhuleka. Sahlala phansi saqalisa ukukhuluma labesifazane ababebuthene khonapho.

14 Omunye walabo ababelalele ngowesifazane owayethiwa nguLidiya, umthengisi welembu eliyibubende evela edolobheni laseThiyathira, ekhonza uNkulunkulu. INkosi yayivula inhliziyo yakhe ukuba emukele ilizwi likaPhawuli. 15 Kwathi yena kanye labendlu yakhe sebhaphathiziwe, wasinxusela emzini wakhe. Wathi, "Nxa lingemukela njengekholwa eNkosini, wozani lizohlala endlini yami." Wasincenga savuma. 16 Ngelinye ilanga sathi sisiya endaweni yokukhuleka sahlangua lentombazana eyayiyisigqili, ilomoya wobungoma. Yayizuzela abanini bayo imali enengi ngalokho kuhlalula. 17 Intombazana le yalandela uPhawuli lathi sonke imezeza isithi, "Amadoda la ayizinceku zikaNkulunkulu oPhezukonke, alitshela indlela yokusindiswa." 18 Yakwenza lokhu okwensuku ezinengi. Ekucineni uPhawuli kwamcaphula lokho waphenduka wathi kuwo umoya, "Ngiyakulaya ngebizo likaJesusu Khristu ukuthi uphume kuyo!" Umoya wahle waphuma kuyo khonapho. 19 Abanikazi bentombazana bathi ngokunanzelela ukuthi ithemba labo lokuzuzela imali laselinyamalele, bababamba, uPhawuli loSayilisi babadonsela enkundleni yokuthengisa ukuba bayeqondana leziphathamandla. 20 Babamisa phambi kwabomantshi bathi, "Amadoda la angamaJuda asedunge idolobho lakithi 21 ngokukhuthaza imikhuba engaphandle komthetho ukuthi thina amaRoma siyamukele kumbe siyilandele." 22 Ixuku layingenela indaba yokuhlasela uPhawuli loSayilisi, ngakho omantshi bathi kabakhululwe izigqoko batshaywe. 23 Sebebatschaye kabuhlungu babaphosela entolongweni kwathiwa umlindijele abakhangele aqinise. 24 Esezwe lowomlayo wabuqela endlini yentolongo ephakathi wabapha inyawo, wazibophela ensikeni. 25 Sekungaba phakathi kwamabili ebusuku uPhawuli loSayilisi bakhuleka bahlabela amahubo kuNkulunkulu, ezinye izibotshwa zibalalele. 26 Masinyane kwaba lokuzamazama komhlaba kwaze kwanyikinyeka lezisekelo zentolongo. Izivalo zentolongo zathi gwabu zavuleka, amaketane ezibotshwa athukuluka. 27 Umlindijele waphaphama, wathi ngokubona iminyango yentolongo ivulekile, wakhokha inkemba yakhe esefuna ukuzibulala ngoba ekhumbula ukuthi izibotshwa zasezibalekile. 28 Kodwa uPhawuli wamezeza wathi, "Ungazilimazi bo! Sikhona sonke!" 29 Umlindijele wathi kakulethe izibane, wangena wazilahla phambi kukaPhawuli loSayilisi eqhaqhazela. 30 Wasebakhuphela phandle wababuza wathi, "Madoda, ngenzeni ukuze ngisindiswe na?" 31 Baphendula bathi, "Kholwa eNkosini uJesusu, uzasindiswa; wena kanye lendlu yakho." 32 Basebemtsfumayeza ngelizwi leNkosi kanye labanye abendlu yakhe. 33 Ngalelholo lebusuku umlindijele wabathatha wabagezisa imvimvinya zabo; kwasekusithi khonkoko nje yena labendlu yakhe bahle babhaphathizwa. 34 Umlindijele wahamba labo endlini yakhe, wabapha ukudla. Indlu yakhe yonke yaba lokuthokoza ngoba wasebekholwa kuNkulunkulu. 35 Kwathi sokusile, omantshi bathuma amanxusa abo kumlindijele lomlayo othi: "Bakhulule abantu labo." 36 Umlindijele watshele uPhawuli wathi, "Omantshi sebethe wena loSayilisi likhululwe. Selingahamba. Lihambe ngokuthula." 37 Kodwa uPhawuli wathi emanxuseni: "Basibhaxabule phambi kwabantu singazange sithonisiswe thina singamaRoma agcweleyo, basiphosela entolongweni. Kanti manje sebefuna ukusikhupha ngasese na? Hatshi! Kababuye bona ngokwabo bazesikhupha." 38 Amanxusa akubika lokhu kubomantshi abathi ngokuzwa ukuthi uPhawuli loSayilisi babengamaRoma agcweleyo, bethuka. 39 Beza

ukuzabancenga, babakhupha entolongweni, babacela ukuthi basuke kulelodalobho. 40 UPhawuli loSayilisi sebephumile entolongweni baya endlini kaLidiya lapho abahlangana khona labazalwane babaqinisa. Basebesuka bahamba.

17 Bathi sebedule e-Amfipholi le-Apholoniya, bafika eThesalonika lapho okwakulesinagogu yamaJuda khona. 2 Njengenjayelo yakhe uPhawuli waya esinagogweni, kwathi ngamaSabatha amathathu wabonisa labo ngeMibhalo, 3 echaza njalo eveza obala ukuthi uKhristu wayemele ahlupeke njalo avuke kwabafileyo. Wathi, "UJesusu lo engitshumayela ngaye kini unguye uKhristu." 4 Amanye amaJuda akukholwa lokho asehlanguyelana loPhawuli loSayilisi, njengalokho okwenziwa linani elikhulu lamaGrikhi abesaba uNkulunkulu, kugoqela lehlekanyana labesifazane abahloniphekayo. 5 Kodwa amaJuda aba lomona; ngakho asehuga izixhwalo endaweni yokuthengisa, abalixuku elithile asevusa umsindolobho. Aphuthumela endlini kaJasoni edinga uPhawuli loSayilisi efuna ukubaetha phambi kukazulu. 6 Kodwa kwathi sebebawele basebedonsela uJasoni labanye abazalwane abathile kubaphathi bedolobho bememeza besithi: "Amadoda la abekade edala uhluhlo emhlabeni wonke manje aseze lapha, 7 uJasoni yena wawemukela endlini yakhe. Bonke bahlinikeza imithetho kaKhesari besithi kulenye inkosi ethiwa nguJesusu." 8 Bathi bezukwa lokhu abantu labaphathi bedolobho bazonda kakhulu. 9 Kwasekuthiwa uJasoni labanye bakhe kabakhuphe isibambiso ngenali ethile, kwayikhona bekhululwa ukuthi bahambe. 10 Konela ukuthi kuhlwe abazalwane babasusa uPhawuli loSayilisi babasa eBheriya. Ekufikeni kwabo khona baya esinagogweni yamaJuda. 11 AmaJuda eBheriya wona ayelesimilo esingcono kulalelo esamaThesalonika, ngoba alemukela ilizwi ngomfutho omkhulu njalo ayihlola iMibhalo insuku zonke ukuze abone ukuthi lokho uPhawuli ayekutsho kwakulinqiniso na. 12 AmaJuda amanengi akholwa, kanye labesifazane abanengi bamaGrikhi abahloniphekayo lamadoda amanengi amaGrikhi. 13 Kwathi amaJuda aseThesalonika esezwile ukuthi uPhawuli wayesetshumayela ilizwi likaNkulunkulu eBheriya, aya khona futhi, athela abantu umoya omubi abadunga. 14 Abazalwane bahle bathumela uPhawuli ngasokhunjinini lolwandle, kodwa uSayilisi loThimothi basala eBheriya. 15 Amadoda ayephelekezela uPhawuli amtshiya e-Athene asebuyela lomlayezo wokuthi uSayilisi loThimothi bamlandele ngokuphangisa. 16 UPhawuli esabamelele e-Athene, wakhathazeka kakhulu ngokubona ukuthi idolobho lelo laligcwele izithombe. 17 Ngakho wabonisa lamajuda kanye lamaGrikhi ayemesaba uNkulunkulu esinagogweni lasendaweni yokuthengisa zonke insuku labalo abagekhonapho. 18 Ixuku lezazi zama-Ephikhuri lamaStoyikhi laphikisana laye. Abanye babo babuza bathi, "Uwumani lolu luzama ukuthini kanti?" Abanye bathi, "Kungathi utshumayela ngonkulunkulu bezizweni." Bakutsho lokhu ngoba uPhawuli wayesetshumayela izindaba ezinhle ngoJesusu langokuvuka kwabafileyo. 19 Basebehamba laye enkundleni ye-Ariyophagasi, bafika bathi kuye, "Ake usitshale ukuthi imfundiso le entsha oyethulayo iyini. 20 Uletha ezindlebeni zethu imibono engagajyelekanga, ngakho sifuna ukwazi ukuthi itshoni." 21 (Wonke ama-Atheni labezizwe ababelhala khona babechitha isikhathi sabo bengenzi lutho ngaphandle kokukhuluma lokulalela imibono emitsha.) 22 UPhawuli wasukuma enkundleni ye-Ariyophagasi wathi, "Madoda ase-Atheni! Ngiyabona ukuthi

kukho konke lingabantu abakhonzayo. **23** Ngoba ngithe ngihambahamba, ngabona izithombe zenu, ngaze ngafumana i-alithari elilombhalo othi: Kunkulunkulu Ongaziwayo. Manje-ke lokho elikukhonza njengolutho olungaziwayo yikho engizakutshumayela kini. **24** UNkulunkulu owenza umhlaba lakho konke okukuwo uyiNkosi yezulu lomhlaba, njalo kahlali emathempehini akhiwe ngezandla. **25** Njalo kancediswa yizandla zabantu ingathi kukhona akuswelayo, ngoba yena ngokwakhe upha bonke abantu impilo, umphefumulo lokunye konke. **26** Ngomuntu oyedwa wenza zonke izizwe zabantu, ukuthi zakhe emhlabeni wonke; njalo wamisa izikhathi abazilungiselweyo lazo kanye izindawo abamele bahle kuzo. **27** UNkulunkulu wakwenza lokhu ukuze abantu bamdinge lokuthi mhlawumbe bamfinyelele bamfumane, loba nje uvele engakhatshana komunye lomunye wethu. **28** 'Ngoba siphila kuye, sihambe ngaye njalo siphelilelwe nguye.' Njengokutsho kwezinye izimbongi zakini ukuthi, 'Singabantwabakhe.' **29** Ngakho-ke njengoba singabantwana bakaNkulunkulu, kasingacabangini ukuthi ubuNkulunkulu bunjengegolide, loba isiliva kumbe ilitshe; umfanekiso obunjwe ngobungcitshi bomuntu. **30** Endulo uNkulunkulu kakunakanga ukungazi lokhu, kodwa khathesi uselaya bonke abantu ezindaweni zonke ukuba baphenduke. **31** Ngoba uselumisile usuku lapho azakwahlulela khona umhlaba ngokulunga ngaye umuntu amkhethileyo. Usebuvezile ubufakazi balokhu kubo bonke abantu ngokumvusa kwabafuleyo. **32** Bathi besizwa ngokuvuka kwabafuleyo, abanye babo bamklolodela, kodwa abanye bathi, "Sifuna ukuphinda sikuzwe ukhuluma ngale indaba njalo." **33** Ngalokho-ke, uPhawuli wasesuka enkundleni. **34** Abantu abathile baba ngabalandeli bakaPhawuli, bakholwa. Phakathi kwabo kwakuloDiyonisiyu owayelilunga le-Ariyophagasi, njalo lowesifazane okwakuthiwa nguDamari kanye labanye abalinani elithile.

18 Ngemva kwalokho uPhawuli wasuka e-Athene waya eKhorinte. **2** Khonapho wahlangana lomJuda owayethiwa ngu-Akhwila, owasePhontusi ngomdabuko, owayesanda kufika lapho evele e-Ithali lomkakhe uPhrisila ngoba uKlawudiyasi wayekhuphe isinqumo sokuthi amaJuda wonke aphume eRoma. UPhawuli wahamba wayababona, **3** kwathi ngoba engumenzi wamathente njengabo wasehlala labo, wasebenza labo. **4** NgamaSabatha wonke wayesiya esinagogweni ebonisana lamaJuda lamaGriki ezama ukuwaphendula. **5** Kwathi uSayilasi loThimothi sebefikile bevela eMasedoniya, uPhawuli wasenikela isikhathi sakhe sonke ekutshumayeleni kuphela efakaza kumaJuda ukuthi uJesu wayenguKhristu. **6** Kodwa kwathi lapho amaJuda emphikisa njalo emchothoza, wathintitha izembatho zakhe phambi kwawo wathi, "Igazi lenu kalibe phezu kwamakhanda enu! Mina sengiwenzile owami umlandu. Kusukela manje sengisiya kwabeZizwe." **7** UPhawuli wasesuka esinagogweni waya endlini eseceleni, eyayingekaThithu Justusi, owayekhonza uNkulunkulu. **8** UKhrispiasi, umphathi wesinagogu, kanye lendlu yakhe yonke bakholwa eNkosini; kwathi labanengi bamaKhorinte abamuzwayo bakholwa, babhaphathizwa. **9** Ngobunye ubusuku iNkosi yakhuluma kuPhawuli ngombono yathi: "Ungesabi; qhubeka utshumayela, ungangthuli. **10** Ngoba mina ngilawe, kakho ozakuhlalasa akulimaze, ngoba ngilabantu abanengi kulelidolobho." **11** Ngakho uPhawuli wahlala khona okomnyaka olengxenyi, ebafundisa ilizwi likaNkulunkulu. **12** UGaliyo esangusibalukhulu wase-Akhaya,

amaJuda eKhorinte amanyana ahlasele uPhawuli, amletha emthethwandaba, **13** amangalela esithi, "Indoda le idonsela abantu ekukhonzeni uNkulunkulu ngezindlela eziphambene lomthetho." **14** Kwathi uPhawuli esathi uyakhuluma, uGaliyo wathi kumaJuda, "Kube lina majuda libika ngokona okuthile loba icala lokuganga okubi, bekufanele ukuthi ngilalele. **15** Kodwa njengoba kuphatshelane ngezinto zamazwi lamabizo, langomthetho wenu; kulungiseni lina. Mina kangiyikuba ngumahluleli wezinto ezinjalo." **16** Wasesithi kabaxotshwe enkantolo. **17** Bonke basebephendukela uSosithe, umphathi wesinagogu, bamtshaya phambi kwenkantolo. Kodwa uGaliyo kazange athi thiki lakancane. **18** UPhawuli waphinda wahlala njalo okwesikhathi esithile eKhorinte. Wasesithi abazalwane waya e-Asiriya, ephelekezela nguPhrisila lo-Akhwila. Engakaweli ulwandle waqala wagela inwele zakhe eKhenkireya ngenxa yesifungo ayesenzile. **19** Bafika e-Efesu lapho uPhawuli atshiya khona uPhrisila lo-Akhwila. Yena waya esinagogweni wayabonisana lamaJuda. **20** Bamcela ukuthi ahlale okwesikhathi eside kodwa wala. **21** Wathi esesuka wathembisa wathi, "Ngizaphenduka nxa kuyintando kaNkulunkulu." Wasewela ulwandle esuka e-Efesu. **22** Wakhuphukela eKhesariya wahamba wayabingelela ibandla eJerusalem, wasehlela e-Antiyoxyhi. **23** UPhawuli eseke wahlala e-Antiyoxyhi wasuka lapho wabhadwa indawo ngendawo kuwo wonke umango waseGalathiya lowaseFirigiya eqinisa bonke abafundi. **24** Kusenjalo, umJuda owayethiwa ngu-Apholo, owe-Alekizandriya ngomdabuko, weza e-Efesu. Wayeyindoda efundileyo, elowazi olukhulu ngeMibhalo. **25** Yayifundisiwe ngendlela yeNkosi, ikhuluma ngomfutho njalo ifundisa okuqondileyo ngoJesu, isazi ngobhaphathizo lukaJohane kuphela. **26** Yakhuluma ngesibindi esinagogweni. Kwathi uPhrisila lo-Akhwila beyizwa, bayinxusa emzini wabo, bayichazela ngokugcweleyo indlela kaNkulunkulu. **27** U-Apholo wayefuna ukuya e-Akhaya, abazalwane basebemkhuthaza, babhalela abafundi khonale ukuthi bamamukele. Wathi efika khona waba luncedo olukhulu kulabo ababekholwe beholwa ngumusa. **28** Ngoba watshekana lamaJuda ewaphikisa enkundleni, ebonisa obala eMibhalweni ukuthi uJesu wayenguKhristu.

19 Kwathi u-Apholo eseKhorinte uPhawuli wathatha indlela ehamba phakathi kwelizwe waze wayafika e-Efesu. Khonapho wafumana abafundi abathile, **2** wababuzwa wathi, "Lamamukela na uMoya oNgcwele ngesikhathi liqalisa ukukholwa?" Baphendula bathi, "Hatshi, kasizwanga lokuzwa ukuthi kuloMoya oNgcwele." **3** Ngakho uPhawuli wasebuza wathi, "Pho lathola luphi ubhaphathizo?" Baphendula bathi, "Ubhaphathizo lukaJohane." **4** UPhawuli wathi, "Ubhaphathizo lukaJohane lwalubhaphathizo lokuphenduka. Watshele abantu ukuthi bakholwe kulowo owayezakuba ngemva kwakhe, esitsho ukuthi kuJesu." **5** Sebekuzwile lokhu babhaphathizelwa ebizweni leNkosi uJesu. **6** UPhawuli esebekile izandla zakhe phezu kwabo uMoya oNgcwele wehlela kubo, bakhuluma ngendimi njalo baphrofitha. **7** Babengamadoda ayengaba litshumi lambili bebonke. **8** UPhawuli wangena esinagogweni wakhuluma ngesibindi khona okwezinyanga ezintathu, echaza okusuthisayo ngombuso kaNkulunkulu. **9** Kodwa abanye babo baba yiziqholo; bala ukukholwa, bakhuluma kubi obala ngeNdllela. Ngakho uPhawuli wabatshiya. Wathatha abafundi wasuka wayahlangana labo baxoxisana nsuku zonke esikolweni sikaThiranu. **10** Lokhu kwaqhubeka

okweminyaka emibili, kwaze kwathi wonke amaJuda lamaGriki ayehlala kulesosifunda sase-Ezhiya alizwa ilizwi leNkosi. **11** UNkulunkulu wenza imimangaliso engajayelekanga ngoPhawuli, **12** izifinyo lamathawulo okwakuthintiswe kuye kwakusiwa kwabagulayo bahle basile emikhuhlaneni yabo lemimoya emibi iphume kubo. **13** Amanye amaJuda ayebhoda exotsha imimoya emibi azama ukubiza ibizo leNkosi uJesu kulabo ababelamadimoni. Ayesithi, “Ngebizo likaJesu uPhawuli atshumayela ngaye, ngikulaya ukuthi uphume.” **14** Ababesenza lokhu ngamadodana ayisikhombisa kaSkeva umphristi omkhulu wamaJuda. **15** Kwelinye ilanga umoya omubi waphendula wathi, “UJesu ngiyamazazi, loPhawuli ngiyamazazi, kodwa lina lingobani na?” **16** Kwasekusithi indoda eyayilomoya omubi yabeqela, yabehlula bonke. Yabats haya okuzwayo baze baphuma endlini bebaleta benqunu njalo besopha igazi. **17** Kwathi lokhu sekuzwakele kumaJuda lamaGriki ayehlala e-Efesu, onke ethuka ngokwesaba, ibizo leNkosi uJesu laselihlonitshwa kakhulu. **18** Abanengi balabo abasebekholwa beza baphumela egcekeni, bevuma iziphambeko zabo. **19** Abanengi ababelahlula baletha ndawonye imiqulu yabo bayitshisa obala. Bathi sebehlolele izindleko zaleyomiqulu kwabonakala kungaba ngamadradkhima azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amahlanu. **20** Ngaleyondlela ilizwi leNkosi landa kabanzi njalo lakhula laba lamandla. **21** Ngemva kwakho konke lokhu sekwenzakele, uPhawuli wazimisela ukuya eJerusalem, ezadlula eMasedoniya lase-Akhayiya. Wathi, “Nxa sengike ngaya khona, kuzamele ngethekelele laseRoma.” **22** Wathuma ababili abasizi bakhe eMasedoniya, uThimothi lo-Erastu, yena esalele okwesikhathshana esifundeni sase-Ezhiya. **23** Ngalesosikhathi kwaba lokudungeka okukhulu ngeNdlela. **24** Umkhandi wesiliva owayethiwa nguDemetriyasi owayesenza izikhonzelo zokukhonzela u-Athemisi ngesiliva, wayengenisa imali ezwayo kubakhandi. **25** Wababizela ndawonye kanye lezinye izisebenzi zemisebenzi efananayo wathi kubo, “Madoda, liyakwazi ukuthi sizuzwa imali enengi ngomsebenzi lo. **26** Liyabona njalo liyezwa ukuthi uPhawuli lo usenze abantu abanengi bakholwa njalo uzadukisa abantu abanengi lapha e-Efesu lakuso sonke isifunda sase-Ezhiya. Uthi yena onkulunkulu ababunjwe ngumuntu kabasibo onkulunkulu lakancinyane. **27** Kulengozike yokuthi kakuyikuba ngumsebenzi wethu kuphela ozalahlakelwa libizo lawo elihle, kodwa lethempeli likankulunkulukazi omkhulu u-Athemisi lizadunyazwa, laye unkulunkulukazi ngokwakhe, yena okhonzwa kusosonke isifunda sase-Ezhiya lasemhlabeni wonke, uzakwemukwa ubukhosi bakhe.” **28** Bathi bekuzwa lokhu bafuthelana ngokuzonda, bahle bamemeza besithi, “Mkhulu u-Athemisi wama-Efesu!” **29** Masinyane nje idolobho lonke laphithizela. Abantu badumela uGayiyasi lo-Aristakhasi ababe ngabaphelekezeleli bakaPhawuli, bengabeMasedoniya, babahudulela enkundleni yemidlalo bonke bayakuthi cwi khona. **30** UPhawuli wayefuna ukuzithela emphakathini, kodwa abafundi bamalela. **31** Labanye abaphathi besifunda, ababengabangane bakaPhawuli, labo bamthumela ilizwi bathi angaqali ukuyavela enkundleni yemidlalo. **32** Kwakungasaqondakali enkundleni: Abanye babeklabalaba besitho lokhu, abanye labo besitho okunye. Abantu abanengi babevele bengazi lokuthi babelandeni lapho. **33** AmaJuda afuqela u-Alekizanda phambili esithi kawakhulumele. Waphakamisa isandla ukuwathulisa ukuze achasisse kuhle indaba ebantwini. **34** Kodwa athi ngokunanzelela ukuthi

wayengumJuda, onke ahlabla umkhosi kanyekanye okwaphose kwathatha amahola amabili, besithi, “Mkhulu u-Athemisi wama-Efesu!” **35** Unobhala wedolobho walithulisa ixuku wathi, “Madoda ase-Efesu, akusikho yini ukuthi umhlaba wonke uyakwazi ukuthi idolobho lase-Efesu yilo elingumlondolozi wethempeli lika-Athemisi omkhulu, kanye lomfanekiso wakhe owehla uvela ezulwini?” **36** Pho-ke njengoba lokhu kuyinto engaphikiswayo, thulani lingenzi izinto zamawala. **37** Selilethe amadoda la lapha, kodwa wona engagqekezanga emathempelini kumbe athuka unkulunkulukazi wethu. **38** Ngakho nxa uDemetriyasi labalo akhanda labo belensolo loba ngobani, imithethwandaba ivuliwe, njalo labahluleli bakhona. Bangamangala. **39** Nxa kukhona njalo okunye elifuna ukukutsho, kakuyethoniswa ngomthetho enkundleni. **40** Njengoba kunjene nje sisengozini yokubekwa icala lokuvusa isiyaluyalo ngenxa yezehlakalo zalamuhla. Kungenzeka lokho sizakwehleluka ukuchaza imbangela yalesisiphithiphithi, ngoba ngempela kungekho sizatho.” **41** Eqeda kukhuluma lokhu, wawuchitha umhlangano.

20 Kwathi umsindo usuphelele uPhawuli wabiza abafundi, wathi esebaqinisile wabavalelisa waqonda eMasedoniya. **2** Wahamba wadabula kulowomango, ekhuluma amazwi amanengi okukhuthaza abantu, wacina esefike eGrisi **3** lapho ahlala khona okwezinyanga ezintathu. AmaJuda abumba icebo ngaye eselungele ukuwela aye e-Asiriya yikho wacabanga ukuthi abuyele ngendlela yaseMasedoniya. **4** Wayephelekezela nguSophatha indodana kaPhirusi waseBheriya, lo-Aristakhasi, loSekhundu waseThesalonika, loGayiyasi waseDebbe, loThimothi laye, kwasekusiba nguThikhikhasi loThrofimasi abesifunda sase-Ezhiya. **5** Amadoda la asandulela ayasimelela eTrowasi. **6** Kodwa sawela ulwandle sisuka eFiliphi ngemva koMkhosi weSinkwa esingelaMvubelo, kwathi ngemva kwensuku ezinhlanu sahlangu labanye eTrowasi lapho esahlala khona insuku eziyisikhombisa. **7** Ngosuku lokuqala lweviki sahlangu ukuhlephuna isinkwa. UPhawuli watshumayela ebantwini, kwathi ngoba efuna ukusuka kusa, wakhuluma kwaze kwaba phakathi kobusuku. **8** Endlini ephezulu lapho esasihlanganele khona kwakulezibane ezinengi. **9** Kwakulejaha elalithiwa nguYuthikhasi lihlezi ewindini, labanjwa yibuthongo uPhawuli elokhu ekhuluma engageqedi. Lathi selijumekile, lawela phansi lisuka esitezi sesithathu labuthwa selifile. **10** UPhawuli wehla, wazilahla phezu kwejaha lelo waligona wathi, “Lingethuki, liyaphila!” **11** Wasebuyela phezulu esitezi wahlephuna isinkwa wadla. Esekhulume kwaze kwasa, wasuka. **12** Abantu balisa ekhaya ijaha liphila, bona baduduzeka kakhulu. **13** Sathungamela ukuya emkhunjini sagwedla sisiya e-Asosi lapho esasizathatha khona uPhawuli awele lathi. Lokhu wayekulungiselele ngoba wayezahamba ngenyawo esiya khonale. **14** Wathi ngokuhlangana lathi e-Asosi samngenisisa saqonda eMithilene. **15** Ngosuku olulandelayo sawela sisuka lapho sayafika eKhyosi. Kwathi ngosuku olulandelayo sachaphela eSamosi, ngosuku olulandelayo sayafika eMilethusi. **16** UPhawuli wayezimisele ukuwela edlule eceleni kwe-Efesu engafuni ukuchitha isikhathi esifundeni sase-Ezhiya, ngoba wayejahe ukuyafika eJerusalem, nxa kusenzeka kube ngosuku lwePhentekhosti. **17** Esemilethusi uPhawuli wathumela ilizwi e-Efesu ebiza abadala bebandla. **18** Sebefikile wathi kubo, “Liyakwazi ukuthi ngaphila njani ngesikhathi sonke ngilani,

kusukela ngosuku engafika ngalo esifundeni sase-Ezhiya. **19** Ngayikhonza iNkosi ngokuzithoba okukhulu langezinymbenzi, loba ngangilingwa kabuhlungu ngamacebo amaJuda. **20** Liyakwazi ukuthi kangizange ngithikaze ukutshumayela loba yikuphi obekungaba luncedo kini kodwa ngalifundisa obala njalo ngingena izindlu ngezindlu. **21** Ngitshumayele kumaJuda lakumaGrikhi ukuthi kumele baphendukele kuNkulunkulu ngokuphenduka, bakholwe eNkosini yethu uJesus. **22** Okwamanje ngiqhutshwa nguMoya ukuthi ngiye eJerusalem loba ngingazi ukuthi kuzakwenzakalani kimi khonale. **23** Ngazi kuphela ukuthi kuwo wonke amadolobho uMoya oNgcwele engixwayisa ukuthi ukubotshwa lobunzima kungimelele. **24** Kodwa eyami impilo ngiyibona ingasilutho kimi, injongo yami emqoka yikuqeda loluhambo lokufeza lumsebenzi engiwuphiwe yiNkosi uJesus, umsebenzi wokufakaza ivangeli lomusa kaNkulunkulu. **25** Khatheisi ngiyazi ukuthi kakho kini engihambe ngitshumayela khona umbuso ozaphinda angibone futhi. **26** Ngakho ngiyafakaza kini lamuhla ukuthi kangilacala ngegazi labantu bonke. **27** Ngoba kangingabazanga ukutshumayela kini yonke intando kaNkulunkulu. **28** Zicineni lina kanye lawo wonke umhlambi uMoya oNgcwele olenze laba ngabathungameli. Wobani ngabelusi bebandla likaNkulunkulu, owalithenga ngegazi lakhe. **29** Ngiyazi ukuthi nxa sengisukile lapha, impisi eziphangayo zizakuba phakathi kwenu ziwungenele umhlambi. **30** Laphakathi kwenu kuzavela abantu abazalihanekela iqiniso ukuze abanye abafundi babalandele. **31** Ngakho lihlale liqaphele! Khumbulani ukuthi okweminyaka emithathu kangizange ngiphumule ukuxwayisa omunye lomunye wenu ubusuku lemini ngezinymbenzi. **32** Khatheisi ngilinelika kuNkulunkulu laselizwini lomusa wakhe elilamandla okulakha lokuliphila ilifa phakathi kwabo bonke abangcwelisiweyo. **33** Kangihawukelanga siliva samuntu, loba igolide kumbe izembatho. **34** Lina ngokwenu liyakwazi ukuthi izandla zami lezi zagcwalisa zonke izinswelo zami lezabakhula bami. **35** Kukho konke engakwenzayo ngalibonisa ukuthi ngalindlela yokusebenza nzima kumele sisize ababuthakathaka, sikhumbula amazwi eNkosi uJesus athi, “Kubusiseke kakhulu ukupha ukwedlula ukwamukela.” **36** Esekutshilo lokhu waguqa phansi kanye labo bonke, wakhuleka. **37** Bonke bakhala lapho bemgona lokumanga. **38** Okwabadanisa kakhulu kwaba yilizwi lakhe lokuthi babengasayikuphinde babubone njalo ubuso bakhe. Basebemphelekezela emkhunjini.

21 Sathi sesizehlukanise kubo ngobuhlungu, sawela ulwandle saqonda nta eKhosi. Ngosuku olulandelayo saya eRodi, sasuka khona saya ePhathara. **2** Safumana umkhumbi owawuchaphela eFenikhiya, sangena kuwo, sahamba. **3** Sayithi tshazi eSiphra, sedlula ngeningizimu kwayo, saya e-Asiriya. Sakhuphukela eThire lapho umkhumbi wethu wawuzakwethula khona umthwalo wawo. **4** Safumana abafundi khona, sahlala labo insuku eziyisikhombisa. Baholwa nguMoya ukuthi bamcenge uPhawuli ukuthi angayi eJerusalem. **5** Kodwa isikhathi sethu sesifikile, sasuka saqhubeka ngohambo lwethu. Bonke abafundi lamakhosikazi abo kanye labantwana basiphelekezela basikhupha edolobheni, safika okhunjini saguqa sakhuleka. **6** Sesivalelisene, sangena emkhunjini, bona babuyela emakhaya. **7** Saqhubeka ngohambo lwethu sisuka eThire sayakhuphukela ePhetholemayi, lapho sabingelela abazalwane, sahlala labo usuku lonke. **8** Sasuka ngelanga elilandelayo safika eKhesariya sayahlala endlini

kaFiliphu umvangeli, engomunye wabayisiKhombisa. **9** Wayelamadodakazi amane angendanga njalo ephrofitha. **10** Sesihlale insuku ezimbalwa kwafika umphrofethi owayethiwa ngu-Agabhasi evela eJudiya. **11** Weza kithi, wathatha ibhanti likaPhawuli, wazibopha izandla leziyayo zakhe ngalo, wathi, “UMoya oNgcwele uthi, ‘Ngayonale indlela amaJuda aseJerusalem azaopha umninibhanti leli abesemnikela kwabeZizwe.’” **12** Sathi sikuzwa lokhu sonke labantu bakhonapho sancengana loPhawuli ukuthi angayi eJerusalem. **13** UPhawuli waphendula wathi, “Likhalelani lingidabula inhliziyo yami na? Kangilungelanga ukubotshwa kuphela, kodwa lokufa eJerusalema ngifela ibizo leNkosi uJesus.” **14** Kwathi ngoba engancengeki sadela sathi, “Mayenzeke intando yeNkosi.” **15** Ngemva kwalokhu, salungisa sasesisiya eJerusalem. **16** Abafundi abathile abaseKhesariya basiphelekezela basisa emzini kaMnasoni lapho esasizahlala khona. Wayeyindoda edabuka eSiphra, engomunye wabafundi bakuqala. **17** Ekufikeni kwethu eJerusalem abazalwane basamukela ngokuthokoza. **18** Ngosuku olulandelayo uPhawuli lathi sonke sahamba ukuyabona uJakhobe, bonke abadala babekhona. **19** UPhawuli wababingelela, wabika ngokugcweleyo konke uNkulunkulu ayekwenzile kwabeZizwe ngokusebenza kwakhe. **20** Bathi sebekuzwile lokhu bamdumisa uNkulunkulu. Ngakho basebesithi kuPhawuli, “Uyabona mzalwane ukuthi izinkulungwane ezinengi zamajuda sezikholiwe njalo wonke atshisekela umlayo. **21** Sebetshelwe ukuthi wena ufundisa wonke amaJuda ahlala phakathi kwabeZizwe ukuthi afuathale uMosi, ubatshela ukuthi angasoki abantwababo lokuthi angalandeli amasiko ethu. **22** Pho senzeni? Ngeqiniso bazakuzwa ukuthi usufikile, **23** ngakho yenza lokhu esikutshela khona. Kulamadoda amane phakathi kwethu asenze isifungo. **24** Hamba lawo amadoda la, ubambisane lawo emkhutsheni wokuzihlambulula, uwabhadalele izindleko zawo zakhona ukuze aphuce amakhanda awo. Ngakho umuntu wonke uzakwazi ukuthi akulaqiniso kulimibiko ngawe, kodwa babone ukuthi wena ngokwakho uphila ngokulandela umlayo. **25** AbeZizwe bona abakholwayo sesibalobele ngesinqumo sethu ukuthi kabaxwaye ukudla okunikelwe ezithombeni, bangadli ububende, lenyama yenyamazana ekhanyiweyo lokuhlobonga.” **26** Ngosuku olulandelayo uPhawuli wawathatha lawomadoda wayazihlambulula kanye lawo. Wasesiya ethempelini ukuyakwazisa ngosuku lokuphela kwensuku zokuhlambulula lokuthi umnikelo walowo lalowo wabo wawuzakwenziwa nini. **27** Kwathi lezinsuku eziyisikhombisa sezizaphela, amaJuda athile esifunda sase-Ezhiya abona uPhawuli ethempelini. Alidunga lonke ixuku ambamba **28** ehlabi umkhosi esithi, “Madoda ako-Israyeli; sibambiseni! Yiyo le indoda efundisa abantu bonke ezindaweni zonke okuphambene labantu bakithi lomlayo wakithi kanye lendawo le. Ngaphandle kwalokho, usengenise amaGrikhi emagumeni ethempeli wangcolisa indawo le eNgcwele.” **29** (Mandulo babebone uThrofimasi wase-Efesu edolobheni eloPhawuli basebekhumbula ukuthi uPhawuli wayeze laye emagumeni ethempeli.) **30** Idolobho lonke laphithizela, abantu beza begijima beqamuka inxa zonke. Bamdumela uPhawuli bamhudula bemsuma ethempelini, amasango alo ahle awalwa. **31** Bathi besazama ukumbulala, umbiko wafika kumlawuli wamabutho amaRoma ukuthi idolobho lonke laseJerusalem laseliphithizela. **32** Khonokho nje wathatha abanye abaphathi

kanye lamabutho wagijimela esiphithiphithini lesi. Kwathi labo ababevusa uthuli bebona umlawuli lamabutho akhe bema ukutshaya uPhawuli. **33** Umlawuli weza wafika wambopha wathi kabotshwe ngamaketane amabili. Wasembuza ukuthi wayengubani lokuthi wayoneni. **34** Abathile exukwini bamemeza lokhu, abanye bamemeza okunye, kwasekusithi ngoba umlawuli engalizwa iqiniso ngenxa yokuxokozela waselaya ukuthi uPhawuli kasiwe enkambeni yamabutho. **35** Esefikile ezinyathelweni zokuqansela endlini, abantu baphithizela ngamandla waze wathwalwa ngamabutho. **36** Ixuku elalilandela laphikelela limemeza lisithi, “Msusele amanqe!” **37** Amabutho esathi angenzisa ngaphakathi, uPhawuli wacela kumlawuli wathi, “Ngingaba lelizwi lawe na?” Yena waphendula wathi, “Uyasikhuluma yini isiGriki? **38** Kawusuye yini umGibhithe owaqala umvukela, wakhokhela izinkulungwane ezine zamathekulambuso enkangala?” **39** UPhawuli waphendula wathi, “NgingumJuda waseThasasi eSilisiya, isakhamuzi sedolobho elihloniphekayo. Ngicela ukuthi kengikhulume labantu laba.” **40** Esethole imvumo kumlawuli, uPhawuli wema ezinyathelweni zokuqansela endlini wathulisa ixuku ngesandla. Kwathi bonke sebethule wakhuluma kubo ngesiHebheru wathi,

22 “Bazalwane labobaba, manje lalalani lizwe ukuzivikela kwami.” **2** Bathi bemuzwa ekhuluma kubo ngesiHebheru bathula zwi. UPhawuli wasesithi, **3** “Mina ngingumJuda owazalwa eThasasi eSilisiya, kodwa ngakhulela kulonaleli idolobho. Ngafunda ngaphansi kukaGamaliyeli, ngafundiswa okugcweleyo ngomlayo wabokhokho, lami ngakhuthalela uNkulunkulu njengani lamuhla. **4** Ngabahlukuluzwa abalandeli bale iNdlela baze bafa, ngibopha abesilisa labesifazane ngibaphosela entolongweni, **5** into engafakazwa ngumphristi omkhulu kanye lenkundla. Ngaze ngathola izincwadi kubo zisiya kubazalwane babo eDamaseko, ngaya khona ngifuna ukubaletsa labobantu beyizibotshwa eJerusalem ukuthi bazojeziswa. **6** Kwathi sekungaba yiminye enkulu sengisondela eDamaseko, masinyane kwaphazama ukukhanya kuvela ezulwini kwangizingezelela. **7** Ngawela phansi, ngezwa ilizwi lisithi kimi, ‘Sawuli! Sawuli! Ungihlukuluzelani na?’ **8** Ngabuza ngathi, ‘Ungubani, Nkosi?’ Waphendula wathi, ‘NginguJesu waseNazareth omhlukuluzayo.’ **9** Ababengiphelekezela bakubona ukukhanya, kodwa kabalizwanga ilizwi lalowo wayekhuluma lami. **10** Ngabuza ngathi, ‘Kumele ngenzeni Nkosi?’ Inkosi yathi, ‘Phakama uye eDamaseko. Khonale uzatshelwa konke osumiselwe ukuthi ukwenze.’ **11** Abaphelekezeli bami bangihola ngesandla bangisa eDamaseko ngoba inkazimulo yokukhanya yayingenze ngaba yisiphofu. **12** Indoda eyayitha ngu-Ananiya yeza yazangibona. Yayingumlandeli omkhulu womlayo njalo ihlonitshwa kakhulu yiwo wonke amajuda ayehlala khona. **13** Wema eceleni kwami wathi, ‘Mzalwane Sawuli, bona njalo!’ Ngalesosikhathi ngahle ngazuka amandla okumbona. **14** Wasesithi, ‘UNkulunkulu wabokhokho bethu esukhethile ukuthi uyazi intando yakhe lokuthi umbone oLungileyo lokuba uzwe amazwi aphuma emlonyeni wakhe. **15** Uzakuba ngufakazi wakhe ebantwini bonke ngalokho okubonileyo lokuzwileyo. **16** Pho usalindeni? Sukuma ubhaphathizwe, ugeze izoni zakho, ubiza ibizo lakhe.’ **17** Ngithe sengibuyile eJerusalem ngikhuleka ethempelini, ngafikelwa yisiyephiphopho, **18** ngabona iNkosi ikhuluma isithi kimi, ‘Phangisa! Suka masinyane eJerusalem ngoba kabayikubamukela ubufakazi bakho ngami.’ **19**

Ngaphendula ngathi, ‘Nkosi, lababantu bayakwazi ukuthi nganginquma lamasinagogu ngibabopha njalo ngibatshaya labo abakholwa kuwe. **20** Lalapho kuchithwa igazi lomfakazi wakho uStefane ngangimi khonapho ngivumelana labo njalo ngilinde izigqoko zalabo ababembulala.’ **21** Inkosi yasisithi kimi, ‘Hamba; ngizakuthumela kude kwabeZizwe.’” **22** Abantu bamlalela uPhawuli sonke isikhathi, kodwa esetsho lokhu bavungama bamemeza bathi, “Kasuswe emhlabeni lo umuntu! Kamelanga aphile!” **23** Bathi sebeklabalala, behlubula amajazi abo, njalo bephosa uthuli emoyeni, **24** umlawuli wamabutho walaya ukuthi uPhawuli kangeniswe enkambeni yamabutho. Wayala ukuthi atshaywe njalo abuzisise ukuthi kungani abantu bemvukela kanje. **25** Bathi sebemlalisa phansi ukuthi bambhaxabile bembophile, uPhawuli wathi kumphathi wekhulu owayemi khonapho, “Kusemthethweni yini ukuthi utshaye umuntu ongumRoma ongetheswanga cala na?” **26** Umphathi wekhulu esekuzwile lokho wayabikela umlawuli wamabutho wathi, “Usuzathini manje? Indoda le ingumRoma.” **27** Umlawuli wamabutho waya kuPhawuli wambuza wathi, “Ake ungitshele, kanti ungumRoma na?” Wathi, “Yebo, nginguye.” **28** Umlawuli wamabutho wasesithi, “Mina ngahlawula imali ukuthi ngithole ilungelo lokuba ngumRoma.” UPhawuli waphendula wathi, “Kodwa mina nginguye ngokuzalwa.” **29** Labo abasebelungele ukumbuzisisa bahle batshedela emuva masinyane. Umlawuli webutho ngokwakhe wethuka esenanzelela ukuthi wayebophe uPhawuli, umRoma, ngamaketane. **30** Ngosuku olulandelayo, njengoba umlawuli wamabutho wayefuna ukwazi isibili ukuthi kungani uPhawuli wayebekwa icala ngamajuda, wamkhulula walaya abaphristi abakhulu leSanihedrini yonke ukuthi bahlangane. Wasemletha uPhawuli wamisa phambi kwabo.

23 UPhawuli wawujolozela umphakathi weSanihedrini wathi, “Bazalwane, sengiwugcwalisile umlandu wami kuNkulunkulu ngenhliziyo eqotho kuze kube lamuhla.” **2** Umphristi omkhulu, u-Ananiya, kwamcunula lokhu, watshele labo ababemi eduze kukaPhawuli ukuthi bamukule umlomo. **3** UPhawuli wathi kuye, “UNkulunkulu uzakumukula, wena mduli oconjwe ngekalaga emhlophe! Lapha uhlalele ukungahlulela ngomthetho, ikanti wena ngokwakho uyaweqa umthetho ngokulaya ukuthi ngitshaywe!” **4** Labo ababemi eduze kukaPhawuli bathi, “Ulesibindi sokuthuka umphristi omkhulu kaNkulunkulu wena?” **5** UPhawuli waphendula wathi, “Bazalwane, bengingazi ukuthi ungumphristi omkhulu; ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: ‘Ungakhulumi okubi ngombusi wabantu bakini.’” **6** UPhawuli wayesazi ukuthi abanye babo babe ngamaSadusi, abanye bengabaFarisi, wasememeza phakathi kweSanihedrini wathi, “Bazalwane, mina ngingumFarisi, indodana yomFarisi. Ngithoniselwa ukuthi ngilethemba lokuvuka kwabafileyo.” **7** Wathi ngokutsho lokhu, kwavuka umsindo phakathi kwabaFarisi lamaSadusi, umphakathi wasudabukana phakathi. **8** (AmaSadusi athi kakulakuvuka ekufeni, lokuthi kakulazingilosi loba imimoya, kodwa abaFarisi bayakuvuma konke lokho ukuthi kukhona.) **9** Kwaba lokuxokozela okukhulu, kwathi abanye abafundisi bomthetho ababe ngabaFarisi basukuma bayidaza inkani. Bathi, “Kasiboni lutho olubi ngendoda le. Mhlawumbe umoya kumbe ingilosi ikhulume kuye ke?” **10** Yavutha inkani umlawuli webutho waze wesaba ukuthi uPhawuli sebengamdabudabula. Waselaya amabutho ukuthi ahle

amsuse kubo ngamandla amlethe enkambeni yamabutho. **11** Ngobusuku obulandelayo iNkosi yema eduze kukaPhawuli yathi, “Iba lesibindi! Njengoba usufakaze ngami eJerusalem, kusamele njalo uyofakaza eRoma.” **12** Ngosuku olulandelayo amaJuda abumba icebo njalo enza isifungo sokuthi kawayikudla kumbe anathe engakambulali uPhawuli. **13** Kwakungamadoda edlula amatshumi amane ayehambisana lalalocebo. **14** Baya kubaphristi abakhulu labadala bathi, “Sesifunge ijoyi lokuthi kasiyikudla lutho size simbulale uPhawuli. **15** Ngakho-ke lina leSanihedrini khalezani kumlawuli webutho ukuthi amlethe kini ngenhloso yokuthi lifuna ubufakazi obugcweleyo ngecala lakhe. Thina sesilungisele ukuthi simbulale engakafiki lapha.” **16** Kodwa kwathi ukuba indodana kadadewabo kaPhawuli isilizwile lelisebo, yaya enkambeni yamabutho yayamtshela uPhawuli. **17** UPhawuli wasebiza omunye umphathi wekhulu wathi, “Hamba lejaha leli kumlawuli wamabutho; kukhona elifuna ukukutsho kuye.” **18** Ngakho wasemusa kumlawuli. Umphathi wekhulu wathi, “Isibotshwa esinguPhawuli singibizile sangicela ukuthi ngilethe ijaha leli kuwe ngoba kukhona elifuna ukukutshela khona.” **19** Umlawuli wamthatha lowojaha, wambamba ngesandla waya laye eceleni, wambuza wathi, “Kuyini ofuna ukungitshela khona?” **20** Wathi: “AmaJuda asevumelene ukuthi akucele wena ukuthi ulethe uPhawuli phambi kweSanihedrini kusasa ngenhloso yokuthi afuna ingcazelo epheleleyo mayelana laye. **21** Ungabavumeli ngoba abeqa amatshumi amane bawo bazamcathamela. Asenze isifungo sokuthi angadli njalo anganathi engakambulali uPhawuli. Kunje nje sebelungile, sebelindele imvumo yakho ngesicelo sabo.” **22** Umlawuli wathi kahambe umfana, wamqonqosela wathi, “Ungatsheli muntu ukuthi usungazisile ngalokhu.” **23** Wasebiza abaphathi bebutho ababili wabalaya wathi, “Lungisani ixuku lamabutho angamakhulu amabili, abagadi bamabizaba abangamatshumi ayisikhombisa labangamakhulu amabili abahlome ngemikhonto ukuthi baye eKhesariya lamuhla ebusuku ngehola lesithathu. **24** Lilungisele loPhawuli amabhiza ukuze asiwe kuMbusi uFelikhe evikelekile.” **25** Wabhala incwadi kanje: **26** Klawudiyasi Lisiya, Kumhlekazi, uMbusi uFelikhe: Ngiyabingelela. **27** Indoda le yabanjwa ngamaJuda, okwathi esezama ukuyibulala ngafika lamabutho ami sayilamulela ngoba ngasengizwile ukuthi ingumRoma. **28** Ngadinga ukwazi ukuthi ayesithi yoneni, yikho ngayiletha phambi kweSanihedrini yawo. **29** Ngezwa ukuthi icala layo laliphathelene lomlayo wawo, kodwa kwasweleka icala elingafanela ukufa loba ukugwetshelwa entolongweni. **30** Ngithethe sengilunywe indlebe ngecebo lokuyibulala ngahle ngayedlulisela kuwe. Ngiphinde ngatshela omayimangalela ukuthi bazokwethula kuwe abamangalela ngakho. **31** Ngakho amabutho azilandela lezo ziqondiso amthatha uPhawuli ebusuku ayamfikisa e-Antiphatrini. **32** Ngosuku olulandelayo amabutho amtshiya leqembu labagade amabhiza ukuthi liqhubeke laye, bona babuyela enkambeni. **33** Kwathi abamabhiza sebefikile eKhesariya bayethula incwadi kumbusi loPhawuli laye bamnikela kuye. **34** Umbusi wayibala incwadi wambuza ukuthi wayedabuka kusiphi isifunda. Esezwile ukuthi wayengoweSiliya, **35** Wathi, “Icala lakho ngizalihlola nxa labo abakumangalelayo sebefikile lapha.” Waselaya ukuthi uPhawuli agcinwe elindiwe esigodlweni sikaHerodi.

24 Ngemva kwensuku ezinhlano umphristi omkhulu u-Ananiya wehlela eKhesariya labadala abathile kanye lomeli owayethiwa nguThethula, bafika beneka ukumangalela kwabo uPhawuli kumbusi. **2** UPhawuli esebiziwe, uThethula walethula icala kuFelikhe wathi: “Mhlekazi! Ngaphansi kombuso wakho sesikhohlele isikhathi sokuthula eside, ikanti lombono wakho usulethe intuthuko kulesiziswe. **3** Yonke indawo, ngazozonke izindlela, mhlekazi omuhle Felikhe, siyakwamukela konke lokhu ngokubonga okukhulu. **4** Kodwa ukuthi ngingakuchitheli isikhathi, ngiyakucela ukuthi uke usizwe kancinyane esikutshoyo. **5** Indoda le siyifumane ukuthi iluhlupho, ivusa isiphithiphithi phakathi kwamajuda kuwo wonke umhlaba. Ingumholi wequla lamaNazarini **6** futhi yazama njalo ukungcolisa ithempeli; yikho sayibamba. Sasifuna ukumahlulela ngokomlayo wethu. [**7** Kodwa umlawuli uLisiya weza wazamthatha ngodlakela ezandleni zethu, wathi obamangalelayo kabeze phambi kwakhe]. **8** Ngokumhlola wena ngokwakho uzalibona iqiniso ngazozonke lezizinto esimangalela ngazo.” **9** AmaJuda lawo ayingenela indaba eqinisa ukuthi lezizinto zaziliqiniso. **10** Kwathi umbusi esemphile ithuba lokuthi akhulume uPhawuli waphendula wathi: “Ngiyazi ukuthi usube ngumahluli walesizwe okweminyaka eminingi; ngakho ngizivikela ngesibindi langentokozo. **11** Ungalithola iqiniso lokuthi kakudluli insuku ezilithumi lambili ngiyile eJerusalem ukuyakhonza. **12** Abangimangalelayo kabazange bangifumane ngiphikisana lomuntu ethempelini, loba ngitshotshozela amaxuku emasinagoweni kumbe ngaphi edolobheni. **13** Bangezake balethe ubufakazi kuwe balezizinto abangimangalela ngazo. **14** Kodwa ngiyavuma ukuthi ngikhonza uNkulunkulu wabokhokho bethu, njengomlandeli weNdelela abayibiza ngokuthi ngumvukela. Ngiyakukholwa konke okuvumelana loMlayo lokubhaliweyo kubaphrofetha, **15** njalo ngilethamba efika lelamadoda la kuNkulunkulu, ukuthi kuzakuba lokuvuka kwabafileyo, abalungileyo lababi. **16** Ngakho ngiyazama kokuphela ukuba isazela sami sihlale sihlanzekile phambi kukaNkulunkulu laphambi kwabantu. **17** Ngemva kweminyaka eminingi ngingekho, ngeza eJerusalem ukuletha izipho zabasawulo ebantwini bakithi lokwethula iminikelo. **18** Ngangihlanzekile ngokomkhuba baze bangifumane ethempelini ngisenza lokhu. Kwakungelaxuku labantu elalilami, kumbe ukuthi ngangiphazamisela ngokuthile. **19** Kodwa kukhona amaJuda athile avela esifundeni sase-Ezhiya, okufanele ukuthi ngabe akhona lapha phambi kwakho, angethese icala nxa kukhona akusolayo ngami. **20** Kumbe wonala akhona kawachaze ukuthi licala bani alifumanayo kimi mhlazana ngimi eSanihedrini, **21** ngaphandle kwalokhu kodwa engakumemezayo ngimi phambi kwawo ukuthi: ‘Kungenxa yokuvuka kwabafileyo okwenza ngithonisiswe phambi kwenu lamuhla.’” **22** Ngakho uFelikhe, owayesazi kakhulu ngeNdelela walimisa icala. Wathi, “Kuzakuthi nxa uLisiya umlawuli angafika ngizaliquma icala lenu.” **23** Walaya umphathi wekhulu ukuthi agcine uPhawuli elindiwe kodwa amvumele ukukhululeka okuthile kanye labangane bakhe ukuthi bamuphe lokho akuswileyo. **24** Ngemva kwensuku eziningi uFelikhe wafika lomkakhe uDrusila owaye ngumjudakazi. Wathi kakubizwe uPhawuli, wamlalela echaza ngokukholwa kuJesu Khristu. **25** UPhawuli wathi esebalisa ngokulunga, langokuzithiba langokwahlulelwa okuzayo uFelikhe wesaba wathi, “Sekwanele okwamanje! Usungahamba. Kungaze

kulunge njalo ngizakubiza.” 26 Yena wayecabanga ukuthi uPhawuli uzamupha imali yokumfumbathisa, yikho wayembiza futhifuthi ekhuluma laye. 27 Isidlule iminyaka emibili, uFelikhe walandelwa esikhundleni nguPhokhiyu Festasi, kodwa ngoba uFelikhe wayefuna ukuthabisa amaJuda, watshiya uPhawuli elokhu esentolongweni.

25 Ngemva kwensuku ezintathu efikile esifundeni uFestasi, wasuka eKhesariya waya eJerusalem 2 lapho abaphristi abakhulu labakhokheli bamajuda bema phambi kwakhe beneka amacala kaPhawuli. 3 Bamcela ngokuphangisa uFestasi, ukuba abenzele umusa, abalethele uPhawuli eJerusalem, ngoba babeceba ukumcathamela bambulale endleleni. 4 UFestasi waphendula wathi, “UPhawuli uvalwele eKhesariya, njalo mina ngokwami Ngiya khona masinyane. 5 Akuthi abanye abakhokheli bakini bahambe lami bafike bamethese amacala khonale, nxa kukhona akonileyo.” 6 Eshlale insuku eziyisificaminwembili loba ezilithshumi labo, wehlela eKhesariya, kwathi ngosuku olulandelayo wangenisa inkundla wathi kalethe uPhawuli phambi kwakhe. 7 Esefikile uPhawuli amajuda ayebyule evela eJerusalem ambuthanela, ethula amacala amanengi esabekayo gaye, kodwa engelabufakazi ngawo. 8 UPhawuli wasezvikela wathi, “Angenzanga lutho oluphikisa umlayo wamaJuda kumbe ukudumaza ithempeli, kumbe oluphikisa uKhesari.” 9 UFestasi wayefuna ukwenzela amajuda umusa, wathi kuPhawuli, “Uyavuma na ukuya eJerusalem ukuthi ngiyekuthonisela khona amacala la?” 10 Waphendula uPhawuli wathi, “Khatheisi sengisiyakuma phambi kwenkundla kaKhesari, lapho engifanele ukuthoniswa khona. Kangonanga lutho kumajuda, njengoba lawe usazi kakuhle. 11 Kodwa, nxa ngilecala lokwenza loba yini efanele ukufa kangali ukubulawa. Kodwa nxa lawomacala engiwetheswa ngamaJuda la engasiqiniso, kakho olungelo lokunginikela kuwo. Ngilidlulisele kuKhesari!” 12 UFestasi esehlenganise amakhanda lomphakathi wakhe, wathi, “Usulidlulisele kuKhesari. Uzakuya-ke kuKhesari!” 13 Sekuyizinsuku ezimbalwa ngemva kwalokho iNkosi u-Agripha loBhenikhe bafika eKhesariya ukuyaqinisa ubudlelwano laye uFestasi. 14 Njengoba babezachitha insuku ezinengi khona, uFestasi wakhuluma leNkosi ngendaba kaPhawuli. Wathi, “Kulendoda lapha eyatshiywa nguFelikhe iyisibotshwa. 15 Ngathi ngiseJerusalem, abaphristi abakhulu labadala bamajuda bayimangalela ngamacala athile, bacela ukuthi ibulawe. 16 Ngabatshela ukuthi kakusimkhuba wamaRoma ukunikela umuntu engakahlanganiswa labamangaleli bakhe, waphiwa ithuba lokuzivikela kulawo macala abambeka wona. 17 Bathi sebefikile lapha behamba lami, ngahle ngalingenisa icala, kodwa inkundla ngayihlanganisa ngosuku olulandelayo, ngathi indoda leyo kayingeniswe. 18 Sebephakamile ukuba bakhulume, kabasambekanga lawomacala engangiwhumbula. 19 Kodwa, kulezinto ezithile ababephikisana ngazo laye mayelana lenkolo yabo langenye indoda eyafayo ethiwa nguJesu, uPhawuli athi yena iyaphila. 20 Ngisuke ngadideka ukuthi ngizicubungule njani izindaba ezinjalo; yikho ngimbuzele ukuthi angavuma yini ukuya eJerusalem ayethoniswa khona ngamacala la. 21 Kuthe uPhawuli esethe ucela icala lakhe limiswe liyoqunywa nguMbusi oMkhulu, ngathi kagcinwe entolongweni ngize ngimdlulisele kuKhesari.” 22 U-Agripha wasesithi kuFestasi, “Ngifuna ukuthi kengiyizwe mina ngokwami indoda leyo.” Waphendula wathi, “Uzayizwa kusasa.” 23 Kusisa u-

Agripha loBhenikhe bafika ngodumo olukhulu bangena emthethwandaba lezikhulu zakhona ezaziwayo kanye labakhokheli bedolobho. UFestasi wathi uPhawuli kalethe. 24 UFestasi wasesithi, “Nkosi Agripha, lani lonke elikhona lathi lapha, liyayibona indoda le! Sonke isizwe samaJuda eJerusalem lakhona lapha eKhesariya senza isikalhalo kimi bememeza ukuthi kayisafanelanga ukuthi ibe ilokhu iphila. 25 Ngafumana ukuthi kwakungelalutho alwenzayo olufanele ukufa, kodwa ngenxa yokuthi wacela ukudluliselwa kuMbusi oMkhulu, ngakhetha ukuthi ngimdlulisele eRoma. 26 Kodwa kakulalutho olubambekayo engizalulobela uMhlekazi ngaye. Ngakho sengimlethe lapha phambi kwenu lonke, ikakhulu phambi kwakho wena Nkosi Agripha, ukuze kuthi ngemva kokumhlola hlezi ngithole ulutho engingaluloba. 27 Ngibona kungaba liphutha elikhulu ukuthumela isibotshwa ngingacacanga ngamacala esiwetheswayo.”

26 U-Agripha wasesithi kuPhawuli, “Ulemvumo yokuzikhulumelela.” Ngakho uPhawuli wasephakamisa isandla sakhe waqalisa ukuzivikela, wathi, 2 “Nkosi Agripha, ngizibona ngilenhlanhla ukuma phambi kwakho lamuhla ngisethula ukuzivikela kwami kuwo wonke amacala engiwetheswa ngamaJuda, 3 ikakhulu njengoba wena uwazi amasiko amaJuda kanye lokuphikisana kwawo. Ngakho ngiyakucela ukuthi ungilalele ngokubekela. 4 AmaJuda wonke ayayazi impilo engiyiphilileyo kusukela ebuntwaneni bami, ekuqaleni kokuphila kwami elizweni lakithi njalo laseJerusalem. 5 Sebengazi okwesikhathi eside njalo bangafakaza nxa bethanda, ukuthi ngenhlelo zenkolo yethu eqinileyo, ngangiphila ngingumFarisi. 6 Manje sekungenxa yethemba lami kulokho uNkulunkulu akuthembisa okhokho bethu ofanele ngithonisiswe lamuhla. 7 Lesi yiso isithembiso esilindelwe yizizwana zakithi ezilithshumi lambili ukuthi zizasibona sigcwaliseka zilokhu zimkhonza uNkulunkulu ngokutshiseka emini lebusuku. Mhlekazi, kungenxa yalo lelithemba engimangalelwa lona ngamaJuda. 8 Kungenzakala kanjani ukuthi phakathi kwenu kube yinto engakholekiyo ukuthi uNkulunkulu uyabavusa abafileyo ng? 9 Lami ngokwami ngangizimisele ukuthi ngenze yonke imizamo yokuphikisana lebizu likaJesu waseNazaretha. 10 Lakanye yikho lokho engakwenzayo eJerusalem. Ngaphiwa amandla ngabaphristi abakhulu ngaphosela abanengi abangcewele entolongweni, kwathi ekubulaweni kwabo lami ngasekela ukubalahla. 11 Izikhathi ezinengi ngangihamba ngingquma lamasinagogu ngisithi kabajezise, ngazama njalo ukubabamba ngamandla ukuthi bahlambaze uJesu. Ngathi ngihlanyiswa yikubazonda ngaya lakwamanye amadolobho aseziwazi ukuyabahlukuluza khona. 12 Kolunye uhambo lwami ngalubangisa eDamaseko ngilamandla lomlayo engawuphiwa ngabaphristi abakhulu. 13 Kwathi sekungaba yimini enkulu ngisendleleni Mhlekazi Agripha, ngabona ukukhanya kuvela ezulwini, kukhazimula ukwedlula ilanga, kungizingezelele kanye labakhula bami. 14 Sonke sawela phansi, ngezwa ilizwi lisithi kimi, ngesiHebheru, ‘Sawuli, Sawuli unghlulukuzelani na? Kubuhlungu kuwe ukukhahlela izincinci.’ 15 Ngasengibuza ngathi, ‘Ungubani, Nkosi?’ iNkosi yaphendula yathi, ‘NginguJesu omhlukuluzayo. 16 Phakama khatheisi ume ngezinyawo zakho. Ngizibonise kuwe ukuthi ngikukhethe ukuba yinceku njalo ube ngufakazi walokho osukubonile ngami, lalokho engisazakutshengisa khona. 17 Ngizakuphephisa ebantwini bakini lakwabeZizwe.

Ngikuthuma **18** ukuthi uvule amehlo abo, ubaphendule basuke ebumnyameni baye ekukhanyeni, njalo basuke emandleni kaSathane baye kuNkulunkulu ukuze bemukele ukuthethelelwa kwezono lendawo phakathi kwalabo abangcweliswa ngokuzokholwa kimi.’ **19** Ngakho-ke, Nkosi Agripha, kangiqhokuzelanga umbono ovela ezulwini. **20** Ngaqala ngaba seDamaseko, kwalandela abaseJerusalemase laseJudiya lonke, kwalandela labeZizwe labo, ngatshumayela ukuthi kumele baphenduke babuyele kuNkulunkulu njalo babonise ukuphenduka kwabo ngezenzo zabo. **21** Kungaleso isizatho okwenza amaJuda angibamba ngisemagumeni ethempeli azama ukungibulala. **22** Kodwa uNkulunkulu ungiphaphisile kuze kube namuhla, yikho ngimi lapha ngifakaza kwabancinyane labakhulu ngokufananayo. Kakulalutho engilutshoyo ngaphezu kwalokho abaphrofethi loMosi abathi kuzakwenzakala, **23** ukuthi uKhristu wayezahlupheka, njalo njengowokuqala ukukwa kwabafileyo, atshumayele ukukhanya ebantwini bakibo lakwabeZizwe.” **24** Khonapho uFestasi wasemphazamisa esazivikela wathi, “Phawuli, usangene ingqondo! Ukufunda kwakho okukhulu sekukuphambanise ingqondo.” **25** Waphendula uPhawuli wathi, “Kangihlanyi, Mhlekezi omkhulu Festasi. Engikutshoyo kuliqiniso njalo kulengqondo. **26** Inkosi izijayele lezintambo yikho ngikhuluma kuyo ngikhululekile. Ngiyakholwa ukuthi kakukho lokukodwa kukho okuyeqileyo inkosi, ngoba kakwenziswa ejikweni ngokucatshelana. **27** Nkosi Agripha, uyabakholwa na abaphrofethi? Ngiyazi ukuthi uyabakholwa.” **28** U-Agripha wasesithi kuPhawuli, “Kambe ucabanga ukuthi ngesikhathshana esifitshane kangaka ungangiphendula ngibe ngumKhristu?” **29** UPhawuli waphendula wathi, “Singaba sisifitshane loba sibese, ngiyakhuleka kuNkulunkulu ukuthi kakungabi nguwe kuphela kodwa bonke abangizwayo lamuhla bangaba yilokho engiyikho khona, ngaphandle kwala amaketane.” **30** Inkosi yaphakama kanye lombusi loBhenikhe lalabo ababehlezi lapho. **31** Baphuma endlini, bathi sebekhuluma bodwa, bathi, “Indoda le kakulalutho elwenzayo olufanele ukufa loba ukuvalelwa entolongweni.” **32** U-Agripha wathi kuFestasi, “Indoda le ibizakhululwa kube ibingedluliselanga icala layo kuKhesari.”

27 Sekumisiwe ukuthi sizakuya e-Ithali, uPhawuli kanye lezinye izibotshwa banikelwa ezandleni zomphathi wekhulu owayethiwa nguJuliyasi owaye ngoweButho leSikhosini. **2** Sagada umkhumbi e-Adramithiya owawusulungele ukuya emathekwini asemakhunjini esifunda sase-Ezhiya, sahle salungena ulwandle. Sasilo-Aristakhasi, owayesuka eThesalonika. **3** Kusisa sakhuphukela eSidoni; uJuliyasi watshengisa umusa kuPhawuli, wamwumela ukuthi aye kubangane bakhe bamenzele lokho ayengabe ekuswela. **4** Sesisuka lapho saluqonda ulwandle njalo sagudla ethunzini laseSiphrazi ngoba ukuvunguza komoya kwakuphambana lathi. **5** Sathi sesiwele sadabala ulwandle olubanzi malungana lasokhunjini lweSilisiya lePhamfiliya, sakhuphukela eMira esLikhiya. **6** Khonapho umphathi wekhulu wafumana umkhumbi wase-Alekizandriya uwelela e-Ithali, wasingenisa kuwo. **7** Sahamba sitotoba okwensuku ezinengi, sathwala nzima ukuyafika eKhinidu. Kwathi ngoba umoya usivalela ukuthi sihambe ngendlela yethu, sawela sayagudla ethunzini laseKhrerthe, malungana leSalimoni. **8** Sahamba siceza okhunjini kanzima, safika endaweni ethiwa kuseMathekumahle, eduze ledolobho laseLaseya. **9**

Sasesilahlekelwe yisikhathi esinengi kakhulu, lokuhamba olwandle kwasekuyingozu kabi ngoba ngelesikhathi kwasekungemva kwesikhathi sokuzila. Yikho uPhawuli wabaxwayisa wathi, **10** “Madoda, ngibona ukuthi uhambo lolu luzakuba lengozi lomnakalo omkhulu, kubhidlike umkhumbi lempahla, lempilo zethu lathi.” **11** Kodwa umphathi wekhulu, esikhundleni sokulalela lokho okwakutshwano nguPhawuli, walandela iseluleko somtshayeli womkhumbi kanye lomnikazi wawo. **12** Njengoba itheku lalingelihle ukuthi simise khona ebusika, abanengi bakhetha ukuthi siqhubeke ngohambo, bethemba ukuthi sizafika eFenikhe simise khona ebusika lobo. Leli kwakulitheku eliseKhrerthe, elalikhangele eningizimu yentshonalanga njalo lenyakatho yentshonalanga. **13** Kwathi ngokuphaphetha komoya opholileyo waseningizimu, banakana ukuthi basebekutholile ababekudinga; ngakho bawukhulula umkhumbi wawela ugudle iKhrerthe. **14** Masinyazana nje, umoya olamanda esivunguvungu owawuthiwa “yiNhlampumalanga” wavunguza usuka esihlengeni. **15** Umkhumbi watshaywa iyelososiphepho wehluleka ukuqondana lomoya; ngakho wasehlula sasesindenda nje siwulandela. **16** Sathi lapho sidlula ekusithekeni kwesihlenge esincane esithiwa yiKhwadwa, kwasekusala lokuthi simise kuhle isikepe sokuphephela siqonde. **17** Kwathi amadoda esesindesele phozulu emkhunjini, basebethandela izintambo bebopha umkhumbi ngokwawo ukuze uqine wonke. Bathi ngoba besesaba ukuthi bazatshayeka emhlabathini wetshebetshebe laseSithisi, behlisa iseyili bayekela umkhumbi wazindenda nje. **18** Isiphepho sasizunguza kabuhlungu kwaze kwathi ngosuku olulandelayo saqalisa ukujikela umthwalo olwandle. **19** Ngosuku lwesithathu baphosela phandle ngezabo izandla izintambo lezinye impahla zokuhambisa umkhumbi. **20** Kwathi sekuyizinsuku ezinengi singaliboni ilanga loba izinkanyezi, kodwa isiphepho silokhu sisidla ubhedu, sapehlelwa lithemba lokuthi sizaphepha. **21** Amadoda ayesehlale isikhathi eside engadlanga, uPhawuli wasesima phambi kwabo, wathi, “Madoda, ngabe lingilalele sangasuki eKhrerthe; ngabe kalizifakanga phakathi kwale inhlekenhleke lokulahlekelwa lokhu. **22** Kodwa manje ngiyalikhuthaza ukuthi lime isibindi, ngoba kakukho lamunye wenu ozakufa; ngumkhumbi kuphela ozabhidlika. **23** Izolo ebusuku ingilosi kaNkulunkulu engingowakhe mina njalo lengimkhonzayo ime phambi kwami **24** yathi, ‘Ungesabi, Phawuli. Kumele uyethonisiswa nguKhesari; njalo uNkulunkulu usebe lomusa wokunikela impilo zabo bonke owela labo.’ **25** Ngakho manini isibindi, madoda, ngoba ngiyamethemba uNkulunkulu ukuthi kuzakwenzakala njengokungitshela kwakhe. **26** Kodwa phela sisezake sitshayeke phansi sikhaphazelwe esihlengeni esithile.” **27** Ngobusuku betshumi lane sasilokhu siyaluziswa olwandle lwe-Adriyathi, lapho okwathi phakathi kobusuku abaqhubi bomkhumbi bezwa kungathi basebesondle emhlabathini. **28** Baphosa izintambo zokulinganisa bafumana ukuthi amanzi ayezike okwezingalo ezilikhulu elilamatshumi amabili. Ngemva kwesikhathshana baphinda baziphosa njalo bafumana izingalo ezingamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye ukuzika. **29** Bathi ngoba besesaba ukuthi sasizakazake ematsheni basebesehlisa insika zokumisa umkhumbi ngemva bekhalela ukuthi kuse. **30** Afaqhubi bomkhumbi bazama ukunyanya babaleke emkhunjini ngokwehlisa isikepe sokusinda olwandle bezenza abafuna ukuyakwehlisa ezinye insika ngaphambili komkhumbi. **31** UPhawuli wasesithi kumphathi wekhulu lasemabuthweni,

“Nxa amadoda la engahlali emkhunjini, ngeke lisinde.” **32** Ngakho amabutho asequma izintambo ezazibambe isikepe sokusinda asiyekela sayagxumukela emanzini. **33** Sekubanga emathathakusa, uPhawuli wabakhuthaza bonke ukuthi badle. Wathi, “Okwensuku ezilithumi lane ezidluleyo belihlezi libambe amaphaphu enu; lisehluleka lokudla; kalizange lidle lutho. **34** Okwamanje ngicelwa ukuthi lidle. Kumele lidle ukuze liphile. Kakho loyedwa wenu ozalahlekelwa lalunwele ekhanda lakhe.” **35** Esekutshilo lokhu, wathatha isinkwa wabonga kuNkulunkulu phambi kwabo bonke. Wasesihlephuna wadla. **36** Bonke baqunga isibindi basebesidla labo. **37** Sisonke sasingabantu abangamakhulu amabili lamatshumi ayisikhombisa lesithupha emkhunjini. **38** Bathi sebedlile basutha, baphungula ukusindwa komkhumbi ngokuchithela amabele olwandle. **39** Kwathi sokusile kabawunanzelelanga umhlabathi, kodwa babona itheku elaligcwele itshebetshebe, basebezimisela ukuthi umkhumbi bayewumisa khona nxa kuvuma. **40** Baquma insika bazitshiya zicwila olwandle, baphinda banyomula lezintambo ezazibambe okokugwedlisa. Basebephakamisa iseyili yaphambili beyiqondisa emoyeni, basebeqonda ekhunjini. **41** Kodwa umkhumbi watshayelela esidulini setshebetshebe olwandle wahle wabhajwa. Isihloko sawo sathi ngxi phansi asabe sisanyikinyeka, ingemuva yona yahlakazeka itshaywa ngamagagasi. **42** Amabutho asesithi kungcono abulale izibotshwa ukuze kungabikhona esizantsheza sibaleke. **43** Kodwa umphathi wekhulu wayefuna ukuvikela impilo kaPhawuli, yikho wabalela ukuthi bakenze lokho abasebekumisile. Walaya labo ababelamandla okuntsheza ukuba bazithele olwandle bona kuqala baqonde emhlabathini. **44** Inengi lalizandenda ngamapulanka liye khona loba ngasiqa bani somkhumbi. Ngale indlela wonke umuntu wafika emhlabathini ephophile.

28 Sathi sesiphephile safika emhlabathini, sezwa ukuthi isihlengi leso sasithiwa yiMalitha. **2** Abantu bakhona basiphatha ngomusa ongajayelekanga. Basemukela kühle sonke, basibasela umlilo wekhanka ngoba izulu lalisina njalo kumakhaza. **3** Uphawuli watheza umnyaba wenkuni, wathi ebasela kwaphuma inhlanguwana isixotshwa ngumlilo yahle yamthandela esandleni. **4** Abahlali besihlengi bathi bebona inyoka ilenga esandleni sakhe bakhulumisana besithi, “Indoda le iyisigebenga; ngoba loba isindile olwandle, unkulunkulukazi uKulunga kayivumelanga ukuthi iphile.” **5** Kodwa uPhawuli wayithintitha inyoka wayilabhulela emlilweni yena akaze alimala lakancane. **6** Abantu babelinde okwesikhathi eside bengaboni lutho olubi lusenzakala kuye, baguqula imicabango yabo basebesithi ungunkulunkulu. **7** Eduze kwalapho kwakulepulazi likaPhabhiliyasi, owayeyisikhulu esiphethe isihlengi. Wasemukela ngesihle emzini wakhe, wasihlalisa khona okwensuku ezintathu esiphethe kühle. **8** Uyise wayegula elele phansi ephethwe luqhuqho lesihudo. Uphawuli wayambona, kwathi esekhulekile, wambeka izandla wamsilisa. **9** Kwathi sekwenzakele lokhu, bonke abagulayo esihlengi beza basiliswa. **10** Basidumisa ngeziziphu ezinengi, kwasekusithi sesilungela ukuwela basilungisela umphako owaneleyo. **11** Ngemva kwezinyanga ezintathu sangena olwandle sigade umkhumbi owawuchithe ubusika khona lapho. Wawungumkhumbi wase-Alekizandriya owawulophawu lwamakhandla amaphahla abonkulunkulu uKhasto loPholukhi. **12** Sakhuphukela eSirakhusi sahlala khona okwensuku ezintathu. **13** Sesisuka lapho sawela sayafika eRegiyumi.

Ngakusasa kwaphetha umoya weningizimu, kwathi ngelanga elilandelayo sayafika ePhuthewoli. **14** Lapho safumana abazalwane abasicela ukuthi sihlale khona okweviki silabo. Sasesifika eRoma. **15** Abazalwane balapho basebezwele ukuthi siyeza, ngakho bahamba baze bayafika eNkundleni yase-Aphiya laseziNkantini eziNtathu besihlangabeza. Wathi ebabona lababantu uPhawuli wabonga uNkulunkulu njalo waqiniswa. **16** Sithe sesifike eRoma, uPhawuli wavunyelwa ukuhlala yedwa, elindwe ngelilodwa ibutho. **17** Ngemva kwensuku ezintathu uPhawuli wabiza abakhokheli bamajuda. Bathi sebehlangene wathi kubo, “Bazalwane bami, loba ngingenzanga lutho olubi ebantwini bakithi kumbe olwephula imikhuba yabokhokho bethu, ngabotshwa eJerusalem nganikelwa kwabaseRoma. **18** Wona esengihlolile afisa ukungikhulula ngoba ngangingelacala loba elakuphi ukuganga okwakungafanela ukufa. **19** Kodwa kwathi ngoba amajuda ekwala lokho ngabona sekufanele ukuthi ngikhhalaze kuKhesari; kungayisikho ukuthi ngasengimangalela abantu bakithi. **20** Ngalesizizatho ngicelile ukuthi ngilibone, ngikhulume lani. Kungenxa yethemba lika-Israyeli okwenza ngibotshwe ngale iketane.” **21** Baphendula bathi, “Kasitholanga zincwadi ezivela eJudiya mayelana lawe, njalo kakho umzalwane ovela khonale oke wabika kumbe wakhuluma ulutho olubi ngawe. **22** Kodwa sifuna ukuzwa imibono yakho, ngoba siyakwazi ukuthi ezindaweni zonke abantu bakhuluma kubi ngaloluhele lwenkolo.” **23** Balungiselela ukuhlangana loPhawuli ngelanga elithile elalibekiwe, njalo kweza abantu abanengi endaweni ayehlala kuyo. Kusukela ekuseni kwaze kwaba ntambama echaza umbuso kaNkulunkulu njalo efakaza ngokuseMthethweni kaMosi lakubaPhrofethi. Wazama njalo ukubazisa ngoJesu **24** Abanye basuthiseka ngalokhu ayekutsho, kodwa abanye kabazange bakholwe. **25** Baphikisana bona bodwa basebesuka ngemva kokuba uPhawuli esepethe inkulumo yakhe ngokuthi, “Nxa uMoya oNgcwele wakhuluma iqiniso kubokhokho benu aze ukhulume ngomphrofethi u-Isaya ukuthi: **26** ‘Hamba kulabantu uyekuthi, “Lizahlala lisizwa kokuphela, kodwa lingaqedisisi; lizahlala libona kokuphela kodwa lingabonisisi.” **27** Ngoba inhliziyo yalabantu isibuthundu; kabasezwa ngezindlebe zabo, njalo sebevale amehlo abo; ngoba bangaqabuka bebona ngamehlo abo, bezwe ngezindlebe zabo, baqedisise ngezinhliziyo zabo, baphenduke, lami ngibasilise.’ **28** Ngakho ngithanda ukuthi lazi ukuba insindiso kaNkulunkulu isithunyelwe kwabeZizwe, njalo bona bazalalela!” [**29** Ngemva kwalokhu, amajuda asuka, ephikisana wodwa kakhulu.] **30** Uphawuli wahlala khona okweminyaka emibili egcwele, ehlala endlini yakhe ayeloje kuyo, njalo esemukela ngesihle bonke ababesiza bezombona. **31** Watshumayela ngombuso kaNkulunkulu, wafundisa ngeNkosi uJesu Khristu ngesibindi njalo engaphazanyiswa muntu.

KwabaseRoma

1 UPhawuli, inceku kaKhristu uJesu, owabizelwa ukuba ngumpostoli njalo wahlukaniselwa ivangeli likaNkulunkulu, **2** ivangeli alithembisa ngaphambili ngabaphrofethi bakhe emibhalweni engcwele **3** mayelana leNdodana yakhe, yona okuthi ngokwemvelo yayo yoluntu yayiyinzalo kaDavida, **4** njalo ngoMoya wobungcwele yabonakaliswa ngamandla ukuthi iyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu ngokuvuka kwayo kwabafileyo; uJesu Khristu iNkosi yethu. **5** Ngaye samukela umusa lobupostoli ukuba sinxusele abantu beZizwe bonke ekulaleleni okuza ngokukholwa ngenxa yebizo lakhe. **6** Lani futhi lingabanye babeZizweni ababizelwe ukuba babe ngabakaJesu Khristu. **7** Kubo bonke abaseRoma abathandwa nguNkulunkulu njalo ababizelwe ukuba ngabungcwele bakhe: Umusa lokuthula okuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba laseNkosini uJesu Khristu kakube kini. **8** Kuqala ngibonga uNkulunkulu wami ngoJesu Khristu ngilibongela lani, ngoba ukukholwa kwenu kubikwa umhlaba wonke. **9** UNkulunkulu engimkhonza ngenhliziyo yami yonke ngokutshumayela ivangeli leNdodana yakhe, ungfakazi wami ekuthini ngilikhumbula kokuphela **10** emikhulekweni yami izikhathi zonke; njalo ngiyakhuleka khathesi ukuthi sengathi ekucineni ngentando kaNkulunkulu ngivulelwe indlela yokuza kini. **11** Ngiyafisa ukulibona ukuze ngilinye isipho somoya sokuliqinisa, **12** okuyikuthi ngokufanayo lina lami siqinise lukholo lomunye wethu. **13** Kangifuni ukuba lingaze lazi, bazalwane, ukuthi sengaceba kanengi ukuba ngize kini (kodwa ngisehluleka ukwenzanjalo kuze kube khathesi) ukuze ngibe lesivuno phakathi kwenu, njengalokhu engakwenzayo kwabanye abeZizweni. **14** Ngilomlandu kumaGrikhi lakwabangasiwo, kwabahlakaniphileyo labayiziwula. **15** Yikho-nje ngitshisekela ukutshumayela ivangeli lakini eliseRoma. **16** Kangilanhloni ngevangeli, ngoba lingamandla kaNkulunkulu okusindiswa kwabo bonke abakholwayo: kuqala amaJuda, kulandele abeZizwe. **17** Ngoba ukulunga okuvela kuNkulunkulu kubonakaliswa evangelini, ukulunga okungokukholwa kusukela ekuqaleni kusiya ekucineni, njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Abalungileyo bazaphila ngokukholwa.” **18** Ulaka lukaNkulunkulu luyabonakaliswa luvela ezulwini kulabo abangalunganga kanye lobubi babantu abancindezela iqiniso ngobubi babo, **19** kalokho okungazakala ngoNkulunkulu kusobala kubo, ngoba uNkulunkulu ekwenze kwabasobala kubo. **20** Ngoba kusukela ekudalweni komhlaba isimo sikaNkulunkulu esingabonakaliyo, amandla akhe angapheliyo kanye lobuNkulunkulu bakhe, sekubonakele ngokusobala, kuzwisiseka ngokwenziweyo, ukuze abantu bangabi lasizatho sokuzigeza. (aiðios g126) **21** Ngoba lanxa uNkulunkulu babemazi, kabamdumisanga njengoNkulunkulu loba bambonge, kodwa imicabango yabo yaba yize lezinhliziyo zabo eziyiziwula zaba mnyama. **22** Lanxa bazenza abahlakaniphileyo baba yizithutha **23** benana inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu ongafiyi ngemfanekiso eyenziwa yafana labantu abalokho ukufa leziyoni leziyamazana kanye lezinanakazana ezihuquzelayo. **24** Ngakho uNkulunkulu wabanikela esonweni sezinkanuko zezinhliziyo zabo zobufefe ngokwenza imzimba yabo ihlazo phakathi kwabo. **25** Benana iqiniso likaNkulunkulu ngamanga, badumisa bekhonza izinto ezadalwayo kuloMdali odunyiswa kuze kube nini lanini. Amen. (aiðn g165) **26**

Ngenxa yalokhu, uNkulunkulu wabanikela ezinkanukweni ezilahlazo. Labesifazane bakibo benana imvelo yobudlelwano bemaconsini ngokungasikho kwemvelo. **27** Ngokufanayo abesilisa labo badela ukuphathana kwemvelo labesifazane batshiseka ngokukhanukana. Abesilisa benza izenzo ezilahlazo lamanye amadoda, bazithela isijeziso esifanele ukuxhwalwa kwabo. **28** Phezu kwalokho, njengoba bangazange bacabange ukuthi kufanele bagcine ukumazi uNkulunkulu, wabanikela engqondweni yokuxhwalwa, ukuba benze okungamelanga kwenziwe. **29** Sebegcwele ngokonakala konke, ububi, ubuhanga kanye lokuxhwalwa. Bagcwele umhawu, lokubulala, lengxabano, lenkohliso kanye lolunya. Bangabayeyayo, **30** labahlebi, labazona uNkulunkulu, leziqholo, labaziqqajayo kanye labazikhukhumezayo; baqala izindlela zokwenza okubi; badelela abazali babo; **31** kabaqedisisi, kabathembekanga, kabalathando njalo kabalamusa. **32** Lanxa besazi isimiso esilungileyo sikaNkulunkulu sokuthi labo abenza izinto ezinje bafanele ukufa, kabaqhubeki nje kuphela besenza zona kanye lezizinto, kodwa bayavumelana njalo lalabo abazenzayo.

2 Ngakho-ke, kawulasizatho sokuzigeza wena owahlulela omunye, ngoba loba kungaphi owahlulela khona omunye, uyazigweba wena ngokwakho, ngoba wena owahlulelayo wenza izinto ezifanayo. **2** Siyakwazi ukuthi ukubahlulela kwakhe uNkulunkulu labo abenza izinto ezinje kweyame eqiniseni. **3** Ngakho lapho-ke, wena muntu nje, ubahlulela, kodwa usenza izinto ezifanayo, ucabanga ukuthi uzakubalekela ukwahlulela kukaNkulunkulu na? **4** Kumbé njalo weyisa ubukhulu bomusa wakhe, ukubekezela kanye lesineke sakhe, ungananzeleli ukuthi umusa kaNkulunkulu ujonge ukukusa ekuphendukeni na? **5** Kodwa ngenxa yobuqholo bakho lenhliziyo yakho engaphendukiyo, uziqoqela ulaka oluzakuhlupha ngosuku lolaka lukaNkulunkulu, lapho okuzabonakaliswa khona ukwahlulela kwakhe okulungileyo. **6** UNkulunkulu “uzakupha umvuzo emuntwini munye ngamunye ngokuhambelana lalokho akwenzileyo.” **7** Kulabo abaphikelela besenza okuhle bedinga inkazimulo, udumo kanye lokungabhubhi, uzakubanika ukuphila okulaphakade. (aiðnios g166) **8** Kodwa labo abazinqinikeleyo labala iqiniso balandele ububi, kuzakuba lolaka lokuthukuthela. **9** Kuzakuba lokuhlupheka losizi emuntwini wonke owenza okubi, kuqala kumJuda kulandele koweZizweni, **10** kodwa inkazimulo, udumo kanye lokuthula kuye wonke owenza okulungileyo, kuqala kumJuda kulandele koweZizweni. **11** Ngoba uNkulunkulu kalabandlululo. **12** Bonke abenza isono ngaphandle komthetho bazabhubha ngaphandle komthetho, njalo bonke abenza isono ngaphansi komthetho bazakwahlulelwa ngomthetho. **13** Ngoba akusilabo abezwa umthetho abalungileyo emehlweni kaNkulunkulu, kodwa yilabo abalalela umthetho okuzathiwa balungile. **14** (Ngempela, nxa abeZizwe, abangelawo umthetho, besenza ngokwemvelo izinto ezifunwa ngumthetho, bangumthetho bona ngokwabo, lanxa bengelawo umthetho, **15** njengoba bebonakalisa ukuthi okufunwa ngumthetho kulotshiwe ezinhliziyweni zabo, izazela zabo ziyafakaza, imicabango yabo ibasola iphinde ibavikele.) **16** Lokhu kuzakwenzakala ngosuku uNkulunkulu azakwahlulela imifihlo zabantu ngoJesu Khristu, njengokutsho kwevangeli lami. **17** Khathesi-ke wena, nxa uzibiza ngokuthi ungumJuda; nxa uthembe umthetho njalo uzincoma ngobudlelwane bakho loNkulunkulu; **18** nxa uyazi intando yakhe njalo uvumela okuhle ngoba ufundiswe

ngumthetho; **19** nxa ukholwa ukuthi ungunghokheli weziphofu, ukukhanya kwalabo abasemnyameni, **20** umeluleki wezithutha, lomfundisi wezingane, ngoba kwezomthetho uhlanganisa ulwazi leqiniso, **21** ngakho wena ofundisa abanye, kambe lawe kawuzifundisi na? Wena otshumayela ngokungebi, uyeba na? **22** Wena othi abantu bangafebi, uyafeba na? Wena owenyanya izithombe, uyawaphanga amathempeli na? **23** Wena ozincoma ngomthetho, uNkulunkulu uyamdelela ngokwephula umthetho na? **24** Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi, "Ibizo likaNkulunkulu lihlanjaziwe phakathi kwabeZizwe ngenxa yakho." **25** Ukusoka kuligugu nxa ugcina umthetho, kodwa nxa usephula umthetho, usufana lokuthi kawusokanga. **26** Nxa labo abangasokanga begcina imfanelo zomthetho, kabayikukhangelwa njengabasokileyo na? **27** Lowo ongasokanga ngokwenyama, kodwa elelela umthetho, uzakulahlala wena, ukuthi lanxa ulomlayo olotshiweyo njalo usokile, ungumephuli womthetho. **28** Umuntu kasumJuda nxa enguye emehlweni kuphela, loba esokile emehlweni lenyameni kuphela. **29** Hatshi, umuntu ungumJuda nxa enguye ngaphakathi, lokusoka yikusoka kwenhliziyi, ngoMoya, hatshi ngomlayo. Ukubongwa komuntu onjalo akuveli ebantwini, kodwa kuNkulunkulu.

3 Pho yibungcono bani obukhona ekubeni ngumJuda, loba ligugu bani elikhona ekusokeni na? **2** Kukhulu ngezindlela zonke. Okokuqala amaJuda aphantsiswe wona kanye amazwi kaNkulunkulu. **3** Kuba njani nxa abanye babo babengathembekanga? Ungathembeki kwabo kungachitha ukuthembeka kukaNkulunkulu na? **4** Akunjalol! UNkulunkulu kabe qotho, umuntu wonke abe ngumqambi wamanga. Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: "Ukuze ubonakaliswe ukuthi unqondile lapho ukhuluma, njalo unqobe lapho usahlulela." **5** Kodwa nxa ukungalungi kwethu kusenza ukulunga kukaNkulunkulu kucace kakhulu, thina sizakuthini na? UNkulunkulu kalunganga ngokwehlisela ulaka lwakhe phezu kwethu na? (Mina ngikhuluma njengokubona komuntu.) **6** Ngempela akunjalol. Aluba kwakunjalo, uNkulunkulu ubengawahlulela kanjani umhlaba na? **7** Omunye angaphikisa athi, "Nxa amanga ami ekhulisa ubuqotho bukaNkulunkulu ngalokho andise udumo lwakhe, kungani lokhe ngilahlwa njengesoni na?" **8** Kungani singathi njengoba sigconwa kuthiwa sitsho njalo futhi abanye bathi "Kasenzini okubi ukuze kuvele okulungileyo na?" Ukulahlwa kwabo kufanele. **9** Pho sizaphetha ngokuthini na? Kambe sisingcono na? Hatshi akunjalol! Sesitshilo ukuthi umJuda loweZizwe bangokufanayo ngaphansi kwamandla esono. **10** Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: "Kakho olungileyo, kakho loyedwa; **11** kakho ozwisisayo, kakho odinga uNkulunkulu. **12** Bonke baphambukile, bonke kabasazisi ngalutho; kakho owenza okuhle, kakho loyedwa." **13** "Imiphimbo yabo ingamangcwaba avulekileyo; inlimi zabo zisebenza ukukhohlisa." "Ubuhlungu bezinhlangwana busezindebeni zabo." **14** "Imilomo yabo igcwele ukuthuka lentukuthelo." **15** "Inyawo zabo zilesiqubu ekuchitheni igazi; **16** incithakalo losizi kuphawula izindlela zabo, **17** indlela yokuthula kabayazi." **18** "Ukumesaba uNkulunkulu akukho emehlweni abo." **19** Siyakwazi ukuthi loba kuyini okutshiwo ngumthetho, ukutsho kulabo abangaphansi komthetho, ukuze imilomo yonke ithuliswe lomhlaba wonke ube lomlandu kuNkulunkulu. **20** Ngakho-ke, kakho okuzathiwa ulungile emehlweni akhe ngokugcina umthetho; kodwa ngomthetho siba lakho ukwazi isono. **21** Kodwa khathesi ukulunga

okuvela kuNkulunkulu, ngaphandle komthetho, sekwaziwe, njalo kwafakazelwa nguMthetho labaphrofethi. **22** Ukulunga lokhu okuvela kuNkulunkulu kufika kubo bonke abakholwa kuJesu Khristu. Akulamehluko phakathi komJuda loweZizwe, **23** ngoba bonke bonile njalo bayasilela enkazimulweni kaNkulunkulu, **24** njalo bakhululwa ngomusa wakhe kudlala ngenzindiso eyeza ngoKhristu uJesu. **25** UNkulunkulu wambeka njengomhlatshelelo wenhlawulo, ngokukholwa egazini lakhe. Wenza lokhu ukuze abonakalise ukulunga kwakhe, ngoba ngokubekezela kwakhe wayekela izono ezenziwe ngaphambilini kungekho kujeziswa, **26** wakwenzela ukubonakalisa ukulunga kwakhe ngealesisikhathi, ukuze abe ngolungileyo njalo ongyue obenza babe ngabalungileyo labo abakholwa kuJesu. **27** Pho kungaphi ukuzincoma? Kutshiywe ngaphandle. Ngasimiso bani na? Esokugcina umthetho na? Hatshi, kodwa ngesokukholwa. **28** Ngoba siyaqinisa ukuthi umuntu ulungiswa yikukholwa langaphandle kokugcina umthetho. **29** UNkulunkulu unguNkulunkulu wamaJuda kuphela na? KasuNkulunkulu wabeZizwe njalo na? Yebo, ungowabeZizwe futhi, **30** njengoba uNkulunkulu emunye kuphela, ozalungisa abasokileyo ngokukholwa labangasokanga ngalokho kukholwa okufanayo. **31** Pho, siyawuchitha umthetho ngalokhu kukholwa na? Hatshi, akunjalol! Kodwa, okuyikho yikuthi umthetho siyawusekela.

4 Pho sizakuthi kuyini u-Abrahama, ukhokho wethu, akufumanayo ngokwenyama kule indaba na? **2** Nxa, ngempela, u-Abrahama walungisiswa ngemisebenzi, wayelakho okokuzincoma ngakho, kodwa hatshi phambi kukaNkulunkulu. **3** Kanje umbhalo uthini na? Uthi, "U-Abrahama wakholwa uNkulunkulu, njalo kwabalwa kuye njengokulunga." **4** Nxa umuntu esebenza, umhlo wakhe kawubalwa kuye njengesipho, kodwa njengomlandu. **5** Ikanti emuntwini ongasebenziyo kodwa ethemba uNkulunkulu owenza ababi balunge, ukukholwa kwakhe kubalwa njengokulunga. **6** UDavida utsho okufanayo lapho ekhuluma ngokubusiseka komuntu uNkulunkulu ambalela ukulunga ngaphandle kwemisebenzi, esithi: **7** "Babusisiwe labo oziphambeko zabo zithethelele, ozono zabo zisibekelwe. **8** Ubusisiwe lowo ongasoze abalelwe isono sakhe yiNkosi." **9** Ukubusiseka lokhu ngokwabasokileyo kuphela, kumbe njalo lakwabangasokanga na? Kade sisithi ukukholwa kuka-Abrahama kwabalwa kuye njengokulunga. **10** Kwabalelwa kusiphi isimo na? Kwakungemva kokuba esesokile, loba ngaphambilini na? **11** Wamukela isibonakaliso sokusoka, uphawu lokulunga abalala ngokulunga engakasoki. Ngakho-ke, ungyise wabo bonke abakholwayo, kodwa bengasokanga, ukuze ukulunga kubalelwe kubo. **12** Njalo ungyise wasasokileyo futhi, abangasokanga nje kuphela, kodwa abahamba ezinyathelweni zokholo ubaba u-Abrahama ayelalo engakasoki. **13** Akuzanga ngomthetho ukuthi u-Abrahama lenzalo yakhe amukele isithembiso sokuthi uzakuba yindlalifa yomhlaba, kodwa kweza ngokulunga okuza ngokukholwa. **14** Ngoba nxa labo abaphila ngomthetho bezindlalifa, ukukholwa kakulasizo lesithembiso siyize, **15** ngoba umthetho uletha ulaka. Njalo lapho okungelamthetho khona akukho ukona. **16** Ngakho, isithembiso siza ngokukholwa, ukuze sifike ngomusa njalo siqiniseke kuyo yonke inzalo ka-Abrahama, hatshi kulabo abangabomthetho kuphela, kodwa njalo lakulabo abangabokholo luka-Abrahama. Ungubaba wethu sonke. **17**

Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi, “Sengikwenze waba nguyise wezizwe ezinengi.” Ungubaba emehlweni kaNkulunkulu akholwa kuye, yena onika abafileyo ukuphila njalo enze izinto ebezingekho zibe khona. **18** Kungekho themba, u-Abhrahama ngethemba wakholwa waba nguyise wezizwe ezinengi, njengoba kwakutshiwo kuye ukuthi, “Izakuba njalo inzalo yakho.” **19** Engekthisanga ekukholweni kwakhe, wamelana lobuqotho bokuthi umzimba wakhe wawusufana lofileyo, njengoba wayeseleminyaka ephosa ibe likhulu ubudala kanye lokuthi isibeletso sikaSara laso sasesifile. **20** Waqiniswa ekukholweni kwakhe, wapha udumo kuNkulunkulu, **21** ekholwe ngokupheleleyo ukuthi uNkulunkulu wayelamandla okwenza lokho ayekuthembisile. **22** Yikho-nje “kwabalelwa kuye njengokulunga.” **23** Amazwi athi “kwabalelwa kuye” kawalotshelwanga yena yedwa, **24** kodwa lathi futhi, uNkulunkulu azabalela ukulunga kwethu, thina esikholwa kuye, yena owavusa uJesu iNkosi yethu kwabafileyo. **25** Wanikelwa ekufeni ngenxa yezono zethu njalo wavuselwa ekuphileni ukuze silungisiswe.

5 Ngakho-ke, njengoba silungisiswe ngokukholwa, silokuthula kuNkulunkulu ngeNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, **2** esifinyelele ngaye umusa esimi kuwo khathesi ngokukholwa. Njalo siyathokoza ngethemba enkazimulweni kaNkulunkulu. **3** Akunjalalo kuphela, kodwa siyathokoza njalo ezinhluphekweni zethu, ngoba siyakwazi ukuthi ukhulupheka kudlala ukuqiniseka; **4** ukuqiniseka, ubuntu; lobuntu, ithemba. **5** Njalo ithemba kalisidani, ngoba uNkulunkulu usehululele uthando lwakhe ezinhliziyweni zethu ngoMoya oNgcwele, asinike yena. **6** Liyabona, ngesikhathi esifaneleyo, lapho sisesebuthakathaka, uKhristu wafela abangakholwa kuNkulunkulu. **7** Kulivelakancane ukuthi umuntu afele umuntu olungileyo, lanxa kungaba lolesibindi sokufela umuntu olungileyo. **8** Kodwa uNkulunkulu ubonakalisa uthando lwakhe kithi ngalokhu: Siseseyizoni, uKhristu wasifela. **9** Njengoba khathesi sesilungisiswe ligazi lakhe, pho sizasindiswa kakhulu kangakanani olakeni lukaNkulunkulu ngaye! **10** Ngoba ngesikhathi sisayezizitha zikaNkulunkulu, sabuyiselwa kuye ngokufa kweNododana yakhe, kuzakuba kukhulu kangakanani, sesibuyiselwe, sahlengwa ngokuphila kwakhe! **11** Lokhu akunjalalo nje kuphela, kodwa siyathokoza njalo kuNkulunkulu ngeNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, khathesi esesithole ngaye ukubuyisana. **12** Ngakho-ke, njengalokhu isono sangena emhlabeni ngomuntu oyedwa, lokufa ngesono, njalo ngale indlela ukufa kwafika ebantwini bonke, ngoba bonke bona. **13** Ngeqiniso isono saba khona emhlabeni umthetho ungakaphawulwa, kodwa isono kasibalelwa emuntwini umthetho ungekho. **14** Lanxa kunjalo, ukufa kwabusa kusukela ngesikhathi sika-Adamu kusiya esikhathini sikaMosi, kanye lakulabo abangazange benze isono ngokweqa umlayo, njengokwenziwa ngu-Adamu, owayengumfanekiso walowo owayezakuza. **15** Kodwa isipho kasifani lesiphambeko. Ngoba nxa abanengi bafa ngesiphambeko salowomuntu oyedwa, umusa kaNkulunkulu kanye lesipho esiza ngomusa walowomuntu oyedwa, uJesu Khristu, kwaphuphuma kakhulu okungakanani kwabanengi! **16** Njalo, isipho sikaNkulunkulu kasifani lalokho okudalwa yisono salowomuntu oyedwa. Ukwahlulela kwalandela isono esisodwa kwaletsa ukulahlwa, kodwa isipho salandela iziphambeko ezinengi saletsa ukulungisiswa. **17** Ngoba nxa ngesiphambeko salowomuntu

oyedwa, ukufa kwabusa ngalowomuntu oyedwa, labo abamukela umusa omnengi kaNkulunkulu kanye lesipho sokulunga bazabusa kakhulu okungakanani ekuphileni ngalowomuntu oyedwa uJesu Khristu. **18** Ngakho-ke, njengoba okwalandela isiphambeko esisodwa kwaba yikulahlwa kwabantu bonke, ngokunjalo isenzo sokulunga esisodwa saletsa ukulungisiswa lokuphila kwabantu bonke. **19** Ngoba ngokungalaleli kwalowomuntu oyedwa abanengi baba yizoni, ngokunjalo futhi ukulalela kwalowomuntu oyedwa abanengi bazakwenziwa abalungileyo. **20** Umthetho wabekwa ukuze isiphambeko sande. Kodwa lapho okwanda khona isono, umusa wanda kakhulukazi, **21** ukuze kuthi njengoba isono sabusa ekufeni, kuthi ngokunjalo umusa lawo ubuse ngokulunga ukuba ulethe ukuphila okungapheliyo ngoJesu Khristu iNkosi yethu. (aiōnios gl66)

6 Ngakho, sizakuthini na? Sizaqhubeke sisenza isono ukuze umusa wande na? **2** Akunjalalo! Safa ngenxa yesono; pho singaphila kanjani kuso futhi na? **3** Kumbe njalo kalazi yini ukuthi sonke thina esabhaphathizelwa kuJesu Khristu sabhaphathizelwa ekufeni kwakhe na? **4** Ngakho sangcwatshwa laye ngokubhaphathizelwa ekufeni, ukuze kuthi njengoba uKhristu wavuswa kwabafileyo ngobukhosi bukaYise, lathi siphile ukuphila okutsha. **5** Nxa sihlanganiswe laye kanje ekufeni kwakhe, ngempela sizahlanganiswa laye futhi ekuvukeni kwakhe. **6** Ngoba siyakwazi ukuthi ubuntu bethu obudala babelhelwa laye ukuze umzimba wesono ulahlwe, khona singezukuba yizigqili zesono futhi, **7** ngoba lowo osefile usekhululwe esonweni. **8** Nxa safu loKhristu, siyakholwa ukuthi sizaphila laye. **9** Ngoba siyazi ukuthi njengoba uKhristu wavuswa kwabafileyo, angeke afe futhi; ukufa akuselawo amandla phezu kwakhe. **10** Ukufa akufayo wakufela bonke kanye ngenxa yesono; kodwa ukuphila akuphilayo, ukuphilela uNkulunkulu. **11** Ngokufanayo, zibaleni njengabafileyo esonweni, kodwa abaphilayo kuNkulunkulu ngoKhristu uJesu. **12** Ngakho lingavumeli isono ukuba sibuse imizimba yenu efayo ukuba livumele izinkanuko zaso ezimi. **13** Linganikeli izitho zemizimba yenu esonweni njengezikhali zobubi, kodwa zinikeleni kuNkulunkulu njengabavuswe kwabafileyo baletswa ekuphileni; linikele izitho zemizimba yenu kuye njengezikhali zokulunga. **14** Ngoba isono kasiyikuba ngumbusi wenu, ngoba lina kalikho ngaphansi komthetho, kodwa ngaphansi komusa. **15** Pho-ke, sizakwenza isono ngoba kasikho ngaphansi komthetho, kodwa ngaphansi komusa na? Akunjalalo! **16** Kalazi yini ukuthi nxa lizinikela komunye umuntu ukuba njengezigqili ezilaleyo, liyizigqili kulowo elimlalelayo, langabe liyizigqili zesono, okuholela ekufeni, loba ezokulalela, okuholela ekulungeni na? **17** Kodwa-ke, kabongwe uNkulunkulu ngokuthi lanxa laliyizigqili zesono, layilalela ngezinhliziyu ezipheleleyo indlela yemfundiso elabekwa kuyo. **18** Lakhululwa esonweni laselisiba yizigqili zokulunga. **19** Lokhu ngikubeka ngamazwi abantu ngoba libuthakathaka ngokwemvelo yobuntu benu. Njengoba lalinikela izitho zemizimba yenu njengezigqili emanyaleni lekuxhwaleni okwandayo, ngakho khathesi zinikeleni njengezigqili ekulungeni okuholela ebungcweleni. **20** Lapho laliyizigqili zesono, lalikhululekile emandleni okulunga. **21** Ngumvuzo bani elawutholayo ngalesosikhathi ezintweni eseliyangeka ngazo khathesi? Lezozinto ziphetha ngokufa! **22** Kodwa njengoba khathesi selikhululwe esonweni laba yizigqili kuNkulunkulu, umvuzo eliwutholayo uholela ebungcweleni,

lesiphetho yikuphila okungapheliyo. (aiōniso g166) 23 Ngoba inhlawulo yesono yikufa, kodwa isipho sikaNkulunkulu siyikuphila okungapheliyo kuJesu Khristu iNkosi yethu. (aiōniso g166)

7 Kalazi yini bazalwane, ngoba ngikhuluma ebantwini abawaziyo umthetho, ukuthi umthetho ulamandla phezu komuntu nxa esaphila kuphela na? **2** Njengesibonelo, ngomthetho owesifazane owendileyo ubotshelwe kumkakhe nxa esaphila, kodwa umkakhe angafa, uyakhululwa emthethweni wokuthathana. **3** Kungakho-ke, angendela kwenye indoda umkakhe esaphila uthiwa yisifebe. Kodwa umkakhe angafa, uyakhululwa kulowomthetho angabi yisifebe, lanxa esesendela kwenye indoda. **4** Ngakho-ke, bazalwane bami, lani lafela emthethweni ngomzimba kaKhristu, ukuze libe ngabomunye, kuye owavuswa kwabafileyo, ukuze sithelwe izithelo kuNkulunkulu. **5** Ngoba sisabuswa yimvelo elesono, izinkanuko zesono ezavuswa ngumthetho zazisebenza emzimbeni yethu, okwenza sathelwa ukufa izithelo. **6** Kodwa khathesi, ngokufela kulokho okwake kwasibopha, sesikhululwe emthethweni ukuze sikhonzwe ngendlela entsha ngoMoya hatshi ngendlela endala yezimiso ezilotsiweyo. **7** Ngakho sizakuthini na? Umthetho uyisono na? Ngempela kawusiso! Ngeqiniso mina ngangingasozwe ngazi ukuthi isono siyini kungesiyo umthetho. Ngoba ngangingayikwazi ukuthi ukuhawukela ngempela kuyini aluba umthetho ungatshongo ukuthi, “Ungahawukeli.” **8** Kodwa isono, sathatha ithuba elalelthwa ngumlayo, saveza kimi inhlobo zonke zenkanuko yokuhawukela. Ngoba ngaphandle komthetho, isono sifile. **9** Mina ngake ngaphila ngaphandle komthetho; kodwa kwathi ekufikeni komlayo, isono savuka saphila, mina ngafa. **10** Ngathola ukuthi umlayo lowo owawuhlose ukuletha ukuphila waleta ukufa. **11** Ngoba isono sathatha ithuba elalelthwa ngumlayo, sangikhohlisa, kwathi ngomthetho sangibulala. **12** Ngakho-ke, umthetho ungcwele, lomlayo ungcwele, ulungile njalo muhle. **13** Kanti lokho okuhle kube yikufa kimi na? Akunjalol! Kodwa ukuze isono sibonakale siyisono, saletha ukufa kimi ngalokho okwakukuhle, ukuze kuthi ngomlayo isono sibe yisono esipheleleyo. **14** Siyakwazi ukuthi umthetho ungokomoya; kodwa mina ngingowenyama, ngathengiswa esonweni njengesigqili. **15** Engikwenzayo angikuzwisisi. Ngoba lokho engifuna ukukwenza angikwenzi, kodwa lokho engikuzondayo ngiyakwenza. **16** Ngakho nxa ngisenza lokho engingafuni kukwenza, ngiyavuma ukuthi umthetho ulungile. **17** Njengoba kunje, akuseyimi uqobo okwenzayo, kodwa isono esihlala kimi. **18** Ngiyakwazi ukuthi akulalutho oluhle oluhlala kimi, okutsho imvelo yami elesono. Ngoba ngilesifiso sokwenza okuhle, kodwa angegeke ngikufuze. **19** Ngoba engikwenzayo akusikho okuhle engifuna ukukwenza; hatshi, okubi engingafuniyo ukukwenza, lokhu ngiqhubeka ngikwenza. **20** Nxa ngisenza engingafuni kukwenza, akuseyimi okwenzayo, kodwa yisono esihlala kimi esikwenzayo. **21** Ngakho ngithola umthetho lo usebenza ukuthi: Lapho ngifuna ukwenza okuhle, okubi kulami khonapho. **22** Ngoba ebantwini bami bangaphakathi ngiyathokoza ngomthetho kaNkulunkulu; **23** kodwa ngibona omunye umthetho usebenza ezithweni zami, usilwa lomthetho wengqondo yami ungenza ngibe yisibotshwa somthetho wesono osebenzayo ezithweni zami. **24** Yeka isinonthongwana esengiyiso sona. Ngubani ozangihlenga kulo umzimba wokufa? **25** Kabongwe uNkulunkulu ngoJesu Khristu iNkosi yethu! Ngakho-ke, mina engqondweni yami

ngiyisigqili somthetho kaNkulunkulu, kodwa ngokwemvelo yami yesono ngiyisigqili somthetho wesono.

8 Ngakho, khathesi akusekho ukulahlwa kulabo abakuKhristu uJesu, **2** ngoba ngoKhristu uJesu umthetho woMoya wokuphila wangikhululwa emthethweni wesono lokufa. **3** Ngoba lokho umthetho owawungelamandla okukwenza ngoba waxegiswa yimvelo elesono, uNkulunkulu wakwenza ngokuthuma iNdodana yakhe ngesimo somuntu olesono ukuba ibe ngumnikelo wesono. Ngakho isono yasilahla emuntwini olesono, **4** ukuze izimiso ezilungileyo zomthetho zipheleliswe kithi, thina esingaphili ngokwemvelo yesono, kodwa ngokoMoya. **5** Labo abaphila ngokwemvelo yesono ingqondo zabo zigxile kulokho okufiswa yileyo mvelo, kodwa labo abaphila ngokwakoMoya ingqondo zabo zigxile kulokho okufiswa nguMoya. **6** Ingqondo yomuntu olesono yikufa, kodwa ingqondo ebuswa nguMoya yikuphila lokuthula; **7** ingqondo yimvelo yesono iyamzonda uNkulunkulu. Kayiwuvumi umthetho kaNkulunkulu, njalo ayingeke yenze njalo. **8** Labo ababuswa yimvelo yesono abangeke bamthokoziwe uNkulunkulu. **9** Kodwa lina kalibuswa yimvelo yesono, kodwa nguMoya, nxa uMoya kaNkulunkulu ehlala kini. Njalo nxa umuntu engelaye uMoya kaKhristu, kasuye kaKhristu. **10** Kodwa nxa uKhristu ekini, umzimba wenu ufike ngenxa yesono, kodwa umoya wenu uyaphila ngenxa yokulunga. **11** Njalo nxa uMoya walowo owavusa uKhristu kwabafileyo ehlala kini, yena owavusa uKhristu kwabafileyo, imizimba yenu efayo uzayinika ukuphila ngoMoya wakhe ohlala kini. **12** Ngakho-ke, bazalwane, silomlandu, kodwa kawungabi yimvelo yesono ukuba siphile ngokwawo. **13** Ngoba nxa liphila ngokwemvelo yesono, lizakufa; kodwa nxa kungoMoya libulala izenzo ezimbi zomzimba, lizaphila, **14** ngoba labo abakhokhelwa nguMoya kaNkulunkulu bangamadodana kaNkulunkulu. **15** Ngoba kalamukelanga umoya olenza libe yizigqili, ukuze liphile ngokwesaba, kodwa lamukela uMoya wobundodana. Njalo siyamemeza ngawo sithi, “Abha, Baba.” **16** UMoya uqobo uyafakaza lomoya wethu ukuthi thina singabantwana bakaNkulunkulu. **17** Ngakho, nxa singabantwana, sizindlalifa, izindlalifa zikaNkulunkulu lezindlalifa kanye loKhristu, nxa sihlanganyela laye impela ezinhluphekweni zakhe ukuze sihlanganyele laye njalo enkazimulweni yakhe. **18** Ngikholwa ukuthi inhlupheko zethu zakhathesi zakhanelanga ukulinganiswa lenkazimulo ezabonakaliswa kithi. **19** Indalo ilindlele ngokulangazelela okukhulu ukuba abantwana bakaNkulunkulu babonakaliswe. **20** Ngoba indalo ihlezi ihlukuluzekile, kungasintando yayo, kodwa kungentando yalowo oyihlukuluzayo, ngethemba **21** lokuthi indalo yona ngokwayo izakhululwa ebugqilini bokonakala ilethwe enkululekweni elenkazimulo yabantwana bakaNkulunkulu. **22** Siyakwazi ukuthi indalo yonke ibubula njengosebuhlungwini bokuhelwa kuze kube khathesi. **23** Akunjalol kuphela, kodwa lathi uqobo esilezithelo zakuqala zikaMoya, siyabubula ngaphakathi silindlele ngokutshiseka ukwamukelwa njengamadodana, ukuhlengwa kwemizimba yethu. **24** Ngoba ngalelithemba sasindiswa. Kodwa ithemba elibonakalayo kalisilothemba. Ngubani othemba lokho avele eselakho na? **25** Kodwa nxa sithemba lokho esingakabi lakho, siyakulindela ngokubekezela. **26** Ngokufananayo, uMoya uyasisiza ebuthakathakeni bethu. Kasikwazi okumele sikukhulekele, kodwa uMoya uqobo

uyasinxusela ububula okungeke kuchazwe ngamazwi. **27** Njalo yena lowo ohlola inhliziyi zethu uyayazi ingqondo kaMoya, ngoba uMoya uyabaxusela abangcwele ngokwentando kaNkulunkulu. **28** Njalo siyakwazi ukuthi ezintweni zonke uNkulunkulu usebenzela okuhle kulabo abamthandayo, ababizwe ngokwenjongo yakhe. **29** Ngoba labo uNkulunkulu abazi ngaphambili wabamisela ukuba babe lesimo esifana leseNdodana yakhe, ukuze abe lizibulo phakathi kwabazalwane abanengi. **30** Labo abamiselayo, wababiza; labo ababizayo, wabenza balunga; labo abenza balunga, wabanika inkazimulo. **31** Pho sizakuthini ngalokhu na? Nxa uNkulunkulu elathi ngubani ongamelana lathi na? **29** Yena ongayigodlanga iNdodana yakhe, kodwa wayinikelela thina sonke, angayekela kanjani ukusipha ngesihle izinto zonke kanye layo na? **33** Ngubani ozababeka icala labo abakhethwe nguNkulunkulu na? NguNkulunkulu olungisayo. **34** Ungubani lowo olahlayo? UKhristu Jesu owafayo, okudlula lokho, owawuswayo waphila, usandeleni okunene sikaNkulunkulu njalo laye uyasinxusela. **35** Ngubani ozasehlukana lothando lukaKhristu na? Yikuhlupheka kumbe ukudubeka loba ukhululukulwa kumbe indlala loba ukuhamba ze loba ingozi kumbe inkemba na? **36** Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Ngenxa yakho, sikhangelane lokufa ilanga lonke; sithathwa njengezimvu ezizahlatsywa.” **37** Hatshi, kuzozonke lezizinto singaphezu kokuba ngabanqobi ngaye owasithandayo. **38** Ngoba ngiyakholwa ukuthi loba yikufa kumbe ukuphila, loba yizingilosi kumbe amadimoni, loba khathesi kumbe isikhathi esizayo, loba kungamandla bani, **39** loba kuyikuphakama kumbe ukuzika, loba olunye ulutho kukho konke okudaliweyo, akuyikusehlukenisa lothando lukaNkulunkulu olukuKhristu uJesu iNkosi yethu.

9 Ngikhuluma iqiniso ngikuKhristu, kangiqambi manga, isazela sami siyakufakaza lokhu ngoMoya oNgcwele, **2** Ngilosizi olukhulu lobuhlungu obungapheliyo enhliziyweni yami. **3** Ngoba ngangifisa ukuba ngabe mina uqobo ngiyaqalekiswa ngisuswe kuKhristu ngenxa yabazalwane bami, labo abohlanga lwami ngokwenyama, **4** abantu bako-Israyeli. Okwabo yikwamukela njengamadodana, ngeyabo inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu, lesivumelwano, lokwamukela umthetho, lenkonzo yasethempelini kanye lezithembiso. **5** Okhokho ngababo, njalo lusukela kubo usendo lwenyama lukaKhristu, onguNkulunkulu ophezu kwakho konke, odunyiswa kokuphela! Amen. (aiōn g165) **6** Akunjengokuthi ilizwi likaNkulunkulu lehluleka. Ngoba akusibo bonke abayinzalo ka-Israyeli abangama-Israyeli. **7** Njalo ngoba yinzalo yakhe akusibo bonke abangabantwana baka-Abrahama. Kodwa-ke, “Isizukulwane sakho sizabalwa ngo-Isaka.” **8** Ngamanye amazwi, akusibantwana benyama abangabantwana bakaNkulunkulu, kodwa ngabantwana besithembiso ababalwa njengenzalo ka-Abrahama. **9** Ngoba isithembiso satshiwo kanje: “Ngesikhathi esimisiweyo ngizaphenduka, njalo uSara uzakuba lendodana.” **10** Akusilokho kuphela, kodwa abantwana bakaRabheka bazalwa sikhathi sinye ngubaba wethu u-Isaka. **11** Kodwa amaphahla engakazalwa loba ukwenza ulutho oluhle kumbe olubi, ukuba inhloso kaNkulunkulu yokukhetha iqhubeka; **12** hatshi ngemisebenzi kodwa ngaye obizayo, watshelwa ukuthi, “Omdala uzakhonza omncinyane.” **13** Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi, “UJakhobe ngamthanda, kodwa u-Esawu ngamzonda.” **14** Pho sizakuthini na? UNkulunkulu kalunganga na? Akunjalol! **15** Ngoba uthi

kuMosi: “Ngizakuba lesihawu kulowo engilesihawu kuye, njalo ngizakuba lozwelo kulowo engilozwelo kuye.” **16** Ngakho-ke, akuyi ngesifiso somuntu loba umzamo wakhe, kodwa ngesihawu sikaNkulunkulu. **17** Ngoba umbhalo uthi kuFaro, “Ngakuphakamisela injongo yonane kanye, ukuze ngibonakalise amandla ami kuye lokuthi ibizo lami litshunyayelwe emhlabeni wonke.” **18** Ngakho uNkulunkulu ulesihawu kulowo athanda ukuba lesihawu kuye, njalo umenza abe lukhuni lowo athanda ukumenza abe lukhuni. **19** Omunye wenu uzakuthi kimi: “Pho kungani uNkulunkulu esisola? Ngoba ngubani ongamelana lentando yakhe na?” **20** Kodwa ungubani wena, ungumuntu, ukuba uphendule uNkulunkulu na? Kambe okubunjweyo kungatsho yini kulowo owakumbayo kuthi, “Kungani wangenza ngabanje na?” **21** Umbumbi kalalo yini ilungelo lokuba ngengxenyane yebumba efanayo enze okunye okubunjweyo okomsebenzi omuhle lokomsebenzi ojayelekileyo na? **22** Kwakungaba njani-ke nxa uNkulunkulu wakhetha ukutshengisa ukubekazela okukhulu ezidalweni zentukuthelo yakhe ezazimisilwe ukubhujiswa etshengisa ulaka lwakhe lokwenza amandla akhe aziwe. **23** Kube kunjani nxa wenza lokhu ukuze enze ubuhle benkazimulo yakhe bazakale ezintweni zesihawu sakhe, azilungisele inkazimulo ngaphambili, **24** kanye lathi asibizayo, hatshi kumaJuda kuphela, kodwa lakwabeZizweni? **25** Njengoba esitsho kuHosiya ukuthi: “Ngizababiza ngokuthi ‘ngabantu bami,’ labo Abangasibantu bami; njalo ngizambiza ‘sithandwa sami,’ lowo ongasiso isithandwa sami,” **26** njalo, “Kuzakwenzakala ukuba kuyo kanye indawo lapho okwathiwa kubo, ‘Kalisiso bantu bami,’ bazabizwa ngokuthi ‘ngabantwana bakaNkulunkulu ophilayo.” **27** U-Isaya uyamemezela ngo-Israyeli esithi: “Lanxa inani labako-Israyeli linjengetshebetshebe ngasolwandle, kuzasindiswa insalela kuphela. **28** Ngoba iNkosi izasifeza isigwebo sayo emhlabeni ngesiqubu langokuphelelisa.” **29** Kunjengoba u-Isaya watsho mandulo ukuthi: “Aluba iNkosi uSomandla wayengasitshiyelanga inzalo, sasizakuba njengeSodoma, sasizafana leGomora.” **30** Pho sizakuthini na? Sithi abeZizweni abangakudinganga ukulunga, sebekutholile, ukulunga okungokukholwa; **31** kodwa u-Israyeli owalandela umthetho wokulunga, kakutholanga. **32** Kwangani na? Ngoba kabawulandela ngokukholwa, kodwa kwakungemisebenzi. Bakhubeka elitsheni elikhubayo. **33** Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Khangalani, ngibeka eZiyoni ilitshe elikhubekisa abantu ledwala elibenza bawe, njalo lowo okholwa kuye kazukuyangiswa.”

10 Bazalwane, isifiso senhliziyo yami lomkhuleko wami kuNkulunkulu ngabako-Israyeli yikuba basindiswe. **2** Ngoba ngingafakaza ngabo ukuthi batshisekela uNkulunkulu, kodwa ukutshengisa kwabo akugxilanga ekwazini. **3** Njengoba ukulunga okuvela kuNkulunkulu bengakwazanga bafuna ukumisa okwabo, kabavumanga ukuzibeka ngaphansi kokulunga kukaNkulunkulu. **4** UKhristu uyisiphetho somthetho ukuze kube lokulunga kubo bonke abakholwayo. **5** UMosu ukuchaza ngale indlela ukulunga okungomthetho: “Umuntu owenza izinto lezi uzaphila ngazo.” **6** Kodwa ukulunga okungokukholwa kuthi: “Ungabokutsho enhliziyweni yakho ukuthi, ‘Ngubani ozakwenyukela ezulwini na?’” (okuyikuthi, ukwehlisa uKhristu) **7** “loba, ‘Ngubani ozakwehlela ekuzikeni kolwandle na?’” (okuyikuthi, ukuvusa uKhristu kwabafileyo). (Abyssos g12) **8** Kodwa kuthini na? “Ilizwi liseduze lawe, lisemlonyeni wakho lasenhliziyweni

yakho,” lokho yikuthi, ilizwi lokukholwa esilitshumayelayo: 9 nxa uvuma ngomlomo wakho usithi, “UJesu uyinkosi,” njalo ukholwa enhliziyweni yakho ukuthi uNkulunkulu wamvusa kwabafileyo, uzasindiswa. 10 Ngoba ukholwa ngenhliziyo yakho njalo ulungiswa ngayo, njalo kungomlomo wakho ovuma ngawo usindiswe. 11 Njengoba uMbhala usithi, “Loba ngubani okholwa kuye akayikuyangiswa.” 12 Ngoba kawukho umahluko phakathi komjuda loweZizwe, inkosi yinye iyiNkosi yabo bonke njalo iyababusisa kakhulu bonke abakhuleka kuyo, 13 ngoba, “Wonke obiza ibizo likaThixo uzasindiswa.” 14 Pho, bangakhuleka kanjani kulowo abangakhohla kuye? Njalo bangakhohla njani kulowo abangakaze bezwe ngaye na? Njalo bangezwa njani kungekho otshumayela kubo na? 15 Njalo bangatshumayela njani ngaphandle kokuba bethunyiwe na? Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi, “Yeka ubuhle bezinyawo zalabo abaletha izindaba ezinhle!” 16 Kodwa akusibo bonke abako-Israyeli abazumkelayo izindaba ezinhle. Ngoba u-Isaya uthi, “Nkosi, ngubani olikholiweyo ilizwi lethu na?” 17 Ngakho-ke, ukukholwa kuvela ekuzweni ilizwi, lelizwi lizwakala ngelizwi likaKhristu. 18 Kodwa ngiyabuza ngithi: Kabezwanga na? Impela bezwa ukuthi: “Ilizwi labo liphumile laya kuwo wonke umhlaba, amazwi abo emikhawulweni yomhlaba.” 19 Ngiyabuza njalo ngithi: U-Israyeli kaqedisanga na? Kuqala uMosi uthi, “Mina ngizalenza libe lomona kulabo abangasiso sizwe; ngizalenza lithukuthelele isizwe esingelakho ukuqedisa.” 20 Lo-Isaya ukhuluma ngesibindi uthi, “Ngatholwa yilabo ababengangidingi; ngazibonakalisa kulabo abangacelanga.” 21 Kodwa mayelana lo-Israyeli uthi, “Ilanga lonke ngelulele izandla zami ebantwini abangalaleliyo labayiziqholo futhi.”

11 Lapho-ke ngiyabuza ngithi: Kanti uNkulunkulu wabalahla yini abantu bakhe? Hatshi akunjalo! Mina uqobo ngingum-Israyeli inzalo ka-Abrahama, owesizwana sikaBhenjamini. 2 UNkulunkulu kabalahlanga abantu bakhe abazi kuqala. Kalikwazi yini ukuthi uMbhala uthini esahlukwaneni ngo-Elija, ukuthi wakhazala njani kaNkulunkulu esola u-Israyeli esithi: 3 “Nkosi, babulele abaphrofethi bakho, badliza lama-alithare akho; yimi ngedwa engiseleyo, njalo bafuna ukungibulala?” 4 Impendulo kaNkulunkulu kuye yathini na? Yathi, “Ngizigoddele mina ngokwami abazinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa abangamkhotamelanga uBhali.” 5 Ngakho futhi, ngalesikhathi kulensalela ezakethwa ngomusa. 6 Njalo nxa kungomusa, ngakho akuseyikho ngemisebenzi; nxa kwakunjalo, umusa wawungeke ube usaba ngumusa. 7 Phoke? Lokho u-Israyeli akufuna ngokuzimisela kakuzuzanga, kodwa abakhethiweyo bakuthola. Abanye baba lukhuni, 8 njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “UNkulunkulu wabanikwa umoya wokozela, lamehlo ukuze bangaboni, lendlebe ukuze bangezwa, kuze kube lamhla.” 9 Njalo uDavida uthi: “Sengathi itafula yabo ingaba ngumjibila lesifu, isikhubekiso kanye lesijeziso kubo. 10 Sengathi amehlo abo angafiphala ukuze bangaboni, lamaqolo abo akhokhobe kokuphela.” 11 Ngiyabuza njalo ngithi: Kambe bangabe bakhubeka bawo okungangokuthi kakuselakuphepha na? Akunjalalo! Kodwa ngenxa yesiphambeko sabo, ukusindiswa sekufikile kwabeZizwe ukuba kwenze u-Israyeli abe lomona. 12 Kodwa nxa isiphambeko sabo sisitsho inotho emhlabeni, lencithakalo yabo isitsho inotho kwabeZizwe, inkulu kangakanani inotho

elethwa yikuphelela kwabo! 13 Ngikhuluma lani lina abeZizwe. Njengoba ngingumpostoli wabezizwe, ngikhulisa inkonzo yami 14 ngethemba lokuthi mhlawumbe ngingavusa umona ebantwini bakithi ngisilise abanye babo. 15 Ngoba nxa ukulahlwa kwabo kuyikubuyisana komhlaba, ukwamukelwa kwabo kuzakuba yini na ngaphandle kokuphila okuvela kwabafileyo? 16 Nxa ingxenye yenhlama ekwelwe njengezithelo zakuqala ingcwele, injalo yonke enye; nxa impande zingcwele, zinjalo lezingatsha. 17 Nxa ezinye ingatsha zephulwe, njalo wena, lanxa ulihlumela lom’oliva weganga, usuxhunyelelwe phakathi kwezinye njalo usuhlanganyela emhlinzini okhulisayo ovela empanzeni zom’oliva, 18 ngazincami ngalezongatsha. Nxa ukwenza, cabanga ngalokhu: Impande kakuswe oyithwalayo, kodwa impande yiyo ekuthweleyo. 19 Lapho-ke lina lizakuthi, “Ingatsha zephulwa ukuze mina ngixhunyelelwe.” 20 Yebo. Kodwa zephulwa ngenxa yokungakhohla, kodwa lina limi ngokukholwa. Lingazikhukhumezi, kodwa yesabani. 21 Ngoba nxa uNkulunkulu engaziyekelanga ingatsha zemvelo, lani kasoze aliyekele. 22 Ngakho cabangani ngesisa njalo lobulukhuni bukaNkulunkulu: ubulukhuni kulabo abawayo, kodwa isisa kini, nxa liqhubeka esiseni sakhe. Kungenjalo, lani lizaqunywa. 23 Njalo nxa bengaphikeleli ngokungakhohla, bazaxhunyelelwa, ngoba uNkulunkulu uyenelisa ukubaxhumelela futhi. 24 Phezu kwalokho, nxa laliqunywe esihlahleni som’oliva weganga ngemvelo, kwathi ngokuphambene lemvelo laxhunyelelwa esihlahleni se-oliva esilinywayo, pho kuzakuba lula kakhulu okunjani kulezi, ingatsha zemvelo, ukuba zixhunyelelwe esihlahleni sazo se-oliva. 25 Bazalwane, kangifuni ukuthi lingaze lazi ngale imfihlakalo, ukuze lingazikhukhumezi: U-Israyeli useyibonile ingxenye yokuba lukhuni inani elipheleleyo labeZizwe lize lingene. 26 Ngokunjalo u-Israyeli wonke uzasindiswa; njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Umkhululi uzafika eZiyoni; uzasusa kujakhobe ukungakhohla. 27 Lesi yisivumelwano sami labo lapho ngizisusa izono zabo.” 28 Mayelana levangeli, bayizitha ngenxa yenu; kodwa mayelana lokukhetha, bayathandwa ngenxa yabokhokho, 29 ngoba iziphizo zikaNkulunkulu lokubiza kwakhe akuguquleki. 30 Njengoba lina elake ladelela uNkulunkulu khathesi selamukele umusa ngenxa yokudelela kwabo, 31 ngokunjalo labo, ngenxa yomusa kaNkulunkulu kini, kabasalaleli ukuze labo khathesi bamukele umusa. 32 Ngoba uNkulunkulu ubophele abantu bonke ekudeleleni ukuze abe lomusa kubo bonke. (eleēsē g1653)

33 Yeka ukuzika kwenotho yenhlanganiphokanye lokwazi kukaNkulunkulu! Yeka ukwahlulela kwakhe okungeke kuhlolwe, kanye lezindlela zakhe ezingeke zilandelwe! 34 “Ngubani owake wayazi ingqondo yeNkosi na? Loba owake waba ngumcebisi wayo na?” 35 “Ngubani owake wanika uNkulunkulu ulutho ukuwa uNkulunkulu aluhlawule na?” 36 Ngoba izinto zonke zivela kuye langaye njalo futhi zikuye. Udumo kalube kuye kuze kube laphakade! Amen. (aiōn g165)

12 Ngakho-ke, ngiyalincenga bazalwane, ngenxa yomusa kaNkulunkulu, ukuba linikele imizimba yenu njengemihlatshelo ephilayo, engcwele lemthokozisayo uNkulunkulu, okuyikukhonza kwenu ngomoya. 2 Lingavumi futhi ukulingisa umhlaba lo, kodwa liguqulwe ingqondo zenu zibe zintsha. Lapho-ke lizakwenelisa ukuhlola lokwamukela lokho okuyintando kaNkulunkulu, intando yakhe elungileyo,

ethokozisayo lepheleleyo. (aiñ g165) 3 Ngoba ngomusa engiwuphiweyo ngithi kini lonke: Lingacabangi ngokuzazisa kakhulu ukwedlula okufaneleyo, kodwa lizicabangele ngokuqonda, ngokuhambelana lesilinganiso sokukholwa uNkulunkulu aliphe khona. 4 Njengalokhu omunye lomunye wethu elomzimba owodwa olezitho ezinengi, njalo izitho lezi zonke kazenzi msebenzi munye, 5 Ngokunjalo kuKhristu thina abanengi sibumba umzimba owodwa, njalo ilunga linye ngalinye ngelawamanye wonke. 6 Silezipho ezehlukeneyo, kusiya ngomusa esawuphiwayo. Nxa isipho somuntu siyikuphrofitha, kasisebenze ngokulingana lokukholwa kwakhe. 7 Nxa siyikukhonza, kakhonze: nxa siyikufundisa, kafundise; 8 nxa singesokukhuthaza, kakhuthaze; nxa siyikupha, kasiphe ngothando; nxa siyibukhokheli, kabuse ngokukhuthala; nxa siyikubonakalisa umusa, kakwenze ngokuthokoza. 9 Uthando kumele lube qotho. Zondani okubi libambelele kokulungileyo. 10 Zimiseleni omunye komunye ngothando lobuzalwane. Hloniphani okudlula ukuzihlonipha kwenu. 11 Lingaphelelwa yikutshiseka, kodwa gcinani ukutshiseka kwenu komoya, likhonza iNkosi. 12 Thokozani ekwethembeni, libekezele ekhulukuluzweni, libambelele ekukhulekeni. 13 Bapheni abantu bakaNkulunkulu abaswelayo. Zejwayezeni ukuphana. 14 Babusiseni labo abalihluphayo; busisani lingaqaleksi. 15 Thokozani lalabo abathokozayo, lilile lalabo abalilayo. 16 Hlalisani ngokuzwana. Lingazigqaji, kodwa lihlanganyele labantukazana. Lingazikhukhumezi. 17 Lingaphindiseli muntu okubi ngokubi. Nanzelelani ukwenza okungulileyo phambi kwabantu bonke. 18 Nxa kusenzakala, kusiya mayelana lokubona kwenu, hlalani ngokuthula labantu bonke. 19 Lingaphindiseli, bangane bami abathandekayo, kodwa litshiyele ulaka lukaNkulunkulu ithuba, ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Ukuphindisela ngokwami; ngizabuyisela,” kutsho iNkosi. 20 Esikhundleni salokho: “Nxa isitha sakhosi silambile, siphe ukudla; nxa somile, sinikeni okunathwayo. Ngokwenza lokhu, lokhela amalahlle avuthayo ekhanda laso.” 21 Linganqotshwa ngokubi, kodwa ngobani ububi ngobuhle.

13 Umuntu wonke kumele azithobe kulabo ababusayo, ngoba akukho mbuso ngaphandle kwalowo obekwe nguNkulunkulu. Imibuso ekhona ibekwe nguNkulunkulu. 2 Ngakho, lowo ovukela umbuso uvukela okumiswe nguNkulunkulu, njalo labo abenza njalo bazilethela ukwahlulelwa. 3 Ngoba ababusi kabesabeki kulabo abenza okungulileyo, kodwa kulabo abenza okubi. Liyafuna ukukhululeka ekwesabeni lowo obusayo na? Ngakho yenzani okungulileyo yena uzalincoma. 4 Ngoba yena uyinceku kaNkulunkulu yokulenzela okuhle. Kodwa nxa lisenza okubi, yesabani, ngoba inkemba kayiphatheli ize. Uyinceku kaNkulunkulu, umeli wentukuthelo ukuba ehlisele isijeziso kowenza okubi. 5 Ngakho, kuyaswelakala ukuzithoba kubabusi, hatshi kuphela ngenxa yokujeziswa okungenzakala, kodwa langenxa yesazela. 6 Ngenxa yalokhu futhi yikho-nje lithela imithelo, ngoba ababusi bazinceku zikaNkulunkulu, ezinikela isikhathi sazo sonke ekubuseni. 7 Phani abantu bonke okungokwabo: Nxa ungatehlanga, thela imithelo, nxa kuyikuqoqwa kwemali, iqoqeni. Nxa kuyikwesaba, yesabani. Nxa kuyikuhlonipha, hloniphani; nxa kuyikudumisa, dumisani. 8 Lingayekeli umlandu unghlawulwanga, ngaphandle kokuqhubeka komlandu wokuthandana, ngoba lowo othanda

umuntu wakibo usewugcwalisile umthetho. 9 Imilayo ethi, “Ungafebi, Ungabulali, Ungebi, Ungahawukeli!” kanye leminyeyo imilayo engabe ikhona ihlanganiswa ngumthetho lo othi: “Thanda umakhelwane wakho njengoba uzithanda.” 10 Uthando kalwenzi ngozi kumakhelwane. Ngakho uthando luyikugcwaliswa komthetho. 11 Njalo yenzani lokhu liqedisisa isikhathi sakhathesi. Isikhathi sesifikele ukuba livuke ebuthongweni benu, ngoba ukusindiswa kwethu khathesi sekuseduze kakhulu kulekuqaleni kwethu ukukholwa. 12 Ubusuku sebusadlula; ukusa sekusondele. Ngakho kasilahlani imisebenzi yobumnyama sigqoke isivikelo sokuhanya. 13 Kasiziphatheni kuhle, njengasemini, hatshi emadilini okumizana lokudakwa, hatshi ekuhlobongeni lentokozo yobugangi, hatshi ngokuxabana langomona. 14 Kodwa zigqokiseni iNkosi uJesu Khristu, njalo lingacabangi ngokuthokozisa inkonzo yemvelo yenu yokona.

14 Mamukeleni lowo okholo lwakhe lubuthakathaka, kungekho kwahlulela ezindabeni eziphikisekayo. 2 Omunye umuntu ukholo lwakhe luyamvumela ukuba adle izinto zonke, kodwa omunye umuntu olokholo lubuthakathaka, udla imbhida kuphela. 3 Umuntu odla izinto zonke akumelanga eyise lowo ongadli konke, lomuntu ongadli konke akumelanga asole umuntu odla konke, ngoba uNkulunkulu umamukele. 4 Ungubani wena ukuba wahlulele inceku yomunye? Ukuma lokuba kwayo ngokwenkosi yayo. Izakuma, ngoba iNkosi ilamandla okuyimisa. 5 Omunye umuntu ubona olunye usuku lungcwele kakhulu kulolunye; omunye umuntu ubona insuku zonke zifanana. Umuntu ngamunye kumele akholwe ngokupheleleyo engqondweni yakhe. 6 Lowo obona olunye usuku njengoluqakathekileyo, wenzela iNkosi. Lowo odla inyama, udlela iNkosi, ngoba uyambonga uNkulunkulu; njalo lowo oyekelayo, wenzela iNkosi, njalo uyambonga uNkulunkulu. 7 Ngoba kakho phakathi kwethu oziphilela yena yedwa njalo kakho phakathi kwethu ozifelayo yena yedwa. 8 Nxa siphila, siphilela iNkosi; njalo nxa sisifa, sisifa eNkosi. Ngakho, loba siphila kumbe sisifa, singabeNkosi. 9 Ngenxa yagalesi isizatho, uKhristu wafa, wabuya waphila ukuze abe yiNkosi yabafileyo labaphilayo. 10 Pho wena, kungani usahlulela umzalwane wakho na? Loba kungani useyisa umzalwane wakho na? Ngoba sonke sizakuma phambi kwesihlalo sikaNkulunkulu sokwahlulela. 11 Kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Ngeqiniso njengoba ngikhona, ngiphila,” kutsho UThixo, ‘amadolo wonke azaguqa phambi kwami; ulimi lunye ngalunye luzavuma kuNkulunkulu.’” 12 Ngakho-ke, omunye lomunye wethu uzabika akwenzayo kuNkulunkulu. 13 Ngakho kasiyekeleni ukwahlulelana. Esikhundleni salokho zimisele engqondweni yakho ukuba ungabeki isikhubekiso kumbe umgoqo endleleni yomzalwane wakho. 14 Njengalowo oseNkosini uJesu, ngiyakholwa ngokupheleleyo ukuthi akulakudla okungcolileyo khona ngokwakho. Kodwa nxa umuntu ecabanga ukuba ulutho lungcolile, ngakho kuye lungcolile. 15 Nxa umfowene ekhathazeka ngenxa yalokho okudlayo, kawusenzi okothando. Ungachithi umfowene owafelwa nguKhristu ngokudla kwakho. 16 Ungavumi ukuba lokho wena ocabanga ukuthi kuhle kuthiwe kubi. 17 Ngoba umbuso kaNkulunkulu kawusindaba yokudla lokunatha, kodwa ngowokulunga, lokuthula kanye lokuthokoza kuMoya oNgcwele, 18 ngoba lowo okhonza uKhristu ngale indlela uhokozisa uNkulunkulu abukwe langabantu. 19 Ngakho kasenzeni imizamo yonke yokwenza okusilethela ukuthula

lokusizana ekuphilisenani koluntu. **20** Ungachithi umsebenzi kaNkulunkulu ngenxa yokudla. Ukudla konke kuhlazekile, kodwa kubi ukuthi umuntu adle ulutho olwenza omunye akhubeke. **21** Kungcono ukungadli inyama lokunganathi iwayini loba ukungenzi lutho oluzawisa umfowenu. **22** Ngakho loba kuyini okukholwayo ngalezizinto akube phakathi kwakho loNkulunkulu. Ubusisiwe umuntu ongazisoliyo ngalokho akukholwayo. **23** Kodwa umuntu olokuthandabuza uyalahlwa nxa esidla, ngoba ukudla kwakhe akuveli ekukholweni; njalo konke okungaveli ekukholweni kuyisono.

15 Thina esilamandla sifanele ukubezezelela ukwehluleka kwababuthakathaka, hatshi ukuba sizithokozise. **2** Lowo lalowo wethu kumele athokozise umakhelwane wakhe ngokuhle kuye, ukuze amakhe. **3** Ngoba loKhristu kazithokozisanga, kodwa njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Ukuthuka kwalabo abalithukayo kwehle phezu kwami.” **4** Ngoba konke okwalotshwa kudala kwalotshelwa ukusifundisa, ukuze kuthi ngokubezelela langokukhuthazwa yimibhalo sibe lethemba. **5** Sengathi uNkulunkulu onika ukubezelela lenkuthazo angalipha umoya wokumanyana phakathi kwenu lapho lilingisa uKhristu Jesu, **6** ukuze kuthi Nganhliziyonye langomlomo munye lidumise uNkulunkulu loYise weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu. **7** Ngakho yamukelani omunye lomunye njengalokhu uKhristu walamukela, ukuze kudunyiswe uNkulunkulu. **8** Ngoba ngiyalazisa ukuthi uKhristu waba yinceku yamazuda emele iqiniso likaNkulunkulu, ukuba aqinise izithembiso ezenziwa kubokhokho, **9** ukuze abezizwe badumise uNkulunkulu ngenxa yomusa wakhe, njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Ngenxa yalesisizatho ngizakudumisa phakathi kwabeZizwe, ngizahlabela amahubo ebizwane lakho.” **10** Njalo, kuthi, “Thokozani, lina beZizwe, labantu bakhe.” **11** Njalo, “Dumisani iNkosi, lonke lina beZizwe, lihlabelele indumiso kuyo, lonke lina bantu.” **12** Njalo, u-Isaya uthi, “Impande kajese izavela, lowo ozavuka ukuba abuse izizwe; abeZizwe bazathembela kuye.” **13** Sengathi uNkulunkulu wethemba angaligcwelisa ngentokozo enkulu langokuthula ekumethembeni kwenu, ukuze libe lethemba elikhaphakayo ngamandla kaMoya oNgcwele. **14** Mina ngokwami ngiyakholwa bazalwane bami, ukuthi lina ngokwenu ligcwele ukulunga, lilokwazi okupheleleyo njalo liyenelisa ukufundisana. **15** Ngililobe ngesibindi mayelana leminyane imicijo, njengokungathi ngilikhumbuzwa yona futhi, ngenxa yomusa uNkulunkulu angiphe wona **16** ukuba yisikhonzi sikaKhristu uJesu kwabeZizwe ngilomlandu wobuphristi wokutshumayela ivangeli likaNkulunkulu ukuze abeZizwe babe ngumnikelo owamukelekayo kuNkulunkulu, ongcweliswe nguMoya oNgcwele. **17** Ngakho ngiyaziqhenya kuKhristu uJesu emsebenzini wami kuNkulunkulu. **18** Kangiyikuba lesibindi sokukhuluma ngolunye ulutho ngaphandle kwalokho uKhristu asekufeze ngami ekukhokheleni abeZizwe ukuba balalele uNkulunkulu ngalokhu engakutshoyo lengakwenzayo, **19** ngamandla ezibonakaliso lezimangaliso, langamandla kaMoya kaNkulunkulu. Ngakho indlela yonke kusukela eJerusalem kusiya e-Iirikhumu, sengilitshumaye ngokugcweleyo ivangeli likaKhristu. **20** Bekuhlezi kuyisifiso sami ukutshumayela ivangeli lapho uKhristu ayengaziwa khona, ukuze ngingakhi phezu kwesisekelo somunye. **21** Ikanti kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Labo abangatshumayanga ngaye bazabona, lalabo abangakezwa bazaqedisisa.” **22** Yikho-nje kade ngxakaka ekubeni ngize kini. **23**

Kodwa khathesi njengoba kungaselandawo engingasebenza kuyo kulezizigaba, njalo njengoba bengifisa okweminyaka eminengi ukulibona, **24** ngiceba ukwenzanjalo lapho sengisiya eSpeyini. Ngithemba ngizalibona ngisedlula lokuba lingisize ngohambo lwami lokuya khonale, emva kokuba sengithokoze ukuba lani okwesikhatshana. **25** Kodwa khathesi ngisendleleni yokuya eJerusalem emsebenzini wabantu beNkosi khonale. **26** Ngoba abeMasedoniya labe-Akhayiya kwabathokozisa ukusiza abayanga phakathi kwabantu beNkosi eJerusalem. **27** Kwabathokozisa ukwenza lokho, njalo impela balomlandu walokho kubo. Ngoba nxa abeZizwe bahlanganyela ezibusisweni zakomoya zamajuda, balomlandu kumajuda wokuhlanganyela lawo ezibusisweni zokwenyama. **28** Ngakho emva kokuqeda umsebenzi lo, njalo sengibe leqiniso ukuthi sebesamukele isithelo lesi, ngizakuya eSpeyini njalo ngilethekelele ohanjweni lwami. **29** Ngiyakwazi ukuthi lapho ngisiza kini, ngizakuya ngilesibusiso esigcweleyo sikaKhristu. **30** Ngiyalincenga bazalwane, ngeNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu langothando lukaMoya, ukuba lihlanganyele lami ekutshikatshikeni kwami ngokungikhulekela kuNkulunkulu. **31** Khulekelani ukuba ngihlengwe kwabangakhulwayo ejudiya lokuthi umsebenzi wami eJerusalem wamukele ebantwini beNkosi khonale, **32** ukuze ngize kini ngentokozo kuthi ngentando kaNkulunkulu ngivuselelwe kanye lani. **33** UNkulunkulu wokuthula kabe lani lonke. Amen.

16 Ngimethula kini udadewethu uFebhi, isikhonzikazi seabandla eKhenkireya. **2** Ngiyalcela ukuba limamukele eNkosini ngendlela efanele abangcwele njalo limsize ngakho konke angakuswela kini, ngoba laye ubelosizo olukhulu ebantwini abanengi, lakimi. **3** Bingelelani uPhrisila lo-Akhwila, abayizisebenzi kanye lami kuKhristu uJesu. **4** Babeka impilo yabo engozini ngenxa yami. Akusimi kuphela, kodwa wonke amabandla abeZizwe ayababonga kakhulu. **5** Bingelelani lebandla elihlanganela endlini yabo. Bingelelani umngane wami othandekayo u-Ephenethasi, owaba ngowokuqala ukuphendukela kuKhristu esiqintini sase-Ezhiya. **6** Bingelelani uMariya owalibezenza kanzima. **7** Bingelelani u-Andronikhasi loJunyasi, izihlobo zami ezazisentolongweni kanye lami. Badumile phakathi kwabapostoli, njalo babekuKhristu mina ngingakabi khona. **8** Bingelelani u-Ampilyathasi, engimthandayo eNkosini. **9** Bingelelani u-Abhanusi, oyisisebenzi kanye lathi kuKhristu, lomngane wami othandekayo uStakhisi. **10** Bingelelani u-Aphele, owahlolwayo wamukelwa kuKhristu. Bingelelani labo abangabendlu ka-Aristobhulasi. **11** Bingelelani uHerodiyoni, isihlobo sami. Bingelelani labo abasemzini kaNakhisu abaseNkosini. **12** Bingelelani uTrayifina loTrifosa, abesifazane labo abasebenza kakhulu eNkosini. Bingelelani umngane wami othandekayo, uPhehisi, omunye owesifazane osebenze kakhulukazi eNkosini. **13** Bingelelani uRufasi, okhethiweyo eNkosini, lonina, obengumama lakimi. **14** Bingelelani u-Asinkrithasi, loFlegoni, loHemesi, loPhathirobhasi, uHemasi kanye labazalwane abalabo. **15** Bingelelani uFilogu, loJuliya, loNerusi lodadewabo, kanye lo-Olimpasi labo bonke abangcwele abalabo. **16** Bingelelanani ngokwangana okungcwele. Wonke amabandla kaKhristu ayalibingelela. **17** Ngiyalincenga, bazalwane, ukuba libaqaphele labo abadala ukwehlukana bebeka izikhubekiso endleleni yenu, okuphambene lemfundiso elayifundayo. Baxwayeni. **18**

Ngoba abantu abanjalo kabakhonzi Nkosi yethu uKhristu, kodwa izinkanuko zabo. Ngenkulumo emnandi langobuqili bakhohlisa ingqondo zabantu abayiziphukuphuku. **19** Abantu bonke sebezwile ngokulalela kwenu, ngakho ngilokuthokoza okukhulu ngani; kodwa ngifuna ukuba lihlakaniphele okuhle, njalo libemsulwa kokubi. **20** UNkulunkulu wokuthula uzamchoboza masinyane uSathane ngaphansi kwezinyawo zenu. Umusa weNkosi yethu uJesu kawube lani. **21** UThimothi, engisebenza laye, uyalibingelela, loLukhiyu, loJasoni kanye loSosiphatha, izihlobo zami. **22** Mina Thethiyasi, engilobe incwadi le, ngiyalibingelela eNkosini. **23** UGayiyasi, osiphatho sakhe esihle siyangjibulisa mina kanye lebandla lonke lapha, uyalibingelela. U-Erastu, ongumqondisi wemisebenzi yabantu bonke wedolobho, lomzawlane wethu uKhwathu bayalibingelela. [**24** Sengathi umusa weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu ungaba lani lonke. Ameni.] **25** Kuye olamandla okuliqinisa ngevangeli lami langentshumayelo kaJesu Khristu, mayelana lokwambulwa kwemfihlakalo eyayifihlakele okweminyakanyaka eyedlulayo, **(aiōnios g166)** **26** kodwa khathesi yambulwe yaziswa ngemibhalo yabaphrofethi ngokulaya kukaNkulunkulu waphakade, ukuze abaZizwe bonke bamlalele ngokukholwa, **(aiōnios g166)** **27** kuNkulunkulu onguye yedwa olenhlakanipho, udumo kalube kuye ingunaphakade ngoJesu Khristu! Ameni. **(aiōn g165)**

1 KwabaseKhorinte

1 UPhawuli, obizelwe ukuba ngumpostoli kaJesu Khristu ngentando kaNkulunkulu, kanye lomzalwane wethu uSosithene. **2** Ebandleni likaNkulunkulu eKhorinte, kulabo abangcweliswe kuJesu Khristu babizelwa ukuba ngabangcwele bakhe kanye labo bonke abasezindaweni zonke abakhuleka ebizweni leNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, iNkosi yabo leyethu: **3** Umusa lokuthula okuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba leNkosini uJesu Khristu kakube kini. **4** Ngihlezi ngimbonga kokuphela uNkulunkulu wami ngani, ngenxa yomusa wakhe eliwuphiweyo kuJesu Khristu. **5** Ngoba kuye linothiswe ngezindlela zonke, ekukhulumeni kwenu konke lasekwazini konke, **6** ngoba ubufakazi bethu ngoKhristu baqiniswa kini. **7** Ngakho kalisileli lakusiphi isipho somoya lapho lilindele ngokuthiseka ukuba iNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu ibonakaliswe. **8** Izaligcina liqinile kuze kube sekupheleni ukuze lingabi lasici ngosuku lweNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu. **9** UNkulunkulu olibizele ekulanganyeleni leNdodana yakhe uJesu Khristu iNkosi yethu, uthembekile. **10** Ngiyalincenga bazalwane, ngebizo leNkosi yethu Khristu, ukuba lonke livumelane ukuze kungabi lokwehlukana phakathi kwenu kanye lokuthi libe ngabamanyeneyo engqondweni lasemcabangweni. **11** Bazalwane bami, abanye abendlu yakoKlowe bangitshele ukuthi kulezingxabano phakathi kwenu. **12** Engikutshoyo yilokhu: Omunye wenu uthi, “Mina ngilandela uPhawuli”; omunye uthi, “Mina ngilandela u-Apholo”; omunye uthi, “Mina ngilandela uKhefasi”; omunye laye uthi, “Mina ngilandela uKhristu.” **13** Kambe uKhristu wehlukene na? UPhawuli wake wabethelwa ngenxa yenu na? Labhaphathizwa ngebizo likaPhawuli na? **14** Ngibonga uNkulunkulu ngokuthi kangibhaphathizanga lamunye wenu ngaphandle kukaKhrispasi loGayiyasi, **15** ngakho kakho ongathi labhaphathizwa ngebizo lami. **16** (Yebo ngabhaphathiza abendlu kaStefane, ngaphandle kwalokho angikhumbuli ngibhaphathiza omunye.) **17** Ngoba uKhristu kangithumanga ukuba ngibhaphathize kodwa ukuba ngitshumaye ivangeli, hatshi ngamazwi enhlakanipho yabantu, funa isiphambano silahlekelwe ngamandla aso. **18** Ngoba ilizwi lesiphambano liyibuthutha kulabo ababhuhayo, kodwa kithi abasindisiweyo lingamandla kaNkulunkulu. **19** Ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Ngizachitha inhlakanipho yabahlakaniphileyo; ukwazi kwezazi ngizakunqanda.” **20** Ungaphi umuntu ohlakaniphileyo na? Singaphi isifundiswa somthetho na? Singaphi isazi salesisikhathi na? UNkulunkulu kenzanga ukuhlakanipha kwasemhlabeni kwaba yibuthutha na? **(aiōn g165)** **21** Ngoba ukuhlakanipheni kukaNkulunkulu, umhlaba ngokuhlakanipha kwawo kawumazanga, uNkulunkulu wathokoza ngobuthutha balokho okwatshunyayelwayo ukuze kusindise abakholwayo **22** AmaJuda afuna izibonakaliso lezimangaliso lamaGrikhi adinga ukuhlakanipha, **23** kodwa thina sitshumayela uKhristu owabethelwayo: isikhubekiso kumajuda lobuthutha kwabeZizwe, **24** kodwa kulabo ababizwe nguNkulunkulu, amajuda lamaGrikhi, uKhristu ungamandla lokuhlakanipha kukaNkulunkulu. **25** Ngoba ubuthutha bukaNkulunkulu buhlakaniphile kulokuhlakanipha komuntu, lobuthakathaka bukaNkulunkulu bulamandla kulamandla omuntu. **26** Bazalwane, khumbulani ngalokho elaliyikho ekubizweni kwenu. Kababanengi phakathi kwenu ababelhakaniphile

ngesilinganiso sabantu; kababanengi ababelamandla; kababanengi ababezalwa yizikhulu. **27** Kodwa uNkulunkulu wakhetha izinto zasemhlabeni eziyizithutha ukuba ayangise izihlakaniphi; uNkulunkulu wakhetha izinto zasemhlabeni ezibuthakathaka ukuba ayangise abalamandla. **28** Wakhetha izinto zalo umhlaba eziphansi lezinto ezezyisekayo kanye lezinto ezingekho ukuba achithe okukhona, **29** ukuze kungabi lamuntu ozazincoma phambi kwakhe. **30** Ngenxa yakhe lina likuKhristu uJesu, yena osebe yikuhlakanipha okuvela kuNkulunkulu esenzela thina, okuyikulunga kwethu, ubungcwele lokusindiswa. **31** Ngakho-ke, njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Lowo ozincomayo kazincome eNkosini.”

2 Ekufikeni kwami kini bazalwane, kangifikanga lobugabazi bokukhuluma kumbe ukuhlakanipha okukhulu lapho ngitshumayela kini ubufakazi ngoNkulunkulu. **2** Ngoba ngazimisela ukungazi lutho ngiseselani ngaphandle kukajesu Khristu yena owabethelwayo. **3** Ngafika kini ngibuthakathaka, ngisesaba njalo ngithuthumela kakhulu. **4** Ilizwi lami lentshumayelo yami akubanga ngamazwi okuhlakanipha lahugayo, kodwa kubonakalisa amandla kaMoya, **5** ukuze ukukholwa kwenu kungeyami ukuhlakanipheni kwabantu, kodwa emandleni kaNkulunkulu. **6** Kodwa siyalikhuluma ilizwi lokuhlakanipha kulabo asebekhulile, belo kungasikho kuhlakanipha kwalesisikhathi loba okwababusi balesisikhathi, asebezakuba yize. **(aiōn g165)** **7** Hatshi, sikhuluma ngokuhlakanipha kukaNkulunkulu okufihlakeleyo, ukuhlakanipha obekukade uNkulunkulu akumisela inkazimulo yethu isikhathi singakaqalisi. **(aiōn g165)** **8** Kakho kubabusi balesisikhathi owakuzwiswayo ngoba aluba kwakube njalo, babengasoze bayibethele iNkosi yenkazimulo. **(aiōn g165)** **9** Kodwa kunjengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Akulalihlo eselibonile, akulandlebe esizwile; njalo akulangqondo yomuntu esicabangile ngalokho uNkulunkulu akulungisele labo abamthandayo,” **10** kodwa uNkulunkulu ukuvezile kithi ngoMoya. UMoya uyazihlolisisa izinto zonke, kanye lezinto ezizikileyo zikaNkulunkulu. **11** Kambe ngubani phakathi kwabantu oyaziyo imicabango yomuntu ngaphandle komoya walawomuntu ngaphakathi kwakhe na? Ngokufanayo, kakho oyaziyo imicabango kaNkulunkulu ngaphandle kukaMoya kaNkulunkulu. **12** Kasamukelanga umoya wasemhlabeni, kodwa uMoya ovela kuNkulunkulu ukuze siqedisise ngalokho uNkulunkulu asiphe khona ngesihle. **13** Lokhu yikho esikhululumayo, hatshi ngamazwi esawafundiswa yikuhlakanipha kwabantu kodwa ngamazwi esawafundiswa nguMoya. **14** Umuntu ongelaMoya kazamukeli izinto ezivela kuMoya kaNkulunkulu ngoba kuye ziyibuthutha njalo angeke aziqedisise ngoba zibonakaliswa ngomoya. **15** Umuntu womoya uyazahlulela izinto zonke kodwa yena ngokwakhe akukho muntu ongamahlulela, **16** ngoba, “Ngubani owake wayazi ingqondo yeNkosi ukuba ayeluleke na?” Kodwa thina silengqondo kaKhristu.

3 Bazalwane, ngangengeke ngikhulume lani njengabaphila ngomoya, kodwa njengabomhlaba, insane nje kuKhristu. **2** Ngalinika uchago, hatshi ukudla okuqinileyo, ngoba lalingakakulungeli. Impela lilokhu lingakakulungeli. **3** Lilokhu lingabomhlaba. Kalokho njengoba kulomona lokuxabana phakathi kwenu, kambe kalisibo bomhlaba na? Kalenzi njengabantu nje na? **4** Ngoba nxa omunye esithi, “Mina ngilandela uPhawuli,” omunye laye athi, “Mina ngilandela

u-Apholo,” kambe kalisibantu nje na? **5** Kanti u-Apholo uvele uyini na? LoPhawuli uyini na? Bazinceku nje kuphela lina elakholwa ngazo, njengoba iNkosi imisele omunye lomunye umsebenzi wakhe. **6** Mina ngahlanyela inhlangano, u-Apholo wayithelela, kodwa nguNkulunkulu owayikhulisayo. **7** Ngakho lowo ohlanyelayo, loba othelelayo, akasilutho, kodwa nguNkulunkulu kuphela owenza izinto zikhule. **8** Umuntu ohlanyelayo lomuntu othelelayo banhlosonye, njalo lowo lalowo uzanikwa umvuzo wakhe njengokusebenza kwakhe. **9** Ngoba thina siyizisebenzi emsebenzini kaNkulunkulu; lina liyinsimu kaNkulunkulu, isakhiwo sikaNkulunkulu. **10** Njengomuntu kaNkulunkulu angipha wona, ngabeka isisekelo njengengcithsi yomakhi, njalo abanye bakha phezu kwaso. Kodwa omunye lomunye kumele ananzelele ukuthi wakha njani. **11** Ngoba kakho ongabeka esinye isisekelo ngaphandle kwaleso esivele sesibekiwe, esinguJesu Khristu. **12** Nxa umuntu esakhela phezu kwalesisekelo ngegolide, ngesiliva, ngamatshe adulayo, ngezigodo, ngotshani loba ngamahlanga, **13** umsebenzi wakhe uzabonakaliswa unjalo, ngoba usuku luzawubeka ekukhanyeni. Uzavezwa obala ngomlilo, njalo umlilo uzahlola umsebenzi womuntu ngamunye ukuthi unjani. **14** Nxa lokho okwakhiweyo kuzasala kukhona, umakhi uzakwamukela umvuzo wakhe. **15** Kodwa nxa kusitsha kuphele du, umakhi uzalahlekelwa kodwa yena ngokwakhe uzaphepha, loba nje kunjengomuntu ophunyuka edabula phakathi kwamalangabi. **16** Kanti kalazi yini ukuthi lina ngokwenu lilithepeli likaNkulunkulu kanye lokuthi uMoya kaNkulunkulu uhlanga phakathi kwenu? **17** Nxa umuntu echitha ithempeli likaNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu uzamchitha ngoba ithempeli likaNkulunkulu lingcwele njalo lina lonke liyilelotheleli. **18** Lingazikhohlisi. Nxa omunye wenu ecabanga ukuthi uhlakaniphile ngokwesilinganisalo salesisikhathi kabe yisithutha ukuze ahlakaniphe. (aiōn g165)

19 Ngoba ukuhlakanipha kwalo umhlaba kuyibuthutha phambi kukaNkulunkulu. Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Ubamba abahlakaniphileyo ebuqilini babo,” **20** lokuthi, “UTHixo uyakwazi ukuthi imicabango yabahlakaniphileyo iyize nje.” **21** Ngakho, Akungabikhona ukuzincoma ngabathungameli abangabantu. Izinto zonke ngezenu, **22** loba nguPhawuli kumbe u-Apholo loba uKhefasi kumbe umhlaba loba ukuphila kumbe ukufa loba kukhathesi kumbe kwelizayo, konke ngokwenu, **23** njalo lina lingabakaKhristu, loKhristu ungokaNkulunkulu.

4 Ngakho abantu kumele basibone njengezisebenzi zikaKhristu lanjengaloba abagciniswe izinto ezifihlakeleyo zikaNkulunkulu. **2** Kuyadingeka ukuthi labo abagcinisiweyo babonakalise ukuthi bathembekile. **3** Kanginaki kakhulu nxa ngahlulelwe yini loba omunye umthethwandaba wabantu; impela, kangizahluleli lami. **4** Isazela sami simsulwa, kodwa lokho kakungenzi ngingabi lalala. INkosi yini engahlulelayo. **5** Ngakho-ke, lingahluleli lutho isikhathi esimisiweyo singakafiki; manini iNkosi ize ifike. Yona izakubeka ekukhanyeni okufihlwe emnyameni, njalo izaziveza obala injongo zezinhlizyo zabantu. Ngalesosikhathi omunye lomunye uzakwamukela ukubongwa kwakhe kuNkulunkulu. **6** Bazalwane, izinto lezi ngizisebenzisile kimi laku-Apholo ngenxa yenu ukuze lifunde kithi okutshiwo yisitsho esithi, “Lingenzi okudlula okulotshiweyo.” Lapho-ke, kaliyikuzigqaja ngomunye umuntu komunye. **7** Kambe ngubani olenza lehluke omunye komunye na? Kuyini elilakho elingakwamukelanga na?

Njalo nxa lakwamukela, pho kungani lizincoma kungathi alikwamukelanga? **8** Livele selilakho konke elikufunayo! Selinothile! Selibe ngamakhosi, njalo ngaphandle kwethu! Yeka ukufisa kwami ukuthi ngabe laba ngamakhosi ukuze lathi sibe ngamakhosi kanye lani! **9** Ngoba kini kukhanya angathi thina abapostoli uNkulunkulu usibeke embukisweni ekucineni kodwendwe, njengaloba abagwethshelwe ukwa enkundleni. Senziwe umbukiso emhlabeni wonke, ezingilosini kanye lasebantwini. **10** Thina siyizithutha ngenxa kaKhristu, kodwa lina lihlakaniphe kangaka kuKhristu! Thina sibuthakathaka lina lilamandla! Lihlahlonitshwa, thina siyadelelwa. **11** Kuze kube yilesisikhathi, siyalamba njalo some, simanikiniki, siyahlukekuzwa ngolunya, kasilamakhaya. **12** Sisebenza nzima ngezandla zethu. Nxa siqalekiswa, thina siyabusisa; lapho sihlukuluzwa, thina siyaqiniselela; **13** lapho sinyeywa, siphendula kuhle. Kuze kube yilesisikhathi sesibe ngamanyala omhlaba, izibi zomhlaba. **14** Kangilobi lokhu ukuba ngiliyangise kodwa ukulixwayisa njengabantwabami abathandekayo. **15** Lanxa lilabondli abazinkulungwane ezilithumi kuKhristu, kalilabo oyihlo abanengi, ngoba kuJesu Khristu ngaba nguyihlo ngevangeli. **16** Ngakho ngiyalicelela ukuba lenze njengami. **17** Ngenxa yalesisizatho, ngilithumela uThimothi, indodana yami ethandekayo, ethembekileyo eNkosini. Uzalikhumbuzo indlela yokuphila kwami kuJesu Khristu, evumelana lalokho engikufundisayo ezindaweni zonke, emabandleni wonke. **18** Abanye benu sebezikhukhumeza, kungazathi kangizi kini. **19** Kodwa ngizakuba kini masinyane, nxa iNkosi ithanda, njalo lapho-ke angizukudinga kuphela ukwazi ukuthi lababantu abazikhukhumezayo bahlumani, kodwa ukuba balamandla anjani. **20** Ngoba umbuso kaNkulunkulu kawusindaba yokukhuluma kodwa eyamandla. **21** Likhetha kuphi? Ngize kini lomqwayi wokuliqondisa, kumbe ngothando kanye lomoya othobekileyo na?

5 Kuyabikwa impela ukuthi kulokuhlobonga phakathi kwenu njalo obohlolo olungenzakaliyo laphakathi kwabangakhoholwayo: Umuntu uthatha umkayise. **2** Njalo lina liyazigqajala Kwakungamelanga libe buhlungu kakhulu yini limsuse enhlanganweni yenu umuntu owenze lokhu na? **3** Lanxa mina ngingekho mathupha, ngilani emoyeni. Njengomunye olani endaweni enje, sengimahlulele lowo owenze lokhu ebizweni lenkosi yethu uJesu. **4** Lapho libuthene ebizweni lenkosi yethu uJesu ngilani ngomoya, lamandla eNkosi yethu uJesu akhona, **5** umuntu lo mnikeleli kuSathane ukuze umzimba wakhe wesono uchithwe lomoya wakhe usindiswe ngosuku lweNkosi. **6** Ukuzincoma kwenu akulunganga. Kalikwazi yini ukuthi imvubelo encane ibilisa inhlangano? **7** Susani imvubelo endala ukuze libe inhlangano entsha engelamvubelo, njengoba linjalo impela. Ngoba uKhristu, iwundlu lethu lePhasika, lihlathshiwe. **8** Ngakho, kasigcineni uMkhosi, hatshi kulemvubelo endala, imvubelo yenzondo lobubi, kodwa lesinkwa esingelamvubelo, isinkwa sobuqotho leqiniso. **9** Ngali belobela encwadini yami ukuba lingahlanganyeli labantu abayizixhwalali ngobufefe, **10** ngingatsho abantu bakulo umhlaba abangangileyo, loba abayizihwaba lamaqili, loba abakhonza izithombe. Nxa kunjalo kuzamele liwutshiye umhlaba lo. **11** Kodwa khathesi ngililobela ukuba lingahlanganyeli lomuntu ozibiza ngokuthi ngumzalwane, kodwa exhwalile, eyisifebe, isihwaba, umkhonzi wezithombe loba oneyayo, isidakwa loba iqili. Umuntu onjalo lingalokothi lidle laye. **12** Kungumlandu wami na ukuba

ngahlulele abangaphandle kwebandla? Akumelanga lahlulele labo abaphakathi na? **13** UNkulunkulu uzakwahlulela labo abangaphandle. “Mxotsheni umuntu omubi phakathi kwenu.”

6 Nxa owakini elombango lomunye uyahamba ayemangalela kwabangakhohlo wayo endaweni yokuya kwabakhohlo wayo na? **2** Kalazi yini ukuthi abantu bakaNkulunkulu bazakwahlulela umhlaba na? Nxa lizakwahlulela umhlaba, kalenelisi ukwahlulela amazala amancane na? **3** Kalazi yini ukuthi sizakwahlulela izingilosi? Pho sizakwahlulela yini ukwahlulela izindaba zalimpilo! **4** Ngakho-ke, nxa lilembango yezindaba ezinje, lidinga ukwahlulelwa ngabantu abalempilo ezisolekayo ebandleni na? **5** Ngitsho lokhu ukuze libelenhloni. Kungenzakala yini ukuthi akulamuntu phakathi kwenu ohlakaniphe okwaneleyo ukuba ahlulele umbango phakathi kwabazalwane na? **6** Kodwa esikhundleni salokho, omunye umzalwane uya emthethweni ukuyamangalela omunye, njalo lokhu ekwenza phambi kwabangakhohlo wayo! **7** Khona lokhu ukuthi impela kulokumangalelana phakathi kwenu kutsho ukuba selehlulwe ngokupheleleyo. Kakungcono yini ukwamukela ukuniwa? Kakungcono yini ukwamukela ukugqibezelwa? **8** Esikhundleni salokho, lina ngokwenu liyaqilibezela njalo lone, futhi lokhu likwenza kubazalwane benu. **9** Kalazi yini ukuthi abonayo kabayikuba zindlalifa zombuso kaNkulunkulu? Lingakhohliswa. Akulazifebe ezixhwalileyo loba abakhonza izithombe kumbe ziphingi loba izitabane **10** kumbe amasela loba izihwaba kumbe izidakwa loba abanyeyayo kumbe amaqili azakudla ilifa lombuso kaNkulunkulu. **11** Njalo lokho yikho abanye benu ababeyikho. Kodwa selageziswa, selangcweliswa, selalungiswa ngebizo leNkosi uJesu Khristu langoMoya kaNkulunkulu wethu. **12** Lithi “Ngilelungelo lokwenza loba yini,” kodwa akusikho konke okusizayo. “Ngilelungelo lokwenza loba yini” kodwa angiyikubuswa lutho. **13** Lithi “Ukudla kwesisu lesisu sokudla, kodwa uNkulunkulu uzakuchitha kokubili.” Umzimba kawusiwokuhlobonga, kodwa ngoweNkosi, leNkosi ngeyomzimba. **14** Ngamandla akhe uNkulunkulu wayivusa kwabafileyo iNkosi, lathi futhi uzavuswa. **15** Kalazi yini ukuthi imizimba yenu iyizitho zikaKhristu uqobo na? Kambe ngingathatha izitho zikaKhristu ngizihlanganise lesiphingi na? Hatshi! **16** Kalazi yini ukuthi lowo ozihlanganise lesiphingi uba munye laso emzimbeni? Ngoba kuthiwa, “Labo ababili bazakuba nyamanye.” **17** Kodwa lowo ozihlanganisa leNkosi munye layo emoyeni. **18** Balekelani ukuhlobonga. Zonke ezinye izono umuntu azenzayo zingaphandle komzimba wakhe, kodwa lowo owenza isono sobufefe wenza isono emzimbeni wakhe. **19** Kalazi yini ukuthi umzimba wenu ulithempeli likaMoya oNgcwele, ophakathi kwenu, elamamukela kuNkulunkulu na? Kalisibo benu, **20** lathengwa ngentengo. Ngakho-ke, dumisani uNkulunkulu ngemizimba yenu.

7 Mayelana lezindaba elaloba ngazo: “Kuhle ukuba indoda ingabi lobudlelwano bemacansini lowesifazane.” **2** Kodwa njengoba kulokuhlobonga okungaka, indoda yinye kumele ibe lobudlelwano bemacansini lomkayo, lomfazi munye abe lendoda yakhe. **3** Indoda kumele igcwalise umlandu wayo wokuthathana kumkayo, kube njalo lomfazi endodeni yakhe. **4** Umfazi kalamandla ngomzimba wakhe kodwa uwunikela kumkake. Ngokufanayo, lendoda kayilamandla ngomzimba wayo kodwa iwunikela kumkayo. **5** Lingancitshani ngaphandle kokuba kungokokuvumelana njalo okwesikhatshana, ukuze

lizinikele ekukhulekeni. Libuye lihlngane futhi ukuze uSathane angalilingi ngenxa yokusilela kokuzithiba kwenu. **6** Lokhu ngikutsho njengokuvumela, hatshi njengomlayo. **7** Sengathi ngabe lonke linjengami. Kodwa umuntu ngamunye ulesipho sake esivela kuNkulunkulu, omunye ulalesi isipho, omunye laye ulalesiyana. **8** Kwabangendanga labafelokazi ngithi: Kuhle ukuba ukuba bahlale bengendanga, njengami. **9** Kodwa nxa bengeke bazithiba, kabende, ngoba ukwenda kungcono kulokutshiseka ngokufisa. **10** Abathatheneyo ngibapha umlayo lo (hatshi mina, kodwa iNkosi): Umfazi akumelanga ehlukane lendoda yakhe. **11** Kodwa nxa ekwenzela, kahle engendanga loba abuyisane lendoda yakhe. Lendoda akumelanga imlahle umkayo. **12** Kwabanye ngithi (mina, hatshi iNkosi): Nxa umzalwane elomfazi ongasilokholwa kodwa evuma ukuhlala laye, akumelanga amlahle. **13** Njalo nxa owesifazane elendoda engakhohlo wayo ivuma ukuhlala laye, akumelanga ayilahle. **14** Ngoba indoda engakhohlo wayo isingcwelise ngomkayo, lomfazi engakhohlo wayo usengcwelise ngendoda yakhe ekhohlo wayo. Kungenjalo ngabe abantwana benu bangcolile, kodwa okwamanje bangcwele. **15** Kodwa nxa ongakholwayo etshiya, myekeleni enze njalo. Owesilisa kumbe owesifazane okhohlo wayo phakathi kabotshelwanga phakathi komumo onje; uNkulunkulu usibizele ukuhlala ngokuthula. **16** Wazi njani, mfazi, mhlawumbe uzasindisa indoda yakho? Loba, wazi njani ndoda, mhlawumbe uzasindisa umkakho? **17** Lanxa kunjalo, lowo lalowo ekuphileni kumele agcine leyondawo iNkosi emuphe yona njalo abizelwe kuyo nguNkulunkulu. Lo ngumlayo engiwubeka emabandleni wonke. **18** Indoda yayivele isisokile ekubizweni kwayo na? Kayingabi ngengasokanga. Indoda yayingasokanga ekubizweni kwayo na? Akumelanga isokwe. **19** Ukusoka lokungasoki konke kuyize. Ukugcina imilayo kaNkulunkulu yikho okuqakathekileyo. **20** Lowo lalowo kahle kulesosimo ayekuso ekubizweni kwakhe nguNkulunkulu. **21** Wawuyisigqili na ekubizweni kwakho? Kakungakukhathazi, lanxa ungangathola ukukhululeka kwakho, yenza njalo. **22** Ngoba lowo owayeyisigqili ekubizweni kwakhe yiNkosi, ungokhululekileyo weNkosi; ngokufanayo, lowo owayekhululekile ekubizweni kwakhe uyisigqili sikaKhristu. **23** Lathengwa ngentengo; kalingabi yizigqili zabantu. **24** Bazalwane, umuntu munye ngamunye, njengolomlandu kuNkulunkulu, kumele ahlale ekulesosimo uNkulunkulu ambizela kuso. **25** Mayelana lezintombi ezigcweleyo: Kangilamlayo ovela eNkosini, kodwa ngahlulela njengothembekileyo ngomusa weNkosi. **26** Ngenxa yokukhathazeka kwakhatsheni, ngicabanga ukuthi kuhle kuni ukuba lihlale linjengoba linjalo. **27** Uthethe na? Ungadingi ukwehlukana. Kawuthathanga na? Ungathathi. **28** Kodwa nxa uthatha, kawenzanga sono njalo nxa intombi egcweleyo isenda kayonanga. Kodwa labo abathathanayo bazabona inhlupho ezinengi kulokhukuphila, njalo ngifuna ukuliphethisa kulokhu. **29** Engikutsho, bazalwane, yikuthi isikhathi sifitshane. Kusukela khathesi kusiya phambili labo abalabafazi kabaphile kungathi kabalabo: **30** labo abakhalayo, kube sengathi kabakhali; labathokozayo babe njengabangathokoziyo; labo abathenga ulutho, kube sengathi kalusilo lwabo ukuba balucinge; **31** labo abasebenzisa izinto zasemhlabeni, kube sengathi kabathathekanga kuzo. Ngoba umhlaba lo kulesisimo sawo sakhathesi uyedlula. **32** Ngifuna ukuba linganqineki. Umuntu ongathathanga unqinekelo izindaba zeNkosi, ukuba angayithokozisa kanjani iNkosi. **33** Kodwa umuntu othethayo

unqinekela izindaba zalo umhlaba, ukuba angamthokozisa kanjani umkakhe, **34** lezifiso zakhe zehlukene phakathi. Umfazi ongendanga loba intombi egcweleyo inqinekela izindaba zeNkosi: Isifiso sayo yikuzinikela eNkosini ngakho kokubili umzimba lomoya. Kodwa umfazi owendileyo unqinekela izindaba zalo umhlaba, ukuba angamthokozisa kanjani umkakhe. **35** Ngitsho lokhu ukuba kube lusizo kini, hatsi ukulivimbela. Ngifuna ukuba liphile ngendlela eqondileyo ngokuzinikela okupheleleyo eNkosini. **36** Nxa umuntu ecabanga ukuthi uziphatha ngokungafanelanga entombini egcweleyo athandana layo, esilokhu isiba ndala, njalo esizwa kusithi kufanele athathe, kenze njengokuthanda kwakhe. Kenzi sono. Kumele bathathane. **37** Kodwa umuntu osenze isinqumo engqondweni yakhe engancindezelwanga kodwa elamandla okuzibamba esifisweni sakhe, njalo osemise engqondweni yakhe ukungayithathi intombi leyo, umuntu lo laye wenza into eqondileyo. **38** Ngakho-ke, lowo othatha intombi egcweleyo wenza okuqondileyo, kodwa lowo ongayithathayo wenza okungcono kakhulu. **39** Owesifazane ubotshelwe endodeni yakhe nxa isaphila. Kodwa indoda yakhe ingafa, ukhululekile ukwendela kwenye ayithandayo, kodwa kumele ibe seNkosini. **40** Ngokubona kwami, uyathokoza kakhulu nxa ehlala enjalo, njalo ngiyakholwa ukuthi ngiloMoya kaNkulunkulu.

8 Mayelana lokudla okunikelwe ezithombeni: Siyakwazi ukuthi sonke silwazi. Ulwazi luyakhukhumeza, kodwa uthando luyakha. **2** Umuntu ocabanga ukuthi wazi ulutho kakazi lutho njengoba efanele ukwazi. **3** Kodwa umuntu othanda uNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu uyamazi lowomuntu. **4** Ngakho-ke, mayelana lokudla okunikelwe ezithombeni: Siyakwazi ukuthi “Isithombe kasisilutho emhlabeni” kanye lokuthi “UNkulunkulu munye kuphela kakho omunye.” **5** Ngoba lanxa kulabonkulunkulu abatshiwoyo, langabe ezulwini loba emhlabeni (njengoba impela kulabonkulunkulu abanengi lamakhosi amanengi), **6** kodwa kithi kuloNkulunkulu oyedwa kuphela, uYise, okwavela kuye izinto zonke njalo okunguye esimphileyo; njalo kuleNkosi eyodwa kuphela, uJesu Khristu, izinto zonke zeza ngaye njalo esiphila ngaye. **7** Kodwa akusimuntu wonke okwaziyo lokhu. Abanye abantu balokhu bejayele izithombe kuze kuthi lapho besidla ukudla okunjalo, bacabanga ukuthi kunikelwe esithombeni njalo njengoba isazela sabo sibuthakathaka, siyangcoliswa. **8** Kodwa ukudla akusisondezi eduzane loNkulunkulu; kasilahlekelwa yilutho nxa singadli, njalo kasizuzi lutho nxa sisidla. **9** Kodwa qaphelani ukuba ukusebenza kwamalungelo enu akubi yisikhubekiso kwababuthakathaka. **10** Ngoba nxa umuntu olesazela esibuthakathaka ebona lina elilalolulwazi lisidla ethempelini lesithombe, kambe kazukuba lesibindi sokudla okunikelwe ezithombeni na? **11** Ngakho umzalwane lo, uKhristu amfelayo, uchithwa yikwazi kwenu. **12** Nxa lisenza isono kubazalwane benu kanje lilimaza isazela sabo esibuthakathaka, lenza isono kuKhristu. **13** Ngakho-ke, nxa engikudlayo kusenza umzalwane wami awele esonweni, angiyikudla inyama futhi, ukuze ngingamwisi. (aiōn g165)

9 Kangikhululekanga na? Kangisumpostoli na? Kanje kangimbonanga uJesu iNkosi yethu na? Kalisizithelo zomsebenzi wami eNkosini na? **2** Lanxa ngingasuye umpostoli kwabanye, impela nginguye kini! Ngoba lina liluphawu lobupostoli bami eNkosini. **3** Lokhu kuyisivikelo sami kulabo abazangahlulela. **4** Kasilalungelo lokudla lokunatha

na? **5** Kambe silelungelo bani lokuthatha owesifazane okholwayo owendileyo sihambe laye njengokwenziwa ngabanye abapostoli labafowabo beNkosi kanye loKhefasi na? **6** Kumbe yimi loBhanabhasi kuphela esingelalo ilungelo lokusebenzela impilo? **7** Ngubani osebenza njengebutho ngendleko zakhe na? Ngubani olima isivini angadli izithelo zaso na? Ngubani owelusa umhlambi anganathi uchago lwawo na? **8** Lokhu ngikutsho ngokwengqondo yabantu na? Umthetho kawutsho okufanayo na? **9** Ngoba kulotshiwe emthethweni kaMosi ukuthi: “Inkabi ungayifaki isayeke nxa ibhula amabele.” UNkulunkulu ukhathazeka ngenkabi na? **10** Impela uyasikhulumela lokhu; akunjalo na? Yebo, lokhu kwalotshelwa thina, ngoba nxa umlimi elima lobhulayo ebhula kumele benzenjalo belethemba lokwabelana isivuno. **11** Nxa sahlanyela inhlanyelo yakomoya kini, kambe kunengi kakhulu yini nxa sivuna isivuno sempahla kini na? **12** Nxa abanye belaleli ilungelo losizo oluvela kini, thina akumelanga sibe lalo kakhulu na? Kodwa thina kasilisebenzisanga ilungelo leli. Esikhundleni salokho sibekezelele konke kulokuthi sivimbele ivangeli likaKhristu. **13** Kalazi yini ukuthi abasebenza ethempelini bathola ukudla kwabo ethempelini, lokuthi labo abakhonza e-alithareni babelana lokho okunikelwe e-alithareni na? **14** Ngokufanayo iNkosi ilaye ukuthi labo abatshumayela ivangeli kumele bathole ukuphila kwabo evangelini. **15** Kodwa mina angisebenzisanga lalinye lala amalungelo. Njalo kangilobi lokhu ngethemba lokuthi lizangenzela izinto ezinjalo. Ngingakhetha ukufa kulokuthi umuntu angemuke ukuzincoma lokhu. **16** Ikanti lapho ngitshumayela ivangeli, angingeke ngizincome ngoba kumele ngitshumaye! Maye kimi nxa ngingatshumayeli ivangeli! **17** Nxa ngitshumayela ngokuzithandela, ngithola umvuzo; nxa ngingazithandeli, ngifeza umlandu obekwe kimi. **18** Pho umvuzo wami uyini na? Uyilokhu nje: ukuthi lapho ngitshumayela ivangeli, ngilitshumayela kungekho mbadalo, kalokho ngingasebenzisi malungelo ami ekulitshumayeleni. **19** Lanxa ngikhululekile ngingasuye womunye umuntu, ngizenza isigqili ebantwini bonke, ukuze ngizuze abanengi nxa kusenzeka. **20** Kumajuda ngaba njengomJuda, ukuba ngizuze amajuda. Kulabo abangaphansi komthetho ngaba njengongaphansi komthetho (lanxa nje mina ngingekho ngaphansi komthetho), ukuba ngizuze labo abangaphansi komthetho. **21** Kulabo abangelamthetho ngaba njengongelamthetho (lanxa ngingakhululekanga emthethweni kaNkulunkulu ngingaphansi komthetho kaKhristu), ukuba ngizuze labo abangelamthetho. **22** Kwababuthakathaka ngababuthakathaka, ukuba ngizuze ababuthakathaka. Sengibe yizinto zonke ebantwini bonke ukuze kuthi ngazozonke izindlela ezingenzakala ngisilise abanye. **23** Ngenza konke lokhu ngenxa yevangeli, ukuze lami ngihlanganyele ezibusisweni zalo. **24** Kalazi yini ukuthi emncintisyaneni wokugijima abagijimi bayagijima bonke, kodwa ngoyedwa kuphela othola umvuzo? Gijimani ngendlela ezakwenza ukuthi lithole umvuzo. **25** Umuntu wonke oncisaisayo emidlalweni uba sekufundisweni okulukhuni. Bakwenzela ukuzuza umqhele wamaluba ongasoze uhlale isikhathi eside, kodwa thina sikwenzela ukuba sithole umqhele ozahlala ukhona kuze kube laphakade. **26** Ngakho kangigijimi njengomuntu ogijima engahlose lutho; kangilwi njengomuntu obindana lomoya. **27** Hatshi, ngitshaya umzimba wami ngiwenze isigqili sami

ukuze kuthi lapho sengitshumayele kwabanye, mina uqobo ngingemukwa ilungelo lokuthola umvuzo.

10 Ngoba, bazalwane, kangifuni ukuthi lingalazi iqiniso lokuthi okhokho babengaphansi kweyezi kanye lokuthi bonke badabula phakathi kolwandle. **2** Bonke babhaphathizelwa kuMosi eyezini kanye lasolwandle. **3** Bonke badla kudla kunye komoya **4** banatha okunathwayo kunye komoya, ngoba banatha edwaleni lomoya elalihamba labo, njalo lelodwa lalinguKhristu. **5** Kodwa uNkulunkulu yathokozanga ngenengi labo, ngakho imizimba yabo yahlakazwa enkangala. **6** Lezizinto zenzakala njengezibonelo, ukuba zisinqabele ekubekeni inhliziyi zethu ezintweni ezimbi njengalokhu abakwenzayo. **7** Lingakhonzi izithombe, njengokwenziwa ngabanye babo; njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Abantu bahlala phansi badla, banatha, basukuma bagida.” **8** Akumelanga sihlonge njengokwenziwa ngabanye babo, njalo ngosuku olulodwa kwafa abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lantathu. **9** Akumelanga silinge uKhristu njengokwenziwa ngabanye babo, babulawa zinyoka. **10** Lingakhonzi, njengokwenziwa ngabanye babo, babulawa yingilosi ebhubhisayo. **11** Izinto lezi zenzakala kubo njengezibonelo njalo zalotshwa njengezixwayiso kithi, osekufike kubo ukugcwaliseka kwezikhathi. **(aiōn g165)** **12** Ngakho nxa licabanga ukuthi limi liqinile, qaphelani ukuba lingawi. **13** Akulazilingo ezilehleleyo ngaphandle kokweyavekileyo ebantwini. Njalo uNkulunkulu uthembekile; akayikuvumela ukuba lilingwe ngokwedlula lokho elingakumela. Kodwa lapho lilingwa, uzalinika indlela yokuphunyuka ukuze limelane lakho. **14** Ngakho-ke, bangane bami abathandekayo, balekelani ukukhonza izithombe. **15** Ngikhuluma labantu abalengqondo; zenzeleni esenu isinqumo ngalokho engikutshoyo. **16** Konje inkezo yokubonga esiyibongelayo kayisikhulunganyela egazini likaKhristu na? Lesinkwa esisihlephunayo kasisisokuhlanganyela emzimbeni kaKhristu na? **17** Njengoba kulesinkwa sinye, thina abanengi, singumzimba munye, ngoba sonke sihlunganyela lesosinkwa sinye. **18** Khumbulani abantu bako-Israyeli: Kakusikho yini ukuthi labo abadla imihlatshelo balokuhlanganyela e-alithareni na? **19** Pho ngitsho ukuthi umhlatshelo onikelwe esithombeni uyilutho, loba ukuthi isithombe siyilutho na? **20** Hatshi, kodwa imihlatshelo yabangakholwayo inikelwa emadimonini hatshi kuNkulunkulu, njalo kangifuni ukuba libe ngabahlanganyela lamadimoni. **21** Kalingeke linathe inkezo yeNkosi lenkezo yamadimoni njalo, alingeke libe lokuhlanganyela etafuleni yeNkosi lasetafuleni yamadimoni. **22** Sizama ukuvusa umona weNkosi na? Kambe silamandla kulayo na? **23** “Ngilelungelo lokwenza loba yini,” kodwa akusizinto zonke ezilosizo. “Ngilelungelo lokwenza loba yini,” kodwa akusizinto zonke ezakhyo. **24** Akulamuntu omele azidinge okuhle, kodwa okuhle kwabanye. **25** Dlanini konke okuthengiswa lapho okuthengiswa khona inyama kungekho kubuza imibuzo yesazela, **26** ngoba, “Umhlaba ngokaThixo, lakho konke okukuwo.” **27** Nxa omunye wabangakholwayo elibizela ukudla njalo lifuna ukuhamba, dlanini loba kuyini okubekwe phambi kwenu kungekho kubuza imibuzo yesazela. **28** Kodwa nxa omunye esithi kini, “Lokhu kunikelwe njengomhlatshelo,” lokho-ke lingakudli, ngenxa yomuntu lowo olitshelileyo langenxa yesazela, **29** ngitsho isazela salowomuntu, hatshi esenu. Kungani ukukhululeka

kwami kumele kwahlulelwe ngesazela somunye na? **30** Nxa ngihlanganyela ekudleni ngokubonga, kungani ngisolwa ngolutho engilubongela iNkosi na? **31** Ngakho ingabe liyadla kumbe liyanatha, loba kuyikuphi elikwenzayo, kwenzeleni udumo lukaNkulunkulu. **32** Lingakhubekisi muntu, loba kungamaJuda, amaGrikhi loba ibandla likaNkulunkulu, **33** lalapho ngizama ukuthokozisa abantu bonke ngezindlela zonke. Ngoba kangidingi okuhle kwami, kodwa okuhle kwabanengi, ukuze basindiswe.

11 Landelani isibonelo sami, njengalokhu lami ngilandela isibonelo sikaKhristu. **2** Ngiyalibonga ngokungikhumbula ezintweni zonke langokubambelela emfundisweni njengokuyethula kwami kini. **3** Kodwa ngifuna ukuba likwazi ukuthi inhloko yamadoda wonke nguKhristu, lenhloko yowesifazane yindoda, lenhloko kaKhristu nguNkulunkulu. **4** Yonke indoda ekhuleka loba iphrofithe ikhanda layo limboziwe ihlayaza ikhanda layo. **5** Lowesifazane wonke okhuleka loba aphrofithe ikhanda lakhe lingembozwanga uhlayaza ikhanda lakhe, kufana lokuthi ikhanda lakhe liphucisiwe. **6** Nxa owesifazane engambozi ikhanda lakhe, angagela inwele zakhe; kodwa nxa kulihlazo ukuthi owesifazane agele loba aphuce inwele zakhe, kumele alimboze ikhanda lakhe. **7** Indoda akumelanga imboze ikhanda layo, ngoba ingumfanekiso lodumo lukaNkulunkulu kodwa owesifazane uludumo lwendoda. **8** Ngoba indoda kayivelanga kowesifazane kodwa owesifazane wavela endodeni **9** njalo indoda kayidalelwanga owesifazane kodwa owesifazane wadalelwa indoda. **10** Ngakho-ke, njalo ngenxa yezingilosi, owesifazane kumele abe lophawu lwamandla ekhanda lakhe. **11** Kodwa eNkosini, owesifazane weyeme endodeni, lendoda yeyeme kowesifazane. **12** Ngoba njengoba owesifazane wavela endodeni, ngokunjalo indoda layo izalwa ngowesifazane. Kodwa izinto zonke zivela kuNkulunkulu. **13** Zahluleleni ngokwenu: Kulungile yini ukuba owesifazane akhuleke kuNkulunkulu ikhanda lakhe lingembozwanga? **14** Imvelo yezinto uqobo kayilifundisi yini ukuba nxa owesilisa elenwele ezinde, kulihlazo kwaye, **15** kodwa owesifazane nxa elenwele ezinde, kuludumo lwakhe? Ngoba waphiwa inwele ezinde njengesimbozo. **16** Nxa umuntu efuna ukuba lenkani ngalokho, kasilawo omunye umkhuba, lamabandla kaNkulunkulu kawalawo. **17** Kuziqondiso ezilandelayo angilincomi, ngoba imihlangano yenu yenza ububi obunengi kulobuhle. **18** Okokuqala, ngizwa kuthiwa nxa libuthene njengebandla, kulokwahlukana phakathi kwenu, njalo ngiphosa ngikhohle. **19** Akuthandabuzeki ukuthi kufanele kube lokungavumelani phakathi kwenu ukuba kubonakale ukuthi yibaphi abenu abamukelwe nguNkulunkulu. **20** Lapho libuthene, akusiSidlo seNkosi elisidlayo, **21** ngoba ekudleni kwenu, lowo lalowo wenu uyaqhubeka engamelelanga omunye. Omunye usala elambile, omunye adakwe. **22** Kanti kalilamakhaya yini okudlela lokunathela kuwo? Kumbela liyaleyisa yini ibandla likaNkulunkulu lidumaza lalaba abangelalutho na? Ngizakuthini kini na? Ngingalincoma ngenxa yalokhu na? Impela hatshi! **23** Ngoba eNkosini ngamukela lokho lami engakudlulisela kini ukuthi: INkosi uJesus, ngalobobusuku eyanikelwa ngabo, yathatha isinkwa, **24** kwathi isibongile, yasihlephuna yathi, “Lokhu kungumzimba wami, ongowenu; yenzani lokhu njengesikhumbuzo sami.” **25** Ngokunjalo, emva kokudla yathatha inkezo, yathi, “Inkezo le

iyisivumelwano esitsha egazini lami; yenzani lokhu izikhathi zonke lapho liyinatha, njengesikhumbuzo sami.” **26** Ngoba lapho lisidla isinkwa lesi linatha lenkezo le, litshumayela ukufa kweNkosi ize ibuye. **27** Ngakho-ke, lowo odla isinkwa loba anathe inkezo yenkosi ngokungafanelanga uzakuba lecala lokwenza isono ngomzimba langegazi leNkosi. **28** Umuntu kumele azihlole phambi kokuba adle isinkwa loba anathe inkezo. **29** Ngoba lowo odlayo anathe engawukholwa umzimba kaKhristu udla anathe ukwahlulelwa kwakhe. **30** Yikho-nje abanengi phakathi kwenu bebuthakathaka begula, njalo labanye benu sebelele. **31** Kodwa nxa sizahlulela kasiyikwahlulelwa. **32** Lapho sisahlulelwa yiNkosi, siyajeziswa ukuze singalahlwa lomhlaba. **33** Ngakho-ke, bazalwane bami, nxa libuthene ukuba lidle, kumele lidle ndawonye. **34** Nxa omunye elambile, kabokudla ekhaya, ukuze kuthi lapho selibuthene kungabi lokwahlulelwa. Ekufikeni kwami ngizalipha ezinye iziqondiso.

12 Mayelana lezipho zikamoya, bazalwane, kangifuni ukuba lingaze lazi. **2** Liyakwazi ukuthi ngesikhathi lingakabi ngabakholwayo, ngezinye indlela laholelwa njalo ledukiselwa ezithombeni eziyizimungulu. **3** Ngakho ngiyalitshelela ukuthi kakho okhuluma ngoMoya kaNkulunkulu othi, “UJesu kathukwe,” njalo kakho ongathi, “UJesu yiNkosi,” ngaphandle kokuba kungoMoya oNgcwele. **4** Kulenhlobo ezehlukeneyo zezipho zikamoya kodwa uMoya munye. **5** Kulezindlela ezehlukeneyo zokukhonza, kodwa iNkosi yinye. **6** Kulezindlela ezehlukeneyo zokukhonza kodwa uNkulunkulu munye njalo uzisebenza zonke ebantwini bonke. **7** Emuntwini ngamunye ukubonakaliswa kukaMoya kwenzelwa ukusiza umuntu wonke. **8** Omunye ngoMoya uphiwa amandla okukhuluma ngokuhlakanipha, omunye amandla okukhuluma ngokwazi ngaye uMoya munye lowo, **9** omunye uphiwa ukukholwa ngoMoya munye lowo, omunye uphiwa izipho zokusilisa ngawona lowo Moya munye, **10** omunye uphiwa amandla okwenza izimangaliso, omunye uphiwa ukuphrofitha, omunye uphiwa amandla okuhlola omya, omunye njalo aphiwe ukuchasisa izindimi. **11** Konke lokhu kungumsebenzi kaMoya munye, njalo ukupha umuntu ngamunye, njengokuthanda kwakhe. **12** Umzimba munye lanxa ubunjwe ngezitho ezinengi; njalo lanxa izitho zawo zonke zinengi, zibumba umzimba owodwa. Kunjalo ngoKhristu. **13** Ngoba sonke sabhaphathizwa ngoMoya munye kulowomzimba munye, loba singamaJuda kumbe abeZizwe, izigqili loba abakhululekileyo, sonke saphiwa uMoya munye ukuba siwunathe. **14** Umzimba kawenziwanga ngesitho esisodwa kodwa ezinengi. **15** Nxa unyawo lungathi, “Njengoba ngingasisandla, kangisingxenyeyomzimba,” ngalesosizatho alungeke lwekele ukuba yingxenyeyomzimba. **16** Njalo nxa indlebe ingathi, “Njengoba ngingasilihlo, kangisingxenyeyomzimba,” ngalesosizatho ayingeke yekele ukuba yingxenyeyomzimba. **17** Aluba umzimba wonke wawulihlo, pho ukuzwa kwakuzakuba ngaphi na? Aluba umzimba wonke wawuyindlebe, pho kwakuzakuba ngani na? **18** Kodwa okuyikho yikuthi uNkulunkulu wabeka izitho zomzimba, zonke, njengayefune ukuba zibe yikho khona. **19** Aluba zonke zaziyesitho sinye, pho umzimba wawuzakuba ngaphi na? **20** Njengoba kunjalo, kulezitho ezinengi, kodwa umzimba munye. **21** Ilihlo alingeke lithi esandleni, “Kangikudingi!” Lekhanda alingeke lithi enyaweni, “Kangikudingi!” **22** Kodwa, lezozitho zomzimba ezikhanya zibuthakathaka ziyadingeka, **23** lezitho thina esicabanga

ukuthi kazihlonipheki kakhulu siziphatha ngokuhlonipha okuthize. **24** Izitho ezihloniphisayo siziphatha ngokuhlonipha kakhulu. Kodwa uNkulunkulu wahlanganisa izitho zomzimba njalo usenike udumo olukhulu kulezozitho ezazingelalo, **25** ukuze kungabi lokwehlukana emzimbeni, kodwa ukuba izitho zawo zibe lokuzwelana okufanayo. **26** Nxa esinye isitho sibongwa, izitho zonke zithokoza laso. **27** Lina lingumzimba kaKhristu njalo omunye lomunye wenu uyingxenyeyawo. **28** Ebandleni uNkulunkulu wabeka abapostoli kuqala kulabo bonke, okwesibili abaphrofethi, okwesithathu abafundisi, kwaba labenza izimangaliso, labalo abalezipho zokusilisa, abalezokusiza abanye, abalezipho zokuthingamela, kanye labalo abakhuluma inhlobo zezindimi ezehlukeneyo. **29** Bonke bangabapostoli na? Bonke bangabaphrofethi na? Bonke bangabafundisi na? Bonke bayazenza izimangaliso na? **30** Bonke balezipho zokusilisa na? Bonke bakhuluma ngendimi na? Bonke bayachasisa na? **31** Kodwa zifuneni ngokutshiseka izipho ezinkulu. Khathesi-ke ngizalitshengisa indlela eyiyi enhle kakhulu.

13 Loba ngikhuluma ngendimi zabantu lezezingilosi, kodwa ngingelalo uthando, ngiyinsimbi nje ekhalayo loba izenge elincencethayo. **2** Loba ngilesipho sokuphrofitha, ngingaqedisisa imfihlakalo zonke kanye lokwazi konke, njalo nxa ngilokukholwa okungasusa izintaba, kodwa ngingelalo uthando, kangisilutho. **3** Loba nginganika abayanga konke engilakho nginikele lomzimba wami emalangabini, kodwa ngingelalo uthando, kangizuzi lutho. **4** Uthando luyabekezela, uthando lulomusa. Kalulamona, kaluzincomi, kaluzigqaji. **5** Kalusisosiqholo, kaluzifumeli okwalo, kaluphangisi ukuthukuthela, kalubambela zikhwili. **6** Uthando kaluthokozeli okubi, kodwa luthokozela iqiniso. **7** Luhlezi luvikela, luhlezi lukholwa, luhlezi lusetemba, luhlezi lubekezela. **8** Uthando kalupheli. Kodwa lapho okuleziphrofethi khona, zizaphela, lapho okulezindimi khona, zizathuliswa; lapho okulokwazi khona, kuzakwedlula. **9** Ngoba sazi ingxenyeyo, njalo siphrofitha ingxenyeyo, **10** kodwa lapho okuphelela kufika, ukungapheleli kuyanyamalala. **11** Ngisesengumntwana, ngakhuluma njengomntwana, ngacabanga njengomntwana, nganakana njengomntwana. Sengiyindoda, ngaziyekela izindlela zobuntwana. **12** Khathesi sibona kalufifi esibukweni; sizabuye sibone ubuso ngobuso. Khathesi ngazi ingxenyeyo; sizabuye ngazi okupheleleyo, njengoba lami ngisaziwa ngokupheleleyo. **13** Okuthatho lokhu kuma kunjalo: ukukholwa, ithemba lothando. Kodwa okukhulu kwalokhu luthando.

14 Landelani indlela yothando lizifune ngokutshiseka izipho zikamoya ikakhulu isipho sokuphrofitha. **2** Ngoba okhuluma ngendimi kakhulumi ebantwini kodwa kuNkulunkulu. Impela kakho obezwayo, bakhuluma imfihlakalo ngoMoya. **3** Kodwa umuntu wonke ophrofithayo ukhuluma ebantwini ukuba abaqinise, abakhuthaze njalo abaduduze. **4** Lowo okhuluma ngolimi oluthile uyazakha kodwa lowo ophrofithayo wakha ibandla. **5** Ngifisa ukuba lonke likhulume ngendimi kodwa ikakhulu ukuba liphrofitha. Ophrofithayo mkhulu kulalowo okhuluma ngendimi, ngaphandle kokuba echasisa, ukuze ibandla lakheke. **6** Ngakho-ke, bazalwane, nxa ngifika kini ngikhulume ngendimi, ngilosizo bani kini, ngaphandle kokuba ngililethele ukwambulwa okuthile loba ukwazi loba isiphrofethi kumbe

imfundiso, na? 7 Lezizinto ezingaphiliyo ezenza umsindo njengomhubhe loba ichacho, umuntu angalazi njani iculo elikhaliwayo ngaphandle kokuba kulomahluko empawini zomculo? 8 Njalo nxa icilongo lisitsho umbiko ongacacanga, ngubani ozalungela impi na? 9 Kunjalo-ke lakini. Nxa lingakhuluma amazwi azwakalayo ngolimi lwenu, umuntu uzakwazi njani elikutshoyo? Lizakuba likhuluma lomoya nje. 10 Akuthandabuzwa ukuthi kulenhlobonhlobo zezindimi emhlabeni kodwa zonke zilomutsho. 11 Nxa ngingakuzwa okutshiwo ngomunye, ngingowezizweni kulowo okhulumayo, laye ngowezizweni kimi. 12 Kunjalo-ke lakini. Njengoba litshisekela izipho zikamoya, zamani ukwenza okuhle kakhulu ngezipho ezakha ibandla. 13 Ngakho-ke, umuntu okhuluma ngendimi kumele akhulekele ukuba achasise lokho akutshoyo. 14 Ngoba nxa ngikhuleka ngendimi, umoya wami uyakhuleka kodwa ingqondo yami kayilazithelo. 15 Pho ngenzeni na? Ngizakhuleka ngomoya wami njalo ngizakhuleka langengqondo yami; ngizahlabela ngomoya wami njalo ngizahlabela langengqondo yami. 16 Nxa libonga uNkulunkulu ngomoya wenu, angatsho kanjani ozithola esephakathi kwalabo abangazwisisiyo ukuthi, "Ameni" ekubongeni kwenu, yena engakwazi elikutshoyo na? 17 Lingabe libonga kuhle sibili kodwa omunye umuntu kabusisekanga. 18 Ngiyambonga uNkulunkulu ngoba mina ngikhuluma ngendimi ukudlula lina lonke. 19 Kodwa ebandleni ngithanda ukukhuluma amazwi amahlanu azwakalayo ngifundisa abanye kulamazwi azinkulungwane ezilithshumi ngendimi. 20 Bazalwane, yekelani ukucabanga njengabantwana. Mayelana lobubi, wobani zingane kodwa ekucabangeni kwenu wobani ngabadala. 21 Emthethweni kulotshiwe ukuthi: "Ngabantu bezindimi ezingaziwayo langezindebe zabezizweni ngizakhuluma lalababantu, kodwa loba kunjalo kabayikungilalela, kutsho iNkosi." 22 Ngakho-ke, izindimi ziyisibonakaliso, hatshi kwabakholwayo, kodwa kwabangakholwayo; kodwa ukuphrofitha ngokwabakholwayo hatshi abangakholwayo. 23 Ngakho nxa ibandla lonke libuthene umuntu wonke akhulume ngendimi, kuthi abanye abangezwayo loba abangakholwayo bangene, kambe kabazukuthi ingqondo zenu ziphambene na? 24 Kodwa nxa ongakholwayo loba omunye ongaqedisisiyo engena lapho abantu bonke bephrofitha, uzavunyiswa yibo bonke ukuthi uyisoni njalo ahlulelwe yibo bonke, 25 lezimfihlo zenhliziyo yakhe zizavezwa obala. Ngakho uzakhothamela phansi akhonzwe uNkulunkulu esithi, "UNkulunkulu impela uphakathi kwenu!" 26 Pho sizakuthini, bazalwane? Lapho libuthana ndawonye, umuntu wonke ulehubo loba ilizwi lokufundisa, lokwambula, lezindimi, loba ukuchasisa. Konke lokhu kumele kwenziwe ukuze ibandla lakheke. 27 Nxa omunye ekhuluma ngendimi, ababili loba kungabangadluli abathathu, kumele kukhulume oyedwa ngasikhathi sine, njalo omunye kumele achasise. 28 Nxa kungelamchasisi, okhulumayo kumele athule ebandleni, azikhulumele yedwa, kuye lakuNkulunkulu. 29 Kumele kukhulume abaphrofethi ababili loba abathathu, kuthi abanye bakuhlolisise ngokunanzelela okutshiwoyo. 30 Njalo nxa ukwambulelwa kufika komunye ohlezi phansi, okhulume kuqala kumele athule. 31 Ngoba lonke lingaphrofitha lintshintshana ukuze umuntu wonke afundiswe njalo akhuthazwe. 32 Imimoya yabaphrofethi iphathwa ngabaphrofethi. 33 Ngoba uNkulunkulu kasuye Nkulunkulu wengxabangoxa kodwa ungowokuthula. Njengasemabandleni

wonke abantu beNkosi. 34 Abesifazane kumele bathule emabandleni. Kabavunyelwa ukukhuluma kodwa kumele bazithobe njengokutsho komthetho. 35 Nxa befuna ukubuza ngolutho oluthile, kumele babuze omkabo emakhaya ngoba kulihlazo ukuthi owesifazane akhulume ebandleni. 36 Konje ilizwi likaNkulunkulu lavela kini na? Kumbelafika kini kuphela? 37 Nxa umuntu ecabanga ukuthi ungumphrofethi loba ukuthi ulesipho sikaMoya, kavume ukuthi lokhu engililobela khona kungumlayo weNkosi. 38 Nxa lokhu engakunaki, laye akayikunakwa. 39 Ngakho-ke, bazalwane bami, tshisekelani ukuphrofitha njalo lingenqabeli ukhuluma ngendimi. 40 Nxa izinto zonke kumele zenziwe ngendlela efanelayo lehlelwe kuhle.

15 Bazalwane, ngithanda ukulikhumba ngevangeli engalitshumayela kini, elalamukelayo njalo eselimi ngalo. 2 Ngalelivangeli liyasindiswa, nxa libambelela elizwini engalitshumayela kini. Nxa kungenjalo, selikholwe ize. 3 Ngoba engakwamukelayo lami ngakudlulisela kini njengokuqakatheke kakhulu: ukuthi uKhristu wafela izono zethu mayelana lemibhalo, 4 lokuthi wangcwatshwa, lokuthi wavuswa kwabafileyo ngosuku lwesithathu njengokutsho kwemibhalo, 5 kanye lokuthi wabonakala kuKhefasi, wasebonakala kwabalitshumi lambili. 6 Emva kwalokho wabonakala kubazalwane abadlula amakhulu amahlanu sikhathi sinye, inengi labo lilokhu lisaphila, lanxa abanye sebalala. 7 Wabuya wabonakala kuJakhobe, wasebonakala kubapostoli bonke, 8 kwathi ekucineni wabonakala kimi futhi, njengalowo ozelwe ngendlela engajayelekanga. 9 Ngoba mina ngingomncane kubapostoli njalo kangifanelanga lokuthiwa ngingumpostoli ngoba ngahlukuluza ibandla likaNkulunkulu. 10 Kodwa ngenxa yomusa kaNkulunkulu ngiyilokhu engiyikho njalo umusa wakhe kawubonga yize kimi. Hatshi, mina ngasebenza kakhulu kulabo bonke, kungayisimi belo kodwa kungumusa kaNkulunkulu owawukimi. 11 Ngakho langabe kwakuyimi loba kuyibo, lokhu yikho esikutshumayelayo njalo lokhu yikho elakukholwayo. 12 Kodwa nxa kutshunyelwa ukuthi uKhristu wavuswa kwabafileyo, pho bangakutsho kanjani abanye benu ukuthi akukho ukuvuka kwabafileyo na? 13 Nxa kungekho ukuvuka kwabafileyo, loKhristu kavuswanga phela. 14 Njalo nxa uKhristu engavuswanga, ukutshumayela kwethu akusizi lutho njalo lunjalo lokholo lwenu. 15 Phezu kwalokho, singatholakala singofakazi bamanga ngoNkulunkulu ngoba sifakaze ngoNkulunkulu ukuthi wavusa uKhristu kwabafileyo. Kodwa kamvusanga nxa ngempela abafileyo bengayi kuvuswa. 16 Nxa abafileyo bengayi kuvuswa, ngakho loKhristu kavuswanga. 17 Nxa uKhristu engavuswanga kwabafileyo ukholo lwenu luyize; lilokhu lisezonweni zenu. 18 Labalo abafa bekuKhristu balahlekile phela. 19 Nxa sithembele kuKhristu kulokhukuphila kuphela, sizazwelwa usizi kakhulu kulabantu bonke. 20 Kodwa ngempela uKhristu wavuswa kwabafileyo, izithelo zakwala zalabo asebelele. 21 Ngoba njengoba ukufa kweza ngomuntu, ukuvuka kwabafileyo lakho kuza ngomuntu. 22 Ngoba njengoba ku-Adamu bonke besifa, ngokunjalo kuKhristu bonke bazaphiliswa. 23 Kodwa yilowo lalowo ngethuba lakhe: UKhristu, oyizithelo zakwala; kuzakuthi ekubuyeni kwakhe, kuvuke labo abangabakhe. 24 Lapho-ke isiphetho sizafika esenikela umbuso kaNkulunkulu uBaba emva kokuba esechithe imibuso yonke, ubukhosi kanye lamandla. 25 Ngoba

kumele abuse uNkulunkulu aze azibeke zonke izitha zakhe ngaphansi kwezinyawo zakhe. **26** Isitha sokucina esizachithwa, yikufa. **27** Ngoba uNkulunkulu “usebeke izinto zonke ngaphansi kwezinyawo zakhe.” Kodwa nxa kuthiwa “izinto zonke” sezibekwe ngaphansi kwakhe, kusobala ukuthi lokhu akugoqeli uNkulunkulu yena ngokwakhe, owabeka izinto zonke ngaphansi kukaKhristu. **28** Lapho esekwenzile lokhu, iNdodana uqobo izakuba ngaphansi kwakhe yena owabeka izinto zonke ngaphansi kwakhe, ukuze uNkulunkulu abe yikho konke, kukho konke. **29** Nxa kungelakuvuka ekufeni, pho bazakwenzani labo ababhaphathizelwe abafileyo na? Nxa abafileyo bengavuswa, pho kungani abantu bebhaphathizwa ngenxa yabo na? **30** Thina-ke, sizifakelani engozini isikhathi sonke na? **31** Mina ngifa nsuku zonke, ngitsho khonokho bazalwane, ngeqiniso engiziqhenya ngalo ngani kuKhristu uJesu iNkosi yethu. **32** Nxa ngalwa lezilo zeganga e-Efesu ngenxa yabantu, ngazuzani na? Nxa abafileyo bengavuswa, “Kasidleni sinathe, ngoba kusasa sizakufa.” **33** Lingedukiswa: “Abangane ababi bayasona isimilo esihle.” **34** Khumbulani ngengqondo zenu njengokumele likwenze, licine ukwenza izono; ngoba kulabanye abangamaziyo uNkulunkulu, ngitsho lokhu ukuze libelenhloni. **35** Kodwa omunye angabuza athi, “Abafileyo bavuswa njani na? Bazabuya belemizimba enjani na?” **36** Yeka ubuwula! Elikuhlanyelayo akuphili ngaphandle kokuba kufe. **37** Lapho lihlanyela, kalihlanyeli umzimba ozakuba khona kodwa inhlayelo nje, mhlawumbe eyengqoloyi loba okunye lakho. **38** Kodwa uNkulunkulu uyinika umzimba njengokuthanda kwakhe njalo uhlobo ngalunye lwenhlanyelo ulunika umzimba walo. **39** Inyama yonke kayifanani: Abantu balohlobo lunye lwenyama, izinyamazana zilolunye, izinyoni olunye lenhlanzi olunye. **40** Njalo kulezidalwa zasezulwini lezidalwa zasemhlabeni; kodwa inkazimulo yezidalwa zasezulwini ingolunye uhlobo, lenkazimulo yezidalwa zasemhlabeni ingolunye. **41** Ilanga lilolunye uhlobo lwenkazimulo, inyanga olunye lezinkanyezi olunye; njalo inkanyezi iyehluka kwenye inkanyezi ngokukhazimula. **42** Kuzakuba njalo-ke ngokuvuka kwabafileyo. Umzimba ohlanyelwayo uyabola, uvuswa ungasaboli; **43** uhlangyelwa useyiswa, uvuswe ngenkazimulo; uhlangyelwa ubuthakathaka, **44** uvuswe usungumzimba olamandla. Nxa kulomzimba wemvelo, ukhona njalo lomzimba womoya. **45** Ngakho kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Umuntu wakuqala u-Adamu waba yisidalwa esiphilayo”; kodwa u-Adamu wokucina waba ngumoya ophilisayo. **46** Omomoya kafikanga kuqala, kodwa owemvelo, emva kwalokho kwafika omomoya. **47** Umuntu wakuqala wayenziwe ngothuli lomhlabathi; umuntu wesibili wavela ezulwini. **48** Njengoba wayenjalo umuntu wasemhlabeni, banjalo lalabo abangabomhlaba; njalo njengoba enjalo umuntu ovela ezulwini, banjalo labo abangabazulwini. **49** Njalo njengoba silesimo somuntu wasemhlabeni, ngokunjalo sizakuba lesimo somuntu ovela ezulwini. **50** Bazalwane, ngithi kini inyama legazi akungeke kudle ilifa lombuso kaNkulunkulu, lokubolayo akulidli ilifa lokungaboliyo. **51** Lalelani, ngilitshela imfihlakalo: Kasiyikufa sonke, kodwa sonke sizaguqulwa, **52** ngesikhatshana, ngokucwayiza kwelihlo, ngecilongo lokucina. Ngoba icilongo lizakhala, abafileyo bazavuswa bengabolanga, njalo sizaguqulwa. **53** Ngoba okubolayo kumele kuzigqokise ngokungaboliyo, lokufayo ngokungafiyiyo. **54** Nxa okubolayo sekugqokiswe okungaboliyo, lokufayo okungafiyiyo, kuzagcwaliseka isitsho esilotshiweyo esithi: “Ukufa kuginyiwe ekunqobeni.” **55** “Kungaphi, we kufa, ukunqoba kwakho?

Lungaphi udonsi lwakho, we kufa?” (Hades g86) **56** Udonsi lokufa yisono, lamandla esono ngumthetho. **57** Kodwa kabongwe uNkulunkulu! Uyasinika ukunqoba ngenkosi yethu uJesu Khristu. **58** Ngakho-ke, bazalwane bami abathandekayo, manini liqine. Akungabi lalutho olulinyikinyayo. Zinikeleni ngokupheleleyo emsebenzini weNkosi izikhathi zonke ngoba liyakwazi ukuthi ukusebenza kwenu eNkosini akusilo ize.

16 Mayelana lomnikelo onikelelwa abantu bakaNkulunkulu: Yenzani lokhu engatshela amabandla aseGalathiya ukuba akwenze. **2** Ngosuku lwaquqala maviki wonke, yilowo lalowo wenu kabekwe eceleni imali ethile kusiya mayelana lehlo lakhe, ayigcine, ukuze kuthi ekufikeni kwami kungabi lokuqoqa okwenziwayo. **3** Ngakho-ke, ekufikeni kwami ngizabapha izincwadi zokubaveza labobantu elibakhethileyo ngibathume eJerusalem lesipho senu. **4** Kungabonakala kufanele ukuba ngihambe labo, bazangiphekezelela. **5** Sengidlule eMasedoniya ngizakuza kini, ngoba ngizadlula eMasedoniya. **6** Mhlawumbe ngizahlala lani okwesikhatshana, mhlawumbe ubusika bonke, ukuze lingisize ohanjweni lwami, ezindaweni zonke engiya kuzo. **7** Kangifisi ukulibona khathesi ngilethekelela okwesikhatshana nje; ngithemba ngizahlala lani okwesikhathi esithile, nxa iNkosi ivuma. **8** Kodwa ngizahlala e-Efesu kuze kufike iPhentekhosti, **9** ngoba ngivulelwe umnyango omkhulu womsebenzi ophumelelayo, njalo banengi abangiphikisayo. **10** UThimothi angafika, libone ukuthi akulutho alwesabayo eseselani ngoba uqhubeke ngomsebenzi weNkosi njengami. **11** Ngakho akungabi lomuntu owalayo ukumamukela. Medluliseni ngokuthula ukuze abuye kimi. Ngimlindele kanye labazalwane. **12** Mayelana lomzalwane wethu u-Apholo: Ngamncenga kakhulu ukuba eze kini labazalwane. Ubengafisi ukhamba khathesi kodwa uzahamba lapho eselethuba. **13** Lindani; qinani ekukholweni kwenu; libe ngabantu abalesibindi, wobani lamandla. **14** Yenzani konke ngothando. **15** Liyakwazi ukuthi abendlu KaStefane baba ngamakholwa akuqala e-Akhayiya njalo sebazinikela emsebenzini wabantu beNkosi. Ngiyalincenga, bazalwane, **16** ukuba lizinikele kwabanjengalaba lakubo bonke abahlanganyela emsebenzini basebenze khona. **17** Ngathokoza ekufikeni kukaStefane loFothunathu kanye lo-Akhayikhu ngoba balethe obekusilela kuvela kini. **18** Ngoba bavuselela umoya wami kanye lowenu. Abantu abanjalo bafanele ukuqakathekiswa. **19** Amabandla asesifundeni sase-Ezhiya ayalibingelela. U-Akhwila loPhrisila ngokuthokoza eNkosini bayalibingelela kakhulu, lenza njalo lebandla elihlanganela endlini yabo. **20** Bonke abazalwane abalapha bayalibingelela. Bingelelanani ngokwangana okungcwele. **21** Mina, Phawuli, ngiloba ukubingelela lokhu ngesami isandla. **22** Nxa umuntu engayithandi iNkosi, kehlwele yisithuko. Waza, awu Nkosi! **23** Umusa weNkosi uJesu kawube lani. **24** Uthando lwami kini lonke kuKhristu uJesu. Amen.

2 Kwabasekhorinte

1 UPhawuli, umpostoli kaKhristu uJesu ngentando kaNkulunkulu, loThimothi umzalwane wethu. Ebandleni likaNkulunkulu eKhorinte, kanye lakubangcwele bonke kulolonke elase-Akhayiya: **2** Umusa lokuthula okuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba wethu leNkosini uJesu Khristu kakube kini. **3** Makabongwe uNkulunkulu uYise weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, uBaba wesihawu loNkulunkulu wenduduzo uJesu, **4** osidudzayo kuzozonke inhlopheko zethu ukuze lathi siduduze abasekohluphekeni ngenduduzo esidudzuzwe ngayo nguNkulunkulu. **5** Njengoba inhlopheko zikaKhristu zigelezela ekuphileni kwethu, ngakho ngokunjalo futhi induduzo yethu iyaphuphuma ngoKhristu. **6** Nxa sihlupheka, kungenxa yenduduzo lokusindiswa kwenu; nxa siduduzekile, kungenxa yokududzwa kwenu okulenza liqinisele ekubezezeleleni zona lezo zinhlopheko ezisihluphayo. **7** Ithemba lethu ngani liqinile ngoba siyakwazi ukuthi njengoba lahlanganyela ekuhluphekeni kwethu, ngokunjalo iyahlanganyela ekududzuzweni kwethu. **8** Kasithandi, bazalwane, ukuba libe ngabangaziyo ngobunzima esabuzwayo esabelweni sase-Ezhiya. Sasilokuncindezeleka okukhulu, okungaphezu kwamandla ethu okuqinisele, saze saphelwala lalithemba lokuphila. **9** Impela isigwebo sokufa sasizwa ezinhliziyweni zethu. Kodwa lokhu kwenzakala ukuze singazithembi thina ngokwethu kodwa uNkulunkulu, ovusa abafileyo. **10** Wasihlenga engozini ebulalayo, njalo uzasikhulula. Ithemba lethu silibeke kuye ukuba uzaqhubeka esihlenga, **11** lapho lisisiza ngemikhuleko yenu. Abanengi bazasibongela ngomusa omangalisayo esiwuphiweyo kuyimpindulo yemikhuleko yabanengi. **12** Thina sizincoma ngokuthi izazela zethu ziyafakaza ukuthi siziphathe kuhle emhlabeni, ikakhulu phakathi kobudlelwano bethu lani, ngobungcwele langobuqotho obuvela kuNkulunkulu. Lokhu kasikwenzanga sigxile ekuhlakanipheni kwasemhlabeni, kodwa ngomusa kaNkulunkulu. **13** Ngoba kasililobeli ngolutho elingele lilubale loba liluqedisise. Njalo ngiyathemba ukuthi, **14** njengoba seliqedisisa okunye ngathi, lizaqedisisa ngokupheleleyo lizincome ngathi njengoba lathi sizazincoma ngani ngosuku lweNkosi uJesu. **15** Ngoba ngangilethemba kulokhu, ngangifuna ukwethekelela lina kuqala ukuze lisizakale kabili. **16** Ngangifuna ukulethekelela ekuyeni kwami eMasedoniya, ngedule kini futhi sengivela eMasedoniya, beselingithuma-ke eJudiya. **17** Ngakunakana ngingabaza yini lokhu? Kumbe ngenxa amalungiselelo ami ngendlela yasemhlabeni okokuthi ngasikhathi sinye ngithi, “Yebo, yebo,” ngibuye ngithi, “Hatshi, hatshi,” na? **18** Kodwa ngeqiniso njengoba uNkulunkulu ethembekile, ilizwi lethu kini kalisikuthi “Yebo,” lokuthi, “Hatshi.” **19** Ngoba iNdodana kaNkulunkulu, uJesu Khristu, eyatshunyayelwa kimi yimi, uSayilasi kanye loThimothi, yayingasi “Yebo” lo “Hatshi,” kodwa kuyo kokuphela kwakungu “Yebo.” **20** Ngoba lanxa zizinengi kangakanani izithembiso uNkulunkulu azenzileyo zing “Yebo” kuKhristu. Ngakho ngaye ibizo elithi “Ameni” litshivo yithi sidumisa uNkulunkulu. **21** Njalo nguNkulunkulu owenza thina kanye lani siqine kuKhristu. Wasigcoba, **22** wasibeka uphawu lwakhe lokuba ngabakhe, wabeka loMoya wakhe ezinhliziyweni zethu njengesibambiso, esipha isiqiniseko sokuzayo. **23** Ngibiza uNkulunkulu njengomfakazi wami ukuthi kangibuyanga eKhorinte ukuze ngingalikhathazi.

24 Akusikuthi silibamba ngamandla ekukholweni kwenu kodwa sisebenza lani ukuze lithokoze, ngoba liqiniswa lukholo.

2 Ngakho ngenxa isinqumo engqondweni yami ukuba ngingenzi olunye uhambo olubuhlungu lokuza kini. **2** Ngoba nxa ngilibangela usizi, ngubani omunye ozangithokozisa ngaphandle kwenu lina esengilibangele usizi? **3** Ngaloba ngokunjalo ukuze kuthi ekufikeni kwami ngingadaniswa yilabo obekumele bangithokozise. Ngaletheмба lonke, ukuba lonke lizathokoza kanye lami. **4** Ngoba ngailobela ngokukhathazeka okukhulu lobuhlungu benhliziyo njalo langezinnyebezi ezinengi, hatshi ukuba ngilizwise ubuhlungu kodwa ukuba ngilazise ngokuzika kothando lwami kini. **5** Nxa kukhona obange usizi, kalubanganga kimi kangako, kodwa ngenye indlela ulubange kini lonke, ukuze kungedlulisi amalawulo. **6** Isijeziso asinikwe ngabanengi simlingene. **7** Esikhundleni salokhu, kumele limthethelele njalo limduduze, ukuze angagajelwa lusizi olukhulu. **8** Ngakho ngiyalincenga ukuba liluqinise futhi uthando lwenu kuye. **9** Isizatho sokulilobela kwakuyikuba ngibone ukuthi lingamelana lobunzima njalo lilalele ezintweni zonke. **10** Nxa lithethelela omunye umuntu, lami ngiyamthethelela. Njalo lokho esengikuthethelele, nxa kwakukhona okwakumele kuthethelele, ngithethelele phambi kukaKhristu ngenxa yenu, **11** ukuze uSathane angasiqilibezeli. Ngoba amacebo akhe siyawazi. **12** Ekuyeni kwami eTrowasi ukuyatshumayela ivangeli likaKhristu njalo ngathola ukuthi iNkosi yayingivulele umnyango, **13** ngangilokhe ngingelakho ukuthula emoyeni wami ngoba ngingamtholanga umzalwane wami uThithu khonale. Ngakho ngavalelisa ngasengisedulele eMasedoniya. **14** Kodwa-ke, kabongwe uNkulunkulu, yena osikhokhelela kokuphela njengabathunjweyo ekunqobeni kukaKhristu njalo esenza sithele iphunga elimnandi lokumazi ezindaweni zonke. **15** Ngoba kuNkulunkulu siliphunga elimnandi likaKhristu phakathi kwalabo abasindiswayo labo ababhubhayo. **16** Komunye siliphunga elibi lokufa; komunye siliphunga elimnandi lokuphila. Ngubani olingene umsebenzi lo na? **17** Thina kasihambi sithe ngisa ilizwi likaNkulunkulu njengabanengi. Kodwa kuKhristu siyakhuluma phambi kukaNkulunkulu ngobuqotho, njengabantu abathunywe nguNkulunkulu.

3 Kanti sesiqala futhi ukuzethula na? Kumbe njengabanye abantu kumele sibe lezincwadi zokusikhulumela kini kumbe ezivela kini na? **2** Lina ngokwenu liyizinzwadi zethu ezibhalwe ezinhliziyweni zethu, ezaziwayo lezifundwa ngumuntu wonke. **3** Liyabonakalisa ukuba liyincwadi evela kuKhristu, isithelo sokutshumayela kwethu, engabhalwanga nge-inki kodwa ngoMoya kaNkulunkulu ophilayo, hatshi ezibhebhedwini zamatshe kodwa ezibhebhedwini zezinhliziyvo zabantu. **4** Ithemba elinjengaleli ngelethu ngoKhristu phambi kukaNkulunkulu. **5** Kungayisikho ukuthi siyenelisa ukwahlulela konke esikwenzayo kodwa ukwenelisa kwethu kuvela kuNkulunkulu. **6** Usiphe amandla okuba zincedu zesivumelwano esitsha, kungayisiso sokulotshiweyo kodwa esikaMoya; ngoba okulotshiweyo kuyabulala kodwa uMoya uletha ukuphila. **7** Nxa imfundiso eyaetha ukufa eyayibhalwe ngamabala elitshini, yaza lenkazimulo, ukuze abako-Israyeli bangabukhangeli kokuphela ubuso bukaMosi ngenxa yenkazimulo yabo, lanxa nje yayisifiphala, **8** kambe imfundiso kaMoya kayiyikuba lenkazimulo enkulu na? **9**

Nxa imfundiso elahla abantu ilenkazimulo, pho inkulu kangakanani inkazimulo yemfundiso eletha ukulunga. **10** Ngoba okwakulenkazimulo khathezi akuselayo inkazimulo kuqathaniswa lenkazimulo enkulu. **11** Njalo nxa okwakufiphala kwalethe inkazimulo, pho inkulu kangakanani inkazimulo yalokho okungulaphakade! **12** Ngakho, njengoba silethemba elinje, silesibindi. **13** Thina kasinjengoMosi owamboza ubuso bakhe ukuze abako-Israyeli bangabukhangeli lapho inkazimulo yayisifiphala. **14** Kodwa ingqondo zabo zathundubezwa, ngoba kuze kube lamhla lesosembeso sisala sikhona lapho isivumelwano esidala sibalwa. Kasisuswanga ngoba sisuswa ngoKhristu kuphela. **15** Langalolosuku nxa kubalwa umlayo kaMosi, isembo sembesa inhliziyi zabo. **16** Kodwa nxa umuntu ephendukela eNkosini, “isembo siyasuswa.” **17** INkosi inguMoya njalo lapho okuloMoya weNkosi khona, kulokukhululeka. **18** Njalo thina, sonke esibonakalisa inkazimulo yeNkosi ngobuso obungembeswanga, siguqulelwa ekufaneni layo ngenkazimulo ekhula kokuphela, evela eNkosini, enguMoya.

4 Ngakho, njengoba ngomusa kaNkulunkulu silale imfundiso, kasiphelelwa lithemba. **2** Kodwa-ke sizilahlele izindlela zangasese lezilahlazo; kasisebenzisi buqili loba ukuhlanekela ilizwi likaNkulunkulu. Kodwa ngokubeka iqiniso obala, sizinikela kunembeza womuntu wonke phambi kukaNkulunkulu. **3** Lanxa ivangeli lethu lembesiwe, lembeswe kulabo ababhuhayo. **4** Unkulunkulu walesisikhathi usephumputhekise ingqondo zabangakholwayo, ukuze bangakuboni ukukhanya kwevangeli lenkazimulo kaKhristu, ongumfanekiso kaNkulunkulu. **(aiōn g165)** **5** Ngoba kasizitshumayeli thina ngokwethu, kodwa uJesu Khristu njengeNkosi, njalo thina njengezincedu zenu ngenxa kaJesu. **6** Ngoba uNkulunkulu owathi, “Ukukhanya kakube khona emnyameni,” wenza ukukhanya kwakhe kwakhanya ezinhliziyweni zethu ukuba asiphe ukukhanya kokwazi inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu ebusweni bukaJesu Khristu. **7** Kodwa inotho le silayo ezimbizeni zebumba ukubonakalisa ukuthi amandla amakhulukazi la avela kuNkulunkulu hatshi kithi. **8** Sincindezelwe kalukhuni enhlangothini zonke kodwa kasifihlizeki; sididekile kodwa kasilahlanga ithemba; **9** siyahhlukuluzwa kodwa kasidelwanga; sitshayelelwa phansi kodwa kasibhujiswanga. **10** Sikuthwele njalonje emzimbeni yethu ukufa kukaJesu, ukuze ukuphila kukaJesu lakho kubonakaliswe emzimbeni yethu. **11** Ngoba thina abaphilayo sihlezi sinikelwa ekufeni ngenxa kaJesu, ukuze ukuphila kwakhe kubonakaliswe emzimbeni yethu efayo. **12** Ngakho ukufa kuyasebenza kithi kodwa ukuphila kuyasebenza kini. **13** Kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Ngakholwa; ngakho ngasengikhuluma.” Ngalowomoya wokukholwa lathi siyakholwa, yingakho siyakhuluma, **14** ngoba siyakwazi ukuthi lowo owavusa iNkosi uJesu kwabafileyo lathi uzasivusa loJesu asethule kanye lani phambi kwakhe. **15** Konke lokhu ngokokusiza lina, ukuze kuthi umusa ofika ebantwini abanengi ungenza ukubonga kwande ukuze kudunyiswe uNkulunkulu. **16** Ngakho-ke, kasililahli ithemba. Lanxa ngaphandle sicikizeka kodwa ngaphakathi senziwa sibe batsha insuku zonke. **17** Ngoba ukukhanya kwethu lezinhlupheko zethu zesikhathshana zisilethela inkazimulo elaphakade, enkulu kulazo zonke. **(aiōnios g166)** **18** Ngakho amehlo ethu kasiwakhangelisanga kokubonakalayo, kodwa

kokungabonakaliyo, ngoba okubonakalayo kuyedlula, kodwa okungabonakaliyo kuyahlala laphakade. **(aiōnios g166)**

5 Siyakwazi ukuthi nxa ithente lethu lasemhlabeni lidilizwa, silesakhiwo esivela kuNkulunkulu, indlu yaphakade ezulwini, engakhiwanga ngezandla zabantu. **(aiōnios g166)** **2** Okwakhathesi siyabubula, sifisa ukwembeswa ngekhyaya lethu lasezulwini, **3** ngoba nxa sesembesiwe kasiyikutholakala sinqunu. **4** Ngoba nxa sisesekeleli ithente, siyabubula njalo siyasindwa ngoba kasifisi ukwembulwa kodwa ukwembeswa ngekhyaya lethu lasezulwini ukuze ukufayo kuginywe yikuphila. **5** UNkulunkulu nguye owasidala ngenxa yale injongo njalo wasinika uMoya njengesibambiso, eqinisa okuzayo. **6** Ngakho sihlezi silethemba njalo siyakwazi ukuthi nxa sisesekehaya emzimbeni, sikhathshana leNkosi. **7** Ngoba siphila ngokukholwa hatshi ngokubona. **8** Ngithi silethemba njalo ngingakhetha ukuba khatshana lomzimba ngisekehaya kanye leNkosi. **9** Ngakho sikwenza kube yinjongo yethu ukuyithokozisa, langabe sisekehaya emzimbeni loba kude lawo. **10** Ngoba sonke kumele sime phambi kwesihlalo sokwahlulela sikaKhristu ukuze lowo lawo amukele okumfaneleyo, okwezinto azenzayo esemzimbeni, langabe ngezinhle loba ezimbi. **11** Ngakho njengoba sikwazi ukuthi ukwesaba iNkosi kuyini, siyazama ukubancenga abantu. Lokhu thina esiyikho kusobala kuNkulunkulu njalo ngithemba kusobala lakuzazela zenu. **12** Kasizami ukuzibika kini futshi kodwa silinika ithuba lokuba lizigqaje ngathi, ukuze lenelise ukubaphendula labo abazigqaja ngokubonakalayo endaweni yalokho okusenziliziyweni. **13** Nxa sesiphambene ingqondo, kungenxa yokwenzela kwethu uNkulunkulu; nxa siphelele engqondweni, senzela lina. **14** Ngoba uthando lukaKhristu luyasifuqa, ngoba siyakholwa ukuba oyedwa wafela bonke, ngakho bonke bafa. **15** Wafela abantu bonke ukuze abaphilayo bangaziphileli bona ngokwabo kodwa lowo owabafelayo waviruswa njalo. **16** Ngakho-ke, kusukela khathezi kusiya phambili kasikhangelile muntu ngengqondo yasemhlabeni. Lanxa sake sakhangelale uKhristu ngale indlela, kasisakwenzi. **17** Ngakho-ke, nxa umuntu ekuKhristu, uyisidalwa esitsha; okudala akusekho, sekufike okutsha. **18** Konke lokhu kuvela kuNkulunkulu owasibuyisela kuye ngoKhristu wasinika imfundiso yokubuyisana: **19** ukuthi uNkulunkulu wayebuyisa umhlaba kuye ngoKhristu, abantu engababaleli izono zabo. Njalo usesinike ilizwi lokubuyisana. **20** Ngokunjalo, singabameli bakaKhristu, ngokungathi uNkulunkulu wenza isikhululo sakhe ngathi. Siyalincenga simele uKhristu sithi: Buyisanani loNkulunkulu. **21** UNkulunkulu wamenza waba yisono owayengelasono ngenxa yethu ukuze kuthi kuye sibe yikulunga kukaNkulunkulu.

6 Njengezisebenzi zikaNkulunkulu siyalincenga ukuba lingamukeli umusa kaNkulunkulu ngeze. **2** Ngoba uthi: “Ngesikhathi esifaneleyo kimi ngalizwa, langosuku lokusindiswa ngalisiza.” Zwanini, khathezi sekuyisikhathi esifaneleyo, khathezi lusuku lokusindiswa. **3** Kasibeki zikhubekiso endleleni yomuntu ukuze imfundiso yethu ingasolwa. **4** Kodwa, njengezincedu zikaNkulunkulu sizethula ngazonke izindlela: ngokubekezela okukhulu; ekuhluphekeni, ebunzimeni kanye lasezinzini; **5** ekutshayweni, ekuvalelweni entolongweni laseziphithiphithini; ukusebenza nzima, ukungalali ebusuku kanye lendlala; **6** ukuhlambuluka, ukuqedisisa, ukubekezela

kanye lomusa, ngoMoya oNgcwele langothando oluqotho, 7 ngokukhuluma iqiniso langamandla kaNkulunkulu; ngezikhali zokulunga esandleni sokudla lesenxele; 8 ngodumo langedlazo, ukukhulunyelwa kubi lokukhulunyelwa kuhle; siqotho, kodwa sikhangelwa njengabakhohlisi; 9 siyaziwa kodwa sikhangelwa njengabangaziwayo, abafayo, kodwa siqhubeka siphila; siyatshaywa kodwa kasibulawa, 10 sisosizini kodwa sihlezi sijabula; simpofu kodwa sinothisa abanengi; kasilalutho kodwa silezinto zonke. 11 Sikhulume kini sikhululekile, maKhorinte, sazivula ngokupheleleyo inhliziyi zethu kini. 12 Kasilugodli uthando lwethu kini kodwa lina liyalugodla olwenu kithi. 13 Okungaba yikuphona okuhle, ngikhuluma njengasebantwaneni bami, lani zivuleni ngokupheleleyo inhliziyi zenu kithi. 14 Lingahlanganyeli labangakhulwayo. Ngoba ukulunga lobubi kulokuhambelana bani na? Loba yibudlelwano bani obungaba khona phakathi kokukhanya lobumnyama na? 15 Yikuzwana bani okukhona phakathi kukaKhristu loBheliyali na? Yikuhambelana bani okholwayo alakho longakhulwayo na? 16 Yisivumelwano bani esikhona phakathi kwethempeli likaNkulunkulu lezithombe na? Ngoba thina silithempeli likaNkulunkulu ophilayo. Njengoba uNkulunkulu wathi: “Ngizahlala labo ngihambe phakathi kwabo njalo ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wabo bona babengabantu bami.” 17 Ngakho, “phumani kubo lehlukane labo, kutsho iNkosi. Lingathinti lutho olungcolileyo, mina ngizalemukela.” 18 Njalo, “mina, ngizakuba nguYihlo, lina lizakuba ngamadodana lamadodakazi ami, kutsho iNkosi uSomandla.”

7 Njengoba silezithembiso lezi, bazalwane abathandekayo, kasizihlambululeni ezintweni zonke ezingcolisa umzimba lomoya, siphelilese ubungcwele ngokwesaba uNkulunkulu. 2 Sivuleleni inhliziyi zenu. Kasonelanga muntu, kasixhwalisanga muntu, kasenzanga nzuzo ngomuntu. 3 Kangitsho lokhu ukuba ngililahlle; ngitshilo ngaphambilini ukuthi likhona ezinhliziyweni zethu okungenza siphile kuzibe sife lani. 4 Ngilethemba elikhulu ngani; ngiyazigqaja kakhulu ngani. Ngiduduzekile kakhulu; kuzozonke inhlupho zethu intokozo yami kayilamikhawulo. 5 Ngoba ekufikeni kwethu eMasedoniya, umzimba wethu lo wawungelakuphumula kodwa sasikhathazwa ezindaweni zonke, ingxabano ngaphandle, lokwesaba ngaphakathi. 6 Kodwa uNkulunkulu oduduzo abadanileyo wasiduduzo ngokufika kukaThithu, 7 kungayisikho ngokufika kwakhe nje kuphela kodwa langokumduduzo kwenu. Wasitshela ngokungikhumbula kwenu, usizi lwenu olukhulu, lokutshiseka kwenu likhathazeka ngami, ukuthokoza kwami kwaze kwaba kukhulu kakhulu. 8 Lanxa ngalibangela usizi ngencwadi yami, angizisoli ngayo. Lanxa ngazisola ngayo, ngiyabona ukuba incwadi yami yalikhuba, kodwa okwesikhatshana nje, 9 ikanti khathesi ngiyathokoza, hatshi ngoba ladaniswa kodwa ngoba usizi lwenu lwalenza laphenduka. Ngoba laba lusizi njengokujonga kukaNkulunkulu njalo thina kasizange sililimize langayiphi indlela. 10 Usizi lokwesaba uNkulunkulu luletha ukuphenduka okuholela ekusindisweni kungatshiyi nsolo, kodwa usizi lwesemhlabeni luletha ukufa. 11 Khangelani ukuba usizi lokwesaba uNkulunkulu lolu selufezeni kini: ukutshisekela okungaka, lokufisa okungaka ukuba lizigeze, lentukuthelo engaka, lokwethuka okungaka ekuboneni ukulunga kusenziwa. Kukho konke libonakalise ukuthi lina limsulwa kule indaba. 12 Ngakho lanxa ngalilobela, ngangajonganga owonayo

loba lowo owonelwayo kodwa ukuba phambi kukaNkulunkulu lizibonele ngokwenu ukuthi lizimisele kangakanani kithi. 13 Konke lokhu thina kuyasikhuthaza. Phezu kokukhuthazwa kwethu, sijabuliswa ikakhulu yikubona uThithu ethokoza ngoba lonke lasiza ngokwenza ukuthi umoya wakhe ube lokuthula. 14 Ngangizincomele kuye ngani njalo kalingiyangisanga. Kodwa njengoba konke esakutshoyo kini kwakuliqiniso, ngakho ukuzincoma kwethu kuThithu ngani lakho kubonakale kuliqiniso. 15 Njalo ukulithanda kwakhe kukhulu kakhulu lapho ekhumbula ukuthi lonke lalilalela, limamukela ngokwesaba langokuthuthumela. 16 Ngiyathokoza ngoba ngilethemba elipheleleyo ngani.

8 Bazalwane, sithanda ukuba lazi ngomusa uNkulunkulu awunike amabandla aseMasedoniya. 2 Ekulingweni kwawo okunzima kakhulu lokuthokoza kwawo okukhulu kanye lobuyanga bawo bokucina kugcwele ukuphana okumangalisayo. 3 Ngoba ngiyafakaza ukuthi anikela okunengi njengayengakwanelisa, kanye lokudlula amandla awo. Bona ngokwabo, 4 basincenga ngokuphangisa ukuba babe lethuba lokuhlanganyela kulokhukusebenzela abantu beNkosi. 5 Kabenzanga njengesasikulindele kodwa bazinikela eNkosini kuqala, muva bazinikela kithi kuvumelana lentando kaNkulunkulu. 6 Ngakho-ke, samncenga uThithu, njengoba wayeseqalisile ngaphambilini, ukuba lawo awuqede umsebenzi womusa lo kini. 7 Kodwa njengoba lisenza kuhle ezintweni zonke, ekukholweni, ekukhulumeni, ekwazini, ekuzimiseleni okupheleleyo kanye lakukho ukusithanda kwenu, bonani ukuthi liyaqhubeka futhi kulumusa wokuphana. 8 Angilibekeli mlayo kodwa ngifuna ukuhlola ubuqotho bothando lwenu ngokuluqathanisa lokuzimisela kwabanye. 9 Ngoba liyawazi umusa weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu ukuthi lanxa wayenothile kodwa waba ngumyanga ngenxa yenu, ukuze kuthi ngobuyanga bakhe lina linothe. 10 Njalo nansi iseluleko sami mayelana lalokho okuhle kakhulu kini kule indaba: Nyakenye libe ngabokuqala kungayisikho ekupheni nje kuphela kodwa lekubeni lesifiso sokwenza njalo. 11 Khathesi-ke uqediseni umsebenzi ukuze ukutshiseka kokufuna kwenu ukwenza kungalingana lokuwuqeda kwenu, kusiya ngalokho elilakho. 12 Ngoba nxa isifiso sikhona, isipho siyamukeleka kusiya ngalokho umuntu alakho hatshi ngalokho angelakho. 13 Isifiso sethu akusikuthi abanye bakhululwe lina lilokhu lincindezekile kodwa ukuba kube lokulingana. 14 Ngenala yenu yalesisikhathi lizabanika abakuswelayo, ukuze kuthi labo ngenala yabo baliphe elikuswelayo. Lapho-ke kuzakuba lokulingana, 15 njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Lowo owabutha okunengi kabanga lokunengi kakhulu, lalowo owabutha okulutshwana kabanga lokulutshwana kakhulu.” 16 Kabongwe uNkulunkulu owabeka enhliziyweni kaThithu ukukhathazeka kanye engalokho ngani. 17 Ngoba uThithu kamukelanga isicelo sethu nje kuphela kodwa uyeza kini ngokutshiseka okukhulu njalo ngokuzithuma kwakhe. 18 Njalo kanye laye sithuma umzalwane obathazwa ngamabandla wonke ngenxa yomsebenzi wakhe wokutshumayela ivangeli. 19 Phezu kwalokho, wakhethwa ngamabandla ukuba asiphelekezele sithwele umnikelo esiwuphethayo ukuze sidumise iNkosi uqobo lokuba sibonakalise ukutshisekela kwethu ukusiza. 20 Sifuna ukuxwaya insolo ngendlela esiphatha ngayo lesisipho sokuphana. 21 Ngoba siyalwisa kakhulu ukuba senze okulungileyo, kungasikho emehlweni eNkosi kuphela,

kodwa lasemehlweni abantu. **22** Phezu kwalokho, sithuma kanye labo umzalwane wethu ohlezi ebonakalisa kithi ngezindlela ezinengi ukuthi ukhuthethe, ikakhulu khathesi ngenxa yethemba lakhe elikhulu kini. **23** UThithu yenake ungholanganyela lami loyisisebenzi kanye lami phakathi kwenu; abazalwane bethu bona-ke bangabameli bamabandla lodumo kuKhristu. **24** Ngakho-ke, tshengisani abantu laba ubufakazi bothando lwenu kanye lesisusa sokuziqqaja kwethu ngani, ukuze amabandla wonke alubone.

9 Akudingeki ukuba ngililobele mayelana lalokhukusebenzela abantu beNkosi. **2** Ngoba ngiyakwazi ukutshisekela kwenu ukuba lisize njalo kade ngizincoma ngakho kwabaseMasedoniya, ngibatshela ukuthi kusukela nyakenye lina e-Akhayiya belizimisele ukunikela; njalo ukutshiseka kwenu kukhuthaze inengi labo ukuba baphathise. **3** Kodwa ngithuma abazalwane ukuze ukuzincoma kwethu ngani ngale indaba kungabi yize kodwa ukuba libe ngabalungiseleleyo, njengoba ngatsho ukuthi lizakuba lilungiselele. **4** Ngoba nxa abanye baseMasedoniya besiza lami, bengathola lingalungiselanga, singayangeka ngokulethemba ebiselakho. **5** Ngakho ngibone kufanele ukukhuthaza abazalwane ukuba balthethekelele mandulo baqedise amalungiselelo esipho esihle elasithembisa sona. Ngalesosikhathi sizakuba sesilungile njengesipho esihle hatshi esinikelwe ngomona. **6** Khumbulani lokhu: Lowo ohlanyela okunengi uvuna okunengi. **7** Umuntu ngamunye kanike lokho amise ukunikela enhliziyweni yakhe, kungabi ngokudanda loba ukubanjwa ngamandla ngoba uNkulunkulu uthanda onikela ngokuthokoza. **8** Njalo uNkulunkulu ulamandla okwenza umusa wande kini ukuze kuthi ezintweni zonke ngezikhathi zonke, lilakho konke elikuswelayo, lizakuba lokunengi kuyo yonke imisebenzi emihle. **9** Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Uchithele izipho zakhe kubayanga ezindaweni zonke; ukulunga kwakhe kumi laphakade.” (aiōn g165) **10** Lowo onika umhlanyeli inhlangeni lesinkwa sokudla uzanika njalo aqhelse isiphala senu senhlangeni, andise lesivuno sokulunga kwenu. **11** Lizanothiswa ngezindlela zonke ukuze liphane ngezikhathi zonke, kuthi ngathi ukupha kwenu kulethe ukubongwa kukaNkulunkulu. **12** Umsebenzi lo eliwenzayo kawuqedi zinswelo zabantu bakaNkulunkulu kuphela kodwa ugcwele amazwi amanengi okubonga uNkulunkulu. **13** Ngenxa yomsebenzi eselizibonakalise ngawo, abantu bazamdumisa uNkulunkulu ngenxa yokulalela lokuvuma kwenu ivangeli likaKhristu, kanye lomusa wenu ekwabelananeni labo kanye labanye futhi. **14** Ekulikhulekeleni kwabo, inhliziyi zabo zizakuba kini ngenxa yomusa ongelamkhawulo uNkulunkulu alinike wona. **15** Kabongwe uNkulunkulu ngenxa yesipho esingeke sichazwe.

10 Ngenxa yokuthobeka lobumnene bukaKhristu ngiyalincenga, mina Phawuli “owethukayo” nxa ngilani ubuso ngobuso kodwa ngilesibindi nxa ngikude! **2** Ngiyalincipha ukuthi ekufikeni kwami kungaze kwadingeka ukuba ngize ngibe lesibindi njengalokhu engikhangelele ukuba laso mayelana labanye abantu abacabanga ukuthi siphila ngokwezilinganiso zomhlaba lo. **3** Ngoba lanxa sihlala emhlabeni, kasilwi mpi njengokwenziwa ngumhlaba. **4** Izikhali esilwa ngazo akusizo zikhali zasemhlabeni. Kodwa zilamandla kaNkulunkulu okudiliza izinqaba. **5** Sichitha inkani lokuzazisa konke okuzibekayo kumelane lokwazi

uNkulunkulu njalo siyayithumba yonke imicabango ukuba siyenze ibe ngemlalelayo uKhristu. **6** Njalo sizakuba silungele ukujezisa zonke izenzo zokungalaleli nxa ukulalela kwenu kungaphelela. **7** Lina likhangela kuphela lokho okubonakalayo. Nxa umuntu ekholwa ukuthi ungokaKhristu, kakhumbule njalo ukuthi lathi singabakaKhristu njengaye. **8** Ngoba lanxa ngizincoma kancane ngamandla iNkosi eyasinika wona ukuba lakhiwe kulokuba lichithwe, ngiyikuyangeka ngakho. **9** Kangifuni ukuba kube sengathi ngiyaletshela ngezincwadi zami. **10** Ngoba abanye bathi, “Izincwadi zakhe zilesisindo lomfutho kodwa yena uqobo uyeyiseka lakukhulumayo kufana leze.” **11** Abantu abanjalo kumele bakwazi ukuthi lokho okukhanya siyikho ezincwadini zethu nxa singekho, sizakuba yikho kanye ngezenzo zethu nxa sesikhona. **12** Kasenelisi ukuzilinganisa loba ukuziqathanisa labanye abazibabazayo. Nxa bezilinganisa bona ngokwabo babuye baziqathanisa bona ngokwabo, kabahlakaniphanga. **13** Kodwa thina kasizincomi kudlule imikhawulo efaneleyo. Kodwa ukuzincoma kwethu sikukhawulisa ebangeni uNkulunkulu asibekele lona, ibanga elifikayo lakini. **14** Kasedlulisi malawulo ekuzincomeni kwethu, njengokuba kungenzakala lapho kungabe kasizanga kini, ngoba safinyelela ukuzifika kini levangeli likaKhristu. **15** Njalo kasedluli mikhawulo yethu ngokuzincoma ngomsebenzi owenziwe ngabanye. Ithemba lethu yikuthi lapho ukukholwa kwenu kuqhubeka kukhula, indawo yethu yokusebenza phakathi kwenu izaqhela kakhulu, **16** sitshumayele ivangeli ezigabeni ezingale kwenu. Ngoba kasifuni kuzincoma ngomsebenzi ovele usuzenziwe endaweni yomunye umuntu. **17** Kodwa, “Lowo ozincomayo kazincome eNkosini.” **18** Ngoba akusimuntu ozibabazayo onguye ovunywayo, kodwa umuntu onconywa yiNkosi.

11 Ngithemba lizabekezelela okuncane kobuthutha bami; kodwa livele selikwenza lokho. **2** Mina ngilobukhwele ngani ngobukhwele bokukholwa. Ngathembisa ukulendisele endodeni eyodwa, uKhristu, ukuze ngilethule kuyo liyintombi egcweleyo. **3** Kodwa ngiyesaba ukuthi njenge-Eva owakhohliswa yibuqili benyoka, ingqondo zenu zingaphanjulwa kancane ekuzinikeleni kwenu kuKhristu okuqotho lokungelasici. **4** Ngoba nxa umuntu angafika kini atshumayele ujesu ongasuye esamtshumayelayo thina, loba nxa lisamukela umoya ohlukene lawo elawamukelayo, loba ivangeli elehlukileyo kulelo elalivumayo, likubekezelele lula kakhulu. **5** Kodwa kangicabangi ukuthi ngiyeyiseka okokucina kulabo “bapostoli abaphezulu.” **6** Ngingaba yisikhulumi esingafundiswa kodwa ulwazi ngilalo. Lokhu sesikwenze kwacaca ngokupheleleyo kini ngezindlela zonke. **7** Kambe kwakuyisono yini ukuba ngizehlise ukuze ngiliphakamise ngokutshumayela ivangeli likaNkulunkulu kungekho mbadalo na? **8** Ngaphanga amanye amabandla ngokwamukela usizo kuwo ukuze ngilisebenzele. **9** Njalo lalapho ngikini kulolutho engangilufuna, kangibanga ngumthwalo lakubani ngoba abazalwane ababesuka eMasedoniya bangipha engangikuswela. Ngizithibile ekubeni ngumthwalo kini langayiphi indlela njalo ngizaqhubeka ngisenza njalo. **10** Ngeqiniso elinjengoba iqiniso likaKhristu likhona kimi, akulamuntu ezigabeni zase-Akhayiya ozangalisa ukuzincoma kwami lokhu. **11** Kungani na? Ngoba angilithandi na? UNkulunkulu uyakwazi ukuthi ngiyalithanda! **12** Njalo ngizaqhubeka ngisenza lokhu engikwenzayo ukuze

amacebo alabo abafuna ithuba lokuba bakhangelwe njengabalingana lathi ezintweni abazincoma ngazo abe liphutha. **13** Ngoba abantu abanjalo bangabapostoli bamanga, izisebenzi ezikhohlisayo, ezizenza abapostoli bakaKhristu. **14** Akumangalisi ngoba loSathane uqobo uzenza ingilosu yokukhanya. **15** Ngakho akumangalisi nxa izinceku zakhe zizenza izinceku zokulunga. Isiphetho sazo sizakuba ngokufanele izenzo zazo. **16** Ngiyaphinda ngithi: Akungabi lamuntu ongithatha njengesithutha. Kodwa nxa lisenza njalo, ngamukelani ngendlela elingamukela ngayo isithutha ukuze ngzincome kancane. **17** Ngalokhu kuzincoma kwami ngesibindi, angikhulumi njengeNkosi kodwa njengesithutha. **18** Njengoba abanengi bezincoma ngendlela eyenziwa ngumhlaba, lami-ke ngizazincoma. **19** Labekezelela izithutha ngentokozo ngoba lihlakani phe kangaka! **20** Ngeqiniso, lina libekezelela loba ngubani oligqilazayo loba ethola inzuzo ngani loba ezisiza ngani loba ezikhukhumeza loba elimakala ngempama ebusweni. **21** Ngivuma ngilenhloni ukuthi thina sasibuthakathaka kakhulu kulokho! Lokho omunye umuntu angaba lesibindi sokuzincoma ngakho, ngikhuluma njengesithutha, lami nglesibindi sokuzincoma ngakho. **22** BangamaHebheru na? Lami nginguye. Bangama-Israyeli na? Lami nginguye. Bayinzalo ka-Abraham na? Lami nginguye. **23** Bazincke zikaKhristu na? (Sengiphambene ingqondo ukuba ngikhulume kanje.) Mina ngedlula lokho. Sengisebenze nzima, ngibe sentolongweni kanengi, ngabhaxabulwa kakhulukazi, ngabekwa engozini yokufa njalonjalo. **24** Kahlanu ngatshaywa ngamaJuda imvimvinya ezingamatshumi amathathu lesificamunwemunya. **25** Kathathu ngatshaywa ngemiqwayi, kanye ngatshaywa ngamatshe, ngafelwa ngumkhumbi kathathu, ngachitha ubusuku losuku ngindenda olwandle, **26** kade ngihlezi ngingohambayo njalonje. Ngike ngaba sezingozini zemifusa, ezingozini zezegebenga, ezingozini zabantu bakithi, ezingozini zabeZizweni, ezingozini edolobheni, ezingozini emaphandleni, ezingozini elwandle; lasezingozini zabazalwane bamanga. **27** Ngasebenza nzima, ngatshikatshika njalo kanengi ngingalali; ngezwa indlala lokoma, ngaswela lokudla kanengi; ngagodola njalo ngahamba nqunu. **28** Langaphandle kwezinye zonke izinto; ngibhekane lokucindezelwa yikukhathazeka kwami ngamabandla wonke. **29** Ngubani obuthakathaka, mina ngingabuzwa loba buthakathaka na? Ngubani oholelwa esonweni, ngingatshi ngaphakathi kwami na? **30** Nxa kumele ngzincome, ngizazincoma ngezinto ezibonakalisa ubuthakathaka bami. **31** UNkulunkulu uYise weNkosi ujesu, ozadunyiswa okungulaphakade, uyakwazi ukuthi kangiqambi manga. (aiōn q165) **32** EDamaseko umbusi ongaphansi kweNkosi u-Aretha walaya ukuba idolobho laseDamaseko lilindwe ukuze ngibotshwe. **33** Kodwa ngehliswa ngesilulu ewindini elalisemdlulini, ngaphunyuka ezandleni zakhe.

12 Kumele ngiqhubeka ngzincome. Lanxa kungelalutho oluzuzwayo, mina ngizaqhubeka ngemibono langezambulo ezivela eNkosini. **2** Mina ngazi umuntu okuKhristu okwathi ngeminyaka elitshumi lane eyedlulayo wathathwa wasiwa ezulwini lesithathu. Langabe kwakuphakathi komzimba loba ngaphandle komzimba kangikwazi, kwazi uNkulunkulu. **3** Mina ngazi ukuthi umuntu lo loba phakathi komzimba kumele ngaphandle komzimba, kangikwazi, kodwa uNkulunkulu uyazi, **4** wahlwithwa wasiwa eParadise. Wezwa izinto ezingakhulume kiyo, izinto umuntu

angavunyelwa ukuzitsho. **5** Ngazincoma ngomuntu onjalo, kodwa mina angiyikuzincoma, ngaphandle kwangobuthakathaka bami. **6** Lanxa ngingakhetha ukuzincoma, ngiyabe ngingesithutha ngoba ngiyabe ngikhuluma iqiniso. Kodwa ngiyazibamba ukuze kungabikhona ozacabanga okunengi ngami kulokho okufanele engikwenzayo loba engikutshoyo. **7** Ukuze ngenqabele ukuzikhukhumeza ngenxa yalezizambulo ezinkulu kakhulukazi, ngahlatshwa ngameva emzimbeni wami, ayisithunyuwa sikaSathane, ukuba angihluphe. **8** Ngalabhele eNkosini kathathu ukuba iwasuse kimi. **9** Kodwa yathi kimi, “Umusa wami ukwanele ngoba amandla ami apheleliswa ebuthakathakeni.” Ngakho ngizazincoma kakhulu-ke ngokuthokoza ngobuthakathaka bami, ukuze amandla kaKhristu ahlale phezu kwami. **10** Yikho-nje, ngenxa kaKhristu, ngithokozela ubuthakathaka, izithuko, inhlupho, ukuhlukuluzwa lokukhathazeka. Ngoba nxa ngibuthakathaka, kulapho-ke ngilamandla. **11** Sengenze ubuthutha, kodwa yini elingingenise kubo. Kade kufanele ngingonywe yini ngoba kangiphansi okokucina “kubapostoli abaphezulu,” lanxa nje ngingasilutho. **12** Izinto eziphawula umpostoli zigoqela izibonakaliso, izimanga kanye lezimangaliso ezenziwa phakathi kwenu ngokubekezela okukhulu. **13** Laliphansi okunjani kulamanye amabandla, ngaphandle kokuthi angizange ngibe ngumthwalo kini. Ngithethelelani kulokho! **14** Khathezi sengilungele ukuba ngilethekelele okwesithathu njalo angiyikuba ngumthwalo kini ngoba engikufunayo akusimpahla yenu kodwa lina. Ikanti belo abantwana akumelanga banakekele abazali babo kodwa abazali yibo okumele banakekele abantwababo. **15** Ngakho ngizathokozela kakhulu ukuchitha konke engilakho ngenxa yenu lami futhi ngizinikele. Ngingalithanda kakhulu, lina lizangithanda kancane na? **16** Loba kunjalo, mina angibanga ngumthwalo kini. Kodwa mina njengomuntu ohlakaniphileyo, ngalibamba ngobuqili! **17** Ngaliqilibezela yini ngomunye wabantu engabathuma kini na? **18** Ngacela uThithu ukuba eze kini njalo ngathuma lomzalwane wethu kunye laye. UThithu kazange aliqilibezele, waliqilibezela na? Kasisebenzanga ngamoya munye salandela indlela yinye na? **19** Isikhathi sonke lesi kade licabanga ukuthi besizivikela kini na? Kade sikhuluma phambi kukaNkulunkulu njengabakuKhristu; njalo konke esikwenzayo, bazalwane abathandekayo, ngokokuliqinisa. **20** Ngoba ngiyesaba ukuthi ekufikeni kwami angiyikufica liyilokho engifuna libe yikho, mhlawumbe lani lingangifumani ngiyilokho elifuna ngibe yikho. Ngiyesaba ukuthi kungaba khona ukuxabana, umona, ukuthukuthela, imibango, isinyeyo, ukuhleba, ukuzikhukhumeza kanye lokuphithizela. **21** Ngiyesaba ukuthi ekufikeni kwami futhi uNkulunkulu wami uzangithoba phambi kwenu njalo ngizakuba lusizi ngabanengi abenze izono ngaphambilini njalo bengaphendukanga kulokho kungcola, isono sokufeba kanye lamanyala abangena kuwo.

13 Ukuza kwami kini lokhu kuzakuba ngokwesithathu. “Izindaba zonke kumele ziqinisewe yibufakazi babantu ababili loba abathathu.” **2** Ngavela ngalixwayisa lapho ngilani okwesibili. Ngiyakuphinda njalo ngingekho: Ekubuyeni kwami futhi angiyikubayekela labo abenza izono ngaphambilini loba nguphi wabanye, **3** njengoba lifuna ubufakazi bokuthi uKhristu ukhuluma ngami. Yena kabuthakathaka ekuliphatheni

kwakhe kodwa ulamandla phakathi kwenu. **4** Ngoba ngeqiniso, wabethelwa ebuthakathakeni, ikanti uyaphila ngamandla kaNkulunkulu. Ngokufanayo, sibuthakathaka kuye, ikanti ngamandla kaNkulunkulu sizaphila laye ukuba silisebenzele. **5** Zihloleni ukuba libone ingabe lisekukholweni, zihloleni. Kaliboni yini ukuthi uKhristu uJesu uphakathi kwenu, ngaphandle nje kokuba lehluleke ekuhlolweni? **6** Ngithemba ukuba lizafumana ukuthi thina kasisibo abehlulekileyo ekuhlolweni. **7** Siyakhuleka kuNkulunkulu ukuba lingenzi lutho olubi. Kungayisikho ukuba abantu babone ukuthi sifanele kodwa ukuba lina lenze okulungileyo lanxa singakhanya singabehlulekileyo. **8** Ngoba asingeke senze lutho oluphambene leqiniso kodwa olweqiniso kuphela. **9** Siyathokoza lapho singabe sibuthakathaka kodwa lina liqinile njalo umkhuleko wethu ngowokuba lipheleliswe. **10** Yikho-nje ngiloba izinto lezi ngingekho ukuze kuthi ekufikeni kwami ngingabi lukhuni ekusebenziseni kwami amandla, amandla okulakha engiwaphiwe yiNkosi hatshi ukulidiliza. **11** Okokucina, bazalwane, salani kuhle. Funani ukuphelela, lilalele isicelo sami, libe ngqondo yinye, lihlale ngokuthula. UNkulunkulu wothando lokuthula uzakuba lani. **12** Bingelelanani ngokwangana okungcwele. **13** Abantu bakaNkulunkulu bonke bayalibingelela. **14** Sengathi umusa weNkosi uJesu Khristu, uthando lukaNkulunkulu lokuhlanganyela kukaMoya oNgcwele kungaba lani lonke.

KwabaseGalathiya

1 UPhawuli umpostoli ongathunywanga evela ebantwini loba ngumuntu, kodwa nguJesu Khristu loNkulunkulu uBaba, owamvusayo kwabafileyo, 2 labo bonke abazwane abalami. Emabandleni aseGalathiya: **3** Umusa lokuthula akube kini kuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba wethu leNkosini uJesu Khristu, **4** owazinikela ngenxa yezono zethu ukuthi asihlenge kulesisikhathi esibi, ngenxa yentando kaNkulunkulu uBaba wethu, (aiōn g165) **5** udumo kalente kuye kube laphakade. Amen. (aiōn g165) **6** Ngiyamangala ukuthi limdela masinya kangaka lowo owalibiza ngomusa kaKhristu njalo liphendukela evangelini elehlukileyo, **7** elingasivangeli langempela ngitsho. Kusobala abanye abantu bayaliphambanisa njalo bazama ukungcolisa ivangeli likaKhristu. **8** Kodwa lanxa thina loba ingilosi evela ezulwini ingatshumayela elinye ivangeli ngaphandle kwalelo esalitshumayela kini, kasilahlwe kuze kube nini lanini! **9** Njengoba sesivele sitshilo, lakhathesi ngiyatsho futhi ngithi: Lanxa kungaba ngubani otshumayela kini elinye ivangeli ngaphandle kwalelo elalamukelayo, kaqalekiswe nguNkulunkulu! **10** Kambe sengizama ukuzwa ukwamukelwa ngabantu loba nguNkulunkulu na? Kumbi njalo ngizama ukuthokozisa abantu na? Aluba lokhe ngizama ukuthokozisa abantu, bengingayikuba yinceku kaKhristu. **11** Ngithanda ukuthi lazi bazalwane, ukuthi ivangeli engalitshumayelayo kalivele ebantwini. **12** Kangilamukelanga emuntwini njalo kangilifundiswanga; kodwa ngalamukela ngokwambulelwa nguJesu Khristu. **13** Selizwile ngokuhamba kwami kwakuqala enkolweni yesiJuda, ukuthi ngalihlukuluzwa ngaliphatha ngochuku ibandla likaNkulunkulu njalo ngazama lokulichitha. **14** Ngangisiya phambili ngokholo lwesiJuda ukwedlula amaJuda amanengi ayintanga yami njalo ngangitshisekela imikhuba yabokhokho bami kakhulu. **15** Kodwa kwathi uNkulunkulu owangiphawula ngisesesiwini sikamama engibiza ngomusa wakhe, wathokoza **16** ukuthi aveze iNdodana yakhe kimi, ukuze ngitshumayele phakathi kwabeZizwe, kangibuzanga muntu. **17** Angizange ngiye eJerusalema ukuyabona labo ababengabapostoli ngingakabi nguye, kodwa ngahle ngaya e-Arabhiya. Emva kwalokho ngabuyela eDamaseko. **18** Emva kweminyaka emithathu, ngaya eJerusalema ukuze ngiyayelane loKhefasi, ngahlala laye insuku ezilithumi lanhlano. **19** Kangibonanga lamunye wabanye abapostoli ngaphandle kukajakhobe umfowabo weNkosi kuphela. **20** Ngikugcizelela kini lokhu phambi kukaNkulunkulu ukuthi lokhu engilolobela khona akusimanga. **21** Ngasengisuka ngaya e-Asiriya kanye laseSiliyya. **22** Mina ngokwami ngangingaziwa emabandleni aseJudiya akuKhristu. **23** Ayesizwa umbiko nje kuphela usithi: “Umuntu owayesihlukuluzwa kuqala khathesi usetshumayela ukholo ake wazama ukulichitha.” **24** Amdumisa uNkulunkulu ngenxa yami.

2 Emva kweminyaka elitshumi lane ngaya eJerusalema futhi, ngalesisikhathi ngangiloBhanabhasi. Ngathatha loThithu futhi. **2** Ngaya khona njengokwambulelwa ngethula phambi kwabo ivangeli engalitshumayela kwabeZizweni. Kodwa lokhu ngakwenza ngasese kulabo ababekhanaya bengabakhokheli. Ngangifuna ukuba lesiqiniseko sokuthi angigijimeli ze. **3** Ikanti loThithu owayelami kazange abanjwe ngamandla ukuba asoke lanxa wayengumGrikhi. **4** Indaba le yavela ngoba abanye abazalwane bamanga basebengene phakathi kwethu

ukuba bahlale ukukhululeka esilakho kuKhristu uJesu ukuze basenze izigqili. **5** Kasibavumelanga lakancane ukuze iqiniso levangeli lihlale likhona kini. **6** Labo ababeqakathekiswa, loba beyilokho ababeyikho khona akwenzi mahluko kimi; uNkulunkulu kahluleli ngokubonakala ngaphandle, lababantu kabengezanga lutho elizwini lami. **7** Esikhundleni salokho babona ukuthi ngangiphiwe umsebenzi wokutshumayela ivangeli kwabeZizweni njengoPhethro owaphiwa umsebenzi wokutshumayela ivangeli kwabasokiweyo. **8** Ngoba uNkulunkulu, owayesebenza kuPhethro njengompostoli kwabasokiweyo, wayesebenza kimi futhi ekutshumayelini kwami njengompostoli kwabeZizweni. **9** UJakhobe, loKhefasi kanye loJohane, abadume njengensika, banika mina loBhanabhasi ilungelo lokuhlanganyela labo lapho sebene umusa engawuphiwayo. Bavuma ukuthi siye kwabeZizweni, bona baye kwabasokiweyo. **10** Abakucelayo kuphela nje yikuthi siqhubeke sikhumbula abayanga, yona kanye into engangitshisekela ukuzenza. **11** Ekufikeni kukaKhefasi e-Antiyokhi ngamphikisa sikhangelene ngoba wayesoleka. **12** Ngaphambilini kwafika abantu abathile bevela kuJakhobe owayevame ukudla labeZizweni. Kodwa sebefikile waqalisa ukuhlehlela emuva, wazehlukanisa labeZizweni ngoba wayesesaba ababegqembu lokusoka. **13** Amanye amaJuda lawo ahlanganyela laye kulokhukuzenzisa kwakhe, kwaze kwathi ngenxa yokuzenzisa kwawo uBhanabhasi waholelwa ekulahlekeni. **14** Kwathi lapho ngibona ukuba babengenzi okuhambelana leqiniso levangeli, ngathi kuKhefasi phambi kwabo bonke, “Wena ungumJuda kodwa uphila njengoweZizweni hatshi njengomJuda. Pho kwenzeka njani ukuba ubambe ngamandla abeZizweni ukuba balandele imikhuba yamaJuda na? **15** Thina esingamaJuda ngokuzalwa hatshi ‘izoni zeZizweni’ **16** siyakwazi ukuthi umuntu kalungisiswa yikugcina umthetho kodwa yikukholwa kuJesu Khristu. Ngakho-ke, lathi futhi, sibeke ukukholwa kwethu kuKhristu uJesu ukuba silungiswe yikukholwa kuKhristu hatshi ngokugcina umthetho ngoba kakho ozalungisiswa ngokugcina umthetho. **17** Kodwa nxa sisafuna ukulungisiswa kuKhristu, kube sokubonakala ukuthi thina ngokwethu siyizoni, lokho kutsho ukuthi uKhristu uselaka isono na? Akunjalalo lakancane! **18** Nxa ngikwakha kutsha lokho engakudilizayo, ngibonakalisa ukuthi ngiyisaphulamthetho. **19** Ngoba ngomthetho ngafa emthethweni ukuze ngiphilele uNkulunkulu. **20** Sengibethelwe kanye loKhristu, akuseyimi engiphilayo, kodwa uKhristu uphila phakathi kwami. Ukuphila engikuphila emzimbeni, ngikuphila ngokukholwa eNdodaneni kaNkulunkulu, eyangithandayo njalo yazinikela ngenxa yami. **21** Kangiwudeli umusa kaNkulunkulu ngoba nxa ukulunga kuzuzwa ngomthetho, uKhristu wafela ize.”

3 Lina maGalathiya ayizithutha! Ngubani oliloyileyo? Phambi kwamehlo enu uJesu Khristu wabonakaliswa obala ebethelwe. **2** Mina ngifuna ukwazi into eyodwa nje kini: UMoya lamamukela ngokugcina umthetho loba ngokukholwa lokho elakuzwayo na? **3** Kanti liyizithutha kangaka? Emva kokuqalisa ngoMoya, khathesi selizama ukuzwa ukuphelela ngemizamo yabantu na? **4** Kanti lihlupheke kangaka lihluphekela ize na, nxa impela kwakungokweze? **5** Kanti uNkulunkulu ulinika uMoya wakhe abuye enze izimangaliso phakathi kwenu ngoba ligcina umthetho loba ngoba likholwa lokho elakuzwayo na? **6** Khumbulani u-Abraham: “Wamkholwa uNkulunkulu,

kwabalelwa kuye njengokulunga.” 7 Ngakho zwisisani ukuthi labo abakholwayo bangabantwana baka-Abrahama. 8 Umbhalo wabona ngaphambili ukuthi uNkulunkulu wayezalungisa abeZizweni ngokukholwa, wahle wamemezela ivangeli ngaphambili ku-Abrahama esithi: “Zonke izizwe zizabusiwa ngawe.” 9 Ngakho labo abalokholo babusiwa kanye lo-Abrahama, umuntu wokholo. 10 Bonke abathembe umthetho bangaphansi kwesiqalekiso ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Uqalekisiwe umuntu wonke ongaqhubeki esenza konke okulotshwe eNcwadini yoMthetho.” 11 Kusobala ukuthi akakho olungisiswa ngomthetho phambi kukaNkulunkulu ngoba, “Abalungileyo bazaphila ngokukholwa.” 12 Umthetho kaweyamanga ekukholweni; kodwa, “Umuntu owenza izinto lezi uzaphila ngazo.” 13 UKhristu wasihlenga esiqalekiseni somthetho ngokuba yisiqalekiso ngenxa yethu, ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Uqalekisiwe umuntu wonke olengiswa esihlahleni.” 14 Wasihlenga ukuze isibusiso esaphiwa u-Abrahama sifike kwabeZizweni ngoKhristu uJesu, ukuze samukele isithembiso sikaMoya ngokukholwa. 15 Bazalwane, ake ngithathe isibonelo sokuphila kwansukuzonke. Njengoba engekho ongabeka eceleni loba engeze kusivumelwano sabantu esenziwe ngemfanelo, kunjalo-ke lakule indaba. 16 Izithembiso zatshiwo ku-Abrahama lakunzalo yakhe. Umbhalo kawuthi “kwabenzalo,” usitsho abantu abanengi, kodwa uthi, “lakunzalo yakho,” usitsho umuntu oyedwa, lowo kunguKhristu. 17 Engikutshoyo yilokhu: Umthetho owabekwa eminyakeni engamakhulu amane lamatshumi amathathu muva, kawusibeki eceleni isivumelwano esamiswa ngaphambili nguNkulunkulu ngalokho wesule isithembiso. 18 Ngoba nxa ilifa leyame emthethweni, ngalokho kaliseyamanga esithembisweni; kodwa uNkulunkulu ngomusa wakhe, walinika u-Abrahama ngesithembiso. 19 Pho, yayiyini-ke injongo yomthetho? Wengezelelwa ngenxa yeziphambeko kwaze kwafika iNzalo eyayitshwo yisithembiso. Umthetho wenziwa wasebenza ngayingitsho lomeli. 20 Kodwa umeli kameli icele elilodwa; kodwa uNkulunkulu munye. 21 Kambe ngalokho umthetho uphambene lezithembiso zikaNkulunkulu na? Akunjalolacane! Ngoba nxa kwakubekwe umthetho onika ukuphila, ukulunga impela kwakuzavela ngomthetho. 22 Kodwa umbhalo uvalele konke ngaphansi kwesono, ukwenzela ukuthi okwakuthenjisiwe, kuphiwa ngokukholwa kuJesu Khristu, sokungaphiwa labo abakholwayo. 23 Ukhohlo lolu lungakabi khona sasiyizibotshwa zomthetho, sivalelwe ukholo olwaluzakuba luze lubonakaliswe. 24 Ngakho umthetho waphiwa amandla okusiholela kuKhristu ukuba silungisiswe ngokukholwa. 25 Khathesi-ke njengoba ukholo selukhona, kasisekho ngaphansi kwamandla omthetho. 26 Lonke lingabantwana bakaNkulunkulu ngokukholwa kuKhristu uJesu 27 ngoba lonke lina elabhaphathizelwa kuKhristu selizembathise ngokuKhristu. 28 AkulamJuda loba oweZizweni, isigqili loba okhululekileyo, owesilisa loba owesifazane, ngoba lonke limunye kuKhristu uJesu. 29 Nxa lingabakaKhristu, ngalokho liyinzalo ka-Abrahama, lezindlalifa njengokutsho kwesithembiso.

4 Engikutshoyo yikuthi nxa indlalifa isesengumntwana, kayehlukananga lesigqili lanxa nje ingumnikazi welifa lonke. 2 Ingaphansi kwabaphathi lababambeli kuze kufike isikhathi esabekwa nguyise. 3 Ngokunjalo lathi ngesikhathi sisesengabantwana sasiyizigqili ngaphansi

kwempi yemimoya yalumlhlabane. 4 Kodwa kwathi lapho isikhathi sesifike ngokupheleleyo, uNkulunkulu wathuma iNdodana yakhe, yazalwa ngowesifazane, izalwa ngaphansi komthetho, 5 ukuba ihlengi abangaphansi komthetho, ukuze sithole amalungelo apheleleyo amadodana atholakeleyo. 6 Njengokuba lingamadodana, uNkulunkulu wathumela uMoya weNdodana yakhe enhliziyweni zenu, omemezayo usithi, “Abha, Baba.” 7 Ngakho kawuseyiso isigqili kodwa indodana kaNkulunkulu; njalo njengoba usuyindodana, uNkulunkulu usekwenze waba yindlalifa futhi. 8 Ekuqaleni, lingakamazi uNkulunkulu laliyizigqili zalabo abangayisibo onkulunkulu ngemvelo. 9 Kodwa khathesi uNkulunkulu selimazi, loba ngithi uNkulunkulu usezazi, pho kungani libuyela emuva empini yemimoya yalumlhlabane ebuthakathaka leyize na? Liyafisa ukuthi ligqilazwe yiyo njalo na? 10 Lina ligcina insuku ezithile lezinyanga, izikhathi zomnyaka kanye lemnyaka! 11 Ngiyalesabela, ukuthi ngenye indlela sengichithe imizamo yami kini. 12 Ngiyalincenga bazalwane, wobani njengami, ngoba lami ngaba njengami. Kalingenzelanga lutho olubi. 13 Njengoba lisazi, ngatshumayela ivangeli kini kuqala ngenxa yomkhuhlane. 14 Lanxa isimo somzimba wami sasiyisilingo kini, kalizange lingeyise kumbe lingihleke. Kodwa langamukela sengathi ngangiyngilosi kaNkulunkulu, sengathi nganguKhristu uJesu yena ngokwakhe. 15 Intokozo yenu yonke isiyengaphi na? Ngingafakaza ukuthi aluba lalingenzanjalo, lalingakopola amehlo enu linginike wona. 16 Khathesi sengibe yisitha senu ngokutshelwa iqiniso na? 17 Lababantu batshisekela ukulenza abazalwane babo, kodwa hatshi ngobuhle. Abakufunayo yikulehukanisa lathi ukuze litshisekele bona. 18 Ukutshiseka kulungile nxa injongo inhle, lokuba kube njalo kokuphela, hatshi kuphela nxa ngilani. 19 Bantwabami abathandekayo, lina engilomhelo ngani futhi uKhristu aze abunjwe phakathi kwenu, 20 ngiyafisa kakhulu ukuba lani khathesi ngiququle isimo sami, ngoba ngikhathazekile ngani! 21 Ngitshelani lina elifuna ukuba ngaphansi komthetho, kalikwazi yini ukuthi umthetho uthini? 22 Ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi u-Abrahama wayelamadodana amabili, enye ingeyesigqilikazi lenye ingeyowesifazane okhululekileyo. 23 Indodana yakhe yesigqilikazi yazalwa ngokwenyama; kodwa indodana yakhe yowesifazane okhululekileyo yazalwa kulandela isithembiso. 24 Izinto lezi zingathathwa njengomzekeliso; ngoba abesifazane ababili bamele izivumelwano ezimbili. Esinye isivumelwano sivela eNtabeni yeSinayi e-Arabhiya njalo sizala abantwana abazakuba ziyizigqili: Lo nguHagari. 25 UHagari umele iNtaba yeSinayi e-Arabhiya njalo uhambelana ledolobho lakhathesi eleJerusalem, ngoba lisebugqilini kanye labantwana balo. 26 Kodwa iJerusalem epehuzulu ikhululekile, njalo ingumama wethu. 27 Ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Thokoza mfazi oyinyumba, wena ongazange uzale umntwana; umemeze ngenjabulo ukhale kakhulu, wena ongakaze uhelelwe; ngoba abantwana bomfazi olahliweyo banengi kulabalowo olendoda.” 28 Ngakho lina bazalwane, njengo-Isaka, lingabantwana besithembiso. 29 Ngalesosikhathi indodana eyazalwa ngokwenyama yahlukuluzela indodana eyazalwa ngamandla kaMoya. Kunjalo lakhathesi. 30 Kodwa umbhalo uthini na? Uthi: “Susa isigqilikazi lendodana yaso, ngoba indodana yesigqilikazi kayiyikwabelana ilifa lendodana yowesifazane okhululekileyo.” 31 Ngakho, bazalwane, thina kasisibo bantwana besigqilikazi, kodwa abowesifazane okhululekileyo.

5 UKhristu wasikhululela ukuthi sibe lenkululeko. Ngakho manini liqine, lingavumeli ukuthi libotshelwe futhi ejogeni lobugqili. **2** Qaphelani amazwi ami! Mina Phawuli, ngiyalitshelela ukuthi lingavuma ukusoka, uKhristu kayikuba lusizo kini. **3** Njalo ngiyaqinisa ebantwini bonke abavumayo ukusoka ukuthi balomlandu wokulalela umthetho wonke. **4** Lina elizama ukulungisiswa ngomthetho sehlukaniswe loKhristu; sehlukane lomusa. **5** Kodwa ngokukholwa siholwa nguMoya silindele ithemba lokulunga ngokutshiseka. **6** Ngoba kuKhristu uJesus ukusoka loba ukungasoki akulasizo. Into kuphela eyayo eqakathekileyo yikukholwa okuzibonakalisa ngothando. **7** Kade lihamba kuhle. Ngubani olikhuphe ekulandeleni iqiniso na? **8** Ukuncenga okunjalo kakuveli kulowo olibizayo. **9** "Imvubelo encinyazana ibilisa inhlama yonke." **10** Ngiyathemba eNkosini ukuthi kaliyikwamukela omunye umnakano. Lowo olibeka phakathi kwenyakanyaka uzajeziswa, loba engubani. **11** Bazalwane, nxa ngisatshumayela ngokusoka, pho kungani ngilokhu ngihlukuluzwa? Nxa kunjalo isikhubekiso sesiphambano sesisusiwe. **12** Labo abahluphayo, ngifisa ukuthi ngabe bayaqhubeka bazithene! **13** Lina bazalwane bami, labizelwa ukuthi likhululeke. Kodwa lingasebenzisi inkululeko yenu ukuthokozisa inyama; kodwa sizanani omunye lomunye lizehlisa ngothando. **14** Umthetho wonke uhlanganiswa ngumlayo owodwa othi: "Thanda umakhelwane wakho njengoba uzithanda." **15** Nxa liqhubeka lilumana lokudlanana, qaphelani hlezi liqedane du. **16** Ngakho ngithi philani ngoMoya, kaliyikuthokozisa izinkanuko zenu zenyama. **17** Ngoba imvelo yesono ikhanuka okuphambene loMoya, loMoya ufuna okuphambene lemvelo yesono. Kuyaphikisana ukuze lingenzi elikuthandayo. **18** Kodwa nxa likhokhelwa nguMoya, kalikho ngaphansi komthetho. **19** Izenzo zenyama zisobala: ukuhlobonga, lokungesabi ukujeziswa, lokuxhwalwa; **20** ukukhonza izithombe lobuthakathi; inzondo lokuxabana, umona lentukuthelo, lobuhwaba, ukungezwani lokungavumelani **21** lomhawu; ukudakwa lokuzitika ngamanyala kanye lokunye okunjalo. Ngiyalixwayisa, njengoba lami ngaphila phakathi kwakho ukuthi abaphila kanje kabayikulidla ilifa lombuso kaNkulunkulu. **22** Kodwa izithelo zikaMoya luthando, lokuthokoza, lokuthula, lokubekezela, lomusa, lokulunga, lokuthembeka, **23** lobumnene kanye lokuzithiba. Ezintweni ezinje akulamthetho. **24** Labo abangabakaKhristu uJesus esebayibethela esiphambanweni imvelo yabo yesono lokufutheka kwayo kanye lezinkanuko. **25** Njengoba siphila ngoMoya, kasenzeni okuhambelana loMoya. **26** Kasingazikhukhumezi, singaqalani kumbe senzelane umona.

6 Bazalwane, nxa umuntu ethunjwe yisono esithile lina eliphila ngokoMoya kumele limbuyise kakuhle. Kodwa lizinanzelele ukuthi lani futhi lingalingwa. **2** Thwalani imithwalo yomunye lomunye, ngalokho lizagcwalisa umthetho kaKhristu. **3** Nxa umuntu ezitshaya ulutho yena engasilutho, uyazikhohlisa. **4** Umuntu munye ngamunye kahlole izenzo zakhe. Ngalokho angaziqhenya, kungekho ukuziqathanisa lomunye, **5** ngoba lowo lalowo kumele athwale umthwalo wakhe. **6** Loba ngubani othola ukufundiswa ngelizwi umele abelane zonke izinto ezinhle lalowo omfundisayo. **7** Lingakhohliswa: UNkulunkulu kahlekwa. Umuntu uvuna lokho akuhlanyelayo. **8** Lowo ohlanyela ukuthokozisa inyama yakhe, kuleyonyama uzavuna ukuchitheka; lowo ohlanyela ukuthokozisa uMoya, kuMoya uzavuna ukuphila okulaphakade. (aiōnios g166) **9** Kasingadinwa yikwenza

okuhle ngoba ngesikhathi esifaneleyo sizavuna isivuno nxa singadeli. **10** Ngakho-ke, njengokuba silethuba kasenzeni okulungileyo ebantwini bonke ikakhulu kulabo abangabemuli yabakholwayo. **11** Khangelani ukuthi makhulu kanganani amabala engiwasebenzisa lapho ngilobela ngesami isandla! **12** Labo abafuna ukubukwa enyameni bazama ukulincindezela ukuba lisoke. Isizatho sokuba benze lokhu yikuba babalekele ukuhlukuluzelwa isiphambano sikaKhristu kuphela. **13** Labo abasokileyo kabawulaleli umthetho kodwa bafuna ukuba lisoke ukuze bazincome ngemizimba yenu. **14** Mina kangingazincomi lanini ngaphandle kwangesiphambano seNkosi yethu uJesus Khristu, umhlaba wonke owabethelwa ngaso kimi, lami njalo emhlabeni. **15** Ukusoka loba ukungasoki akutsho lutho; okuqakathekileyo yikudalwa kutsha. **16** Ukuthula lesihawu kubo bonke abalandela umthetho lo, kanye laku-Israyeli kaNkulunkulu. **17** Okokucina, akungabi lamuntu ongibangela uhluho, ngoba emzimbeni wami ngilempawu zikajesu. **18** Umusa weNkosi yethu uJesus Khristu kawube lomoya wenu bazalwane. Amenii.

Kwabase-Efesu

1 UPhawuli, umpostoli kaKhristu uJesu ngentando kaNkulunkulu, Lakwabangcwele bakaNkulunkulu abase-Efesu, abathembekileyo kuKhristu uJesu: **2** Umusa lokuthula okuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba leNkosini uJesu Khristu kakube kini. **3** Udumo kalube kuNkulunkulu uYise weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, osibusise ebukhosini basezulwini ngezibusiso zonke zakomoya kuKhristu. **4** Ngoba wasikhetha umhlaba ungakadalwa ukuthi sibe ngcwele lokuthi singabi lasici ebusweni bakhe. Ngothando **5** wasimisela ukuba senziwe amadodana akhe ngoJesu Khristu, ngokwentokozo yakhe kanye lentando yakhe, **6** ukuze kudunyiswe umusa wakhe omangalisayo asiphe wona ngesihle kuLowo amthandayo. **7** Kuye silokuhlangwa ngegazi lakhe lokuthethelela kwezono ngokwenotho yomusa kaNkulunkulu **8** awuthululele phezu kwethu ngenhlanipho yonke langokuqedisa. **9** Wasazisa imfihlakalo yentando yakhe mayelana lentokozo yakhe elungileyo ayiceba kuKhristu, **10** ukuba kuhlangukane ndawonye zonke izinto ezisezulwini lasemhlabeni ngaphansi kwenhloko yinye enguKhristu. **11** Sakhethwa kuye, simiselwe lokho ngokwecebo lakhe yena osebenza izinto zonke ngokuvumelana lenjongo yentando yakhe, **12** ukuze kuthi thina esaba ngabokuqala ukubeka ithemba lethu kuKhristu sibe ngabokubonga udumo lwakhe. **13** Lani labalwa kanye loKhristu lapho selizwe ilizwi leqiniso, levangeli lokusindisa kwenu. Selikholwe kuye, labekwa uphawu, uMoya oNgcwele owathenjiswa, **14** oyisibambiso esiyisiqiniso selifa lethu kuze kufike ukuhlangwa kwalabo abangabakaNkulunkulu ukuba kudunyiswe udumo lwakhe. **15** Ngenxa yalokhu, sekulokhu ngezwa ngokukholwa kwenu eNkosini uJesu kanye lothando lwenu kubo bonke abantu bakaNkulunkulu abangcwele, **16** angikaze ngiyekele ukulibongela lokulikhumbula emikhulekweni yami. **17** Nguyaqhubeka ngicela ukuba uNkulunkulu weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, uYise oyinkazimulo, alinike uMoya wokuhlakanipha lokwambulelwa ukuze limazi ngcono. **18** Ngikhulekela njalo lokuthi amehlo ezinhliziyu zenu akhanyiselwe ukuze lilazi ithemba alibizela kulo, inotho yelifa lakhe elimangalisayo kwabangcwele, **19** lamandla akhe amakhulu angelakulinganiswa kithi thina esikholwayo. Amandla lawo afana lokusebenza kwamandla akhe amakhulu **20** awasebenzisa evusa uKhristu kwabafayilo, emhlalisa esandleni sakhe sokunene ebukhosini basezulwini **21** phezu kokubusa konke lobukhosi, amandla kanye lombuso, lamabizo wonke angatshwiwo, kungayisikho kwalesisikhathi kuphela kodwa lakuleso esizayo. (aiōn g165) **22** UNkulunkulu wabeka izinto zonke ngaphansi kwezinyawo zakhe wamkhetha ukuba abe yinhloko yezinto zonke zebandla, **23** lona elingumzimba wakhe, ukuphelela kwakhe yena ophelelisa izinto zonke ngezindlela zonke.

2 Lina lalifile eziphambekweni lasezonweni zenu, **2** elaliphila kuzo ngesikhathi lisalandela izindlela zalo umhlaba lezombusi wombuso wasemoyeni, umoya osebenzayo lakhathesi kulabo abangalaleliyo. (aiōn g165) **3** Lathi sonke sake saphila phakathi kwabo ekuqaleni, sithokozisa izinkanuko zemvelo yethu yesonu, silandela lezifiso kanye lemicabango yazo. Njengabanye, ngokwemvelo sasifanele ulaka. **4** Kodwa ngenxa yothando lwakhe olukhulu kithi, uNkulunkulu

olesihawu esikhulu, **5** wasenza saba ngabaphilayo loKhristu lanxa sasifile eziphambekweni, ngomusa selisindisiwe. **6** UNkulunkulu wasivusa ekufeni kanye loKhristu wasihlalisa laye ebukhosini basezulwini kuKhristu uJesu **7** ukuze kuthi ezikhathini ezizayo atshengise inotho yomusa wakhe engeke ilinganiswe, ebalulwe yibubele bakhe kithi kuKhristu uJesu. (aiōn g165) **8** Ngoba ngomusa lisindisiwe, kungokukholwa njalo lokhu akuveli kini, kuyisipho sikaNkulunkulu, **9** hatshi ngemisebenzi, ukuze kungabi lozazincoma. **10** Ngoba siyibuciko bukaNkulunkulu, sidalelwe kuKhristu uJesu ukuba senze imisebenzi emihle, uNkulunkulu ayilungisa ngaphambili ukuba siyenze. **11** Ngakho, khumbulani ukuthi kuqala lina elingabeZizweni ngokuzalwa njalo elibizwa ngokuthi “ngabangasokanga” yilabo abazibiza ngokuthi “ngabokusoka” (lokho okwenziwa emzimbeni ngezandla zabantu), **12** khumbulani ukuthi ngalesosikhathi lahlelwe loKhristu, lingabalelwa enzalweni yako-Israyeli njalo lingabezizweni kusivumelwano sesithembiso, lingelathemba njalo lingelaye uNkulunkulu emhlabeni. **13** Kodwa khathezi kuKhristu uJesu lina elake laba khatshana le selisondezwe eduzane ngegazi likaKhristu. **14** Ngoba yena uqobo uyikuthula kwethu, yena owenza ababili baba munye, wadiliza uthango olungumdule wobutha owehlukanisayo, **15** ngokuchitha emzimbeni wakhe umthetho lemilayo yawo kanye lezimiso. Injongo yakhe yayingeyokudala phakathi kwakhe umuntu oyedwa njalo omutsha ngabantu ababili, ngalokho enze ukuthula, **16** kuthi kulo umzimba munye kube lokubuyisana kwayo yomibili kuNkulunkulu ngesiphambano, achitha ngaso ubutha bayo. **17** Weza wazatsumayela ukuthula kithi elalikhathana lokuthula kulabo ababeseduzane. **18** Ngoba ngaye sobabili siyafinyelela kuYise ngoMoya munye. **19** Ngalokho-ke, kaliseyibo bezizweni lezihambi, kodwa seliyinzalo yakithi labantu bakaNkulunkulu, kanye lamalunga abendlu kaNkulunkulu, **20** lakhelwe phezu kwesisekelo sabapostoli labaphrofethi, uKhristu uJesu yena uqobo eyilitshe elikhulu lekhone. **21** Indlu yonke ihlanganiselwe kuye njalo ikhula ukuze ibe lithempeli elingcwele eNkosini. **22** Lani futhi lakhelwa ndawonye kuye ukuze libe yindawo yokuhlala uNkulunkulu ahlala kuyo ngoMoya wakhe.

3 Ngenxa yalesisizatho, mina Phawuli, isibotshwa sikaKhristu uJesu ngenxa yenu lina bantu beZizweni. **2** Ngeqiniso selizwile ngokuphathwa komusa kaNkulunkulu engawuphiwayo ngenxa yenu, **3** ukuthi ngaziswa imfihlakalo ngokwambulelwa njengoba sengabhala ngamafitshane. **4** Nxa libala lokhu lizenelisa ukuzwisisa umbono wami ngemfihlakalo kaKhristu, **5** engazange yaziswe abantu kwezinye izizukulwane njengoba khathesi isiveziwe nguMoya kubapostoli abangcwele bakaNkulunkulu lakubaphrofethi. **6** Imfihlakalo le iyikuthi ngevangeliki abeZizweni bazindlalifa bekanye labako-Israyeli, amalunga omzimba munye ndawonye, labahlanganyeli kuso isithembiso kuKhristu uJesu. **7** Mina ngaba yinceku yevangeliki leli ngesipho somusa kaNkulunkulu engasiphila ngokusebenza kwamandla akhe. **8** Lanxa ngimncane kulabancane bonke babantu bakaNkulunkulu, umusa lo ngawunikwa: ukuba ngitshumayele kwabeZizweni inotho kaKhristu engacubungulekiyo, **9** njalo ngikubeke obala ukuphatha kwami imfihlakalo le eyayifihliwe okweminyaka eminingi eyedlulayo kuNkulunkulu, owadala izinto zonke. (aiōn g165) **10** Injongo yakhe yayiyikuthi ibandla lazise ababusi leziphathamandla zemibuso yasezulwini ngenhlanipho

emangalisayo kaNkulunkulu, **11** ngokwenhloso yakhe engulaphakade ayifeza kuXhristu uJesu iNkosi yethu. (aiōn g165) **12** Kuye langokukholwa kuye singasondela kuNkulunkulu ngokukhululeka langesibindi. **13** Ngakho, ngiyalcela ukuba lingalahli ithemba ngenxa yokulihluphekela kwami, okuludumo kini. **14** Ngenxa yalokhu ngiyaguqa phambi kukaBaba, **15** lapho yonke imuli yamakholwa asezulwini lasemhlabeni ethola khona ibizo layo. **16** Ngikhulekela ukuthi ngenotho yobukhosi bakhe aliqinise ngamandla ngoMoya wakhe ezinhliziyweni zenu **17** ukuze uXhristu ahlale ezinhliziyweni zenu ngokukholwa. Ngikhulekela ukuba ligxile njalo linqine ethandweni, **18** libe lamandla kanye labangcwele beNkosi bonke ukuba liqedisise ububanzi lobude lokujula kanye lokuzika kothando lukaXhristu, **19** lokuba lilwazi uthando lolu oludlula ukwazi ukuze ligcwaliswe ngesilinganiso sokugcwa okupheleleyo kukaNkulunkulu. **20** Ngakho-ke, kuye lowo oyenza okukhulu kakhulu kulalokho esikucelayo kumbe esikucabangayo, ngokwamandla akhe asebenza phakathi kwethu, **21** udumo kalube kuye ebandleni lakuXhristu uJesu kuzizukulwane zonke kuze kube nini lanini! Amenii. (aiōn g165)

4 Njengesibotshwa seNkosi, ngiyalincenga ukuba liphile impilo efanele ubizo elalwamukelayo. **2** Wobani ngabathobekileyo labamnene ngokupheleleyo; bekezalani, libekezelelane omunye komunye ethandweni. **3** Zamani ngamandla wonke ukugcina ukumanyana kukaMoya ngesibopho sokuthula. **4** Kulomzimba munye loMoya munye; njengalokhu labizelwa ethembeni linye ekubizweni kwenu, **5** iNkosi yinye, lokholo lunye, ubhaphathizo lunye; **6** uNkulunkulu munye uYise wabo bonke, ophezu kwabo bonke njalo okubo bonke. **7** Kodwa yilowo lalowo wethu waphiwa umusa ngokwaba kukaXhristu. **8** Yikho-nje umbhalo usithi: “Ekwenyukeleni kwakhe phezulu, wahola abathunjiweyo abanengi njalo wanika izipho ebantwini bakhe.” **9** (Ukuthi “wenyuka” kutshoni ngaphandle kokuthi njalo wehlela lezigabani zangaphansi komhlaba na? **10** Yena lowo owehlela phansi nguye kanye owenyukela phezulu kakhulu kulamazulu wonke ukuze agcwa izindawo zonke emhlabeni lasezulwini.) **11** UKhristu nguye owanika abanye ukuba babe ngapostoli, abanye babe ngabaphrofethi, abanye babe ngabavangeli, abanye babe ngabaphathi labanye babe ngabafundisi, **12** ukuba balungisele abantu bakaNkulunkulu imisebenzi yenkonzo, ukuze umzimba kaXhristu wakhiwe **13** sonke size sifinyelele ekumanyaneni, ekukholweni lasekuzweni iNdodana kaNkulunkulu sikhule ngokupheleleyo, sithole isilinganiso sokuphelela okufunyanwa kuXhristu. **14** Ngakho kasisayikuba zingane, siphoswa emuva laphambili ngamagagasi, siphetshulwa lapha lalahaya yimimoya yonke yemfundiso kanye lokuhlakanipha lobuqili babantu ngamazwi abo enkohliso. **15** Kodwa-ke, sikhuluma iqiniso ngothando, sizakhula ezintweni zonke kuye yena oyinhlolo, yena enguXhristu. **16** Kusakela kuye umzimba wonke ohlanganise wabanjaniswa yimisipha yonke ewusekelayo uyakhula uzakhe ngothando, isitho sinye ngasinye sisenza umsebenzi waso. **17** Ngakho-ke, ngilitshela lokhu, ngikugcizelela eNkosini, ukuba akumelanga liphile njengabeZizweni emicabangweni yabo eyize. **18** Kubamnyama ekuqedisiseni kwabo njalo behlukene lokuphila kukaNkulunkulu ngenxa yokungazi kwabo okungenxa yobululuhuni bezinhliziyi zabo. **19** Sebelahlekelwe ngunembeza wonke, sebezinikele ekuthokoziseni inyama

ukuze benze inhlobo zonke zokuxhala, inkanuko iqhubeka ifuna okunengi. **20** Kodwa lina uXhristu kalimazanga ngaleyondlela. **21** Impela lezwa njalo lafundiswa ngaye ngokweqiniso elikujesu. **22** Lafundiswa mayelana lendlela yenu yakuqala yokuphila ukuba lilahle uqobo lwenu oludala, olonakaliswa yizinkanuko zalo zenkohliso; **23** ukuba lenziwe libe batsha esimeni sengondzo zenu; **24** lifake uqobo lomzimba olutsha, oludalelwe ukuba njengoNkulunkulu ekulungeni okuqotho lobungcwele. **25** Ngakho-ke, yilowo lalowo wenu kumele alahle amanga akhulume iqiniso kumakhelwane wakhe ngoba sonke siyizitho zomzimba munye. **26** “Ekuthukutheleni kwenu lingoni”: Ilanga kalingatshoni lilokhu lithukuthela **27** njalo lingamini indawo yokugxila uSathane. **28** Lowo obekade entshontsha kangantshontshi futhi kodwa kumele asebenze, enze ulutho oluhle ngezandla zakhe ukuze abe langakwabela abaswelayo. **29** Akungabi lenkulumo embi ephuma emilonyeni yenu kodwa okusizayo ekwakheni abanye ngokwezinswelo zabo, ukuba kusize labo abalalelayo. **30** Njalo lingamadubukisi uMoya oNgcwele kaNkulunkulu elabekwa ngaye uphawu lwelanga lokuhlanga. **31** Susani yonke inzondo, ulaka lokuthukuthela, ingxabano lesinye, kanye lobubi bonke. **32** Wobani lomusa kanye lozwelo komunye lomunye wenu njalo lithethelelane njengalokhu uNkulunkulu walithethelela ngoXhristu.

5 Ngakho-ke, wobani ngabalingiseli bakaNkulunkulu njengabantwana abathandwa kakhulu **2** liphile impilo yothando, njengalokhu uXhristu wasithanda wazinikela ngenxa yethu njengomnikelo olephunga elimnandi lomhlathshelo kaNkulunkulu. **3** Kodwa phakathi kwenu Akungabikhona umthonselanyana wokuhlobonga loba uhlobo luphi lokungcola kumbe ubuhwaba ngoba lezizinto kazifanelanga ebantwini abangcwele bakaNkulunkulu. **4** Njalo akumelanga kube lenhlamba lenkulumo zobuthutha loba ubuphoxo khona okuyizinto ezingafanelanga kodwa kakube lokubonga. **5** Ngoba kuliqiniso ukuthi: Akulamuntu oyisixhwali, ongcolileyo loba oyisihwaba, umuntu onjalo ukhonza izithombe, olelifa embusweni kaXhristu lokaNkulunkulu. **6** Lingavumi ukukhohliswa ngumuntu ngamazwi ayize ngoba ngenxa yezinto ezinje ulaka lukaNkulunkulu lwehlela phezu kwalabo abangalaleliyo. **7** Ngakho lingahlanganyeli labo. **8** Ngoba lake laba yibumnyama kodwa khathezi seliyikukhanya eNkosini. Philani njengabantwana bokukhanya **9** (ngoba izithelo zokukhanya zikhona kubo bonke ubuhle lokulunga kanye leqiniso) **10** lidinge okuthokozisa iNkosi. **11** Lingahlanganyeli ezenzweni zobumnyama ezingelazithelo kodwa zichayeni sobala. **12** Ngoba kulihlazo lokukutsho nje okwenziwa yizigangi ensitha. **13** Kodwa konke okuwezwe obala yikukhanya kuyabonakala, **14** ngoba yikukhanya okwenza izinto zonke zibonakale. Yikho-nje kuthiwa: “Phaphama, wena oleleyo, vuka kwabafileyo, uXhristu uzakhanya kuwe.” **15** Ngakho-ke, qaphelani kakhulu ukuba liphila njani, kungabi njengezithutha kodwa njengabahlakaniphileyo. **16** liwasebenzise ngokupheleleyo amathuba wonke ngoba insuku zimbi. **17** Ngakho-ke, lingabi yiziwula kodwa qedisiseni ukuthi intando kaThixo iyini. **18** Lingadakwa liwayini okuthungamela ekoneni. Kodwa gcwaliswani ngoMoya, **19** likhulumisana omunye komunye ngamahubo, amaculo kanye lezingoma zakoMoya. Hlabelani lenzele iNkosi imiculo ezinhliziyweni zenu **20** limbonge

kokuphela uNkulunkulu uBaba kukho konke, ngebizo leNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu. **21** Zehliseni omunye komunye lihlonipha uKhristu. **22** Bafazi, zehliseni kubomkenu njengaseNkosini. **23** Ngoba indoda yinhloko yomfazi njengoKhristu eyinhloko yebandla elingumzimba wakhe, yena onguMsindisi walo. **24** Ngakho njengebandla lizehlisa kuKhristu ngokunjalo abesifazane kumele bazehlise kubomkabo ezintweni zonke. **25** Madoda thandani omkenu njengoKhristu owathanda ibandla wazinikela ngenxa yalo **26** ukuba alenze libengcwele, elihlambulula ngokuligezisa ngamanzi esebenzisa ilizwi, **27** kanye lokulethula kuye njengebandla elilenkazimulo, elingelasisi loba ukuba mxhilibane kumbe esinye nje isici kodwa lingcwele njalo lingelacala. **28** Ngokunjalo, amadoda kumele athande omkawo njengemizimba yawo. Lowo othanda umkakhe uyazithanda yena ngokwakhe. **29** Belo, kakho owake wazonda umzimba wakhe kodwa uwunika ukudla awulondolozwe njengokwenziwa nguKhristu ebandleni, **30** ngoba thina sijizitho zomzimba wakhe. **31** “Ngenxa yalokhu indoda izatshiya uyise lonina ihlanganiswe lomkayo njalo ababili laba bazakuba nyamanye.” **32** Le yimfihlakalo enkulu kodwa mina ngikhuluma ngoKhristu lebandla. **33** Kodwa omunye lomunye wenu laye kathande umkakhe njengoba ezithanda, lomfazi kumele ahloniphe indoda yakhe.

6 Bantwana lalalani abazali benu eNkosini ngoba lokhu kulungile. **2** “Hlonipha uyihlo lonyoko,” okungumlayo wakuqala olesithembiso, **3** “ukuze kukulungele lokuba ube lempilo ende emhlabeni.” **4** Bobaba, lingabathukuthelisi abantwana benu kodwa bondleni ngokufundisa langokulaya kweNkosi. **5** Zisebenzi, lalalani amakhosi enu asemhlabeni ngenhlonipho langokwesaba, langobuqotho benhliziyo, ngendlela elingalalela ngayo uKhristu. **6** Lingawalaleli ukuba liwathokozise nje kuphela nxa elikhangele kodwa njengezisebenzi zikaKhristu, lisenza intando kaNkulunkulu kuvela ezinhliziyweni zenu. **7** Sebenzani ngenhliziyo yonke kube sengathi lisebenzela iNkosi hatshi abantu **8** ngoba liyakwazi ukuthi iNkosi izakupha umuntu wonke umvuzo ngenxa yokuhle akwenzayo loba eyisigqili kumbe ekhululekile. **9** Lani makhosi phathani izigqili zenu ngendlela efanayo. Lingazisongeli njengoba likwazi ukuthi lowo oyiNkosi yazo leyenu usezulwini njalo akukho ubandlululo kuye. **10** Ekucineni, qinani eNkosini lasemandleni ayo amakhulu. **11** Fakani isihlangu esipheleleyo sikaNkulunkulu ukuze lenelise ukumelana lamacebo kaSathane. **12** Ngoba kasilwi lenyama legazi kodwa silwa lababusi, lemibuso kanye lamandla omhlaba lo ogcwele ubumnyama, silwe njalo lamabutho emimoya emibi emibusweni yasemazulwini. **(aiōn g165)** **13** Ngakho-ke, fakani isihlangu esipheleleyo sikaNkulunkulu ukuze kuthi lapho usuku lobubi lufika libe lamandla okuma kuthi lalapho selenze konke, lime. **14** Manini liqine, ibhanti leqiniso libotshelwe ngensimbi ezinkalweni zenu, lesihlangu sasesifubeni sokulunga sisendaweni yaso, **15** lezinyawo zenu zigqokiswe zalungiselelwa ngokuvela evangelini lokuthula. **16** Phezu kwakho konke lokhu, thathani ihawu lokukholwa elizacitsha ngalo yonke imitshoko yomubi evuthayo. **17** Thathani ingowane yokusindiswa lenkamba kaMoya eyilizwi likaNkulunkulu. **18** Khulekani ngoMoya ezikhathini zonke ngezinhlobo zonke zemikhuleko lezicelo. Lilalokhu emicabangweni, qaphelani liqhubeke kokuphela libakhulekela bonke abantu beNkosi abangcwele. **19** Lami lingikhulekele ukuba kokuphela lapho ngivula umlomo

wami, ngiphiwe amazwi ukuze ngitshumayele ngesibindi imfihlakalo yevangeli, **20** engingumeli walo ngibotshwe ngamaketane. Khulekani ukuba ngilitshumayele ngesibindi njengokumele ngikwenze. **21** UThikhikhasi umzalwane othandekayo loyinceku ethembekileyo eNkosini uzalitshela konke ukuze lani lazi ukuba nginjani kanye lengikwenzayo. **22** Ngimthuma kini ngenjongo yokuthi likwazi ukuthi sinjani lokuthi alikhuthaze. **23** Ukuthula kakube kubazalwane, lothando lokukholwa okuvela kuNkulunkulu uYise laseNkosini uJesu Khristu. **24** Umusa kawube kubo bonke abayithandayo iNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu ngothando olungapheliyo.

KwabaseFiliphi

1 UPhawuli loThimothi, inceku zikaKhristu uJesu, Lakubo bonke abangcwele kuKhristu uJesu eFiliphi kanye lababonisi labadikoni: **2** Umosa lokuthula okwela kuNkulunkulu uBaba leNkosini uJesu Khristu kakube kini. **3** Ngiyambonga uNkulunkulu wami izikhathi zonke lapho ngilikhumbula. **4** Emikhulekweni yami yonke ngilikhulekela lonke, ngihlezi ngikhuleka ngokuthokoza **5** ngenxa yokuhlanyanya kwenu evangelini kusukela ngosuku lwakuqala kuze khathesi, **6** ngilethemba lokuthi lowo owaqalisa umsebenzi omuhle kini uzawuqhubekisela phambili kuze kube lusuku lukaKhristu uJesu. **7** Kuqondile ukuthi ngicabange ngokunjalo ngenxa yenu lonke, njengoba ngilani enhliziyweni yami njalo lanxa ngibotshiwe kumbe ngivukele ivangeli loba ngilinqinisa, lonke lihlanganyela lami emuseni kaNkulunkulu. **8** UNkulunkulu angafakaza ukuthi lonke ngilifiseleni ngothando lukaKhristu uJesu. **9** Umkhuleko wami ngowokuthi uthando lwenu lwande kokuphela ekwazini lasekuzikeni kokuqedisisa **10** ukuze lenelise ukubona okuhle njalo lihlambuluke lingabi lasici kuze kube lusuku lukaKhristu, **11** ligcwele izithelo zokulunga ezibuya ngoJesu Khristu ekudunyisweni lasekubongweni kukaNkulunkulu. **12** Bazalwane, ngifuna ukuba lazi ukuthi okwenzakale kimi kusizile impela ekuqhubekiseni ivangeli phambili. **13** Ngalokho, sekube sobala kubo bonke abalindi besigodlo lakwabonke bonke ukuthi ngibotshelwe uKhristu. **14** Ngenxa yokubotshwa kwami, abazalwane abanengi sebelethemba eNkosini njalo sebelesibindi esikhulu sokutshumayela ilizwi likaNkulunkulu bengelakwesaba. **15** Kuliqiniso ukuthi abanye batshumayela uKhristu ngenxa yomona lombango kodwa abanye ngenxa yesifiso esihle. **16** Laba benza lokhu ngothando bekwazi ukuthi ngifakwe lapha ukuba ngivikele ivangeli. **17** Abakuqala batshumayela ngoKhristu ngokuzikhukhumeza, bengeqotho, becabanga ukuthi bangangidalela uhlupho ngisekubotshweni. **18** Kodwake, kusizani pho? Into eqakathekileyo yikuthi ngezindlela zonke, ingabe kuyinjongo engalunganga loba eyeqiniso, uKhristu uyatshunyayelwa. Njalo ngenxa yalokhu mina ngiyathokoza. Yebo, ngizaqhubeka ngithokoza, **19** ngoba ngiyazi ukuthi ngemikhuleko yenu langosizo lukaMoya kaJesu Khristu, okwenzakale kimi kuzaletha ukukhululwa kwami. **20** Ngokutshiseka ngilindele njalo ngithemba ukuthi angiyikuyangeka langayiphi indlela, kodwa ngizakuba lesibindi esaneleyo ukuze kuthi khathesi njengenjwayelo uKhristu uzakudunyiswa emzimbeni wami, loba ngokuphila kumbe ngokufa. **21** Ngoba kimi, ukuphila kunguKhristu lokufa kuyinzuzo. **22** Nxa ngingaqhubeka ngiphila emzimbeni, lokhu kuzakutsho umsebenzi olezithelo kimi. Kodwa-ke, kuyini engizakukhetha? Angazi! **23** Ngiphakathi kwakho kokubili: Ngifisa ukusuka ngibe loKhristu, okungcono kakhulu; **24** Kodwa kuyasweleka kakhulu kini ukuba ngibe ngilokhu ngiphila kulumuzimba. **25** Sengikholve lokhu, ngiyakwazi ukuthi ngizakuba khona, njalo ngizaqhubeka ngilani lonke ngenxa yokuthuthuka kwenu lokuthokoza ekukhulweni, **26** ukuze kuthi ngokuba lani kwami futhi, ukuthokoza kwenu kuKhristu uJesu kuzakwanda ngenxa yami. **27** Loba kusenzakalani, lina ziphatheni ngendlela efanele ivangeli likaKhristu. Ngakho, langabe ngiyeza ukuzalibona loba ngizwe nje kuphela ngani ngingekho, ngizakwazi ukuba liqinile ngaMoya munye,

lilwela ukhohlo lwevangeli njengomuntu munye, **28** kungekho kwethuswa langayiphi indlela yilabo abaliphikisayo. Lokhu kuyisibonakaliso kubo ukuthi bazachithwa, kodwa lina lizasindiswa nguNkulunkulu. **29** Ngoba kunikelwe kini ngenxa kaKhristu kungasikukholwa kuye kuphela, kodwa lokumhluphekela, **30** njengoba lilwisa hlupho lunye elabona ngilalo, lakhathesi liyezwa ukuba ngilokhu ngilalo.

2 Nxa kukhona okukhuthazayo ngokuhlanguka loKhristu, nxa kulenduduzo evela ethandweni lwakhe, nxa kulobudlelwano loMoya, nxa kulozwelo lesihawu, **2** phelelisani intokozo yami ngokuba ngogondo nye, lilothando lunye, limunye emoyeni njalo linjongo yinye. **3** Lingenzi lutho ngokuzikhukhumeza loba ukuziphakamisa okuyize. Kodwa ngokuthobeka khangelani abanye njengabangcono kulani **4** lingazikhathaleli izifiso zenu lodwa kodwa likhathalele lezifiso zabanye. **5** Ekuphiliseni kwenu, isimo sengqondo yenu kumele sifanane lesikaKhristu uJesu, **6** Yena okwathi ngemvelo enguNkulunkulu, kacabanganga ukulingana loNkulunkulu kuyilutho olungafinyelelwa, **7** kodwa wazithoba, wathatha isimo senceku, yena elesimo somuntu. **8** Wathi ebonjwe wabonakala njengomuntu, wazehlisa walalela kwaze kwaba sekufeni, ukufa kwasesiphambanweni! **9** Ngakho-ke, uNkulunkulu wamphakamisela endaweni ephezulu kakhulu, wamnika ibizo elingaphezu kwamabizo wonke, **10** ukuba amadolo wonke aguqe ebizweni likaJesu, ezulwini lasemhlabeni kanye langaphansi komhlaba, **11** lezindimi zonke zivume ukuthi uJesu Khristu uyiNkosi, kube ludumo lukaNkulunkulu uYise. **12** Ngakho-ke, bangane bami abathandekayo, njengoba lihlezi lilalela kungayisikho ukuthi ngikhona kuphela kodwa ikakhulu nxa ngingekho, qhubekani lisebenzela ukusindiswa kwenu ngokwesaba langokuthuthumela **13** ngoba nguNkulunkulu osebenzayo phakathi kwenu ukuba lifune njalo lenze okumthokozisayo. **14** Yenzani konke kungela kusola kumbe ukuphikisana **15** ukuze libe ngabantwana bakaNkulunkulu abangelasici labahlambulukileyo, abamsulwa phakathi kwesizukulwane esonakeleyo lesixhwalileyo, lina elicwebezela phakathi kwase liletha ukukhanya emhlabeni **16** ligagadalela ilizwi lokuphila. Ngalokho ngizacincoma ngosuku lukaKhristu ukuthi kangigijimelanga kumbe ngasebenzela ize. **17** Kodwa lanxa ngithululwa njengomnikelo wokunathwa phezu komhlathshelo lenkonzo evela ekukholweni kwenu, ngiyathaba ngithokoza lani lonke. **18** Ngakho-ke, lani njalo thabani lithokoza lami. **19** Ngiyethemba eNkosini uJesu ukuba ngizathuma uThimothi kini masinyane ukuba lami ngithokoze lapho ngisamukela izindaba ngani. **20** Kangilaye omunye onjengaye, othakazelela inhlalakahle yenu ngobuqotho. **21** Ngoba abantu bonke bazifunela okwabo, hatshi okukaJesu Khristu. **22** Kodwa lina liyakwazi ukuthi uThimothi usezifakazele ngoba njengendodana eloyise usesebenze lami emsebenzini wevangeli. **23** Ngakho-ke, ngithemba ngizamthuma masinyane lapho sengibonile ukuba izinto zingihambela njani. **24** Njalo ngiyathemba eNkosini ukuthi lami uqobo ngizakuba masinyane. **25** Kodwa ngibona kufanele ukuthi ngimthume kini futhi u-Ephafrodithusi, umzalwane wami, obambisane lami umsebenzi lolibutho kanye lami, oyisithunywa senu futhi, elamthumayo ukuthi angisize ngendingeko zami. **26** Ngoba uyalilangatha lonke njalo ukhathazekile njengoba lezwa ukuthi wayegula. **27** Ngempela wayegula njalo waphose wafa. Kodwa uNkulunkulu

waba lesihawu kuye, kungayisikho kuye kuphela kodwa lakimi ukuba angiphephise osizini phezu kosizi. **28** Ngakho-ke, ngitshisekela kakhulu ukumthuma ukuze kuthi lapho limbona futhi lithokoze lami ngikhathazake okunganano. **29** Mamukeleni eNkosini ngokuthokoza okukhulu njalo libahloniphe abantu abanjengaye **30** ngoba waphosa wafela umsebenzi kaKhristu, wafaka impilo yakhe engozini ukuze angiphe usizo elingangiphanga lona.

3 Okokucina, bazalwane, thokozani eNkosini! Akusihlupho kimi ukulilobela ngezinto ezifanayo futhi ngoba lokho kuyisivikelo kini. **2** Qaphelani izinja lezo, abantu labo abenza okubi lalabo abalimaza umzimba. **3** Ngoba thina yithi abokusokwa, thina esikhonza uNkulunkulu ngoMoya wakhe, esiziqhenya ngoKhristu uJesu njalo esingabeki ithemba kokwenyama **4** lanxa nje mina ngokwami ngilelizatho zethemba elinjalo. Nxa kulomuntu ocabanga ukuthi ulezizatho zokuthemba okwenyama, mina ngilezinengi: **5** ngasokwa ngosuku lwesificaminwembali, ngingowako-Israyeli, owesizwana sakoBhenjamini, umHebheru wamaHebheru; ngokomthetho, ngingumFarisi; **6** ngokutshiseka, ngahlukuluza ibandla; ngokulunga okugxile emthethweni, angilacala. **7** Kodwa loba kuyini okwakuyinzuzo kimi khathesi ngikubala njengokulahlekelwa ngenxa kaKhristu. **8** Phezu kwalokho, konke ngikubona kuyize lapho kulinganiswa lobukhulu obumangalisayo bokwazi uKhristu Jesu iNkosi yami esengilahlekelwe yizinto zonke ngenxa yakhe. Ngikubona kuyimfucuzo ukuze ngizuze uKhristu **9** njalo ngitholakale kuye, ngingelakulunga okungokwami okuvela emthethweni, kodwa lokho kungenxa yokukholwa kuKhristu, ukulunga okuvela kuNkulunkulu njalo okungokukholwa. **10** Ngifuna ukumazi uKhristu lamandla okuvuka kwakhe ekufeni lobudlelwano bokuhlanganyela ekhuluphekeni kwakhe, ngibe njengaye ekufeni, **11** ukuze ngenye indlela, ngithole ukuvuka kwabafileyo. **12** Akusikuthi sengikuzuzile konke lokhu loba ukuthi sengiphelelisiwe kodwa ngilwisa ukuba ngibambe lokho uKhristu Jesu angibambela khona. **13** Bazalwane, angikazibali njengosekubambile lokho. Kodwa yinye into engiyenzayo, ngiyakukhohlwa okusemuva ngizama ngamandla ukufinyelela kokuphambili, **14** ngilwisa ukuthi ngiyefinyelela ekucineni ukuba ngithole umvuzo uNkulunkulu angibizela wona ezulwini ngoKhristu uJesu. **15** Sonke thina esesiphelele kumele sikhangele izinto ngengqondo enjalo. Nxa kokunye licabanga ngokwehlukileyo, lalokho uNkulunkulu uzakwenza kucace kini. **16** Kuphela nje kasiqhubekeni ngalokho esesikuzuzile. **17** Bazalwane, hlanganyelani labanye ekulandeleni isibonelo sami, libananzelele labo abaphila ngokwesibonelo esalishengisa sona. **18** Ngoba, njengoba ngangihlala ngilithshela kuqala lakhathesi ngiyatsho futhi langezinymbenzi ukuthi abanengi baphila njengezitha zesiphambano sikaKhristu. **19** Isiphetho sabo yikubhubha, unkulunkulu wabo yisisu sabo, lodumo lwabo lusehlazweni labo. Inqondo yabo isezintweni zasemlabeni. **20** Kodwa elethu ikhaya lisezulwini. Njalo simlindele ngokutshiseka uMsindisi evela khonale, iNkosi uJesu Khristu, **21** yena okuzakuthi ngamandla amenza abeke izinto zonke ngaphansi kwakhe, uzaguqula imizimba yethu elesimo esiphansi ibe njengomzimba wakhe olenkazimulo.

4 Ngakho-ke bazalwane bami, lina engilithandayo lengilikhumbulayo, liyintokozi yami lomqhele wami, kumele liqine kanjalo eNkosini bangane abathandekayo! **2**

Ngiyamcenga uYuwodiya loSintikhe ukuba bavumelane eNkosini. **3** Ngiyakucela mhlobo wami oqotho, siza abesifazane labo abasebenza lami kanzima ngenxa yevangeli, kanye loKlementi labanye engisebenza labo, abalamabizo abo asencwadini yokuphila. **4** Thokozani eNkosini kokuphela. Ngiyatsho futhi ngithi: Thokozani! **5** Ukuthobeka kwenu kakubonakale kubo bonke. INkosi isiseduze. **6** Lingakhathazeki kodwa ngazo zonke izikhathi bikani izicelo zenu kuNkulunkulu ngokukhuleka, ngokuncenga langokubonga. **7** Ukuthula kukaNkulunkulu okudlula ukuqeddisisa konke kuzabusa inhlizyo zenu lezingqondo zenu kuKhristu uJesu. **8** Okokucina bazalwane, konke okuliqiniso, lokulesithunzi, lokulungileyo, lokuhlambulukileyo, lokuhle, lokubukekayo, nxa ulutho luluhle kakhulu loba lubongeka, cabangani ngezinto ezinje. **9** Loba kuyini elikufundileyo loba elikwamukeleyo loba elikuzwileyo kuvela kimi, loba elikubonileyo kimi, kwenzeni. UNkulunkulu wokuthula uzakuba lani. **10** Ngiyathokoza kakhulu eNkosini ngokuthi khathesi selize lavuselela ukungikhathalela kwenu. Impela kade likhathazeka kodwa lingelalo ithuba lokukubonakalisa. **11** Kangitsho lokhu ngenxa yokuthi ngiyaswela ngoba sengafunda ukwaneliseka kuyo yonke imimo. **12** Ngiyakwazi ukuba ukuswela kuyini njalo ngiyakwazi ukuba kuyini ukuba lokunengi. Sengafunda imfihlo yokwaneliseka kuzozonke izimo, langabe ngiyasutha loba ngilambile, loba ngilokunengi kumbe ngiswela. **13** Ngingazenza zonke izinto ngaye onginika amandla. **14** Kodwa kwakukuhle ukuthi lihlanganyele lami ekhuluphekeni kwami. **15** Phezu kwalokho, lina bantu baseFiliphi liyakwazi ukuthi esukwini elaqala ngazo kwazi ivangeli ngesikhathi ngisuka eMasedoniya, akukho lalinye ibandla elahlanganyela lami endabeni yokupha lokwamukela ngaphandle kwenu kuphela; **16** ngoba langesikhathi ngiseThesalonika langithumela usizo kanengi lapho ngidinga uncedo. **17** Akusikuthi ngifuna isipho kodwa ngifuna okuzakuba yinzuzo kini. **18** Sengamukele umvuzo ogcweleyo lodlulisileyo; ngiphiwe okwaneleyo njengoba khathesi sengamukele ku-Ephafrodithusi izipho elazithumelayo. Zingumnikelo wephunga elimnandi, umhlatshelelo owamukelekayo lothokozisa uNkulunkulu. **19** UNkulunkulu wami uzakugcwalisa konke ukuswela kwenu ngenkazimulo yenotho yakhe kuKhristu uJesu. **20** Udumo kalube kuNkulunkulu uBaba kuze kube nini lanini. Amen. (**aiōn g165**) **21** Bingelelani bonke abangcwele abakuKhristu. Abazalwane abalami bayalibingelela. **22** Abangcwele bonke bayalibingelela, ikakhulu labo abangabendlu kaKhesari. **23** Umusa weNkosi uJesu Khristu kawube lomoya wenu.

KwabaseKholose

1 UPhawuli, umpostoli kaKhristu uJesu ngentando kaNkulunkulu, loThimothi umzalwane wethu, **2** Lakubazalwane abangcwele labathembekileyo kuKhristu abaseKholose: Umusa lokuthula kakube kini kuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba wethu. **3** Sihlezi simbonga kokuphela uNkulunkulu, uBaba weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, nxa silikhulekela, **4** ngoba sizwile ngokukholwa kwenu kuKhristu uJesu langothando elithanda ngalo abangcwele bonke. **5** Ukukholwa lothando okuvela ethembeni eligcinelwe lina ezulwini, esezwazwa ngalo elizwini leqiniso, elilivangeli **6** eselifikile kini. Emhlabeni wonke ivangeli leli lithela izithelo njalo liyakhula njengebelikwenza phakathi kwenu kusukela ngelanga elalizwa ngalo lawuqedisisa umusa kaNkulunkulu ngawo wonke amaqiniso alo. **7** Lalifundiswa ngu-Ephrafrasi oyinceku ethandekayo, ongumfundisi othembekileyo kaKhristu emele thina, **8** owasitshela ngothando lwenu kuMoya. **9** Ngenxa yalokhu, kusukela mhla sisizwa ngani kasizange siyeeke ukulikhulekela sicela uNkulunkulu ukuthi aligcwalise ngokwazi intando yakhe ngakho konke ukuhlakanipha koMoya kanye lokuqedisisa. **10** Sikhulekela ukuba liphile impilo efanele iNkosi lokuba liyithokozise ngezindlela zonke, lithele izithelo kuyo yonke imisebenzi emihle, ukwazi kwenu uNkulunkulu kukhula, **11** liqiniswa ngamandla wonke mayelana lamandla akhe amangalisayo ukuze libe lokubekezela kanye lesineke esikhulu, kuthi njalo ngokuthokoza **12** limbonge ngentokozo uYise owalenza lafanela ukuhlanganyela elifeni labangcwele bakhe embusweni wokukhanya. **13** Ngoba wasihlenga embusweni wobumnyama wasiletha embusweni weNdodana yakhe ayithandayo, **14** okukuyo ukuhlangwa kwethu lokuthethelelwa kwezono. **15** Indodana ingumfanekiso kaNkulunkulu ongabonakaliyo, izibulo kukho konke okwadlalwayo. **16** Ngoba izinto zonke zadalwa ngayo: izinto ezisezulwini lezisesemhlabeni, ezibonakalayo lezingabonakaliyo loba kuyizihlalo zobukhosi kumbe amandla loba ababusi kumbe abaphathi; izinto zonke zadalwa ngayo zidalelwa yona. **17** Yona iphambi kwezinto zonke njalo kuyo izinto zonke zibambene. **18** Iyinhloko yomzimba okulibandla; iyiquqala lezibulo elivela kwabafileyo ukuze yona ibe ngeyokuqala ezintweni zonke. **19** Ngoba uNkulunkulu wathokoza ukuba ukuphelela kwakhe kube kuyo **20** lokuthi ngayo abuyisane lezinto zonke, loba kuyizinto ezisesemhlabeni kumbe izinto ezisezulwini ngokwenza ukuthula ngegazi layo elachithwa esiphambanweni. **21** Lina lake laba ngabehlukane loNkulunkulu, liyizitha ezingqondweni zenu ngenxa yokuziphatha kwenu okubi. **22** Kodwa khathesi uselibuyisile ngomzimba kaKhristu uqobo lwawo ngokufa ukuze alethule lingcwele ebusweni bakhe, lingelasi njalo limsulwa. **23** Nxa liqhubeke ngokukholwa kwenu ligxile njalo liqinile, lingasuki ethembeni eliliphiwa ngevangeli. Leli yilo ivangeli elalizwayo eselitshunyayelwe kuzozonke izidalwa ngaphansi kwezulu, mina Phawuli esengibe yinceku yalo. **24** Khathesi ngiyathokoza ngokulihluphelela kwami njalo ngiyagcwalisa emzimbeni okulokhu kusasilela mayelana lezinhlupheko zikaKhristu ngenxa yomzimba wakhe olibandla. **25** Sengaba yinceku yalo ngomsebenzi uNkulunkulu anginika wona ukuba ngililethele ilizwi likaNkulunkulu liphelele, **26** ebeliyimfihlakalo ebifihlakele okweminyakanyaka kanye

lezizukulwane ezedluleyo kodwa khathesi isibekwe obala kwabangcwele beNkosi. (ai6n g165) **27** UNkulunkulu wathanda ukubazisa phakathi kwabeZizweni inotho emangalisayo yemfihlakalo le, enguKhristu phakathi kwenu, ithemba lenkazimulo. **28** Sitshumayela yena, seluleke njalo sifundise abantu bonke ngenhlanakipho yonke ukuze bonke sibalethe kuKhristu bephelele. **29** Ngeisenanza nzima ukuba lokhu kufezeke, ngilwisa ngawo wonke amandla uKhristu asebenza ngawo phakathi kwami.

2 Ngifuna ukuba lazi ukuthi ngilizamela kakhulu okunganani lina labaseLodikheya, kanye labo bonke abangakangiboni mathupha. **2** Injongo yami yikuthi bakhuthazeke ezinhliziyweni njalo bamanyane ethandweni ukuze babe lenotho egcweleyo yokuqedisisa okupheleleyo, ukuze bayazi imfihlakalo kaNkulunkulu kubalisa uKhristu, **3** okufihlwe kuye yonke ingcebo yokuhlakanipha lokwazi. **4** Ngilitshele lokhu ukuze kungabikhona olikhohlisayo ngamazwi amnandi. **5** Ngoba lanxa ngingekho kini ngomzimba ngilani ngomoya njalo ngithokozela ukubona ubuntu benu lokuqina kokholo lwenu kuKhristu. **6** Ngakho-ke, njengoba uKhristu Jesu lamamukela njengeNkosi, kubekani liphila kuye, **7** ligxile njalo lakhelwe kuye, liqine ekukholweni njengokufundiswa kwenu, liphuphuma ngokubonga. **8** Qaphelani kungabikhona olithumbayo ngenhlanakipho eyize lekholhisayo, eyeyame emdabukweni wabantu lakuzimiso zemvelo yakulo umhlaba kungesikho kuKhristu. **9** Ngoba bonke ubuNkulunkulu buhlezi kuKhristu ngesimo somzimba **10** njalo lina lilakho lokhu kuphelela kuKhristu oyinhloko yamandla wonke kanye lokubusa konke. **11** Lasokelwa kuye ngokususwa kwemvelo yenu yesono, kungayisikho ngokusoka okwenziwa ngezandla zabantu kodwa ngokulahla umzimba wenyama, lokhu kuyikusoka okwenziwa nguKhristu **12** ngokungcwatshwa laye ngobhaphathizo labuye lavuswa kanye laye ngokukholwa kwenu emandleni kaNkulunkulu owamvusa kwabafileyo. **13** Ngesikhathi lifile ezonweni zenu lokungasoki kwemvelo yenu yesono, uNkulunkulu walenza loba ngabaphilayo kanye loKhristu. Wasithethelela zonke izono zethu **14** ngokwesula yonke imithetho elotshiweyo lezimiso zayo eyayimelane lathi njalo isivimbela. Wayisusa, wayibethela esiphambanweni. **15** Kwathi eselahlise imibuso lababusi izikhali, wenza umbukiso oyinhlekisa ngabo, wabanqoba ngesiphambano. **16** Ngakho-ke, lingavumeli umuntu elahlulela ngalokho elikudlalo loba elikunathayo loba ngokuphathelane lomkhosi wokholo, ukuthokozela ukuthwasa kwenyanga loba usuku lweSabatha. **17** Lezizinto ziyisithunzi nje sezinto ezazizakuzwa kodwa ubuqotho butholakala kuKhristu. **18** Lingavumeli umuntu othokoziswa yikuzithoba kwamanga lokukhonza izingilosi eliphuthisa umvuzo wenu. Umuntu onjalo ubalisa ngokupheleleyo akubonileyo, kuthi ingqondo yakhe engayisiyo yomoya imkhukhumeze ngemicabango eyize. **19** Usehlukane lenhloko yomzimba wonke wona ohlanganiswa ndawonye yimisisipha lemithambo, okhula ngokuthanda kukaNkulunkulu. **20** Njengoba lafa loKhristu ezimiseni zalo umhlaba, kungani liphila sengathi lilokhu lingabawo, lizibeka ngaphansi kwemithetho yawo yokuthi, **21** “Ungabambi! Unganambithi! Ungathinti!”? **22** Konke lokhu kumiselwe ukuqedwa yikusetshenziswa ngoba kweyame phezu kwemilayo yabantu lemfundiso yabo. **23** Impela izimiso ezinje zibonakala njengenhlakanipho, ngenkonzo yazo yokuzenzela, ukuzithoba

kwamanga lokuphatha umzimba kabuhlungu kodwa kazilalo usizo lokuzithiba ezinkanukweni zomzimba.

3 Ngakho-ke njengoba livuswe kanye loKhristu, bekani inhliziyu zenu ezintweni eziphezulu lapho uKhristu ahlezi khona esandleni sokunene sikaNkulunkulu. **2** Bekani ingqondo zenu ezintweni eziphezulu hatshi ezintweni zasemhlabeni. **3** Ngoba lafa, ukuphila kwenu khathesi kufihlwe loKhristu kuNkulunkulu. **4** Lapho uKhristu oyikuphila kwenu, ebonakala, lani futhi lizabonakala laye enkazimulweni. **5** Ngakho-ke, kubulaleni konke okungokwemvelo yenu yasemhlabeni: okubalisa ukuhlobonga, ukungcola, inkanuko, izifiso ezimbi, ubuhwaba lokukhonza izithombe. **6** Ngenxa yalezizinto, ulaka lukaNkulunkulu luyeza. **7** Lalijayele ukuhamba kulezizindlela empilweni elake layiphila. **8** Kodwa khathesi zilahlani zonke izinto ezinjengalezi: ulaka, ukuthukuthela, inzondo, ukunyeya lenkulumo ebolileyo. **9** Lingaqambelani amanga njengoba selihlubule uqobo lwenu oludala lezenzo zalo **10** lembatha uqobo lwenu olutsha olwenziwa lube lutsha ekwazini ngomfanekiso kaMdali walo. **11** Lapha akula oweZizwe loba umJuda, osokileyo loba ongasokanga, iqaba, umSikhethiya, isigqili loba okhululekileyo kodwa uKhristu uyikho konke njalo ukubo bonke. **12** Ngakho, njengabantu bakaNkulunkulu abakhethiweyo, abangcwele labathandwa kakhulu, zembeseni ngesihawu, umusa, ukuzithoba, ubumnene kanye lokubekezela. **13** Bekezelelanani, lithethelelane loba kuyinsolo bani omunye angaba layo ngomunye. Thethelelani njengoba iNkosi yalithethelela. **14** Pheza kwakho konke lokhu yembathani uthando olukubophela ndawonye konke lokhu, kube yikumanyana okupheleleyo. **15** Ukuthula kukaKhristu kakubuse ezinhliziyweni zenu ngoba njengezitho zomzimba munye labizelwa ukuthula. Njalo bongani. **16** Ilizwi likaKhristu kalihlale phakathi kwenu ngokupheleleyo lapho lifundisana njalo liselulekana ngenhlanipho yonke, ngamahubo, amaculo kanye lezingoma zakoMoya, lihlabelele lilokubonga uNkulunkulu ezinhliziyweni zenu. **17** Njalo kukho konke elikwenzayo, ngelizwi loba ngesenzo, konke kwenzeni ngebizo leNkosi uJesus, libonge uNkulunkulu uYise ngaye. **18** Bafazi, zehliseni kubomkenu njengokufanele eNkosini. **19** Madoda, thandani omkenu njalo lingabi lesihluku kubo. **20** Bantwana, lalaleni abazali benu ezintweni zonke ngoba lokhu kuyayithokozisa iNkosi. **21** Bazali, lingabathukuthelisi abantwana benu hlezi badumazeke. **22** Zigqili, lalaleni amakhosi enu omhlaba ezintweni zonke; likwenze hatshi ngoba elikhangele loba ukuthi alithande kodwa ngobuqotho bezinhliziyu langokuhlonipha iNkosi. **23** Konke elikwenzayo kusebenzeni ngenhliziyu yenu yonke njengokusebenzela iNkosi hatshi abantu, **24** njengoba lisazi ukuthi lizathola ilifa eNkosini njengomvuzo. YiNkosi uKhristu elimkhonzayo. **25** Loba ngubani oyenza okubi uzaphindiselwa ngobubi bakhe njalo akula kubandlulula.

4 Makhosi, nikani izigqili zenu okulungileyo lokufaneleyo ngoba liyakwazi ukuthi lani lileNkosi ezulwini. **2** Zinikeleni ekukhulekeni ngokuqaphela langokubonga. **3** Lisikhulekele lathi futhi ukuba uNkulunkulu avulele ilizwi lethu umnyango ukuze sitshumayele imfihlakalo kaKhristu engayibotshelwayo. **4** Khulekelani ukuba ngiyitshumayele ngokucaca okufanele ngikwenze. **5** Hlakaniphani kulokho elikwenzayo kwabangaphandle lisebenzisa amathuba wonke ngokugcweleyo. **6** Ingxoxo yenu kayihlale igcwele

umusa, ifakwe itswayi ukuze likwazi ukuphendula umuntu wonke. **7** UThikhikhasi uzalitshelela izindaba zonke ngami. Ungumzalwane othandekayo, umfundisi othembekileyo loyinceku eNkosini. **8** Ngimthuma kini ngenjongo enxwanele ukuthi lazi ngomumo wethu lokuthi akhuthaze inhliziyu zenu. **9** Ubuya lo-Onesimasi, umzalwane wethu othembekileyo lothandekayo njalo ngomunye wenu. Bazalitshelela konke okwenzakala lapha. **10** U-Aristakhasi engibotshwe laye loMakho umzawakhe kaBhanabhasi bayalibingelela. (Selamukela iziqondiso ngaye; angabuya kini limamukele.) **11** UJesus othiwa nguJustusi laye uyalibingelela. Laba yibo kuphela abangamaJuda kulabo engisebenzela umbuso kaNkulunkulu labo njalo sebebonakalise ukuthi bayinduduzo kimi. **12** U-Ephrafrasi ngomunye wenu lenceku kaKhristu uJesus uyalibingelela. Uhlezi elikhulekela kakhulu ukuba liqine kuyo yonke intando kaNkulunkulu liphelele njalo lithembele. **13** Ngiyamfakazela ukuthi uyalisebenzela kakhulu lina kanye labalo abaseLodikheya leHiyerapholisi. **14** Umngane wethu othandekayo uLukha ongudokotela, loDemasi bayalibingelela. **15** Ngibingelelani abazalwane abaseLodikheya loNimfa kanye lebandla endlini yakhe. **16** Emva kokuba incwadi le seliyifundelwe, bonani ukuthi iyafundwa lasebandleni laseLodikheya lokuthi lani libale incwadi evela eLodikheya. **17** Tshelani u-Akhiphasi lithi: “Bona ukuba uyawuqeda umsebenzi owamukele eNkosini.” **18** Mina Phawuli, ngiloba ukuvalelisa lokhu ngesami isandla. Khumbulani ukubotshwa kwami. Umusa kawube lani.

1 KwabaseThesalonika

1 UPhawuli, uSayilasi kanye loThimothi, Lebandleni labaseThesalonika abakuNkulunkulu uBaba leNkosi ni uJesu Khristu: Umusa lokuthula kakube kini. **2** Sihlala silibongela lonke kuNkulunkulu njalo silibeka emikhulekweni yethu. **3** Siyawukhumbula kokuphela phambi kukaNkulunkulu wethu uBaba umsebenzi wenu ongenxa yokukholwa lokusebenza kwenu okufuqwa luthando kanye lokubekezela kwenu okuqiniswa yikwethemba eNkosi ni uJesu Khristu. **4** Bazalwane abathandwa nguNkulunkulu, siyakwazi ukuthi ulikhethile **5** ngoba ivangeli lethu lafika kini hatshi ngamazwi nje kuphela kodwa langamandla loMoya oNgcwele kanye lokukholwa okujulileyo. Liyakwazi ukuba sahla njani phakathi kwenu ngenxa yenu. **6** Lina laba ngabasilingisayo thina kanye leNkosi ngoba lalamukela ilizwi esikhathini esinzima ngokuthokoza okuvela kuMoya oNgcwele. **7** Ngakho-ke, laba yisibonelo kuwo wonke amakholwa eMasedoniya kanye le-Akhayiya. **8** Ilizwi leNkosi lezwakala livela kini hatshi eMasedoniya lase-Akhayiya kuphela kodwa ukukholwa kwenu kuNkulunkulu sekusaziwa ezindaweni zonke. Ngakho-ke, akudingeki ukuba sikhulume ngakho **9** ngoba bona ngokwabo bayabika ukuthi lasamukela njani. Bayatsho ngokuphendukela kwenu kuNkulunkulu lidela ukukhonzisa izithombe ukuba likhonze uNkulunkulu ophilayo loqotho **10** lilindele leNnodana yakhe evela ezulwini, ayivusayo kwabafuleyo, uJesu osihlenga elakeni oluzayo.

2 Liyakwazi bazalwane ukuthi ukuza kwethu kini akubanga liphutha. **2** Sike sahlupheka ngaphambili njalo sathukwa eFilipi njengoba lisazi kodwa ngosizo lukaNkulunkulu wethu saba lesibindi sokulithshela ivangeli lakhe lanxa nje kwakulobunzima obukhulu. **3** Ngoba isicelo esisenzayo kasiveli ekuphosiseni loba enjongweni engcolileyo njalo kasizami kulikhohlisa. **4** Kodwa sikhuluma njengabantu abavunywe nguNkulunkulu ukuba siphathiswe ivangeli. Kasizami kuthokozisa abantu kodwa uNkulunkulu, yena ohlola inhlizyo zethu. **5** Liyakwazi ukuthi kasizange sisebenzise inkohliso loba isisitho ukuba sifihle ubuhwaba njalo uNkulunkulu ungufakazi wethu. **6** Kasifuni dumo oluvela ebantwini loba kini kumbe omunye laye. Njengabapostoli bakakhristu sasingaba ngumthwalo kini **7** kodwa saba mnene kini njengomama esondla abantwana bakhe abancinyane. **8** Salithanda kakhulu, sathokoza ukuhlanganyela lani kungayisikho evangelini likaNkulunkulu kuphela kodwa lasekuphileni kwethu ngoba lina laselithandeka kakhulu kithi. **9** Impela liyakhumbula bazalwane, ukusebenza nzima lokuhlupheka kwethu; sasebenza ebusuku lemini ukuze singabi ngumthwalo lakubani lapho sithumayela ivangeli likaNkulunkulu kini. **10** Lingofakazi kanye loNkulunkulu bokuthi sasingcwele, silungile njalo singasoleki phakathi kwenu lina elalikholwa. **11** Ngoba liyakwazi ukuthi ngamunye wenu saliphatha njengobaba ephatha abantwana bakhe, **12** siliqinisa, siliduduka kanye lokulikhuthaza ukuthi liphile impilo efanele uNkulunkulu yena olibizela embusweni wakhe lasenkazimulweni. **13** Njalo uNkulunkulu siyambonga kokuphela ngoba ekwamukeleni kwenu ilizwi likaNkulunkulu elalizwa ngathi, lalamukela hatshi njengelizwi labantu kodwa njengoba linjalo impela, ilizwi likaNkulunkulu, elisebenzayo kini lina abakholwayo. **14** Ngoba lina bazalwane laba ngabalingsi bamabandla kaNkulunkulu eJudiya akuKhristu uJesu; abantu belizwe lakini balihluphela

izinto ezifana lalezo amabandla lawo azihluthshelwa ngamaJuda, **15** abulala iNkosi uJesu labaphrofethi, thina asixotsha. Ayamdabukisa uNkulunkulu njalo ayizitha zabantu bonke **16** ekuzameni kwawo ukusinqabela ukukhuluma labeZizweni ukuba basindiswe. Ngalokho-ke, bandisa izono zabo kakhulu. Ulaka lukaNkulunkulu seluze lwehlela phezu kwabo. **17** Kodwa-ke, bazalwane, ekuhlukanisweni kwethu kini okwesikhathshana (uqobo lwethu, hatshi umcabango), kwathi ngokulangazelela okukhulu senza imizamo yonke ukuba silibone. **18** Ngoba sasifuna ukuza kini, impela mina Phawuli ngazama kanengi kodwa uSathane wasivimbela. **19** Ngoba liyini ithemba lethu, intokozo yethu loba umqhele esizacincoma ngawo phambi kweNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu ekufikeni kwakhe na? Akusini na? **20** Ngempela lina liludumo lwethu lentokozo yethu.

3 Ngakho-ke, kwathi singasanelisi ukukumela sabona kungcono ukuba sisale sodwa e-Athene. **2** Sathuma uThimothi ongumzalwane wethu lesisebenzi kanye lathi kuNkulunkulu ekutshumayeleni ivangeli likaKhristu, ukuliqinisa lokulikhuthaza ekukholweni kwenu **3** ukuze angabikhona ongayikuhlaliseka ngenxa yalezizilingo. Liyakwazi kakuhle ukuthi samiselwa zona. **4** Ngeqiniso, siseselani sasihlala silitshela ukuthi sizahlukuluzwa. Kwabanjalo njengoba lisazi kakuhle. **5** Ngenxa yalokhu, kwathi ngingasanelisi ukukumela ngathumela ukuba ngazi ngokholo lwenu. Ngingasiseba ukuthi engxenye umlingi uselilingile lemizamo yethu kayisizanga. **6** Kodwa uThimothi usanda kufika kithi khathesi evela kini njalo ulethe izindaba ezinhle ngokholo lwenu kanye lothando lwenu. Usitshela ukuthi lihlala lilemikhumbulo emihle ngathi kanye lokuthi lifisa ukusibona njengoba lathi sifisa ukulibona. **7** Ngakho bazalwane, kulonke usizi lwethu kanye lokuhlukuluzwa kwethu, sakhuthazeka ngani ngenxa yokukholwa kwenu. **8** Ngoba khathesi sesiphila ngempela, njengoba liqinile eNkosi ni. **9** Singalibongela njani ngokwaneleyo kuNkulunkulu sibuyisela yonke intokozo esilayo phambi kukaNkulunkulu wethu ngenxa yenu na? **10** Ebusuku lemini siyakhuleka ngokuzimisela ukuba silibone futhi silinike okusilelayo ekukholweni kwenu. **11** Sengathi uNkulunkulu wethu loBaba uqobo kanye leNkosi yethu uJesu angasivulela indlela yokuza kini. **12** Sengathi iNkosi ingandisa uthando lwenu kuthi olomunye lomunye luphumelele komunye kanye lasemuntwini wonke njengokwenziwa ngolwethu kini. **13** Kaziqinise inhlizyo zenu ukuze lingasoleki njalo libengcwele phambi kukaNkulunkulu wethu loBaba ekufikeni kweNkosi yethu uJesu labangcwele bayo bonke.

4 Okokucina bazalwane, salifundisa ukuba liphile njani ukuze limthokozise uNkulunkulu njengoba impela liphila. Siyalicela njalo silincenga ngeNkosi uJesu ukuba lokhu likwenze kokuphela. **2** Liyayazi imilayo esalinika yona ngokulaya kweNkosi uJesu. **3** Kuyintando kaNkulunkulu ukuba libengcwele: ukuba lixwaye ukuhlobonga; **4** ukuba omunye lomunye wenu afunde ukuthiba umzimba wakhe ngendlela engcwele lehloniphekayo **5** hatshi ngomfutho wenkanuko njengabezizweni abangamazayo uNkulunkulu. **6** Njalo kulokhu akukho okumele onele umzalwane wakhe kumbe amzuzele khonapho ekuthini ngumzalwane. INkosi izabazajisa bonke abenza izono ezinje njengoba sesavela salitshela njalo salixwayisa ngazo. **7** Ngoba uNkulunkulu kasibizelanga ukuba sibe ngabalingsi abangcolileyo kodwa ukuba siphile impilo engcwele. **8** Ngakho-ke, lowo owalayo umlayo lo kalimuntu kodwa

uNkulunkulu, yena olinika uMoya wakhe oNgcwele. **9** Mayelana lothando lobuzalwane, akudingeki ukuba sililobe ngoba lina uqobo lafundiswa nguNkulunkulu ukuba lithandane. **10** Njalo ngempela, liyabathanda abazalwane bonke kulolonke elaseMasedoniya. Kodwa siyalincenga bazalwane ukuthi lenzenjalo kokuphela. **11** Akube yisifiso senu ukuphila impilo yokuthula lokukhathalela umsebenzi wenu kanye lokusebenza ngezandla zenu njengoba salitshela **12** ukuze ukuphila kwenu kwansukuzonke kubukwe ngabangaphandle njalo lingathembeli komunye umuntu. **13** Bazalwane, kasifuni ukuba libe ngabangaziyo ngalabo abalalayo loba lidabuke njengabanye abantu abangelalo ithemba. **14** Siyakholwa ukuthi uJesu wafa wabuya wavuka njalo ngalokho siyakholwa ukuthi uNkulunkulu uzabavusa kanye loJesu labo asebelele kuye. **15** Ngelizwi leNkosi siyalitshela ukuthi thina esisaphila, esalalayo iNkosi ize ifike, kasiyikubaqalela impela labo asebelele. **16** Ngoba iNkosi uqobo izakwehla ivela ezulwini ngelizwi elikhulu, ngelizwi lengilosi enkulu langokumemeza kwecilongo likaNkulunkulu, kuthi abafileyo kuKhristu bavuke kuqala. **17** Emva kwalokho, thina esisaphila njalo sisele sizahlwithwa kanye labo emayezini ukuba sihlangabeze iNkosi emoyeni. Ngakho sizahlala leNkosi kuze kube nininini. **18** Ngakho-ke, khuthazanani ngala amazwi.

5 Bazalwane, mayelana lezikhathi lezinsuku akudingeki ukuba sililobe **2** ngoba likwazi kahle ukuthi usuku lweNkosi luzafika njengesela ebusuku. **3** Abantu besathi, “Ukuthula lokuvikeleka,” incithakalo izakwehlela phezu kwabo ngokujuma njengomhelo kowesifazane ozithweleyo njalo kabayikuphunyuka. **4** Kodwa lina bazalwane, kalikho emnyameni ukuba lolusuku lulijume njengesela. **5** Lonke lingamadodana okukhanya lamadodana emini. Kasisibo bobusuku loba abobumnyama. **6** Ngakho-ke, kasingafani labanye abaleleyo kodwa kasiphaphameni njalo sizithibe. **7** Ngoba labo abalalayo balaba ebusuku, lalabo abadakwayo badakwa ebusuku. **8** Kodwa njengoba singabemini, kasizithibeni, sembathe ukukholwa lothando njengesihlangu sesifuba, lethemba lokusindiswa njengengowane. **9** Ngoba uNkulunkulu kasimisela ulaka kodwa ukuba sithole ukusindiswa ngeNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu. **10** Wasifela ukuze loba sikhangele kumbe silele, siphile laye. **11** Ngakho-ke, qinisanani njalo lakhane njengoba likwenza. **12** Siyalicela bazalwane, ukuba libahloniphe labo abasebenza nzima phakathi kwenu, abalikhathalelayo eNkosini njalo beliqondisa futhi. **13** Bahlonipheni kakhulu ngothando ngenxa yomsebenzi wabo. Hlalisani ngokuthula. **14** Njalo siyalincenga bazalwane, baxwayiseni labo abangamavila, likhuthaze abadele inhliziyi, lisize ababuthakathaka njalo libekezelele umuntu wonke. **15** Qaphelani kungabikhona ophindisela okubi ngokubi kodwa lihlale lizama ukwenzelana okuhle kanye lakwabanye abantu. **16** Thokozani kokuphela, **17** likhuleke kokuphela **18** njalo libonge konke okulehlelayo ngoba lokhu kuyintando kaNkulunkulu ngani kuKhristu uJesu. **19** Lingawucitshi umlilo kaMoya; **20** lingazeyisi iziphrofethi **21** kodwa zihloleni zonke; libambelele kokulungileyo, **22** lixwaye konke okubi. **23** Sengathi uNkulunkulu uqobo, uNkulunkulu wokuthula angalenza libengcwele ngokupheleleyo. Sengathi umoya wenu wonke lomphfumulo kanye lomzimba kungalondolozwa kungelasici ekufikeni kweNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu. **24** Lowo olibizayo uthembekile njalo uzakukwenza lokho. **25** Lisikhulekele bazalwane. **26** Bingelelani abazalwane bonke

ngokwangana okungcwele. **27** Ngiyalilaya phambi kweNkosi ukuba incwadi le ibalelwe abazalwane bonke. **28** Umusa weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu kawube lani.

2 KwabaseThesalonika

1 UPhawuli, loSayilasi kanye loThimothi, Lebandleni leThesalonika kuNkulunkulu uBaba laseNkosini uJesu Khristu: **2** Umusa lokuthula okuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba leNkosini uJesu Khristu kakube kini. **3** Kumele sibonge uNkulunkulu kokuphela ngenxa yenu bazalwane njengoba kufanele ngoba ukholo lwenu lukhula kokuphela lothando elilalo komunye lomunye wenu luyanda. **4** Ngakho-ke, phakathi kwamabandla kaNkulunkulu thina siyazincoma ngokuqiniseka kwenu lokukholwa phakathi kwakho konke lokhu ukuhlukuluzwa kanye lokuhlupheka elikubekezelelayo. **5** Konke lokhu kuyibufakazi bokuthi ukwahlulela kukaNkulunkulu kulungile njalo lizabalwa njengabafanele umbuso kaNkulunkulu eliwuhluphekelayo. **6** UNkulunkulu ulungile: Uzaphindisela inhluhlo kulabo abalihluphayo, **7** alinike kanye lathi ukuhlaliseka lina elihlutshwayo. Lokhu kuzakwenzakala lapho iNkosi uJesu isibonakaliswa ezulwini phakathi komlilo ovuthayo ilezingilosi zayo ezilamandla. **8** Izabazajisa labo abangamaziyo uNkulunkulu labangalilaleliyo ivangeli leNkosi yethu uJesu. **9** Bazazajiswa ngokubhujiswa okulaphakade, bavalelwe ngaphandle kobukhona beNkosi lasenkazimulweni yamandla ayo (aiōnios g166) **10** ngosuku ezafika ngalo ukuba idunyiswe ngabantu bayo abangcwele lokuba ibatshazwe phakathi kwabo bonke abakholwayo. Lokhu kugoqela lani ngoba labukholwa ubufakazi bethu kini. **11** Nxa sikhumbula lokhu, sihlala silikhulekela kokuphela ukuthi uNkulunkulu wethu alibale njengabafanele ukubizwa nguye njalo kuthi ngamandla akhe afeze injongo yenu elungileyo lakho konke ukwenza kwenu okuthunganyelwa yikukholwa kwenu. **12** Sikhulekela lokhu ukuze ibizo leNkosi yethu uJesu lidunyiswe kini, lani kuyo, ngokomusa kaNkulunkulu wethu loweNkosi uJesu Khristu.

2 Mayelana lokuza kweNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu lokubuthana kwethu kuyo, siyalicela bazalwane **2** ukuthi lingaphangi likhathazeke kumbe lethuswe ngeyinye imfundiso loba isiphrofethi kumbe ilizwi eliphuma emlonyeni loba incwadi okungathiwa ivela kithi kuthiwa usuku lweNkosi selufikile. **3** Lingavumeli muntu elikhohlisa langayiphi indlela ngoba lolosuku kaluyikufika umvukela uze wenzakale, lomuntu ongelamthetho abonakaliswe yena omiselwe ukubhujiswa. **4** Uzaphikisa, azikhukhumeze ezintweni zonke ezibiza uNkulunkulu loba ezikhonzwayo, aze azihlalise ethempelini likaNkulunkulu, amemezele ukuthi yena unguNkulunkulu. **5** Kalisakhumbuli yini ukuthi ngisesekini ngangijayele ukulitshela izinto lezi? **6** Khathesi selikwazi okumvimbelayo ukuze abonakaliswe ngesikhathi esifaneleyo. **7** Ngoba amandla afihlakeleyo okungabi lamthetho asesebenza kodwa lowo owavimbelayo khathesi uzaghubeka esenza njalo aze asuswe endleleni. **8** Lapho-ke, lowo ongelamthetho uzabonakaliswa, lowo iNkosi uJesu ezamchitha ngomoya womlomo wayo, imqede ngenkazimulo yokufika kwayo. **9** Ukufika kwalowo ongelamthetho kuzakuya ngendlela yemisebenzi kaSathane. Uzasebenzisa inhlobo zonke zokubonakalisa amandla ngezibonakaliso lezimanga zamanga **10** kanye lezinhlabo zonke zobubi obukhohlisa abahubhayo. Babhubha ngoba bala ukuthanda iqiniso ukuba basindiswe. **11** Ngenxa yalokhu, uNkulunkulu ubehlisela inkohliso elamandla ukuba bakholwe amanga **12** ukuze balahlwe bonke abangalikhohlwanga

iqiniso kodwa bathokoziswa yibubi. **13** Kodwa kufanele sibonge uNkulunkulu kokuphela ngenxa yenu, bazalwane abathandwa yiNkosi, ngoba uNkulunkulu walikhetha kusukela ekuqaleni ukuba lisindiswe ngomsebenzi ongcwele kaMoya langokukholwa eqinisweni. **14** Walibizela kulokhu ngevangelilethethu ukuze lihlanganyele enkazimulweni yeNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu. **15** Ngakho-ke bazalwane, qinani libambelele ezifundweni esalinika zona, kungaba ngelizwi lomlomo loba ngencwadi. **16** Sengathi iNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu uqobo kanye loNkulunkulu uBaba owasithandayo kwathi ngomusa wakhe wasinika induduzo engapheliyo lethemba elihle (aiōnios g166) **17** angakhuthaza inhliziyu zenu njalo aliqinise kuzozonke izenzo ezinhle lasemazwini amahle.

3 Okokucina bazalwane, sikhulekeleni ukuba ilizwi leNkosi liqhubeke ngokuphangisa njalo lihlonitshwe njengalokhu okwenzeka kini. **2** Khulekani njalo ukuba sikhululwe ebantwini abaxhwalileyo lababi ngoba akusimuntu wonke okholwayo. **3** Kodwa iNkosi ithembekile, izaliqinisa ilivikele komubi. **4** Silethemba eNkosini ukuba lenza izinto esalilaya zona njalo lizaqhubeka lizenza. **5** Sengathi iNkosi ingaqondisa inhliziyu zenu ethandweni lukaNkulunkulu lasekubekizeleni kukaKhristu. **6** Ebizweni leNkosi uJesu Khristu, siyalilaya bazalwane ukuba libaxwaye bonke abazalwane abangamavila, abangaphili ngokwemfundiso elayamukela kithi. **7** Ngoba lina ngokwenu liyakwazi ukuba kufanele lisilandele njani isibonelo sethu. Sasingavilaphi lapho siseselani **8** njalo kasidlanga kudla komuntu singakuhlawulelanga. Kodwa sasebenza ebusuku lemini, sisebenza nzima njalo sitshikatshika ukuze singabi ngumthwalo lakubani phakathi kwenu. **9** Lokhu sakwenza kungayisikho ukuthi kasilalungelo losizo olunjalo kodwa ukuba sizenze sibe yisibonelo kini ukuba lisilandele. **10** Ngoba langesikhathi silani salinika umlayo othi: “Nxa umuntu engafuni ukusebenza, kangadli.” **11** Sizwa kuthiwa abanye phakathi kwenu bayavilapha. Kabenzi lutho, banganela izindaba zabanye. **12** Ebizweni leNkosi uJesu Khristu, siyabalaya njalo sibakhuthaza abantu abanjalo ukuba bazimisele, basebenze ukudla abakudlayo. **13** Lina bazalwane, lingadinwa yikwenza okuhle. **14** Qaphelani iloba ngubani ongalaleli imilayo yethu ekule incwadi. Lingadlalani laye ukuze ayangeke. **15** Lingamthathi njengesitha kodwa mxwayiseni njengomzalwane. **16** Sengathi iNkosi yokuthula uqobo ingalinika ukuthula ngezikhathi zonke njalo ngezindlela zonke. INkosi kayibe lani lonke. **17** Mina Phawuli ngiloba ukuvalalisa lokhu ngesami isandla, okuyilo uphawu oluphawulayo kuzozonke izincwadi zami. Ngiloba kanje. **18** Umusa weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu kawube lani lonke.

1 KuThimothi

1 Mina Phawuli, umpostoli kaKhristu uJesu ngokulaya kukaNkulunkulu uMsindisi wethu lokukaKhristu uJesu ithemba lethu, **2** KuThimothi indodana yami eqotho ekukholweni ngithi: Umusa lesihawu kanye lokuthula okuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba lakuKhristu uJesu iNkosi yethu kakube kuwe. **3** Njengoba ngakukhuthaza ekuyeni kwami eMasedoniya, hlala khonapho e-Efesu ukuze ulaye abantu abathile ukuba banganthandi imfundiso yamanga futhi **4** loba ukuchitha isikhathi ngezinganekwane langezimballi zensendo ezingapheliyo. Lokhu kubanga ukuphikisana hatsi umsebenzi kaNkulunkulu wokukholwa. **5** Inhloso yalo umlayo luthando oluvela enhliziyweni emhlophe, lesazela esihle lokholo oluqotho. **6** Abanye sebedukile kulokhu baphendukela ekukhulumeni okuyize. **7** Bafuna ukuba ngabafundisi bomthetho kodwa kabakwazi abakhuluma ngakho loba lokhu abakuqinisa kangaka ngesibindi. **8** Siyakwazi ukuthi umthetho ulungile nxa umuntu ewusebenzisa kuhle. **9** Siyakwazi lokuthi umthetho kawenzelwanga abantu abalungileyo kodwa wenzelwa abeqa imithetho labahlamuki, abangamaziyo uNkulunkulu labayizoni, abangalunganga labangakhulwayo; wenzelwa ababulala oyise labonina, lababulali, **10** lezifebe, izitabane, abathengisa izigqili labaqamba amanga kanye labafakazela amanga kanye lokunye okuphambene lemfundiso eqotho **11** evumelana levangeli elilenkazimulo kaNkulunkulu obusisekileyo, enginika lona. **12** Ngiyambonga uKhristu uJesu iNkosi yethu onginike amandla, wangibona ngithembekile njalo wangibeka emsebenzini wakhe. **13** Lanxa ngake ngaba ngumhlambazi, lomhlulukuzi, lesidlwangudlwangu, ngenzelwa isihawu ngoba ngakwenza ngokungazi langokungakholwa. **14** Umusa weNkosi wathululelwa phezu kwami ngokwanda okukhulu, ndawonye lokukholwa kanye lothando olukuKhristu uJesu. **15** Nansi isitsho esiqotho esifanele ukwamukelwa esithi: UKhristu uJesu weza emhlabeni ukuba asindise izoni, mina ngingesibi kakhulu kulazo. **16** Kodwa ngenxa yalesosizatho ngenzelwa isihawu ukuze kuthi ngami isoni esihle kakhulu uJesu Khristu abonakalise ukubekizela kwakhe okungelamkhawulo njengesibonelo kulabo abakholwa kuye bamukele lokuphila okungapheliyo. **(aiōnios g166)** **17** Manje kuyo iNkosi yaphakade engafiyo, engabonakaliyo, uNkulunkulu yedwa, udumo lenkazimulo akube kuye kuye kube nini lanini. **Ameni. (aiōn g165)** **18** Thimothi ndodana yami, ngikumika umlayo lo ekulondolozeni iziphrofethi ezake zenziwa ngawe ukuze uthi ngokuzikhumbula ulwe ukulwa okuhle, **19** ubambebele ekukholweni lesazeleni esihle. Abanye bakwalile lokhu, ngakho-ke, babhidliza ukukholwa kwabo. **20** Phakathi kwabo kuloHimeniyasi lo-Alekizanda esengibanikele kuSathane ukuba bafundise ukungahlambazi uNkulunkulu.

2 Ngakho-ke, phezu kwakho konke ngiyakhuthaza ukuba izicelo, lemikhuleko, lokukhulekela abanye kanye lokubonga kwenzelwe abantu bonke, **2** amakhosi labo bonke abaphethe amandla ukuze sihlale ngokuthula empilweni enhle kukho konke ukumesaba uNkulunkulu lobungcwele. **3** Lokhu kuhle njalo kuyamthokozisa uNkulunkulu uMsindisi wethu **4** ofuna ukuba abantu bonke basindiswe njalo balazi iqiniso. **5** Ngoba uNkulunkulu munye njalo lomeli munye phakathi kukaNkulunkulu labantu, umuntu uKhristu Jesu, **6** owazinikela njengenhlawulo yabantu bonke, ubufakazi

obanikwa ngesikhathi sabo esifaneleyo. **7** Ngenxa yalokhu mina ngakhethelwa ukuba ngumanduleli lompostoli njalo ngikhuluma iqiniso kangiqambi manga kanye lomfundisi wokholo oluqotho kwabeZizweni. **8** Ngakho ngifuna amadoda ezindaweni zonke aphakamisa izandla zawo ezingcwele ekhuleka kungela kuthukuthela kumbe ukuphikisana. **9** Ngifuna ukuba abesifazane bagaqoke ngokuzothileyo, okuhle lokufaneleyo, kungabi ngenwele ezelukiweyo loba igolide loba amangqongqo loba izigqoko ezidulayo **10** kodwa ngezenzo ezinhle ezifanele abesifazane abathi bayamkhonza uNkulunkulu. **11** Owesifazane kumele afunde ethule langokuzithoba okupheleleyo. **12** Kangwumeli ukuba owesifazane afundise loba ukuba lamandla phezu kowesilisa; kumele athule. **13** Ngoba u-Adamu wabunjwa kuqala; kwalandela u-Eva. **14** Njalo u-Adamu kasuye owakhohliswayo; ngowesifazane owakhohliswayo wasesiba yisoni. **15** Kodwa abesifazane bazasindiswa ngokuzala abantwana nxa beqhubeka ngokukholwa, ngothando kanye lobungcwele ngokufaneleyo.

3 Nansi isitsho esiqotho esithi: Lowo ofuna ukuba ngumthungameli ufisa umsebenzi olesithunzi. **2** Umthungameli akumelanga abengosolekayo njalo kumele abeyindoda elomfazi oyedwa, ezithibayo, elamandla okuzibamba, ehloniphekayo, ephatha kuhle izihambi, eyenelisa ukufundisa, **3** engayisiso sidakwa, engeladlakela kodwa emnene, engathandi ingxabano, engathandi imali. **4** Kayibe ngephatha kuhle umuzi wayo njalo ibone ukuba abantwana bayo bayayilalela ngenhlonipho efaneleyo. **5** (Nxa umuntu engakwazi ukuphatha umuzi wakhe angaliphatha njani ibandla likaNkulunkulu na?) **6** Akumelanga kube ngosanda kuphenduka hlezi azikhukhumeze abe ngaphansi kokwahlulelwa kunye loSathane. **7** Njalo kumele abe ngodume ngokuhle kwabangaphandle ukuze angaweli ehlazweni lasemjibileni kaSathane. **8** Ngokunjalo, amadikoni lawo kumele kube ngabantu abahloniphekayo, abaqotho, abanganathi iwayini elinengi, abangadingi inzuzo ngobuqili. **9** Kumele babambebele eqinisweni elizikileyo kanye lasekukholweni ngesazela esihlanzekileyo. **10** Kumele baqale bahlolwe; nxa kungekho lutho olubi ngabo, kabasebenze njengamadikoni. **11** Ngokunjalo, labomkabo kumele babe ngabesifazane abahloniphekayo, abangahlebiyo kodwa abazithibayo labathembekileyo ezintweni zonke. **12** Umdikoni kabe lomfazi oyedwa kuphela njalo ophatha kuhle abantwana bakhe kanye labendlu yakhe. **13** Labo abasebenze kuhle bazuza isithunzi lesithembiso esikhulu ekukholweni kwabo kuKhristu uJesu. **14** Lanxa ngikhangelele ukuza kuwe masinyane, ngikulobela iziqondiso lezi ukuze kuthi **15** nxa ngibambeka, ukwazi ukuthi abantu kumele baziphathe njani endlini kaNkulunkulu elibandla likaNkulunkulu ophilayo, insika lesisekelo seqiniso. **16** Kungekho kuthandabuza imfihlakalo yokwesaba uNkulunkulu inkulu: Wabonakaliswa emzimbeni, wafakazelwa nguMoya, wabonwa yizingilosi, watshunyayelwa phakathi kwezizwe, umhlaba wakholwa kuye, wenyukiselwa phezu ngenkazimulo.

4 Umoya utsho ngokucacileyo ukuthi ngezikhathi zokucina abanye bazalahlala ukukholwa balandele imimoya ekhohlisayo lezinto ezifundiswa ngamadimoni. **2** Ukufundisa okunjalo kuza labaqaqamba bamanga abangabazenzisi abalezazela ezingathi zahaqazwa ngensimbi etshisayo. **3** Balela abantu

ukuba bathathane njalo babalaye ukuba bazile ukudla okuthize, uNkulunkulu akudalela ukuthi kwamukelwe ngokubonga yilabo abakholwayo labalaziyo iqiniso. **4** Ngoba konke uNkulunkulu akudalayo kulungile njalo akulalutho okumele lulahlwe nxa lusamukelwa ngokubonga **5** ngoba kungcweliswe yilizwi likaNkulunkulu lomkhuleko. **6** Nxa lezizinto uziphawula kubazalwane, uzakuba ngumfundisi omuhle kaKhristu uJesu, owondliwe phakathi kwamaqiniso okukholwa lemfundiso enhle oyilandelayo. **7** Ungazinaki izinganekwane ezikhohlakeleyo kanye lezindaba eziyize kodwa wena zifundise ukumesaba uNkulunkulu. **8** Ngoba imisebenzi yokuqinisa umzimba eliziso oluthile kodwa ukwesaba uNkulunkulu kulosizo ezintweni zonke, kulesithembiso ekuphileni kwakhathesi lasekuphileni okuzayo. **9** Lesi yisitsho esiqotho okumele samukelwe ngokupheleleyo **10** njalo lokhu siyakusebenzela sikutshikatshikele ngoba ithemba lethu silibeke kuNkulunkulu ophilayo, onguMsindisi wabantu bonke, ikakhulu owalabo abakholwayo. **11** Laya njalo ufundise ngalezizinto. **12** Ungavumeli muntu ukuba akweyise ngenxa yokuthi usasemutsha kodwa woba yisibonelo kwabakholwayo ngokukhuluma, ngokuphila, ngothando, ngokukholwa kanye langokuhlambuluka. **13** Zinikele ekufundeleni uzulu imibhalo, ukutshumayeleni kanye lasekufundiseni ngize ngifike. **14** Ungasideli isipho sakho owasiphiwa ngelizwi lesiphrofethi ngesikhathi ibandla labadala libeka izandla zalo phezu kwakho. **15** Khuthalela izinto lezi; zinikele ngokupheleleyo kuzo ukuze umuntu wonke abone ukuqhubeka kwakho. **16** Qaphela kakhulu ukuphila kwakho kanye lemfundiso. Bambelela kuzo ngoba nxa usenza njalo uzazisindisa wena ngokwakho kanye labakuzwayo.

5 Ungamkhuzi ngolaka umuntu omdala kodwa mncenge ngokungathi nguyihlo. Amajaha apha the njengabafowenu, **2** abesifazane abadala njengonyoko, abesifazane abatsha njengodadewenu ngokuhlambuluka okupheleleyo. **3** Woba lonanzelelo olufaneleyo kubafelokazi abaswelayo kakhulu. **4** Kodwa nxa umfelokazi elabantwana kumbe abazukulu, kumele bafunde kuqala kulakho konke ukusebenzisa ukhoho lwabo ngokukhathalela abendlu yakwabo langokusiza abazali babo labazali babazali babo ngoba lokhu kuyamthokozisa uNkulunkulu. **5** Umfelokazi oswelayo kakhulu njalo esele eyedwa ubeka ithemba lakhe kuNkulunkulu njalo uqhubeka ebusuku lemini ekhuleka ecela usizo kuNkulunkulu. **6** Kodwa umfelokazi ophilela intokozo ufile lanxa esaphila. **7** Banike labo abantu izeluleko lezi ukuze angabikhona ongasoleka. **8** Nxa umuntu enganakekeli izihlobo zakhe ikakhulu abendlu yakwabo, uselulahlile ukhoho lwakhe njalo mubi kakhulu kulongakholwayo. **9** Akulamelokazi ozabekwa eluhlwini lwabafelokazi ngaphandle kokuba eseleminyaka edlula engamatshumi ayisithupha, obengokade ethembekile kumkakhe **10** njalo edumile ngezenzo zakhe ezinhle, ezinjengokondla abantwana, lokuphatha kuhle izihambi, lokugezisa inyawo zabangcwele, lokusiza abahluphekayo kanye lokuzinikela kuzozonke izenzo ezinhle. **11** Abafelokazi abasesebatsha ungababeki eluhlwini olunjalo. Ngoba lapho izinkanuko zabo zomzimba sezikhulela ukuzinikela kwabo kuKhristu bafuna ukwenda. **12** Ngalokho-ke, bazilethela ukwahlulelwa phezu kwabo ngoba bephule isithembiso sabo sokuqala. **13** Langaphandle kwalokho, basuka babe lomkhuba wokuvilapha batshone benquma ngemizi. Njalo

kababi ngamavila nje kuphela kodwa bangabanyeyayo labathandi bezindaba zabanye besitsho izinto okungafanelanga bazitsho. **14** Ngakho, abafelokazi abasesebatsha ngibacebisa ukuba bende, babelabantwana, baphathe izindlu zabo njalo banganiki isitha ithuba lokuba kube lokuhleba. **15** Abanye bavele sebedukile balandela uSathane. **16** Nxa umuntu okholwayo elabafelokazi emzini wakhe, kumele abasize hatshi ukuyekela besinda ibandla ukuze ibandla lizise abafelokazi abaswela kakhulu. **17** Abadala abaqhuba kuhle imisebenzi yebandla bafanele ukhlonitshwa okuphindiweyo ikakhulu labo abasebiza ukutshumayela lokufundisa. **18** Ngoba umbhalo uthi: “Inkabi ungayifaki isayeke nxa ibhula amabele,” njalo uthi, “Isibenze sifanele umhlo waso.” **19** Ungalamukeli icala eletheswa umuntu omdala ngaphandle kokuba limangalwa ngabafakazi ababili loba abathathu. **20** Abenza izono kumele bakhuzwe phambi kwabantu ukuze labanye baxwayiseke. **21** Ngiyakulaya phambi kukaNkulunkulu loKhristu uJesu lezingilosi ezikhethiweyo ukuba ugcine iziqondiso lezi kungekho bandlululo njalo ungenzi lutho ngokukhetha. **22** Ungaphangisi ukubeka izandla emuntwini njalo unghalanganyeli ezonweni zabanye. Zigcine uhlambulukile. **23** Yekela ukunatha amanzi kuphela kodwa sebenzisa lewayini elincinyane ngenxa yesisu sakho lokuhlala kwakho ugula. **24** Izonzo zabanye abantu zisobala, zifika endaweni yokwahlulela kuqala kulabo; kodwa abanye ezabo izono zilandela ngemva kwabo. **25** Ngokufanayo, izenzo ezinhle zisobala njalo lalezo ezingenjalo azingeke zihlale zifihliwe.

6 Bonke abangaphansi kweJogwe lobugqili kumele bakhangele amakhosi abo ngokuthi afelele ukhlonitshwa ukuze ibizo likaNkulunkulu kanye lokufundisa kwethu kungadunyazwa. **2** Labo abalamakhosi akholwayo kabangawadeleli ngoba angabazalwane. Kodwa kabawasebenzele ngcono kakhulu ngoba labo abasizakala ngokubasebenzela kwabo ngabakholwayo labathandekayo kubo. Lezi yizinto okumele uzifundise njalo uzigcizelele. **3** Nxa umuntu efundisa imfundiso yamanga njalo engawuvumi umlayo oqotho weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu lemfundiso yokwesaba uNkulunkulu, **4** uyazikhukhumeza njalo akulalutho aluzwisisayo. Ulezifiso ezimbi enkanini lasekuphikisaneni ngamazwi okudala umona, lombango, lezinkulomo ezilimazayo, ukucabangelana okubi **5** kanye lokuxabana kokuphela kwabantu abalengqondo ezixhwalileyo, asebalahlekelwa liqiniso labacabanga ukuthi ukulalela uNkulunkulu kuyindlela yokuzisa imali. **6** Kodwake, ukulalela uNkulunkulu ngokusuthiseka kuyinzuzo enkulu. **7** Ngoba akulalutho esalulethayo emhlabeni njalo akulalutho esingasuka lalo kuwo. **8** Kodwa nxa silokudla lezigqoko kumele sisuthiseke ngalokho. **9** Abantu abafuna ukunotha bawela ezilingweni lasemijibileni lasezinkanukweni ezinengi zobuthutha ezilimazayo leziwilela abantu ekufeni lasekubhujisweni. **10** Ngoba ukuthanda imali kuyimpande yezinhlobo zonke zobubi. Abanye abantu ngokuthisekela imali baphambuka ekukholweni bazibangele insizi ezinengi. **11** Kodwa wena muntu kaNkulunkulu, kubalekele konke lokhu ufune ukulunga lokulalela uNkulunkulu, lokukholwa, lothando, lokubekezela kanye lobumnene. **12** Ilwa ukulwa okuhle kokukholwa. Bambelela ekuphileni okulaphakade owabizelwa kukho ekuvumeni kwakho okuhle owakwenza kulabafakazi abanengi. (aiōnios g166) **13** Phambi

kukaNkulunkulu onika izinto zonke ukuphila laphambi kukaKhristu uJesu owathi efakaza phambi kukaPhontiyasi Philathu wenza ukuvuma okuhle, ngiyakulaya **14** ukuba ugcine umlayo lo kungelasici loba ukusoleka kuze kube sekubonakaleni kweNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, **15** okuzalethwa nguNkulunkulu ngesikhathi sakhe, uNkulunkulu obusisekileyo njalo onguye uMbusi kuphela, iNkosi yamakhosi loMbusi wababusi, **16** onguye kuphela ongafiyo lohlala ekukhanyeni okungafinyelelekiyo, okungekho owake wambona loba ongambona. Udumo lamandla akube kuye kuze kube laphakade. Ameni. **(aiōnios g166)** **17** Balaye labo abanothileyo kulo umhlaba wakhathesi ukuba bangazikhukhumezi loba babeke ithemba labo enothweni engathembekanga kodwa ukuba babeke ithemba labo kuNkulunkulu osinika kakhulu konke okwentokozo yethu. **(aiōn g165)** **18** Balaye ukuba benze okuhle, bande ngezenzo ezinhle, baphane njalo bathande ukwaba okungokwabo. **19** Ngalokhu-ke, bazazibekela inotho njengesisekelo esiqinileyo sesizukulwane esizayo ukuze babambe ukuphila okuyikuphila okuqotho. **20** Thimothi, londoloza lokho okuphathisiweyo. Xwaya inkulumo zokweyisa uNkulunkulu, lemibono ephikisana leqiniso ebizwa ngokuthi lulwazi, **21** njalo abanye sebekuvumile, bathi ngokwenza njalo baphambuka ekukholweni. Umusa kawube kuwe.

2 KuThimothi

1 Mina Phawuli, umpostoli kaKhristu uJesu ngentando kaNkulunkulu, mayelana lesithembiso sokuphila okukuKhristu uJesu. **2** KuThimothi, indodana yami ethandekayo ngithi: Umusa lesihawu kanye lokuthula okuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba lakuKhristu uJesu iNkosi yethu. **3** Ngiyambonga uNkulunkulu engimkhonzayo njengokwenziwa ngokhokho bami ngesazela esimsulwa lapho ngikukhumbula kokuphela emikhuleweni yami ebusuku lemini. **4** Lapho ngikhumbula inyembezi zakho, ngifisa ukukubona ukuze ngibe lokuthokoza okukhulu. **5** Ngikhunjuzwe ngokukholwa kwakho okuqotho okwaqala kugogo wakho uLoyisi lakunyoko uYunisi njalo ngiyathemba ukuba khathesi kukhona lakuwe futhi. **6** Ngenxa yalokhu ngiyakukhumbuzwa ukuba sihlale sivutha isipho sikaNkulunkulu owasamukela ngokubekwa kwezandla zami phezu kwakho. **7** Ngoba uNkulunkulu kasiphanga umoya wobugwala kodwa umoya wamandla, lowothando kanye lowokuzithiba. **8** Ngakho-ke, ungabi lenhloni ukufakaza ngeNkosi yethu loba ube lenhloni ngami isibotshwa sayo. Kodwa hlanganyela lami ekuhluphekeleni ivangeli ngamandla kaNkulunkulu **9** owasisindisayo, wasibizela ekuphileni okungcwele kungayisikho kuthi kukhona esakwenzayo kodwa ngenxa yenjongo yakhe langomusa wakhe. Umusa lo sawunika ngoKhristu uJesu ngaphambi kokuqala kwesikhathi (aiōnios g166) **10** kodwa khathesi usubonakalise ngokubonakala koMsindisi wethu uKhristu Jesu, osechithe ukufa waletha ekukhanyeni ukuphila lokungafi ngevangeli. **11** Njalo ivangeli leli mina ngabekwa ukuba yisithunywa lompostoli kanye lomfundisi walo. **12** Yikho-nje ngihlupheka njengoba nginje. Kodwa kangilahloni ngoba ngiyamazi engikholwa kuye njalo ngiyakholwa ukuthi ulamandla okulondoloza lokho engikubeke kuye ngalolosuku. **13** Lokho owakuzwa ngami kugcine njengesibonelo semfundiso ephelileyo, ngokukholwa langothando kuKhristu uJesu. **14** Londoloza isibambiso osiphathisiweyo usilondoloze ngosizo lukaMoya oNgcwele ohlala phakathi kwethu. **15** Uyakwazi ukuthi abantu bonke esabelweni sase-Ezhiya sebangidela, kubalwa loFigelusi kanye loHemogenesi. **16** Sengathi iNkosi ingaba lomusa kwabendlu ka-Onesiforosi ngoba wayehlala engivuselela njalo wayengelanhloni ngezibopho zami. **17** Kodwa kwathi eseRoma wangidinga kakhulu waze wangithola. **18** Sengathi iNkosi ingenza ukuba athole umusa eNkosini ngalolosuku! Uyakwazi kakuhle ukuba wangisiza ngezindlela ezinengi kangakanani e-Efesu.

2 Ngakho-ke, wena ndodana yami, qina emuseni okuKhristu uJesu. **2** Izinto owangizwa ngizitsho phambi kwabafakazi abanengi ziphathise abantu abathembekileyo abazafanela ukuba labo bafundise abanye. **3** Hlanganyelana lathi ebunzimeni njengebutho likaKhristu uJesu elifaneleyo. **4** Kakho osebenza njengebutho ongenela ezindabeni zabangasibo bebutho kodwa ufuna ukuthokozisa umlawuli wakhe. **5** Ngokufanayo, nxa umuntu encintisa njengomdlali kawutholi umqhele wokunqoba ngaphandle kokuba encintisa ngokusemthethweni. **6** Umlimi osebenza kakhulu kumele kube nguye oqala ukuthola isabelo sezilimo. **7** Nakana ngalokho engikutshoyo ngoba iNkosi izakupha umbono kukho konke lokhu. **8** Khumbula uJesu Khristu owavuka kwabafileyo, wadabuka kuDavida. Leli yilo

ivangeli lami **9** engihluphekelayo ngize ngibotshwe ngamaketane njengesigangi. Kodwa ilizwi likaNkulunkulu kalibotshwanga. **10** Ngakho-ke, ngibezezelela konke ngenxa yabakhethiweyo ukuze labo bazuze ukusindiswa okukuKhristu uJesu lenkazimulo engapheliyo. (aiōnios g166) **11** Nansi isitsho esiqotho: Nxa safu laye sizaphila laye futhi; **12** nxa sibekezela sizabusa laye futhi. Nxa simpheka, laye futhi uzasiphika; **13** nxa singelalo ithemba yena uzaqhubeka ethembekile, ngoba angeke azidele. **14** Qhubeka ubakhumbuzwa abantu bakaNkulunkulu ngelezizinto. Baxwayise phambi kukaNkulunkulu ngokuxabana ngamazwi; akulasizo, kuthitha labo abalaleleyo. **15** Yenza ubungcono bakho ukuba uzethule kuNkulunkulu njengohloliweyo, isisebenzi esingadingi ukuba sibe lenhloni njalo esiliphatha kuhle ilizwi leqiniso. **16** Xwaya inkulumo zokweyisa uNkulunkulu ngoba abazikholisayo baqhubeka kokuphela besiba ngabangamesabiyo uNkulunkulu. **17** Imfundiso yabo izaqhela njengesilonda esibhibhidlayo. Phakathi kwabo kuloHimeniyasi loFilethosi, **18** abaphambukayo eqinisweni. Bathi ukuvuka kwabafileyo sekwenzakala njalo bachitha ukukholwa kwabanye. **19** Noma kunjalo isisekelo sikaNkulunkulu esiqinileyo sigxilile, sibekwe uphawu lombhalo othi: “UTHixo uyabazi labo abangabakhe,” lokuthi, “Bonke abalivumayo ibizo likaThixo kumele badele ububi.” **20** Endlini enkulukazi akulazitsha zegolide lezesiliva nje kuphela kodwa lezezigodo kanye lezebumba; ezinye ngezemisebenzi encomekayo njalo ezinye ngezokusebenzisa nje. **21** Nxa umuntu ezimhlambula kokulihlazo, uzasetshenziswa emisebenzini encomekayo, angcwelise, abe luncedo eNkosini yakhe njalo elungele ukwenza loba yiwuphi umsebenzi omuhle. **22** Xwaya izinkanuko ezimbi zobutsha ufune ukulunga, lokukholwa, lothando kanye lokuthula, ukanye lalabo abakhulela eNkosini ngezinhlizyo ezimhlophe. **23** Xwaya ukuphikisana kobuthutha loyiwula ngoba uyakwazi ukuthi kudala ingxabano. **24** Inceku yeNkosi kumele ixwaye ingxabano; kodwa kumele ibe lomusa ebantwini bonke, yenlise ukufundisa, ingabi lenzondo. **25** Abaphikisayo kumele belulekwe kuhle, ngethemba lokuthi uNkulunkulu uzabaguqula inhliziyo baholele ekwazini iqiniso **26** lokuthi baphaphame, baphunyuke emjibileni kaSathane obathumbele ukuba benze intando yakhe.

3 Kodwa nanzelela lokhu: Ensukwini zokucina kuzakuba lezikhathi ezinzima. **2** Abantu bazakuba ngabazithandayo, labathanda imali, labazikhukhumezayo, labaziqqajayo, labathukayo, labangalaleli abazali babo, labangabongiyo, labangcolileyo, **3** labangelathando, labangathetheleliyo, labahlebayo, labangazikhuziyo, labalesihluku, labangakuthandiyo okuhle, **4** labalamacebo amabi, labacaphuka ngeze, labaziphakamisayo, labathanda injabulo kulokuthanda uNkulunkulu, **5** belesimo sokukholwa kuNkulunkulu kodwa belandula amandla okukholwa. Ungahlanganyeli labo. **6** Yibo laba abanyenyela emakhaya bazuze amandla phezu kwabesifazane ababuthakathaka, abasindwa yizono njalo bebuswa zinhlobo zonke zezinkanuko ezimbi, **7** behlezi befunda kodwa besehluleka ukufinyelela elwazini lweqiniso. **8** NjengoJanesi loJambiresi abaphikisa uMosi, ngokunjalo abantu laba baphikisa iqiniso. Abantu bengqondo ezonakeleyo, abalahliweyo ngokokholo. **9** Kodwa kabayikufika ndawo ngoba njengokwalawo madoda,

ubuthutha babo buzakuba sobala ebantwini bonke. **10** Kodwa wena wazi konke ngemfundiso yami, lempilo yami, lenjongo yami, lokukholwa, lokubekezela, lothando, lokuqiniseka, **11** lokuhlukuluzwa, inhlupheko zonke engahlangana lazo e-Antiyokhi, lase-Ikhoniyamu, laseListra kanye lokuhlukuluzeka engangena phakathi kwakho. Kodwa iNkosi yangihlenga kukho konke lokhu. **12** Ngempela umuntu wonke othanda ukuphila impilo yokulalela uNkulunkulu kuKhristu uJesu uzahlukuluzwa, **13** kukanti abantu ababi labakhohlisi bazakonakala ngokudlulisayo, bekhohlisa labo bekhohliswa. **14** Kodwa wena qhubeka ngalokho okufundileyo njalo wakukholwa ngoba uyabazi labo okufunde kubo, **15** lokuthi kusukela ebuntwaneni wayazi njani imibhalo eNgcwele engakwenza uhlakaniphele ukusindiswa ngokukholwa kuKhristu uJesu. **16** Imibhalo yonke yaphefumulelwa nguNkulunkulu njalo ilosizo ekufundiseni, lokukhuza, lokuqondisa, lokufundisa ngokulunga, **17** ukuze umuntu kaNkulunkulu ayilungisele ngokupheleleyo yonke imisebenzi emihle.

4 Phambi kukaNkulunkulu loKhristu uJesu ozathonisisa abaphilayo labafileyo njalo mayelana lokubonakala kwakhe kanye lombuso wakhe ngikunika lumlayo: **2** Tshumayela iLizwi; lungiselela isikhathi esifaneleyo lesikhathi esingafanelanga; lungisa, ukhuze njalo ukhuthaze ngokubekezelela okukhulu langokulaya ngokunanzelela. **3** Ngoba isikhathi sizafika lapho abantu abangayikuyivuma khona imfundiso eqotho. Kodwa ukuze basuthise izinkanuko zabo, bazaziqoqela abafundisi abanengi ukuba batsho lokho indlebe zabo ezilumela ukukuzwa. **4** Indlebe zabo bazazisusa eqinisweni baphambukele ezinganekwaneni. **5** Kodwa wena lulamisa ikhanda kuzozonke izehlakalo, ubekezele ebunzimeni, wenze umsebenzi womvangeli, uyifeze yonke imisebenzi yenkonzo yakho. **6** Ngoba mina sengilungele ukuthululwa njengomnikelo onathwayo njalo lesikhathi sokusuka kwami sesifikile. **7** Ngilwile ukulwa okuhle, sengiliqedile ibanga lami lokukholwa ngikulondolozile. **8** Khathezi ngigcinelwe umqhele wokulunga iNkosi uMahluleli olungileyo ezanginika wona ngalelolangana njalo kungayisimi kuphela kodwa kubo bonke abatshisekela ukubonakala kwayo. **9** Zama ngamandla akho wonke ukuba uze kimi ngokuphangisa **10** ngoba uDemasi ngenxa yokuthi ubethanda umhlaba lo, usengibalekele waya eThesalonika. UKhrisensi useye eGalathiya, uThithu waya eDalmathiya. (aiōn g165) **11** ULukha nguye kuphela olami. Thatha uMakho ubuye laye ngoba ulusizo kakhulu enkonzweni yami. **12** UThikhikhasi ngamthuma e-Efesu. **13** Lapho usubuya ubuye lejazi engalitshiya kuKhaphusi eTrowasi lengwalo zami ikakhulu leziyana ezemibhalo elotshwe ezikhumbeni. **14** U-Alekizanda umkhandi wensimbi wenza okubi kakhulu kimi. INkosi izaphindisela kuye lokhu akwenzileyo. **15** Lawe futshi kumele umqaphele ngoba ilizwi lethu waliphikisa kakhulu. **16** Ekuzivikeleni kwami kwakuqala kakhoo owangisekelayo kodwa abantu bonke bangihlamukela. Kabangabi lamlandu ngalokho. **17** Kodwa iNkosi yema phansi kwami yangipha amandla ukuze kuthi ngami ilizwi litshunyayelwe ngokupheleleyo njalo labeZizweni bonke balizwe. Ngempela ngasindiswa emlonyeni wesilwane. **18** INkosi izangihlenga kukho konke ukuhlaselwa okubi ingilethe kungekho bubi embusweni wayo wasezulwini. Udumo kalube kuyo kuze kube nini lanini. Amen. (aiōn g165) **19** Bingelela uPhrisila lo-Akhwila kanye

labendlu ka-Onesiforosi. **20** U-Erastusi wasala eKhorinte, kwathi uThrofimasi ngamtshiya egula eMilethusi. **21** Zama ngamandla akho wonke ukuba ufike lapha ubusika bungakafiki. UYubhulasi, loPhudeni, loLino, loKlawudiya kanye labazalwane bonke bayakubingelela. **22** INkosi kayibe lomoya wakho. Umusa kawube lawe.

KuThithusi

1 Mina Phawuli inceku kaNkulunkulu lompostoli kaJesu Khristu wokukholwa kwabakhethiweyo bakaNkulunkulu lokwazi iqiniso eliholela ekwesabeni uNkulunkulu, **2** ukukholwa lokwazi okweyame ethembeni lokuphila okulaphakade okwathenjiswa ekudatshulweni komhlaba nguNkulunkulu (aiōnios g166) **3** njalo ngesikhathi sakhe esimisiweyo wabonakalisa ilizwi lakhe ngentshumayelo engayiphathiswa ngomlayo kaNkulunkulu uMsindisi wethu, **4** KuThithu indodana yami ngokukholwa kwethu sonke ngathi: Umusa lokuthula okuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba lakuKhristu uJesu uMsindisi wethu. **5** Engakutshiyela khona eKhrethe yikuthi uqondisa lokho okwasala kungaphelanga njalo ubeke abadala bebandla emizini yonke njengokukulaya kwami. **6** Umdala webandla kumele abe ngongasolekiyo, indoda elomfazi oyedwa, indoda elabantwana abakholwayo njalo abangelacala lobudlwangu dlwangu loba ukwedelela. **7** Njengoba umthungameli ephathiswe umsebenzi kaNkulunkulu, kumele angabi lasici, angazikhukhumezi, ngazondi masinyane, angasisidakwa, ongathandi ukulwa, ongadingi inzuzo ngobuqili. **8** Kodwa kumele abe ngophatha kuhle izihambi, othanda okuhle, ozikhuzayo, oqondileyo, ongcewe lozithibayo. **9** Kumele abambelele elizwini eliqotho njengokufundiswa kwalo ukuze akhuthaze abanye ngemfundiso eqotho njalo amelane labalo abayiphikisayo. **10** Ngoba banengi abantu abahlamakayo, abakhulumayo nje kanye labakhohlisi ikakhulu abeqembu lokusoka. **11** Kumele bathuliswe ngoba bachitha imizi epheleleyo ngokufundisa izinto okungamelanga bazifundise besenzela ukuthola inzuzo ngobuqili lenkohliso. **12** Omunye wabaphrofethi babo wathi, “AbaseKhrethe ngabantu bamanga, izilo ezimbi, izihwaba ezingamavila.” **13** Ubufakazi lobu buliqiniso. Ngakho-ke, bakhuze ngamandla ukuze baqine ekukholweni **14** bangalaleli izinganekwane zamaJuda loba imilayo yalabo abadela iqiniso. **15** Kwabahlambulukileyo izinto zonke zihlambulukile kodwa kulabo abaxhwalileyo njalo bengakholwa akulutho oluhlambulukileyo. Ngempela, ingqondo lezazela zabo konke kuxhwalile. **16** Bathi uNkulunkulu bayamazi kodwa ngezenzo zabo bayamphika. Bayenyanyeka, bayadelela njalo kabafanelanga ukwenza loba kuyini okuhle.

2 Kumele ufundise okuvumelana lemfundiso eqotho. **2** Fundisa amadoda amadala ukuzithiba, afanele ukuhlonitshwa, azikhuze, njalo aqine ekukholweni, ethandweni kanye lasekubekazeleni. **3** Ngokunjalo, fundisa abesifazane abadala ukuba babe ngabahloniphayo ekuphileni kwabo, bangabi ngabahlebayo kumbe ababuswa liwayini kodwa ukuba bafundise okulungileyo. **4** Ngakho-ke, bangafundisa abesifazane abatsha ukuba bathande omkabo labantwana babo **5** ukuba bazikhuze njalo bahlambuluke, lokuba bakhuthale emakhaya, lokuba lomusa, lokuba bazehlise ngaphansi kwabomkabo ukuze kungabikhona ogcona ilizwi likaNkulunkulu. **6** Ngokunjalo, khuthaza abesilisa abatsha ukuba bazikhuze. **7** Kukho konke babekele isibonelo ngokwenza okuhle. Ekufundiseni kwakho tshengisa ubuqotho lokuzimisela **8** kanye lokukhuluma okulengqondo okungeke kusolwe ukuze kuthi labo abakuphikisayo bayangeke ngoba bengelalutho olubi abangalutsho ngathi. **9** Fundisa izisebenzi ukuba zizehlisele ngaphansi kwamakhosi azo ezintweni zonke, zizame

ukuwathokozisa, zingawaphenduli, **10** zingawantshontsheli, kodwa zibonakalise ukuthi zingathembeka okupheleleyo ukuze kuthi ngakho konke zenze imfundiso ngoNkulunkulu uMsindisi wethu ibe ngebukekayo. **11** Ngoba umusa kaNkulunkulu oletha insindiso usubonakele ebantwini bonke. **12** Uyasifundisa ukuthi “Hayi” ekweyiseni uNkulunkulu lasezinkanukweni zasemhlabeni njalo siphile ngokuzikhuzisa, ngokuqonda empilweni yokulalela uNkulunkulu ngesikhathi samanje, (aiōn g165) **13** lapho sisalindele ithemba elibusisiweyo lokubonakala ngenkzimulo kaNkulunkulu wethu omkhulu longuMsindisi uJesu Khristu **14** owazinikela ngenxa yethu ukuba asihlengle ebubini bonke kanye lokuthi azihlambululele abantu abangabakhe, abatshisekela ukwenza okuhle. **15** Ngakho lezi yizinto okumele uzifundise. Khuthaza njalo ukuhuze ngamandla wonke. Ungavumeli muntu ukuthi akweyise.

3 Khumbuza abantu ukuba bazehlisele ngaphansi kwababusi, labaphathi, lokuba balalele, lokuba balungele ukwenza loba kuyini okuhle, **2** lokunganyeyi muntu, lokuba lokuthula kanye lozwelo, kanye lokubonakalisa ukuzithoba okuqotho ebantwini bonke. **3** Ngesinye isikhathi lathi sake saba yiziwula, singalaleli, sikhohliswa njalo sithunjwe zinhlobo zonke zenkanuko kanye lenjabulo. Saphila phakathi kwenzondo lomhawu, sizondwa njalo sizondana. **4** Kodwa kwathi umusa lothando lukaNkulunkulu uMsindisi wethu sekubonakele, **5** wasisindisa, hatshi ngenxa yezinto ezilungileyo esasizenzile kodwa ngenxa yesihawu sakhe. Wasisindisa ngokugeziswa kokuzalwa kutsha kanye lokuvuselelwa nguMoya oNgcewe **6** amthela kakhulu phezu kwethu ngoJesu Khristu uMsindisi wethu **7** ukuze kuthi sesilungiswe ngumusa wakhe, sibe zindlalifa silethemba lokuphila okulaphakade. (aiōnios g166) **8** Leli yilizwi eliqotho. Njalo ngithanda ukuba izinto lezi uzigcizelele ukuze kuthi labo abathembele kuNkulunkulu bananzelele ukuzinikela ekwenzeni okuhle. Izinto lezi zinhle kakhulu njalo zilosizo ebantwini bonke. **9** Kodwa xwaya impikiswano yobuwula lezindaba zosendo kanye lemibango lengxabano mayelana lomthetho ngoba lokhu akulasizo njalo kuyize. **10** Umuntu oxabanisayo mlaye kanye, uphinde umlaye okwesibili. Emva kwalokho mxwaye. **11** Ungaba leqiniso ukuthi umuntu onjalo uxhwalile njalo uyisoni; nguye ozilahlayo yena ngokwakhe. **12** Ngingaze ngithumele u-Athemasi kumbe uThikhikhasi kuwe, kumele uzame ngamandla akho wonke ukuza kimi eNikhopholisi ngoba sengizimisele ukuhlala khona ebusika. **13** Yenxa konke ongakwenza ukuba usize uZenasi igqwetha kanye lo-Apholo ohanjweni lwabo ubone ukuba balakho konke abakuswelayo. **14** Abantu bakithi kumele bafunde ukuzinikela ekwenzeni okuhle ukuze bagcwalise izinswelo zansuku zonke njalo bangaphili impilo eyize. **15** Bonke abalami bayakubungelela. Bingelela labo abasithandayo ekukholweni. Umusa kawube lani lonke.

UFilimoni

1 Mina Phawuli, isibotshwa sikaKhristu uJesu, loThimothi umzalwane wethu, KuFilimoni umngane wethu othandekayo loyisisebenzi kanye lathi, **2** ku-Afiya udadewethu, ku-Akhiphasi olibutho kanye lathi, lasebandleni elihlanganela ekhaya lakho ngithi: **3** Umusa kawube kuwe kanye lokuthula okuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba leNkosini uJesu Khristu. **4** Ngihlezi ngimbonga kokuphela uNkulunkulu wami lapho ngikukhumbula emikhulekweni yami **5** ngoba ngiyezwa ngothando lwakho lokukholwa eNkosini uJesu kanye lothando lwakho kubo bonke abangcwele. **6** Ngikhulekela ukuba ukhlanganyela kwakho kanye lathi ekukholweni kube lomfutho ngokujula ekuqedisiseni kwakho konke ukulunga esikwabelana ngenxa kaKhristu. **7** Uthando lwakho lungiphe ukuthokoza okukhulu lokududuzeka ngoba wena, mzalwane, uvuselele inhliziyi zabangcwele. **8** Ngakho-ke, lanxa kuKhristu ngingaba lesibindi ngikulaye ukuba wenze lokho okumele ukwenze **9** kodwa ngiyakuncenga ngenxa yothando. Ngakho-ke, mina Phawuli, umuntu omdala khathesi oyisibotshwa sikaKhristu uJesu futhi, **10** ngiyakuncenga ngenxa yendodana yami u-Onesimasi owaba yindodana yami ngibotshiwe. **11** Kuqala wayengelasizo kuwe kodwa khathesi uselusizo kuwe lakimi. **12** Ngimthuma kuwe yena othandwe yinhliziyi yami. **13** Kade ngingathanda ukuhlala laye ukuze athathe indawo yakho yokungisiza ngisabotshele ivangeli. **14** Kodwa angithandanga ukwenza lutho kungelamvumo yakho ukuze kuthi loba ngumusa owenzayo ube ngowokuzithandela hatshi ukubanjwa ngamandla. **15** Mhlawumbe isizatho sokwehlukani swa lawe okwesikhatshana sasiyikuthi ube laye futhi kokuphela (aiōnios g166) **16** engaseyiso sigqili kodwa esengcono kulesigqili njengomzalwane othandekayo. Uyathandeka kimi kodwa uthandeka kakhulu kuwe njengomunye wakho lanjengomzalwane eNkosini. **17** Ngakho-ke, nxa ungithatha njengohlanguyela lawe, mamukele ngendlela obuzangamukela ngayo. **18** Nxa kulokubi akwenze kuwe kumbe elesikwelede kuwe, kubalele kimi. **19** Mina Phawuli, ngiloba lokhu ngesandla sami. Ngizahlawula ngingabali ukuthi lawe ulomlandu kimi wena ngokwakho. **20** Ngiyafisa, mzalwane, ukuba ngithole usizo oluthile kuwe eNkosini; uvuselele inhliziyi yami kuKhristu. **21** Ngileqiniso ngokulalela kwakho, ngikulobela ngisazi ukuthi uzakwenza okudlula engikucelayo. **22** Okunye njalo yilokhu: Ngilungisela indlu yezihambi ngoba ngithemba ukuba ngizabuyiselwa kuwe ngenxa yemikhuleko yakho. **23** U-Ephafasi oyisibotshwa kanye lami ngenxa kaKhristu uJesu, uyakubingelela. **24** UMakho, lo-Aristakhasi, loDemasi kanye loLukha abayizisebenzi kanye lami bayakubingelela. **25** Umusa weNkosi uJesu Khristu kawube lomoya wakho.

KumaHebheru

1 Kudala uNkulunkulu wakhuluma kubokhokho kanenginengi ngabaphrofethi langezindlela ezehlukeneyo **2** kodwa ngalezizinsuku zokucina ukhulume kithi ngeNdodana yakhe, ayibeka ukuba yindlalifa yezinto zonke, yona adala ngayo izulu lomhlaba. (aiōn g165) **3** INdodana iyikubenyezela kwenkazimulo kaNkulunkulu kanye lomfanekiso wokuba nguye kwakhe uqobo, iqinisa izinto zonke ngelizwi layo elilamandla. Emva kokuba isinkufezile ukuhlanjululwa kwezono, yahlala phansi esandleni sokunene sobukhosi ezulwini. **4** Ngakho yaba ngaphezu kwezingilosi ngoba ibizo eyalithola njengelifa lilikhulu kulelazo. **5** Ngoba kukuyiphi ingilosi uNkulunkulu ake wathi kuyo: “Wena uyiNdodana yami; lamhla sengibe nguYihlo”? Kumba njalo wathi, “Ngizakuba nguYise, yona izakuba yiNdodana yami”? **6** Njalo, lapho uNkulunkulu eletha izibulo lakhe emhlabeni, uthi: “Zonke izingilosi zikaNkulunkulu kazimkhonze.” **7** Lapho ekhuluma ngezingilosi uthi, “Wenza izingilosi zakhe zibe yimimoya, izingceko zakhe zibe ngamalangabi omlilo.” **8** Kodwa ngeNdodana uthi, “Isihlalo sakho sobukhosi, Oh Nkulunkulu, sizakuma nini lanini, intonga yokwahlulela okulungileyo izakuba yintonga yombuso wakho. (aiōn g165) **9** Ukuthandle ukulunga wazonda ububi; ngakho uNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu wakho usekubekwe ngaphezu kwabakhula bakho ngokukugcoba ngamafutha entokozo.” **10** Njalo uthi, “Ekuqaleni, Oh Nkosi, wabeka izisekelo zomhlaba, lamazulu angumsebenzi wezandla zakho. **11** Kuzabhubha kodwa wena uzasala; konke kuzaguga njengesigqoko. **12** Uzakugoqa njengesembatho; kuzantshintshwa njengesigqoko. Kodwa wena uhlala unjalo, leminyaka yakho kayiyikuphela.” **13** Kukuyiphi ingilosi uNkulunkulu ake wathi kuyo: “Hlala ngakwesokunene sami; ngize ngenze izitha zakho zibe yisinyathelo senyawo zakho”? **14** Izingilosi kazisimimoya esebenzayo yini, ethunywe ukukhonza labo abazakudla ilifa lokusindiswa na?

2 Ngakho kufanele siqaphelelise lokho esikuzwileyo ukuze singaduki. **2** Ngoba nxa ilizwi elakhulunywa yizingilosi liqinisa njalo konke ukona lokungalaleli kuthole isiziso sakho esifaneleyo, **3** pho thina sizaphepha njani nxa singanaki insindiso enkulu kangaka na? Lokhu kusindiswa okwabikwa kuqala yiNkosi, kwafakazwa kithi yilabo abayizwayo. **4** LoNkulunkulu wakufakaza ngezibonakaliso langezimangaliso ezithile, langezipho zikaMoya oNgcwele ezabiwa ngokwentando yakhe. **5** Akusikho ezingilosini abeka khona ngaphansi kwazo ilizwe elizayo esikhuluma ngalo. **6** Kodwa ikhona indawo lapho omunye ofakaza khona esithi: “Uyini umuntu osungaze uzihluphe ngaye na, loba indodana yomuntu ukuba uyinanze na? **7** Wamenza waba mncinyazana kulezingilosi; wamethesa umqhele wodumo lobukhosi, **8** wabeka lezinto zonke ngaphansi kwezinyawo zakhe.” Ekubekeni izinto zonke ngaphansi kwakhe uNkulunkulu katshiyanga lutho olungekho ngaphansi kwakhe. Kodwa khathesi kasiboni zinto zonke zingaphansi kwakhe. **9** Kodwa sibona yena, owenziwa waba ngaphansanyana kwezingilosi okwesikhathshana, ujesu, ebekwa umqhele wobukhosi lodumo ngoba wavuma ukufa ukuze kuthi ngomusa kaNkulunkulu ezwe ukufa ngenxa yabantu bonke. **10** Ekuletheni amadodana amanengi enkazimlweni,

kwakufanele ukuba uNkulunkulu, yena owenza zonke izinto njalo zabakhona ngenxa yakhe, enze umsunguli wokusindiswa kwabo aphelele ngokuhlupheka kwakhe. **11** Ngoba lowo owenza abantu babengcwele kanye lalabo abenziwe baba ngcwele ngabendlunye. Ngakho ujesu kakumyangisi ukuba athi bangabafowabo. **12** Uthi, “Ngizamemezela ibizo lakho kubafowethu; ngizahlabelela udumo lwakho phambi kwebandla.” **13** Njalo uthi, “Ngizabeka ithemba lami kuye.” Uphinda athi, “Mina ngilapha, kanye labantwana uNkulunkulu angiphe bona.” **14** Njengoba abantwana belomzimba legazi, laye wahlanganyela ebuntwini babo ukuze kuthi ngokufa kwakhe amchithela lowo ophethe amandla okufa okutho uSathane, **15** abakuhlule ababesebugqilini impilo yabo yonke ngenxa yokwesaba kwabo ukufa. **16** Ngoba impela akusizo ingilosi azisizayo kodwa inzalo ka-Abrahama. **17** Ngenxa yalokhu kwakumele enziwe afane labafowabo kukho konke ukuze abe ngumphristi omkhulu olesihawo lothembekileyo enkonzweni kaNkulunkulu, lokuba abeyinhlawulo yezono zabantu. **18** Njengoba laye wahlupheka lapho elingwa, uyenelisa ukubasiza abalingwayo.

3 Ngakho-ke, bafowethu abangcwele, abahlanganyela ekubizweni ezulwini, bekani imicabango yenu kuJesu, umpostoli lomphristi omkhulu esimvumayo. **2** Wathembeka kulowo owambekayo, njengoMosi owayethembekile kuyo yonke indlu kaNkulunkulu. **3** UJesu ufunyenwe efanale udumo olukhulu kuloMosi njengomakhi wendlu elodumo olukhulu kulendlu yona ngokwayo. **4** Ngoba yileyo laleyondlu yakhiwa ngumuntu othize kodwa uNkulunkulu ungumakhi wezinto zonke. **5** “UMosi wayethembekile njengenceku kuyo yonke indlu kaNkulunkulu,” efakaza lokho okwakuzatshiwo ensukwini ezizayo. **6** Kodwa uKhristu uthembekile njengendodana endlini kaNkulunkulu. Njalo thina siyindlu yakhe nxa sibambebele ngesibindi langethemba lethu esizincoma ngakho. **7** Ngakho, njengoba uMoya oNgcwele esithi: “Lamuhla nxa lisizwa ilizwi lakhe, **8** lingazenzi zibe lukhuni inhliziyu zenu, njengelakwenza ekuhlamukeni, ngesikhathi sokulingwa enkangala, **9** lapho okhokho benu abangihlola khona bangilinga, babona engakwenzayo okweminyaka engamatshumi amane. **10** Yikho-nje ngasithukuthelala isizukulwane lesa, njalo ngathi, ‘Inhliziyo zabo zihlezi ziduka, njalo kabazazanga izindlela zami.’ **11** Ngakho ngamemezela ngesifungo ekuthukutheleni kwami ngathi, ‘Kabayikungena ekuphumuleni kwami.’” **12** Bonani bazalwane ukuthi kakho omunye wenu olenhliziyo yokona lokungakholwa, ephambukayo kuNkulunkulu ophilayo. **13** Kodwa khuthazanani insuku zonke kusabizwa ngokuthi lamuhla, ukuze angabikhona owenu oba lukhuni ngenxa yokukhohliswa yisono. **14** Ngoba sesingabahlanganyelayo kuKhristu nxa sibambebele ngokuqina kuze kuphele ithemba esasilalo kuqala. **15** Njengoba kutshiwo ukuthi: “Lamuhla nxa lisizwa ilizwi lakhe, lingazenzi zibe lukhuni inhliziyu zenu njengelakwenzayo ekuhlamukeni.” **16** Babengobani labo abezwayo basebhamuka na? Akusibo yini bonke labo uMosi abakhupha eGibhithe na? **17** Njalo ngobani aye bathukuthelale okweminyaka engamatshumi amane na? Akusibo yini labo abonayo, abazidumbu zabo zawela enkangala na? **18** Ngobani uNkulunkulu abafungela ukuthi kabayikungena ekuphumuleni kwakhe nxa kungayisibo labo abangalalelanga na? **19** Ngakho

siyabona ukuthi babengeke bangene ngenxa yokungakholwa kwabo.

4 Ngakho-ke, njengoba isithembiso sokungena ekuphumuleni kwakhe silokhu sikhona, kasiqapheleni ukuba kakho phakathi kwenu otholalaka engafinyeleli kuso. **2** Ngoba ivangeli latshunyayelwa kithi njengakubo; kodwa ilizwi abalizwayo lalingelasizo kubo ngoba labo abalizwayo kabalihlanganisanga lokholo. **3** Thina esakholwayo siyangena kulokho kuphumula njengoba uNkulunkulu etshilo ukuthi: “Ngakho ngamemezela ngesifungo ekuthukutheleni kwami ngathi, ‘Kabayikungena ekuphumuleni kwami.’” Kodwa umsebenzi wakhe wapheliselwa ekudalweni komhlaba. **4** Ngoba kwenye indawo ukhulume ngosuku lwesikhombisa ngala amazwi athi: “Ngakho ngosuku lwesikhombisa uNkulunkulu waphumula kuwo wonke umsebenzi wakhe.” **5** Njalo endimeni engaphezulu uthi, “Kabayikungena ekuphumuleni kwami.” **6** Kulokhu kunjalo ukuthi abanye bazangena kulokho kuphumula, lalabo ivangeli elatshunyayelwa kubo kuqala kabangenanga ngenxa yokungalaleli kwabo. **7** Ngakho uNkulunkulu wabuya wamisa olunye usuku, elubiza ngokuthi Lamuhla, lapho kwathi emva kwesikhathi eside wakhuluma ngoDavida, njengokwakutshiwu mandulo ukuthi: “Lamuhla nxa lisizwa ilizwi lakhe, lingazenzi zibe lukhuni inhliziyu zenu.” **8** Ngoba aluba uJoshuwa wayebanikile ukuphumula, ngabe uNkulunkulu kakhulumanga muva ngolunye usuku. **9** Ngakho kulokhu kukhona ukuphumula kweSabatha kwabantu bakaNkulunkulu; **10** ngoba loba ngubani ongena ekuphumuleni kukaNkulunkulu uyaphumula lakowakhe umsebenzi njengokwenziwa nguNkulunkulu kowakhe. **11** Ngakho-ke, kasenzeni imizamo yonke ukuba singene kulokho ukuphumula, ukuze angabikhona ozawiswa yikulandela isibonelo sakhe sokungalaleli. **12** Ilizwi likaNkulunkulu liyaphila njalo liyasebenza. Libukhali kulenkemba esika inxa zombili, ingena ize yehlukanise umphefumulo lomoya, amalunga lomnkantsho; lahlulela imicabango lomumo wenhliziyo. **13** Kukho konke okudaliweyo akulalutho oluhlilakeleyo emehlweni kaNkulunkulu. Konke kwambuliwe kwabekwa obala phambi kwamehlho akhe yena okumele sizibike kuye. **14** Ngakho-ke, njengoba silomphristi omkhulu kakhulu osengene emazulwini, uJesu iNdodana kaNkulunkulu, kasibambeleleni kakhulu okholweni esiluvumayo. **15** Ngoba kasilamphristi omkhulu onganiselisyo ukusizwela ebuthakathakeni bethu kodwa silaye oseke walingwa ngezindlela zonke njengathi kodwa akazange one. **16** Kasisondeleni esihlalweni sobukhosi somusa ngesibindi ukuze samukele isihawu njalo sithole umusa wokusisiza ezikhathini zokuswela kwethu.

5 Wonke umphristi omkhulu ukhethwa ebantwini abekwe ukuba abamele ezindabeni ezimayelana loNkulunkulu, ukunikela izipho lemihlatshelo yezono. **2** Ulakho ukubaphatha ngesineke labo abangazizyo abadukayo, njengoba laye uqobo ephethwe yikuba buthakathaka. **3** Yikho-nje kumele anikele imihlatshelo yezono zakhe kanye leyezono zabantu. **4** Kakho ozethesa udumo lolu phezu kwakhe; kumele abizwe nguNkulunkulu njengo-Aroni. **5** Ngakho loKhristu kazethesanga udumo lokuba ngumphristi omkhulu. Kodwa uNkulunkulu wathi kuye, “Wena uyiNdodana yami; lamuhla sengibe nguYihlo.” **6** Njalo kwenye indawo uthi, “Wena ungumphristi kuze kube nini lanini, emkhondweni

kaMelikhizedekhi.” (aiōn g165) **7** Ngensuku zokuphila kukaJesu emhlabeni, wakhuleka wacela ngokukhala kakhulu langezinyembezi kuye lowo owayengamphephisa ekufeni njalo wezwakala ngenxa yokuzehlisa kwakhe okuhloniphekayo. **8** Lanxa wayeyindodana wafunda ukulalela kulokhu ahlupheka ngakho, **9** kwathi lapho esephelelisiwe, waba ngumthombo wokusindiswa okulaphakade wabo bonke abamalalayo (aiōnios g166) **10** wasekethwa nguNkulunkulu ukuba abe ngumphristi omkhulu, emkhondweni kaMelikhizedekhi. **11** Kunengi esingakutsho ngalokho kodwa kunzima ukuchaza ngoba liyaphuza ukufunda. **12** Ngeqiniso, lanxa ngalesikhathi lifanele ukuba ngabafundisayo, liswela omunye ukuba alifundise amaqiniso okuqala elizwi likaNkulunkulu. Lifuna uchago, hatshi ukudla okuqinileyo! **13** Lowo ophila ngochago, ulokhu elusane, kayazi imfundiso emayelana lokulunga. **14** Kodwa ukudla okuqinileyo ngokwabakuhlileyo asebazifundisa ukwehlukana okuhle kokubi.

6 Ngakho kasiyekeleni imfundiso elula ngoKhristu siqhubeke siye ekukhuleni. Kasingasibeki futhi isisekole sokuphenduka ezenzenzi eziholela ekufeni, lezokukholwa kuNkulunkulu, **2** lemfundiso ngemibhaphathizo, lokubekwa kwezandla, lokuvuka kwabafuleyo kanye lokwahlulelwa okulaphakade. (aiōnios g166) **3** Njalo nxa uNkulunkulu evuma sizakwenza njalo. **4** Akwenzakali kulabo asebake bakhanyiselwa, asebenamithe isipho sasezulwini, asebelanganyele kuMoya oNgcwele, **5** asebenamithe ubumnandi belizwi likaNkulunkulu kanye lamandla esikhathi esizayo, (aiōn g165) **6** njalo nxa behlamuka ukuba babuyiselwe ekuphendukeni ngoba ekulahlekelweni kwabo bayayibethela futhi esiphambanweni iNdodana kaNkulunkulu beyethesa ihlazo phambi kwabantu bonke. **7** Umhlabathi onatha izulu elihlezi lisina phezu kwawo loveza isilimo esiluziso kulabo abawulimayo uthola isibusiso sikaNkulunkulu. **8** Kodwa umhlabathi oveza ameva lokhula kawulasizo njalo usengozini yokuqalekiswa. Ekucineni uzatshiswa. **9** Kodwa lanxa sikhuluma kanje bazalwane abathandekayo, silethamba lezinto ezingcono ngani, izinto ezilokwenza lokusindiswa. **10** UNkulunkulu ulungile, kasoke awukhohlwe umsebenzi wenu lothando elamtshengisa lona njengoba lasiza abantu bakhe njalo liyaqhubeka libasiza. **11** Sifuna omunye lomunye wenu abonakalise ukukhuthala lokhu kuze kube sekupheleni ukuze ithemba lenu liqiniseke. **12** Kasifuni ukuba libe ngamavila kodwa ukuba lilingisele labo okwathi ngokukholwa langokubekezela bathola ilifa lalokhu okwakuthenjisiwe. **13** Lapho uNkulunkulu esenza isithembiso sakhe ku-Abrahama, njengoba wayengekho omkhulu ayengafunga ngaye, wafunga ngaye yena ngokwakhe **14** esithi, “Ngempela ngizakubusisa njalo ngikuphe inzalo enengi.” **15** Ngakho emva kokulinda ngokubekezela, u-Abrahama wathola okwakuthenjisiwe. **16** Abantu bafunga ngomunye omkhulu kulabo njalo isifungo siqinisa lokho okutshiwoyo siqede lokuphikisana konke. **17** Njengoba uNkulunkulu wathanda ukuba enze ukungaguquki kwesimo senhloso yakhe kube sobala kuzindlalifa zalokho okwathenjisiwayo, wakuqinisa ngesifungo. **18** UNkulunkulu wenza lokhu ukuze kuthi ngezinto ezimbili ezingaguqulekiyo, uNkulunkulu angeke aqambe amanga ngazo, thina esibaleke sabambelela ethembeni esiliphilayo sikhuthazeke kakhulu. **19** Silethemba leli njengensika yemiphumulo yethu, eliqinileyo njalo eligxilileyo. Lingena endaweni engcwele yangaphakathi ngemva kwamakhethe **20** lapho uJesu owahamba phambi

kwethu angena khona ngenxa yethu. Usebe ngumphristi omkhulu emkhondweni kaMelikhizedekhi kuze kube nini lanini. (aiōn g165)

7 Melikhizedekhi lo wayeyinkosi yaseSalemu lomphristi kaNkulunkulu oPhezukonke. Wahlangabeza u-Abrahama evela kwehlula amakhosi, wambusisa, **2** u-Abrahama wamnika okwetshumi kwakho konke. Okwakuqala, ibizo elithi Melikhizedekhi litsho ukuthi “Nkosi yokulunga”; lokuthi futhi, “Nkosi yaseSalemu” kutsho ukuthi “Nkosi yokuthula.” **3** Engelayise loba unina, engelamdabuko, engelakuqala kwensuku loba ukuphela kokuphila njengeNdodana kaNkulunkulu uhlezi engumphristi nini lanini. **4** Ake licabange ukuthi wayemkhulu kangakanani: Lokhokho u-Abrahama wamnika okwetshumi kwempango! **5** Khathesi umthetho ufuna abenzalo kaLevi ababa ngabaphristi ukuba baqoqe okwetshumi ebantwini, lokhu kutsho abafowabo lanxa abafowabo beyinzalo ka-Abrahama. **6** Umuntu lo kazange alonde umdabuko wakhe usukela kuLevi kodwa waqoqa okwetshumi ku-Abrahama njalo wambusisa yena lowo owayezithembiso. **7** Kakulakuthandabuza ukuthi umuntu omncinyane ubusiswa ngomkhulu. **8** Kwesinye isehlakalo, okwetshumi kuthathwa ngabantu abafayo kodwa kwesinye isehlakalo kube ngulowo okuthiwe uyaphila. **9** Umuntu angatsho lokuthi uLevi oqoqa okwetshumi, wanikela okwetshumi ngo-Abrahama **10** ngoba lapho uMelikhizedekhi ehlangabeza u-Abrahama uLevi wayelokhu esesemzimbeni kakhokho wakhe. **11** Nxa ukuphelela kwakungatholakala ngobuphristi babaLevi njalo ngempela umthetho owaphiwa abantu wasungula lobobuphristi, pho kungani kwakulokhu kudingeka ukuba omunye umphristi abuye evela emkhondweni kaMelikhizedekhi, engasivemkhondweni ka-Aroni na? **12** Ngoba lapho kulokugugulwa kobuphristi, kufanele kube lokugugulwa komthetho futhi. **13** Yena lowo okutshiwo lezizinto ngaye ngowesinye isizwana njalo kakho owalesosizwana owake wakhonza e-alithareni. **14** Ngoba kusobala ukuba iNkosi yethu yadabuka koJuda njalo mayelana lalesosizwana uMosi katshongo lutho ngabaphristi. **15** Njalo lokhu esesikutshilo kucace kakhulu nxa omunye umphristi onjengoMelikhizedekhi evela, **16** omunye obe ngumphristi kungayisikho komthetho okokosendo lwakhe kodwa ngokumayelana lamandla okuphila okungeke kuchithwe. **17** Ngoba kumenyezelve ukuthi: “Wena ungumphristi kuze kube nini lanini, emkhondweni kaMelikhizedekhi.” (aiōn g165) **18** Umthetho wakuqala ubekwe eceleni ngoba wawubuthakathaka njalo ungelasizo **19** (ngoba umthetho kawenzanga lutho olupheleleyo) ngakho kulethwa ithemba elitsha esisondele ngalo kuNkulunkulu. **20** Njalo kwakungayisikho ngaphandle kwesifungo! Abanye babangabaphristi kungekho sifungo, **21** kodwa yena waba ngumphristi ngesifungo lapho uNkulunkulu athi kuye: “iNkosi ifungile njalo kayiyikuguqula ingqondo yayo: ‘Wena ungumphristi kuze kube nini lanini.’” (aiōn g165) **22** Ngenxa yesifungo lesi, uJesu usebe yisiqinisele sesivumelwano esingcono. **23** Abaphristi labo sebebanengi njengoba babevinjelwa yikufa ukuba baqhubeke besezikhundleni; **24** kodwa uJesu uphila kuze kube laphakade, ulobuphristi obuyisimakade. (aiōn g165) **25** Ngakho ulamandla okubasindisa ngokupheleleyo labo abeza kuNkulunkulu ngaye ngoba uhlezi ephilela ukubancengela. **26** Umphristi omkhulu

onjalo wagcwalisa izinswelo zethu, ongongcwele, ongelasici, lohlanzekileyo, lowehlukaniswe lezoni, lophakanyiselwe ngaphezu kwamazulu. **27** Hatshi njengabanye abaphristi abakhulu, yena kadingi kunikela imihlatshelo insuku zonke, kuqala eyezono zakhe, kulandele owezono zabantu. Wabenzela umhlatshelo wezono zabo kwaba kanye kuphela lapho ezinikela. **28** Ngoba umthetho ubeka abantu ababuthakathaka ukuba ngabaphristi abakhulu kodwa isifungo ebeza emva komthetho sabeka iNdodana eyenziwe yaba ngepheleleyo kuze kube nininini. (aiōn g165)

8 Isiqoqela salokho esikutshoyo yilesi: Silaye umphristi omkhulu onjalo, owahlala phansi esandleni sokunene kwesihlalo sobukhosi soMkhulu ezulwini, **2** okhonzayo endaweni engcwele, ithabanikeli eliqotho elamiswa yiNkosi hatshi ngabantu. **3** Umphristi omkhulu ngamunye ubekelwe ukunikela iziphlo lemihlatshelo, ngakho kwakufanele ukuba lalo abe lolutho alunikelayo. **4** Aluba wayesemhlabeni wayengayikuba ngumphristi ngoba bebele bekhona abantu abanikela iziphlo eziphawulwa ngumthetho. **5** Bakhonza endaweni engcwele engumfanekiso lesithunzi salokho okusezulwini. Yikho-nje uMosi waxwayiswa lapho esezakwakha ithabanikeli ngokuthi: “Qaphela ukuba wenze konke njengalokhu owakutshengiswa entabeni.” **6** Kodwa inkonzo uJesu ayemukeleyo ingcono kuleyabo njengesivumelwano yena angumle wayo singcono kulesidala njalo sakhelwe phezu kwezithembiso ezingcono. **7** Ngoba aluba kwakungelalutho olungalinganga kusivumelwano sakuqala lesi, akulasizatho esasingadingelwa esinye. **8** Kodwa uNkulunkulu wathola isici ebantwini wasesithi: “Isikhathi siyeza, kutsho iNkosi, lapho engizakwenza khona isivumelwano esitsha lendlu ka-Israyeli kanye lendlu kaJuda. **9** Kasiyikufana lesivumelwano engasenza labokhokho babo lapho engababamba khona ngesandla ukuba ngibakhuphe eGibhithe, ngoba kabaqhubekanga bethembekile esivumelwaneni sami, ngasengibadela, kutsho iNkosi. **10** Nansi isivumelwano engizasenza lendlu ka-Israyeli, ngemva kwalesosikhathi, kutsho iNkosi. Ngizabeka imithetho yami ezingqondweni zabo, ngiyilobe ezinhliziyweni zabo. Ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wabo, bona babengabantu bami. **11** Umuntu kasayikufundisa umakhelwane wakhe, kumbe umfowabo, esithi, ‘Yazi iNkosi,’ ngoba bonke bazangazi, kusukela komncinyane wabo kusiya komkhulu. **12** Ngoba ngizabathethelela ububi babo, njalo angiyikukhumbula izono zabo futhi.” **13** Ngokuthi isivumelwano lesi “sitsha” wenze esakuqala sangasasebenzi; futhi okungasasebenzi lokugugileyo kuzanyamalala masinyane.

9 Isivumelwano sakuqala sasilezimisizo zokukhonza kanye lendawo engcwele yasemhlabeni. **2** Kwakhiwa ithabanikeli. Ekamelweni lalo lakuqala kwakuloluthi lwesibane, letafula kanye lesinkwa esingcwelisiweyo; lokhu kwakubizwa ngokuthi yiNdawo eNgcwele. **3** Ngemva kwekhetheleli lesibili kwakulekamelu elalithiwa yiNdawo eNgcwelengcwele, **4** eyayile-alithare lokutshisela impepha elalihuqwe ngegolide kanye lomtshokotsho wesivumelwano owawuhuqwe ngegolide. Umtshokotsho wakhona wawulembizanyana yemana, lentonga ka-Aroni eyahlumayo kanye lezibhebhedu zamatshe esivumelwano. **5** Phezu komtshokotsho kwakulamakherubhi eNkazimulo enze ithunzi phezu kwendawo yomhlatshelo. Kodwa khathesi

asingeke silandise okugcwelewo ngalezozinto. **6** Kwathi konke sekulungisiwe kanje, abaphristi bangena njalonzalo ekamelweni langaphandle ukuba benze inkonzo yabo. **7** Kodwa umphristi omkhulu nguye kuphela owayengena ekamelweni langaphakathi kanye ngomnyaka, njalo kungeke kwenzeke engelagazi alinikelela yena kanye lezono abantu abazana bengazi. **8** UMoya eNgcwele wayetshengisa ngalokho ukuthi indlela eya eNdaweni eNgcwelengcwele yayingabonakaliswa nxa ithabanikeli lakuqala lilokhu likhona. **9** Lokhu kungumfanekiso walesisikhathi, okubonakalisa ukuthi izipho lemihlatshelo okwakunikelwa kwakunganelisi ukuhlambulula izazela zakhonzayo. **10** Kuyindaba yokudla lokunatha kuphela kanye lemikhuba eyehlukeneyo yokugeza imilayo yangaphandle komzimba esebenza kuze kufike isikhathi sezimiso ezintsha. **11** Kwathi lapho uKhristu esefikile njengomphristi omkhulu wezinto ezinhle esezikhona, wadabula phakathi kwethabanikeli elikhulu elipheleleyo elingenziwanga ngabantu, okuyikuthi, kalisingxenywe yale indalo. **12** Kangenanga ngokusebenzisa igazi lembuzi loba elamathole; kodwa wangena kanye kuphela eNdaweni eNgcwelengcwele ngegazi lakhe, esethole ukuhlengwa okulaphakade. (aiōnios g166) **13** Igazi lembuzi lenkunzi lemilotha yamathokazi okufafazwa ebantwini abangahlambulukanga ngokomkhuba kuyabangcwelisa ukuba babe ngabahlambulukileyo ngaphandle. **14** Pho igazi likaKhristu, owazinikela engelasici kuNkulunkulu ngomoya olaphakade, lizazihlambulula kakhulu okungakanani izazela zethu emisebenzini edonsela ekufeni, ukuze sikhonze uNkulunkulu ophilayo! (aiōnios g166) **15** Ngenxa yalokhu uKhristu ungumeli wesivumelwano esitsha ukuze kuthi labo ababizweyo bathole ilifa elingapheliyo elathenjiswa ngengoba sewafa njengenhlawulo ukuba abakuhlule ezonweni abazanyayo esivumelwaneni sakuqala. (aiōnios g166) **16** Mayelana lentando yokwaba ilifa, kuyadingakala ukuba kufakazwe ukufa kwalowo owakwenzayo, **17** ngoba intando yokwaba ilifa isebenza kuphela lapho kukhona ofileyo; kayisebenzi nxa lowo owayenzayo elokhu esaphila. **18** Yikho-nje lesivumelwano sakuqala kasifezwanga kungekho gazi. **19** Kwathi uMosi esememezele imilayo yonke yomthetho ebantwini bonke, wathatha igazi lamathole lelempongo ndawonye lamanzi, lewulu ebomvu kanye lezingatsha zehisophi, wachela umqulu kanye labantu bonke. **20** Wathi, “Leli ligazi lesivumelwano uNkulunkulu alaye ukuba lisigcine.” **21** Ngendlela efanayo wachela ithabanikeli ngegazi kanye lezinto zonke ezisetsenziswayo emikhosini yalo. **22** Ngempela umthetho uphose ufune ukuba izinto zonke zihlanjululwe ngegazi, njalo kungekho kuchithwa kwegazi akukho ukuthethelela. **23** Ngakho kwakufanele ukuba imifanekiso yezinto zasezulwini zihlanjululwe ngemihlatshelo le kodwa izinto zasezulwini uqobo kube ngemihlatshelo engcono kulale. **24** Ngoba uKhristu kangenanga endaweni engcwele eyenziwa ngabantu eyayingumfanekiso waleyo eqotho kuphela; yena wangena ezulwini uqobo, ukuba asimele phambi kukaNkulunkulu. **25** Kangenanga ezulwini ukuba azinikele njalonzalo, njengomphristi omkhulu engena eNdaweni eNgcwelengcwele minyaka yonke legazi elingayisilo lakhe. **26** Ngakho uKhristu wayezahlupheka kanengi kusukela ekudalweni komhlaba. Kodwa khathezi usebonakale kanye kuphela ekupheleni kwezikhathi ukuba asuse isono ngomhlatshelo onguye. (aiōn g165) **27** Njengalokhu umuntu

wamiselwa ukufa kanye, kuthi emva kwalokho abhekane lokwahlulelwa, **28** ngokunjalo uKhristu wanikelwa kanye ukuba asuse izono zabantu abanengi; njalo uzabonakala okwesibili, hatshi ukuthwala isono, kodwa ukuletha ukusindiswa kulabo abamlindelelo.

10 Umthetho uyisithunzi nje sezinto ezinhle ezizayo kodwa hatshi lokho okuyikho uqobo. Ngenxa yemihlatshelo efanayo ephindwaphindwa kokuphela iminyaka leminyaka ayingeke ibenze baphelele labo abasondelela ekukhonzeni. **2** Aluba wawusanelisa, imihlatshelo yayingayikuyekelwa ukunikelwa na? Ngoba abakhonzayo babezahlanjululwa kube kanye kuphela, njalo babengasayikuziwa belecala lezono zabo. **3** Kodwa imihlatshelo iyisikhumbuzo sezono zeminyaka yonke, **4** ngoba akwenzakali ukuba igazi lenkunzi lelembuzi lisuse izono. **5** Ngakho-ke, uKhristu esefikile emhlabeni wathi: “Umhlatshelo lomnikelo kawukufunanga, kodwa wena wangilungisela umzimba; **6** kawuthokozanga ngeminikelo yokutshiswa leminikelo yesono. **7** Ngasengisithi, ‘Ngilapha, kulotshiwe ngami emqulwini, ngilande ukuzokwenza intando yakho, Oh Nkulunkulu.’” **8** Kuqala wathi, “Imihlatshelo leminikelo, iminikelo yokutshiswa kanye leminikelo yesono kawuyifunanga, njalo kayikuthokozisanga” (lanxa umthetho usithi kayenziwe). **9** Wabuya wathi, “Ngilapha, ngilande ukuzokwenza intando yakho.” Ususa okokuqala ukuze amise okwesibili. **10** Njalo ngaleyontando senziwe saba ngcwele ngomhlatshelo womzimba jakesu Khristu kanye kuphela. **11** Insuku zonke umphristi uyema enze imisebenzi yakhe yenkonzo, anikele njalonzalo imihlatshelo minye, engeke isuse izono. **12** Kodwa kwathi umphristi lo esenikelele izikhathi zonke umhlatshelo owodwa wezono, wahlala phansi esandleni sokunene sikaNkulunkulu. **13** Kusukela ngalesosikhathi ulindele izitha zakhe ukuba zibe yisenabelo sakhe, **14** ngoba ngomhlatshelo owodwa usephelelise nini lanini labo abenziwayo ukuba ngcwele. **15** LoMoya eNgcwele uyafakaza kithi ngalokho. Kuqala uthi: **16** “Lesi yisivumelwano engizansenza labo emva kwalesosikhathi, kutsho iNkosi. Ngizafaka imithetho yami ezinhliziyweni zabo ngiyilobe lasezingqondweni zabo.” **17** Wabuya wengeza wathi: “Izono zabo lezono zokungabi lomthetho, angiyikukhumbula futhi.” **18** Nxa lezi sezithethelelwe, kawusekho umhlatshelo wesono. **19** Ngakho-ke, bazalwane, njengoba silethemba lokungena eNdaweni eNgcwelengcwele ngegazi likajesu, **20** ngendlela entsha ephilayo, esiyivulelwe ekhethenini, okuyikuthi umzimba wakhe, **21** njalo njengoba silomphristi omkhulu ophethe indlu kaNkulunkulu, **22** kasisondeleni kuNkulunkulu ngezinhliziyi eziqotho ngethemba elipheleleyo lokholo; sibe lezinhliziyi ezicheliwayo ukuba sihlanjululwe isazela secala lezimzimba yethu igeziwe ngamanzi ahlanzekileyo. **23** Kasibambeleleni ngokuqina kulo ithemba esilikholwayo, ngoba lowo owathembisayo uthembekile. **24** Njalo kasicabangeni ukuba singakhuthazana njani ethandweni lasezenzweni ezinhle. **25** Kasingakudeli ukuhlangana, njengalokhu abanye abajayele ukukwenza kodwa kasikhuthazaneni ikakhulu njengoba sibona uSuku lusondela. **26** Nxa siqhubeka sisenza izono ngabomu emva kokuba iqiniso sesilazi, kawusekho umhlatshelo wezono, **27** kodwa umlindo owesabekayo wokwahlulelwa kuphela kanye lomlilo ovuthayo ozaqothula izitha zikaNkulunkulu. **28** Owawalayo umthetho kaMosi wafa kungela sihawu ngobufakazi babafakazi ababili kumbe abathathu. **29** Pho licabanga ukuthi ufanele ukujeziswa kakhulu

kanganani umuntu owanyathela iNdodana kaNkulunkulu ngaphansi konyawo, ophathe igazi lesivumelwano elamenza waba ngcwele njengento engangcwele, lohlabaza uMoya womusa na? **30** Ngoba thina siyamazi lowo owathi, “Ukuphindisela ngokwami; ngizabuyisela,” njalo wathi, “INKosi izakwahlulela abantu bayo.” **31** Kuyinto eyesabekayo ukuwela ezandleni zikaNkulunkulu ophilayo. **32** Khumbalani insuku zakuqala leziyana emva kokuba selamukele ukukhanya, lapho elaqiniseka khona ebunzimeni obukhulu phakathi kokuhlupheka. **33** Ngezinye izikhathi lenziwa umbukiso wokuhlanjaza lokuhlukuluzwa; kwathi ngezinye izikhathi lamanyana labalo ababepathwa kanjalo. **34** Laba lozwele kulabo ababesentolongweni, lamukela ngentokozo ukuthunjwa kwempahla yenu, ngoba lalikwazi ukuthi lina lilempahla engcono engapheliyo. **35** Ngakho lingalilahlali ithemba lenu; lizavuzwa ngokunengi. **36** Kuyadingeka ukuba libekezele ukuze kuthi lapho seliyenzile intando kaNkulunkulu, lamukele lokho akuthembisayo. **37** Ngoba, “Ngesikhathshana nje, lowo ozayo uzafika njalo kasoze aphuze.” **38** Kodwa, “Olungileyo wami uzaphila ngokukholwa. Angahlelela emuva, kangiyikuthokoza ngaye.” **39** Kodwa thina kasisibo balabo abahlelela emuva babhujiswe, kodwa labo abakhulwayo basindiswe.

11 Ukukholwa yikuba leqiniso lalokhu esikulindeleyo njalo kuqinisekile ngalokho esingakuboniyo. **2** Lokhu yikho abendulo abanonywa ngakho. **3** Ngokukholwa siyezwisisa ukuthi izulu lomhlaba kwadalwa ngokulaya kukaNkulunkulu, ngoba okubonakalayo kakwenziwanga ngalokho okwakubonakala. (aiōn g165) **4** Ngokukholwa u-Abheli wanikela kuNkulunkulu umnikelo omuhle kulokaHayini. Ngokukholwa wanconywa njengomuntu olungileyo, ngesikhathi uNkulunkulu ekhuluma kuhle ngeminkelo yakhe. Njalo ngokukholwa ulokhu ekhuluma, lanxa sewafa. **5** Ngokukholwa u-Enoki wasuswa kulumhlaba ephila ukuze angakuzwa ukufa: “Kabonakalanga ngoba uNkulunkulu wayesemthethe.” Engakathathwa, wayenconywa njengowayethokozise uNkulunkulu. **6** Kungelalukholwa akweneliseki ukumthokozisa uNkulunkulu ngoba oza kuye kumele akholwe ukuthi ukhona lokuthi uyabanika umvuzo labo abamdinga ngobuqotho. **7** Ngokukholwa uNowa esexwaysiwe ngezinto ezazingakabonakali, ngokwesaba okungcwele wakha umkhumbi ukuba ahlenge abendlu yakhe. Ngokukholwa kwakhe wawulahlala umhlaba waba yindlalifa yokulunga okuza ngokukholwa. **8** Ngokukholwa u-Abrahamama esebizelwe ukuba aye endaweni ayezayamukela muva njengelifa lakhe, walalela wahamba, lanxa wayengakwazi lapho ayesiya khona. **9** Ngokukholwa wahlala elizweni lesithembiso njengesihambi, elizweni elingayisilo lakibo; wahlala emathenteni, njengokwenziwa ngu-Isaka loJakhobe, ababezindlalifa zalelilizwe lesithembiso kanye laye. **10** Ngoba wayelindele idolobho elilezisekelo, elimcandi walo lomakhi walo nguNkulunkulu. **11** Ngokukholwa, lanxa u-Abrahamama wayeseluphele loSara eyinyumba, wanikwa amandla okuba lomntwana ngoba wambona njengothembekileyo lowo owayenze isithembiso. **12** Ngakho-ke, kusukela kulumuntu oyedwa, owayefana lofileyo, kwavela inzalo enengi njengezinkanyezi emkhathini njalo engeke ibalwe njengenhlathi ekhunjini lolwandle. **13** Abantu bonke laba bafa belokhu bephila ngokukholwa. Kabazamukelanga izinto ezathenjwayo; bazibona nje kuphela bazithakazelela zikude. Njalo bavuma ukuthi bona babeyizizwe

lezihambi emhlabeni. **14** Abantu abakhuluma izinto ezinje babonakalisa ukuthi bafuna ilizwe elingelabo. **15** Aluba babecabanga ngelizwe abasuka kulo, babezakuba lethuba lokubuyela. **16** Kodwa-ke bona babefuna ilizwe elingcono, lona elisezulwini. Ngakho uNkulunkulu akumyangisi ukubizwa ngokuthi unguNkulunkulu wabo, ngoba ubesabalungisele idolobho. **17** Ngokukholwa, kwathi u-Abrahamama ehlowa nguNkulunkulu, wanikela u-Isaka njengomhlatshe. Yena owayamukele izithembiso wayeseseduze ukuba anikele indodana yakhe eyodwa njalo eyiyo kuphela. **18** Lanxa uNkulunkulu wayethe kuye, “isizukulwane sakho sizabalwa ngo-Isaka.” **19** U-Abrahamama wanakana ukuthi uNkulunkulu wayengabavusa abafuleyo, njalo nxa kuzekeliswa, wamamukela u-Isaka evela ekufeni. **20** Ngokukholwa u-Isaka wabusisa uJakhobe lo-Esawu ngekusasa labo. **21** Ngokukholwa uJakhobe, esesifa wawabusisa wonke amadodana kaJosefa, wasekhonza eyame phezu kwentonga yakhe. **22** Ngokukholwa uJosefa, isiphetho sakhe sesisondele, walandisa ngokuphuma kwabako-Israyeli eGibhithe njalo walayezela ngamathambo akhe. **23** Ngokukholwa abazali bakaMosi bamfilhla izinyanga ezintathu emva kokuzalwa kwakhe, ngoba babona ukuthi wayengasumntwana nje ojayelekileyo, njalo babengawesabi umthetho wenkosi. **24** Ngokukholwa uMosi esekhulile, wala ukuba aziwe njengendodana yendodakazi kaFaro. **25** Wakhetha ukuphathwa kubi kanye labantu bakaNkulunkulu kulokuba akholise injabulo yesono okwesikhathi esifitshane. **26** Wakhetha ihlazo ngenxa kaKhrhistu njengegugu elikhulu kulenotho yaseGibhithe ngoba wayekhangelele umvuzo phambili. **27** Ngokukholwa wasuka eGibhithe, engalwesabi ulaka lwenkosi; wabekezela ngoba wambona lowo ongabonakaliyo. **28** Ngokukholwa wagcina iPhasika lokuchelwa kwegazi, ukuze umbulali wamazibulo angawathinti amazibulo ako-Israyeli. **29** Ngokukholwa abantu badabula phakathi koLwandle oluBomvu njengasemhlabathini owomileyo, kodwa kwathi amaGibhithe ezama ukwenzanjalo agalula. **30** Ngokukholwa imiduli yaseJerikho yadilika emva kokuba abantu beyibhode okwensuku eziyisikhombisa. **31** Ngokukholwa uRahabi isifebe, ngoba wamukela inhlo, kabulawanga kanye labalo ababengalaleli. **32** Kuyini okunye engingakutsho? Kangilasikhathi sokulandisa ngoGidiyoni, loBharakhi, loSamsoni, loJeftha, loDavida, loSamuyeli kanye labaphrofethi, **33** abanqoba imibuso ngokukholwa benza okulungileyo njalo bathola okwakuthenjisiwe; bona abavala imilomo yezilwane, **34** bacitsha ukuvutha kwamalangi, baphepha lesikhulani benkema; ubuthakathaka babo baphenduka baba ngamandla; njalo baba lamandla empini bawachitha amabutho ezizweni. **35** Abesifazane bamukela abafayo babo sebevuselwe ekuphileni futhi. Abanye bahlukuluzwa njalo bala ukukhululwa, ukuze bathole ukuvuka ekufeni okuhle. **36** Abanye bahozwa batshaywa, kwathi abanye babotshwa ngamakethane bafakwa entolongweni. **37** Batshaywa ngamatshe, baqunywa ngesaha baba yiziqa ezimbili; babulawa ngenkema. Bahamba begoke izikhumba zezimvu lezikhumba zembuzi, beswela, behlukuluzwa, bephathwa kubi, **38** umhlaba kubo wawungabafanele. Bantula enkangala lasezintabeni lasezimbalwini kanye lasemilindini emhlabathini. **39** Bonke laba banconywa ngokukholwa kwabo, kodwa kakho phakathi kwabo owathola okwakuthenjisiwe. **40** Thina uNkulunkulu wayesimisele okuhle ukuze kuthi sebe kanye lathi bapheleliswe.

12 Ngakho-ke, njengoba sihanqwe lixuku elikhulu kangaka labafakazi, kasikulahleni konke okusivimbelayo kanye lesono esisibopha lula njalo kasigijimani ngokubekezela kulo umjaho ophawulelwe thina. **2** Kasikhangeleni kuJesu, uMqalisi loMphelelisi wokukholwa kwethu, okwathi ngentokozi eyayibekwe phambi kwakhe wabekezela isiphambano, engananzi ihlazo laso, wahlala phansi esandleni sokunene sobukhosi sikaNkulunkulu. **3** Cabangani ngaye owabekezela ukuphikiswa okungaka ngabantu abayizoni ukuze lingabi buthakathaka lilahle ithemba. **4** Ekulweni kwenu lesono, kalmelananga laso kwaze kwaba sebangeni lokuchitha igazi lenu. **5** Njalo selilikhohlwe lelizwi lokulikhuthaza elikhuluma kini njengamadodana elithi: “Ndodana yami, ungeyisi ukulaya kweNkosi. Njalo ungalahli ithemba lapho ikukhuza, **6** ngoba uThixo ulaya labo abathandayo, abuye ajezise bonke abamukela njengendodana.” **7** Bekezelelani ukhulupheka njengokulaywa; uNkulunkulu uliphatha njengabantwana bakhe. Kambe yibaphi abantwana abangalaya nguyise na? **8** Nxa lingalaywa (umuntu wonke uyalaywa), liyabe lingabantwana abazalwa ngokungekho emthethweni njalo abangasiwo amadodana lamadodakazi uqobo. **9** Phezu kwalokho, sonke sake saba labobaba abasilaywa njalo sabahlonipha ngenxa yalokho. Pho kufanele sizehlele kakhulu okungakanani kuBaba wemimoya yethu njalo siphile! **10** Obaba basilaya okwesikhatshana ngababekubona kukuhle, kodwa uNkulunkulu usilaya ukuba sisizakale, ukuba sihlanganyele ebungcweleni bakhe. **11** Akukho kulaywa okukhanya kukuhle ngalesosikhathi, kodwa kukuhlungu. Kodwa muva, kuletha isivuno sokulunga lokuthula kulabo abafundiswa yikho. **12** Ngakho-ke, qinisani izingalo zenu ezibuthakathaka lamadolo enu axegayo. **13** “Lungiselani inyawo zenu izindlela ezibekekileyo,” ukuze abaqhulayo bangagokeki, kodwa basilise. **14** Zamani kakhulu ukuhlalisana ngokuthula labantu bonke lokuba ngcwele; kungekho ngcwele kakho ozayibona iNkosi. **15** Bonani ukuthi kakho oswela umusa kaNkulunkulu kanye lokuthi akulampande ebayayo ekhulayo ukuba idale uhlupho ingcolise abanengi. **16** Bonani ukuthi kakho oyisifebe, loba ongakhonzi uNkulunkulu njengo-Esawu okwathi ngenxa yokudla kunye wathengisa amalungelo elifa lakhe ukuba libizulo. **17** Muva, njengoba lisazi, lapho esefuna ukuzuzisa isibusiso lesi waliwa. Wayengeke enze kube lokuguquka kwengqondo, lanxa wafuna isibusiso lesi ngezinyembezi. **18** Kalizanga entabeni engathintwayo njalo ebhebha umlilo; ebumnyameni lasekufiphaleni lesiphapho; **19** ekukhaleni kwecilongo loba ilizwi elinjalo elikhululwane, okwenza labo abalizwayo bacela ukuba kungabi lelizwi elikhulunywa kubo futhi, **20** ngoba babengeke bakumele ukulaywa okwakusithi: “Lenyamazana ingathinta intaba, kumele itshaywe ngamatshe.” **21** Okwabonathwayo kwakusesabeka kakhulu uMosi waze wathi, “Ngiyathuthumela ngenxa yokwesaba.” **22** Kodwa lina lize eNtabeni iZiyoni, iJerusalem lasezulwini, umuzi kaNkulunkulu ophilayo. Lize kuzinkulungwane lezinkulungwane zezingilosi ezihlangane ngentokozi **23** ebandleni lezibulo, ezimabizo azo alotshiwe ezulwini. Lize kuNkulunkulu, umahluleli wabantu bonke, emimoyeni yabantu abalungileyo abaphelisiweyo, **24** uJesu umeli wesivumelwano esitsha, lasegazini elicheliweyo elikhuluma ilizwi elihle kulegazi lika-Abheli. **25** Bonani ukuthi kalimenqabeli lowo okhulumayo. Nxa bengaphephanga lapho benqabela lowo owabaxwayisa emhlabeni, koba kuncane kangakanani kithi, nxa sidela lowo osixwayisa ezulwini

na? **26** Ngalesosikhathi ilizwi lakhe lanyikinya umhlaba, kodwa khathesi usethembisile wathi: “Ngizaphinda njalo futhi nginyikinye, hatshi umhlaba kuphela, kodwa lamazulu futhi.” **27** Amazwi la “njalo futhi” atsho ukususwa kwalokho okunganyikinyiswa, okuyikuthi izinto ezadalwayo, ukuze kuthi lokho okungeke kunyikinyiswe kusale. **28** Ngakho-ke, njengoba sisamukela umbuso ongeke unyikinywe, kasibongeni njalo sikhonze uNkulunkulu ngokufaneleyo ngenhlonipho langokwesaba, **29** ngoba “uNkulunkulu wethu ungumlilo oqothulayo.”

13 Qhubekani lithandana njengabazalwane. **2** Lingakhohlwa ukwamukela izihambi ngoba ngokwenza njalo abanye abantu bamukela izingilosi bengazi. **3** Khumbulani abasentolongweni ngokungathi lani liyizibotshwa kanye labo, kanye lalabo abaphethe kubi ngokungathi lani uqobo liyahlupeka. **4** Ukuthathana kumele kuhlonitshwe ngumuntu wonke, kuthi lomendalo wokuthathana uhlale uhlambulukile ngoba uNkulunkulu uzakwahlulela isifebe labo bonke abahlobongayo. **5** Ekuphileni kwenu xwayani ukuthanda imali lisuthiseke ngalokho elilakho, ngoba uNkulunkulu wathi: “Kangisoze ngilitshiye; kangisoze ngilidele.” **6** Ngakho siyatsho ngethemba sithi: “Inkosi ingumsizi wami; kangiyikwesaba. Umuntu angenzani kimi na?” **7** Khumbulani abakhokheli benu, abakhuluma ilizwi likaNkulunkulu kini. Cabangani okwala endleni yokuphila kwabo lilingisele ukukholwa kwabo. **8** UJesu Khristu uyafana izolo lanamhla kanye laphakade. (aiōn g165) **9** Lingathatheki ngazonke inhlobo zemfundiso engaziwayo. Kuhle ukuba inhlizyo zethu ziqiniswe ngumusa, hatshi yikudla komkhuba okungelasizo kulabo abakudlayo. **10** Thina sile-alithare lapho labo abakhonza ethabanikeleni bengelalungelo lokudlela kulo. **11** Umphristi omkhulu uletha igazi lezifuyo eNdaweni eNgcwelengcwele njengomnikelo wesono kodwa izidumbu zazo ziyatshiswa ngaphandle kwezihonqo. **12** Ngokunjalo uJesu laye wahlupheka ngaphandle kwesango ledolobho ukuba enze abantu bakhe babengcwele ngegazi lakhe. **13** Ngakho-ke, kasiyeni kuye ngaphandle kwezihonqo silehlazo alithwalayo. **14** Ngoba lapha kasiladolobho elimiyo njalo, kodwa sidinga idolobho elizayo. **15** Ngakho, ngoJesu kasinikeleni njalonjalo kuNkulunkulu umhlatshele wokubonga, isithelo sezindebe ezivuma ibizo lakhe. **16** Njalo lingakhohlwa ukwenza okungileyo kanye lokwabela abanye ngoba uNkulunkulu uyathokoza ngemihlatshelo enje. **17** Lalelani abakhokheli benu njalo lithobeke amandla abo. Bayalilinda njengabantu okumele balandise ngani. Balaleleni ukuze umsebenzi wabo uthokozise njalo ungasindi ngoba lokho akungeke kube lusizo kini. **18** Sikhulekeleni. Sileqiniso ukuthi silesazela esihle njalo sifisa ukuhlala ngobuqotho ngezindlela zonke. **19** Ikakhulu ngiyalincenga ukuba likhuleke ukuze ngibuyiselwe kini masinyane. **20** Sengathi uNkulunkulu wokuthula, owavusa iNkosi yethu uJesu kwabafuleyo ngegazi lesivumelwano esingapheliyo, lowoMalusi omkhulu wezimvu, (aiōnios g166) **21** anghilomisa ngakho konke okunguleke ukwenza intando yakhe, njalo sengathi angasebenza phakathi kwethu lokho okumthokozisayo ngoJesu Khristu, udumo kalube kuye kuze kube nini lanini. Amen. (aiōn g165) **22** Bazalwane, ngiyalincenga ukuba libekezelele ilizwi lami lokuqonqosela kwami ngoba ngililobele incwadi emfitshane nje. **23** Ngithanda ukuba likwazi ukuthi umzalwane wethu uThimothi usekukulule. Angafika masinyane ngizakuza laye sazelibona. **24** Bingelelani

bonke abakhokheli benu kanye labantu bakaNkulunkulu
bonke. Abavela e-Ithali bayalibingelela. 25 Umusa kawube lani
lonke.

UJakhobe

1 UJakhobe inceku kaNkulunkulu leyeNkosi uJesu Khristu, Kuzo izizwana ezilithumi lambili ezihlakaizeke phakathi kwezizwe: Ngiyalibingela. **2** Bazalwane bami, lapho lisehlelwa yizilingo ezitshiyeneyo, kubaleni njengentokozo epheleleyo **3** ngoba liyakwazi ukuthi ukuhlolwa kokholo lwenu kukhulisa ukubekezela. **4** Ukubekezela kufanele kuwuqede umsebenzi wakho ukuze lina likhule njalo liphelele, lingasileli ngalutho. **5** Nxa omunye wenu eswela ukuhlakanipha kumele acele kuNkulunkulu onika bonke ngesihle engadinganga sici, ngempela uzakuphiwa. **6** Kodwa lapho ecela kumele akholwe angathandabuzi ngoba othandabuzayo unjengegagasi lolwandle eliphethshulwa ngumoya uliphose. **7** Umuntu lowo akumelanga acabange ukuthi kuluthola azaluthola eNkosini; **8** ungumuntu ongqondombili, kazinganga kukho konke akwenzayo. **9** Umzalwane olesimo esiphansi kumele aziqhenye ngesikhundla sakhe esiphezulu. **10** Kodwa lowo onothileyo kumele aziqhenye ngesikhundla sakhe esiphansi, ngoba uzadlula njengeluba leganga. **11** Ngoba ilanga liphuma litshisa okuhangulayo libunise ihlumela, umqhakazo walo uwohloke lobuhle balo buphele. Ngokufanayo umuntu onothileyo uzanyamalala elokhu esawenza umsebenzi wakhe. **12** Ubusisiwe umuntu oqiniseleyo ekulingweni, ngoba lapho esephumelele ekuhlolweni, uzaphiwa umqhele wokuphila, ukuphila uNkulunkulu akuthembisa labo abamthandayo. **13** Ekulingweni, kakho kumele athi, “UNkulunkulu uyangilinga.” Ngoba uNkulunkulu angeke alingwe yibubi, futhi kalingi muntu; **14** kodwa lowo lalowo ulingwa yinkanuko yakhe embi, lapho edonselwa kude ehugwa. **15** Ngakho-ke, nxa inkano isidalwe izala isono; njalo isono lapho sesikhulile okugcweleyo, sizala ukufa. **16** Lingakhohlisa bazalwane bami abathandekayo. **17** Zonke izipho ezinhle lezipheleleyo zivela phezulu, zehlele phansi zivela kuYise wezibane zasezulwini, ongaguqukiyo njalo ongelathunzi lokuphenduka. **18** Wakhetha ukusizala ngelizwi leqiniso ukuze sibe luhlobo lwezithelo zakuqala kukho konke adalayo. **19** Bazalwane bami abathandekayo, qaphelani lokhu: Umuntu wonke kumele aphanje alalele, aphuze ukukhuluma, njalo aphuze lokuthukuthela **20** ngoba ukuthukuthela komuntu kakulethi ukuphila okulungileyo okufiswa nguNkulunkulu. **21** Ngakhoke, lahlani amanyala wonke lobubi obande kangaka, lilamukele ngokuthobeka ilizwi elahlanyelwa kini, elingalisindisa. **22** Lingalaleli ilizwi nje kuphela, beselizikhohlisa ngalokho. Yenzani lokho elikutshoyo. **23** Loba ngubani olalela ilizwi kodwa angaze enza elikutshoyo unjengomuntu okhangela ubuso bakhe esibukweni **24** kuthi esezibukile asuke ahle akhohlwe ukuthi unjani. **25** Kodwa umuntu owukhangela ngenjongo umthetho opheleleyo oetha ukukhululeka, njalo aqhubeke esenza lokhu engakhohlwa asekwizwile, kodwa ekwenza, uzabusiswa kulokho akwenzayo. **26** Nxa umuntu ecabanga ukuthi uyakholwa kodwa engabambi ulimi lwakhe okuqinileyo, uyazikhohlisa njalo lokholo lwakhe luyize. **27** Ukukholwa okwamukelwa nguNkulunkulu uBaba okuhlambulukileyo njalo kungelasici yilokhu: ukugcina izintandane labafelokazi ekuhluphekeni kwabo, kanye lokuzigcina thina ngokwethu ekungcolisweni ngumhlaba.

2 Bazalwane bami, njengabakholwayo eNkosini yethu elenkazimulo uJesu Khristu, lingabandlululi. **2** Kasithi

umuntu ufika emhlanganweni wenu egqize indandatho yegolide, egqoke lezigqoko ezinhle, besekungena umyanga egqoke izigqoko ezinithizelayo. **3** Nxa limnaka kakhulu lowo ogqoke izigqoko ezinhle lithi kuye, “Nansi isihlaho esingcono,” kodwa kongumyanga lithi, “Wena mana laphayana,” kumbe lithi, “Hlala phansi eduze kwezinyawo zami,” **4** Kambe kalibandlululanga njalo laba ngabahlulele abalemicabango emibi na? **5** Lalelani, bazalwane bami abathandekayo: Kanti uNkulunkulu kabakhethanga yini labo abangabayanga emehlweni omhlaba ukuba babengabanothileyo ekukholweni kanye lokudla ilifa lombuso awuthembisa labo abamthandayo na? **6** Kodwa lina libathukile abayanga. Abanothileyo akusibo yini abadinga inzuzo ngani? Akusibo yini abalihudulela emithethwandaba? **7** Akusibo yini abahlambaza ibizo lobukhosi elalowo lina elingabakhe na? **8** Nxa liwugcina sibili umthetho wobukhosi otholakala eMbalweni othi, “Thanda umakhelwane wakho njengalokhu uzithanda,” lenza okulungileyo. **9** Kodwa nxa libandlulula lenza isono njalo lilahlwa ngumthetho njengabephuli bomthetho. **10** Ngoba loba ngubani ogcina umthetho wonke, kodwa akhubeke endaweni eyodwa, ulecala lokuwephula wonke. **11** Ngoba yena owathi, “Ungafebi,” wathi futhi, “Ungabulali.” Nxa ungamebi, kodwa ubulala, usube yisaphulamthetho. **12** Khulumani njalo lenze njengalabo abazakwahlulelwa ngumthetho onika ukukhululeka, **13** ngoba ukwahlulela okungelasihawu kuzakuba kulowo obengelasihawu. Isihawu sinqoba ukwahlulela! **14** Kusizani bazalwane bami, nxa umuntu esithi ulokholo kodwa engelazeno? Ukholo olunjalo lungamsindisa na? **15** Kasithi umfowenu loba udadewenu kalazigqoko lokudla kwansukuzonke. **16** Nxa omunye wenu esithi kuye, “Hamba, ngikufisela okuhle; hlala ufudumala njalo usutha,” kodwa angenzi lutho ngalezi zinswelo zakhe zomzimba, kusizani na? **17** Ngokunjalo, ukukholwa nje kuphela, nxa kungelamisebenzi kufile. **18** Kodwa omunye uzakuthi, “Wena ulokukholwa; mina ngilezenzo.” Ngitshengisa ukukholwa kwakho kungelazeno, njalo mina ngizakutshengisa ukukholwa kwami ngalokho engikwenzayo. **19** Uyakholwa ukuthi kuloNkulunkulu oyedwa. Kulungile! Lamadimoni ayakukholwa lokhu njalo ayathuthumela. **20** Wena ndoda eyisiwula, ufuna ubufakazi bokuthi ukukholwa okungelamisebenzi kuyize na? **21** Kanje ukhokho wethu u-Abrahama kabalwanga njengolungileyo ngenxa yalokhu akwenzayo lapho anikela indodana yakhe u-Isaka e-alithareni na? **22** Liyabona ukuthi ukukholwa kwakhe lezenzo zakhe kwakusebenza ndawonye, njalo ukukholwa kwakhe kwapheliselwa yilokho akwenzayo. **23** Njalo umbhalo wagcwaliseka othi, “U-Abrahama wakholwa uNkulunkulu, njalo kwabalwa kuye njengokulunga,” njalo wabizwa ngokuthi ngumngane kaNkulunkulu. **24** Liyabona ukuthi umuntu ulungiswa yilokho akwenzayo hatshi ngokukholwa kuphela. **25** Ngokunjalo, loRahabi isifebe konje kabalwanga njengolungileyo ngalokho akwenzayo lapho anika inhloleli indawo yokulala wabuya wazikhupha ngenye indlela na? **26** Njengoba umzimba ongelamoya ufile, ngokunjalo ukukholwa okungelamisebenzi kufile.

3 Bazalwane bami, abanengi benu akumelanga babe ngabafundisi ngoba liyakwazi ukuthi thina esifundisayo sizakwahlulelwa kalukhunikazi. **2** Sonke siyakhubeka ngezindlela ezinengi. Nxa umuntu engakaze abesici kulokho akutshoyo, ungumuntu opheleleyo, oyenelisoyo ukuwubamba

wonke umzimba wakhe. **3** Lapho sifaka amatomu emiloniyeni yamabhiza ukuba asilalele, ibhiza singaliphendula lonke. **4** Kumbe lithathe imikhumbi njengesibonelo. Lanxa imikhulu kangaka njalo iqhutshwa ngumoya olamandla, iqondiswa ngophinyana oluncane loba kungaphi lapho umtshayeli afuna ukuya khona. **5** Ngokufanayo ulimi luyisitho esincane somzimba kodwa luyazincama kakhulu. Cabangani ngehlathi elikhulu elithungelwa yinhlansi encane yomlilo. **6** Ulimi lalo lungumlilo, umhlaba wobubi phakathi kwezitho zomzimba. Lungcolisa lonke uqobo lomuntu, luyithungele ngomlilo yonke impilo yakhe, lalo luthungelwe yisihogo somlilo. **(Geena g1067)** **7** Zonke inhlobo zezinyamazana, izinyoni, lezihquzelayo kanye lezidalwa zasolwandle ziyathanjiswa njalo sezathanjiswa ngumuntu, **8** kodwa akulamuntu ongathambisa ulimi, luyibubi obuyaluzelayo, lugcwele itshefu ebulalayo. **9** Ngolimi siyayibonga iNkosi uBaba, njalo ngalo sithuka abantu abenziwa ngomfanekiso kaNkulunkulu. **10** Emiloniyeni munye kuphuma ukubonga lokuthuka. Bazalwane bami, lokhu akufanelanga. **11** Kambe amanzi amnandi lamanzi aletswayi angagobhoza mthombo munye na? **12** Bazalwane bami, umkhiwa ungathela ama-oliva na, kumbe ivini lithele imikhiwa na? Lomthombo oletswayi awungeke ukuphele amanzi amnandi. **13** Ngubani ohlakaniphileyo loqedisisayo phakathi kwenu na? Kakubonakalise ngokuphila kwakhe kuhle, langezenzo ezenziwa ngokuzithoba okuvela ekuhlakanipheni. **14** Kodwa nxa ligcine umhawu lokulangazela kobukhwele ezinhliziyweni zenu, lingazincomi ngakho kumbe liphike iqiniso. **15** “Ukuhlakanipha” okunjalo kakwehli kuvela ezulwini, kodwa ngokwasemhlabeni, akusikomoya, ngokwamadimoni. **16** Ngoba lapho okulomhawu khona lokutshisekela kokuzisuthisa kulapho okutholakala khona ingxabangxoxa kanye lezeno zonke ezimbi. **17** Kodwa ukuhlakanipha okuvela ezulwini kuqala ngokuhlambuluka; besekuthanda ukuthula, kulozwelo, kuyazehlisa, kugcwele isihawu lezithelo ezinhle, kakukhethi njalo kuqotho. **18** Abalamuli abahlanyela ukuthula bathola isivuno sokulunga.

4 Kuyini okubangela ukulwa lengxabano phakathi kwenu na? Kakuveli ezinkanukweni zenu ezilwayo phakathi kwenu na? **2** Lifuna ulutho oluthile, kodwa kalilutholi. Liyabulala njalo lihawukele kodwa kalingeke likuthole lokho elikufunayo. Liyaxabana lilwe. Kalilalutho ngoba kaliceli kuNkulunkulu. **3** Lapho licela, kaliphiwa ngoba licela ngenjongo embi, ukuba lichithe lokho elikuzuzayo enjabulweni yenu. **4** Lina zifebe zabantu, kalikwazi yini ukuthi ubungane lomhlaba kuyikuzonda uNkulunkulu na? Umuntu okhetha ukuba ngumngane womhlaba uba yisitha sikaNkulunkulu. **5** Kumbe licabanga ukuthi umbhalo utsho kungelasizatho ukuthi umoya awenza ukuba uhlahle phakathi kwethu ugebella ebukhweleni? **6** Kodwa yena usinika umusa owengeziweyo. Yikho-nje umbhalo usithi: “UNKulunkulu umelana labazigqajayo, kodwa abe lomusa kwabathobekileyo.” **7** Ngakho-ke, zehliseni kuNkulunkulu. Menqabeleni uSathane, uzalibalekela. **8** Sondelani phansi kukaNkulunkulu laye uzasondela kini. Gezani izandla zenu lina zoni, lihlabulule lezinhliziyo zenu, lina abangqondombili. **9** Dabukani, lilile, likhale. Guqulani ukuhleka kwenu kube yikukhala, kuthi ukuthokoza kwenu kube yikudana. **10** Zithobeni phambi kweNkosi, izaliphakamisa. **11** Bazalwane, lingachothozani. Umuntu okhuluma kubi ngomzalwane wakhe, loba amahlulele,

ukhuluma kubi ngomthetho awahlulele. Lapho lisahlulele umthetho, kaliwugcini kodwa liyawahlulele. **12** KuloMenzi wemithetho loMahluleli oyedwa kuphela, lowo olamandla okusindisa lokubhubhisa. Kodwa lina lingobani ukuba lahlulele omakhelwane benu na? **13** Lalelani lina elithi, “Lamhla loba kusasa sizakuya kuleli loba kuleliyana idolobho, siqede umnyaka khona, senze imisebenzi sizuze imali.” **14** Kungani ngoba phela kalikwazi okuzakwenzakala kusasa. Ukuphila kwenu kuyini na? Liyinkungu ebonakala okwesikhatshana ibe isinyamalala. **15** Kodwa kumele lithi, “Nxa kuyintando yeNkosi sizaphila senze lokhu loba lokhuyana.” **16** Okwakhathesi liyazincama lizikhukhumeza. Konke ukuzincama okunje kubi. **17** Ngakho-ke, loba ngubani okwaziyo okungileyo okumele akwenze kodwa angakwenzi, wenza isono.

5 Lalelani lina bantu abanothileyo, khalani lilile ngenxa yosizi oluzayo phezu kwenu. **2** Inotho yenu isibolile, lezizgqoko zenu sezidliwe linondo. **3** Isiliva legolide lenu sekuthombile. Ukuthomba kwakho kuzafakaza kubi ngani, kudle inyama yemizimba yenu njengomlilo. Libuthelele inotho ensukwini zokucina. **4** Khangelani! Imihlo elingayibhadalanga izisebenzi ezavuna amasimu enu iyalikhalela. Ukukhala kwabavuni sekufikile ezindlebeni zeNkosi uSomandla. **5** Emhlabeni lihlahle ngentokoza langokuminza. Selikhuluphele ngenxa yokuhlaba imihla ngemihla. **6** Libagwebile lababulala abantu abamsulwa, ababengamelani lani. **7** Ngakho, bazalwane, bekezelani iNkosi ize ifike. Khangelani ukuthi umlimi uyilindela njani insimu ukuba ithele izilimo zayo ezilugimu kanye lokuthi ukubekezelela njani ukuna kwezulu lentwasa. **8** Lani futhi, bekezelani liqine ngoba ukufika kweNkosi sekusondele. **9** Lingasolani bazalwane hlezi lahlulelwe. UMahluleli umi emnyango! **10** Bazalwane, njengesibonelo sokubekezele ekuluphekeni, khumbulani abaphrofethi abakhuluma ngebizo leNkosi. **11** Njengoba lisazi, labo ababekezelayo sibabala njengababusiweyo. Selezwa ngokubekezele kukaJobe njalo selikubonile okwaletswa yiNkosi ekucineni. iNkosi igcwele isihawu esikhulu lomusa. **12** Phezu kwakho konke, bazalwane bami, lingafungi, kungaba ngezulu loba ngomhlaba kumbe ngolunye ulutho. “U-Yebo” wenu kabe nguyebo, lo “Hatshi” wenu abenguhatshi, hlezi lilahlwe. **13** Ukhona phakathi kwenu ohluphekayo na? Kakhuleke. Ukhona othokozayo na? Kahlabele izingoma zokudumisa. **14** Ukhona kini ogulayo na? Kumele abize abadala bebandla bamkhulekele njalo bamgcobe ngamafutha ebizweni leNkosi. **15** Umkhuleko owenziwe ngokukholwa uzakwenza lowomuntu ogulayo asile; iNkosi izamvusa. Nxa enze isono, uzathethelelwa. **16** Ngakho-ke, vumani izono zenu omunye komunye njalo likhulekelane ukuze lisiliswe. Umkhuleko womuntu olungileyo ulamandla njalo uyasebenza. **17** U-Eliza wayengumuntu njengathu. Wakhuleka ngokutshiseka ukuba izulu linganti, lakanye kalinanga elizweni iminyaka emithathu lengxenywe. **18** Wakhuleka futhi, amazulu aletha izulu, kwathi umhlaba lawo wathela izilimo zawo. **19** Bazalwane bami, nxa omunye wenu ephambuka eqiniseni, omunye ambuyisele, **20** khumbulani lokhu: Lowo onqanda isoni ekoneni kwaso uzasindisa ekufeni, agubuzele izono ezinengi.

1 UPhetro

1 UPhetro, umpostoli kaJesu Khristu, Kwabakhethiweyo bakaNkulunkulu, lasezihambini emhlabeni labahlakazekileyo kulolonke elasePhontusi, laseGalathiya, laseKaphadokhiya, lase-Ezhiya kanye laseBhithiniya, **2** abakhethwe ngokumayelana lokwazi mandulo kukaNkulunkulu uBaba, ngomsebenzi ongcwelisayo kaMoya, ngokulalela uJesu Khristu langokuchelwa ngegazi lakhe: Umusa lokuthula kakube ngokwenu ngokwandileyo. **3** Udumo kalube kuNkulunkulu uYise weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu! Ngenxa yesihawu sakhe esikhulu usinike ukuzalwa kutsha ethembeni eliphilayo ngokuvuka kwabafileyo kukaJesu Khristu, **4** kanye laselifeni elingasoze libole, lonakale loba libone njalo eliligcinelweyo ezulwini. **5** Ngokukholwa livelwe ngamandla kaNkulunkulu kuze kufike ukusindiswa okulungiselwe ukubonakaliswa ngesikhathi sokucina. **6** Liyathokoza kakhulu ngalokhu lanxa like lahlupheka okwesikhathshana ngezinsizi zezinhlobo zonke zezilingo. **7** Zifikile ukuze ukukholwa kwenu okulinganisiweyo, okuqatheke kakhulu kulegolide, elonakalayo lanxa licengwe ngomlilo kubonakaliswe kuqotho njalo kulethe ukubonga, lenkazimulo kanye lodumo lapho uJesu Khristu esebonakaliswa. **8** Lanxa lingambonanga, liyamthanda; njalo lanxa lingamboni khathesi, liyakholwa kuye njalo ligcwele intokozo engakhulumekiyo lemangalisayo, **9** ngoba lamukela umvuzo wokukholwa kwenu, ukusindiswa kwemiphefumulo yenu. **10** Mayelana lokusindiswa lokhu, abaphrofethi abakhuluma ngomusa owawuzakuza kini, badingisisa ngesineke esikhulu, **11** bezama ukwazi isikhathi lomumo okwakutshiwo nguMoya kaKhristu owayekubo lapho atsho mandulo ngezinhlupheko zikaKhristu lenkazimulo eyayizalandela. **12** Kwabonakaliswa kubo ukuthi bona babengazisebenzeli kodwa besebenzela lina lapho babekhuluma ngezinto khathesi eselizitshelwe yilabo abatshumayele ivangeli kini ngoMoya ongcwele owathunywa evela ezulwini. Lezingilosi ziyafisa ukuzibona lezizinto. **13** Ngakho-ke, lungiselani ingqondo zenu okungenziwa; zithibeni; bekani ithemba lenu ngokupheleleyo emuseni elizawuthola lapho uJesu Khristu esebonakaliswa. **14** Njengabantwana abalalelayo lingavumeli izinkanuko ezimbi elalilazo lingakazi. **15** Kodwa njengoba lowo owalibizayo engcwele, ngakho wobani ngcwele kukho konke elikwenzayo; **16** ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Wobani ngcwele ngoba mina ngingcwele.” **17** Njengoba likhuleka kuYihlo owahlulela imisebenzi yomuntu ngamunye kungekho bandlululo, philani impilo yenu lapha njengezihambi ngokuhlonipha. **18** Ngoba liyakwazi ukuthi kalihlengwanga ngezinto ezifayo ezinjengegolide lesiliva endleleni yokuphila eyize elakutshiyelwa ngokhokho benu, **19** kodwa ngegazi eliligugu likaKhristu imvana engelacala loba isici. **20** Wakhethwa umhlaba ungakadalwa, kodwa wabonakaliswa ngalezi izikhathi zokucina ngenxa yenu. **21** Ngaye liyakholwa kuNkulunkulu, owamvusa kwabafileyo wamnika inkazimulo, ngakho ukukholwa kwenu lethemba kukuNkulunkulu. **22** Njengoba khathesi selizihlambulule ngokulalela iqiniso ukuze libe lothando oluqotho kubazalwane benu, thandanani kakhulu, kusuka enhliziyweni. **23** Ngoba selizelwe kutsha, kungasikho ngenhlayelo ebolayo, kodwa ngengaboliyo,

ngelizwi eliphilayo eliqinileyo likaNkulunkulu. (aiōn g165) **24** Ngoba, “Abantu bonke banjengotshani, bonke ubukhosi babo bunjengamaluba eganga; utshani buyabuna njalo amaluba ayakhithika, **25** kodwa ilizwi leNkosi limi kuze kube nini lanani.” Njalo leli yilo ilizwi elatshunyayelwa kini. (aiōn g165)

2 Ngakho-ke, lahlani ububi bonke lenkohliso yonke, lokuzenzisa, lomona, kanye lesinye senhlobo zonke. **2** Njengabantwana abasanda kuzalwa, funani uchago lwakomoya oluhlambukileyo, ukuze likhuliswe yilo ekusindisweni kwenu, **3** njengoba selibonile ukuthi iNkosi ilungile. **4** Lapho lisiza kuye, iLitshe eliphilayo, elalahlwa ngabantu, kodwa elakhethwa nguNkulunkulu njalo liligugu kuye, **5** lani futhi, njengamatshe aphilayo lakhiwa laba yindlu yakomoya ukuba libe ngabaphristi abangcwele, linikela imihlatshelo yakomoya eyamukelekayo kuNkulunkulu ngoJesu Khristu. **6** Ngoba emibhalweni kuthiwa: “Khangalani, ngibeka ilitshe eZiyoni, ilitshe lekhenoni elikhethiweyo eliligugu, njalo lowo okholwa kuye akayikuyangiswa.” **7** Kini lina abakholwayo, ilitshe leli liligugu. Kodwa kulabo abangakholwayo, “Ilitshe elalahlwa ngabakhi seliyilona ilitshe lekhenoni,” **8** njalo, “Ilitshe elikhubekisa abantu ledwala elibenza bawe.” Bayakhubeka ngoba badelela ilizwi okuyikho njalo abakumiselweyo. **9** Kodwa lina lingabantu abakhethiweyo, ubuphristi bobukhosi, isizwe esingcwele, abantu abangabakaNkulunkulu, ukuba limemezele indumiso yakhe yena owalibiza lisemnyameni ukuba lize ekukhanyeni kwakhe okumangalisayo. **10** Lake langabi ngabantu, kodwa khathesi selingabantu bakaNkulunkulu; lake laswela isihawu; kodwa khathesi selithole isihawu. **11** Bangane abathandekayo, ngiyalincenga, njengabezizweni lezihambi emhlabeni ukuba lizile izinkanuko zesono ezilwa lemiphefumulo yenu. **12** Philani impilo elungileyo phakathi kwabangakholwayo ukuze kuthi lanxa besithi lenza okubi, babone izenzo zenu ezilungileyo badumise uNkulunkulu mhla esiza kithi. **13** Zehliseni ngenxa yeNkosi emibusweni yonke ebekwe phakathi kwabantu: loba enkosini, njengamandla amakhulu, **14** loba kubabusi abathunywe yiyo ukuba bajezise labo abenza okubi kanye lokubonga labo abenza okulungileyo. **15** Ngoba kuyintando kaNkulunkulu ukuthi ngokwenza okulungileyo lizaqeda inkulumbo yokungazi yabantu abayiziwula. **16** Philani njengabantu abakhululekileyo, kodwa lingasebenzisi inkululeko yenu njengezaba lokufihla ububi; philani njengezinceku zikaNkulunkulu. **17** Tshengisani inhlonipho eqondileyo kwabanye. Thandani izimuli zabazalwane, lihloniphe umuntu wonke, mesabeni uNkulunkulu, lihloniphe umbusi. **18** Ziggqili, zehliseni emakhosini enu ngenhlonipho yonke, hatshi kuphela kulawo alungileyo lalozwelo, kodwa lakulawo aloaka. **19** Ngoba kuyabongeka nxa umuntu eqinisela ebuhlungwini bokuhlupheka okungafanelanga ngoba uyazi ngoNkulunkulu. **20** Kodwa kuba ludumo njani kini nxa litshayelwa ukwenza okungalunganga njalo likubekezelela? Kodwa nxa lihlukuluzelwa ukwenza okuhle njalo likubekezelela, lokhu kuyancomeka phambi kukaNkulunkulu. **21** Labelwa lokhu, ngoba uKhristu walihluphekela, walitshiyela isibonelo ukuba lilandele ezinyathelweni zakhe. **22** “Yena kenzanga sono, njalo akukho nkohliso eyatholakala emlonyeni wakhe.” **23** Kwathi bemthethisa, yena kaphindiselanga; lapho elhupheka, kazinge asonge. Kodwa wathembeka kulowo owahlulela ngokulungu. **24** “Yena ngokwakhe wathwala izonzo zethu” emzimbeni wakhe esiphambanweni ukuze siphephe ezonweni njalo siphilele

ukulunga; “lilisiwe ngamanxeba akhe.” 25 Ngoba “lina lalinjengezimvu ezilahlekileyo,” kodwa khathesi selibuyele kuMalusi loMbonisi wemiphefumulo yenu.

3 Ngokunjalo, bafazi zehliseni kubomkenu ukuze kuthi lanxa abanye babo bengalikhohla ilizwi, baphenduke ngokuziphatha kwabomkabo kungekho kukhuluma, 2 lapho bebona ukuhlanzeka lenhlonipho yokuphila kwenu. **3** Ubuhle benu kabungaveli ekuzicaciseni kwangaphandle, okunjengenwele ezelukiweyo lokugqiza izigqizo zegolide kanye lokugqoka izigqoko ezinhle. **4** Kodwa kumele kube ngobangaphakathi kwenu, ubuhle obungapheliyo bomoya omnene lothuleyo, oligugu elikhulu emehlweni kaNkulunkulu. **5** Ngoba le yiyo indlela abesifazane abangcwele bakudala abathembemba uNkulunkulu bejayele ukuzicola ngayo. Babezhlisa kubomkabo, **6** njengoSara owalalela u-Abrahamama wambiza ngokuthi yinkosi yakhe. Lingamadodakazi kaSara nxa lisenza okulungileyo njalo lingavumeli ukwesaba. **7** Ngokufanayo, madoda ekuphileni kwenu labomkenu wobani lozwelo, libaphathe ngenhlonipho njengababuthakathaka labazindlalifa kanye lani zesipho sokuphila esomusa, ukuze kungabi lalutho oluzavimbela imikhuleko yenu. **8** Okokucina lonke hlalisanani ngokuthula; wobani lozwelo, lithandane njengabazalwane, libe lesihawu kanye lokuthobeka. **9** Lingaphindiseli okubi ngokubi loba inhlabama ngenhlamba, kodwa ngesibusiso, ngoba labizelwa ukuze lizuze ilifa lokubusiswa. **10** Ngoba, “Lowo othanda ukuphila abone lensuku ezinhle kumele anqande ulimi lwakhe kokubi lezindebe zakhe ekukhulumeni inkohliso. **11** Kumele batshiye ububi benze okulungileyo; kumele bafune ukuthula njalo bakunxwanele. **12** Ngoba amehlo kaThixo akhangele abalungileyo lezindlebe zakhe ziyezwa, imikhuleko yabo, kodwa ubuso bukaJehova bumelana lalabo abenza okubi.” **13** Ngubani ozalilimaza nxa litshisekela ukwenza okulungileyo na? **14** Kodwa lanxa lingahlupheka ngenxa yokulungileyo, libusisekile. “Lingakwesabi lokho abakwesabayu; kalingethuswa.” **15** Kodwa yamukelani uKhristu ezinhliziyweni zenu njengeNkosi engcwele. Hlalani lilungele ukuphendula loba ngubani olibiza isizatho ngethemba elilalo. **16** Kodwa lokhu kwenzeni ngobumnene langenhlonipho, lilesazela esihle, ukuze kuthi labo abakhuluma okubi ngokuziphatha kwenu okuhle kuKhristu bayangeke ngokuhlambaza kwabo. **17** Ngoba kungcono nxa kuyintando kaNkulunkulu, ukuhlupheka ngenxa yokwenza okulungileyo kulokwenza okubi. **18** Ngoba uKhristu wafela izonu zenu kwaba kanye, olungileyo efela abangalunganga, ukuze alise kuNkulunkulu. Wabulawa emzimbeni, kodwa wawuswa nguMoya, **19** wahamba ngaye wayatshumayela emimoyeni eyayisentolongweni yona **20** engalalelanga kudala lapho uNkulunkulu alinda khona ngokubekezela ensukwini zikaNowa umkhumbi usakhiwa. Phakathi kwawo abantu abalutshwana nje kuphela, abayisificaminwembili bebonke, basindiswa ngamanzi, **21** njalo amanzi la afanekisa umbhaphathizo osusilisa lani futhi, kungayisikho kususa ingcekeza emzimbeni kodwa kuyisibambiso sesazela esihle kaNkulunkulu. Siyalisilisa ngokuvuka kwabafileyo kukaJesu Khristu, **22** oseye ezulwini njalo usesandleni sokunene sikaNkulunkulu, lezingilos, leziphathamanda kanye lezikhulu ekuzehliseni kuye.

4 Ngakho, njengoba uKhristu wahlupheka emzimbeni wakhe, lani hlomani ngesimo esifanayo, ngoba lowo

owahluphekayo emzimbeni wakhe usehlule isono. **2** Ngakho-ke, ukuphila kwakhe kwasemhlabeni okuseleyo kakuphileli izinkanuko ezimbi zabantu, kodwa intando kaNkulunkulu. **3** Ngoba selichithe isikhathi esaneleyo ngaphambili lisenza lokho abahedeni abakhetha ukukwenza, impilo yobudlova, inkano, lokudakwa, ukuzitika, ukuzivusa amadlabuzane kanye lezithombe eziyisinyengiso. **4** Bakubona kumangalisa ukuthi kalibhudlukeli kanye labo kusikhukhula sinye sencithakalo, njalo bayalithuka kakhulu. **5** Kodwa kuzamela baziphendulele kuye olungele ukwahlulela abaphilayo kanye labafileyo. **6** Ngoba lesi yizo isizatho esenza kwatshunyayelwa ivangeli lakulabo khathesi asebefile, ukuze bahlulelwe ngokwabantu ngokomzimba, kodwa baphile ngokukaNkulunkulu ngokomoya. **7** Ukuphela kwezinto zonke sekusondele. Ngakho-ke, kumele liqedisise njalo lizithibe ukuze likhuleke. **8** Phezu kwakho konke, thandanani ngokupheleleyo, ngoba uthando luqibela izonu ezinengi. **9** Yamukelanani emakhaya enu kungekho kukhonona. **10** Lowo lawolo kumele asebenzise loba yisiphi isipho somoya asamukelayo ekusizeni abanye, njengenceku ezithembekileyo zomusa kaNkulunkulu ngesimo sawo olezimo ezehlukeneyo. **11** Nxa umuntu ekhuluma, kumele akhulume njengokhuluma amazwi kaNkulunkulu wona ngokwawo. Nxa umuntu ekhonza, kumele akhonze ngamandla awaphiwa nguNkulunkulu, ukuze kuthi ezintweni zonke uNkulunkulu adunyiswe ngoJesu Khristu. Udumo lamandla kakube kuye kuze kube nini lanini. Amen. (aiōn g165) **12** Bangane bami abathandekayo, lingamangalisa yibuhlungu besilingo elibuzwayo, kungathi kwenzakala into engaziwayo kini. **13** Kodwa thokozani ngokuthi liyahlanganyela ekuhluphekeni kukaKhristu, ukuze lithokoze kakhulu lapho inkazimulo yakhe isibonakaliswa. **14** Nxa lithukwa ngenxa yebizo likaKhristu, libusiswe, ngoba uMoya wenkazimulo lokaNkulunkulu uhlezi phezu kwenu. **15** Nxa lihlupheka, akungabi njengombulali loba isela kumbe olunye uhlobo lwesigebenga loba lanjengongenelayo ezindabeni zabanikazi. **16** Kodwa-ke, nxa lihlupheka njengomKhristu, lingayangeki, kodwa dumisani uNkulunkulu ngebizo lakhe. **17** Ngoba kuyisikhathi sokuthi ukwahlulela kuqalise ngabendlu kaNkulunkulu; njalo nxa kuqalisa ngathi, isiphetho sizakuba yini kulabo abangalaleli ivangeli likaNkulunkulu na? **18** Njalo, “Nxa kunzima ukuba abalungileyo basindiswe, pho kuzakuba njani kwabangakhohlo wayo labayizoni na?” **19** Ngakho-ke, labo abahlupheka ngokwentando kaNkulunkulu kumele bazinikele kuMdali wabo othembekileyo njalo baqhubeke besenza okulungileyo.

5 Ebadaleni abaphakathi kwenu, ngiyakhalaza njengomunye wabadala, ufakazi wezinhlupheko zikaKhristu lomunye laye ozahlanganyela enkazimulweni ezabonakaliswa: **2** Wobani ngabelusi bomhlambi kaNkulunkulu eliwugcinayo, lisebenze njengababonisi, kungasikubanjwa ngamandla, kodwa ngenxa yokuthanda kwenu, njengoba uNkulunkulu efuna ukuba libe njalo; lingelamhawu wemali, kodwa lifisa ukusiza; **3** hatshi ukubusa ababekwe ezandleni zenu, kodwa liyisibonelo emhlambini. **4** Lapho uMalusi oMkhulu evela, lizakwamukela umqhele wenkazimulo engayikufiphala. **5** Majaha, ngokunjalo zehliseni ebadaleni. Lonke zembathiseni ngokuthobeka omunye komunye, ngoba, “UNkulunkulu umelana labazigqajayo, kodwa abe lomusa kwabathobekileyo.” **6** Ngakho-ke, zithobeni ngaphansi kwesandla sikaNkulunkulu esilamandla, ukuze aliphakamise ngesikhathi esifaneleyo.

7 Yethulani kuye konke ukukhathazeka kwenu ngoba yena uyalikhathalela. **8** Zithibeni, liqaphele. Isitha senu uSathane, siyazulazula njengesilwane esibhongayo sidinga esingamudla. **9** Menqabeni, liqine ekukholweni ngoba liyakwazi ukuthi abazalwane benu emhlabeni wonke baphakathi kwalezo zinhlupheko. **10** Njalo uNkulunkulu womusa wonke, yena owalibizela enkazimulweni kaKhristu engulaphakade, emva kokuba lihlupheke okwesikhatshana, yena uqobo uzalivuselela alenze libe lamandla, liqine njalo lithembeke. **(aiōnios g166)** **11** Amandla kawabe kuye kuze kube nini lanini. Amen. **(aiōn g165)** **12** Ngosizo lukaSayilasi, engimthanda njengomzalwane othembekileyo, ngililobele ngamafitshane ngilikhuthaza njalo ngifakaza ukuthi lo ngumusa oqotho kaNkulunkulu. Bambelelani kuwo. **13** Lowo oseBhabhiloni, owakhethwa kanye lani, uyalibingelela, loMakho indodana yami iyalibingelela. **14** Binglelanani ngokwangana kothando. Ukuthula kakube kuni lonke elikuKhristu.

2 UPhetro

1 USimoni Phethro, inceku lompostoli kaJesu Khristu, Kulabo abamukele ukholo oluligugu njengolwethu ngokulungu kukaNkulunkulu wethu loMsindisi uJesu Khristu: **2** Umusa lokuthula kakube ngokwenu ngokwandileyo ngokumazi uNkulunkulu loJesu iNkosi yethu. **3** Amandla akhe obuNkulunkulu asesinike konke esikudingayo ekuphileni kanye lokumesaba uNkulunkulu ngokumazi kwethu yena owasibiza ngenkazimulo yakhe langokulungu. **4** Ngalokhuke usesinike izithembiso zakhe ezinkulu kakhulu eziligugu, ukuze kuthi ngazo lihlanganyele esimeni sobuNkulunkulu njalo liphephe ekonakaleni kwasemhlabeni okubangelwa yizinkanuko ezimbi. **5** Ngenxa yalesisizatho, yenzani imizamo yonke ukuba lengeze ukulungu ekukholweni kwenu; lekulungeni lengeze ukwazi; **6** ekwazini lengeze ukuzithiba; ekuzithibeni lengeze ukubekezela; ekubekezeleni lengeze ukumesaba uNkulunkulu; **7** ekumesabeni uNkulunkulu lengeze umusa wobuzalwane; lasemuseni wobuzalwane lengeze uthando. **8** Ngoba nxa lilalezizinto ngokwanda kwazo, zizalinqanda ekubeni ngabangafezi lutho labangelazithelo ekwazini kwenu iNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu. **9** Kodwa nxa umuntu engelazo ubona kalufifi njalo uyisiphofu, ekhohlwa ukuthi usehlanjululwe ezonweni zakhe zakudala. **10** Ngakho-ke, bazalwane bami, tshisekelani kakhulu ukwenza ukubizwa lokukhethwa kwenu kuqiniseke. Ngoba nxa lisenza lezizinto kalizukawa, **11** njalo lizakwamukelwa ngokupheleleyo embusweni olaphakade weNkosi loMsindisi wethu uJesu Khristu. **(aiōnios g166)** **12** Ngakho ngizahlala ngilikhumbuzela lezizinto, lanxa lizazi njalo liqinile ngokupheleleyo eqinisweni eselilalo. **13** Ngibona kufanele ukuba ngilikhumbuze nxa ngisaphila kulelithente lomzimba lo, **14** ngoba ngiyakwazi ukuthi ngizaphanga ngilibeke eceleni, njengoba iNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu isikwenze kwabasobala kimi. **15** Njalo ngizakwenza imizamo yonke ukubona ukuthi emva kokusuka kwami lizahlala lizikhumbuzela lezizinto. **16** Sasingalandeli izingane kwane ezaqaliswa ngokuhlakanipha lapho silitshela ngamandla langokuzakweNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu kodwa sasingofakazi bobukhosi bakhe. **17** Ngoba wamukela udumo lenkazimulo kuNkulunkulu uBaba lapho ilizwi lifika kuye livela eNkazimulweni yoBukhosi, lisithi, “Le yiNdodana yami engiyithandayo; ngiyathokoza kakhulu ngayo.” **18** Thina ngokwethu salizwa ilizwi lelo elavela ezulwini silaye phezu kwentaba engcwele. **19** Njalo ilizwi labaphrofethi seliqinisekile kakhulu, futhi kuzakuba kuhle kini ukuba lilinake njengesibane esikhanyise endaweni emnyama, kuze kuse lendonsakusa ize iphume ezinhliziyweni zenu. **20** Phezu kwakho konke, kumele liqedisise ukuthi akhulu siphrofethi soMbhala esavela ngokuchasisa okungokomphrofethi. **21** Ngoba isiphrofethi kasizange sivele entandweni yomuntu, kodwa abantu bakhuluma kuvela kuNkulunkulu beholwa nguMoya oNgcwele.

2 Kodwa phakathi kwabantu kwakulabaphrofethi bamanga futhi, njengoba kuzakuba labafundisi bamanga phakathi kwenu. Ngasese bazangenisa inkolo yamanga echithayo, baze bamphike loThixo iNkosi yobukhosi eyabathengayo, bazilethele ukubhujiswa ngokuphangisa. **2** Abanengi bazalandela izindlela zabo eziluhlazo benze lendlela yeqiniso idumazeke. **3** Ngobugovu babo abafundisi laba

bazakwenza inzuzo ngani ngezinganekwane zokuzibumbela. Ukulahlwa kwabo kubengamile, lokubhujiswa kwabo akuzange kukhohlakale. **4** Ngoba nxa uNkulunkulu engaziyekelanga izingilosi ekwenzeni kwazo isono, kodwa wazisa egehena, wazifaka emigodini emnyama ukuba zigcinelwe ukwahlulelwa. **(Tartarō g5020)** **5** Nxa engayekelanga umhlaba wasendulo lapho aletha khona uzamcolo ebantwini bawo ababengamesabi uNkulunkulu, kodwa wamvikela uNowa, umtshumayeli wokulungu, labanye abayisikhombisa. **6** Nxa watshabalalisa amadolobho aseSodoma leGomora ngokuwatshisa aba ngumlotha, wawenza aba yisibonelo salokho okuzakwenza klabangamesabiyo uNkulunkulu. **7** Njalo nxa wahlenga uLothi, umuntu olungileyo, owayekhathazekile ngokuphila okungcolileyo kwabantu ababengamthetho **8** (ngoba lowomuntu olungileyo, wayehlala phakathi kwabo insuku zonke, ehltshiswa emoyeni yizenzo zabo ezimbi ayezibona layezizwa). **9** Nxa lokhu kunjalo, uThixo uyakwazi ukuhlenga abantu abamesabayo ekulingweni kanye lokugcinela abangalunganga usuku lokwahlulela, eqhubeka ngokujeziswa kwabo. **10** Lokhu kuliqiniso ikakhulu kulabo abalandela izinkanuko ezonakeleyo zenyama njalo beseyisa umthetho. Ngesibindi lokuzikhukhumeza, abantu laba kabakwesabi ukuhlambaza izidalwa zasezulwini; **11** ikanti lezingilosi, lanxa ziqinile njalo zilamandla amakhulu, kazizethesi macala ngokuhlambaza izidalwa ezinjalo phambi kukaThixo. **12** Kodwa abantu laba bahlambaza ngezindaba abangaziqedisisiyo. Banjengezinyamazana ezinganakanjiyo, izidalwa ezibuswa yimvelo, ezazalelwa ukubanjwa lokubulawa kuphela, labo njalo njengezilo bazabhubha. **13** Bazaphindiselwa ngokubi ngenxa yokubi abakwenzileyo. Umcabango wabo ngenjabulo yikumina emini libalele. Bayizixhwalile lezoni, bezitika enjabulweni yabo besidla lani edilini. **14** Ngamehlo agcwele ubufefe kabayekeli ukwenza isono; baxhwalisa abangaqinanga; bazingcitshi zobugovu, inzalo eqalekisiweyo! **15** Bayitshiyile indlela eqondileyo, baduka belandela indlela kaBhalamu indodana kaBheiyori owayethanda inzuzo yobubi. **16** Kodwa wakhuzwa ngezenzo zakhe ezimbi ngubabhemi, inyamazana eyisimungulu, eyakhuluma ngelizwi lomuntu yanqanda ukuphambana komphrofethi. **17** Abantu laba bayimithombo engelamzani lenkungu eqhutshwa yisiphopho. Ubumnyama obukhulu bugcinelwe bona. **18** Ngoba bakhuluma amazwi okuzikhukhumeza ayize, njalo ngokulangatha izinkanuko zemizimba yabantu elesono, bahuga abantu abasanda kuphunyuka kulabo abahlala ekoneni. **19** Babathembisa inkululeko, bona beyizigqili zobuxhwalile, ngoba umuntu uyisigqili salokho okumbusayo. **20** Nxa bebalekele ukonakala komhlaba ngokwazi iNkosi yethu loMsindisi uJesu Khristu baphinde bahitsheleke kukho behulwe, isiphetho sabo sibi njalo siyesabeka kulasekuqaliseni kwabo. **21** Kwakuzakuba ngcono kubo ukungayazi indlela yokulungu, kulokuthi sebezayi bufalathele imilayo engcwele ababeyiphwiwe. **22** Izaga ziqinisele ngabo ukuthi: “Inja iyawabuyelela amahlanzo ayo,” njalo ukuthi, “Ingulube egezisiweyo iyabuyela iyezibhixha edakeni.”

3 Bangane abathandekayo, le yincwadi yami yesibili kini. Ngizilobe zombili njengezikhumbuzo ukuba ngivuselele kini ukucabanga kuhle. **2** Ngithanda ukuba likhumbule amazwi akhulunywa kudala ngabaphrofethi abangcwele lomlayo owaphiwa yiNkosi loMsindisi ngabapostoli benu. **3** Phezu kwakho konke, kumele liqedisise ukuthi ngezinsuku zokucina

kuzafika abaklolodayo baklolode belandela izinkanuko zabo ezimbi. **4** Bazakuthi, “Kungaphi ‘ukuza’ lokhu akuthembisayo? Selokhu obaba bafayo, konke kuqhubeka njengokwakuvele kusenzakala kusukela ekuqaleni kwendalo.” **5** Kodwa bakhohlwa ngabomo ukuthi endulo ngelizwi likaNkulunkulu amazulu abakhona lomhlaba wavela emanzini njalo ngamanzi. **6** Ngamanzi futhi umhlaba wakulezozinsuku wakhukhulwa wachitheka. **7** Ngelizwi elifanayo amazulu akhathesi kanye lomhlaba kugcinelwe umlilo, kulindele usuku lokwahlulelwa lokubhujiswa kwabantu abangamesabiyu uNkulunkulu. **8** Kodwa, bangane abathandekayo, lingakhohlwa into le eyodwa ukuthi: KuThixo usuku lunjengeminyaka eyinkulungwane leminyaka eyinkulungwane injengosuku olulodwa. **9** INkosi kayiphuzi ukugcwalisa isithembiso sayo, njengoba abanye bekuqedisisa njengokuphuza. Iyalibekezelela, ingafuni ukuba lamunye abhubhe, kodwa ukuba umuntu wonke aphenduke. **10** Kodwa usuku lweNkosi luzafika njengesela. Amazulu azanyamalala ngokuhlokoma; imimoya izaqothulwa ngomlilo, lomhlaba lakho konke okukuwo kuzatshabalaliswa. **11** Njengoba izinto zonke zizachithwa ngale indlela, lina kumele libe ngabantu abanjani na? Kumele liphile impilo engcwele leyokumesaba uNkulunkulu **12** lisalindele usuku lwakhe liphangisise ukufika kwalo. Lolosuku luzaletha ukuchithwa kwamazulu ngomlilo, njalo imimoya izancibilikiswa yikutshisa. **13** Kodwa mayelana lesithembiso sakhe silindele izulu elitsha lomhlaba omutsha, ikhaya lokulunga. **14** Ngakho-ke, bangane abathandekayo, njengoba lokhu likulindele, yenzani imizamo yonke ukuba litholakale lingelasici, lingelacala njalo lihlahisane laye ngokuthula. **15** Khumbulani ukuthi ukubekezelela kweNkosi yethu kutsho ukusindisa, njengalokhu umzalwane wethu othandekayo uPhawuli walilobela ngenhlananipho uNkulunkulu amupha yona. **16** Uloba ngendlela efanayo kuzozonke izincwadi zakhe, ekhuluma lezizindaba kuzo. Izincwadi zakhe zimumethe ezinye izinto okunzima ukuzizwisisa, okuthi abantu abangaziyo labangaqinanga bazihlanekele, njengabakwenzayo kweminye iMibhalo, okuzaletha ukubhujiswa kwabo. **17** Ngakho-ke, bangane abathandekayo, njengoba selike lenqatshelwa, qaphelani ukuze lingedukiswa yibubi babantu abangelamthetho beselisiwa ezindaweni zenu eziqinileyo. **18** Kodwa khulani emuseni lasekwazini iNkosi yethu loMsindisi uJesu Khristu. Inkazimulo kayibe kuye khathesi lanininini! Amen. (**aiōn g165**)

1 UJohane

1 Lokho okwakukhona kusukela ekuqaleni, esesikuzwile, esesikubone ngamehlo ethu, esesikukhangele lezandla zethu zakuthinta, lokhu siyakutshumayela mayelana leLizwi lokuphila. **2** Ukuphila kwabonakala; sikubonile njalo siyakufakaza, njalo sitshumayela kini ukuphila okulaphakade okwakukhona kuBaba njalo sekubonakele kithi. (aiōnios g166) **3** Sitshumayela kini esikubonileyo lesikuzwileyo ukuze lani libe lokuhlanganyela lathi. Ukuhlanganyela kwethu kuloBaba kanye leNdodana yakhe, uJesu Khristu. **4** Siloba lokhu ukuze ukuthokoza kwethu kuphelele. **5** Leli yilizwi esilizwe kuye esilitshumayela kini elokuthi: UNkulunkulu uyikukhanya; kuye akukho ubumnyama. **6** Nxa sisithi silokuhlanganyela laye, kodwa sihamba ebumnyameni, siqamba amanga, njalo leqiniso kasilenzi. **7** Kodwa nxa sihamba ekukhanyeni, njengoba esekukhanyeni, silokuhlanganyela omunye lomunye legazi likajesu iNdodana yakhe liyasihlambulula ezonweni zonke. **8** Nxa sisithi kasilasono, siyazikhohlisa njalo kasilaqiniso. **9** Nxa sivuma izono zethu, yena uthembekile njalo ulungile, uzasithethelela izono zethu, asihlambulule kukho konke ukungalingi kwethu. **10** Nxa sisithi akulasono esasenzayo, simenza abe ngumqambi wamanga, njalo ilizwi lakhe kalilandawo kithi.

2 Bantwabami abathandekayo, ngililobela incwadi le ukuze lingenzi izono. Kodwa nxa umuntu enze izono, silaye osimelayo kuBaba esivikela yena uJesu Khristu oLungileyo. **2** Ungumhlathshelo wenhlawulo yezono zethu, kungasizono zethu kuphela kodwa lezono zomhlaba wonke. **3** Siba leqiniso ukuthi siyamazi nxa silalela imilayo yakhe. **4** Umuntu othi, “Ngiyamazi,” kodwa angagcini imilayo yakhe uqamba amanga, leqiniso kalalo. **5** Kodwa nxa umuntu elalela ilizwi lakhe, uthando lukaNkulunkulu liyapheleliswa sibili kuye. Yikho esikwazi ngakho ukuthi kuyeye: **6** Lowo othi uhlala kuye kumele aphile njengokwenziwa nguJesu. **7** Bangane abathandekayo, kangililobeli umlayo omutsha, kodwa omdala, elalilawo kusukela ekuqaleni. Umlayo lo omdala uyilizwi elalizwayo. **8** Ikanti ngililobela umlayo omutsha; iqiniso lawo libonakala kuye lakini, ngoba ubumnyama buyedlula lokukhanya kweqiniso sekukhanya. **9** Lowo othi usekukhanyeni kodwa ezonda umzalwane wakhe ulokhu esebumnyameni. **10** Othanda umzalwane wakhe uhlala ekukhanyeni njalo akalulutho kuye olungamenza akhubeke. **11** Kodwa lowo ezonda umzalwane wakhe usebumnyameni njalo uyazula ebumnyameni. Kakwazi lapho aya khona ngoba ubumnyama sebumenze waba yisiphofu. **12** Ngiyalilobela bantwana abathandekayo, ngoba izono zenu zithethelelwe ngenxa yebizo lakhe. **13** Ngiyalilobela bobaba, ngoba selimazi yena okhona kusukela ekuqaleni. Ngiyalilobela majaha, ngoba limnqobile omubi. **14** Ngiyalilobela, bantwana abathandekayo, ngoba liyamazi uBaba. Ngiyalilobela bobaba, ngoba selimazi yena okhona kusukela ekuqaleni. Ngiyalilobela majaha, ngoba lilamandla lelizwi likaNkulunkulu lihla kini, njalo limnqobile omubi. **15** Lingawuthandi umhlaba loba olunye ulutho olusemhlabeni. Nxa umuntu ethanda umhlaba, uthando lukaBaba kalukho kuye. **16** Ngoba izinto zonke ezisemhlabeni, izinkanuko zabantu abalezono, ukulangazela kwamehlo abo kanye lokuziqqaja ngempahla akuveli kuBaba, kodwa emhlabeni. **17** Umhlaba lezinkanuko zawo kuyadlula, kodwa

umuntu owenza intando kaNkulunkulu uphila kuze kube ninini. (aiōn g165) **18** Bantwana abathandekayo, lesi yisikhathi sokucina; njalo njengoba lizwile ukuthi umphikuKhristu uyeza, lakhathesi abanengi abaphika uKhristu sebekhona. Yikho esikwazi ngakho ukuthi lesi yisikhathi sokucina. **19** Baphuma besuka kithi, kodwa impela babengasobu bakithi. Ngoba aluba babengabakithi, babezhlala lathi; kodwa ukusuka kwabo kwatshengisa ukuthi kakho kubo owayengowakithi. **20** Kodwa lina ligcotshwe ngoNgcwele, njalo lonke liyalazi iqiniso. **21** Kangililobeli ngoba iqiniso kalilazi, kodwa ngoba liyalazi langenxa yokuthi akulamanga aphuma eqinisweni. **22** Umqambi wamanga ngubani? Ngumuntu ophikayo ukuthi uyezo uJesu Khristu. Umuntu onjalo ngumphikuKhristu, uphika uYise leNdodana. **23** Kakho ophika iNdodana oloYise; lowo owamukela iNdodana uloYise futhi. **24** Bonani ukuthi lokho elakuzwayo kusukela ekuqaleni kuyahlala kini. Nxa kuhlala, lani lizahlala likhona eNdodaneni lakuYise. **25** Njalo nanku asithembisa khona, ukuphila okulaphakade. (aiōnios g166) **26** Ngililobela ngalezizinto mayelana lalaba abazama ukulidukisa. **27** Ukugcotshwa kwenu elakwamukela kuye, kuhlezi kukini, njalo kalisweli muntu wokulifundisa. Kodwa njengoba ukugcoba kwakhe kulifundisa izinto zonke njalo njengoba ukugcoba lokho kuqotho, akusinkohliso njengoba kulifundisile, hlalani likuye. **28** Ngakho-ke, bantwana abathandekayo, qhubekani likuye ukuze kuthi lapho ebonakala sibe lesibindi njalo singabi lenhloni phambi kwakhe ekufikeni kwakhe. **29** Nxa likwazi ukuthi ulungile, liyakwazi ukuthi umuntu wonke oyenza okulungileyo uzelwe ngaye.

3 Yeka ubukhulu bothando uBaba asinika lona, ukuba sibizwe ngokuthi singabantwana bakaNkulunkulu! Njalo lokho yikho esiyikho! Okwenza umhlaba thina ungasazi yikuthi laye kawumazanga. **2** Bangane abathandekayo, khathesi singabantwana bakaNkulunkulu, njalo lokho esizakuba yikho akukaziwa. Kodwa siyakwazi ukuthi lapho ebonakala sizakuba njengaye ngoba sizambona njengoba enjalo. **3** Wonke umuntu othebma leli ngaphakathi kwakhe uyazihlambulula njengoba laye ehlambululike. **4** Umuntu wonke owenza izono wephula umthetho; ngempela izono yikungabi lomthetho. **5** Kodwa liyakwazi ukuthi wabonakala ukuze asuse izono zethu. Njalo kuye akulasono. **6** Kakho ohlala kuye oqhubeka esona. Kakho oqhubeka esona owambonayo kumbe omaziyo. **7** Bantwana abathandekayo, lingavumeli muntu eledukisa. Lowo oyenza okulungileyo ulungile, njengoba laye elungile. **8** Lowo owonayo ngokaSathane ngoba uSathane wona kusukela ekuqaleni. INdodana kaNkulunkulu yabonakala ukuze ichithe imisebenzi kaSathane. **9** Kakho ozelwe ngokukaNkulunkulu ozaqhubeka esona, ngoba inhlaneyelo kaNkulunkulu ihlala ikubo, abasoze baqhubeka besona ngoba bazelwe nguNkulunkulu. **10** Sibazi ngalokhu ukuthi abantwana bakaNkulunkulu ngobani kanye lokuthi abangabantwana bakaSathane ngobani. Lowo ongenzi okulungileyo kasuye mntakaNkulunkulu, loba lowo ongamthandiyo umfowabo lodadewabo. **11** Leli yilizwi elalizwa kusukela ekuqaleni: Kumele sithandane. **12** Lingabi njengoKhayini, owayengokaSathane wasebulala umfowabo. Wambulalalani na? Ngoba ezakhe izenzo zazizimbi ezomfowabo zilungile. **13** Lingamangali bazalwane bami nxa umhlaba ulizonda. **14** Siyakwazi ukuthi sesidlulile ekufeni saya ekuphileni, ngoba siyabathanda abazalwane bethu. Lowo ongamthandiyo ulokhu esekufeni. **15** Lowo ozonda umzalwane wakhe ungumbulali, njalo liyakwazi

ukuthi akulambulali olokuphila okungapheliyo kuye. (aiōnios g166) 16 Nanku esazi ngakho ukuthi uthando luyini: Ujesu Khristu wadela ukuphila kwakhe ngenxa yethu. Lathi kufanele sidele ukuphila kwethu ngenxa yabazalwane bethu. 17 Nxa umuntu enothile abone umzalwane wakhe oswelayo, kodwa angabi lesihawu kuye, uthando lukaNkulunkulu lungaba kuye kanjani na? 18 Bantwana abathandekayo, kasingathandi ngamazwi loba ulimi kuphela kodwa ngezenzo langeqiniso. 19 Ngalokhu sazi kanje ukuthi singabeqiniso lokuthi sizibeka njani inhliziyu zethu ekuphumuleni phambi kwakhe 20 lapho inhliziyu zethu zisilahla. Ngoba uNkulunkulu mkhulu kakhulu kulezinhliziyu zethu njalo wazi izinto zonke. 21 Bazalwane abathandekayo, nxa inhliziyu zethu zingasilahli, silesibindi phambi kukaNkulunkulu 22 njalo samukela kuye konke esikucelayo ngoba siyayilalela imilayo yakhe senze okumthokozisayo. 23 Nanku umlayo wakhe: ukukholwa ebizweni leNdodana yakhe, ujesu Khristu, lokuthandana njengokusilaya kwakhe. 24 Labo abalalela imilayo yakhe bahlala kuye, laye kubo. Njalo sikwazi ngalokhu ukuthi uhlala kithi: Sikwazi ngoMoya asinika yena.

4 Bazalwane abathandekayo, lingaze labakholwa omoya bonke, kodwa bahloleni omoya ukuba libone bangabe bevela kuNkulunkulu na ngoba abaphrofethi bamanga abanengi sebekhona emhlabeni. 2 Lingamazi kanje uMoya kaNkulunkulu: Umoya wonke ovumayo ukuthi ujesu Khristu uye esenyameni uvela kuNkulunkulu, 3 kodwa wonke omoya ongamvumiyo ujesu kawuveli kuNkulunkulu. Lowo ngumoya womphikuKhristu, elezwa ukuthi uyeza njalo osukhona khathesi emhlabeni. 4 Lina, bantwana abathandekayo, lingabakaNkulunkulu njalo selibanqobile ngoba lowo okini mkhulu kulalowo osemhlabeni. 5 Bona bangabasemhlabeni, ngakho bakhuluma ngokwengqondo yasemhlabeni njalo umhlaba uyabalalela. 6 Thina singabakaNkulunkulu njalo lowo omaziyo uNkulunkulu uyasilalela, kodwa lowo ongasuye kaNkulunkulu kasilaleli. Simbona ngalokhu uMoya weqiniso lomoya wamanga. 7 Bangane abathandekayo kasithandaneni, ngoba uthando luvela kuNkulunkulu. Umuntu wonke othandayo uzelve ngoNkulunkulu njalo uyamazi uNkulunkulu. 8 Lowo ongathandiyo kamazi uNkulunkulu, ngoba uNkulunkulu uluthando. 9 UNkulunkulu walubonakalisa kanje uthando lwakhe kithi: Wathumela emhlabeni iNdodana yakhe eyiyo yodwa ukuba siphile ngayo. 10 Lolu luthando: kungayisikuthi sasimthanda uNkulunkulu kodwa ukuthi yena wasithanda wathumela iNdodana yakhe njengomhlatshelo wenhlawulo yezono zethu. 11 Bangane abathandekayo, njengoba uNkulunkulu wasithanda kangaka, lathi kumele sithandane. 12 Kakho owake wabona uNkulunkulu; kodwa nxa sithandana, uNkulunkulu uhlala kithi lothando lwakhe luyapheleliswa kithi. 13 Sikwazi ngalokhu ukuthi sihlala kuye laye uhlala kithi ngoba usinike okukaMoya wakhe. 14 Sibonile njalo siyafakaza ukuthi uBaba uyithumele iNdodana yakhe ukuba ibe nguMsindisi womhlaba. 15 Nxa umuntu evuma ukuthi ujesu uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu uhlala kuye laye kuNkulunkulu. 16 Ngakho siyazi njalo sithembe uthando uNkulunkulu alalo kithi. UNkulunkulu uluthando. Ohlala ethandweni, uhlala kuNkulunkulu, loNkulunkulu kuye. 17 Uthando luyapheleliswa kithi ukuze sibe lesibindi ngosuku lokwahlulelwa, ngoba kulumhlaba lathi sinjengaye. 18 Ethandweni akulakwesaba. Uthando olupheleleyo luyaxotsha

ukwesaba, ngoba ukwesaba kukhumbuzisa isijeziso. Umuntu owesabayo kaphelisiswa ethandweni. 19 Siyathanda ngoba yena wasithanda kuqala. 20 Nxa umuntu esithi, “Mina ngiyamthanda uNkulunkulu,” kodwa ezonda umfowabo, ulamanga. Ngoba umuntu ongamthandiyo umfowabo ambonayo, angeke amthande uNkulunkulu angakaze ambone. 21 Njalo wasinika umlayo lo: Lowo othanda uNkulunkulu kumele athande lomfowabo.

5 Umuntu wonke okholwayo ukuthi ujesu nguKhristu uzelve nguNkulunkulu, njalo umuntu wonke othanda uBaba uyamthanda lomtanakhe. 2 Sikwazi ngalokhu ukuthi siyabathanda abantwana bakaNkulunkulu: ngokuthanda uNkulunkulu sigcina imilayo yakhe. 3 Ukuthanda uNkulunkulu yilokhu: ukulalela imilayo yakhe. Njalo imilayo yakhe kayinzima, 4 ngoba umuntu wonke ozelve nguNkulunkulu unuqobile umhlaba. Lokhu yikunqoba okwehlule umhlaba, okuyikukholwa kwethu. 5 Ngubani lowo onqoba umhlaba? Ngulowo kuphela okholwayo ukuthi ujesu uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu. 6 Lo nguye oweza ngamanzi langegazi, ujesu Khristu kabuyanga ngamanzi kuphela, kodwa ngamanzi langegazi. Njalo nguMoya ofakazayo, ngoba uMoya uliqiniso. 7 Ngoba bathathu abafakazayo: 8 uMoya, lamanzi kanye legazi; njalo bobathathu laba bayavumelana. 9 Siyabamukela ubufakazi babantu, kodwa ubufakazi bukaNkulunkulu bukhulu ngoba yibufakazi bukaNkulunkulu abunikayo ngeNdodana yakhe. 10 Lowo okholwayo eNdodaneni kaNkulunkulu ulobufakazi lobu enhliziyweni yakhe. Lowo ongamkholwayo uNkulunkulu umenze waba ngolamanga ngoba engabukholwanga ubufakazi uNkulunkulu abunike ngeNdodana yakhe. 11 Ubufakazi lobo yilobu: UNkulunkulu usinike ukuphila okulaphakade njalo lokhu kuphila kuseNdodaneni yakhe. (aiōnios g166) 12 Lowo oleNdodana yakhe ulokuphila; lowo ongelayo iNdodana kaNkulunkulu kalakho ukuphila. 13 Ngililobela lezizinto lina abakholwayo ebizweni leNdodana kaNkulunkulu ukuze lazi ukuthi lilokuphila okulaphakade. (aiōnios g166) 14 Silesiqinisele lesi ekusondeleni kuNkulunkulu: ukuthi nxa sicela ulutho ngokwentando yakhe, uyasiswa. 15 Nxa sisazi ukuthi uyasiswa loba kuyini esikucelayo siyakwazi ukuthi sesilakho esikucele kuye. 16 Lapho umuntu ebona umzalwane wakhe esenza isono esingakhokheleli ekufeni, kumele akhuleke, uNkulunkulu uzamnika ukuphila. Ngitsho kulabo abasono sabo kasikhokheleli ekufeni. Kulesono esikhokhelela ekufeni. Kangitsho ukuthi akhuleke ngaleso. 17 Konke ukwenza okubi kuyisono, njalo kulesono esingakhokheleli ekufeni. 18 Siyakwazi ukuthi umuntu ozelve nguNkulunkulu kaqhubeke esenza izono; lowo owazalwa nguNkulunkulu uyamvikela, loSathane kamthinti. 19 Siyakwazi ukuthi siyabantwana bakaNkulunkulu kanye lokuthi umhlaba wonke ungaphansi kwamandla omubi. 20 Siyakwazi lokuthi iNdodana kaNkulunkulu yeza yasinika ukuqedisisa, ukuze siyazi yona eqotho. Njalo sikuye yena oqotho kanye laseNdodaneni yakhe ujesu Khristu. Yena unguNkulunkulu oqotho kanye lokuphila okulaphakade. (aiōnios g166) 21 Bantwana abathandekayo, xwayani izithombe.

2 UJohane

1 Mina omdala, Ngilobela inkosikazi ekhethiweyo labantwana bayo, engibathandayo eqiniseni, kungayisimi kuphela, kodwa labo bonke abalaziyo iqiniso, **2** ngenxa yeqiniso elikhona kithi njalo elizakuba lathi kuze kube nininini: (aiōn g165) **3** Umusa, lesihawu kanye lokuthula okuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba lakujesu Khristu, iNdodana kaBaba, kuzakuba lathi ngeqiniso langothando. **4** Kungithokozise kakhulu ukufumana abanye babantwana benu bephila ngeqiniso njengokulaywa kwethu nguBaba. **5** Khathesi-ke, nkosikazi ethandekayo, ngikulobela umlayo omutsha, kodwa esasilawo kusukela ekuqaleni. Ngicela ukuba sithandane. **6** Uthando yilolu: ukuba siphile ngokulalela imilayo yakhe. Njengoba uzwile kusukela ekuqaleni, umlayo wakhe yikuthi uphile impilo yothando. **7** Ngitsho lokhu ngoba abakhohlisi abanengi abangavumiyo ukuthi uJesu Khristu weza engumuntu sebekhona emhlabeni. Lowomuntu onjalo ungumkhohlisi lomphikuKhristu. **8** Qaphelani ukuba lingalahlekelwa yilokho elakusebenzelayo, kodwa ukuba liphiwe umvuzo ngokupheleleyo. **9** Lowo odlulela phambili angabe esaqhubeka ngemfundiso kaKhristu kalaye uNkulunkulu; lowo oqhubekayo ngemfundiso ulobaba leNdodana. **10** Nxa umuntu esiza kini engalethi imfundiso le, lingamngenisazi ezindlini zenu njalo lingamamukeli. **11** Lowo omamukelayo uyahlanganyela emisebenzini yakhe emibi. **12** Ngilokunengi engingalilobela khona, kodwa angifuni ukusebenzisa iphepha le-inki. Kodwa ngithemba ukuthi ngizalthekelela ngikhulume lani sikhangelene ukuze intokoza yethu iphelele. **13** Abantwana bakadadewenu okhethiweyo bayakubingelela.

3 UJohane

1 Mina omdala, Ngilobela umngane wami othandekayo uGayiyasi, engimthanda ngeqiniso. **2** Mngane wami othandekayo, ngiyakhuleka ukuba ube lempilo enhle lokuthi konke kukuhambele kuhle njengalokhu umphefumulo wakho uphila kuhle. **3** Kwangithokozisa kakhulu ukuba labanye abazalwane abafika bafakaza ngokuthembeka kwakho eqinisweni kanye lokuthi uyaqhubeka uphila ngeqiniso. **4** Angilakuthokoza okukhulu okudlula ukuzwa ukuthi abantwabami baphila ngokweqiniso. **5** Mngane othandekayo, uthembekile kulokho okwenzela abazalwane, lanxa nje kuwe bengabemzini. **6** Sebetshele ibandla ngothando lwakho. Ngicela ubathume ngendlela edumisa uNkulunkulu. **7** Baphuma ngenxa yeBizo, abaze bathola usizo kwabangakhholwayo. **8** Ngakho kufanele sitshengise ukuphana ebantwini abanjalo ukuze sisebenzele ndawonye iqiniso. **9** Ngalobela ebandleni kodwa uDiyothrefasi othanda ubukhulu akasoze asemukela. **10** Ngakho-ke, ngingeza ngizakukhangelisisa lokhu akwenzayo, ekhuluma kakubi ngathi. Kasuthiseki ngalokho, uyala ukwamukela abazalwane. Labafuna ukwenzanjalo uyabalela abaxotshe ebandleni. **11** Bangane abathandekayo, lingalingiseli okubi, kodwa lingisani okuhle. Lowo oyenza okuhle ngokaNkulunkulu. Lowo oyenza okubi kakamboni uNkulunkulu. **12** UDemetriyasi unconywa ngabantu bonke kanye laliqiniso uqobo. Lathi sikhuluma okuhle ngaye njalo liyakwazi ukuthi ubufakazi bethu buliqiniso. **13** Ngilokunengi engingalilobela khona, kodwa angifuni ukusebenzisa usiba le-inki. **14** Ngithemba ukuthi ngizalibona masinyane lapho esizakhuluma khona ubuso ngobuso. Ukuthula kakube kini. Abangane abalapha bayalibingelela. Binglelela abangane abangapho munye ngamunye.

UJuda

1 UJuda, inceku kajesu Khristu lomfowabo kajakhobe, kulabo ababizweyo, abathandwa nguNkulunkulu uBaba belondolozwa nguJesu Khristu: **2** Isihawu, lokuthula kanye lothando kakube ngokwenu ngokwandileyo. **3** Bangane abathandekayo, lanxa kade ngitshisekela kakhulu ukulilobela mayelana lensindiso esilayo, kodwa ngibone kufanele ukuthi ngilobele ukulikhuthaza ukuba lilwele ukholo lolu olwaphiwa abangcwele bakaNkulunkulu **4** Ngoba abantu abathile abokulahlwa kwabo okwalotshwa ngakho endulo sebengene phakathi kwenu ngasese. Bangabantu abangamesabiyo uNkulunkulu abaguqulela umusa kaNkulunkulu ukuthi ubeyimvumo yokuganga bamphike loJesu Khristu onguye kuphela iNkosi yethu Yobukhosi. **5** Lanxa likwazi konke lokhu, ngithanda ukulikhumbuzisa ukuthi iNkosi yakhupha abantu bayo eGibhithe, kodwa muva yababhubhisa labo abangakhohlwanga. **6** Lezingilosi ezingacina izikhundla zazo zamandla, kodwa zadela ikhaya lazo, lezi wazigcina ebunyamani, zibotshwe ngamaketane angaqamukiyo zilindele ukwahlulelwa ngoSuku olukhulu. **(aiǀdios g126)** **7** Ngokunjalo, iSodoma leGomora lamadolobho aseduzane azinikela ekuxhwaleni kobufebe lokonakala. Ayisibonelo salabo abezwa isijeziso somlilo waphakade. **(aiǀnios g166)** **8** Ngokunjalo, ngamandla okuphupha kwabo lababantu abangalunganga bangcolisa imizimba yabo, baphike ubukhokheli, bachothoze lezidalwa zasezulwini. **9** Kodwa lengilosi enkulu uMikhayeli lapho ephikisana loSathane ngesidumbu sikaMosi kazange alokothe ukumthuka ngenhlamba, kodwa wathi, “iNkosi kayikukhuze!” **10** Kodwa abantu laba bakhuluma behlambaza lokho abangakuzwisisiyo; njalo lezozinto abazizwisayo ngokwemvelo njengezinyamazana ezingacabangiyo, lezi yizo kanye izinto ezizababhubhisa. **11** Maye kubol Balandela indlela kaKhayini; baphuthuma inzuzo besona njengoBhalamu; babhujiswa emvukeleni kaKhora. **12** Abantu laba bayisinengiso emadilini enu abantu abathetheneyo besidla lani bengelanhloni lakancane, abelusi abazitika ngokudla bona bodwa. Bangamayezi angelazulu, aphetshulwa ngumoya; izihlahla zasekwindla ezingelazithelo njalo ezisitshuniweyo, ezife kabili. **13** Bangamagagasi olwandle alamandla, bebhubhudla ihlazo labo; izinkanyezi ezintulayo, ezilobumnyama obukhulu obugcinelwe zona kuze kube nininini. **(aiǀn g165)** **14** U-Enoki, owesikhombisa kusukela ku-Adamu waphrofitha ngabantu laba wathi: “Khangelani, iNkosi iza lezinkulungwane lezinye izinkulungwane zabangcwele bayo **15** ukwahlulela abantu bonke, lokubalahlala ngenxa yamacala abawenzayo ebubini babo, langenxa yamazwi wonke okudelela, izoni ezingamesabiyo uNkulunkulu ezawakhuluma ngaye.” **16** Abantu laba bangabakhononi labachothozi; balandela izinkanuko zabo ezimbi; bayazikhukhumeza, bancome abanye ngamanga ukuze bazitholele inzuzo. **17** Kodwa-ke, bangane abathandekayo, khumbulani okwatshiwo ngaphambilini ngapostoli beNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu. **18** Bathi kini, “Ngezikhathi zokucina kuzakuba labaklolodayo, belandela izinkanuko zabo zokungalungi.” **19** Laba yibo abantu abalehlukanisayo, abalandela isazela semvelo nje bengelawo uMoya. **20** Kodwa lina, bangane abathandekayo, zakheni ekukholweni kwenu okungcwele kakhulu likhulele kuMoya oNgcwele, **21** lizigcine lisothandweni lukaNkulunkulu

lisalindele isihawu seNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu ukuba ilinganise ekuphileni okulaphakade. **(aiǀnios g166)** **22** Yibani lesihawu kulabo abathandabuzayo; **23** lenyule abanye emlilweni libasilise; kwabanye bonakalisani isihawu, kuhlangele lokwesaba, lizonde lezigqoko ezingcoliswe yimizimba exhwalileyo. **24** Kuye olamandla okuligcina ukuba lingawi, lokulibeka phambi kwenkazimulo yobukhona bakhe kungelasici njalo ngentokozo enkulu, **25** kuye yedwa uNkulunkulu onguMsindisi wethu, kakube lodumo, ubukhosi kanye lamandla ngoJesu Khristu iNkosi yethu, mandulo kwezikhathi zonke, khathezi kanye lanininini! Amen. **(aiǀn g165)**

Isambulo

1 Isambulo esivela kuJesu Khristu, asiphiwa nguNkulunkulu ukuba atshengise izinceku zakhe okufanele kwenzakale masinyane. Wakwenza kwazakala ngokuthuma ingilosi yakhe encekwini yakhe uJohane **2** ofakaza konke akubonayo, lona ilizwi likaNkulunkulu kanye lobufakazi bukaJesu Khristu. **3** Ubusisiwe lowo ofunda amazwi alesisiphrofethi njalo babusisiwe labalo abakuzwayo bakugcine ezinhliziyweni okulotshwe kuso ngoba isikhathi sesisondele. **4** Johane, Emabandleni ayisikhombisa esifundeni sase-Ezhiya: Umusa lokuthula kakube kini okuvela kuye okhona, lowayekhona, lozakubakhona, lokuvela kubomoya abayisikhombisa phambi kwesihlalo sakhe sobukhosi, **5** lokuvela kuJesu Khristu, ongufakazi othembekileyo, izibulo kwabafileyo, lombusi wamakhosi asemhlabeni. Kuye osithandayo lowasikhululayo ezonweni zethu ngegazi lakhe, **6** njalo osenze saba ngumbuso labaphristi ukuba sisebenzele uNkulunkulu wakhe loYise, kakube kuye udumo lamandla kuze kube nininini! Amen. (aiōn g165) **7** “Khangelani uyeza ngamayezi, amhelo noma azakumbona, labalo abamgawazo”; labantu bonke abasemhlabeni “bazalila ngenxa yakhe.” **8** “Ngingu-Alfa lo-Omega,” kutsho iNkosi uNkulunkulu, “okhona, lowayekhona, lozakubakhona, uSomandla.” **9** Mina Johane, umzalwane wenu lomkhula wenu ekuhluphekeni lasembusweni kanye lekubekezeni ngesineke okungokwethu kuJesu, ngangisihlengi nasePhathimosi ngenxa yelizwi likaNkulunkulu lobufakazi bukaJesu. **10** NgoSuku lweNkosi ngangenwa nguMoya kwathi ngemva kwami ngezwa ilizwi elikhulu kungathi licilongo, **11** elathi: “Loba emqulwini lokhu okubonayo uwuthumele emabandleni ayisikhombisa: kwelase-Efesu, lelaseSimina, lelasePhegamami, lelaseThiyathira, lelaseSadisi, lelaseFiladelfiya kanye lelaseLodikheya.” **12** Ngatshibilika ukuze ngimbone lowo owayekhuluma lami. Sengiphendukile ngabona izinti zezibane zegolide eziyisikhombisa, **13** njalo phakathi kwezinti zezibane kwakulomuntu owayenjengendodana yomuntu, egqoke isem batho esasifika phansi ezinyaweni zakhe, ibhanti legolide libophe isifuba sakhe. **14** Ikhanda lakhe lezinwele zakhe kwakumhlophe njengotshinda, kumhlophe nke njengongqawwane, lamhelo akhe ayenjengomlilo ovuthayo. **15** Inyawo zakhe zazinjengethisi elikhazimulayo emvuthweni, ilizwi lakhe linjengokhuba kwamanzi agelezayo. **16** Esandleni sakhe sokunene wayepethe izinkanyezi eziyisikhombisa, emlonjeni wakhe kwaphuma insingo. Ubuso bakhe babunjengelanga likhanyisa ngenkazimulo yalo yonke. **17** Kwathi ngimbona ngawela ezinyaweni zakhe njengofileyo. Wabeka isandla sakhe sokunene phezu kwami, wathi: “Ungesabi. Mina ngiyisiQalo lesiPhetho. **18** NgingoPhilayo; ngangifile njalo khangela ngiyaphila kuze kube nininini! Njalo ngiphethe izihluthulelo zokufa kanye leHadesi. (aiōn g165, Hadēs g86) **19** Ngakho-ke, loba lokhu okubonileyo, okukhona khathesi kanye lokuzakwenzakala muva. **20** Imfihlakalo yezinkanyezi eziyisikhombisa ozibone esandleni sami sokunene kanye lezinti zezibane zegolide eziyisikhombisa yile: Izinkanyezi eziyisikhombisa yizingilosi zamabandla ayisikhombisa, izinti zezibane ngamabandla ayisikhombisa.”

2 “Ingilosi yebandla lase-Efesu ilobele uthi: La ngamazwi akhe lowo ophethe izinkanyezi eziyisikhombisa esandleni

sakhe sokunene ehamba phakathi kwezinti zezibane zegolide eziyisikhombisa. **2** Ngiyazazi izenzo zakho lokusebenza kwakho nzima kanye lokubekezele kwakho. Ngiyakwazi ukuthi awungeke ubabekezele abantu abaxhwalileyo lokuthi ubahlolile labo abathi bangabapostoli, kodwa bengayisibo, njalo wabafumana bengalalamanga. **3** Ubekezele waqinisele ebunzimeni ngenxa yebizo lami, kawaze wadinwa. **4** Kodwa ngilale insolo ngawe: Usuludelile uthando lwakho obulalo kuqala. **5** Khumbula isiqongo owe kuso! Phenduka wenze izinto owawuzenza kuqala. Nxa ungaphenduki, ngizaku kuwe, ngisuse uluthi lwakho lwesibane endaweni yalo. **6** Kodwa ulalokhu okuhle ngawe: Uyayizonda imikhuba yamaNikholayitha, engiyizondayo lami. **7** Lowo olendlebe, akeze okutshiwo nguMoya emabandleni. Lowo onqobayo ngizamnika ilungelo lokudla esihlahleni sokuphila esisepharadike kaNkulunkulu.” **8** “Ingilosi yebandla laseSimina ilobele uthi: La ngamazwi akhe yena oyisiQalo lesiPhetho, owafayo wabuya wavuka. **9** Ngiyazazi inhlupheko zakho kanye lobuyanga bakho, kanti-ke unothile! Ngiyakwazi ukuhlambaza kwalabo abathi bangamajuda bengayisiwo, kodwa beyisinagogo kaSathane. **10** Ungazesabi inhlupheko esezizakwehla. Ngiyakutshela ukuthi uSathane uzabeka abanye benu entolongweni ukuba alingele njalo lizahlukuluzwa okwensuku ezilithumi. Thembeke, lanxa kuselungeni lokufa, mina ngizakupha umqhele wokuphila. **11** Lowo olendlebe, akeze okutshiwo nguMoya emabandleni. Lowo onqobayo kasoze alinyazwe lakancane yikufa kwesibili.” **12** “Ingilosi yebandla lasePhegamami ilobele uthi: La ngamazwi akhe lowo ophethe insingo. **13** Ngiyakwazi lapho ohlala khona, lapho uSathane alesihlalo sakhe. Ikanti wena uqhubeke uqotho ebizweni lami. Kawukuphikanga ukukholwa kwakho kimi, lasezinsukwini zika-Antiphasi, ufakazi wami othembekileyo, owubalawayo edolobheni lakini, lapho uSathane ahlala khona. **14** Kodwa-ke, kuluzinto ezimbalwa engilensolo ngazo kuwe: Kulabantu khonapho ababambelele emfundisweni kaBhalamu, owafundisa uBhalaki ukuhugela abako-Israyeli ekwenzeni isono ngokudla ukudla okwakunikelwe ezithombeni kanye langokuxhwalwa kobufebe. **15** Njalo ulabanye ababambelele emfundisweni yamaNikholayitha. **16** Ngakho-ke, phenduka! Hlezi ngize kume ngilwe labo ngenkamba yomlomo wami. **17** Lowo olendlebe, akeze okutshiwo nguMoya emabandleni. Lowo onqobayo, ngizamupha enye yemana efihliweyo. Ngizamupha lelitsho elimhlophe okulotshwe kulo ibizo elitsha, elaziwa ngulowo kuphela olamukelayo.” **18** “Ingilosi yebandla laseThiyathira ilobele uthi: La ngamazwi eNdodana kaNkulunkulu, emhelo ayo anjengomlilo ovuthayo leziyawo zayo zinjengethisi elikhazimulayo. **19** Ngiyayazi imisebenzi yakho, uthando lokholo lwakho, kanye lokuthi khathesi ususenza okunengi kulakuqala. **20** Kodwa-ke, ngilale insolo ngawe: Uyambekezelela owesifazane lowana uJezebheli, ozibiza ngokuthi ngumphrofethikazi. Ngemfundiso yakhe udukisela izinceku zami ekuxhwaleni kobufebe lekudleni ukudla okunikelwe ezithombeni. **21** Ngimnike isikhathi ukuba aphenduke ekuxhwaleni kwakhe, kodwa kafuni. **22** Ngakho ngizamphosela phezu kombhedo wokuhlupheka, njalo labo afeba labo ngizabenza bahlupheke kakhulu, ngaphandle kokuba baphenduke ezindleleni zakhe. **23** Abantwabakhe ngizabatshaya bafe. Ngakho-ke, amabandla wonke azakwazi ukuthi mina nginguyeye ohlola inhliziyo lezingqondo njalo ngizavuzwa omunye lomunye wenu ngemisebenzi yenu.

24 Manje-ke, ngithi kwabanye benu eThiyathira, kini elingabambelelanga emfundisweni yakhe njalo lingafundanga okuthiwa zimfihlo ezizikileyo zikaSathane, 'Kangiyikulethesa omunye umthwalo, 25 lina bambelelani kuphela kulokho elilakho ngize ngifike.' 26 Lowo onqobayo esenza intando yami kuze kube sekupheleni ngizamnika amandla phezu kwezizwe, 27 'Uzazibusa ngentonga yensimbi; aziphahlaze zibe yizicucu njengokwenziwa ngebumba, njengalokhu ngiphiwe amandla avela kuBaba. 28 Ngizamupha lendonsakusa. 29 Lowo olendlebe, akeze okutshiwo nguMoya emabandleni."

3 "Ingilosi yebandla laseSadisi ilobele uthi: La ngamazwi akhe lowo ophethe omoya abayisikhombisa bakaNkulunkulu kanye lezinkanyezi eziyisikhombisa. Ngiyazazi izenzo zakho; ulodumo lokuba ngophilayo, kodwa ufile. 2 Vuka! Qinisa okuseleyo okusekudeze lokufa, ngoba izenzo zakho angizifumananga ziphelele emehlweni kaNkulunkulu. 3 Ngakho, khumbula okwamukeleyo lokuzwileyo; kulalele, uphenduke. Kodwa nxa ungvaki, ngizakuba njengesela njalo kawusoze wazi ukuthi ngizafika kuwe ngasiphi isikhathi. 4 Kodwa ulabantu abalutshwana eSadisi abangangcolisanga izigqoko zabo. Bazahamba lami begqoke ezimhlophe, ngoba bazifanele. 5 Lowo onqobayo uzagqoka ezimhlophe njengabo. Ibizo lakhe kangisoze ngilesule encwadini yokuphila, kodwa ibizo lakhe ngizalivuma phambi kukaBaba lezingilosi zakhe. 6 Lowo olendlebe, akeze okutshiwo nguMoya emabandleni." 7 "Ingilosi yebandla laseFidelifuya ilobele uthi: La ngamazwi akhe lowo ongcwele loqotho, ophethe isihluthulelo sikaDavida. Akuvulileyo kakho ongakuvala; lakuvalileyo kakho ongakuvula. 8 Ngiyazazi izenzo zakho. Khangela phambi kwakho sengibeke umnyango okungelamuntu ngawuvala. Ngiyakwazi ukuthi ulamandla amancinyane, kodwa ilizwi lami uligcinile njalo ibizo lami kawuliphikanga. 9 Ngizakwenza labo abangabesinagogu likaSathane, abathi bangamaJuda bona bengayisiwo, kodwa beqamba amanga beze kuwe bawele phansi ngasezinyaweni zakho bavume ukuthi ngikuthandle. 10 Njengoba ugcine umlayo wami ukuba ubekeze ngesineke, lami ngizakugcina esikhathini sokulingwa esizafika emhlabeni wonke ukuhlola labo abahlala emhlabeni. 11 Ngiyeza masinyane. Bamelela kulokho olakho, ukuze kungabikhona othatha umqhele wakho. 12 Lowo onqobayo ngizamenza abe yinsika ethempelini likaNkulunkulu. Kasoze asuke kulo futhi. Ngizaloba phezu kwakhe ibizo likaNkulunkulu wami kanye lebizu ledolobho likaNkulunkulu wami, iJerusalem elitsha, elehlela phansi liphuma ezulwini livela kuNkulunkulu wami; njalo ngizaloba phezu kwakhe lebizu lami elitsha. 13 Lowo olendlebe, akeze okutshiwo nguMoya emabandleni." 14 "Ingilosi yebandla laseLodikhaya ilobele uthi: La ngamazwi ka-Ameni, ufakazi othembekileyo loqotho, umbusi wenzalo kaNkulunkulu. 15 Ngiyazazi izenzo zakho, ukuthi kawuqandi njalo kawutshisi. Ngifisa ukuthi ngabe uyilokhu loba lokhuyana. 16 Ngakho-ke, njengoba ubuthukuthuku, umgathshisi njalo ungaqandi, sekuseduze ukuba ngikukhafule emlonyeni wami. 17 Wena uthi, 'Nginothile; sengazusa inotho njalo kangisweli lutho.' Kodwa kawunanzeleli ukuthi uyahlupheka, ulusizi, ungumyanga, uyisiphofu njalo unqunu. 18 Ngiyakucebisa ukuba uthenge kimi igolide elihlanjululwe emlilweni ukuze unokho; uqgoke izigqoko ezimhlophe ukuze uvale ubunqunu bakho obulihlazo, lamafutha okugcoba amehlo akho ukuze ubone. 19 Labo engibathandayo ngiyabakhuza ngibajezise. Ngakho-ke, woba lokutshiseka uphenduke. 20

Mina ngilapha! Ngimi emnyango ngiqoqoda. Nxa kukhona ozwa ilizwi lami avule umnyango, ngizangena ngidle laye, laye adle lami. 21 Lowo onqobayo, ngizamnika ilungelo lokuhlala lami esihlalweni sami sobukhosi, njengoba lami nganqoba ngasengihlala loBaba esihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi. 22 Lowo olendlebe, akeze okutshiwo nguMoya emabandleni."

4 Emva kwalokhu ngakhangela, ngabona umnyango phambi kwami uvuleleke ezulwini. Ilizwi engangilizwe kuqala lingikhulumisa kungathi licilongo lathi, "Woza lapha ngikutshengise okuzakwenzakala emva kwalokhu." 2 Khonokho nje ngahle ngehlelwa nguMoya, kwathi phambi kwami ngabona isihlalo sobukhosi ezulwini kulomuntu owayehlezi kuso. 3 Lowo owayehlezi lapho wayefana lejaspa lekhaneliya. Umchilowamakhosikazi owawufana le-emeralidi wawuzingeleze isihlalo sobukhosi. 4 Kwakulezinye izihlalo zobukhosi ezingamatshumi amabili lane ezazingezelele isihlalo sobukhosi leso, kuzo kuhlezi abadala abangamatshumi amabili lane. Babegqoke okumhlophe njalo belemiqhele yegolide emakhanda abo. 5 Esihlalweni sobukhosi kwaba lokuphazama kombane, lokundizela kanye lokukhwaza kwezulu. Phambi kwesihlalo sobukhosi kwakuvutha izibane eziyisikhombisa. Lezi zazingomoya abayisikhombisa bakaNkulunkulu. 6 Phambi kwesihlalo futhi kwakulokungani lulwandle lwengilazi, kucwebezela njengelitshe elikhazimulayo. Phakathi, emaceleni wonke esihlalo sobukhosi, kwakulezidalwa ezine eziphilayo, zilamehlo phambili langemuva. 7 Isidalwa sakuqala esiphilayo sasinjengesilwane, esesibili sinjengenkabi, esesithathu sasilobuso obunjengobomuntu, esesine sasinjengokhozi oluphaphayo. 8 Esinye lesinye salezozidalwa eziphilayo sasilempiko eziyisithupha njalo sigcwele amehlo amacele wonke, kanye langaphansi kwempiko. Emini lebusuku kazizange zithule ukuthi: 9 Kuthi lapho izidalwa eziphilayo zimdumisa, zimhlonipha njalo zimbonga lowo ohlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi njalo ophila kuze kube nininini. (aiōn g165) 10 abadala abangamatshumi amabili lane bawela phansi phambi kwakhe ohlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi, bamkhonza yena ophila kuze kube nininini. Babeka imiqhele yabo phambi kwesihlalo sobukhosi bathi: (aiōn g165) 11 "Ufanele, Nkosi yethu loNkulunkulu wethu, ukwamukela udumo lenhlonipho kanye lamandla, ngoba wena wadala izinto zonke, njalo zadalwa ngentando yakho, njalo zilabo ubukhona bazo."

5 Esandleni sokunene salowo owayehlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi ngabona umqulu ulombhale emaceleni womabili ungcinwe ngempawu eziyisikhombisa. 2 Ngabuya ngabona ingilosi elamandla imemeza ngelizwi eliphakemeyo isithi, "Ngubani ofanele ukuqhaqha impawu avule umqulu na?" 3 Kodwa kakho ezulwini loba emhlabeni loba ngaphansi komhlaba owayengawuvula umqulu kumbe akhangele phakathi kwawo. 4 Ngakhala, ngakhala ngoba kakho owatholakala efanele ukuvuvula umqulu loba ukukhangela phakathi kwawo. 5 Omunye wabadala wathi kimi, "Ungakhali! Khangela, iNgonyama yesizwe sakoJuda, iMpande kaDavida, sinqobile. Sizakwanelisa ukuvuvula umqulu lezimpawu zawo eziyisikhombisa." 6 Ngabona iWundlu, kukhanya angathi lalibulewe, limi phakathi laphakathi kwesihlalo sobukhosi, lizingelezwe yizidalwa eziphilayo ezine labadala. Lalilempondo eziyisikhombisa lamehlo ayisikhombisa, okungomoya abayisikhombisa bakaNkulunkulu abathunywe

emhlabeni wonke. 7 Leza lathatha umqulu esandleni sokunene salowo owayehlazi esihlalweni sobukhosi. 8 Eswuthethe, izidalwa ezine eziphilayo labadala abangamatshumi amabili lane bawela phansi phambi kweWundlu. Omunye lomunye wabo wayelechacho njalo bavepethe imiganu yegolide igcwele impepha, eyimikhalelo yabangcwele. 9 Bahlabela ingoma entsha besithi: “Wena ufanele ukuwuthatha umqulu lokuvula impawu zawo, ngoba wahlatshwa, kwathi ngegazi lakho wahlengela uNkulunkulu abantu bezizwana zonke lezindimi labantu kanye lezizwe. 10 Usubenze baba ngumbuso labaphristi ukuba bakhonze uNkulunkulu wethu, njalo bazabusa emhlabeni.” 11 Ngakhangela ngasengisizwa amazwi ezingilosi ezinengi, ezaziyizinkulungwane lezinkulungwane, lezinkulungwane ezilitshumi ziphindwe okuzinkulungwane ezilitshumi. Zazingeleze isihlalo sobukhosi lezidalwa eziphilayo kanye labadala. 12 Zahlabela ngamazwi aphezulu zisithi: “Lifanele iWundlu, elahlatshwayo, ukwamukela amandla lenotho lenhlakanipho lokuqina lodumo lenkazimulo kanye lokudunyiswa!” 13 Ngezwa izidalwa zonke ezulwini lasemhlabeni langaphansi komhlaba lasolwandle lakho konke okukukho, kuhlabela kusithi: “Kuye ohlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi lakulo iWundlu kakube lenhlonipho lodumo lenkazimulo kanye lamandla kwe (aiōn g165) 14 Izidalwa ezine eziphilayo zathi, “Ameni,” kwathi abadala bawela phansi bakhonza.

6 Ngakhangela iWundlu livula uphawu lwakuqala kwezizikhombisa. Ngasengisizwa esinye sezidalwa ezine eziphilayo sisithi, ngelizwi elinjengomdumo wezulu, “Woza!” 2 Ngakhangela, khonapho phambi kwami kwakulebhiza elimhlophe! Umgadi walo wayepethe idandili njalo waphiwa umqhele, wasuka wahamba njengomnqobi ehlose ukunqoba. 3 Kwathi iWundlu selivula uphawu lwesibili, ngezwa isidalwa sesibili esiphilayo sisithi, “Woza!” 4 Kwaphuma elinye ibhiza; libomvu okomlilo. Umgadi walo wanikwa amandla okususa ukuthula emhlabeni lokuthi abantu babulalane. Waphiwa inkemba enkulu. 5 Kwathi iWundlu livula uphawu lwesithathu, ngezwa isidalwa sesithathu esiphilayo sisithi, “Woza!” Ngakhangela, khonapho phambi kwami kwakulebhiza elimnyama! Umgadi walo wayepethe isikali sokulinganisa. 6 Ngasengisizwa okwakungathi yilizwi phakathi kwezidalwa ezine eziphilayo lisithi, “Ikhilogramu elilodwa lamabele umhlo wosuku, lamakhilogramu amathathu ebhali umhlo wosuku njalo ungoni amafutha lewayini!” 7 Kwathi iWundlu livula uphawu lwesine, ngezwa ilizwi lesidalwa sesine esiphilayo lisithi, “Woza!” 8 Ngakhangela, khonapho phambi kwami kwakulebhiza eliliganu! Umgadi walo wayethiwa nguKufa, leHadesi lalimlandela eduzane emva kwake. Babephiwe amandla phezu kwengenye yesine yomhlaba ukuba babulale ngenkemba langendla langezifo kanye langezilo zeganga zasemhlabeni. (Hadēs g86) 9 Kwathi livula uphawu lwesihlanu ngabona ngaphansi kwe-alithari imiphefumulo yalabo ababebulewe ngenxa yelizwi likaNkulunkulu lobufakazi abema ngabo. 10 Yamemeza ngelizwi elikhulu yathi, “Koze kube nini, Thixo wobukhosi, engcwele leqotho ukuze wahlulele abasemhlabeni uphindisele igazi lethu na?” 11 Lapho-ke omunye lomunye wayo waphiwa isembatho esimhlophe ukuba alinde okwesikhatsana, inani lezinceku ezingabakhula bayo labazalwane ababezabulawa njengayo lize liphelele. 12 Ngakhangela lapho livula uphawu

lwesithupha. Kwaba lokuzamazama okukhulu komhlaba. Langa laphenduka laba mnyama tshu njengesigqoko samasaka esenziwe ngoboya bembuzi, inyanga yonke yaphenduka yaba bomvu okwegazi, 13 izinkanyezi emkhathini zawela emhlabeni njengemikhiwa yamuva ikhithika esihlahleni somkhiwa lapho sinyikinywa ngumoya olamandla. 14 Umkhathi wahlehla wagoqeka njengomqulu, kwathi izintaba zonke lezihlengi kwasuswa ezindaweni zakho. 15 Amakhosi omhlaba lamakhosana lezinduna zamabutho lezinothi labalamandla lezizgqili zonke kanye labantu bonke abakhululekileyo bacatsha ezimbalwini kanye lasemadwaleni ezintaba. 16 Babiza izintaba lamadwala besithi, “Welani phezu kwethu lisifihle ebusweni balowo ohlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi kanye lasolakeni lweWundlu! 17 Ngoba usuku olukhulu lolaka lwabo selufikile, pho ngubani ongema na?”

7 Emva kwalokhu ngabona izingilosi ezine zimi emagumbini womane omhlaba, zivimbele imimoya emine yomhlaba zisenqabela loba yiwuphi umoya ukuvunguza elizweni loba olwandle loba kwesinye isihlahla. 2 Ngabuya ngabona enye ingilosi isiza ivela empumalanga, ilophawu lukaNkulunkulu ophilayo. Yamemeza ngelizwi elikhulu ezingilosini ezine ezaziphiwe amandla okulimaza umhlaba lolwandle, isithi: 3 “Lingawulimazi umhlaba loba ulwandle loba izihlahla size sibeke uphawu emabunzini ezinceku zikaNkulunkulu wethu.” 4 Ngasengisizwa inani labalo ababekwa uphawu: Abazinkulungwane ezilikhulu lamatshumi amane lane abezizwana zonke zako-Israyeli. 5 Abesizwana sakoJuda abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili bafakwa uphawu, abesizwana sakoRubheni abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili, abesizwana sakoGadi abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili, 6 abesizwana sako-Asheri abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili, abesizwana sakoNafithali abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili, abesizwana sakoManase abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili, 7 abesizwana sakoSimiyoni abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili, abesizwana sakoLevi abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili, abesizwana sako-Isakhari abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili, 8 abesizwana sakoZebhuluni abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili, abesizwana sakoJosefa abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili, abesizwana sikaBhenjamini abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili. 9 Emva kwalokhu ngakhangela khonapho phambi kwami kwakulexuku elikhulukazi elingela kubalwa livela ezizweni zonke lezizwaneni lasebantwini kanye lasezindimini zonke limi phambi kwesihlalo sobukhosi laphambi kweWundlu. Babegqoke izembatho ezimhlophe bepethe ingatsha zelala ngezandla zabo. 10 Bamemeza ngelizwi elikhulu besithi: “Ukusindisa ngokukhulu uNkulunkulu wethu, ohlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi, kanye lokweWundlu.” 11 Izingilosi zonke zazimi zizingeleze isihlalo sobukhosi njalo zizingeleze abadala kanye lezidalwa ezine eziphilayo. Zathi mbo phansi ngobuso bazo phambi kwesihlalo sobukhosi zakhonza uNkulunkulu 12 zisithi: “Ameni! Udumo lobukhosi lokuhlakanipha lokubongwa lokuhlonitshwa lamandla kanye lokuqina kakube kuNkulunkulu wethu nini lanini. Amenii!” (aiōn g165) 13 Emva kwalokho omunye wabadala wangibuza wathi, “Laba abezembatho ezimhlophe ngobani, njalo bavele ngaphi?” 14 Ngaphendula ngathi, “Nkosi, uyakwazi.” Wasesithi, “Laba yibo abaphume ekuhluphekeni okukhulu; bagezise izembatho zabo

egazini leWundlu bazena zaba mhlophe. **15** Ngakho-ke, baphambi kwesihlalo sobukhosi sikaNkulunkulu bemkhonza emini lebusuku ethempelini lakhe; njalo yena ohlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi uzakubavikela ngobukhona bakhe. **16** “Kabasozwe balambe futhi; njalo kabasozwe bome futhi. Ilanga kalisayikuhlaba phezu kwabo” loba ukutshisa okuhangulayo. **17** Ngoba iWundlu elingaphakathi kwesihlalo sobukhosi lizakuba ngumelusi wabo; lizaboholela emithonjeni yamanzi okuphila. “UNKulunkulu uzazesula zonke inyembezi emehlweni abo.”

8 Kwathi lapho iWundlu livula uphawu lwesikhombisa kwaba lokuthula ezulwini okwesikhathi esasingaba yingxenyehela. **2** Ngasengibona izingilosi eziyisikhombisa ezima phambi kukaNkulunkulu ziphiwa amacilongo ayisikhombisa. **3** Enye ingilosi eyayilomganu wegolide wokutshisela impepha yeza yema ngase-alithareni. Yanikwa impepha enengi ukuba iyinikele lemikhuleko yabangcwele bonke e-alithareni legolide phambi kwesihlalo sobukhosi. **4** Intuthu yemphepha kanye lemikhuleko yabangcwele kwaya phezulu phambi kukaNkulunkulu kusuka esandleni sengilosi leyo. **5** Ingilosi yasithatha umganu wokutshisela impepha yawucwalisa ngomlilo osuka e-alithareni yasiwuphosela emhlabeni kwasekusiba lokukhwaza kwezulu lokundindizela lokuphazima kombane kanye lokuzamazama komhlaba. **6** Izingilosi eziyisikhombisa ezazilamacilongo ayisikhombisa zalungisela ukuzakhalisa. **7** Ingilosi yokuqala yakhalisa icilongo layo kwasekusiba lesiqhotho lomlilo kuhlangene legazi kwasekuphoselwa phansi emhlabeni. Ingxenye yesithathu yomhlaba yatsha lotshani bonke obuluhlaza batsha. **8** Ingilosi yesibili yakhalisa icilongo layo, kwathi ulutho olwalunjengentaba enkulu olwalubhebha, lwaphoselwa olwandle. Ingxenye yesithathu yolwandle yaphenduka yaba ligazi, **9** kwathi ingxenye yesithathu yezidalwa eziphilayo olwandle yafa, kwathi lengxenye yesithathu yemikhumbi yatshabalalisa. **10** Ingilosi yesithathu yakhalisa icilongo layo, kwathi inkanyezi enkulukazi eyayivutha njengesibane yawa ivela emkhathini yawela phezu kwengxenye yesithathu yemifula lasemithonjeni yamanzi, **11** ibizo lenkanyezi leyo nguMhlonyanane. Ingxenye yesithathu yamanzi yaphenduka yababa, abantu abanengi bafa ngenxa yamanzi ayesebaba. **12** Ingilosi yesine yakhalisa icilongo layo, kwathi ingxenye yesithathu yelanga yatshaywa, lengxenye yesithathu yenyanga kanye lengxenye yesithathu yezinkanyezi, okwenza ingxenye yesithathu yalokhu yaphenduka yaba mnyama. Ingxenye yesithathu yemini yayingelakukhanya, kanye lengxenye yesithathu yobusuku. **13** Kwathi ngilokhu ngikhangele ngezwa ingqungqulu iphapha emkhathini imemeza ngelizwi elikhulu isithi, “Maye! Maye! Maye kwabahlezi emhlabeni ngenxa yokukhala kwamacilongo asezakhaliswa ngezinye izingilosi ezintathu!”

9 Ingilosi yesihlanu yakhalisa icilongo layo ngasengibona inkanyezi eyavela emkhathini iwela emhlabeni. Inkanyezi leyo yayiphiwe isihluthulelo soMgodi ongelamkhawulo. **(Abyssos g12)** **2** Isivule umgodi ongelamkhawulo kwaphuma kuwo izikhatha zentuthu ezazifana leziphuma esihogweni somlilo esikhulukazi. Ilanga lomkhathi kwaba mnyama ngenxa yezikhatha lezi ezaphuma emgodini ongelamkhawulo. **(Abyssos g12)** **3** Entuthwini leyo kwaphuma izintethe zehlela phansi emhlabeni ziphiwe amandla anjengawezinkume zasemhlabeni.

4 Zazitshelwe ukuthi zingalimazi tshani basemhlabeni loba olunye ulutho olwamilayo loba isihlahla, kodwa kuphela labobantu ababangelalo uphawu lukaNkulunkulu emabunzini abo. **5** Zazingaphiwanga amandla okubabulala, kodwa ukubazwisa ubuhlungu okwezinyanga ezinhlanu. Ubuhlungu ababuzwayo babufana lobuhlungu benkume lapho intinyela umuntu. **6** Ngalezonsuku abantu bazadinga ukufa, kodwa bazakuswela; bazafisa ukufa, kodwa ukufa kuzababalekela. **7** Izintethe lezo zazifana lamabhiza alungele impi. Emakhanda azo zazigqoke ulutho olwalunjengemiqhele yegolide, ubuso bazo babufana lobuso babantu. **8** Uboya bazo babunjengengenwele zebesifazane, amazinyo azo enjengamazinyo esilwane. **9** Zazilezivikelo zesifuba ezinjengezivikelo zensimbi njalo umdumo wempiko zazo wawunjengomdumo wamabhiza amanengi lezinqola zempi zigijimela empini. **10** Zazilemisila elobuhlungu njengezinkume, njalo emisileni yazo zazilamandla okuzwisa abantu ubuhlungu okwezinyanga ezinhlanu. **11** Inkosi yazo ezazilayo yingilosi yoMgodi ongelamkhawulo, ebizo layo ngesiHebheru lalingu-Abhadoni, ngesiGrikhi lingu-Apholiyoni (okuyikuthi, uMtshabalalisi). **(Abyssos g12)** **12** Uhlupho lwakuqala selwedlule; ezinye inhlu pho ezimbili zizazobuya. **13** Ingilosi yesithupha yakhalisa icilongo layo ngasengisizwa ilizwi livela empondweni ze-alithare legolide eliphambi kukaNkulunkulu. **14** Lathi engilosini yesithupha eyayiphethe icilongo, “Khulula izingilosi ezine ezibotshiweyo emfuleni omkhulu uYufrathe.” **15** Ngakho izingilosi ezine lezo ezazigcinwe zilindele lesisikhathi losuku lenyanga kanye lomnyaka zakhululelwa ukubulala ingxenye yesithathu yoluntu. **16** Inani lamabutho ayegade amabhiza laliyizigidi ezingamakhulu amabili. Ngalizwa inani lawo. **17** Amabhiza labagadi engakubona embonweni wami kwakukhanya kunjengaba zabo zesifuba zazibomvu okomlilo, ziluhlazanyana njalo zilithanga njengesolufa. Amakhanda amabhiza ayenjengamakhanda ezilwane njalo emilonyeni yawo kwaphuma umlilo lentuthu kanye lesolufa. **18** Ingxenye yesithathu yoluntu yabulawa yizifo ezintathu zomlilo lentuthu kanye lesolufa okwaphuma emilonyeni yawo. **19** Amandla amabhiza ayesemilonyeni yawo lasemisileni yawo ngoba imisila yawo yayinjengezinyoka ilamakhanda elimaza ngawo. **20** Abanengi boluntu ababengabulawanga yizifo lezi kabazange baphenduke emisebenzini yezandla zabo; kabayekelanga ukukhonza amadimoni lezithombe zegolide lezesiliva lezethusi, lezamatshhe kanye lezezigodo, izithombe ezingeke zibone loba zizwe loba zihambe. **21** Njalo kabaphendukanga ezenzweni zabo zokubulala, lasebuthakathini babo, ekuxhwaleni kwabo kobufefe loba ebuseleni babo.

10 Ngabuya ngabona enye ingilosi elamandla isehla iwela ezulwini. Yayembethe iyezi kulomchilo wamakhosikazi ngaphezu kwekhanda layo; ubuso bayo babunjengelanga; imilenze yayo injengensika zomlilo. **2** Yayiphethe umqulu omncane, uvulekile usezandleni zayo. Yaxilisa unyawo lwayo lokwesokunene olwandle kwathi unyawo lwayo lwesokunxele lwaba semhlabathini **3** njalo yameza ngelizwi elikhulu njengokubhonga kwesilwane. Ekumemezeni kwayo imidumo eyisikhombisa yakhuluma. **4** Kwathi imidumo eyisikhombisa ikhuluma ngasengilungele ukuloba kodwa ngezwa ilizwi elavela ezulwini lisithi, “Vala lokho okutshiwo yimidumo eyisikhombisa njalo ungakulobi.” **5** Ingilosi engangiyibone

imi olwandle lasemhlabathini yaphakamisela isandla sayo sokunene ezulwini. **6** Yafunga ngaye ophilayo kuze kube nini lanini, owadala amazulu lakho konke okukuwo, lomhlaba lakho konke okukuwo lolwandle lakho konke okukulo, yathi, “Kakusayikuba khona ukuphuza futhi! (aiōn g165) **7** Kodwa ngezinsuku lapho ingilosu yesikhombisa isizakhalisa icilongo layo imfihlakalo kaNkulunkulu izafezeka njengokutsho kwakhe ezincekweni zakhe abaphrofethi.” **8** Ilizwi engangilizwe livela ezulwini lakhuluma lami futhi lathi: “Hamba uyethatha umqulu ovulekileyo esandleni sengilosu emi olwandle lasemhlabathini.” **9** Ngakho ngaya kuleyongilosu ngacela ukuba ingiphe lowomqulu omncane. Yathi kimi, “Uthathe uwudle. Uzaqubala isisu sakho ngokubaba, kodwa emlonyeni wakho uzakuba mnandi njengoluju.” **10** Ngawuthatha umqulu omncane esandleni sengilosu ngawudla. Emlonyeni wami wanambitheka mnandi njengoluju, kodwa sengiwudlile isisu sami saqubuka, sababa. **11** Ngasengitshelwa ukuthi, “Kumele uphrofithi futhi ngabantu abanengi, langezizwe, langezindimi kanye langamakhoisi.”

11 Ngaphiwa umhlanga njengomqwayi wokulinganisa, ngasengitshelwa ukuthi, “Hamba uyelanganisa ithempeli likaNkulunkulu le-alithari, ubale labakhonza khona. **2** Kodwa utshiye iguma langaphandle ungalilinganisi ngoba liphawe abeZizweni. Bazanyathela idolobho elingcwele izinyanga ezingamatshumi amane lambili. **3** Ofakazi bami ababili ngizabanika amandla njalo bazaphrofitha insuku eziyinkulungwane lamakhulu amabili lamatshumi ayisithupha, begqoke izigqoko zamasaka.” **4** Laba “bayizihlahla ezimbili zama-oliva” lezinti ezimbili zezibane “ezimi phambi kweNkosi yomhlaba.” **5** Umuntu angazama ukuzilimaza, kuphuma umlilo emilonyeni yazo uqothule izitha zazo. Le yiyo indlela umuntu ofuna ukuzilimaza afa ngayo. **6** Abantu laba balamandla okuvala umkhathi ukuba izulu lingani lapho bephrofitha njalo balamandla okuphendula amanzi abe ligazi lawokutshaya umhlaba ngezinhlobo zonke zezifo kanengi njengokuthanda kwabo. **7** Kuzakuthi lapho sebeqedile ukufakaza kwabo isilo esiphuma eMgodini ongelamkhwawulo sizabahlasela sibehlele sibabulale. (Abyssos g12) **8** Izidumbu zabo zizalala emgwaqweni wedolobho elikhulu okuthi ngokufaniswa libizwe ngokuthi yiSodoma leGibhithe lapho leNkosi yabo eyabethelwa khona esiphambanweni. **9** Okwensuku ezintathu lengxenywe yosuku abantu abavela emihlotsheni yonke yabantu lasezizwaneni zonke lasezindimuni zonke kanye lasezizweni zonke bazakhangela izidumbu zabo bale ukuba zingcwatshwe. **10** Abantu basemhlabeni bazazikhangela ngokuthokoza bazijabulise ngokuthumela izipho ngoba abaphrofethi ababili laba babahluphile abahlala emhlabeni. **11** Kodwa emva kwalesosuku ezintathu lengxenywe yosuku umoya wokuphila owavela kuNkulunkulu wabangana, basebesima ngezinyawo zabo, kwathi labo abababonayo besaba kakhulu. **12** Bezwa ilizwi elikhulu livela ezulwini lisithi kubo, “Wozani phezulu lapha.” Baya phezulu ezulwini bephakathi kweyezi izitha zabo zilokhu zikhangele. **13** Ngalesosikhathi kwaba lokuzamazama okukhulu komhlaba kwathi ingxenywe yetshumi yedolobho yabhidlika. Abantu abazinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa bafa ekuzamazameni komhlaba, abaphephayo, besaba kakhulu bamdumisa uNkulunkulu wasezulwini. **14** Uhlupho lwesibili selwedule; uhlupho lwesithathu luyeza masinyane. **15** Ingilosu yesikhombisa yakhalisa icilongo

layo kwasekusiba lamazwi amakhulu ezulwini, ayesithi: “Umbuso wasemhlabeni usube ngumbuso weNkosi yethu loKhristu wayo, njalo izabusa kuze kube nininini.” (aiōn g165) **16** Abadala abangamatshumi amabili lane ababehlezi ezihlalweni zobukhosi phambi kukaNkulunkulu bathi mbo phansi ngobuso babo bakhonza uNkulunkulu, **17** besithi: “Siyakubonga Nkosi Nkulunkulu Somandla, onguye okhona lowayekhona, ngoba usuwathethe amandla akho amakhulu njalo usuqalisile ukubusa. **18** Izizwe zazithukuthele; lolaka lwakho selufikile. Isikhathi sokwahlulela abafuleyo sesifikile kanye lesokuvuza izinceku zakho abaphrofethi labangcwele bakho kanye labalo abalihloniphayo ibizo lakho, abancinyane labakhulu kanye lesokuchitha labo abachitha umhlaba.” **19** Emva kwalokho ithempeli likaNkulunkulu lavulwa ezulwini phakathi kwethempeli lakhe kwabonakala umtshokotsho wesivumelwano sakhe. Kwasekusiba lokuphazama kwemibane lokundindizela lokukhwaza kwezulu lokuzamazama komhlaba kanye lesiqhotho esikhulu.

12 Isibonakaliso esikhulu lesimangalisayo sabonakala ezulwini: owesifazane egqoke ilanga, inyanga ingaphansi kwezinyawo zakhe, umqhele wezinkanyezi ezilitshumi lambili usekhandla lakhe. **2** Wayezithwele njalo ekhala ngobuhlungu bomhelo ngoba wayesezabeletha. **3** Kwabuya kwabonakala esinye isibonakaliso ezulwini: umgobho omkhulukazi obomvu olamakhandla ayisikhombisa lempondo ezilitshumi kanye lemiqhele eyisikhombisa emakhandla awo. **4** Umsila wawo wakhucula ingxenywe yesithathu yezinkanyezi emkhathini waziphosela emhlabeni. Umgobho wema phambi kowesifazane owayesezabeletha ukuze kuthi umntwana angazalwa uhle umtshwabadele. **5** Wazala indodana, “eyayizabusa izizwe zonke ngentonga yensimbi.” Umntanake wahluthunelwa phezulu kuNkulunkulu lasesihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi. **6** Owesifazane wabalekela enkangala endaweni ayeyilungiselwe nguNkulunkulu lapho ayezagcinakala khona okwensuku eziyinkulungwane lamakhulu amabili lamatshumi ayisithupha. **7** Kwaba lempi ezulwini. UMikhayeli lezingilosu zakhe balwa lomgobho kwathi umgobho kanye lezingilosu zawo lawo walwa labo. **8** Kodwa wawungelamandla kangako njalo wona lezingilosu zawo balahlekelwa yindawo yabo ezulwini. **9** Umgobho omkhulu waphoselwa phansi, inyoka leyana endala ethiwa ngoMubi loba uSathane odukisa umhlaba wonke. Waphoselwa emhlabeni ekanye lezingilosu zakhe. **10** Ngasengisizwa ilizwi elikhulu ezulwini lisithi: “Khathezi ukusindiswa sekufikile lamandla kanye lombuso kaNkulunkulu wethu kanye lobukhosi bukaKhristu wakhe. Ngoba umangaleli wabazalwane bethu, obamangalelayo phambi kukaNkulunkulu wethu emini lebusuku, usephoselwe phansi. **11** Bamnqobile ngegazi leWundlu langelizwi lobufakazi babo; kabakuthandanga kakhulu ukuphila kwabo ukuba besabe ukufa. **12** Ngakho-ke, thokozani lina mazulu kanye lani elihlala kuwo! Kodwa maye kuwo umhlaba lolwandle ngoba omubi useze phansi kini! Ugcwele intukuthelo ngoba uyakwazi ukuthi isikhathi sakhe sifitshane.” **13** Kwathi umgobho ubona ukuthi wawusuphoselwe emhlabeni wamdinga owesifazane owayebelethe umntwana wesilisa. **14** Owesifazane lowo wayephiwe amaphiko amabili okhozi olukhulu ukuze andizele endaweni ayilungiselwayo enkangala lapho ayezagcinwa khona okwesikhathi lezikhathi lengxenywe yesikhathi lapho inyoka eyayingeke ifike khona. **15** Inyoka yasikhupha

amanzi emlonyeni wayo angathi ngumfula ukuze ifice owesifazane imkhucule ngesikhukhula. **16** Kodwa umhlaba wasiza owesifazane ngokuvula umlomo wawo wasuginya umfula owawukhutshwe ngumgobho emlonyeni wawo. **17** Ngakho-ke, umgobho wamthukuthelela owesifazane wasusuka usiyakulwa impi lenzalo yonke yowesifazane, labo abagcina imilayo kaNkulunkulu bebambebele kubo ubufakazi bukajesu. Umgobho wema okhunjini lolwandle.

13 Ngabuya ngabona isilo siphuma olwandle. Sasilempondo ezilitshumi lamakhanda ayisikhombisa silemiqhele elitshumi phezu kwempando zaso njalo ekhanda ngalinye kulebizo elihlambazayo. **2** Isilo engasibonayo sasinjengengwe, kodwa silenyawo ezifana lezebhele lomlomo onjengowesilwane. Umgobho wanika isilo lesa amandla awo lesihlalo sawo sobukhosi kanye lamandla amakhulu. **3** Elinye lamakhanda esilo lesa lalingathi lalike laba lenxeba elibulalayo, kodwa inxeba elibulalayo lelo laselipholile. Umhlaba wonke wamangala wasilandela isilo. **4** Abantu bawukhonza umgobho ngoba wawunike isilo amandla, lesilo basikhonza bebuza besithi, “Ngubani onjengesilo? Ngubani ongalwa impi laso na?” **5** Isilo saphiwa umlomo kuba sikhulume amazwi okuzigqaja lokuhlambaza kanye lokuthi sisebenzise amandla aso okwezinyanga ezingamatshumi amane lambili. **6** Savula umlomo waso ukuba sihlambaze uNkulunkulu lokuba sichothoze ibizo lakhe lendawo yakhe yokuhlala kanye labalo abahlala ezulwini. **7** Sasiphiwe amandla okulwa impi labangcwele kanye lokubanqoba. Saphiwa lamandla phezu kwezizwana zonke labantu lezindimi kanye lezizwe zonke. **8** Bonke abantu abahlala emhlabeni bazasikhonza isilo lesa, bonke abalamabizo abo angalotshwanga encwadini yokuphila yeWundlu elahlatswayo kusukela ekuhlalweni komhlaba. **9** Lowo olendelela, akeze. **10** “Nxa umuntu kumele aye ekuthunjweni, uzakuya ekuthunjweni. Nxa umuntu kumele abulawe ngenkamba, uzabulawa ngayo inkamba.” Lokhu kufuna ukubekezela okuqinileyo lokuthembeka kwabangcwele. **11** Ngabuya ngabona esinye isilo siphuma emhlabeni. Sasilempondo ezimbili njengewundlu, kodwa sikhuluma njengomgobho. **12** Sasisebenzisa wonke amandla esilo sakuqala esikhundleni saso njalo senza umhlaba labahlezi kuwo bakhonze isilo sakuqala, esinxeba laso eselapholayo. **13** Njalo senza izibonakaliso ezinkulu lezimangalisayo, kanye lokzenza ukuthi umlilo wehlele phansi usuka ezulwini usiza emhlabeni abantu bezibonela. **14** Ngenxa yezibonakaliso saphiwa amandla okumela isilo sakuqala, sakhohlisa abahlezi emhlabeni. Sabalaya ukuba bamise umfanekiso wokuhlonipha isilo esalinyazwa ngenkamba, kodwa saphila. **15** Saphiwa amandla okuba umfanekiso wesilo sakuqala siwunike umphefumulo ukuze sikhulume njalo sibangele ukuthi bonke abala ukukhonza umfanekiso babulawe. **16** Njalo sabamba abantu bonke ngamandla, abancane labakhulu, abanothileyo labayanga, abakhululekileyo kanye lezigqili ukuba babekwe uphawu ezandleni zabo zokudla loba emabunzini abo **17** ukuze angabikhona ozathenga kumbe athengise ngaphandle kokuba elophawu lolo olulibizo lesilo lesa loba inombolo yebizo laso. **18** Lokhu kufuna inhlakanipho. Umuntu olombono lengqondo ebonayo, kayidingisise inombolo yesilo ngoba yinombolo yomuntu. Inombolo yaso ngamakhulu ayisithupha lamatshumi ayisithupha lesithupha.

14 Ngabuya ngakhangela, khonapho phambi kwami kwakuleWundlu, limi phezu kwenNtaba iZiyoni, lilabazinkulungwane ezilikhulu lamatshumi amane lane ababelotshwe ibizo lalo lelukaYise emabunzini abo. **2** Ngezwa umdumo ovela ezulwini ufana lokuhuba kwamanzi agelezayo lanjengokukhwaza okukhulu kwezulu. Umdumo engawuzwayo wawunjengowabatshayi bamachacho betshaya amachacho abo. **3** Bahlabela ingoma entsha phambi kwesihlalo sobukhosi laphambi kwezidalwa ezine eziphilayo kanye laphambi kwabadala. Kakho owayengayifunda ingoma leyo ngaphandle kwaba zinkulungwane ezilikhulu lamatshumi amane lane ababehlangwe emhlabeni. **4** Laba yilabo abangazingcolisanga ngabesifazane ngoba bazigcina behlambululike. Balandela iWundlu loba kungaphi lapho eliya khona. Bahlengwa phakathi kwabantu banikelwa njengezithelo zakuqala kuNkulunkulu laseWundlwini. **5** Akulamanga atholakala emilonyeni yabo; kabalasici. **6** Ngabuya ngabona enye ingilosi indiza emoyeni ilevangeli elingapheliyo ukuba litshumayele kulabo abahlezi emhlabeni lasezizweni zonke lasezizwaneni lasezindimini kanye lasebantwini. (**aiōnios g166**) **7** Ngelizwi elikhulu yathi, “Mesabeni uNkulunkulu limdumise ngoba isikhathi sokwahlulela kwakhe sesifikile. Mkhonzeni yena owadala amazulu, lomhlaba, lolwandle kanye lemithombo yamanzi.” **8** Ingilosi yesibili yalandela yathi, “Liwile! Liwile iBhabhiloni eliKhulu elenza izizwe zonke zanatha iwayini layo elihlanyisayo ngobufebe balo.” **9** Ingilosi yesithathu yazilandela yathi ngelizwi elikhulu, “Nxa umuntu angakhonza isilo lomfanekiso waso afakwe uphawu lwaso ebunzini loba esandleni, **10** laye uzanatha iwayini lentukuthelo kaNkulunkulu elithelwe ngamandla agcweleyo enkezweni yolaka lwakhe. Uzahlukuluzwa ngesolufa elitshisayo phambi kwezizingilosi ezingcwele laphambi kweWundlu. **11** Intuthu yokuhlukuluzwa kwabo ithunqa kuze kube nininini. Akukho suku loba ubusuku bokuphumula kulabo abakhonza isilo lomfanekiso waso loba lowo owemukela uphawu lwebizo laso.” (**aiōn g165**) **12** Lokhu kufuna ukubekezela okuqinileyo kwabangcwele abagcina imilayo kaNkulunkulu baqhubeka bethembekile kujesu. **13** Ngasengisizwa ilizwi livela ezulwini lisithi, “Loba ukuthi: Babusisive abafileyo befela eNkosini kusukela khathesi kusuya phambili.” “Yebo,” kutsho uMoya, “bazaphumula ekutshikatshikeni kwabo ngoba izenzo zabo zizabalandela.” **14** Ngakhangela khonapho phambi kwami kwakuleyezi elimhlophe njalo phezu kweyezi lelo kwakuhlezi ofana lendodana yomuntu elomqhele wegolide ekhanda lakhe lesikela ebukhali esandleni sakhe. **15** Enye ingilosi yaphuma ethempelini yamemezela ngelizwi elikhulu kulowo owayehlezi phezu kweyezi isithi, “Thatha isikela uvune ngoba isikhathi sokuvuna sesifikile kalokho isivuno emhlabeni sesivuthiwe.” **16** Ngakho-ke, lowo owayehlezi phezu kweyezi watshibilikisela isikela yakhe emhlabeni, umhlaba wawunwa. **17** Enye ingilosi yaphuma ethempelini ezulwini layo futhi yayilesikela ebukhali. **18** Enye njalo ingilosi eyayilamandla phezu komlilo yeza ivela e-alithareni yamemezela ngelizwi elikhulu kulowo owayelesikela ebukhali isithi, “Thatha isikela yakho ebukhali ubuthe amahlukuzo amavini esivini somhlaba, ngoba amavini aso asevuthiwe.” **19** Ingilosi leyo yatshibilikisela isikela yayo emhlabeni yabutha amavini awo yawaphosela esikhamelweni sewayini solaka lukaNkulunkulu. **20** Avoxwa phakathi kwesikhamelelo sewayini ngaphandle kwedolobho, igazi lageleza liphuma esikhamelweni, laphakama okufika

ematomini ebhiza okwebanga elingaba ngamakhilomitha angamakhulu amathathu.

15 Ezulwini ngabona esinye isibonakaliso esikhulu lesimangalisayo: Izingilosi eziyisikhombisa zizefizo zokucina eziyisikhombisa, ezokucina ngoba ngazo ulaka lukaNkulunkulu luyapheleliswa. **2** Ngabuya ngabona okwakungathi lulwandle lwamangilazi axutshaniswe lomlilo njalo eceleni kolwandle kwakumi labo ababesinqobile isilo lomfanekiso waso kanye lenombolo yebizo laso. Babephethe amachacho ababewaphiwe nguNkulunkulu **3** behlabela ingoma kaMosi inceku kaNkulunkulu kanye lengoma yeWundlu besithi: “Mikhulu iyamangalisa imisebenzi yakho Nkosi Nkulunkulu Somandla. Zilungile njalo ziqotho izindlela zakho, Nkosi yezikhathi zonke. **4** Ngubani ongayikukwesaba wena Nkosi, adumise ibizo lakho na? Ngoba nguwe kuphela ongcwele. Zonke izizwe zizakuba zikhonze phambi kwakho, ngoba imisebenzi yakho elungileyo isibonakalisiwe.” **5** Emva kwalokhu ngakhangela ngabona ezulwini ithempeli, okulithabanikeli lobufakazi livuliwe. **6** Ethempelini kwaphuma izingilosi eziyisikhombisa zizefizo eziyisikhombisa. Zazigqoke ilembu elihlanzekileyo, elicazimulayo njalo zibophe izifuba zazo ngamabhanti egolide. **7** Esinye sezidalwa ezine eziphilayo sanika izingilosi eziyisikhombisa imiganu yegolide eziyisikhombisa igcwele ulaka lukaNkulunkulu ophila kuze kube nininini. (**aiōn g165**) **8** Ithempeli lagcwala intuthu evela enkazimulweni kaNkulunkulu lasemandleni akhe, njalo kakho okwazingangena ethempelini izifo eziyisikhombisa zezingilosi eziyisikhombisa zingakapheli.

16 Ngezwa ilizwi elikhulu livelela ethempelini lisithi ezingilosini eziyisikhombisa, “Hambani, lithululele emhlabeni imiganu eziyisikhombisa yolaka lukaNkulunkulu.” **2** Ingilosi yakuqala yahamba yathululela umganu wayo emhlabeni kwasekuphihlaka izilondu ezenyanyekayo njalo ezibuhlungu ebantwini ababelophawu lwesilo njalo bekhonza umfanekiso waso. **3** Ingilosi yesibili yathululela umganu wayo olwandle lwaphenduka lwaba ligazi elinjengelomuntu ofileyo, kwathi yonke into ephilayo esolwandle yafa. **4** Ingilosi yesithathu yathululela umganu wayo emifuleni lasemithonjeni yamanzi yaba ligazi. **5** Ngasengisizwa ingilosi eyayingumphathi wamanzi isithi: “Ulungile ngalezizahlulelo, wena oNgcwele wena okhona lowayekhona, **6** ngoba bachitha igazi labangcwele bakho lelabaphrofethi, ngakho ubanike igazi ukuba balinathe njengokubafaneleyo.” **7** Ngezwa i-alithari liphendula lisithi: “Yebo, Nkosi Nkulunkulu Somandla, ziqotho njalo zilungile lezi zahlelo zakho.” **8** Ingilosi yesine yathululela umganu wayo elangeni, ilanga laseliphiwa amandla okutshisa abantu ngomlilo. **9** Bosiwa yikutshisa okukhulu kwelanga njalo balithuka ibizo likaNkulunkulu, owayelamanda phezu kwezifo lezi, kodwa bala ukuba baphenduke bamdumise. **10** Ingilosi yesihlanu yathululela umganu wayo phezu kwesihlalo sobukhosi sesilo, umbuso waso wembeswa yibumnyama. Abantu baxhanxatha inlimi zabo ngobuhlungu, **11** bamthuka uNkulunkulu wasezulwini ngenxa yobuhlungu bezilondu zabo, kodwa bala ukuphenduka kulokho ababekwenzile. **12** Ingilosi yesithupha yathululela umganu wayo emfuleni omkhulu uYufrathe, amanzi awo asesitha ukuba kulungiswe indlela yamakhosi avela empumalanga. **13** Ngabuya ngabona imimoya emibi emithathu eyayifana lamaxoxo eyaphuma emlonyeni womgobho

lasemlonyeni wesilo kanye lasemlonyeni womphrofethi wamanga. **14** Yimimoya yamadimoni eyenza izibonakaliso ezimangalisayo njalo iyahamba iye emakhosini omhlaba wonke iwaqoqela impi ngosuku olukhulu lukaNkulunkulu uSomandla. **15** “Khangelani, ngiza njengesela! Ubusiwe lowo ohlala elindlele egcina izigqoko zakhe zikuye ukuze angahambi nqunu abelihlaza.” **16** Basebeqoqela amakhosi ndawonye endaweni ethiwa yi-Amagedoni ngesiHebheru. **17** Ingilosi yesikhombisa yathululela umganu wayo emoyeni kwasekuphuma ilizwi elikhulu ethempelini livelele esihlalweni sobukhosi, lisithi, “Sokwenziwe!” **18** Kwasekusiba lokuphazima kwemibane lemidumo lokukhazama kweluzo kanye lokuzamazama okukhulu komhlaba. Akulakuzamazama komhlaba okunjengakho okwake kwenzeka selokhu umuntu waba semhlabeni, kwakukhulu kakhulu lokho kuzamazama komhlaba. **19** Idolobho elikhulu lehlukana laba yizigaba ezintathu, amadolobho ezizwe abhidlika. UNkulunkulu wakhumbula iBhabhiloni eliKhulu walinika inkezo yewayini egcwele ukuvutha kolaka lwakhe. **20** Izihlenge zonke zabaleka kwathi izintaba zanyamalala. **21** Emkhathini kwehla amatshe amakhulukazi esiqotho, lilinye lingaba ngamakhilogramu angamatshumi amathathu, awela phezu kwabantu. Bamthuka uNkulunkulu ngenxa yohlupho lwesiqotho ngoba uhlupho lolo lwalusesabeka.

17 Enye yezingilosi eziyisikhombisa ezazilemiganu eziyisikhombisa yeza kimi yathi, “Woza ngikutshengise ukujeziswa kwesiphingi esikhulu esihlezi phezu kwananzi amanengi. **2** Amakhosi omhlaba afeba laso njalo abahlezi emhlabeni badakwa yiwayini yobufefe baso.” **3** Ingilosi yasingithatha ngiseMoyeni yangisa ekangala. Khonapho ngabona owesifazane ehlezi phezu kwesilo esibomvu gebhu sigcwele amabizo ahlambazayo njalo yayilamakhandla ayisikhombisa lempondo ezilitshumi. **4** Owesifazane lowo wayegqoke okuyibubende lokubomvu gebhu njalo wayekhazimula ngegolide langamatshe aligugu kanye langobuhlalu. Esandleni sakhe wayephethe inkezo igcwele izinto ezenyanyekayo kanye lamanyala obufefe bakhe. **5** Umbhalo owawulotshwe ebunzini lakhe wawusesabeka: iBhabhiloni eliKhulu uNina weziPhingi kanye lamaNyala wonke oMhlaba. **6** Ngabona ukuthi owesifazane lowo wayedakwe ligazi labangcwele, igazi lalabo abalobufakazi bukaJesus. Ekumboneni kwami ngamangala kakhulu. **7** Ingilosi yasisithi kimi, “Kungani umangala? Ngizakuchazela imfihlakalo yowesifazane lesilo asigadileyo esilamakhandla ayisikhombisa lempondo ezilitshumi. **8** Isilo osibonileyo sake saba khona, kodwa khathezi kasisekho njalo sizaphuma eMgodini ongelamkhwawulo siye ekubhujisweni kwaso. Abahlezi emhlabeni abalamabizo abo angalotshwanga encwadini yokuphila kusukela ekudalweni komhlaba bazamangala lapho besibona lesosilo ngoba sake saba khona, kodwa khathezi kasisekho, kodwa sizabuya sivele. (**Abyssos g12**) **9** Lokhu kufuna ingqondo elokuhlakanipha. Amakhanda ayisikhombisa ngamaqaa ayisikhombisa owesifazane ahlezi phezu kwawo. **10** Njalo angamakhosi ayisikhombisa. Amahlanu kudala awa, eyodwa ikhona, enye kayikaveli, kodwa nxa isisiza kumele ihlale isikhatshana. **11** Isilo esake saba khona njalo khathezi esingasekho yinkosi yesificaminwembali. Ngenye yalawo ayisikhombisa njalo isisiya ekubhujisweni kwayo. **12** Impondo ezilitshumi ozibonileyo ngamakhosi alitshumi

angakatholi mbuso, kodwa azathola amandla obukhosi okwehola elilodwa kanye lesilo. **13** Alenjongo yinye njalo azakupha isilo amandla awo kanye lelungelo. **14** Azakulwa impi leWundlu, kodwa iWundlu lizawanqoba ngoba liyiNkosi yamakhosi loMbusi wababusi, njalo lizabe lilibabiziweyo balo abangabalandeli abakhethiweyo labathembekileyo.” **15** Ingilosi yabuya yathi kimi, “Amanzi owabonileyo lapho isiphingi esihlezi khona ngabantu bemihlobo yonke, amaxuku lezizwe kanye lezindimi. **16** Isilo lempondo ezililtshumi ozibonileyo kuzasizonda isiphingi. Zizasichitha zisitshiye size; zizakudla inyama yomzimba walo zisitshise ngomlilo. **17** Ngoba uNkulunkulu ubeke ezinhliziyweni zazo ukuba afeze injongo yakhe ngokuvuma ukunika isilo amandla aza okubusa amazwi kaNkulunkulu aze agcwaliseke. **18** Owesifazane ombonileyo lidolobho elikhulu elibusa amakhosi omhlaba.”

18 Emva kwalokhu ngabona enye ingilosi isehla ivela ezulwini. Yayilamandla amakhulu njalo umhlaba wakhanyiswa yikukhazimula kwayo. **2** Yamemeza ngelizwi elikhulu yathi: “Liwile! Liwile iBhabhiloni eliKhulu! Selibe likhaya lamadimoni lomango wabomoya ababi, lomango wezinyoni zonke ezingcolileyo lezenyanyekayo. **3** Ngoba izizwe zonke zinathe iwayini elihlanyisayo lobufefe balo. Amakhosi omhlaba afeba lalo, labathengisi basemhlabeni banothiswa yinotho yalo edlulisileyo.” **4** Ngabuya ngezwa elinye ilizwi livela ezulwini lisithi: “Bantu bami, phumani kulo,” ukuze lingahlanganyeli isonweni zalo ukuze lingehlelwa yizifo zalo; **5** ngoba izonzo zalo ziyinqwaba efika ezulwini, njalo uNkulunkulu usekhumbule amacala alo. **6** Lipheni njengokupha kwalo; buyiselani ngokuphindweyo kulokho elikwenzileyo. Thelani kabili isilinganiso enkezweni yalo. **7** Lizwiseni uchuku olukhulu losizi okulingana inkazimulo lenotho elizipha khona.” Enhliziyweni yalo liyazincoma lisithi, ngihlezi njengendlovukazi; kangisumfelokazi, njalo kangisoze ngilile. **8** Ngakho-ke, ngosuku olulodwa izifo zalo zizalufika: ukufa lokukhala kanye lendlala. Lizahangulwa ngumlilo ngoba ilamandla iNkosi uNkulunkulu olahlulelayo. **9** Lapho amakhosi asemhlabeni afeba lalo njalo abelana lalo inotho yalo ebona intuthu yokutsha kwalo azalikhalela alililele. **10** Azesaba ngenxa yokuhlukuluzwa kwalo eme khatshana akhale esithi: Maye! Maye, Oh dolobho elikhulu, Oh Bhabhiloni, dolobho lamandla! Ngehola linye nje incithakalo yako ifikile! **11** Abathengisi basemhlabeni bazalikhalela balililele ngoba kungasekho othenga impahla yabo, **12** imithwalo yegolide leyesiliva leyamatshe aligugu leyobuhlalu; eyelineni elihle leliyibubende, ilembu lesilika lelembu elibomvu gebhu; inhlobo zonke zezigodo zesithironi lezinhlolo zonke zezinto ezenziwe ngenpondo zendlovu lezigodo ezidulayo lethusi lensimbi kanye lelitshelimo elimhlophe; **13** imithwalo yesinamoni leyeziyoliso, eyempepha leyemure kanye leyamakha, eyewayini lamafutha e-oliva, eyefulawa ecolikileyo kanye lengqoloyi; inkomo lezimvu; amabhiza lezinqola lezigqili kanye lemiphefumulo yabantu. **14** Bazakuthi, “Izithelo owawuzilangathela zisukile kuwe. Yonke inotho yakho lenkazimulo sekunyamalele, kakuyikutholakala futhi.” **15** Abathengisi ababethengisa lezizinto bezuza inotho yabo kuyo bazakuma khatshana, besesaba ngokuhlukuluzwa kwalo. Bazalila babubule **16** njalo bakhale kakhulu besithi: “Maye! Maye, Oh dolobho elikhulu, eligqoke ilineni elihle, okuyibubende lokobomvu, elikhazimulayo ngegolide

langamatshe aligugu kanye lobuhlalu! **17** Ngehola linye nje inotho enengi kangaka isichithiwe!” Izinduna zonke zemikhumbi labo bonke abahamba ngayo labatshayeli labo bonke abazuza ukuphila kwabo olwandle bazakuma khatshana. **18** Lapho bebona izikhatha zokutsha kwalo bazachaza bathi, “Kambe kwake kwaba ledolobho elinjengaleli idolobho elikhulu na?” **19** Bazathela uthuli emakhanda abo balile babubule bekhala besithi: “Maye! Maye, Oh dolobho elikhulu, lapho bonke ababelemikhumbi olwandle abanthiswa khona yinotho yalo! Ngehola linye nje selichithiwe! **20** Thokoza ngalo, Oh Zulu! Thokozani bangcwele labapostoli kanye labaphrofethi! UNkulunkulu uselahlulele ngendlela elaliphatha ngayo.” **21** Ingilosi elamandla yasidobha ilitshe elingangembokodo enkulu yaliphosela olwandle, yathi: “Idolobho elikhulu laseBhabhiloni lizaphoselwa phansi, ngodlakela olunje, lingaphindi libonakale futhi. **22** Umculo wabatshayi bamachacho labahlabeleli labatshayi bemihlaga lamaciloni, kawusoze uzwakale kuwe futhi. Akukho sisebenzi lesawuphi umsebenzi esizatholakala kuwe futhi. Umsindo wembokodo kawusoze uzwakale kuwe futhi. **23** Ukukhanya kwesibane akusoze kukhanye kuwe futhi. Ilizwi lomyeni lelomlobokazi kalisoze lizwakale kuwe futhi. Abathengisi bakho babeyizikhulu zomhlaba. Izizwe zonke zadukiswa yibuthakathi bakho. **24** Kuwe kwafunyanwa igazi labaphrofethi lelabangcwele, kanye lelabo bonke ababulawayo emhlabeni.”

19 Emva kwalokhu ngezwa umsindo onjengokuhlokoma kwexuku elikhulu ezulwini limemeza lisithi: “Haleluya! Ukusindisa lodumo lamandla ngokukaNkulunkulu wethu **2** ngoba ukwahlulela kwakhe kuqotho njalo kulungile. Usilahlile isiphingi esikhulu esaxhwalisa umhlaba ngobufefe baso. Uphindisele kuso igazi lezincedu zakhe.” **3** Bamemeza njalo bathi: “Haleluya! Intuthu yokutsha kwaso ithunqa kuze kube nininini.” (aiōn g165) **4** Abadala abangamatshumi amabili lane lezidalwa ezine eziphilayo bawela phansi bakhonza uNkulunkulu owayehlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi. Bamemeza njalo bathi: “Ameni, Haleluya!” **5** Kwasekuzwakala ilizwi elavela esihlalweni sobukhosi, lisithi: “Dumisani uNkulunkulu wethu, lonke lina zincedu zakhe, lina elimesabayo, abancane labakhulu!” **6** Ngabuya ngezwa okwakungathi lixuku elikhulu, kunjengokuhlokoma kwamanzi agelezayo lanjengokukhwaza kwezulu besithi: “Haleluya! Ngoba iNkosi yethu uNkulunkulu uSomandla uyabusa. **7** Kasithokozeni sijabule simuphe udumo. Ngoba umthimba weWundlu usufikile, lomlobokazi walo usezilungisele. **8** Ilineni elihle elicazimulayo elihlanzekileyo uliphiwe ukuba agqoke.” (Ilineni elihle limele imisebenzi emihle yabangcwele.) **9** Ingilosi yasisithi kimi, “Loba ukuthi: Babusisiwe labo abanxusiweyo edilini lomtshado weWundlu!” Yengeza yathi, “La ngamazwi aqotho kaNkulunkulu.” **10** Ngawela ezinyaweni zayo ngayikhonza. Kodwa yathi kimi, “Ungakwenzi lokhu! Mina ngiyincedu kanye lawe kanye labazalwane bakho abalobufakazi bukaJesu. Khonza uNkulunkulu! Ngoba ubufakazi bukaJesu bungumoya wesiphrofethi.” **11** Ngabona izulu livulekile njalo khonapho phambi kwami kwakulebhiza elimhlophe, umgadi walo ethiwa nguThembekile loQiniso. Wahlulela ngokulunga alwe impi. **12** Amehlo akhe anjengomlilo ovuthayo njalo ekhanda lakhe kulemiqhele eminengi. Ulebizo elilotshwe kuye elingaziwa muntu ngaphandle kwakhe yena ngokwakhe. **13** Ugoke isembatho esigxanyuzwe

egazini njalo ibizo lakhe nguLizwi likaNkulunkulu. **14** Amabutho asezulwini ayemlandela egade amabhiza amhlophe njalo egqoke ilineni elihle elimhlophe njalo lihlanzekile. **15** Emlonyeni wakhe kuphuma inkemba ebukhali agalela ngayo izizwe. “Uzazibusa ngentonga yensimbi.” Unyathela isikhazelo sewayini sentukuthelo yolaka lukaNkulunkulu uSomandla. **16** Esambathweni sakhe lasemlenzeni wakhe kulotshwe ibizo leli elithi: INkosi yamakhosi loMbusi wababusi. **17** Ngasengibona ingilosu imi elangeni eyamemezela ngelizwi elikhulu ezinyonini zonke ezazindiza emoyeni isithi, “Wozani lithubanele idili elikhulu likaNkulunkulu **18** ukuze lidle inyama yemizimba yamakhosi, eyezinduna zempi, eyamadoda alamandla, eyamabhiza labagadi bawo kanye leyabantu bonke abakhululekileyo lezigqili, abancane labakhulu.” **19** Ngabuya ngabona isilo lamakhosi asemhlabeni lamabutho awo ebuthanele ukulwa impi lomgadi webhiza kanye lebutho lakhe. **20** Kodwa isilo sathunjwa ndawonye lomphrofethi wamanga owayenze izibonakaliso ezimangalisayo emelel sona. Ngalezi zibonakaliso wabedukisa labo ababebekwe uphawu lwesilo bakhonza umfanekiso waso. Sona lomphrofethi wamanga baphoselwa bephila echibini lomlilo wesolufa ovuthayo. (Limmē Pyr g3041 g4442) **21** Abanye babo babulawa ngenkamba eyaphuma emlonyeni womgadi webhiza njalo izinyoni zonke zazitika ngenyama yemizimba yabo.

20 Ngasengibona ingilosu isehlela phansi isuka ezulwini ileshihluthulelo soMgodi ongelamkhwawulo iphethe ngesandla sayo iketane enkulu. (Abyssos g12) **2** Yabamba umgobho, inyoka leyana endala, engoMubi loba uSathane, yambopha okweminyaka eyinkulungwane. **3** Yamphosela eMgodini ongelamkhwawulo, yawuhluthulela, yawuvala silikici, ukumvimbela ukuba angakhohlisi izizwe futhi kuzo kuphele iminyaka eyinkulungwane. Emva kwalokho kumele akhululwe okwesikhathshana. (Abyssos g12) **4** Ngabona izihlalo zobukhosi okwakuhlezi kuzo labo ababephiwe amandla okwahlulela. Ngabona imiphfumulo yalabo ababephiwe amakhanda ngenxa yobufakazi bukaJesu langenxa yelizwi likaNkulunkulu. Babengasikhonzanga isilo loba umfanekiso waso njalo bengabekwanga uphawu lwaso emabunzini abo loba ezandleni zabo. Bavuka baphila njalo babusa loKhristu iminyaka eyinkulungwane. **5** (Imengi labafileyo kalivukanga kwaze kwaphela iminyaka eyinkulungwane.) Lokhu yikuvuka ekufeni kwakuqala. **6** Babusiswe njalo bangcwele labo abahlanganyela ekuvukeni kwakuqala. Ukufa kwesibili akulamandla phezu kwabo, kodwa bazakuba ngabaphristi bakaNkulunkulu labakaKhristu njalo bazabusa laye okweminyaka eyinkulungwane. **7** Iminyaka eyinkulungwane isidlule uSathane uzakuhlulwa entolongweni yakhe **8** aphume ukuyakhohlisa izizwe emagumbini womane omhlaba, uGogi loMagogi, ukuba abaqoqele empini. Ngobunengi bangangenhlabathi okhunjinini lolwandle. **9** Badabula phakathi komhlaba bahonqozela izihonqo zabantu bakaNkulunkulu, idolobho alithandayo. Kodwa kwehla umlilo uvela ezulwini wabaqothula. **10** Omubi owayebakhohlisile waphoselwa echibini lesolufa elivuthayo, lapho okwakuphoselwe khona isilo lomphrofethi wamanga. Bazakutsha emini lebusuku kuze kube nininini. (aiōn g165, Limmē Pyr g3041 g4442) **11** Ngabuya ngabona isihlalo sobukhosi esikhulu kanye lalowo owayehlezi kuso. Umhlaba lomkhathi kwabaleka phambi kwakhe, akwaze kwaba lendawo

yakho. **12** Ngasengibona abafileyo, abancane labakhulu, bemi phambi kwesihlalo sobukhosi, kwasekuvulwa izincwadi. Kwavulwa enye incwadi, eyincwadi yokuphila. Abafileyo bahlulelwa mayelana lalokho ababekwenzile okwakulotshwe ezincwadini. **13** Ulwandle lwakhupha abafileyo ababekulo, ukufa leHadesi kwakhupha abafileyo ababekulo, umuntu ngamunye wahlulelwa mayelana lalokho akwenzayo. (Hadēs g86) **14** Ukufa leHadesi kwaphoselwa echibini lomlilo. Ichibi lomlilo liyikufa kwesibili. (Hadēs g86, Limmē Pyr g3041 g4442) **15** Nxa umuntu ibizo lakhe lalitholakala lingalotshwanga encwadini yokuphila wayephoselwa echibini lomlilo. (Limmē Pyr g3041 g4442)

21 Ngabuya ngabona “izulu elitsha lomhlaba omutsha,” ngoba izulu lakuqala lomhlaba wakuqala kwasekudlule njalo ulwandle lwalungasekho. **2** Ngabona iDolobho eliNgcwele, iJerusalem elitsha, lisehlela phansi liphuma ezulwini kuNkulunkulu lilungiswe njengomlobokazi ececele umkakhe. **3** Ngezwa ilizwi elikhulu livela esihlalweni sobukhosi lisithi, “Khathezi ikhaya likaNkulunkulu selisebantwini, uzahlala labo. Bazakuba ngabantu bakhe njalo uNkulunkulu yena uqobo uzakuba labo abe nguNkulunkulu wabo. **4** Uzazesula zonke inyembezi emehlweni abo. Akusayikuba khona futhi ukufa loba ukulila loba ukukhala loba ubuhlungu ngoba umumo omdala wezinto usudlule.” **5** Lowo owayehlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi wathi, “Ngenxa izinto zonke zibe zintsha!” Wabuya wathi, “Kulobe lokhu ngoba amazwi la aqotho njalo aliqiniso.” **6** Wasesithi kimi, “Sekwenzakele. Ngingu-Alfa lo-Omega, isiQalo lesiPhetho. Lowo owomileyo ngizamnathisa emthonjeni wamanzi okuphila kungekho mbadalo. **7** Lowo onqobayo uzakudla ilifa lakho konke lokhu njalo ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wakhe yena abe yindodana yami. **8** Kodwa amagwala, abangakholwayo, abaxhwalileyo, ababalali, iziphingi, abathakathi, abakhonza izithombe labo bonke abaqamba amanga; indawo yabo izakuba sechibini lomlilo wesolufa ovuthayo. Lokhu yikufa kwesibili.” (Limmē Pyr g3041 g4442) **9** Enye yezingilosu ezizisikhombisa eyayilemiganu eyisikhombisa eyayigcwele izifo zokucina ezizisikhombisa yeza yathi kimi, “Woza, ngizakutshengisa umlobokazi, umkaWundlu.” **10** Yangithwala ngiseMoyeni yangisa entabeni enkulu ende yangitshengisa iDolobho eliNgcwele, iJerusalem lisehla liphuma ezulwini kuNkulunkulu. **11** Lakhanyisa ngenkazimulo kaNkulunkulu, ukucwebezela kwalo kwakufana lokwelitshwe eliligugu, njengejaspa, licwebezela njengeletshe elikhanyisayo. **12** Lalilomduli omkhulu, ophakemeyo lamasango alitshumi lambili kanye lezingilosu ezilitshumi lambili emasangweni. Emasangweni kwakulotshwe amabizo ezizwana ezilitshumi ngambili zaku-Israyeli. **13** Kwakulamasango amathathu ngasempumalanga, lamathathu ngasenyakatho, lamathathu ngaseningizimu, kanye lamathathu ngasentshonalanga. **14** Umduli wedolobho wawulezisekelo ezilitshumi lambili njalo phezu kwazo kwakulamasango abapostoli beWundlu abalitshumi lambili. **15** Ingilosu eyakhuluma lami yayilomqwayi wegolide owokulinganisa idolobho, amasango alo lomdluli walo. **16** Idolobho lalaxhiwe lalingana inxa zonke, lilide okungangobubanzi balo. Yalilinganisa idolobho ngomqwayi yathola lingaba ngamakhilomitha azinkulungwane ezimbili lamakhulu amabili ubude njalo libanzi liphakeme okulingana lobude balo. **17** Yalinganisa umdluli walo

isebenzisa isilinganiso sabantu, wawuzingalo ezilikhulu lamatshumi amane lane ubuqatha bawo. **18** Umdluli wawakhiwe ngejaspa, idolobho lakhiwe ngegolide elicengeke njengengilazi. **19** Izisekelo zemiduli yedolobho zaziciciswe ngezinhlobo zonke zamatshe aligugu. Isisekelo sakuqala sasiyijaspa, esesibili kuyisafire, esesithathu kuyikhalesedoni, esesine kuyi-amaralidi, **20** esesihlanu kuyisadonikisi, esesithupha kuyikhaneliyani, esesikhombisa kuyikhrisolithe, esesificaminwembili kuyibherili, esesificamunwemuye kuyithophazi, esetshumi kuyikhrisophirase, esetshumi lanye kuyiyasinti, esetshumi lambili kuyi-amethisithi. **21** Amasango alitshumi lambili ayengamatshe obuhlalu alitshumi lambili, isango ngalinye lenziwe ngelitshe elilodwa lobuhlalu. Umgwaqo omkhulu wedolobho wawuligolide elicengekileyo njengengilazi elibonisa okungale kwalo. **22** Kangibonanga thempeli edolobheni ngoba iNkosi uNkulunkulu uSomandla leWundlu balithempeli lalo. **23** Idolobho kalisweli langa loba inyanga yokukhanyisa kulo ngoba inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu ilinika ukukhanya leWundlu liyisibane salo. **24** Izizwe zizahamba ekukhanyeni kwalo lamakhosi omhlaba azaletsa ubukhazikhazi bawo kulo. **25** Akulasuku lapho amasango alo azake avalwe ngalo ngoba akuyikuba lobusuku khona. **26** Inkazimulo lodumo lwezizwe kuzalethwa kulo. **27** Akulalutho olungcolileyo oluzake lungene kulo, loba ngubani owenza amanyala kumbe inkohliso, kodwa labo kuphela abalamabizo abo alotshwe encwadini yokuphila yeWundlu.

22 Ingilosi yasingitshengisa umfula wamanzi okuphila acengekileyo kakhulu egeleza evela esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaNkulunkulu leseWundlu **2** esehla ephakathi komgwaqo omkhulu wedolobho. Eceleni ngalinye lomfula kwakulesihlahla sokuphila sithela izithelo ezilitshumi lambili, sithela izithelo zaso nyanga zonke. Amahlamvu esihlahla leso ngawokwelapha izizwe. **3** Akusoze kube lesiqalekiso futhi. Isihlalo sobukhosi sikaNkulunkulu leseWundlu zizakuba sedolobheni njalo izinceku zakhe zizamkhonza. **4** Zizabubona ubuso bakhe lebizu lakhe lizakuba semabunzini azo. **5** Akusayikuba lobusuku futhi. Kaziyikukuswela ukukhanya kwesibane loba okwelanga ngoba iNkosi uNkulunkulu izazikhanyisela. Njalo zizabusa kuze kube nininini. (aiōn q165) **6** Ingilosi yasisithi kimi, “Amazwi la aqotho njalo aliqiniso. INkosi, uNkulunkulu wemimoya yabaphrofethi wathuma ingilosi yakhe ukuba itshengise izinceku zakhe izinto okumele zenzakale masinyane.” **7** “Khangelani, ngiyeza masinyane! Ubusisiwe lowo ogcina amazwi esiphrofethi asencwadini le.” **8** Mina Johane, yimi engazibonayo njalo ngazizwa izinto lezi. Kwathi lapho sengizwile njalo ngazibona, ngawela phansi ukuba ngikhonze ezinyaweni zengilosi eyayingitshengisa zona. **9** Kodwa yathi kimi, “Ungakwenzi lokhu! Mina ngiyinceku njengawe kanye labazalwane bakho abaphrofethi labo bonke abagcina amazwi encwadi le. Khonza uNkulunkulu!” **10** Yabuya yathi kimi, “Ungawagciki amazwi esiphrofethi sencwadi le, ngoba isikhathi sesiseduze. **11** Owenza okubi kaqhubeke esenza okubi; oxhwalileyo kaqhubeke ngokuxhwala; olungileyo kaqhubeke esenza okulungileyo; njalo ongcwele kaqhubeke engcwele.” **12** “Khangelani, ngiyeza masinyane! Ngilomvuzo wami, njalo ngizakupha umuntu munye ngamunye ngalokho akwenzayo. **13** Ngingu-Alfa lo-Omega, ngiyiKuqala loKucina, isiQalo lesiPhetho. **14** Babusisiwe labo abagezisa izembatho zabo ukuze babe lelungelo esihlahleni sokuphila njalo

bangene ngesango edolobheni. **15** Ngaphandle kulezinja, labo abenza imisebenzi yobuthakathi, izifebe ezixhwalileyo, lababulali, labakhonza izithombe labo bonke abathanda inkohliso njalo beyenza. **16** Mina Jesu, ngithume ingilosi yami ukuba ilinike ubufakazi lobu emabandleni. NgiyiMpande leNzalo kaDavida, kanye leNdonsakusa ekhanyayo.” **17** UMoya lomlobokazi bathi, “Woza!” Ozwayo katsho athi, “Woza!” Loba ngubani owomileyo, keze; njalo loba ngubani ofisayo, kathathe isipho esingahlawulelwayo samanzi okuphila. **18** Ngiyabaxwayisa bonke abezwa amazwi esiphrofethi sencwadi le: Nxa umuntu ezakwengeza olunye ulutho kuwo, uNkulunkulu uzazengeza kuye izifo ezibaliswe kule incwadi. **19** Njalo nxa umuntu esusa amazwi kule incwadi yesiphrofethi, uNkulunkulu uzamthathela isabelo sakhe esihlahleni sokuphila laseDolobheni eliNgcwele, okubaliswe kule incwadi. **20** Yena lowo ofakaza izinto lezi uthi, “Yebo, ngiyeza masinyane.” Ameni. Woza, Nkosi Jesu. **21** Umusa weNkosi uJesu kawube sebantwini bakaNkulunkulu. Ameni.



Ngabona iDolobho eliNgcwele, iJerusalema elitsha, lisehlela phansi liphuma ezulwini kuNkulunkulu lilungiswe njengomlobokazi ececele umkakhe. Ngezwa ilizwi elikhulu livela esihlalweni sobukhosi lisithi, "Khathezi ikhaya likaNkulunkulu selisebantwini, uzahlala labo.

*Bazakuba ngabantu bakhe njalo uNkulunkulu yena uqobo
uzakuba labo abe nguNkulunkulu wabo.*

Isambulo 21:2-3

Isiqondiso sabafundayo

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The Aionian Bible republishes public domain and Creative Common Bible texts that are 100% free to copy and print. The original translation is unaltered and notes are added to help your study. The notes show the location of eleven special Greek and Hebrew Aionian Glossary words to help us better understand God's love for individuals and for all mankind, and the nature of afterlife destinies.

Who has the authority to interpret the Bible and examine the underlying Hebrew and Greek words? That is a good question! We read in 1 John 2:27, *"As for you, the anointing which you received from him remains in you, and you do not need for anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is no lie, and even as it taught you, you remain in him."* Every Christian is qualified to interpret the Bible! Now that does not mean we will all agree. Each of us is still growing in our understanding of the truth. However, it does mean that there is no infallible human or tradition to answer all our questions. Instead the Holy Spirit helps each of us to know the truth and grow closer to God and each other.

The Bible is a library with 66 books in the Protestant Canon. The best way to learn God's word is to read entire books. Read the book of Genesis. Read the book of John. Read the entire Bible library. Topical studies and cross-referencing can be good. However, the safest way to understand context and meaning is to read whole Bible books. Chapter and verse numbers were added for convenience in the 16th century, but unfortunately they can cause the Bible to seem like an encyclopedia. The Aionian Bible is formatted with simple verse numbering, minimal notes, and no cross-referencing in order to encourage the reading of Bible books.

Bible reading must also begin with prayer. Any Christian is qualified to interpret the Bible with God's help. However, this freedom is also a responsibility because without the Holy Spirit we cannot interpret accurately. We read in 1 Corinthians 2:13-14, *"And we speak of these things, not with words taught by human wisdom, but with those taught by the Spirit, comparing spiritual things with spiritual things. Now the natural person does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned."* So we cannot understand in our natural self, but we can with God's help through prayer.

The Holy Spirit is the best writer and he uses literary devices such as introductions, conclusions, paragraphs, and metaphors. He also writes various genres including historical narrative, prose, and poetry. So Bible study must spiritually discern and understand literature. Pray, read, observe, interpret, and apply. Finally, *"Do your best to present yourself approved by God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, properly handling the word of truth."* 2 Timothy 2:15. *"God has granted to us his precious and exceedingly great promises; that through these you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world by lust. Yes, and for this very cause adding on your part all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence; and in moral excellence, knowledge; and in knowledge, self-control; and in self-control patience; and in patience godliness; and in godliness brotherly affection; and in brotherly affection, love. For if these things are yours and abound, they make you to be not idle nor unfruitful to the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ,"* 2 Peter 1:4-8.

Uhlelo Iwamagama

Ndebele at AionianBible.org/Glossary

The Aionian Bible un-translates and instead transliterates eleven special words to help us better understand the extent of God's love for individuals and all mankind, and the nature of afterlife destinies. The original translation is unaltered and a note is added to 64 Old Testament and 200 New Testament verses. Compare the meanings below to the Strong's Concordance and Glossary definitions.

Abyssos g12

Greek: proper noun, place

Usage: 9 times in 3 books, 6 chapters, and 9 verses

Meaning:

Temporary prison for special fallen angels such as Apollyon, the Beast, and Satan.

aidios g126

Greek: adjective

Usage: 2 times in Romans 1:20 and Jude 6

Meaning:

Lasting, enduring forever, eternal.

aiōn g165

Greek: noun

Usage: 127 times in 22 books, 75 chapters, and 102 verses

Meaning:

A lifetime or time period with a beginning and end, an era, an age, the completion of which is beyond human perception, but known only to God the creator of the aiōns, Hebrews 1:2. Never meaning simple endless or infinite chronological time in Greek usage. Read Dr. Heleen Keizer and Ramelli and Konstan for proofs.

aiōnios g166

Greek: adjective

Usage: 71 times in 19 books, 44 chapters, and 69 verses

Meaning:

From start to finish, pertaining to the age, lifetime, entirety, complete, or even consummate. Never meaning simple endless or infinite chronological time in Koine Greek usage. Read Dr. Heleen Keizer and Ramelli and Konstan for proofs.

eleēsē g1653

Greek: verb, aorist tense, active voice, subjunctive mood, 3rd person singular

Usage: 1 time in this conjugation, Romans 11:32

Meaning:

To have pity on, to show mercy. Typically, the subjunctive mood indicates possibility, not certainty. However, a subjunctive in a purpose clause is a resulting action as certain as the causal action. The subjunctive in a purpose clause functions as an indicative, not an optative. Thus, the grand conclusion of grace theology in Romans 11:32 must be clarified. God's mercy on all is not a possibility, but a certainty. See ntgreek.org.

Geenna g1067

Greek: proper noun, place

Usage: 12 times in 4 books, 7 chapters, and 12 verses

Meaning:

Valley of Hinnom, Jerusalem's trash dump, a place of ruin, destruction, and judgment in this life, or the next, though not eternal to Jesus' audience.

Hadēs g86

Greek: proper noun, place

Usage: 11 times in 5 books, 9 chapters, and 11 verses

Meaning:

Synonymous with Sheol, though in New Testament usage Hades is the temporal place of punishment for deceased unbelieving mankind, distinct from Paradise for deceased believers.

Limnē Pyr g3041 g4442

Greek: proper noun, place

Usage: Phrase 5 times in the New Testament

Meaning:

Lake of Fire, final punishment for those not named in the Book of Life, prepared for the Devil and his angels, Matthew 25:41.

Sheol h7585

Hebrew: proper noun, place

Usage: 66 times in 17 books, 50 chapters, and 64 verses

Meaning:

The grave or temporal afterlife world of both the righteous and unrighteous, believing and unbelieving, until the general resurrection.

Tartaroō g5020

Greek: proper noun, place

Usage: 1 time in 2 Peter 2:4

Meaning:

Temporary prison for particular fallen angels awaiting final judgment.

Uhlelo lwamagama +

AionianBible.org/Bibles/Ndebele---Accessible-Bible/Noted

Glossary references are below. Strong's Hebrew and Greek number notes are added to 64 Old Testament and 200 New Testament verses. Questioned verse translations do not contain Aionian Glossary words and may wrongly imply *eternal* or *Hell*. * The note placement is skipped or adjusted for verses with non-standard numbering.

Abyssos

ULukha 8:31
KwabaseRoma 10:7
Isambulo 9:1
Isambulo 9:2
Isambulo 9:11
Isambulo 11:7
Isambulo 17:8
Isambulo 20:1
Isambulo 20:3

aidios

KwabaseRoma 1:20
UJuda 1:6

aiōn

UMathewu 12:32
UMathewu 13:22
UMathewu 13:39
UMathewu 13:40
UMathewu 13:49
UMathewu 21:19
UMathewu 24:3
UMathewu 28:20
UMakho 3:29
UMakho 4:19
UMakho 10:30
UMakho 11:14
ULukha 1:33
ULukha 1:55
ULukha 1:70
ULukha 16:8
ULukha 18:30
ULukha 20:34
ULukha 20:35
UJohane 4:14
UJohane 6:51
UJohane 6:58
UJohane 8:35
UJohane 8:51
UJohane 8:52
UJohane 9:32
UJohane 10:28
UJohane 11:26
UJohane 12:34
UJohane 13:8
UJohane 14:16

Imisebenzi 3:21
Imisebenzi 15:18
KwabaseRoma 1:25
KwabaseRoma 9:5
KwabaseRoma 11:36
KwabaseRoma 12:2
KwabaseRoma 16:27
1 KwabaseKhorinte 1:20
1 KwabaseKhorinte 2:6
1 KwabaseKhorinte 2:7
1 KwabaseKhorinte 2:8
1 KwabaseKhorinte 3:18
1 KwabaseKhorinte 8:13
1 KwabaseKhorinte 10:11
2 Kwabasekhorinte 4:4
2 Kwabasekhorinte 9:9
2 Kwabasekhorinte 11:31
KwabaseGalathiya 1:4
KwabaseGalathiya 1:5
Kwabase-Efesu 1:21
Kwabase-Efesu 2:2
Kwabase-Efesu 2:7
Kwabase-Efesu 3:9
Kwabase-Efesu 3:11
Kwabase-Efesu 3:21
Kwabase-Efesu 6:12
KwabaseFiliphi 4:20
KwabaseKholose 1:26
1 KuThimothi 1:17
1 KuThimothi 6:17
2 KuThimothi 4:10
2 KuThimothi 4:18
KuThithusi 2:12
KumaHebheru 1:2
KumaHebheru 1:8
KumaHebheru 5:6
KumaHebheru 6:5
KumaHebheru 6:20
KumaHebheru 7:17
KumaHebheru 7:21
KumaHebheru 7:24
KumaHebheru 7:28
KumaHebheru 9:26
KumaHebheru 11:3
KumaHebheru 13:8
KumaHebheru 13:21
1 UPhetro 1:23

1 UPhetro 1:25
1 UPhetro 4:11
1 UPhetro 5:11
2 UPhetro 3:18
1 UJohane 2:17
2 UJohane 1:2
UJuda 1:13
UJuda 1:25
Isambulo 1:6
Isambulo 1:18
Isambulo 4:9
Isambulo 4:10
Isambulo 5:13
Isambulo 7:12
Isambulo 10:6
Isambulo 11:15
Isambulo 14:11
Isambulo 15:7
Isambulo 19:3
Isambulo 20:10
Isambulo 22:5

aiōnios

UMathewu 18:8
UMathewu 19:16
UMathewu 19:29
UMathewu 25:41
UMathewu 25:46
UMakho 3:29
UMakho 10:17
UMakho 10:30
ULukha 10:25
ULukha 16:9
ULukha 18:18
ULukha 18:30
UJohane 3:15
UJohane 3:16
UJohane 3:36
UJohane 4:14
UJohane 4:36
UJohane 5:24
UJohane 5:39
UJohane 6:27
UJohane 6:40
UJohane 6:47
UJohane 6:54
UJohane 6:68

UJohane 10:28
UJohane 12:25
UJohane 12:50
UJohane 17:2
UJohane 17:3
Imisebenzi 13:46
Imisebenzi 13:48
KwabaseRoma 2:7
KwabaseRoma 5:21
KwabaseRoma 6:22
KwabaseRoma 6:23
KwabaseRoma 16:25
KwabaseRoma 16:26
2 Kwabasekhorinte 4:17
2 Kwabasekhorinte 4:18
2 Kwabasekhorinte 5:1
KwabaseGalathiya 6:8
2 KwabaseThesalonika 1:9
2 KwabaseThesalonika 2:16
1 KuThimothi 1:16
1 KuThimothi 6:12
1 KuThimothi 6:16
2 KuThimothi 1:9
2 KuThimothi 2:10
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KuThithusi 3:7
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KumaHebheru 5:9
KumaHebheru 6:2
KumaHebheru 9:12
KumaHebheru 9:14
KumaHebheru 9:15
KumaHebheru 13:20
1 UPetro 5:10
2 UPetro 1:11
1 UJohane 1:2
1 UJohane 2:25
1 UJohane 3:15
1 UJohane 5:11
1 UJohane 5:13
1 UJohane 5:20
UJuda 1:7
UJuda 1:21
Isambulo 14:6

eleēsē

KwabaseRoma 11:32

Geenna

UMathewu 5:22
UMathewu 5:29
UMathewu 5:30
UMathewu 10:28
UMathewu 18:9
UMathewu 23:15
UMathewu 23:33
UMakho 9:43

UMakho 9:45
UMakho 9:47
ULukha 12:5
UJakhobe 3:6

Hadēs

UMathewu 11:23
UMathewu 16:18
ULukha 10:15
ULukha 16:23
Imisebenzi 2:27
Imisebenzi 2:31
1 KwabaseKhorinte 15:55
Isambulo 1:18
Isambulo 6:8
Isambulo 20:13
Isambulo 20:14

Limnē Pyr

Isambulo 19:20
Isambulo 20:10
Isambulo 20:14
Isambulo 20:15
Isambulo 21:8

Sheol

UGenesisi 37:35
UGenesisi 42:38
UGenesisi 44:29
UGenesisi 44:31
Amanani 16:30
Amanani 16:33
UDutheronomi 32:22
1 USamuyeli 2:6
2 USamuyeli 22:6
1 Amakhosi 2:6
1 Amakhosi 2:9
UJobe 7:9
UJobe 11:8
UJobe 14:13
UJobe 17:13
UJobe 17:16
UJobe 21:13
UJobe 24:19
UJobe 26:6

Amahubo 6:5
Amahubo 9:17
Amahubo 16:10
Amahubo 18:5
Amahubo 30:3
Amahubo 31:17
Amahubo 49:14
Amahubo 49:15
Amahubo 55:15
Amahubo 86:13
Amahubo 88:3
Amahubo 89:48

Amahubo 116:3
Amahubo 139:8
Amahubo 141:7
Izaga 1:12
Izaga 5:5
Izaga 7:27
Izaga 9:18
Izaga 15:11
Izaga 15:24
Izaga 23:14
Izaga 27:20
Izaga 30:16
UmTshumayeli 9:10
Ingoma Yezingoma 8:6
U-Isaya 5:14
U-Isaya 7:11
U-Isaya 14:9
U-Isaya 14:11
U-Isaya 14:15
U-Isaya 28:15
U-Isaya 28:18
U-Isaya 38:10
U-Isaya 38:18
U-Isaya 57:9
UHezekheli 31:15
UHezekheli 31:16
UHezekheli 31:17
UHezekheli 32:21
UHezekheli 32:27
UHoseya 13:14
U-Amosi 9:2
UJona 2:2
UHabakhukhi 2:5

Tartaroō

2 UPetro 2:4

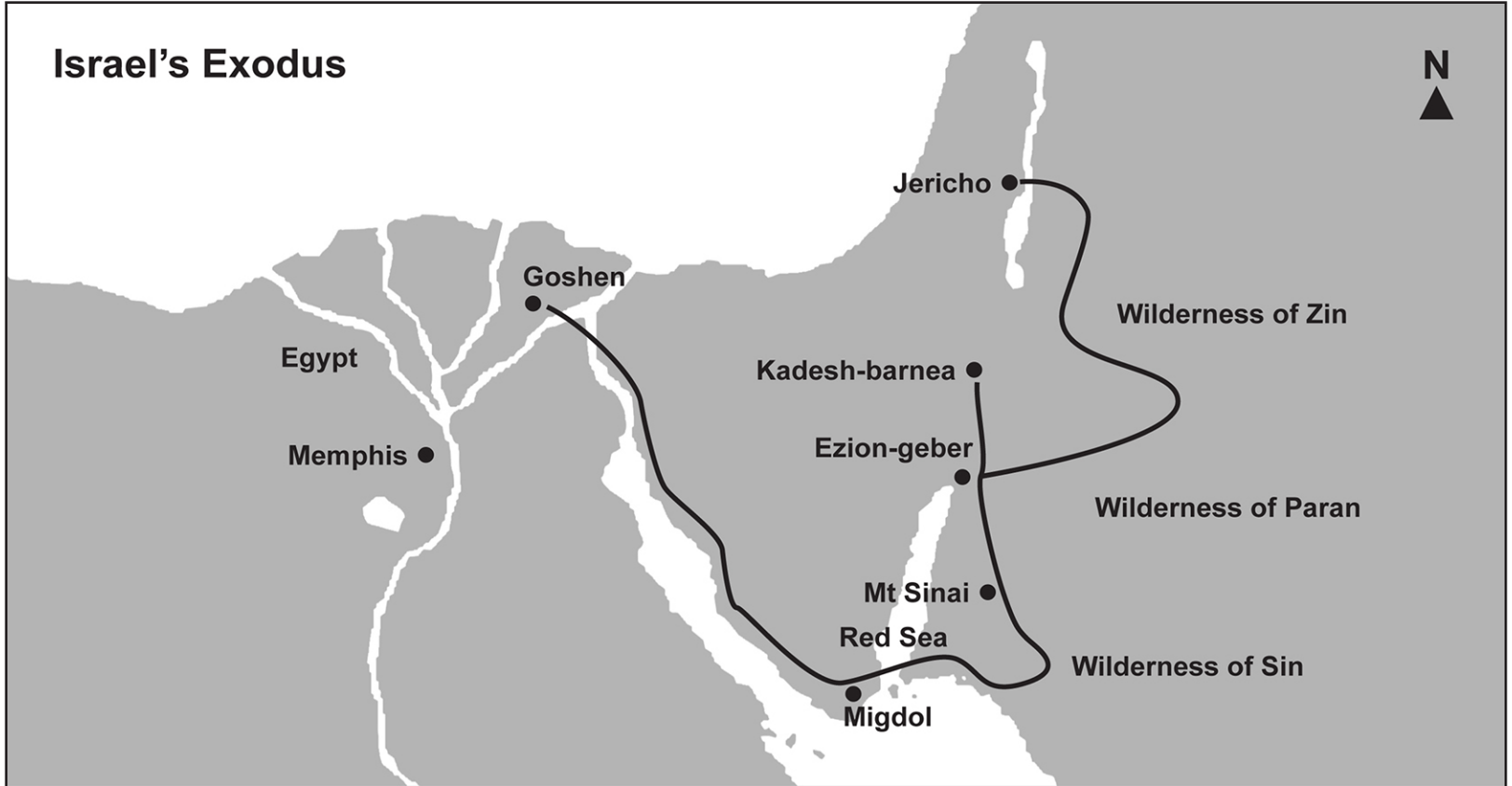
Questioned

1 Amakhosi 8:51
UMathewu 13:42
UMathewu 13:50

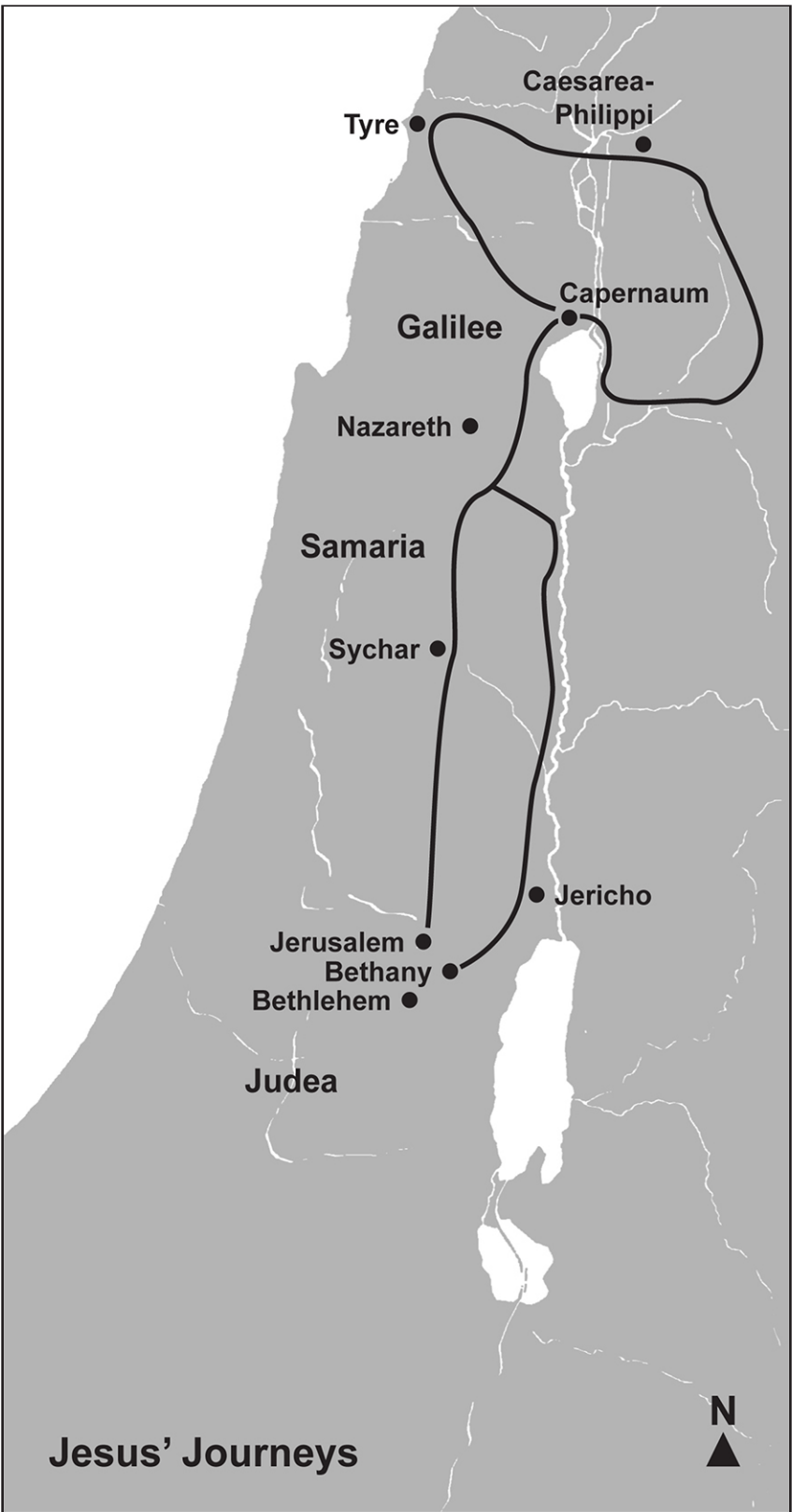


Ngokukholwa u-Abrahama esebizelwe ukuba aye endaweni ayezayamukela muva njengelifa lakhe, walalela wahamba, lanxa wayengakwazi lapho ayesiya khona. - KumaHebheru 11:8

Israel's Exodus



*UFaro esebavumele abantu ukuthi bahambe, uNkulunkulu kabakhokhelanga ngendlela edabula elizweni lamaFilistiya loba yona yayiquma.
Ngoba uNkulunkulu wathi, "Nxabehlangana lempi mhlawumbe bangethuka babuyele eGibhithe." - U-Eksodusi 13:17*



Ngoba leNcedana yoMuntu kayibuyelanga ukuzokonzwa, kodwa ukuzokhonza lokunikela impilo yayo njengenhlawulo yabanengi. - UMakho 10:45



UPhawuli, inceku kaKhristu uJesu, owabizelwa ukuba ngumpostoli njalo wahlukaniselwa ivangeli likaNkulunkulu, - KwabaseRoma 1:1

Creation 4004 B.C.

Adam and Eve created	4004
Tubal-cain forges metal	3300
Enoch walks with God	3017
Methuselah dies at age 969	2349
God floods the Earth	2349
Tower of Babel thwarted	2247
Abraham sojourns to Canaan	1922
Jacob moves to Egypt	1706
Moses leads Exodus from Egypt	1491
Gideon judges Israel	1245
Ruth embraces the God of Israel	1168
David installed as King	1055
King Solomon builds the Temple	1018
Elijah defeats Baal's prophets	896
Jonah preaches to Nineveh	800
Assyrians conquer Israelites	721
King Josiah reforms Judah	630
Babylonians capture Judah	605
Persians conquer Babylonians	539
Cyrus frees Jews, rebuilds Temple	537
Nehemiah rebuilds the wall	454
Malachi prophecies the Messiah	416
Greeks conquer Persians	331
Seleucids conquer Greeks	312
Hebrew Bible translated to Greek	250
Maccabees defeat Seleucids	165
Romans subject Judea	63
Herod the Great rules Judea	37

(The Annals of the World, James Uusher)

Jesus Christ born 4 B.C.

New Heavens and Earth

1956	Christ returns for his people
1830	Jim Elliot martyrd in Ecuador
1731	John Williams reaches Polynesia
1614	Zinzendorf leads Moravian mission
1572	Japanese kill 40,000 Christians
1517	Jesuits reach Mexico
1455	Martin Luther leads Reformation
1323	Gutenberg prints first Bible
1276	Franciscans reach Sumatra
1100	Ramon Llull trains missionaries
1054	Crusades tarnish the church
997	The Great Schism
864	Adalbert martyrd in Prussia
716	Bulgarian Prince Boris converts
635	Boniface reaches Germany
569	Alopen reaches China
432	Longinus reaches Alodia / Sudan
397	Saint Patrick reaches Ireland
341	Carthage ratifies Bible Canon
325	Ulfilas reaches Goth / Romania
250	Niceae proclaims God is Trinity
197	Denis reaches Paris, France
70	Tertullian writes Christian literature
61	Titus destroys the Jewish Temple
52	Paul imprisoned in Rome, Italy
39	Thomas reaches Malabar, India
33	Peter reaches Gentile Cornelius
	Holy Spirit empowers the Church

(Wikipedia, Timeline of Christian missions)

Resurrected 33 A.D.

What are we? ▶			Genesis 1:26 - 2:3		Mankind is created in God's image, male and female He created us																																		
How are we sinful? ▶			Romans 5:12-19		Sin entered the world through Adam and then death through sin																																		
Where are we? ▶			When are we? ▼																																				
			Innocence		Fallen			Glory																															
▶			Eternity Past	Creation 4004 B.C.	Fall to sin No Law	Moses' Law 1500 B.C.	Christ 33 A.D.	Church Age Kingdom Age	New Heavens and Earth																														
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Why are we? ▶			Romans 11:25-36, Ephesian 2:7		For God has bound all over to disobedience in order to show mercy to all																																		

Isiphetho

Ndebele at AionianBible.org/Destiny

The Aionian Bible shows the location of eleven special Greek and Hebrew Aionian Glossary words to help us better understand God's love for individuals and for all mankind, and the nature of after-life destinies. The underlying Hebrew and Greek words typically translated as *Hell* show us that there are not just two after-life destinies, Heaven or Hell. Instead, there are a number of different locations, each with different purposes, different durations, and different inhabitants. Locations include 1) Old Testament *Sheol* and New Testament *Hadēs*, 2) *Geenna*, 3) *Tartaroō*, 4) *Abyssos*, 5) *Limnē Pyr*, 6) *Paradise*, 7) *The New Heaven*, and 8) *The New Earth*. So there is reason to review our conclusions about the destinies of redeemed mankind and fallen angels.

The key observation is that fallen angels will be present at the final judgment, 2 Peter 2:4 and Jude 6. Traditionally, we understand the separation of the Sheep and the Goats at the final judgment to divide believing from unbelieving mankind, Matthew 25:31-46 and Revelation 20:11-15. However, the presence of fallen angels alternatively suggests that Jesus is separating redeemed mankind from the fallen angels. We do know that Jesus is the helper of mankind and not the helper of the Devil, Hebrews 2. We also know that Jesus has atoned for the sins of all mankind, both believer and unbeliever alike, 1 John 2:1-2. Deceased believers are rewarded in Paradise, Luke 23:43, while unbelievers are punished in Hades as the story of Lazarus makes plain, Luke 16:19-31. Yet less commonly known, the punishment of this selfish man and all unbelievers is before the final judgment, is temporal, and is punctuated when Hades is evacuated, Revelation 20:13. So is there hope beyond Hades for unbelieving mankind? Jesus promised, *"the gates of Hades will not prevail,"* Matthew 16:18. Paul asks, *"Hades where is your victory?"* 1 Corinthians 15:55. John wrote, *"Hades gives up,"* Revelation 20:13.

Jesus comforts us saying, *"Do not be afraid,"* because he holds the keys to *unlock* death and Hades, Revelation 1:18. Yet too often our *Good News* sounds like a warning to *"be afraid"* because Jesus holds the keys to *lock* Hades! Wow, we have it backwards! Hades will be evacuated! And to guarantee hope, once emptied, Hades is thrown into the Lake of Fire, never needed again, Revelation 20:14.

Finally, we read that anyone whose name is not written in the Book of Life is thrown into the Lake of Fire, the second death, with no exit ever mentioned or promised, Revelation 21:1-8. So are those evacuated from Hades then, *"out of the frying pan, into the fire?"* Certainly, the Lake of Fire is the destiny of the Goats. But, do not be afraid. Instead, read the Bible's explicit mention of the purpose of the Lake of Fire and the identity of the Goats, *"Then he will say also to those on the left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the consummate fire which is prepared for... the devil and his angels,'"* Matthew 25:41. Bad news for the Devil. Good news for all mankind!

Faith is not a pen to write your own name in the Book of Life. Instead, faith is the glasses to see that the love of Christ for all mankind has already written our names in Heaven. Jesus said, *"You did not choose me, but I chose you,"* John 15:16. Though unbelievers will suffer regrettable punishment in Hades, redeemed mankind will never enter the Lake of Fire, prepared for the devil and his angels. And as God promised, all mankind will worship Christ together forever, Philipians 2:9-11.



Ngakho hambani lenze abafundi ezizweni zonke, libabhaphathize ebizweni likaBaba, leleNdodana lelikaMoya oNgcwele, - UMathewu 28:19