

by this time tomorrow I have not made you like one of them."

³Frightened,^c he fled at once for his life. He came to Beer-sheba, which is in Judah, and left his servant there; ⁴he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush and sat down under it, and prayed that he might die. "Enough!" he cried. "Now, O LORD, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers."

⁵He lay down and fell asleep under a broom bush. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Arise and eat." ⁶He looked about; and there, beside his head, was a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water! He ate and drank, and lay down again. ⁷The angel of the LORD came a second time and touched him and said, "Arise and eat, or the journey will be too much for you." ⁸He arose and ate and drank; and with the strength from that meal he walked forty days and forty nights as far as the mountain of God at Horeb. ⁹There he went into a cave, and there he spent the night.

Then the word of the LORD came to him. He said to him, "Why are you here, Elijah?" ¹⁰He replied, "I am moved by zeal for the LORD, the God of Hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and put Your prophets to the sword. I alone am left, and they are out to take my life." ¹¹"Come out," He called, "and stand on the mountain before the LORD."

And lo, the LORD passed by. There was a great and mighty wind, splitting mountains and shattering rocks by the power of the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind—an earthquake; but the LORD was not in the earthquake. ¹²After the earthquake—fire; but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire—a soft murmuring sound.^d ¹³When Elijah heard

יוסף פון פריכעט מחל אשים את-נפשו
בנפש אחד מהם:

³ וירא * ויקם וילך אל-נפשו ויבא באר
שבע אשר ליהודה וינח את-נערו שם:
⁴ והוא-הלך במדבר יום ויבא וישב
תחת רתם אחת אחד וישאל את-נפשו
למות ויאמר | רב עתה יהיה קח נפשי
כי-לא-טוב אנכי מאבתי:

⁵ וישכב וישן תחת רתם אחד והנה-זה
מלאך נגע בו ויאמר לו קום אכול: ⁶ ויבט
והנה מראשיתו עגת רצפים וצפחת מים
ויאכל וישת וישב וישכב: ⁷ וישב מלאך
יהוה | שנית ויגע-בו ויאמר קום אכל
כי רב ממך הדרך: ⁸ ויקם ויאכל וישתה
וילך בכח | האכילה הליא ארבעים יום
וארבעים לילה עד הר האלהים חרב:

⁹ ויבא-שם אל-המערה וילן שם
והנה דבר-יהוה אליו ויאמר לו מה-לך
פה אליהו: ¹⁰ ויאמר קנא קנאתי ליהוה |
אלהי צבאות כי-עזבו בריתך בני ישראל
את-מזבחתך הרסו ואת-נביאיך הרגו
בחרב ואותך אני לבדי ויבקשו את-נפשי
לקחתה: ¹¹ ויאמר צא ועמדת בהר לפני
יהוה:

והנה יהוה עבר ורוח גדולה וחזק מפרק
הרים ומשבר סלעים לפני יהוה לא
ברוח יהוה ואחר הרוח רעש לא ברעש
יהוה: ¹² ואחר הרעש אש לא באש יהוה
ואחר האש קול דממה דקה: ¹³ ויהי |
בשמע אליהו וילט פניו באדמתו ויצא

^c So many Heb. mss. and Septuagint; most mss., and the editions, read "And he saw, and."

^d Others "a still, small voice."

it, he wrapped his mantle about his face and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then a voice addressed him: "Why are you here, Elijah?" ¹⁴He answered, "I am moved by zeal for the LORD, the God of Hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and have put Your prophets to the sword. I alone am left, and they are out to take my life."

¹⁵The LORD said to him, "Go back by the way you came, [and] on to the wilderness of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael as king of Aram. ¹⁶Also anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king of Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah to succeed you as prophet. ¹⁷Whoever escapes the sword of Hazael shall be slain by Jehu, and whoever escapes the sword of Jehu shall be slain by Elisha. ¹⁸I will leave in Israel only seven thousand—every knee that has not knelt to Baal and every mouth that has not kissed him."

¹⁹He set out from there and came upon Elisha son of Shaphat as he was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah came over to him and threw his mantle over him. ²⁰He left the oxen and ran after Elijah, saying: "Let me kiss my father and mother good-bye, and I will follow you." And he answered him, "Go back. What have I done to you?" ^e ²¹He turned back from him and took the yoke of oxen and slaughtered them; he boiled ^ftheir meat ^fwith the gears of the oxen and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and followed Elijah and became his attendant.

20 King Ben-hadad of Aram gathered his whole army; thirty-two kings accompanied him with horses and chariots. He advanced against Samaria, laid siege to it, and attacked it. ²And

וַיַּעֲמֵד פָּתַח הַמְּעָרָה וַהֲנֶה אֵלָיו קוֹל וַיֹּאמֶר מִה־לָּךְ פֹּה אֵלֶיךָ: ¹⁴ וַיֹּאמֶר קָנָא קָנָאתִי לַיהוָה אֱלֹהֵי צִבְאוֹת כִּי־עָזְבוּ בְרִיתְךָ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת־מִזְבְּחֶיךָ הָרְסוּ וְאֶת־נְבִיאֶיךָ הָרְגוּ בַּחֶרֶב וְאֹתָךְ אָנִי לְבַדִּי וַיִּבְקְשׁוּ אֶת־נַפְשִׁי לְקַחְתָּהּ: ¹⁵ וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֵלָיו לֵךְ שׁוּב לְדֶרֶכְךָ מִדְּבָרָה דְּמָשֶׁק וּבָאתָ וּמַשַּׁחְתָּ אֶת־חֲזָאֵל לְמֶלֶךְ עַל־אַרָם: ¹⁶ וְאֵת יְהוּ בֶן־נִמְשִׁי תַמְשֵׁחַ לְמֶלֶךְ עַל־יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאֶת־אֵלִישָׁע בֶּן־שַׁפְטַי מֵאֲבֵל מְחֹלָה תַמְשֵׁחַ לְנָבִיא תַחְתֶּיךָ: ¹⁷ וְהָיָה הַנִּמְלָט מִחֶרֶב חֲזָאֵל יָמִית יְהוּ וְהַנִּמְלָט מִחֶרֶב יְהוּ יָמִית אֵלִישָׁע: ¹⁸ וְהִשְׁאֲרֵתִי בְיִשְׂרָאֵל שְׁבַע־עַת אֲלָפִים כָּל־הַבְּרָכִים אֲשֶׁר לֹא־כָרְעוּ לַבַּעַל וְכָל־הַפֶּה אֲשֶׁר לֹא־נָשָׁק לוֹ: ¹⁹ וַיֵּלֶךְ מֹשֶׁם וַיִּמָּצֵא אֶת־אֵלִישָׁע בֶּן־שַׁפְטַי וְהוּא חֹרֵשׁ שְׁנַיִם־עָשָׂר צִמְדִּים לִפְנָיו וְהוּא בְּשָׁנִים הָעָשָׂר וַיַּעֲבֹר אֵלָיו וַיִּשְׁלַח אֶדְרֵתּוֹ אֵלָיו: ²⁰ וַיַּעֲזֹב אֶת־הַבָּקָר וַיֵּרָץ אַחֲרָיו אֵלָיו וַיֹּאמֶר אֲשַׁקֶּה־נָּא לְאָבִי וּלְאִמִּי וְאֶלְכָה אַחֲרֶיךָ וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ לֵךְ שׁוּב כִּי מִה־עַשִׂיתִי לָךְ: ²¹ וַיֵּשֶׁב מֵאַחֲרָיו וַיִּקַּח אֶת־צִמְדֵי הַבָּקָר וַיִּזְבַּחֲהוּ וַיִּבְבֵּלִי הַבָּקָר בְּשֶׁלֶם הַבָּשָׂר וַיִּתֵּן לָעָם וַיֹּאכְלוּ וַיִּקֶּם וַיֵּלֶךְ אַחֲרָיו אֵלָיו וַיִּשְׁרְתֵהוּ: פ

כ וּבֶן־הַדָּד מֶלֶךְ־אַרָם קָבַץ אֶת־כָּל־חֵילוֹ וּשְׁלָשִׁים וּשְׁנַיִם מְלָךְ אִתּוֹ וְסוּס וְרֶכֶב וַיַּעַל וַיִּצֹר עַל־שַׁמְרוֹן וַיִּלָּחֶם בָּהּ:

^e I.e., I am not stopping you.

^{f-f} Lit. "them, the flesh."

^g I.e., using it as firewood; cf. 2 Sam. 24.22.