

sport : and they set him between the pillars.

26 And Samson said unto the lad that held him by the hand, Suffer me that I may feel the pillars whereupon the house standeth, that I may lean upon them.

27 Now the house was full of men and women : and all the lords of the Philistines were there : and there were upon the roof about three thousand men and women, that beheld while Samson made sport.

28 And Samson called *q* unto the LORD, and said, O LORD GOD, remember *r* me, I pray thee, and strengthen me, I pray thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes.

29 And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars upon which the house stood, and ¹⁵ on which it was borne up, of the one with his right, and of the other with his left.

30 And Samson said, Let ¹⁶ me die with the Philistines. And he bowed himself with *all his might* ; and the house *s* fell upon the lords, and upon all the people that were therein. So the dead which he slew at his death were more than *they* which he slew in his life.

31 Then his brethren, and all the house of his father came down, and took him, and brought *him* up, and buried him between *t* Zorah and Eshtaol, in the burying-place of Manoah his father. And he judged Israel twenty years.

CHAPTER XVII.

Micah hireth a Levite to be his priest.

AND there was a man of mount *a* Ephraim, whose name was Micah.

2 And he said unto his mother, The eleven hundred *shekels* of silver that were taken from thee, about which thou *b* cursedst, and spakest of also in mine ears, behold, the silver *is* with me ; I took it. And his mother said, Blessed *c* be thou of the LORD, my son.

3 And when he had restored the eleven hundred *shekels* of silver to his mother, his mother said, I had wholly dedicated the silver unto the LORD from my hand for my son, to make *d* a graven image and a molten image ; now therefore I will restore it unto thee.

4 Yet he restored the money unto his mother ; and his mother took two hundred *shekels* of silver, and *e* gave them to the founder, who made thereof a graven image and a molten image : and they were in the house of Micah.

B. C. 1120.

q Ps. 91. 15.
Lx. 3. 31. 32.
Jon. 2. 1, 2, 7.

r Ps. 74. 18-23.
Jer. 15. 15.

¹⁵ or, he
leaned on
them.

¹⁶ my soul.

s Job 20. 5.
Ps. 62. 3.
Ec. 9. 12.

t ch. 13. 25.

(CHAP. 17.)

a Jos. 17. 14-18.

b Ne. 13. 25.
2 Jno. 11.

c Ge. 14. 19.
Ru. 3. 10.

d Ex. 20. 4, 23.
Lev. 19. 4.

e Is. 46. 6.

f ch. 8. 27.

g Ge. 31. 19, 30.

Hos. 3. 4.

¹ filled the
hand.

Ex. 29. 9.
1 Ki. 13. 33.

h ch. 18. 1, 7, 19. 1.

21. 3, 25.

i Deut. 12. 8.
Pr. 16. 2.
Ec. 11. 9.

k Ru. 1. 1, 2.

² in making
his way.

l ch. 18. 19.

³ an order of
garments,
or, a double
suit.

m ver. 5.

n ch. 18. 30.

o Pr. 14. 12.

(CHAP. 18.)

a ch. 17. 6.

b Jos. 19. 47.

¹ sons.

c ch. 13. 25.
16. 31.
Ge. 42. 9.
Nu. 13. 17.
Jos. 2. 1.

5 And the man Micah had an house of gods, and made an ephod, *f* and teraphim, *g* and ¹ consecrated one of his sons, who became his priest.

6 In those days *there was* no king *h* in Israel, *but* every man did *that* which was right in his own eyes.

7 ¶ And there was a young man out of Beth-lehem-judah, *k* of the family of Judah, who was a Levite, and he sojourned there.

8 And the man departed out of the city from Beth-lehem-judah, to sojourn where he could find a place : and he came to mount Ephraim, to the house of Micah, ² as he journeyed.

9 And Micah said unto him, Whence comest thou ? And he said unto him, I *am* a Levite of Beth-lehem-judah, and I go to sojourn where I may find a place.

10 And Micah said unto him, Dwell with me, and be unto me a father *l* and a priest, and I will give thee ten *shekels* of silver by the year, and ³ a suit of apparel, and thy victuals. So the Levite went in.

11 And the Levite was content to dwell with the man ; and the young man was unto him as one of his sons.

12 And Micah consecrated *m* the Levite ; and the young man became *n* his priest, and was in the house of Micah.

13 Then said Micah, Now *o* know I that the LORD will do me good, seeing I have a Levite to my priest.

CHAPTER XVIII.

The Danites send five men to seek out an inheritance.

IN *a* those days *there was* no king in Israel : and in those days the tribe of the Danites *b* sought them an inheritance to dwell in ; for unto that day *all their* inheritance had not fallen unto them among the tribes of Israel.

2 And the children of Dan sent of their family five men from their coasts, men ¹ of valour, from Zorah, *c* and from Eshtaol, to spy out the land, and to search it ; and they said unto them, Go, search the land : who when they came to mount Ephraim, to the house of Micah, they lodged there.

3 When they were by the house of Micah, they knew the voice of the young man the Levite : and they turned in thither, and said unto him, Who brought thee hither ? and what makest thou in this place ? and what hast thou here ?

4 And he said unto them, Thus and thus dealeth Micah with me,