

JUDITH

CHAPTER 1¹

It was the twelfth² year of the kingdom of Seleukos,³ who became-king of the Asshureans⁴ in Nineveh the city, the great city.⁵ In those⁶ days, it was Arshak,⁷ who became-king of the Madai in Acmetha.⁸ ⁹ **2** And in-a-circle over Acmetha, he built outer-walls out of stones having been scraped-from-bedrock into a width of 3 cubits and into a length of 6 cubits. And he made the height of the outer-wall 70 cubits, and its width 50¹⁰ cubits, **3** and he stood its¹¹ towers over its¹² gates into a height¹³ of 100 cubits And he founded its¹⁴ width into a length of 60 cubits. **4** And he built its¹⁵ gates, which arise themselves fully¹⁶ into a height of 70 cubits. And its¹⁷ width is 40 cubits, resulting-in¹⁸ a means of egress for¹⁹ a force²⁰ of powerful men of his and a means of disposition of his men on-foot.

5 And in those days,²¹ the king, Seleukos, of the Asshureans, who reigned in Nineveh, the great city,²² made a war with King Arshak in the great plain,²³ which²⁴ is a plain in the borders²⁵ of [Ragau].²⁶ **6** And all the ones dwelling-in the mountainous-region, and all the ones dwelling-in the Euphrates,²⁷ and the Tigris,²⁸ and the Hydaspés,²⁹ met-together with him into a war³⁰ at the plains of King Arioch of the Elamites. And many nations came-together into³¹ an array of the sons of [Cheleoud].³²

7 And Seleukos, king of the Asshureans, sent messengers onto all the ones dwelling-in Persia and Jabneh,³³ and onto all the ones dwelling-in the regions toward the west,³⁴ that is, onto the ones dwelling-in Kilikia and Damasek, and in Lebanon and Anti-Lebanon, and onto all the ones dwelling-in the regions throughout the face of the seacoast, **8** and onto the ones in the nations of Carmel and of Gilead, and onto the Upper Galilee, and onto the great plain of Jezrael,³⁵ **9** and onto all the ones in Samaria and its cities, and on-the-other-side of the Jordan till Jerusalem and Beth-Anyá³⁶ and Haluzah³⁷ and Kadesh and the river³⁸ of Mizraim³⁹ and Tahpanhes⁴⁰ and Raamses,⁴¹ and onto every plot of earth of Goshen,⁴² **10** till the point for one to come upon Zoan⁴³ and Memphis, and unto all

the ones dwelling-in Egypt till the point for one to come onto the borders of Chush.⁴⁴

11 And all the ones who were dwelling-in all⁴⁵ the earth debased the word⁴⁶ of Seleukos, king of the Asshureans, and they did not come-together with him into the war, because they were not filled-with-fear-of him; instead, in their view, he was as one man alone opposed to them. And they returned his messengers empty handed with dishonor in their face.⁴⁷ **12** And Seleukos was exceedingly infuriated against all this earth, and he swore against his throne and kingdom, that he would truly avenge⁴⁸ all the borders of Kilikia and Damasek⁴⁹ and Aram⁵⁰ to do-away-with them by-means-of his long-sword, and also all the ones who were dwelling in the earth of Moab, and the sons of Ammon, and all Judah,⁵¹ and all the ones in Egypt till the point for one to come to borders of the two seas.

13 And in the seventeenth year, he drew-up his force⁵² into-battle-order against King Arshak, and he gained-might in his war, and he routed⁵³ all the force⁵⁴ of Arshak, and all his horse and all his chariots. **14** And he became-lord of his cities, and he reached further till he came to Acmetha. And he overpowered⁵⁵ the towers, and he foraged its broadways, and he turned⁵⁶ its ornamentation into its reproach.⁵⁷

15 And he took Arshak in the mountains of [Ragau],⁵⁸ and he javelined him down with⁵⁹ his hunting-spears, and he exterminated him until that day.⁶⁰ **16** And he returned to Nineveh with them,⁶¹ he and all his exceedingly vast commingled multitude of men who were warriors. And there, he was lazing and being-entertained-sumptuously, he and his force⁶² onto 120 days.⁶³

CHAPTER 2

And in the eighteenth year,⁶⁴ on the twenty-second⁶⁵ day of the first month, there came-to-be a discourse⁶⁶ of the lord⁶⁷ in a house of Seleukos, king of the Asshureans, to avenge all the earth, exactly-as he had uttered. **2** And he called-together all his attendants and all his great-men. And he set before them⁶⁸ the mystery of his deliberation, and, out of his own mouth, he completely-finished speaking about all the evil of the earth. **3** And they themselves judged to ruin all flesh which did not follow the account of his mouth.

4 And it came-to-be, as he completely-finished his deliberation, Seleukos, king of the Asshureans, called Holofernes, the chief-general of his force,⁶⁹ who was second only with respect to himself, and he spoke to him, **5** “This is what the king, the great, the lord of all the earth, says: Behold, **you** will come-forth out from before⁷⁰ my face; and for yourself, you will take with yourself men who have become-confident in their strength:⁷¹ 120,000 men on-foot and a multitude of 12,000 horses along with riders.⁷² **6** And you will come-out against all the earth onto the west,⁷³ because they refused-to-be-persuaded by the word of my mouth. **7** And you will bring-a-message to them, to be readying earth and water, because I will come-out against them in my fury.⁷⁴ And I will cover all the face of the earth with⁷⁵ the feet of my force,⁷⁶ and I will give them over to be plundered by them.⁷⁷ **8** And their wounded will fill their ravines, and every wadi⁷⁸ and river⁷⁹

¹ This writing is only extant in translations of a lost Hebrew original.

² [1:1] most / LXX(249) “tenth” / Syr(B) “thirteenth”

³ [entire book] Midrash / LXX, Vul “Nebuchadnezzar” which seems to be incorrect [though in verse 1:1 Vul omit the name entirely] / LXX(583) “Cambyases” [Pseudo-Apostolic Constitutions identify “Nebuchadnezzar” as “Darius” / Eusebios notes that the Judeans referred to Cambyases as a second Nebuchadnezzar / Sulpicius Severus identified him with Artaxerxes III Ochus of Persia who ruled from 358–338 BC, who general was Holofernes, eunuch Bagoas, and passed through the same region in 351 to attack Mizraim/Egypt]

⁴ [1:1] LXX, Vul, Syr / Eth “Persians”

⁵ [1:1] LXX / Vul omit “in Nineveh...city (though Vul add this information in verse 1:5)

⁶ literally “the”

⁷ [entire book] Original name from possible Greek emendation “Arsaces” / most LXX, most OL “Arphaxad” (likely corruption of “Arsacid”) / LXX(670) “Sarphaxar” / OL(X) “Artaxeum” / Vul omit altogether [this change is also made in other occurrences]

⁸ [1:1] Hebrew name restored from Ezra 6:2 and Tob 7:1 / LXX “Ekbatana” (also throughout rest of book)

⁹ [1:1] Vul omit “It was the...Nineveh.” And instead reads here, “Now Arphaxad king of the Madai has subjugated many nations in his empire, and he built a very strong city which he called Ekbatana [i.e. Acmetha]”

¹⁰ [1:2] LXX / Vul “30”

¹¹ [1:3] “it” is neuter singular, referring to the “outer-wall” (neu. sing)

¹² [1:3] “it” is feminine singular, likely referring to the city itself

¹³ [1:3] Vul / LXX omit “into a height”

¹⁴ “its” is feminine singular, not referring to the “towers” (masc. plural) or to the “outer-wall” (neu. sing.), but likely to the city itself (rather than to each individual gate)

¹⁵ “it” is feminine singular, likely referring to the city itself

¹⁶ literally “thoroughly”

¹⁷ “it” is feminine singular, likely referring to the city itself

¹⁸ literally “into”

¹⁹ literally “of”

²⁰ [1:4] LXX(V,106,311), Vul (literally “power”) / most LXX “powers” [i.e. “forces”] / LXX(S1), some OL, Syr “his chariots”

²¹ [1:5] LXX / Vul “Accordingly, in the 12th year of his reign”

²² [1:5] LXX / Vul add (though it omits this information from verse 1:1)

²³ literally “in the plain, the great plain”

²⁴ [1:5] LXX(AV) / other LXX “this”

²⁵ [1:5] most LXX / LXX(583) “mountains”

²⁶ [1:5] LXX, Vul / Original Hebrew uncertain / Syr “Dura” [“Ragau” is the LXX, Vul version of “Reu” (Genesis 11:18, etc), but it may be a transliteration of the city of “Raga”]

²⁷ [1:6] Greek / from Persian “Ufratu” / Hebrew equivalent “Furat”

²⁸ [1:6] Greek / Hebrew equivalent “Hidekkele”

²⁹ [1:6] Greek / Vul “Hyadan” / others “Iadasan” / Syr “Ulai” / Hebrew equivalent unknown [some conjecture that this should be emended to “Choaspes”]

³⁰ [1:6] most LXX / LXX(S2), Syr add

³¹ [1:6] LXX (“into”) / Syr “to war against”

³² [1:6] LXX “Cheleoud” / other LXX “Cheleoul” / OL “Chelleoth” / Syr “Kasdeans” (lit. “Chaldeans”) / Vul omit “So many...Chaldeans.” [possibly related to “Haluzah” in verse 1:9]

³³ [1:7] most LXX / LXX(S), OL(SBQP) add (Hebrew version restored here, text “Jamnia” or “Jamna”)

³⁴ literally “setting”

³⁵ Hebrew equivalent / LXX “Esdrelōn” / Vul “Hesdraelon”

³⁶ [1:9] LXX, most OL / some OL “Ekbatana” [i.e. “Achmetha”]

³⁷ [1:9] Hebrew restored / LXX, most OL “Chelous” / OL(G) “Thelos”

³⁸ [1:9] LXX(S) “torrents” / OL “rivers”

³⁹ [1:9] Hebrew equivalent / LXX “Egypt”

⁴⁰ [1:9] most LXX, most OL / LXX(583) “Pahpanhes” / Syr “Tachpis” / some OL “Tamne” / some OL “Thampnas”

⁴¹ [1:9] LXX, most OL / OL(M) “Dramas”

⁴² [1:9] Hebrew restored / LXX “of Gesem” [LXX translation of “Goshen”] / some OL omit

⁴³ [1:10] Hebrew equivalent / LXX “Tanis” (which is the translation of Hebrew “Zoan” in the LXX)

⁴⁴ [1:10] Hebrew equivalent / LXX, Vul “Ethiopia” (which is the translation of Hebrew “Chush” in the LXX) / Eth omit the entire mention of “Chush”

⁴⁵ [1:11] LXX(AV), OL, Eth / others omit “all”

⁴⁶ [1:11] most LXX / LXX(19) “name”

⁴⁷ literally “empty in dishonor of a face of theirs”

⁴⁸ [1:12] literally “kingdom, if truly to avenge (in the future)”

⁴⁹ [1:12] LXX(SL,71,74), OL / others “Damasekenes”

⁵⁰ [1:2] Hebrew equivalent / LXX “Syria”

⁵¹ [1:12] LXX(V) “Edom”

⁵² literally “power”

⁵³ literally “to return” or “to turn-up” (as in, to cause to be in total disarray by turning up upside down)

⁵⁴ literally “power”

⁵⁵ literally “became-mighty-over”

⁵⁶ literally “put”

⁵⁷ [1:14] OL “and he made it a reproach” / Syr “and all their beauty they made into a reproach”

⁵⁸ [1:5] Original Hebrew uncertain / Syr “Dura” / “Ragau” is the LXX, Vul version of “Reu” (Genesis 11:18, etc), but it may be a transliteration of “Rhages”

⁵⁹ literally “in”

⁶⁰ possibly to be understood as “until this day”

⁶¹ [1:16] LXX(V) / 19, 108, OL, Syr omit “with them” / LXX(A), others reads “to Nineveh with them”

⁶² literally “power”

⁶³ [1:13–16] Vul omit “In the seventeenth year...days.” / LXX(V) omit “an enormous horde...entertained-sumptuously”

⁶⁴ [1:13] most LXX, OL (lit. “in the year, the eighteenth year”) / LXX(58), Syr “in the twenty-eighth year” / Vul “in the thirteenth year” / LXX(71) omit both the year and day

⁶⁵ [2:1] LXX, Vul / Syr “the twelfth” / LXX(71) omit both the year and day

⁶⁶ literally “account/rationalization”

⁶⁷ [2:1] most LXX / LXX(N) add

⁶⁸ literally “and he put with them”

⁶⁹ literally “power”

⁷⁰ literally “come-out out of”

⁷¹ literally “in strength of theirs”

⁷² literally “stepped-up-ones”

⁷³ literally “setting”

⁷⁴ literally “in fury of mine”

⁷⁵ literally “in”

⁷⁶ literally “power”

⁷⁷ literally “over into a thorough-snatching by them”

⁷⁸ literally “winter-storm-flow”

⁷⁹ [2:8] LXX(SL,58,31,583), OL, Syr / others “their ravines and the wadis, and a river”

which is flooding-over will be filled with their dead-ones. **9** And I will lead their captivity away onto the summits of all the earth.¹

10 “But **you**, after you come-out, will take every border of theirs for me beforehand. And they will give themselves up to you, and you will thoroughly-keep them for me until² a day of their conviction.³ **11** But against the *ones who are refusing-to-be-persuaded*, you will not spare your eye of the *act* to give them into murder and snatching in all your⁴ earth. **12** Because **as I** live, and by the might of my kingdom, I have uttered, and I will do these-things by my own hand.⁵ **13** But even **you**—you will not transgress in any of the words of your lord; instead, *while you are finishing these things up*, you will finish *them up* in-view-of-the-fact-that I have order you, and you will not delay the *act* to do them.”

14 And Holofernes came-out from *before the face* of his lord, and he called all the potentates, and the generals and superintendents and the satraps⁶ of the force⁷ of Asshur. **15** And, in-view-of-the-fact-that his lord directed him, he numbered 120,000 elect men into an array, and *also* 12,000 horses for bowmen, **16** and he ordered them in the manner which a multitude is being explicitly-ordered for a war. **17** And he took camels and donkeys and mules for⁸ their baggage—it was an exceedingly vast multitude of animals; and he *also* took sheeps and cattle and goats for⁹ their food preparation, of whose number was not countable; **18** and he *also* gave a multitudinous¹⁰ stock-of-grain to every man, and he took an exceedingly vast amount of gold and silver out of a house of a king.

19 And he came-out, he and all his force,¹¹ into a journey¹² of the purpose to come-in-advance¹³ of King Seleukos, and to cover all the face of the earth toward the west¹⁴ with¹⁵ chariots and horsemen and select men on-foot of theirs. **20** And the intermingled group was vast as a locust. They came-out-together with them. And it was as the sand of the earth.¹⁶ For the number of¹⁷ their multitude was not countable.

21 And they came-away out of Nineveh for a route¹⁸ of three days onto the face of the plain of Bektileth.¹⁹ And from Bektileth, they set-up-a-military-encampment-over-against and near the mountains, the *ones*²⁰ on the left of the Upper Kilikia. **22** And he took all his force,²¹ the men on-foot and the horsemen and the chariots of his, and he came-away into the mountainous-region. **23** And he cut-through Put²² and Lud, and he foraged all the sons of Thiras, and the sons of Rassis,²³ and the sons of Ishmael,²⁴ the *ones* throughout the face of the desert toward the south of the country of the Haluzahite.²⁵

24 And he passed-by the Euphrates,²⁶ and he came-through Aram-Naharaim,²⁷ and he demolished²⁸ all the cities, the high *ones* on the wadi²⁹ of Abron,³⁰ till the point for one to come onto the sea. **25** And he apprehended the borders of Kilikia, and he cut-down all the *ones who stood-against him*. And he came till he reached boundaries of Japheth, specifically the boundaries toward the south throughout the face of Arab. **26** And he encircled all the sons of Midian, and he set-on-fire their tentsites, and he foraged their sheepfolds. **27** And he descended into a plain of Damasek in the days of the reaping of wheats, and he set-on-fire all their fields, and he gave the flocks and the herds-of-cattle into disappearance, and he despoiled their cities, and he winnowed-out their plains, and he struck all their young-men with³¹ a mouth of a long-sword.

28 And fear and trembling of him fell-on upon the *ones* dwelling-in the seacoast, the *ones who* were in Zidon and in Zor, and the *ones* dwelling in Sur³² and Okina,³³ and all the *ones* dwelling in Jabneh.³⁴ And the *ones* dwelling in Ashdod and Ashkelon and Gaza³⁵ were exceedingly filled-with-fear of him.

CHAPTER 3

And they commissioned messengers to him with peaceable accounts, saying, **2** “Behold, **we**, the boys of Great King Seleukos, are being laid-near your face. Make-use-of us exactly-as is pleasing to your face.³⁶ **3** Behold, our residences³⁷ and all our place,³⁸ and every plain of wheats, and the flocks and the herds-of-cattle, and all the sheepfolds of the tents of ours are being laid-near before your face; make-use-of *them* exactly-as would be pleasing to you. **4** Behold, even our cities and the *ones* dwelling in them are slaves of yours. After you come, meet with them as is good in your eyes.”

5 And the men³⁹ came to be beside Holofernes, and they brought-a-message to him in-accordance-with these words. **6** And he descended onto the seacoast, he himself and his force;⁴⁰ and he watched-over the cities, the high *ones*. And from out of them he took select men for⁴¹ an auxiliary. **7** And they themselves and all their surrounding-country received him for themselves with crowns and choruses and tympanis. **8** And he demolished⁴² all their consecrated-things,⁴³ and he cut-down⁴⁴ their groves. And a commission was having been given to him in mystery⁴⁵ to exterminate all the gods of the earth, so-that all the nations might render-service to Seleukos (to him alone), and so-that all the tongues and the tribes of theirs might call-on him for themselves for⁴⁶ a god.

9 And he came throughout the face of Jezreel of the neighborhood of Dothan,⁴⁷ which is opposite the ridge,⁴⁸ the great ridge of Judah.⁴⁹ **10** And he encamped up between Geba and Skythians⁵⁰ City, and he was there for a month of days with⁵¹ the result to collect all the baggage of his force.⁵²

CHAPTER 4

And the sons of Israel, the *ones* dwelling in Judah, heard all-things, as-many-as Holofernes, the chief-general of Seleukos king of the Asshureans, did to the nations, and in which manner he despoiled all their temples⁵³ and consigned⁵⁴ these things into a disappearing. **2** And they were exceedingly, exceedingly filled with-fear from his face;⁵⁵ and they were disturbed concerning Jerusalem and the inner-sanctum of the Lord their God.⁵⁶ **3** Because they had recently⁵⁷ ascended⁵⁸ out of the captivity, and lately⁵⁹ all the people of Judah been collected; and the vessels, and the sacrificial-altar, and the house were having been made-holy from out the profaning. **4** And they commissioned men into every border of Samaria, and of Kona,⁶⁰ and of Beth-Horon, and of Belmain,⁶¹ and of Jericho, and into Chobah and Aesora,⁶² and the gorge of Shalem. **5** And they preoccupied⁶³ all the caps of the mountains of the highlands, and they enwalled the villages in them. And because their plains were recently⁶⁴ having been reaped, they stored up a stock-of-grain for themselves⁶⁵ for⁶⁶ preparation of war.

³² [2:28] LXX(A) / LXX(S) “Tour” / LXX(V) “Assyria” (Asshur) / 19, 108 “Soud” / Eth “Seir”

³³ [2:28] LXX(S) “Annan”

³⁴ [2:28] Hebrew equivalent / LXX “Jamnaan”

³⁵ [2:28] most LXX / LXX(S,58,583), most OL, Syr add / OL(X) instead add “Gaia”

³⁶ [3:2] most LXX / LXX(S) omit “Make...face.”

³⁷ literally “courting-places”

³⁸ [3:3] most LXX / LXX(SV) omit “and all our place” by scribal error

³⁹ [3:5] LXX / LXX(58,583), OL, Syr, Arm “messengers”

⁴⁰ literally “power”

⁴¹ literally “into”

⁴² literally “dug-down”

⁴³ [3:8] Syr / LXX “borders”

⁴⁴ literally “cut-out”

⁴⁵ [3:8] LXX(58), OL(SB), Syr add “in mystery” / OL(QP) add “for ministry” (corruption) / OL(G) “in oath” / OL(R) add “in secret” / OL(X) “in sacred-things of a king”

⁴⁶ literally “into”

⁴⁷ Hebrew original restored / LXX “Dōtaia”

⁴⁸ literally “saw/jagged-thing”

⁴⁹ [3:9] OL(MC) “Edom”

⁵⁰ [3:10] Hebrew restoration is “Geba” / most LXX “Gaibai and Skythians” / LXX(A,542), Eth “Taiban and Skythians” / LXX “Gabal and Skythians” / OL(M) “Libdaa Scitorum” / OL(X) “Tabescestaran”

⁵¹ literally “into”

⁵² [3:9–10] Vul “And when he had passed through all Syria Sobal, and all Apamea, and all Aram-naharaim, he came to the Edomites into the land of Geba, and he took possession of their cities, and stayed there for 30 days, in which days he commanded all the troops of his army to be united.”

⁵³ [4:1] most LXX / LXX(A), Eth “borders” / LXX(L) “idols” / Syr “gods”

⁵⁴ literally “gave”

⁵⁵ literally “from a face of his”

⁵⁶ literally “Lord, a god of theirs” (the original Hebrew probably read “Yahweh God”)

⁵⁷ literally “shortly-before”

⁵⁸ literally “they were having ascended”

⁵⁹ literally “youngly”

⁶⁰ [4:4] most LXX / LXX(A), Syr, OL(S) “villages” (Gk “komas”) / Hebrew original may be “Kamon”

⁶¹ [4:4] most LXX / LXX(S) “Abelmam” / Syr “Abel-meholah”

⁶² [4:4] Hebrew original may perhaps be “Hazor” or Khirbat “es-Sar”

⁶³ literally “took-beforehand”

⁶⁴ literally “shortly-before”

⁶⁵ literally “they set-before themselves into a stock-of-grain”

⁶⁶ literally “into”

¹ [2:7–9] Vul omit “Tell them to have earth...all the earth.”

² literally “into”

³ literally “of a conviction of theirs”

⁴ [2:11] many (lit. “all the earth of you”) / LXX(19,44,58,71,74,106,108,236,249,311,583), Syr, OL omit “of you”

⁵ literally “in a hand of mine”

⁶ [2:14] LXX(SL) add

⁷ literally “power”

⁸ literally “into”

⁹ literally “into”

¹⁰ literally (for “multitudinous”) “into a multitude”

¹¹ literally “power”

¹² literally “going”

¹³ literally “to come-before”

¹⁴ literally “setting”

¹⁵ literally “in”

¹⁶ [2:20] LXX(593), OL(MG) “sea”

¹⁷ literally “from”

¹⁸ literally “way”

¹⁹ perhaps “Baktiallé” (a town of Aram) / LXX(A) “Paktalai” / LXX(58,583) “Bekpelath” / LXX(SL), OL(19,319) “Bethoulia” / Syr “Beth-Qetiylath” / OL(R) “Bethialat” / OL(O) “Hetchilat” or “Patale”

²⁰ [2:21] LXX(311) “mountains of Galpatou” / LXX(58) “mountains of Aggias which is”

²¹ literally “power”

²² Hebrew equivalent / LXX “Phoud”

²³ [2:23] LXX / OL(MC), Vul “the sons of Tharsis” / OL(SBQPGX), Syr “the sons of Thiras and the sons of Rassis” / Armenian “the sons of Ramas”

²⁴ [2:23] LXX(S) “Maek” / OL(M) “Mashae”

²⁵ [2:23] LXX(SA), Vul [“Cheleōn”] / LXX(V,19,58,108,583), Syr, OL(SBQP) “Chaldeans” / Eth “Eleon” / OL(SB) “Ebelonis”

²⁶ [2:24] LXX / from Persian “Ufratu” / Hebrew “Furat”

²⁷ [2:24] Hebrew equivalent / LXX, Vul “Mesopotamia”

²⁸ literally “dug-down”

²⁹ literally “winter-storm-flow”

³⁰ [2:24] LXX(AV) / LXX(SL,58,583) “Hebron” / some LXX “Asrona” / LXX(74) “Rasona” / OL(SB) “Cedron” / OL(QPX), “Becon” / Vul, OL(MC) “Mambre” / Syr “Jabbok” / Arm(te) “Naboraj” / Arm(ap) “Nabrana”

³¹ literally “in”

6 And Joiakim¹ the priest, the great *one*, who was in Jerusalem in those² days, wrote to the *ones who were dwelling-in Bethoulia* and³ Beth-Mesthaim,⁴ which is opposite Jezreel throughout the plain, the *one near Dothan*,⁵ 7 saying, that they should thoroughly-retain⁶ the ascents⁷ of the mountain-region, because, through these, was the entrance into Judah. And *since* the means-of-advance⁸ was narrow, only *allowing* for two men to pass through at a time,⁹ it was easily-handable to try-to-prevent them *while they were* stepping-forward. 8 And the sons of Israel did even-as Joiakim the priest, the great *one*, and also the body-of-seniors of all the populace of Israel which were sitting themselves at Jerusalem, explicitly-ordered them.

9 And every man of Israel cried-up toward God in great earnestness, and they humbled their souls in a great fast.¹⁰ 10 They themselves, and their women, and their infants, and their *heads-of-livestock*,¹¹ and every sojourner, and hired *man*, and *man* purchased-with-silver of theirs—they *all* put a sack on their loins. 11 And every man and woman of Israel, and the little-boys-and-girls, the *persons* dwelling in Jerusalem, fall down *before* the face of the inner-sanctum. And they asked their heads, and they stretched-out their sack *before* the face of God.¹² 12 And they clothed the sacrificial-altar with a sack. And with-oneaccord, they cried out earnestly toward the God of Israel, not to give their infants into a thorough-snatching, and the women into a foraging, and the cities of their inheritance¹³ into a disappearing, and the holy-things into a profaning and a cause-for-reproach, an object-of-rejoicing-over *among* the nations.

13 And the Lord¹⁴ listened-to their voice and saw-into their tribulation. And the people was fasting for many days in all Judah and Jerusalem throughout the face of the holy-things of¹⁵ the Lord Almighty.¹⁶ 14 And Joiakim the priest, the great *one*, and all the priests having stood-by before-the-face of the Lord and the *ones* performing-public-service to the Lord, having girded a sack around their loins for themselves, were bringing-forward the holocaust of the constancy, and the prayers and the voluntary gifts of the people. 15 And ash was on their turbans, and they were crying out toward the Lord from out of all their power with¹⁷ the result for him to look-over every house of Israel for *what is* good.

CHAPTER 5

And a message was brought-back to Holofernes, chief-general of the force¹⁸ of Asshur, due-to-the-fact-that the sons of Israel prepared themselves for¹⁹ a war, and enclosed the passes of the mountainous-region, and enwalled every cap of a high mountain, and put impediments²⁰ in the plains. 2 And he was angered exceedingly with fury, and he called all the chiefs of Moab and the generals of Ammon and all satraps of the seacoast,²¹ 3 and he spoke to them, “Surely bring-back-a-message to me, sons of Chana’an, about what sort of people is this which sits itself in the mountainous-region, and what *are* the cities in which they are dwelling,²² and *what is* the multitude of their force,²³ and in what *does* their might and their strength *consist*, and which king has stood-up over them, being-leader of an army of theirs.” 4 And for what reason did they, from all the *ones* indwelling in the west,²⁵ turn their back on the *idea* to come for²⁶ a meeting with me.”

5 And Achior,²⁷ the leading *man* of all the sons of Ammon, spoke to him, “My lord, surely hear an account out of the mouth of your slave, and I will bring a message to you of the truth about this people who is dwelling-in this

mountainous-region, dwelling near you. And a lie will not come-forth out of the mouth of your slave.

6 “This people is offspring-from the Kasdeans.²⁸ 7 And at a former *time*, they sojourned in Aram-Naharaim²⁹ and Syria,³⁰ because they did not wish to follow the gods of their fathers who came-to-be *bowed-down-to*³¹ in the earth of the Kasdeans.³² 8 And they stepped-forth out of *one of the* ways of their parents, and they bowed-down-to the god of the heaven, a god which they recognized. And they threw them out from the face of their gods. And they fled into Aram-Naharaim,³³ and they sojourned there for many days. 9 And their god spoke for them to come-forth out of their sojourning and to go into a *plot* of earth of Chana’an. And they dwelled-in there, and they were multiplied by-means-of gold and by-means-of silver, and in exceedingly many *heads-of-livestock*. 10 And they descended into Egypt (for a famine covered the earth of Chana’an), and they sojourned there until the *time* of which they were thoroughly-nourished.³⁴ And there they became *made* into a vast multitude, and the number of their race was not *countable*. 11 And the king of Egypt stood-up-against them, and he outwitted³⁵ them with³⁶ labor³⁷ and bricks; and they humbled them, and they made³⁸ them into slaves for themselves. 12 And they cried-up toward their god, and he struck all the earth of Egypt with strokes in which there was not *any* healing. And the Egyptians threw them out from *before their* face. 13 And the god of the heavens dried-down the Sea of Reeds³⁹ in-front of them in their flight, so that the waters were made to stand firm as a wall on either side, and they walked through the bottom of the sea and passed it dry on foot. And when an innumerable army of the Egyptians pursued after them in that place, they were so overwhelmed with the waters, that there was not one left to tell what had happened to their posterity. 14 And after they came out of the Sea of Reeds, he led them into a way⁴⁰ of Sinai and of Kadesh-Barnea, in which man could never dwell, nor son of man rest within. There bitter fountains were made sweet for them to drink, and for forty years they received food from the heavens.⁴¹ And they threw-out all the *ones* who were indwelling in the desert. 15 And they dwelled in a *plot* of earth of the Amorites, and, in their strength, they exterminated all the Heshbonites⁴² and Basanitas.⁴³ And after they crossed-through the Jordan, they inherited all the mountainous-region.⁴⁴ 16 And they threw-forth out of their face: the Chana’anite, and the Perizzite, and the Jebusite, and Shechem,⁴⁵ and all the Girgashites; and they indwelled in it for many days.

17 “Wherever they went in without bow and arrow, and without shield and sword, their god fought for them and overcame. And as-long-as they did not sin before-the-face of their god, he was with them. The good-things were there, because a god who hates unrighteousness is with them. 18 But when they departed-away from the way which he covenanted with them, they were exterminated in many wars onto exceedingly much, and they were captured into a *plot* of earth which is not their-own.⁴⁶ And the inner-sanctum of their god was made-to-be brought down into the ground, and their cities were overpowered by their opponents. 19 And now, after they turned-around onto their god, they ascended⁴⁷ out of the dispersion in which they were dispersed there, and they retained Jerusalem, where their holy-place is, and they were caused to dwell in the mountainous-region because it was deserted.

20 “And now, O master, O lord, if, indeed, there is an ignorant-action⁴⁸ in this people and they are sinning⁴⁹ against⁵⁰ their god, then we will observe⁵¹ that this impediment is in them, and we will ascend⁵² and we will excite them to war.”

¹ [4:6] most LXX / LXX(58,583), OL(MC), Vul, Syr “Eliakim”

² literally “the”

³ [entire book] LXX(SL), OL “Baitoulia” / Vul “Bethulia” (though omitted “and Bethoulia” in 4:6) / “LXX(V) “Baituloua” / LXX(AN) “Betuloua” / LXX(58), Arm “Batuloua” / Midrash “Jerusalem” / Original Hebrew equivalent unknown

⁴ [4:6] LXX / OL(GROB) “Beth-Mastel” / OL(X) “Bafobime” / OL(C) “Bapomasa” / Syr “Beth-MSTYM”

⁵ [4:6] Hebrew original restored / LXX “Dothaim” / Vul “Dothain”

⁶ literally “saying to thoroughly-retain”

⁷ literally “ascendings”

⁸ literally “stepping-forward”

⁹ literally “narrow onto men for the all two”

¹⁰ [4:9] LXX(SL,58,583), OL, Vul, Syr / LXX(AVN) “souls in great earnestness”

¹¹ [4:10] Syr, Vul omit “and their heads-of-livestock”

¹² [4:11] LXX(71), OL “of the Lord”

¹³ [4:12] LXX(55,126), Syr, Vul “or their cities”

¹⁴ [4:13] LXX(b) “And God” / LXX(58,583) “And the Lord God”

¹⁵ [4:13] LXX(58,583) “the things having been made-holy from” / LXX(126,249) omit

¹⁶ [4:13] LXX(S) “Judah, and those in Jerusalem fell down before the holy-places of the Lord Almighty” // Vul replaces “The Lord heard...Jerusalem” with “Then Joiakim the chief-priest of the Lord went about all of Israel and spoke to them, saying, “Know that, if you continue with perseverance in the fastings and prayers in the sight of the Lord, that the Lord will hear your prayers. Remember Moses, the servant of the Lord, who overcame Amalek, who trusted in his own strength, and in his power, and in his army, and in his shields, and in his chariots, and in his horsemen; not by fighting with the sword but by praying with holy prayers. So shall all the enemies of Israel be, if you persevere in this work that you have begun.”

¹⁷ literally “into”

¹⁸ literally “power”

¹⁹ literally “into”

²⁰ [5:1] OL(GX) “tents”

²¹ [5:2] LXX(S), OL(M) omit “and all satraps of the seacoast” by scribal error

²² [5:3] LXX(L), OL(X) “and what *are* the cities in which they are dwelling?” / LXX(583) “and what the cities would be?”

²³ literally “power”

²⁴ [5:3] LXX(S), Syr omit “being-leader of an army of theirs”

²⁵ literally “settings”

²⁶ literally “into”

²⁷ [5:5] Syr “Ahihud” (in Num 34:27, LXX translates “Ahihud” to “Achior”)

²⁸ [5:6] Hebrew equivalent / LXX “Chaldeans”

²⁹ [5:7] Hebrew equivalent / Gk “Mesopotamia”

³⁰ [5:7] OL(SBQPM) add

³¹ [5:7] Syr, Vul add

³² [5:7] (Hebrew equivalent “in...Kasdeans” / LXX “in...Chaldeans”) / LXX(58,583), OL(SBQP), Syr, Augustine “glorious-ones”

³³ [5:8] Hebrew equivalent / Gk “Mesopotamia”

³⁴ [5:10] LXX(122,248,392) “were made-pervse” (or “were perverted”) / OL(C) “were altogether-worn-out” (lit, “altogether rubbed”)

³⁵ literally “wised-down” (as in, to bring someone down as a result of using superior wisdom)

³⁶ literally “in”

³⁷ [5:11] LXX(S,58,583), OL, Vul, Syr “clay”

³⁸ literally “put”

³⁹ [5:13] Hebrew equivalent restored / LXX “the Red Sea”

⁴⁰ [5:14] many LXX / LXX(46,58,64,126,249,381,534), OL(MC), Syr “into the boundary” / Vul “into (the) desert”

⁴¹ [5:13–14] Vul add all the underlined portion found from “Then the God of Heavens dried up...heavens.”

⁴² [5:15] LXX(ASb), OL(G), Eth “all Heshbon”

⁴³ [5:15] LXX(58,583), OL(SBQPM) add

⁴⁴ [5:15] LXX(Ba,55,126) “the earth”

⁴⁵ [5:16] OL(X) “Aeueum” / Vul “Eveum” / Syr “Hauueeos” / LXX(583) “Achem”

⁴⁶ [5:17–18] Vul “Wherever they went in...overcame. And there was no one who triumphed over this people, except when they departed from worshipping the Lord their God. But as often as they worshipped any other God besides their own, they were given to spoil and to the sword, and to reproach. And as often as they changed their minds for having revolted from worshipping their God, the God of Heaven gave them power to resist.”

⁴⁷ [5:19] LXX(N), OL(QP) “cried-up” / OL(X) “they cried-up in tribulation, and god rescued them out of captivity”

⁴⁸ [5:20] LXX(126), Vul “is a sin”

⁴⁹ [5:20] LXX(58,583) “they might sin”

⁵⁰ literally “into”

⁵¹ [5:20] (lit. “god, and we will look-over”) / LXX(58,71,583,b) “and we might observe”

⁵² [5:20] LXX(58) “and may we ascend” / others “let us ascend”

21 But if lawlessness is not in their nation, *then* surely let my lord pass them by; lest-perhaps their lord and their god might shield them, and we will be *made* into a cause-for-reproach in-the-view of all the earth.”

22 And it came-to-be, as Achior ceased himself *from* uttering these accounts, even all the people, the *ones* encircling the tent and standing-around, murmured. And the great-men of Holofernes and all the *ones* dwelling-in the seacoast and Moab spoke *for him* to pulverize him.

23 “For we will not be filled-with-fear from *the* sons of Israel. For, behold, *they are* a people in which *there* is no power, nor-even might for² a strong array. **24** Surely, for-this-reason, Master Holofernes, that Achior may know that he is deceiving us, we will ascend³ into the mountains, and they will be for⁴ *the* ingesting⁵ of all your army. Then every nation may know that Seleukos is god of the earth, and there is no other besides him.”⁶

CHAPTER 6

And as the turmoil of the men, the *ones* in-a-circle *around* the congress, rested, Holofernes, chief-general of *the* force⁷ of Asshur, spoke to Achior and to all the sons of Ammon,⁸ in-the-view of all the populace of *those* of-foreign-tribes, **2** “And who are you, Achior, and *you*, the hired *men* of Ammon,⁹ that you prophesied among¹⁰ us exactly-as *you have done* today, and spoke *for us* not to war *against* the race of Israel¹¹ because their god will shield them? And who is a god¹² except¹³ Seleukos the king of all the earth?¹⁴ This *man* will commission his might, and he will exterminate them from *the* face of the earth, and their god will not rescue them. **3** Instead, **we**, his slaves, will strike¹⁵ them *down* as one human, and they will not be able to stand themselves beneath the might¹⁶ of our horses. **4** For we will flood them¹⁷ with them;¹⁸ and their mountains¹⁹ will be made-intoxicated with²⁰ their blood, and their plains will be filled *full* of their dead *ones*. Not even the print²¹ of their feet will stand itself against our face. Instead, they will be-lost by-means-of utter loss, says the king Seleukos, the lord of all the earth. For he spoke; the words of his accounts²² will not be rendered-vain.

5 “But **you**, O Achior, O hired *man* of Ammon, who uttered these accounts in a day of your unrighteousness, you will not see my face for yourself again²³ from this day, till *the time* of which I will have avenged the race of the *persons who came* out of Egypt. **6** And then, whenever I²⁴ might turn-around, the iron of my army and the lance²⁵ of my attendants will pierce²⁶ your sides, and you will fall for yourself among²⁷ their wounded. **7** And my slaves will restore you into the mountainous-region, and they will put you in one of the cities of the ascents.²⁸ **8** And you will not be-lost till *the time* of which you might be exterminated *together* with them. **9** And **if** you are hoping in your heart that they will not be altogether-taken, *then* do not *let* your face altogether-fall. I *have* uttered, and not-one of my words will fall-through.”

10 And Holofernes ordered his slaves, who were having stood-beside *him* in his tent, to together-take-hold-of Achior and to restore him into Bethoulia, and to deliver him into *the* hands of *the* sons of Israel. **11** And the slaves together-took-hold-of him, and they led him outside of the camp into the plain. And they lifted *him* away out of *the* midst of the treadable *terrain* and into the mountainous-region, and they came-by upon the springs which were underneath Bethoulia. **12**

And as the men of that city saw them upon the cap of the mountain,²⁹ they took-up their weapons, and they came-away outside of the city upon the cap of the mountain. And every man *who was* a slinger thoroughly-overpowered their ascent,³⁰ and they were throwing stones³¹ upon them. **13** And after they slid-under³² underneath the mountain, they bound Achior to a tree by his hands and feet³³ and they dismissed him, *he* having been cast under the root of the mountain; and they went-away-from *him* toward their lord.

14 But after the sons of Israel descended out of their city, they stood-over him. And after they released him, they led him away into Bethoulia. And they stood him down onto the chiefs of their city, **15** who in those days were Uzzijah (the *one who was* the son of Micah³⁴ out of the tribe of Simeon), and Chabri³⁵ (the *one who was* the son of Othoniel), and Charmi³⁶ son of Melchiel.³⁷ **16** And they called-together all the elders of the city of Israel.³⁸ And every youth of them and the women and their little-boys-and-girls,³⁹ ran-together into the assembly. And they stood Achior in *the* midst of all their people, and Uzzijah inquired-of him *about the event* which happened.

17 And he answered and brought-a-message to them *regarding* the words of the congress of Holofernes, and *regarding* all the words, as-many-as he uttered in *the* midst of the chiefs of *the* sons of Asshur and as-many-as Holofernes bragged in-regard-to the house of Israel.

18 And after the people fell down, they bowed-down-to God;⁴⁰ and they cried out, saying, **19** “O Lord, the god of the heaven and of the earth,⁴¹ look-clearly⁴² upon their arrogance! And have-mercy *on* the humiliation of our race, and, in this day, look-upon⁴³ the face of the *ones who have* been made-holy to you.⁴⁴ Show that you do not abandon those who trust in you, but that you humble those who trust in themselves and glory in their own strength.”⁴⁵

20 And they exhorted Achior, and they praised him exceedingly, saying, “As it shall please God to do for us, so it shall be also for you.”⁴⁶ **21** And Uzzijah took him alongside out of the assembly into a house of his, and he made a drinking-party for the elders. And for that whole night, they called upon the God of Israel for themselves for⁴⁷ help.

CHAPTER 7

But on the next day, Holofernes transmitted-a-message to all his army, and to all his people who came-by *to enter* into his auxiliary, to be yoking-up onto Bethoulia, and to be preoccupying⁴⁸ the ascents⁴⁹ of the mountainous-region for themselves, to be making war with the sons of Israel. **2** And in that *same* day, every powerful man of theirs yoked-up into action. And their force⁵⁰ of men *who were* warriors numbered 170,000⁵¹ men on-foot and 20,000⁵² horsemen, apart-from the packed-stuff and⁵³ the men who were on-foot among⁵⁴ them—an exceedingly vast multitude. **3** And they camped in the gorge near Bethoulia, over the spring, and they stretched-along in⁵⁵ breadth over Dothan till Belbaim,⁵⁶ and in⁵⁷ length from Bethoulia till Kuamon,⁵⁸ which is opposite of Jezreel.

4 But as the sons of Israel saw their multitude, they were exceedingly disturbed, and each *man* spoke to his neighbor, “Now these will lick-up the face

¹ [5:20] LXX(L,58,106,249,311,542,583) “and may we excite them to war” / LXX(b,126,534) “and we will war *against* them”

² literally “into”

³ [5:24] (“we will ascend”) / LXX(58,542) “may we ascend”

⁴ literally “into”

⁵ literally “feeding-down”

⁶ [5:24] Vul “Therefore...deceiving us, let us go up into the mountains; and when their mighty men have been taken prisoners, then let him be stabbed with the sword, along with them: that every nation...besides him.” [Vul has “Nebuchadnezzar” for “Seleucus”]

⁷ literally “power”

⁸ [6:1] LXX(SVNL,b,55,58,311,583), OL, Syr, Arm / LXX(Adgmp) “Moab” / one LXX places “and to all the sons of Moab” after “foreigners”

⁹ [6:2] LXX(58,311,583), OL(SBQP), Syr / most LXX “and *you* the hired *men* of Ephraim” / OL(MCGNX), Vul omit

¹⁰ literally “in”

¹¹ [6:2] LXX(b) “Ilem” (a nickname for Jerusalem?)

¹² [6:2] OL(X) “? However, I ask, since *there* is not a god” / Vul “? Who is not a god”

¹³ literally “if not”

¹⁴ [6:2] LXX(58,583), OL(SBQPX), Syr add / OL(G) instead add “the god of all the earth”

¹⁵ [6:3] (“we will strike”) / LXX(71) “may we strike” / LXX(A) “we will ruin-out” / LXX(b) “may we ruin-out”

¹⁶ [6:3] LXX(583), OL(SBQP) “foam”

¹⁷ [6:4] LXX(71) “For may we flood them” / LXX(311) “For we will tear them down” / LXX(583) “For we will break them down” / LXX(ASVN,58,542), OL(X), Syr(C) “For we will burn them down” or “For may we burn them down” / LXX(b,249,534,670), Eth “For we will trample them down”

¹⁸ [6:4] others omit “with (lit. “in”) them”

¹⁹ [6:4] LXX(V,670), Syr “borders”

²⁰ literally “in”

²¹ literally “track”

²² [6:4] LXX(SL,19,108), OL(SBQPM), Arm “mouth”

²³ literally “still”

²⁴ [6:6] LXX(V) “they”

²⁵ [6:6] OL(SBQP), Vul, Syr / LXX “people” (a clear corruption of “lance” on Greek level)

²⁶ literally “come-through”

²⁷ literally “in”

²⁸ literally “ascendings”

²⁹ [6:12] most LXX / LXX(58), OL, Syr omit “on the cap of the mountain”

³⁰ literally “ascending”

³¹ literally “throwing in stones” (“in” being used in this context as “with”)

³² [6:12] LXX(58,583), Syr “they withdrew-from” / Eth “they released-from-under”

³³ [6:13] Vul add

³⁴ [6:15] LXX(A) “Cheima” / LXX(126) “Mirakos” / OL(X) “Micel”

³⁵ [6:15] (lit. “Chabris” - “s” being add at the end of most Hebrew names to make them masculine in Greek) / LXX(583) “Gabris” / LXX(a,126) “Abris” / OL(M), Vul omit “and Chabri...Othoniel” (Hebrew original may be “Cheber”)

³⁶ [6:15] Hebrew equivalent, Vul (supported by most LXX (lit. “Charmis” - “s” being added in Greek) / LXX(A) “Chalmes” / LXX(126) “Chaob” / LXX(311) “Charmil” / OL(C) “Charu”

³⁷ [6:15] LXX(S2) “Selle”

³⁸ [6:16] LXX(S) add

³⁹ [6:16] LXX(53,583), Syr, OL add

⁴⁰ [6:18] LXX(311), OL(MCN), Vul “to the Lord” / LXX(S), OL9SBQPG) “to the Lord God”

⁴¹ [6:19] Vul add

⁴² literally “see-clearly”

⁴³ literally “look-upon upon”

⁴⁴ [6:19] Syr “upon your holy-place”

⁴⁵ [6:19] Vul “Regard our lowliness and look with favor on your holy ones. Show that you...own strength.”

⁴⁶ [7:20] OL add / Vul omit “and praised him highly” and then instead add “saying, “The God of our fathers, whose power you have set forth, will make this return to you, that you shall see their destruction. And when the Lord our God gives this liberty to his servants, let God be with you also in the midst of us: that as it shall please you, so you with all yours may converse with us.”

⁴⁷ literally “into”

⁴⁸ literally “to be taking-beforehand”

⁴⁹ literally “ascendings”

⁵⁰ literally “power”

⁵¹ [7:2] LXX(S1) “8,000” / LXX(583), OL(G), Syr “172,000” / LXX(S2), OL(C), Vul “120,000”

⁵² [7:2] OL, Vul, Syr “22,000”

⁵³ [7:2] LXX(S) “of”

⁵⁴ literally “in”

⁵⁵ literally “into”

⁵⁶ [7:3] LXX(AV) / LXX(N), Eth, Vul “Belmain” (or similar) / LXX(S) “Abelmain”

⁵⁷ literally “into”

⁵⁸ [7:3] Syr “Kadmun” / OL “Chelmona” (Eusebios called it “Kammona” and Jerome “Kimana” and they identified it with Kamon of Judges 10:50)

of all the earth. And neither the mountains of the high *lands*, nor the ravines, nor the hills will stand themselves beneath their weight.”¹

5 And after each *man* of theirs took-up their utensils, the *utensils* of-war, and after they fired-up² fires on their towers of the *walls*,³ they were remaining, keeping-watch *throughout* that whole night.

6 But on the second day,⁴ Holofernes led-out all his horse before the face of the sons of Israel who were in Bethoulia. 7 And he looked-over the ascents⁵ of their city, and he patrolled the springs of the waters; and he preoccupied⁶ them for himself, and he stood camps of men *who were* warriors upon them. And he yoked-up to *return* among⁷ his people.⁸

8 And after all the chiefs of the sons of Esau, and all the leaders of the people of Moab, and the generals of the seacoast came to him, they spoke, 9 “My master, surely hear an account, in order that a wreck⁹ might not come-to-be among¹⁰ your force.¹¹ 10 For this people of the sons of Israel, have not put-confidence upon their spears, *but* instead on the heights of the mountains in which they are indwelling, for it is not easy¹² to step-forward to the caps of their mountains. 11 And now, O master, do not be warring against them in regular battle array,¹³ and not one man out of your people will himself fall. 12 Wait-up in¹⁴ your camp. Carefully-guard every man *from* out of your force,¹⁵ and let your boys prevail-over¹⁶ the spring of the water which is going-forth out of the root of the mountain, 13 *due-to-the-fact*-that all the *ones* dwelling-in Bethoulia are drawing-water for themselves from-there. And the thirst will do-away-with them, and they will give-over their city. And *we* and our people will ourselves ascend to the nearby caps of the mountains, and we will camp over there for¹⁷ a fore-guard with¹⁸ the *result* for not one man to come-forth out of the city. 14 And they will be melted in the famine, they and their women and their children. And prior to the *event* for the long-sword to come upon them, they will be laid-low in the broadways of their housings. 15 And you will equivalently-repay to them a wicked equivalent-repayment in-requit-for the *things* of which they rose-in-sedition, and *because* they did not meet your face in peace.”

16 And these accounts were-pleasing before-the-face-of Holofernes and before-the-face-of all his attendants, and he explicitly-ordered *for them* to be doing exactly-as they uttered.

17 And a camp of the sons of Ammon¹⁹ lifted-away-from *there*, and with them *went* 5,000 of the sons of Asshur. And they camped in the gorge, and they preoccupied²⁰ for themselves: the waters and the springs of the waters of the sons of Israel.²¹ 18 And the sons of Esau and the sons of Ammon ascended, and they camped in the mountainous-region opposite of Dothan. And they commissioned *some men from* out of them toward the south and to the east²² opposite of Akrebeh, which is near Chusi, which is on the Wadi²³ Mochmur.²⁴ And the remaining army of the Asshureans encamped in the plain, and they covered all the face of the earth. And the tents and the baggages of theirs encamped in a vast crowd, and they were *made* into an exceedingly vast multitude.

19 And the sons of Israel cried-up toward the Lord their God, because their spirit became-fainted-souled, because all their enemies encircled them²⁵ and there was not a way *for them* to escape *from* out of the midst of them. 20 And every camp of Asshur, the *men* on-foot and chariots and the horsemen of theirs, remained in-a-circle *around* them for 34 days.²⁶ And all their containers of the waters failed all the *ones who were* dwelling-in Bethoulia. 21 And the pits were being emptied-out, and on one day they were not having water to drink for²⁷ remaining-full, because they were giving *it* to them to drink in measure. 22 And

their infants lacked-motivation, and the women and the young-men failed from the thirst and they were falling in the broadways of the city and in the passages; and there was not *any* strengthening²⁸ still *left* in them.²⁹

23 And all the people—the young-men, and the women, and the little-boys-and-girls—were congregating-upon-one-spot over Uzzijah and the chiefs of the city. And they cried-up with a great voice, and they spoke in-view of all the elders, 24 “*We wish* God would judge between³⁰ you* and us, because you* did a great unrighteousness among³¹ us after you* did not utter peacefully with the sons of Asshur. 25 And now, our help is not *here*. Instead, God has sold us into their hands with³² the *result* be laid-low in their view in thirst and great loss. 26 And now, call-on them for ourselves and give-out-for-rent all the city for³³ spoil to the people of Holofernes and to all his force.³⁴ 27 *For it would be* better for us to become their prey³⁵ than to die-off in thirst.³⁶ For we will be *made* into slaves³⁷ and *slave-women*.³⁸ and our soul will live for itself, and we will not see for ourselves the death of our infants before³⁹ our eyes, and the women and the children of ours losing⁴⁰ their souls. 28 We are emphatically-calling-to-testifying against you*: the heaven and the earth, and our God and Lord God⁴¹ of our fathers, who is avenging us according-to our sins and according-to the sinful-actions of our fathers, in order that he might not act⁴² according to these words *which we have spoke* in this day today.”⁴³

29 And with-one-accord, a great weeping of all *persons* came-to-be in the midst of the assembly, and they cried *out* toward the Lord God with a great voice, saying, “We have sinned with our fathers, we have done unjustly, we have committed iniquity. Have mercy upon us, because you are good, or punish our iniquities by chastising us yourself; and do not deliver those who trust in you to a people who do not know you, that they might not say among the nations, ‘Where is their God?’” And wearied with these cries, and tired with these weepings, they held their peace.⁴⁴

30 And Uzzijah spoke to them, “Be being-encouraged, O brothers! May we persevere-to-the-end still five days *more*, in which the Lord our God will turn his mercy around upon us again, for he will not leave us behind-in *this place* to⁴⁵ the end. 31 But if-at-any-time these *days* might pass,⁴⁶ and help might not come upon us, I will do according-to your* words.”

32 And he scattered the people *each* into his own camp, and they came-away upon the walls and the towers of their city. And he commissioned the women and the children into their houses. And in the city, many were in much humiliation.⁴⁷

CHAPTER 8

*The beginning of Judith.*⁴⁸ And in those days, Judith heard *about these things*.⁴⁹ She was daughter of Merari, son of Buz,⁵⁰ son of Joseph, son of Uzziel, son of Elkiah, son of Hananiah, son of Gideon, son of Rephaim, son of Achitub,⁵¹ son of Elijah, son of Hilkiyah,⁵² son of Eliab,⁵³ son of Nathaniel, son of Shelumiel,⁵⁴ son of Zurishaddai,⁵⁵ son of Simeon,⁵⁶ son of Israel. 2 And her man Manasseh son of Joseph, son of Achitub, son of Melchi, son of Aelia, son of Nathanael, son of Zurishaddai, son of Simeon, son of Israel⁵⁷ was of her tribe and of her fatherland, and he died-off in the days of the reaping of barley. 3 For he stood-over⁵⁸ the *ones who were* binding the sheaves in the plain, and the burning-heat came upon his head; and he fell upon his couch and he came-to-his-end in Bethoulia, his city. And he was entombed with his fathers in the field, the *one up the middle*⁵⁹ of

¹ [7:4] LXX / Vul “multitude, they prostrated themselves upon the ground, put ashes upon their heads, and prayed with one accord that the God of Israel would show mercy to his people.”

² literally “burned-up”

³ [7:5] LXX(58,583), OL, Syr add

⁴ [7:6] LXX (lit. “on the day, the second day” / Vul omit this phrase

⁵ literally “ascendings”

⁶ literally “he took-beforehand”

⁷ literally “into”

⁸ [7:6–7] LXX / Vul, Midrash(similar) “Holofernes, in going round about, found that the fountain which supplied them with water ran through an aqueduct outside the city on the south side. And he commanded their aqueduct to be cut off. Nevertheless, there were springs not far from the walls, out of which they were seen secretly to draw water, to refresh themselves a little rather than to drink their fill.”

⁹ literally “something-that-is-shattered”

¹⁰ literally “in”

¹¹ literally “power”

¹² literally “easily-handable”

¹³ literally “them exactly-as a war of an array is coming-to-be”

¹⁴ literally “upon/on/over”

¹⁵ literally “power”

¹⁶ literally “be-mighty-over”

¹⁷ literally “into”

¹⁸ literally “of”

¹⁹ [7:17] LXX(19,108), OL(OPG), Syr “Moab”

²⁰ literally “took-beforehand”

²¹ [7:17] Vul “and he placed all around about a hundred men at every spring.”

²² literally “place-from-the-sun”

²³ literally “winter-storm-flow”

²⁴ [7:18] LXX(A) omit “beside the Wadi Mochmur” / Vul omit all three of these place names

²⁵ [7:19] LXX(A,a,126,542), OL, Vul, Eth, Arm / others omit “them”

²⁶ [7:20] most LXX / LXX(19,108) “for 14 days and 1 month” / OL(G), Syr “for 4 days and 2 months” / OL(X) “for two months” / Vul “for 20 days”

²⁷ literally “into”

²⁸ literally “a becoming-mighty”

²⁹ [7:22] Vul omit “And their infants...any them.”

³⁰ literally “in-the-midst of”

³¹ literally “in”

³² literally “of”

³³ literally “into”

³⁴ literally “power”

³⁵ literally “to become to them into a thorough-snatching”

³⁶ [7:27] LXX(L,b,534) add

³⁷ [7:27] OL(MC) omit “For we will be *made* into slaves”

³⁸ [7:27] LXX(58,583), OL, Syr add

³⁹ literally “in”

⁴⁰ literally “failing”

⁴¹ [7:28] LXX(58,583), OL(G), Syr “and the Lord, the Lord God”

⁴² [7:28] (lit. “in order that he might not do”) / LXX(SN), OL(G) “in order that he might do” / most OL “in order that he might be doing” / LXX(583), Syr “of the *act* to do” / LXX(311,534), Eth “. May you* do”

⁴³ literally “in the day, the *one* today”

⁴⁴ [7:30] Vul add

⁴⁵ literally “into”

⁴⁶ literally “come-through”

⁴⁷ [7:32] Vul omit “And he scattered...humiliation.”

⁴⁸ [8:1] LXX(583) add

⁴⁹ [8:1] LXX(58), OL, Syr “Judith was indwelling in the city”

⁵⁰ [8:1] Emend [see Gen22:21] / most LXX / LXX(V), OL(S), Syr “Oz” / OL(m) “ioas” / Vul “idox”

⁵¹ [8:1] most LXX / LXX(A) “Akithon” / LXX(N) “Akinthon” / LXX(V) omit “son of Hananiah...Achitub” /

Midrash has only “Judith daughter of Achitub” for her entire genealogy

⁵² [8:1] LXX(58,583), OL(s), Syr “Melchiah” / LXX(A), Eth omit “son of Hilkiyah”

⁵³ [8:1] LXX(S), Copt “Enab”

⁵⁴ [8:1] most LXX / LXX(S) “Shemumiel” / LXX(A) “Shelumina”

⁵⁵ [8:1] LXX(SV) / most LXX “Zalashaddai”

⁵⁶ [8:1] LXX(NL,53,583), OL, Syr, Vul / all others omit “son of Simeon”

⁵⁷ [8:1] OL(SBOPG) add

⁵⁸ literally “stood-over over”

⁵⁹ literally “midst”

Dothan and Baal-Hamon.¹ **4** And Judith was in her house, being-widowed, for three years and four months. **5** And she made a tent for herself on the housetop of her house. And she put a sack on her loin, and the robes of her widowhood² were on her. **6** And she was fasting all the days of her widowhood,³ ⁴ except pre-sabbaths, and⁵ sabbaths, and new-moon-eves, and new-moons, and festivals, and days of joyfulness of the house of Israel. **7** And she was beautiful in appearance,⁶ and exceedingly lovely in countenance⁷ and wise in the heart, and good in intelligence.⁸ And she was rich, for⁹ her man Manasseh¹⁰ had left-behind¹¹ gold-pieces and silver-pieces to her, and boys and servant-girls, and heads-of-livestock, and fields; and she remained upon them. **8** And there was not a wicked word which was brought-upon her, because she filled herself with-fear-of God exceedingly.

9 And she heard the words of the people, the wicked words which they had spoke against the chief, because they became-faint-souled in their dearth of the waters. And Judith heard all the accounts which Uzzijah uttered to them, as to how he¹² let-it-into-his-ear and¹³ swore to them, that he would deliver¹⁴ the city to the Asshureans after five days. **10** After she commissioned her maid (the one having stood-over all the things she was possessing), she called Uzzijah and¹⁵ Chabri and Charmi, the elders of her city.

11 And they came to her, and she said to them, “Surely hear me, chiefs of the ones who indwell in Bethoulia. Because your* account which you* uttered in this day in-view of the people is not right.¹⁶ And you* established¹⁷ this oath¹⁸ which you uttered between¹⁹ God and you*. And you* spoke, that you* would give-up²⁰ the city to our enemies, if-at-any-time the Lord might not turn help around to us²¹ in these days. **12** And now, who are you* who tried God in this day today²² and who cause-a-stand in-behalf of²³ God in the midst²⁴ of the sons of humans? **13** And now, it is the Lord Almighty whom you* are probing-out. And will you* not recognize even-one thing for yourselves till the future age?²⁵ **14** Because you* will not find the depth of a heart of human, and you* will not take-hold-of for yourselves the rationalizations²⁶ of his mindset. And how will you* search for God who made all these things, and how will you* recognize for yourselves his mind, and how will you* contemplate his rationalizing?²⁷ ²⁸

“By-no-means! O brothers, do not be provoking the Lord our God to-anger. **15** Because if-at-any-time he might not be wishing to help us in five days, he himself has the authority to shelter us in these²⁹ days or even to ruin us before the face of our enemies.³⁰ **16** But you* are not the ones taking the deliberations from the Lord our God in-pledge. Because God is not as a human to be moved-by-threat,³¹ nor-even as a son of a human to be moved-by-request.³² **17** For-this-reason, while we are awaiting the salvation from him, may we call upon him for ourselves for our help,³³ and he will listen-to our voice³⁴ for himself, if-at-any-time it might be pleasing to him.

18 “Because not in our generations, nor-even in this day today,³⁵ did there stand-up neither a tribe, nor a patrilineage, nor a populace, nor a city from out of us which is bowing-down-to gods made-with-hands, just-as it came-to-be in the

former days. **19** In-favor of which things, our fathers were given into long-sword and into pillage,³⁶ and they fell as a great fallen-body before-the-face of our enemies. **20** But we did not know a different god except him. From-this-fact, we are hoping that he will not overlook us for himself, nor-even that his saving mercy will depart-from³⁷ anyone from our race.³⁸ **21** Because in the act for us to be taken, even in-this-manner, all Judah will be taken,³⁹ and our holy-things will be foraged; and he will seek-out their profaning from out of our blood.⁴⁰ **22** And for the murder of our brothers, and for the captivity of the earth, and for the desolation of our inheritance—all this⁴¹ he will turn-around upon our head.⁴² In the nations, wheresoever we might be-enslaved, even there we will be made into a stumbling-block and into a reproach in-view of the ones who obtain us. **23** Because our slavery will not be guided into favor, instead the Lord our God will put it into dishonor.

24 “And now, O brothers, may we exhibit⁴³ ourselves to our brothers, because their souls are being hanged-upon us;⁴⁴ and the defense of the holy-things, and the house, and the sacrificial-altar, has supported itself upon us. **25** Alongside all these things, may we give-thanks to the Lord our God who is trying us, even-as he even did with our fathers. **26** Be-caused-to-remember as-much-as he did with Abraham, and as-much-as he tried Isaac, and as-much-as came-to-be to⁴⁵ Jacob in Paddan-Aram,⁴⁶ while he was shepherding⁴⁷ the sheeps of Laban, the brother of his mother. **27** Because he did not⁴⁸ set us on-fire,⁴⁹ exactly-as⁵⁰ he did those men for⁵¹ a probe of their hearts, and he did not avenge us; instead, the Lord is whipping into admonishment the ones who are drawing-near to him.”

28 And Uzzijah spoke to her, “All the words, as-many-as you* spoke, you uttered in a good heart, and there is not one who will stand himself against your accounts. **29** Because today⁵² is not the first time your wisdom has been clear-beforehand, instead, from the beginning of your days,⁵³ all the people know your intelligence, in-view-of-the-fact-that the figure⁵⁴ of your heart is good. **30** Instead, the people have thirsted exceedingly, and they compelled us to act⁵⁵ even-as we uttered these things to them, and to bring an oath upon us⁵⁶ which we will not transgress. **31** And now, because you are a pious⁵⁷ woman, beseech God about us and our God will possibly listen-to you for himself⁵⁸ and the Lord will commission the heavy-rain for⁵⁹ a filling of our ponds, and we will not still fail.

32 And Judith spoke to them, “Hear me, and I will do an affair of wisdom⁶⁰ which will reach down into generations of generations to sons of our race. **33** All of you*, stand yourselves over the gate this night, and I will come-out with my maid. And within the days after which you* spoke that you* would deliver⁶¹ the city to our enemies, the Lord will look-after Israel by⁶² my hand in-view-of-the-fact-that I have become-confident.⁶³ **34** But you* will not search-out⁶⁴ my act; for I will not state it to you* till the time for the things which I am doing to be finished.”

35 And Uzzijah and the chiefs spoke to her, “Be going in⁶⁵ peace, and may the Lord God go in-front of you for⁶⁶ an avenging of our enemies.”

36 And after the men⁶⁷ turned-away out of the tent, they went onto their dispositions.⁶⁸

¹ Hebrew restoration / Gk “Balamon”

² literally “widowing”

³ literally “widowing”

⁴ [8:6] Midrash “Each day she used to prostrate herself before the Holy and Blessed One in ashes and sackcloth.”

⁵ [8:6] LXX(58,583), OL(MC), Syr, Vul omit “pre-sabbaths and”

⁶ literally “beautiful in the sight”

⁷ literally “and exceedingly hourly in the countenance”

⁸ [8:7] LXX(58,583), OL, Syr add

⁹ [8:7] LXX(58,583), OL, Syr add

¹⁰ [8:8] OL(s) add Manasseh’s genealogy (which is a copy of the same addition as in verse 8:2)

¹¹ literally “left-under”

¹² [8:9] most LXX / LXX(V) “and who”

¹³ [8:9] LXX(58,583), OL, Syr add

¹⁴ literally “them to deliver”

¹⁵ [8:10] LXX(N), most LXX miniscules, Syr / LXX(ASVL) omit “Uzzijah and”

¹⁶ literally “straight”

¹⁷ literally “stood”

¹⁸ [8:11] LXX(BX) omit “this oath”

¹⁹ literally “uttered up the middle of”

²⁰ literally “spoke to give-out”

²¹ [8:11] LXX(ASV), Vul “you*”

²² literally “in the day, the today”

²³ [8:12] OL, Syr “who stand up as”

²⁴ literally “middle”

²⁵ [8:13] LXX(58), Syr, OL “it is the mind of the Almighty whom you* are probing-out, and no human will ever know.”

²⁶ usually translated “accounts”

²⁷ may also be translated “accounting”

²⁸ [8:12–14] Vul “This is not a word that may draw down mercy, but rather that may stir up wrath, and enkindle indignation. You have set a time for the mercy of the Lord, and you have appointed him a day, according to your pleasure. But forasmuch as the Lord is patient, let us be penitent for this same thing, and with many tears let us beg his pardon.”

²⁹ literally “which”

³⁰ [8:15] LXX(58), Syr “Because he is able, in any length of time, to shelter us and to ruin our enemies before our eyes.”

³¹ literally “to be threatened”

³² [8:16] most LXX / LXX(N) “to have interrupted” / LXX(19,107,311583) “to be interrupting”

³³ literally “ourselves into a help of us”

³⁴ [8:17] LXX(19,23,44,55 al.) “petition”

³⁵ literally “in the day, the today”

³⁶ literally “thorough-snatching”

³⁷ [8:20] LXX(58,311,583), OL add

³⁸ [8:18–20] Vul “For we have not followed the sins of your fathers, who forsook their God, and worshipped strange gods. For which crime they were given up to their enemies, to the sword, and to pillage, and to confusion; but we know no other God but him. Let us humbly wait for his consolation, and the Lord our God will require our blood of the afflictions of our enemies, and he will humble all the nations that shall rise up against us, and bring them to disgrace.”

³⁹ [8:21] LXX(58,318,583), OL, Syr / LXX(ASV,311-1) “will sit itself” / LXX(N,106,126,b) “will be called” / LXX(begs) “will be bent down” / Eth “will be burned”

⁴⁰ [8:21] LXX(ASVNL,55,542,583), OL, Vul, Syr, Sah / LXX(46,64,107,534), Eth “mouth”

⁴¹ [8:22] LXX omit “all this”

⁴² literally “around into a head of us”

⁴³ [8:24] LXX(583), OL, Syr “welcome”

⁴⁴ literally “being hanged-upon out of us”

⁴⁵ [8:26] LXX(N) “Isaac, and as-much-as he tried”

⁴⁶ [8:26] Hebrew equivalent / Greek “Mesopotamia of Syria”

⁴⁷ [8:26] LXX(VL,58,583) dative / LXX(SN,64,107) genitive

⁴⁸ [8:27] LXX(58,583), OL, Syr omit “not”

⁴⁹ [8:27] (“set us on-fire”) LXX(71,583), OL(M), Syr, Sah, Eth, Arm “try us”

⁵⁰ [8:27] LXX(58,583), Syr, “as”

⁵¹ literally “into”

⁵² [8:29] (lit. “Because in the today”) / LXX(S1), OL(CX) “Because in your worry”

⁵³ literally “of days of yours”

⁵⁴ literally “something-which-is-fashioned”

⁵⁵ literally “do”

⁵⁶ literally “to bring-upon an oath upon us”

⁵⁷ [8:31] LXX(58,583), OL, Syr, Eth, Vul “god-revering” / OL “holy”

⁵⁸ [8:31] LXX(58,583), OL, Syr add

⁵⁹ literally “into”

⁶⁰ [8:32] LXX(58,583), OL, Syr add

⁶¹ literally “spoke to deliver”

⁶² literally “in”

⁶³ [8:33] LXX(58,583), OL, Syr add

⁶⁴ [8:34] LXX(VNa,55,126,311) “state” / LXX(58,583) “bring-a-message about”

⁶⁵ literally “into”

⁶⁶ literally “into”

⁶⁷ literally “after they (masc.)”

⁶⁸ [8:36] LXX(58), OL “And after they turned-away, they went down out of the tent.”

CHAPTER 9

But Judith fell on *her* face, and she put ash on her head, and she ripped-through her tunic,¹ and she striped-naked a sack² in which she had dressed. And the incense of that evening was presently being offered in Jerusalem into the house of God, and Judith cried *out* toward *the* Lord with a great voice, and she spoke,

2 “O Lord, the god of my father Simeon, into whose hand you gave a long-sword for³ an avenging of foreigners,⁴ who released⁵ a womb⁶ of a virgin for⁷ a staining-thing, and stripped-naked *her* thigh into shame, and profaned *her* womb into reproach. For you spoke, ‘This is not how it will be,’ and they did *it*. 3 In-requital of which you gave chiefs of theirs into murder, and their bed-spread (which regarded⁸ their delusion after it⁹ was deluded)¹⁰ into blood. And you struck slaves onto potentates, and potentates on thrones of theirs. 4 And you gave women of theirs into foraging, and daughters of theirs into captivity, and all their spoils into distribution of *certain* sons having been loved by you, who even became-zealous for your zeal, and *who* abhorred a staining-thing of blood of theirs; and they called-on you for¹¹ a helper for themselves.

“God, God, the *one who is* mine, even listen-to me, the widow. 5 For **you** made the former *events*, and those *events*, and the *ones coming* afterward. And you were caused-to-thoroughly-comprehend the *things which are* now and the *things which are still to be coming-upon us*. And the *things* in which you were caused-to-comprehend came-to-be; 6 *By the delusion* out of my lips, strike a slave onto a chief and a chief onto an attendant of his; shatter their stature²² with²³ a hand of a female. Send your wrath upon their heads. What I need, give into my hands, a widow’s.²⁴

7 “For behold the Asshureans were multiplied in their power.¹³ They were heightened-on-the-basis-of horse and rider.¹⁴ They pranced in the arm of *men* on-foot. They hoped in round-shield and in iron-spear and bow and sling. And they did not know that **you** are the Lord who crushes wars; Yahweh¹⁵ is your name.¹⁶ 8 **You**: Break their strength in your power¹⁷ eternal, crush their number,¹⁸ and fracture their might in your fury. For they deliberated amongst themselves to profane your holy-things, to stain the tentsite of the resting of the name of your glory, to throw-down *the* horns¹⁹ of a sacrificial-altar of yours by-means-of iron equipment. 9 Look into their arrogance.²⁰ Commission your anger upon their heads.²¹ Give in a hand of mine, of the widow, might of which I was caused-to-thoroughly-comprehend. 10 *By the delusion* out of my lips, strike a slave onto a chief and a chief onto an attendant of his; shatter their stature²² with²³ a hand of a female. Send your wrath upon their heads. What I need, give into my hands, a widow’s.²⁴

11 “For your *might is* not in a multitude, nor-even *is* your domination²⁵ in *men who are-strong*. Instead, you are a god of humble *men*, you are a helper of lesser *men*, a helper-of-deeds of *men who are-weak*, a shelterer of *men who* have been despaired, a savior of *men who* have become-without-hope.

12 “Yes, yes, the God of my father and God of an inheritance of Israel, O Master of the heavens and of the earth, O Creator of the waters, O King of all your creation, **you**: listen-to my beseeching! 13 And grant²⁶ my account²⁷ and delusion *to be made* into a wound and a welt of them who deliberated amongst themselves *to do hard things* against your covenant, and *against* a house of yours which has been made-holy, and *against* a cap of Zion, and *against* a house of a retaining²⁸ of sons of yours. 14 And make all your nation²⁹ and³⁰ every tribe *have* recognition of the *act* to know that **you** are the god, *the* god³¹ of every power and

might, and *that there* is not another *who is* shielding the race of Israel except for you!”

CHAPTER 10

And it came-to-be as Judith ceased herself *from* crying *out* toward the God of Israel and completely-finished all these words, 2 she also stood-up from the place where she fell.³² 33 And she called her maid, and they descended into the house in which she was spending with³⁴ herself in the days of the sabbaths and in her festivals. 3 And she picked *off* the sack in which she had dressed *from* around herself, and she undressed herself *of* the robes of her widowhood,³⁵ and she washed her body all-around-with-waves of water, and she anointed herself with perfumed-oil *in* thickness. And she carded³⁶ the hair of her head, and she put a turban on herself, and she dressed herself *in* the robes of her gladness, *robes* in which she was being gowned in the days of the life of her man Manasseh. 4 And she took small-sandals for her feet. And she put-around herself: the armlets, and the bracelets, and the finger-rings, and the earrings, and all her ornamentation. And the Lord also gave more beauty to her, because none of this dressing up proceeded from sensuality, but from virtue. And she beautified herself exceedingly³⁷ for³⁸ the deluding³⁹ of the eyes of as-many men as would see her.

5 And she gave to her maid a skin-flagon of wine and a jar of olive-oil. And she filled a pouch *full* of roasted-grains, and of a fig-cake, and clean *loafs-of-bread and cheese*.⁴⁰ And she double-wrapped⁴¹ all her containers, and she put *them* on her.

6 And they came-out⁴² upon the gate of the city of Bethoulia, and they found Uzziyah having stood upon it and *with him* the elders of the city, Chabri and Charmi.⁴³ 7 But as they saw her, and her face was having been changed and she having thrown her gown into-a-different-state, they even marveled over her beauty, *they marveled over it* exceedingly much; and they spoke to her, 8 “We wish *that* the god of our fathers would give to you *a way* into *his* favor and would complete your businesses, resulting-in⁴⁴ the prance of the sons of Israel and the heightener of Jerusalem.”

9 And she bowed-down to God.⁴⁵ And she spoke to them, “Command for the gate of the city to be opened-up to me, and I will come-out, resulting-in⁴⁶ the accomplishing⁴⁷ of the accounts which you* uttered with **me**.⁴⁸

They said to her, “Have you, perhaps, defected to the other side?”

She answered, “Heaven forbid!”⁴⁹

And they explicitly-ordered for the young-men to open-up the gate to her in-view-of-the-fact-that she⁵⁰ requested⁵¹ *this*. 10 And they acted⁵² in-this-manner. And Judith came-out, herself and her servant-girl with her. But the men of the city were watching-out-for her till *the time* in which she descended the mountain, till she came-through the gorge; and they were no-longer perceiving her.

11 And Judith and her maid were going⁵³ *along* in the gorge into a straight passage, and a fore-guard of the Asshureans met-together with her. 12 And they took-hold-of her *and brought her* along with them, and they inquired, “Of which *persons* do you belong?⁵⁴ And where are you coming from, and to where are you going?”

And she spoke, “I am a daughter of the Hebrews. And I am running-away from their face,⁵⁵ because they are going to be being given *over* to you* for⁵⁶ an ingestment. 13 And-I am coming for⁵⁷ the face of Holofernes, chief-general of your* force,⁵⁸ for the *act* to bring-a-message-of words of truth. And before his face, I will show a way by which he will go and become-lord-over all the

¹ [9:1] LXX(58,583), OL, Syr add

² [9:1] OL(QP) “and she vested herself with a covering”

³ literally “into”

⁴ literally “of those of-another-race”

⁵ [9:2] LXX(L), OL(X) “injured” / LXX(311) “grieved” / OL(most), Vul “violated”

⁶ [9:2] possible emendation “fillet”

⁷ literally “into”

⁸ [9:2] LXX(58,311,583), OL, Syr “accepted”

⁹ [9:2] may also be translated “she”

¹⁰ [9:3] LXX(V) / LXX(AS), some mins. “bed-spread, blushing for her delusion” / LXX(583) “bed-spread (which accepted their delusion, the delusion which was deluded)” / LXX(58) “bed-spread, which accepted the woman having been deluded”

¹¹ literally “into”

¹² [9:6] LXX(A) “your judgments are”

¹³ literally “in a power of theirs”

¹⁴ literally “stepped-up-one”

¹⁵ [9:7] Emendation (original Hebrew) / all translations “; I Lord”

¹⁶ literally “is a name of yours”

¹⁷ literally “in a power of yours”

¹⁸ [9:8] LXX(58,583), OL(s), Syr add

¹⁹ [9:8] Syr / LXX “horn”

²⁰ literally “into arrogance of theirs”

²¹ literally “anger into heads of theirs”

²² literally “standing-up-ment”

²³ literally “in”

²⁴ [9:10] LXX(S) add

²⁵ [9:11] LXX(58,583), OL(s), Syr “share”

²⁶ literally “give”

²⁷ [9:13] (lit. “an account of mine”) / LXX(58,583), OL, Syr “deceit of mine”

²⁸ [9:13] LXX(Na,126), Eth “a tenting place”

²⁹ [9:14] LXX(58,538), OL “Let every nation”

³⁰ [9:14] LXX(58,583) “of” / OL omit altogether

³¹ [9:14] LXX(V) omit “the god” by scribal error

³² literally “from the falling”

³³ [10] Midrash mentions that “The Holy and Blessed One put it into her heart that a miracle would be performed through her.”

³⁴ literally “in”

³⁵ literally “widowing”

³⁶ [10:3] LXX(S), OL / most LXX(AV) “arranged” [lit. “ordered”] / OL(c), Vul “plaited” / Syr “anointed”

³⁷ [10:4] Vul “And the Lord also...virtue. Thus the Lord increased her beauty”

³⁸ literally “into”

³⁹ [10:4] LXX(NS), Eth / LXX(58,583), OL(sm), Syr “ravaging” / most LXX “meeting”

⁴⁰ [10:5] most LXX / LXX(L,58,583), OL, Syr, Vul, Late Hebrew add

⁴¹ literally “she doubled-about”

⁴² [10:6] LXX(58,583), OL, Syr “And the two women also simultaneously went”

⁴³ [10:6] LXX(71), OL(CNX), Vul omit “Chabri and Charmi”

⁴⁴ literally “into”

⁴⁵ [10:8] LXX(ASVL,58,249,311,583), OL, Syr, Sah, Eth, Vul / LXX(N, others) “And they bowed-down to God” / OL(C) “And they adored her.”

⁴⁶ literally “into”

⁴⁷ literally “completing”

⁴⁸ [10:9] Midrash “them, ‘Open the gates for me, so that a miracle might be accomplished through me.’”

⁴⁹ [10:9] Midrash add

⁵⁰ [10:9] LXX(ANS), most mins & verss / LXX(V,58,583) “they”

⁵¹ literally “uttered”

⁵² literally “did”

⁵³ [10:11] (lit. “And they were going”) / LXX(58,583), OL, Syr, Sah, Eth “And she was going”

⁵⁴ literally “Of which *persons* are you?”

⁵⁵ literally “a face of theirs”

⁵⁶ literally “into”

⁵⁷ literally “into”

⁵⁸ literally “of a power of you*”

mountainous-region, and not one flesh of his men nor-even a spirit of life will be-dissontant.”¹

14 But as the men heard her words and contemplated her face (and it was exceedingly marvelous with the beauty in their view), they even spoke to her. **15** “*Because* you hastened to descend *heading* for² the face of our lord, you have saved your soul. And now come onto his tent, and *some* from *among* us will send you on-ahead till they will deliver you into his hands.”³ **16** But if-at-any-time you might stand in his view, may you not be filled-with-fear in your heart; instead, bring up a-message to him in-accordance-with your words, and he will treat⁴ you well.”⁵

17 And from out of their men, they called-on⁶ a hundred, and they stood beside-and-yoked themselves to her and to her maid, and they led the women⁷ onto the tent of Holofernes. **18** And a concourse⁸ came-to-be in all the camp, for news of her presence was cried-out-throughout everywhere among⁹ the tentsites. And after they came, they were encircling her as she had stood outside the tent of Holofernes, till a message about her was brought-up to him. **19** And they were marveling-at her on-the-basis-of her beauty, and they were marveling-at the sons of Israel because of¹⁰ her, and they favorably-received her words because they were good.¹¹ And each man spoke to his neighbor, “Who shall despise this people, who has women such as this among¹² them? Because it is not good¹³ for one man from¹⁴ among them to be being left-survivors;¹⁵ for if there were any of their persons who were spared,¹⁶ they would be able to outwit¹⁷ all the earth!”

20 And all¹⁸ the ones who lie-fast-asleep-beside¹⁹ Holofernes, and all his attendants, came-out and they led²⁰ her into the tent. **21** And Holofernes was resting himself up on his couch within a canopy which was having been interwoven out of purple, and gold, and emerald, and very-expensive stones. **22** And they brought-up a message about her to him, and they said to him, “A beautiful virgin has come from Jerusalem, saying, ‘I have a secret matter for the king.’”

And he said, “Let her come in.”²¹

And he came-out into the space-before-the-tent, and very many silver torches were being led-before him, and they brought her to him.²² **23** But as Judith came²³ by the face of him and of his attendants, they all marveled over the beauty of her face. And after she fell down upon her face, she bowed-down-to him, and his slaves arose her.

CHAPTER 11

And Holofernes spoke to her, “Be-encouraged, O woman. May you not be filled-with-fear in your heart. Because I did not do-evil to any human who²⁴ has delightfully-picked²⁵ to be being-enslaved to Seleukos, king of all the earth. **2** And now, concerning your people, the ones dwelling-in the mountainous-region. I would not have lifted my spear against them if they had not debased me. Instead, they themselves did these things to themselves. **3** And now, tell²⁶ me for what sake you ran-away from them and came to us. For you are-here for²⁷ salvation. Be being-encouraged. You will live for yourself in this night and for²⁸ the remaining time. **4** For there is not a person who will treat you unrighteously. Instead, he will treat²⁹ you well, even-as the slaves of my lord, King Seleukos, are becoming.”

5 And Judith spoke to him, “Receive the words of your slave-woman, and let your servant-girl utter before³⁰ your face. And I will not bring-up-a-message which is a lie to my lord in this night. **6** And if-at-any-time you follow-after the

accounts of your servant-girl, God will do a complete deed³¹ with you, and my lord will not fail³² of his businesses. **7** For as Seleukos, king of all the earth, lives, and as the might of him who commissioned you for a setting-straight of every soul lives, that not only are humans being-enslaved to him due to you, but instead due to your strength, even the beasts of the field and the heads-of-livestock and the flying-creatures of the heaven will live for themselves onto Seleukos and all his house. **8** For we heard of your wisdom and the crafty-deeds of your soul; and messages have been brought-up all the earth, that you alone are good among³³ every kingdom, and powerful in experience, and marvelous among³⁴ troops of war.

9 “And now my lord, as for the account which Achior uttered in your congress,³⁵ we heard his words, because the men of Bethoulia acquired him, and he brought back a message to us regarding all things, as-much-as he uttered-forth to you.³⁶ **10** For-this-reason, O master, O lord,³⁷ may you not pass-by his account; instead, put it down in your heart, because it is truthful. For our race will not have vindication-carried-out upon it; a long-sword is not having-the-strength-to-overcome upon them, unless they might sin against³⁸ their god.

11 “And now, in order that my lord might not be thrown-out and ineffectual,³⁹ and that death will fall itself upon their face,⁴⁰ and a sinful-action will apprehend⁴¹ them, in which they will provoke their God to anger at-whatever-time they should do a deviation;⁴² **12** Since the solid-food failed⁴³ them and all water was made-rare, they deliberated amongst themselves to throw their hand upon their heads-of-livestock and to drink their blood,⁴⁴ and they determined to expend all things, as-much-as God in his laws enjoined for himself for them not to eat. **13** And they have judged it best to entirely-consume the first-fruits of the grain, and the tenths of the wine and of the olive-oil, things which they carefully-guarded after they made them holy for the priests, the priests having stood-by in Jerusalem opposite the face of our God, things of which it was not suiting even for anyone of those of⁴⁵ the people to touch with his⁴⁶ hands. **14** And because even the ones who are dwelling there did these things, they have commissioned into Jerusalem the men who will convey⁴⁷ a message over to them asking to receive the forgiveness from the body-of-seniors for doing these things. **15** And in that day, it will be, whenever a message-is-brought-back to them and they might do it, they will be given over to you for⁴⁸ ruin.

16 “For-this-reason, after I, your slave-woman, recognized all these things, I ran-away from their face.⁴⁹ And God commissioned me to do with you such affairs on-the-basis-of which all the earth will be-amazed, whosoever⁵⁰ might hear about them, **17** because your slave-woman is a God-revering woman, and someone who is doing-service night and day to the God of the heavens.

“And now, I will remain beside you, O my lord. And night by night, your slave-woman will come-out into the ravine and she will pray⁵¹ to God. And he will state to me at-what-time they will do their sinful-actions. **18** And after I come, I will bring word of it up to you. And you will come-out along with all your force,⁵² and there is not one from among⁵³ them who will stand himself against you. **19** And I will lead you through the midst of Judah, till the point for one to come opposite Jerusalem. And I will put your chair⁵⁴ in the midst of her. And you will lead them as sheeps to whom there is no shepherd, and not even a dog will growl with its tongue at⁵⁵ you. Because these things were uttered to me according-to my foreknowledge;⁵⁶ and a message concerning it was brought to me, and I was commissioned to bring this message to you, because they are an abomination to me and my master Seleukos.”⁵⁷

¹ [10:13] Midrash simply has “She said to them, ‘I have a secret matter for the king.’”

² literally “into”

³ literally “into hands of his”

⁴ literally “do/make”

⁵ [10:16] LXX(A) “fairly”

⁶ literally “said-on”

⁷ literally “led them(fem)”

⁸ literally “a running-together”

⁹ literally “into”

¹⁰ literally “Israel from”

¹¹ [10:19] LXX(58), OL, Syr add

¹² literally “in”

¹³ literally “beautiful”

¹⁴ literally “man out of”

¹⁵ literally “left-under”

¹⁶ literally “dismissed”

¹⁷ [10:19] lit. “to wise-down” (as in, to bring someone down as a result of using superior wisdom) / LXX(71) “to wise-down” in active tense (this is a mistake, as the word is always in middle) / LXX(126) “to make themselves wise” / LXX(542) “to be-counted-along with”

¹⁸ [10:20] LXX(58,583), OL, Syr add

¹⁹ [10:20] LXX(58,583), OL, Syr “who settle-beside” / LXX(106) “who sit-down-beside” / LXX(126) “who have stood-beside”

²⁰ literally “led-into”

²¹ [10:22] Midrash add

²² [10:22] LXX(58,583), OL(s), Syr add “very many” & “and they brought her to him”

²³ [10:23] LXX(58), OL, Syr “stood”

²⁴ literally “whoever”

²⁵ [11:1] (“has delightfully-picked”) / LXX(S) “was-here” / LXX(534) “wanted”

²⁶ literally “, say to”

²⁷ literally “into”

²⁸ literally “into”

²⁹ literally “do”

³⁰ literally “beside/by”

³¹ literally “do an affair completely”

³² literally “not fall himself off”

³³ literally “in”

³⁴ literally “in”

³⁵ [11:9] LXX(58), OL, Syr add “my lord” and omit “in your congress”

³⁶ [11:9] LXX(58) omit “to you”

³⁷ [11:10] LXX(58) omit “O master, O lord”

³⁸ literally “into”

³⁹ literally “actionless”

⁴⁰ literally “upon a face of them”

⁴¹ [11:11] emendation / manuscripts “sinful-action apprehended”

⁴² [11:11] LXX(58), OL, Syr “they should do it”

⁴³ literally “left-beside”

⁴⁴ [11:12] LXX / OL, Vul, Midrash add

⁴⁵ literally “for not-one of the ones out of”

⁴⁶ literally “the”

⁴⁷ [11:14] few LXX / LXX(AV) “who conveyed”

⁴⁸ literally “into”

⁴⁹ literally “from a face of them”

⁵⁰ literally “, as-many-as if-at-any-time”

⁵¹ literally “pray-to”

⁵² literally “power”

⁵³ literally “one out of”

⁵⁴ [11:19] LXX(N,a,126,311) “throne”

⁵⁵ literally “opposite”

⁵⁶ literally “to foreknowledge of mine”

⁵⁷ [11:19] several OL add / Midrash summarizes Judith’s entire speech starting at 11:5 (adding a few new pieces of possible information to her history) “My lord king, I belong to a great family in Jerusalem. And my brothers and my father’s house were kings and chief-priests. I have now heard them speak about you, that the time has arrived for this city to fall into your hands. Therefore I have come in advance to find favor in your eyes.”

20 And her accounts were-pleasing in-the-view of Holofernes and in-the-view of all his attendants. And they marveled over her beauty and¹ wisdom and spoke, 21 “*There is no such a woman from one summit of the earth till another summit of it with² so beautiful a face and with such intelligent words!*”³

22 And Holofernes spoke to her, “God did well, *who* commissioned you in-front of the people, for the *act* for might to come-to-be in our hands,⁴ but for loss to come-to-be amid⁵ the *ones who* debased my lord. 23 And now, you are urban in your appearance⁶ and good in your accounts. Because, if-at-any-time you might do even-as you uttered, your God will be a god of mine, and **you** will sit yourself in a house of King Seleukos, and you will be named throughout all the earth.”

CHAPTER 12

And he directed *them* to lead her in *the room* where his silver-plates were being put, and he explicitly-ordered *them* to spread-down a *table* for her from his prepared-cooked-food and *some* of his wine to be drinking. While they were preparing it, he ordered all the princes to leave, as he wished to be alone with the virgin.⁷

2 And Judith spoke, “I will not eat of⁸ them for myself, in order that it might not become an impediment; instead, I will be supplied from⁹ the *things* which have accompanied¹⁰ me.”

3 And Holofernes spoke to her, “But if-at-any-time the *things which* are with you might fail, from-where will we bring-out *more things* like them to give to you? For *there* is not *anyone* out of your race *who is here* with us.”¹¹

4 And Judith spoke to him, “As your soul lives, *O my lord, I assure you*, that your slave-woman will not expend the *things* with me¹² till the *time* when the Lord God¹³ might do, by my hand,¹⁴ what he himself deliberated.”

Then he asked her to sin.

But she answered and said, “Indeed, my lord king, for this very thing I have come here with all my heart. But now, it is impossible, for I am in my *monthly impurity*. Tonight is the time of my purification. Therefore, I desire that you proclaim throughout the camp that no one should touch the woman and her handmaid when she goes out at night to the spring of water. And when I *am finished*, I will give myself over to the king, that he might do whatever is pleasing in his sight.”

The wicked man did so accordingly.¹⁵ 5 And the attendants of Holofernes led her into the tent, and she slumbered until the night reached-the-middle. And toward the daybreak watch,¹⁶ she stood-up. 6 And she commissioned *someone* to Holofernes, saying, “Surely let my lord now command to allow your slave-woman to come-out to prayer.”

7 And Holofernes ordered for the bodyguards not to be trying-to-prevent her. And she remained-near in the camp for three days. And *night* by night she was going-out into the ravine of Bethoulia, and she was immersing herself in the camp¹⁷ over the spring of the water. 8 And as she ascended, she was beseeching the Lord God of Israel to guide her way for¹⁸ the prominence¹⁹ of the sons of his²⁰ people. 9 And after she, *now* clean, went-inside, she remained-near in the tent until the *time* of which she brought-forward her nourishment toward evening.

10 And it came-to-be in the fourth day,²¹ Holofernes made a drinking-party for his slaves alone, and he did not call into the calling anyone of the *ones who* were close to the needs.²² 11 And he spoke to Bagohi, the eunuch who was standing-on over all his *things*, “After you go, surely persuade the woman, the Hebrew woman who is in-your-presence with²³ the *result* for her to come to us and to eat and to drink with us. 12 For behold, *it would be* shameful *before* our face if we would let such a woman go²⁴ after we did not converse with her. Because if-at-any-time we might not seduce²⁵ this *woman*, she will ridicule us for herself.”

13 And Bagohi came-out from *before* the face of Holofernes, and he entered toward her, and he spoke, “Surely let not the servant-girl, this beautiful *one*, hesitate *who* came to my lord to be glorified by his face²⁶ (and you will drink wine for yourself with us into gladness), and, in this *very* day, to come-to-be as one daughter of the sons of Asshur who have stood-by in a house of Seleukos.”

14 And Judith spoke to him, “And who am I *who* would speak-against my lord? Because everything which will be pleasing in his eyes I, after I hasten, will do. And this will be a leaping-for-joy²⁷ to me till the day of my death.”²⁸

15 And after she totally-stood-up, she was ornamented with the apparel and with the ornamentation which *was* womanly.²⁹ And her slave-woman came-to her. And the little-fleece-blankets which she took from Bagohi for³⁰ her day-by-day course-of-life for the *act* to be eating *while* she was being laid-down upon them, she spread out on-the-ground for her opposite Holofernes. 16 And after Judith entered, she leaned-back on it. And the heart of Holofernes became-amazed on-the-basis-of her, and his soul was shaken. And he was exceedingly very-eager for the *act* to be-together with her. And from the day which he *first* saw her, he was watching³¹ for an opportunity for³² the *act* to delude³³ her.

17 And Holofernes spoke to her, “Surely drink and be made-to-be with us into gladness!”

18 And Judith spoke, “I will surely drink for myself, *O lord*, because today, since all the days of my birth, my life was made-great in me.”

19 And after she took the *things* which her slave-woman readied, she ate and drank *while* standing-opposite of him. 20 And Holofernes was gladdened by³⁴ her, and he drank exceedingly much wine, as-much-as he had not drunk at-any-time in any one day from the day of which he was birthed.³⁵

CHAPTER 13

But as evening came-to-be, they said, “Let us depart, for he wishes to be alone with the Hebrew woman.” So, his slaves made-every-effort to depart.³⁶ And Bagohi altogether-locked the tent from-outside, and he locked-off the *ones* having stood-by out of the face of his lord. And they were going-away-from *there* into their beds, for they were all exhausted³⁷ due to the *fact* that the drinking-party had become *extended* over so much *time*. 2 But Judith was left-behind alone in the tent, and so *was* Holofernes, having fallen-forward on his couch, for the wine was having been poured-around him.³⁸ 3 And Judith spoke to her slave-woman to stand outside of the³⁹ bedchamber and to be keeping-watch-over her egress, just-as *she did* day by day. For she declared, that she would⁴⁰ come-out for⁴¹ her prayer-to God. And she uttered *things* in-accordance-with these words to Bagohi.

4 And they all departed from out of his⁴² face, and not-one, from small till great, was left-behind in the bedchamber. And after Judith stood beside his couch,⁴³ praying in tears, she spoke in her heart, “*O Lord*, the God of all power, in this hour *look graciously* upon the works of my hands, *which I do* for the elevation⁴⁴ of Jerusalem. 5 Because now is a season to take-the-part-in-helping your inheritance and to make my business into a wreck⁴⁵ of the enemies *who* stood up-against us.”

6 And after she came-to the post⁴⁶ of the couch which was near Holofernes’ head, she picked his falchion down from it. 7 And after she drew-near the couch, she clutched the hair of his head, and she spoke, “Make me mighty in this day, *O Lord*,⁴⁷ the God of Israel!”

8 And with⁴⁸ *all* her strength,⁴⁹ she struck into his neck twice, and removed⁵⁰ his head from him. 9 And she rolled his body off from the bed-spread onto the mount,⁵¹ and she picked the canopy down from the pillars. And after a little *time*, she came-out, and she delivered the head of Holofernes to her maid. 10 And she

¹ [11:20] LXX(58), OL, Syr add

² literally “in”

³ [12:20–21] literally “and intelligence of accounts” / Midrash has for these verses, “When the king beheld her beautiful countenance and heard her words, she found favor in his eyes; and he rejoiced at the tidings she brought him.”

⁴ literally “in hands of ours”

⁵ literally “in”

⁶ literally “sight”

⁷ [12:1] Midrash add

⁸ literally “eat out of”

⁹ literally “supplied from out of”

¹⁰ literally “followed”

¹¹ [12:3] LXX(58,583), OL, Syr “here who has such things”

¹² [12:4] Syr, OL, few others “her”

¹³ [12:4] LXX / 19, 106 “before God” / 23 “before the Lord God”

¹⁴ literally “, in a hand of mine”

¹⁵ [12:4] Midrash add (this might have originally stood in the text, or at least some variant of it)

¹⁶ [12:5] OL “Before light”

¹⁷ [12:7] LXX(m), OL, Syr omit “in the camp”

¹⁸ literally “into”

¹⁹ literally “standing-up-ment” / Vul “liberation”

²⁰ [12:8] LXX(ASVL) / LXX(N,58,583), Syr, Eth “her”

²¹ literally “in the day, the fourth day”

²² [12:10] Midrash “And in that night, he invited all the princes, his generals and his servants.”

²³ literally “of”

²⁴ literally “by/beside”

²⁵ literally “draw-over”

²⁶ literally “by a face of his”

²⁷ [12:14] Syr “boast”

²⁸ literally “of death of mine”

²⁹ literally “ornamentation, the womanly one”

³⁰ literally “into” (and later in verse)

³¹ [12:16] (lit. “keeping”) / LXX(58,583), OL, Syr, Arm “seeking”

³² literally “a season of”

³³ [12:16] LXX(58,583), OL, Syr “meet”

³⁴ literally “from”

³⁵ [12:20] Midrash “And they [including the generals, etc] ate and rejoiced at that great feast and became drunk.”

³⁶ literally “release-up”

³⁷ literally “labored”

³⁸ [13:2] LXX, OL / Midrash, starting at verse 13:1, has “But when they saw that the king’s head was drooped, they said....woman.” So they all went out and left the king alone with the virgin and her handmaid.”

³⁹ [13:3] most “her” (lit. “the bedchamber of her”)

⁴⁰ literally “literally “declared to come-out in the future”

⁴¹ literally “onto/upon”

⁴² [13:4] LXX(dgmps), OL(p) actually add “his” / LXX(58,583) add “Holofernes” / LXX(AN), most mins, others add “her”

⁴³ [13:4] LXX(583), Syr, OL, Eth “head” / Vul add “praying in tears”

⁴⁴ literally “heightener”

⁴⁵ [13:5] LXX(V) (lit. “something-that-is-shattered”) / LXX(AN), many mins “a crushing”

⁴⁶ [13:7] LXX(BNbh,58) omit “Lord”

⁴⁷ literally “in”

⁴⁸ [13:8] “all her strength” / LXX(58,583), Syr “a dirk”

⁴⁹ literally “picked-away”

⁵⁰ [13:9] Eth, OL(m) add

threw it in into the pouch of her solid-food. And the two *women* came-out simultaneously, in-accordance-with their customary-practice as if onto the prayer-to God.¹

When they left, the sentries noticed them, but they said to one another, “No man may touch them, such is the king’s command.”²

And after they came-through the camp, they encircled that ravine. And they stepped-up-to the mountain of Bethoulia, and they came toward its gates in the middle of the night.³ **11** And Judith spoke at-a-distance to the *ones who* kept-guard over the gates, “Open-up! Surely open-up the gate! God, our God, *is* with us, to still make strength in Israel⁴ and might against the enemies, even-as he also made today!”⁵

12 And it came-to-be, as the men of the⁶ city heard her voice, they made-*every*-effort for the *act* to descend onto the gate of their city; and they called-together the elders of the city. **13** And all *persons*, from small till great,⁷ ran-together, because it was incredible to them that the she had come *back*.⁸

The gatekeepers answered her, “Is it not sufficient enough that you have defiled yourself? And now you desire to betray the blood of Israel *to their enemies*?”

And she swore to them, but they would not believe her until she showed to them the head of that wicked king; only then they believed her.⁹ And they opened-up the gate, and they received the *two women*¹⁰ under their roof. And after they kindled a fire for¹¹ illuminating, they encircled the *women*.¹² And she went up to a higher place, and commanded silence to be made.

14 But after everyone was quiet,¹³ she spoke to them with a great voice, “Be praising God! Be praising! Be praising the god who did not depart his mercy from the house of Israel. Instead, he shattered our enemies through my hand¹⁴ in this very night!”

15 And after she pre-picked the head out of the pouch, she showed it. And she said to them, “Behold, the head of Holofernes, chief-general of a force¹⁵ of Asshur. And behold, *here is* the canopy in which he was being-laid-down in his intoxication. And the Lord struck him with¹⁶ a hand of a female. **16** And *as the* Lord lives, who carefully-guarded me in my way in which I went, *I swear* that *it* was my face which deluded him into his utter loss,¹⁷ and that he did not do a sinful-act with *me* resulting-in¹⁸ something-which-stains and shame. All of you, give glory to him, because he is good, because his mercy endures forever.”¹⁹

17 And all the people became-amazed exceedingly. And after they stooped down, they bowed-down-to God, and they spoke with-one-accord, “Blessed is our God, the *one who*, in this day,²⁰ treated the enemies of your people as-nothing.”

18 And Uzzijah spoke to her, “O daughter, you are blessed by-means-of God the Highest in-comparison-to all the women who²¹ *are* on the earth. And having been blest *is the* Lord, the god who created the heavens and the earth, who guided you into *inflicting* the wound of²² the head a chief of our enemies.²³ **19** Because your²⁴ deed of hope²⁵ will never depart itself from *any* human heart²⁶ which remembers *the* strength of a god *even* until a future age. **20** And *I wish* that God would make these *things* for you into a perpetual height of the *act* for *him* to look-upon you with²⁷ good-*things*, in-requit-for which you did not spare your soul for-sake-of the humiliation of our race. Instead, you came-out-against our fallen-body upon a straight *path* which went before-the-face of our God.”

And all the people spoke, “*We wish* it would come-to-be. *We wish* it would come-to-be.”

CHAPTER 14

¹ [13:10] LXX(58), Syr, OL “as if for prayer-to God” / LXX(V) omit altogether

² [13:10] Midrash add

³ [13:10] Midrash add

⁴ [13:11] LXX(593) “Ilem” (a nickname for Jerusalem)

⁵ [13:11] Midrash “They called upon the gatekeepers and said, ‘Open the gates for us, for the miracle has already come to pass.’”

⁶ [13:12] LXX(S,58), 44, 106, OL, Syr / most LXX “her”

⁷ [13:13] LXX(58,583) “”, from young till old”

⁸ literally “them of the *act* for her to come”

⁹ [13:12] Midrash add

¹⁰ literally “received them (fem.)

¹¹ literally “into”

¹² literally “encircled them (fem.)”

¹³ [13:13–14] Vul add

¹⁴ literally “through a hand of mine”

¹⁵ literally “power”

¹⁶ literally “in”

¹⁷ literally “into a loss of his”

¹⁸ literally “into”

¹⁹ [13:16] Vul “As the Lord lives, his messenger has been my protector both going out and staying there and returning from there to here; and the Lord has not allowed me, his handmaid, to be defiled, but has brought me back to you without the pollution of sin, rejoicing for his victory, for my escape, and for your deliverance. All of you...forever.”

²⁰ literally “in the day, the today day”

²¹ literally “women, the *ones who*”

²² [13:18] LXX(58) omit “the wound of”

²³ literally “of enemies of ours”

²⁴ [13:19] LXX(58,583), OL, Syr, Eth “our”

²⁵ [14:19] LXX(58,583), OL, Vul, Syr, Eth “praise”

²⁶ literally “a heart of a human”

²⁷ literally “in”

And Judith spoke to them, “Surely hear me, brothers of mine. And after you* take this head, hang it on upon the parapet of your* wall. **2** And when the dawn might illumine-through and the sun might come-out on the earth: *all of you**, each *man*, will take-up your* utensils of war²⁸ for yourselves; and you*, every *man who* is-strong, will come-out outside of the city; and you* will give a chief-leader-to²⁹ them, as *if you* were* descending upon the plain into the foreguard of the sons of Asshur, but³⁰ you will not descend. **3** And after they take-up their full-suits-of-armor, they will go into their camp and they will arise the generals of the force³¹ of Asshur. And they will run-together onto the tent of Holofernes, and they will not find him;³² and fear will fall itself upon them, and they will flee for themselves from before your* face.³³ **4** And after *you** and all the *ones who are* dwelling-in every border of Israel follow-along-behind *them*, lay them low in their ways. **5** But before the *act* to do these *things*, *all of you**, call Achior the Ammonite to me, in order that, after he sees, he might recognize the *man who* publicly-deprecated³⁴ the house of Israel, *the man who* commissioned him to³⁵ us as *if* to his death.”

6 And they called Achior out of the house of Uzzijah. But as he came and saw the head of Holofernes in a hand of one man in the assembly of the people, he fell on his face and his spirit fainted. **7** But as they took him up,³⁶ he fell-before the feet of Judith, and he bowed-down-to her face, and he spoke, “Having been blest *are you* in every tent-site of Judah! And in every nation, whoever *will have* heard your name will be disturbed. **8** And now, give me a message *about* as-much-as you did in these days.”

And in the midst of the people, Judith brought him a message *about* all things, as-much-as she was having done from the day which she came-out till the moment she was uttering to them. **9** But as she ceased herself *from* uttering, the people clanged with a great voice and emitted³⁷ a glad voice in their city. **10** But after Achior saw all-*things*, as-much-as the god of Israel did,³⁸ he left the religion of the nations and he had-faith in God exceedingly. And he circumcised³⁹ the flesh of his foreskin himself, and he was added into the house of Israel with all the succession of his kindred⁴⁰ till this day.

11 Now at that-time the dawn ascended, and they hung the head of Holofernes on out of the wall. And every man of Israel⁴¹ took-up his weapons and came-out cohorts by cohorts onto the ascents⁴² of the mountain. **12** But as the sons of Asshur saw them, they sent messages onto the *ones who were* leading them. But the *men* came onto the generals and tribunes and onto every chief of theirs. **13** And they came-near onto the tent of Holofernes, and they spoke to the *man*⁴³ who was over all his *things*, “Surely arise our lord, because the slaves⁴⁴ dared to be descending onto us for⁴⁵ a war, in order that they might be totally⁴⁶ exterminated.”⁴⁷

14 And Bagohi entered, and he knocked at⁴⁸ the courtyard⁴⁹ of the tent, for he was preconceiving that he was sleeping⁵⁰ with Judith. **15** But as not-even-one heeded,⁵¹ he, after he enjoined, entered into the bedchamber, and he found him having been cast on the mounding, dead,⁵² and his head had been removed⁵³ from him. **16** And he cried out with a great voice, with weeping and groaning and a strong outcry; and he ripped-through his robes. **17** And he entered into the tent where Judith was lodging.⁵⁴ And he did not find her. And he hopped-out into the people, and he shouted,⁵⁵ **18** “The slaves confounded⁵⁶ us! One woman of the

²⁸ literally “of the war”

²⁹ [14:2] LXX(Bafku) (lit. “into”) / LXX(Ndghlps), Eth, Copt, Syr “against”

³⁰ literally “and”

³¹ literally “power”

³² [14:5] Vul “will find him without his head wallowing in his blood”

³³ literally “from a face of you”

³⁴ literally “deprecated-out”

³⁵ literally “into” (also later in verse)

³⁶ [14:7] most LXX / LXX(ANbhu), Sah, OL “as he took him” / LXX(542c) “as he took himself”

³⁷ literally “gave”

³⁸ [14:10] LXX(58), OL, Syr “as-much-as the god did for Israel”

³⁹ [14:10] most (as in, he himself performed the circumcision on himself) / LXX(534) “he circumcised” (omitting “himself” at the end of the clause) / LXX(a,126) “he was circumcised” (omitting “himself”) / LXX(98) “he was circumcising...himself”

⁴⁰ [14:13] LXX / Vul, Midrash add “left...and” & “with all...kindred”

⁴¹ [14:11] most LXX / LXX(Vc) add

⁴² literally “ascendings”

⁴³ [14:13] Syr, OL “to Bagoas”

⁴⁴ [14:13] most / OL(QP) “Judeans” / most OL, Sah “Judeans” / OL(QP) “sons of Israel” / Vul, Midrash “mice”

⁴⁵ literally “into”

⁴⁶ literally “(totally)” “into an end”

⁴⁷ [14:13] LXX / Vul, Midrash (similar) “Go in and awake him; for the mice, coming out of their holes, have presumed to challenge us for battle.”

⁴⁸ [14:14] LXX(L), OL(C), Vul “he clapped the hand in” (i.e. “his hands”)

⁴⁹ [14:14] LXX(A,b) “court”

⁵⁰ literally “preconceiving for him to be sleeping”

⁵¹ [14:15] (lit. “favorably-heard”) / others “paid-heed”

⁵² [14:15] LXX(58,583), OL(SBQPGN), Syr, Arm “naked”

⁵³ literally “picked-away”

⁵⁴ literally “releasing-down”

⁵⁵ [14:17] LXX(V) / LXX(A,b) “he cried out” / LXX(S,126), OL(M) “saying” / LXX(NL,55,58,583),

OL(M), Syr, Vul “he spoke”

⁵⁶ literally “set-aside”

Hebrews brought¹ shame into the house of the King Seleukos. Because, behold, Holofernes is *lying* on-the-ground, and his² head is not on him!”

19 But as the chiefs of the force³ of Asshur heard these words, they ripped-through their tunics and their souls were exceedingly disturbed. And an outcry of theirs and a great cry came-to-be exceedingly in *the* midst of the camp.

CHAPTER 15

And as they heard, the *men* in the tentsites became-amazed over the *thing* which had happened. 2 And trembling and fear fall-on upon them. And not a human was still remaining by *the* face of his⁴ neighbor. Instead, after they poured-out with-one-accord, they fled⁵ upon every way of the plain and of the mountainous-region. 3 And the *ones* having camped in the mountainous-region in-a-circle about Bethoulia were even veered to⁶ flight. And then the sons of Israel, every man *who* was a warrior, poured-out upon them.

4 And into Beth-Masthaim, and *Bebai*,⁷ and Choba⁸ and Kola, and into every border of Israel, Uzziyah commissioned the *men* *who* were bringing-a-message in-behalf-of the *things* which had been accomplished,⁹ and in order that all *men* might be poured-out-upon their foes resulting-in¹⁰ the doing-away-with them.

5 But as they heard *this*, the sons of Israel, with one accord, all fell-on upon them, and they were cutting them *down* till Choba. But likewise even the *ones* from out of Jerusalem and out of all the mountainous-region were compelled to come-by. For they brought-a-message to them *about* the *things* having come-to-be in the camp of their enemies. And the *ones* in Gilead and the *ones* in Galilee outflanked¹¹ them with great stroke till *the* place where they came-by Damasek and its borders. 6 But the remaining *ones*, the *ones* dwelling-in Bethoulia, fell-upon the camp of Asshur, and they foraged it, and they became exceedingly rich. 7 But after the sons of Israel returned-back from the cutting *down*, they dominated the remaining *things*. And the villages and courting-places¹² in the mountainous-region and treadable *land* seized¹³ many objects-of-plunder. For *its* multitude was exceedingly vast¹⁴

8 And Joiakim the priest, the great *one*, and the body-of-seniors of the sons of Israel, the *ones* *who* were indwelling in Jerusalem, came for the *act* to behold¹⁵ the good *things* which *the* Lord did for Israel, and for the *act* to see Judith and to utter peace with her. 9 But as they entered toward her,¹⁶ they all blest her with-one-accord, and they spoke to her:

“ You are a heightener of Jerusalem,
you are a great prance of Israel,
you are a great boast of our race.

10 You did all these *things* with¹⁷ a hand of yours;
you did the good *things* with Israel,
and God became-well-pleased-on-the-basis-of it.
Having been blest, come-to-be beside the Almighty Lord
into the age for *all* time.”¹⁸

And all the people spoke, “*We wish* it would come-to-be.”

11 And over a *period* of thirty days, all the people plundered the camp. And they gave to Judith: the tent of Holofernes, and all the silver-plates, and the couches, and the basins, and all the furnitures of his. And after she herself took *these* *things*, she put *them* up upon her mule.¹⁹ And she hitched her wagons, and she piled these *things*²⁰ on them.²¹

12 And every woman of Israel ran-together for the *opportunity* to see her. And they blest her; and from²² them, they made a chorus for her.²³ And she took ivy-

wreathed-rods in her hands, and she gave *them* to the women with her. 13 And she and the *ones* *who* were with her crowned themselves with the olive. And they came-forward, *while* she *herself* was leading all the woman in a choral-tune. And every man of Israel was following, having dressed-in-arms with crowns, and were hymning with²⁴ their mouths. 14 And she began-forth this confession in all Israel, and all the people were outbawling²⁵ this praising.

CHAPTER 16

And Judith spoke:

“ All of you*, begin-forth a song to my God with²⁶ tympanis,
sing to the Lord with²⁷ cymbals.

Join-in a new psalm to him;²⁸
and raise *him* high, and call-on his name for yourselves.

2 Because *the* Lord is a god *who* is crushing wars;
the Lord is his name;²⁹
because he picked-out for himself his³⁰ camp in *the* midst of a
people;

he delivered me for himself out of *the* hands of *those* *who* were
tracking³¹ me down.

3 Asshur came out of mountains from *the* north;
he came with³² tens-of-thousands of his force,³³
their multitude of which *numbers* blocked-up wadis,³⁴
and their horse covered hills.

4 He spoke *that* he would set-on-fire³⁵ my borders,³⁶
and would do away with³⁷ my young-men by³⁸ a long-sword,
and would put³⁹ my breastfeeding *ones* into *the* ground,
and would give⁴⁰ my infants into a foraging,
and would despoil⁴¹ my virgins.

5 *The* Lord Almighty set them aside,
with⁴² a hand of a female
and he put *them* to shame.⁴³

6 For their powerful-one did not fall-under by *the* hands of young-men,
but-neither did sons of titans⁴⁴ strike him down,
but-neither did high giants set themselves upon him;
instead, Judith daughter of Merari
by⁴⁵ *the* beauty of her face⁴⁶ paralyzed him.

7 For she undressed herself of a gown of widowhood of hers,
for⁴⁷ *the* height of the *ones* *who* were being-exerted in Israel.
She oiled her own face with⁴⁸ an oil-perfuming;

8 and she bound her hairs⁴⁹ with⁵⁰ a turban
and she took a linen gown for⁵¹ a delusion of his.

9 Her small-sandal snatched his eyes,⁵²
and her beauty took-captive his soul,⁵³
the falchion came-through his neck.

10 Persians shuddered *at* her daring,
and Madai were disturbed⁵⁴ by her boldness.

11 Then my humbled *persons* clanged,
and my weakening *ones* cried out.⁵⁵ and they were intimidated;⁵⁶
they heightened their voice, and they were upended.

²⁴ literally “in”

²⁵ [15:14] most LXX / LXX(ANdGPSu), OL(s), Syr “were echoing”

²⁶ literally “in”

²⁷ literally “in”

²⁸ [16:1] LXX(ANdGPSu), OL(s), Syr, Vul / most LXX “a psalm to him and praise”

²⁹ [16:2] some OL add / 44, 106 omit “For the Lord...his name”

³⁰ literally “himself into his”

³¹ literally “pursuing”

³² literally “in”

³³ literally “of a power of his”

³⁴ literally “winter/storm-flows”

³⁵ literally “He spoke to set-on-fire in the future”

³⁶ [16:4] LXX(V) “mountains”

³⁷ literally “and to do-away-with in the future”

³⁸ literally “in”

³⁹ literally “and to put in the future”

⁴⁰ literally “and to give in the future”

⁴¹ literally “and to despoil in the future”

⁴² literally “in”

⁴³ [16:5] LXX(L,58,583), OL, Syr, PsSin, PsTh add (it is possible that this is original)

⁴⁴ [16:6] LXX(46,381,534), OL(R) “giants”

⁴⁵ literally “in”

⁴⁶ literally “of a face of her”

⁴⁷ literally “into”

⁴⁸ literally “in”

⁴⁹ [16:8] LXX(583), Syr, OL, Vul, PsSin “tresses”

⁵⁰ literally “in”

⁵¹ literally “into”

⁵² literally “snatched eyes of his”

⁵³ literally “captive a soul of his”

⁵⁴ [16:10] LXX(AN), Eth / LXX(V) “broken” / OL, Vul omit altogether

⁵⁵ [16:11] LXX(N), many mins., OL(S), Syr / LXX(ASVuv), OL(MCG), Eth “were filled with fear”

⁵⁶ [16:11] LXX(583) “they were made/done” / LXX(Nbhr), Arm “were worsted” / OL(G), Syr “were cut down”

¹ literally “made”

² literally “the”

³ literally “power”

⁴ literally “the”

⁵ [15:2] LXX(ASV) / most “they were fleeing”

⁶ literally “into”

⁷ [15:4] LXX(SVN) / LXX(Ajru), Eth add

⁸ [15:4] LXX(N) / LXX(AV) “Chobai” / LXX(S) Abel-baim”

⁹ literally “completely-finished”

¹⁰ literally “into”

¹¹ literally “horned-under” (as in to attack the “horns” of their forces)

¹² [15:7] LXX(V,a,few others) / most “cities”

¹³ literally “became-mighty-over”

¹⁴ [] Midrash summarizes here from the point following the gates being opened for Judith. “And they turned that day into a festival. The next morning, the Israelites went forth against that army and slew them until they had annihilated them completely. The remnant left their horses and their money and fled. And the Israelites came and captured everything.”

¹⁵ [15:8] LXX(534,b) “to found”

¹⁶ [15:9] 19, 58, 108, Syr, OL “But as she came out toward them”

¹⁷ literally “in”

¹⁸ [15:10] 44, 106 omit “into the age for *all* time” / Vul (for entire verse) “For you have acted manfully, and your heart has been strengthened, because you have loved chastity, and after your husband you have not known any other. Therefore the hand of the Lord has also strengthened you, and therefore you shall be blessed forever.”

¹⁹ [15:11] most (lit. “half-donkey”) / LXX(19,58,108,583), OL “mules” (“half-donkeys”)

²⁰ literally “piled them (neuter)”

²¹ literally “them (fem)” – referring to the wagons

²² literally “and out of”

²³ [15:12] Syr “her, and they chose from themselves a group of singers.”

- 12 Sons of little-maidens stung them down,¹
and they were wounding them as boys of *men who are defecting*;²
they lost themselves *from* out of *the* battle-line of my Lord.³
- 13 I will hymn a new hymn⁴ to my God:
O Lord, you⁵ are great and glorious,
marvelous in strength, insurpassable.
- 14 Let all your creation be-enslaved to you,
because you spoke, and they were made-to-come-to-be.
You commissioned your spirit, and it built;⁶
and *there* is not *one* who will stand himself against your voice.
- 15 For mountains will be shaken out of *their* foundations along with waters;
but rocks will be melted as wax from your face.⁷
But still, to⁸ the *ones who are* filling themselves with-fear-of you,
you will show-bountiful-mercy to them.
- 16 Because every sacrifice for⁹ a smell of sweet-odor *is* small,
and all suet for¹⁰ holocausts *is* least to you;
but he *who is* filling himself with-fear-of the Lord *is* great through
everything.
- 17 Woe to nations *who are* standing-up-against my race!
The Lord Almighty will avenge them in a day of judging,
to give fire and worms into flesh of theirs;
and they will weep for themselves¹¹ in sensing till a *future* age.”

18 But as they came into Jerusalem, they bowed-down-to God.¹² And whenever the people was cleansed, they brought-up the holocausts, and their voluntaries, and the gifts. 19 And Judith put-up all the implements of Holofernes (as-many-as the people gave to her), and the canopy which she took for herself out of his bedchamber; she gave *them* for¹³ a votive-offering to God.¹⁴

20 And over an *extent* of three months,¹⁵ the people were being-gladdened in Jerusalem throughout the holy-places, and Judith remained-down with them.

21 But after these days, each *one* yoked-back into his inheritance,¹⁶ and Judith came-away to her house¹⁷ into Bethoulia, and she remained-down on her property.¹⁸ And throughout the *rest* of her season, she became glorious in all the earth. 22 And many desired her; but¹⁹ she did not know a man for *herself* for all the *remaining* days of her life from *the time of the day* when²⁰ her man Manasseh died-off and was added to his people. 23 And she was advancing to *become* exceedingly great,²¹ and she grew-old in the house of her man to the age of 105 years. And she died-off into Bethoulia, and they entombed her in the cave of her man Manasseh. 24 And *the* house of Israel mourned her for seven days. And before the *act* for her to die-off, she distributed her possessions to all the *ones* near her man Manasseh, and²² to the *ones who were* near *her* of her race. And she let her maid go free.²³

25 And the *man who was* causing-fear-to the sons of Israel was not *existing* any-longer in the days of Judith, and *not even* after the *act* for her to die-off for many days. This victory's festival day is received by the Hebrews into the number of their holy days, and has been celebrated by the Judeans from that time until this day.²⁴ Let it be!²⁵

¹ [16:12] LXX(583), OL(MCG) “They stung them down as sons of little-maidens” / Syr “They stung them down as boys”

² [16:12] LXX(19,108,583), OL, PsTh, Syr, Vul “boys *who are* defecting”

³ [16:7-12] LXX(583) omit “For she took off...his neck!” & omit “At that time...of my Lord.”

⁴ [16:13] LXX(some minuscules) “a hymn and praise”

⁵ [16:13] LXX(58,583), OL, Vul “: Adonai Lord. You”

⁶ [16:14] LXX(S,few minuscules), OL, Eth, Arm “and they were built” / Syr “and they are having been constituted” / OL(MG), PsSin, PsTh “and they are having been renovated/renewed” / Vul “and they are having been created”

⁷ literally “from a face of you”

⁸ [16:15] LXX(ASV,311,542) / others “But on-the-basis-of”

⁹ literally “into”

¹⁰ literally “into”

¹¹ [16:17] some “will be burned” / some “will burn themselves”

¹² [16:18] LXX(some minuscules), OL, Syr, Vul “to the Lord”

¹³ literally “into”

¹⁴ [16:19] LXX(ASL,58,583,some more), OL, Syr, Sah “to the Lord”

¹⁵ [16:20] Syr “over a month of days”

¹⁶ [16:21] most LXX / LXX(58,583), OL(S), Syr “into his tent site”

¹⁷ [16:21] LXX(S) add

¹⁸ usually translated “possession”

¹⁹ literally “and”

²⁰ literally “from the time of which of a day”

²¹ [16:21-23] OL “...reputable” / Vul “...throughout the whole land of Israel. And chastity was joined to her virtue, so that she knew no man all the days of her life, after her husband Manasseh died. And on festival days she came forth with great glory.”

²² [16:24] LXX(S) omit “to all those who were...and” by scribal error

²³ [16:23] LXX(583), OL, Syr, Vul / others place “She let her maid go free.” In verse 23, after “105 years”

²⁴ [16:25] Vul add

²⁵ [16:25] LXX(Vb) add “Let it be!”