

אלי האיש ויבא אל האיש והנה עמד על הנמלים על  
 near the-camels by standing and-see! the-man to that-he-went the-man to-me  
 העין: ויאמר בוא ברוך יהוה למה תעמד  
 you-stand why? Yahweh being-blessed-of come! and-he-said (31) the-spring  
 בחוץ ואנכי פנתי ומקום לנמלים: ויבא  
 so-he-went (32) for-the-camels and-place the-house I-prepared now-I out-here  
 האיש הפיתה ופתח הנמלים וישן תבן  
 straw and-he-brought the-camels and-he-unloaded to-the-house the-man  
 ומספוא לנמלים ומים לרחץ רגליו ורגלו האנשים  
 the-men and-feet-of feet-of-him to-wash and-water for-the-camels and-fodder  
 אשר אתו: וישם לפניו לאכל ויאמר לא אכל  
 I-will-eat not but-he-said to-eat before-him and-he-was-set (33) with-him who  
 עד אם דברתי דברי ויאמר דבר: ויאמר עבד  
 servant-of so-he-said (34) tell! so-he-said words-of-me I-tell when until  
 אברהם אנכי: ויהוה ברוך את אדני מאד ויגדל  
 and-he-is-wealthy greatly master-of-me \*\*\* he-blessed now-Yahweh (35) I Abraham  
 ויתן לו צאן וקרב וקסף וזהב ועבדים  
 and-menservants and-gold and-silver and-cattle sheep to-him and-he-gave  
 ושפחה ונמלים וחמרים: ותלד שרה אשת  
 wife-of Sarah and-she-bore (36) and-donkeys and-camels and-maidservants  
 אדני בן לאדני אחרי זקנתה ויתן לו את-כל  
 all \*\*\* to-him and-he-gave old-age-of-her in to-master-of-me son master-of-me  
 אשר לו: וישבעני אדני לאמר לא תקח אשה  
 wife you-must-get not to-say master-of-me and-he-made-swear-me (37) to-him that  
 לבני מבנות הכנעני אשר אנכי ישב בארצו:  
 in-land-of-him living I whom the-Canaanite from-daughters-of for-son-of-me  
 אם לא אל בית אבי תלך ואל משפחתי ולקחת  
 and-you-get clan-of-me and-to you-go father-of-me family-of to rather but (38)  
 אשה לבני: ואמר אל אדני אל לא תלך  
 she-comes not what-if? master-of-me to then-I-asked (39) for-son-of-me wife  
 האשה אחרי: ויאמר אלי יהוה אשר-התהלכתי לפניו  
 before-him I-walk whom Yahweh to-me and-he-replied (40) after-me the-woman  
 ישלח מלאכו אתך והצליתך וירכך  
 journey-of-you and-he-will-make-succeed with-you angel-of-him he-will-send  
 ולקחת אשה לבני ממשפחתי ומבית  
 and-from-family-of from-clan-of-me for-son-of-me wife so-you-can-get  
 אבי: אז תקח ומאלתי כי תבוא אל  
 to you-go when from-oath-of-me you-will-be-free then (41) father-of-me

he went out to the man and found him standing by the camels near the spring. <sup>31</sup>"Come, you who are blessed by the LORD," he said. "Why are you standing out here? I have prepared the house and a place for the camels."<sup>32</sup>So the man went to the house, and the camels were unloaded. Straw and fodder were brought for the camels, and water for him and his men to wash their feet. <sup>33</sup>Then food was set before him, but he said, "I will not eat until I have told you what I have to say."

"Then tell us," Laban said. <sup>34</sup>So he said, "I am Abraham's servant. <sup>35</sup>The LORD has blessed my master abundantly, and he has become wealthy. He has given him sheep and cattle, silver and gold, menservants and maidservants, and camels and donkeys. <sup>36</sup>My master's wife Sarah has borne him a son in her old age, and he has given him everything he owns. <sup>37</sup>And my master made me swear an oath, and said, 'You must not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live, <sup>38</sup>but go to my father's family and to my own clan, and get a wife for my son.'

<sup>39</sup>Then I asked my master, 'What if the woman will not come back with me?'

<sup>40</sup>"He replied, 'The LORD, before whom I have walked, will send his angel with you and make your journey a success, so that you can get a wife for my son from my own clan and from my father's family. <sup>41</sup>Then, when you go to my clan, you will be released from

<sup>36</sup> Or his

<sup>36</sup> Most mss have no *dagesh* in the *lamed* (לוי).

<sup>33</sup> ק וירשם

משפחתי ואם לא יתנו לך והיית נקר מאלתי:  
 from-oath-of-me free and-you-will-be to-you they-give not even-if clan-of-me  
 ואבא היום אל העין ואמר יהוה אלהי אדני  
 master-of-me God-of Yahweh then-I-said the-spring to the-day when-I-came (42)  
 אבררם אם ישך נא מצליח דרפי אשר אנכי הלך  
 coming I that journey-of-me granting-success now! will-of-you if Abraham  
 עליה: הנה אנכי נצב על עין המים ותהה העלמה  
 the-maiden now-may-he-be the-water spring-of beside standing I see! (43) on-her  
 היצאת לשאב ואמרתי אליה השקיני נא מעט מים  
 water little-of now! give-drink-me! to-her that-I-say to-draw the-one-coming  
 מברך: ואמרה אלי גם אתה שטה וגם  
 and-also drink! you indeed to-me and-she-says (44) from-jar-of-you  
 לנמליך אשאב הוא האשה אשר הכיח ותה לכן  
 for-son-of Yahweh he-chose whom the-woman she I-will-draw for-camels-of-you  
 אדני: אני טרם אכלה לדבר אל לבי ותה רבקה  
 Rebekah and-see! heart-of-me in to-pray I-finished before I (45) master-of-me  
 יצאת וכנה על שכמה ותרד העינה  
 to-the-spring and-she-went-down shoulder-of-her on with-jar-of-her coming  
 ותשאב ואמר אליה השקיני נא: ותמהר  
 and-she-hurried (46) now! give-drink-me! to-her and-I-said and-she-drew  
 ותורד פדה מעליה ותאמר שטה וגם  
 and-also drink! and-she-said from-on-her jar-of-her and-she-lowered  
 נמליך אשקה נאשת וגם הנמלים השקתה:  
 she-watered the-camels and-also so-I-drank I-will-water camels-of-you  
 ואשאל אותה ואמר בת מי את ותאמר  
 and-she-said you whom? daughter-of and-I-said her then-I-asked (47)  
 בת בתואל בן נחור אשר ילדה לו מלכה ואשם  
 then-I-put Milcah to-him she-bore whom Nahor son-of Bethuel daughter-of  
 הנום על אפה והצמידים על ידיה: ואקד  
 then-I-bowed (48) arms-of-her on and-the-bracelets nose-of-her in the-ring  
 ואשתחתי ליהוה ואברך את יהוה אלהי אדני  
 master-of-me God-of Yahweh \*\*\* and-I-praised to-Yahweh and-I-worshiped  
 אבררם אשר הנתני בדרך אמת לקחת את בת אחי  
 brother-of granddaughter-of \*\*\* to-get right on-road-of he-led-me who Abraham  
 אדני לבנו: ועתה אם ישכם עשים תסד  
 kindness ones-showing will-of-you if and-now (49) for-son-of-him master-of-me  
 ואמת את אדני תנידו לי ואם לא תנידו לי  
 to-me tell! not and-if to-me tell! master-of-me to and-faithfulness

my oath even if they refuse to give her to you—you will be released from my oath.

"When I came to the spring today, I said, 'O LORD, God of my master Abraham, if you will, please grant success to the journey on which I have come. <sup>43</sup>See, I am standing beside this spring; if a maiden comes out to draw water and I say to her, 'Please let me drink a little water from your jar,' <sup>44</sup>and if she says to me, 'Drink, and I'll draw water for your camels too,' let her be the one the LORD has chosen for my master's son."

"Before I finished praying in my heart, Rebekah came out, with her jar on her shoulder. She went down to the spring and drew water, and I said to her, 'Please give me a drink.'

"She quickly lowered her jar from her shoulder and said, 'Drink, and I'll water your camels too.' So I drank, and she watered the camels also.

"I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?'

"She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel son of Nahor, whom Milcah bore to him.'

"Then I put the ring in her nose and the bracelets on her arms, <sup>48</sup>and I bowed down and worshiped the LORD. I praised the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me on the right road to get the granddaughter of my master's brother for his son. <sup>49</sup>Now if you will show kindness and faithfulness to my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so I

משא נִינְוָה סֵפֶר חִזּוֹן נַחֻם הָאֵלְקוֹשִׁי: אֵל קַנּוּא  
jealous God (2) the-Elkoshite Nahum vision-of book-of Nineveh oracle-of (1:1)

וְנָקַם יְהוָה נָקָם יְהוָה וַיִּבְעַל חַמָּה נָקָם  
taking-vengeance wrath and-one-filled-of Yahweh taking-vengeance Yahweh and-avenging

יְהוָה לְצַרְיָיו וַיִּנְטֵר הוּא לְאֵי־בָיו:  
against-ones-being-enemies-of-him he and-maintaining-wrath on-foes-of-him Yahweh

יְהוָה אַרְךָ אַפִּים וַיִּגְדֹּל-כֹּחַ וַיִּנְקֶה לֹא  
not and-to-leave-guilty-unpunished power and-great-of angers slow-of Yahweh (3)

וַיִּנְקֶה יְהוָה בְּסוּפָהּ וּבְשַׁעֲרָהּ דְרָכּוֹ וַעֲנָן  
and-cloud way-of-him and-in-storm in-whirlwind Yahweh he-will-leave-guilty-unpunished

אָבַק רִגְלוֹ: גִּיעַר בַּיָּם וַיִּבְשֶׂהוּ וְכָל-  
and-all-of and-he-dries-up-him to-the-sea one-rebuking (4) feet-of-him dust-of

הַנְּהָרוֹת הַחֲרִיב אִמְלַל בָּשָׁן וּכְרַמֵּל וּפְרַח לְבָנוֹן  
Lebanon and-blossom-of and-Carmel Bashan he-is-withered he-makes-run-dry the-rivers

אִמְלַל: הָרִים רָעְשׁוּ מִמֶּנּוּ וְהַנְּבָעוֹת הִתְמַנְּנוּ  
they-melt-away and-the-hills before-him they-quake mountains (5) he-is-faded

וַתֵּשֶׂא הָאָרֶץ מִפְּנֵיו וַתִּבֶּל וְכָל-יֹשְׁבֵי  
ones-living-of and-all-of and-world at-presences-of-him the-earth and-she-trembles

בָּהּ: לִפְנֵי זַעֲמוֹ מִי יַעֲמוֹד וּמִי יִקּוּם  
he-can-endure and-who? he-can-withstand who? indignation-of-him before (6) in-her

בְּחֲרוֹן אַפּוֹ חֲמוֹ וְנִתְקָה כָּאֵשׁ וְהַצְּרִים  
and-the-rocks like-fire she-is-poured-out wrath-of-him anger-of-him to-fierceness-of

נִתְצָוּ מִמֶּנּוּ: טוֹב יְהוָה לְמַעֲזוֹ בְּיוֹם צָרָה  
trouble in-day-of for-refuge Yahweh good (7) before-him they-are-shattered

וַיִּדַע וַיִּרְעַע חֲסִי בּוֹ: וַיִּבְשֹׁטֵף עֲבָר כְּלָה  
end one-overwhelming but-with-flood (8) in-him ones-trusting-of and-one-caring-for

יַעֲשֶׂה מְקוֹמָהּ וַאֲבִיבּוֹ וַיִּרְדֶּף חֹשֶׁךְ:  
darkness he-will-pursue and-ones-being-foes-of-him place-of-her he-will-make

מֵהָ תִּתְשַׁבֵּן אֵל-יְהוָה כְּלָה הוּא עֹשֶׂה לֹא-תִקּוּם פַּעַמַּיִם  
second-time she-will-come not bringing-to he end Yahweh against you-plot what? (9)

צָרָה: כִּי עַד-סִירִים סִבְכִים וּכְסָבָאִם  
and-from-wine-of-them ones-being-entangled thorns among indeed (10) trouble

סְבוּאִים אִכְלוּ כְּקֹשׁ יָבֵשׁ מְלֵא: מִמֶּךָ  
from-you (11) fully dry like-stubble they-will-be-consumed ones-being-drunk

יָצָא חֹשֶׁב עַל-יְהוָה רָעָה יַעֲזֵן בְּלִמְעַל:  
wickedness one-counseling evil Yahweh against one-plotting he-came-forth

כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה אִם-שְׁלָמִים וְכֵן רַבִּים וְכֵן  
yet-so numerous-ones and-so allied-ones although Yahweh he-says this (12)

1 An oracle concerning Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.

The LORD's Anger Against Nineveh

The LORD is a jealous and avenging God; the LORD takes vengeance and is filled with wrath. The LORD takes vengeance on his foes and maintains his wrath against his enemies.

The LORD is slow to anger and great in power; the LORD will not leave the guilty unpunished. His way is in the whirlwind and the storm, and clouds are the dust of his feet.

He rebukes the sea and dries it up; he makes all the rivers run dry.

Bashan and Carmel wither and the blossoms of Lebanon fade.

The mountains quake before him and the hills melt away. The earth trembles at his presence, the world and all who live in it.

Who can withstand his indignation? Who can endure his fierce anger? His wrath is poured out like fire; the rocks are shattered before him.

The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him,

but with an overwhelming flood he will make an end of Nineveh; he will pursue his foes into darkness.

Whatever they plot against the LORD he will bring to an end; trouble will not come a second time.

They will be entangled among thorns and drunk from their wine; they will be consumed like dry stubble.

From you, O Nineveh, has one come forth who plots evil against the LORD and counsels wickedness.

This is what the LORD says: "Although they have allies and are numerous, they will be cut off and pass away."

49 Or What do you foes plot against the Lord? / Hc  
50 The meaning of the Hebrew for this verse is uncertain.

נָנֻז וְעָבַר וְעָבַר לֹא  
not although-I-afflicted-you and-he-will-pass-away they-will-be-cut-off

אֶעֱנֶנּוּ עוֹד: וְעַתָּה אֲשַׁבֵּר מִמֶּךָ מֵעַלֶיךָ  
from-upon-you yoke-of-him I-will-break and-now (13) more I-will-afflict-you

וּמוֹסְרֵיךָ וְאֵנַתְּ: וְעַתָּה אֵלֶיךָ יְהוָה לֹא-  
not Yahweh concerning-you now-he-commanded (14) I-will-tear-away and-shackles-of-you

יִזְרַע מִשְׁמָךְ עוֹד מִבַּיִת אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֶכְרִית  
I-will-destroy gods-of-you in-temple-of more for-name-of-you he-will-be-descendant

פֶּסֶל וּמִסְכָּה אֲשִׁים קַבְרֶךָ כִּי קְלוֹת:   
you-are-vile for grave-of-you I-will-prepare and-cast-idol carved-image

הִנֵּה עַל-הַהָרִים רִגְלֵי מְבַשֵּׂר מְשֻׁמֵּעַ שְׁלוֹם  
peace one-proclaiming one-bringing-good-news feet-of the-mountains on look! \* (2:1)

חַנּוּי יְהוּדָה תִּגְיֶנּוּ שְׁלָמֵי נְדָבֶיךָ כִּי לֹא יוֹסִיף  
he-will-repeat not indeed vows-of-you fulfill! festivals-of-you Judah celebrate!

עוֹד לַעֲבוֹר-בְּךָ בְּלִמְעַל כְּלָה וְנִכְרַת: עֲלֶה  
he-advances (2) he-will-be-destroyed all-of-him wicked into-you to-invade more

מִפְּיָן עַל-פְּנֵיךָ נִצּוֹר מִצְרָה צַפְהָ רֹדֶף תַּחַק מִתְּנִים  
loins brace! road watch! fortress to-guard faces-of-you against attacker

אֲמִין כָּח מְאֹד: כִּי שָׁב יְהוָה אֶת-נְאֻן יַעֲקֹב  
Jacob splendor-of \*\*\* Yahweh he-will-restore indeed (3) all strength marshal!

כְּנֻאֵן יִשְׂרָאֵל כִּי בִקְוִים בִּקְוִים וְזִמְרֵיהֶם  
and-vines-of-them ones-destroying they-destroyed-them though Israel like-splendor-of

שִׁחְתּוּ: מִגֹּן גְּבֻרָהוּ מְאֹדִים אֲנָשֵׁי חַיִּל מִחֲלָעִים  
ones-wearing-scarlet war men-of being-red soldiers-of-him shield-of (4) they-ruined

בְּאֵשׁ פְּלָרוֹת הַרְכָּב בְּיוֹם הַכֵּינֵי וְהַבְּרָשִׁים  
and-the-pine-spears to-make-ready-him on-day-of the-chariot metals-of with-flash-of

הָרָעוּלוֹ: בַּחֲצוֹת יְתְהוּלוּ וְהַרְכָּב  
the-chariot they-storm through-the-streets (5) they-are-brandished

יִשְׁתַּקְּשְׁקֹן בְּרַחֲבוֹת מְרֵאִיהֶן כְּלִפְיָדִים  
like-the-flaming-torches looks-of-them through-the-squares they-rush-back-and-forth

כְּבָרְקִים יְרוּצְצוּ: יִזְכֵּר אֲדִירָיו יִכְשְׁלוּ  
they-stumble picked-troops-of-him he-summons (6) they-dart-about like-the-lightnings

בַּהֲלָכָתָם יִמְהָרוּ חוֹמָתָהּ וְהָכֵן הַסֶּבֶךְ:  
the-protective-shield and-he-is-put-in-place city-wall-of-her they-dash on-way-of-them

שַׁעֲרֵי הַנְּהָרוֹת נִפְתְּחוּ וְהַיְקָל נִמְוָן:  
he-collapses and-the-palace they-are-thrown-open the-rivers gates-of (7)

וְהָצֵב וְגִלְתָּהּ הָעֵלְתָּהּ וְאִמְהָתֶיהָ  
and-slave-girls-of-her she-is-carried-away she-is-exiled and-he-is-decreed (8)

Although I have afflicted you, O Judah, I will afflict you no more. Now I will break their yoke from your neck and tear your shackles away.

The LORD has given a command concerning you, Nineveh: "You will have no descendants to bear your name.

I will destroy the carved images and cast idols that are in the temple of your gods.

I will prepare your grave, for you are vile."

Look, there on the mountains, the feet of one who brings good news, who proclaims peace! Celebrate your festivals, O Judah, and fulfill your vows. No more will the wicked invade you; they will be completely destroyed.

Nineveh to Fall

2 An attacker advances against you, Nineveh. Guard the fortress, watch the road, brace yourselves, marshal all your strength!

The LORD will restore the splendor of Jacob like the splendor of Israel, though destroyers have laid them waste and have ruined their vines.

The shields of his soldiers are red; the warriors are clad in scarlet.

The metal on the chariots flashes on the day they are made ready; the spears of pine are brandished.

The chariots storm through the streets, rushing back and forth through the squares. They look like flaming torches; they dart about like lightning.

He summons his picked troops, yet they stumble on their way.

They dash to the city wall; the protective shield is put in place.

The river gates are thrown open and the palace collapses.

It is decreed that the city, be exiled and carried away.

3 Hebrew; Septuagint and Syriac / the horsemen rush to and fro  
47 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.

\*Heading, 1 The Hebrew numeration of chapter 2 begins with the final verse of chapter 1 in English; thus, there is a one-verse discrepancy throughout chapter 2.