

The Second Book of Achee

Chapter 1

An account of the rise of Ziklag and of the manner of the controversy he brought upon the people of Jared.

- 1 Now the record of the Brother of Jared continues on this wise
- 2 In the land of Shinar the Eerkodeshoi watched from the hills
and the clouds
and the wind
and the rocks
as a man and his rib made their way back toward their lair
from their sacred altar of prayer
- 3 And Achee cradled his new infant Nachash in his arms
and he gently gave aid to Tipharah by reason of her weakness
- 4 And thus did the vision of Nachash burst forth into the world
as a part of the voice of God unto his father and mother
- 5 And when they arrived at their lair
the child was hidden from the light of the sun
until the morning of the appointed day
and Tipharah said
What does it mean that this child was born
in the midst of the word of God to us
and the eyes of a mother were opened and she said
Surely he was not born to live out his vision from God
in this land
For did not the Lord bring you his word
that we are to depart straight away out of this place
and Achee said
The word of the Lord was clear
We must make all things ready to depart
withersoever the Lord our God will lead us
Even if it so be that he will lead us away from the land

of all our fathers
and our home
and inheritance among the Eerkodeshoi of this place

- 6 And from that moment in her heart as a mother
Tipharah knew that she had given birth to a child
destined to live out his vision of created purpose
in some unknown and distant land
- 7 And she prophesied and said
His name shall be Nachash
because he was quieted by the song of the dance
And because of the righteousness of that name
which says *God will have His way*
the birth of this child and the showing forth of his vision
is the word of God unto this land
For this place will become dreadful
And from this place man will pervert the ways of righteousness
and have his way in the stead of God.
And sin shall go forth from this land before the face of God
for a great length of days upon the earth
And the song of the dance shall leave this people
for a multitude of days
- 8 And it came to pass that as it is with migrating birds
the Spirit of God entered into the souls of Achee and his rib
calling them to a far and distant land
- 9 And the voice of the Eerkodeshoi was in the wind
and they spoke of a land that was fresh and clean before the Lord
who is the God of all of the Eerkodeshoi
notwithstanding from what land they may be
and it seemed to her that it was like unto going back to Eden
to be with the mother of the dance¹

¹She was feeling her impending translation into heaven in the Land of Promise, that was yet about 55 years in her future.

- 10 Now it had come to pass not long before this
that the Spirit of God had wrought heavily upon all the Eerkodeshoi²
of the land of Shinar
and the hearts of all the people
could not escape the voice of God in the Eerkodeshoi²
yea both the righteous and the wicked alike
had their hearts and souls penetrated
and they heard and felt the news as it drifted across the land
like the dawning light of a new day
- 11 And the righteous began to be stirred in their hearts
for now the hills
and streams
and grass of the field
and even the wind began to feel old and tired
and they together had a leaving feeling
that could not be shaken off
but it grew upon the souls of all men
with each passing day
and their familiar places began to feel like a house of strangers
and the feeling to move out into the unknown
began to descend upon the inhabitants of the land
like the shadow of a passing cloud
and the voice of the Eerkodeshoi was saying goodbye
to all the righteous both day and night
and all the earth in that land
began to be dominated by the voice of the Eerkodeshoi
- 12 Now it came to pass
that the response of the righteous was to make ready
and heed the voices they were hearing
and they began to strike out across the land
and thrust their lives into the hands of God
who they knew was in the midst of the Eerkodeshoi

²And this was due to the ceremony of Shem as he departed for MabuNachash.

but the wicked were filled with dread and they would not disperse
until their wickedness was come to the full
and they sought to band together to determine what they should do
and thus were all the inhabitants of the land stirred up

- 13 And it came to pass that nearly one-half of all the people
were dispersed into unknown lands
being led by the voice of God in the Eerkodeshoi
and the wicked who remained determined
that their course would be to fight against that
which entered into their hearts from the Lord
- 14 And Semihazah whispered into the ears of those who were his own
that they could make a home in the midst of the earth
where they need not pay heed to the voice of the Eerkodeshoi
and he told them they could make new gods
that would be very good
for they would obey the desires of their hearts
in whatsoever manner they chose
- 15 And those who heard it declared it unto all the people
that now they were free to have new gods made of wood or stone
each man could make them according to his need
and according to his will
- 16 And thus were idols born by those who rebelled fully
against the ancient religion of Enoch³
and the wicked determined that their course would be
to band together and bring back the greatness
of those who brought forth the Niphilim
and they would make themselves a name
like unto them of old who were powerful
and greatly feared by all the people

³This was different from the rebellion before the flood. Before the flood not many people knew of the religion of Enoch. But at this time since all men came through Noah they all knew of Enoch's religion and openly and consciously rebelled against it.

and they determined
that even though the earth no longer felt like home to them
they would make their own home
and they said they would build a city
after the manner and in the likeness of the city of Enoch
who was of the seed of Cain
and in their city they would build a great tower
that would reach to heaven
and it would be a home for their idols
and it could be seen from all the regions round about
so every man could know of their greatness ⁴

17 And it came to pass that it was in this way
that all the settlements
and villages
and encampments in the land were left without inhabitant
for either they departed out of the land
being led by the hand of the Lord
or they went to build the great tower
to make themselves a name upon the earth
and thus were all the affairs of the people changed
in a short space of time

18 Now Achee and Tipharah dwelt north of the tower many days journey
and it was in the rolling hills in the land of Noah
and Tipharah could feel a great change come
upon the herbs of the field and in all the Eerkodeshoi
and their well of water was urgent upon them
not to remain in that place
and little Pagag said
Mother
Why is the food become sour in my mouth
and the fish of the streams avoided them
which was not as it was before
and their fires were not excited to come to life

⁴And this is the beginning of houses of idols like unto the one that was raised unto Molec in the days of Solomon. See Acts 7:43.

and Nezara said
Mother
The hills feel like they belong to a stranger

19 And it came to pass that in this way
the Spirit of God wrought upon the land
insomuch that even the little children would declare it
and the people were called to go
to leave and disperse their lives

20 And it came to pass
that Achee and Tipharah went with a heavy heart
to their holy place to tell it goodbye
and the rocks of witness knew in their knowing

21 Now the affairs of the people were after this manner
the righteous prepared diligently and with care
to depart out of the land
and it was not in haste
and they did not despair for their trust and hope was in the Lord
that He would go beside them
yea he would watch over them even withersoever they went
and they were diligent to set all things in order
according to the needs of their families
and the voice of the Lord unto them
but the wicked were alarmed at the forces at work
in the midst of the Eerkodeshoi
and they fled in dismay from their homes
to join themselves with the builders of the tower

22 And it came to pass that Lud and all his children
except Achee
were encamped among the builders

23 And when it came time
for Jared and his friends to depart out of the land
it was incumbent upon them that they must flee in the night
and they feared that they would be discovered

as those assembled to build at the tower
had bound themselves together
with curses
and with oaths
and with imprecations
like unto them of old

24 And thus when Jared
and his family
and his friends
and all their families fled
they mourned to leave their possessions
and the land of their inheritance
and they fled in fear
and with haste
but for the righteous in their hearts
they were departing to set out on an adventure
and a mission for the Lord

25 And it came to pass that Achee and all his band gathered together
at an appointed place
and at a time that was set
and it was a secluded place deep in the hills
and it was a place of water
but they could not tarry long for fear of being discovered
lest the people of the oaths should accuse them
and send their wickedness against them

26 And it came to pass that after they had rested awhile
they arose
and took up their journey northward
and they traveled all that day
and when night came
they encamped near unto an abandoned village
and all of the people in it had either fled the land
being led by the hand of God
or gone to be with the builders

- 27 And it came to pass that in the evening
as they looked upon the empty dwellings
Jared desired to send some friends into the village
to see if they may discover that which
the people had left behind of their possessions
but the Lord forbade
and He said to Achee
Touch not the things of the wicked
and Achee said to Jared
It pleases the Lord that no man find himself discontent
with that which the Lord has provided for him
For the righteous are happy to dwell with the Eerkodeshoi⁵
- 28 And it came to pass that in the night Shema awoke
and thought she heard the soft cries of a child
coming from the village
and when she went out in the darkness to see
she found a child in a dwelling alone in the night
and she was abandoned
and was fearful of the encampment of strangers
and when Shema called out the child gasped and trembled with fear
but Shema comforted her and gently told her not to be afraid
and she took her up into her arms
and she said
How did such a little one as you come to be alone in this place
and the child answered her not a word
but held her peace
and she said
Have you no father nor mother
and the child said
My grandmother told me before she died
that I used to have a mother
And my father is no more
for he has not returned from the encampment of the builders now for these
many days

⁵ A good example of reprovment in loving kindness.

29 And Shema held the child and wiped her tears away
and she said
 How are you called child
and the child answered
 My grandmother named me Yathomiah ⁶
 She said it was my name for
 the Lord would always feel the feelings of my heart
 And my father calls me by that name
 But he does not consider any of the doings of the Lord

30 Now Shema knew that the name means
 God feels abandoned and alone
and she wept for the child in the night
and she was moved upon
 for the righteousness of the grandmother of the child
for indeed the Lord felt the great despair
 and loneliness of this pretty little one
 and the fear in her heart to be abandoned
and the heart of Shema swelled with compassion
and she said
 What have you been eating my pretty one
and Yathomiah pointed to a basket of meal
 that contained yet one small handful
and she said
 I have had this meal to eat but no fire to put under it
and Shema said
 Well you shall hunger no more
 Come with me and I shall become a mother to you
 And the Lord will keep His hand upon you
 And bring you comfort and safety
and Shema took the child unto her bosom

⁶Pronounced *Ya-tho-my-ah*. See Strong's # 3490 and #3495. This was not her original name but a name giver to her to call someone to repentance.

- 31 And it came to pass that Yathomiah was comforted
and became a woman of righteousness like unto her grandmother
and she lived all her days as the daughter of Shema
and became a woman dearly beloved by the people of the Lord
and Yathomiah grew and prospered among the people
- 32 And it came to pass that during a sabbatical year in their travels
she married one of the sons of a friend of Jared
and he was called Poog because he was a *slackard*⁷
and in the course of that year she came to be with child
and she looked forward with dread to be traveling
while being large with child
- 33 And it came to pass that in the fifth month
and on the fourth day of the month
the company of travelers came upon a large hill
and beheld the land that lay before them
and it was rough
and dry
and filled with a foreboding
and all the women said it felt like the land of the dead
and when they saw it
and they knew they must pass across such an empty land
they prayed unto the Lord for deliverance from it
- 34 Now they had provisions laid by in store
for it was a sabbatical year
but they could not carry water sufficient for their needs
and they did not know the extent of this land
they were to cross
but the Eerkodeshoi called to them
and Tipharah could tell by their voices where to find water
and great were the blessings of the Lord upon the people
because of her

⁷See Strong's #6313.

- 35 And it came to pass that they named the place Kadel ⁸
 which is to say *the land of the dead*
 and it was in the land of Kadel that Yathomiah gave birth to Ziklag and he was her
 only child
 and Poog complained continually
 concerning the difficulty of the journey
 but the men were patient with him
 and put their hopes in his repentance
- 36 And it came to pass that as the child grew
 he was not taught righteousness by his father
 and the earnest desires of his mother went unheeded
 for in his youth he began to be stubborn
 concerning paying heed to the Spirit of the Lord
 and Yathomiah grieved over her son
 because he was wayward and disobedient
- 37 And it came to pass that the people were all the rest of that year traveling through the land
 of Kadel
- 38 And it came to pass that during one year of their travels
 and it was just before the Waving of an Omer
 they came to settle in a good grassy plain
 to the east of the land of Kadel
 and here they found Eseeb⁹ in abundance
 and made their bread from it
- 39 And in the course of time
 they came to a place where game was bountiful
 and Ziklag began to be a hunter
 notwithstanding he was in his fourteenth year
 and from that time forth he began to become skilled with weapons
 and very brave in the pursuit of his prey

⁸See Strong's #2309.

⁹This looked to me to be like wild millet. See Strong's #6212.

- 40 Now as the people moved through the places of the earth
even as the Lord led them there were times when they were afraid
and felt the dread of the unknown
and great whirlwinds would descend
and such things they had not been accustomed to
and raging fires would consume upon the grassy plain
coming forth by the voice of Yatsal
and the people had great need to
depend upon the tender mercies of the Lord for their protection
and were it not for their men of righteousness
who were always listening to the direction of the Lord
there were times they would have perished
and were it not for Tipharah and Shema
they would have suffered with thirst and the want of food
- 41 Thus in the years of their travels
they became an exceedingly strong people
and those who could not sufficiently trust in the hand of the Lord
learned to put their faith in those who could
and those who payed heed to the voices of the Eerkodeshoi
for many times they traveled through strange lands
and they did not know what herbs of the field
were good to eat
nor that which was useful as healing medicines
but the hand of the Lord was upon them
and He would teach them by His Spirit
of the things of which they had need
- 42 And it came to pass that year by year Achee would declare Shabuot
in whatsoever place they would find themselves
and all the Eerkodeshoi knew them
and would call out to them
and instruct them like the loving hand of a tender parent
and in this way the people were secure in their welfare
no matter where the hand of the Lord would lead them
- 43 At the first all the people would accompany Achee
in the sounding of the trump on the Sabbath mornings of Shabuot

and they would worship at the altar of the Covenant
but as the years passed
those who fled from the land of Shinar in haste
began to become dull of feeling
and over the space of their travels
fewer and fewer attended the declaration of Shabuot
notwithstanding the Eerkodeshoi were kind to them all
and the grace of the Lord followed after them

44 And when there was no fish
or honey
or prey to eat
the people were sore afraid to eat
the strange herbs of the field
except they should be instructed by the hand of God

45 And it was in this way
that every sabbatical year the food they laid to store
did change according to the nature of the land
they passed through

46 And it was in this way
that their spirits and bodies were continually in harmony
with the natural world around them

47 Now it came to pass
that a strange difference of opinion began to grow
and manifest itself among this people
and the Gentiles in the tribulation times
have great need to ponder the meaning of it
for it will be expedient that they cry out to the Lord
lest this same contention come upon them also
and rise up in their midst
and it began in the land of Shinar
when the Spirit of God wrought upon the Eerkodeshoi
and it began in the life of Tipharah and Achee
with the birth of Nachash when his mother exclaimed
that he was not born to live in the land

of the people of her father
what a strange thing for any mother to encounter
and the question of where a person was born to live
began to be enlarged upon the land
and in the hearts of all the people

48 And it came to pass that each person as they traveled
began to wonder where they were born to live
and what food they were born to eat
and what manner of land their soul was a part of
in the sight of God
and they thought
How will we build our dwelling places
and it was in this way that the Religion of Shabuot
began to have an effect upon their hearts
for the Lord God was ever calling out to them
to seek out their visions of created purpose
and the difference of opinion arose according to
what means the people sought to answer these questions
and in this thing a sharp division began to take place
in the thinking and hearts of the people

49 Now on the one hand
the righteous
which were those who walked with the Eerkodeshoi
and were those who continually thought upon the Lord
began to learn by the Spirit of God in their hearts
and by the voice of the Eerkodeshoi
who spoke to them continually in their quiet moments
and it was in this way that they began to learn of the grandeur
of their creation of the soul of each one
and the wonders that are in the heart of God
concerning His lofty expectations for them
began to more fully manifest themselves
and each Godly person began to cling
to the righteousness of his name before the Lord

- 50 But on the other hand
the wicked sought only for that which was pleasurable
and that which would bring them comfort
and the satisfaction of possessions
- 51 And it was in this way that the land
which was of such a varied nature
passed by them in their travels
was seen by two kinds of eyes
and felt by two kinds of hearts
and considered by two kinds of minds
- 52 For it was as if the earth was being presented to them
and being drawn past them for them to review
and it was revealing to them
the great variety of the creation of God
within the soul of each man
- 53 And the Oneness of creation of each one
began to manifest itself before their eyes
and they began to see that the workmanship of God in creation
in the wonders of the variety of it
and in the splendor of the uniqueness of it
was also built into the soul of each person in Oneness
and the righteous could plainly see
that each person was a marvelous work and a wonder of God
in and of themselves
and in their own uniqueness of their individual creation
and their visions became clear
and their spiritual depths grew
and expanded in the heart of each one as they traveled
and looked to behold the works of God
and each among the righteous grew to know the multitude of ways
that the Lord God expresses His love for them
and their fellows
- 54 And it came to pass
that in this thing a marvelous change was wrought

in the hearts of all in their company who were righteous
for they began to see that coming unto God
with all the energies of their souls
and that loving Him with all their hearts
and giving Him their entire life and soul
was the real purpose
and meaning
and fulfillment of life
and the righteous began to teach the people
how a successful life was accomplished
and how to find
and live out their visions of created purpose
and they knew in their hearts that all the Eerkodeshoi
in all her several hosts
were in the great mind of God
created for the specific purpose of nourishing them
and aiding them in the pursuit of the fulfillment
of their various visions

55 Now the effect of all this upon the righteous was
that as they grew into adulthood
they were confident in who they were before God
and it was difficult for Semihazah
to cause them to feel inferior to their fellows
and in their hearts and minds they became free
insomuch that they did not feel the incumbrance
of having to be like some other person
but were free to be the creation of God each in their own right
and it was with these eyes that the righteous came to see
and know in their knowing the true meaning of life
and the place of their possessions in their lives
and the true value of their natural surroundings

56 And it came to pass that while these great changes
were being wrought upon the righteous
who were with Achee by the gentle and loving kindness of God
in the land of Shinar
at the great tower

the people were being taught by the severe
and unknowing hand of Semihazah
and the wicked were laying the foundation of a great city
where all men would come to think
that all the meaning of life
lay in the satisfaction of their possessions
and the accumulation of the substance of wealth

57 And it came to pass that Semihazah followed after those
who traveled with the people of Achee
but did not think continually upon the great name of the Lord
notwithstanding they went whithersoever they would
even according to the leadings of the Lord

58 And the wicked in this band of travelers
could not find it in their hearts
to seek out their visions
but were intent only to dwell in their hearts
upon the loss of their comforts and possessions
in the land of Shinar
so when their eyes looked out and beheld upon the land
as it passed before them in their travels
for it was the workmanship of the hand of God
in all of the Eerkodeshoi
they could only look to seek
that which would bring them comfort
and the ease of pleasure
and the glory of domination one man above his fellows
and when their eyes and souls viewed the wonders of God
or drew close to some specific feeling of Messiah
in a new and wondrous element
this blindness was ever before their eyes
to block the vision of God from entering into their hearts
and the natural world around began to be valued
in an entirely different way than it was by the righteous
and the wicked stood in constant doubt
concerning their station in the midst of creation and before God
and they worried continually

for fear of falling short in regard to the expectations of others
and they sought always
for the means not to fall behind their fellows
in the satisfactions of their possessions

59 And it came to pass that
their world around them began to be like a stranger to them
and their fear of the unknown began to dominate them
and in this way there began to arise discussions
when considering where to place their encampments
during their weeks of years when they did not travel
and the voice of the Eerkodeshoi was important to some
but not to others

60 Wherefore Oh you Gentiles
See to it when you hear of these things
That you not be content
Until you have arrived at the place and in the condition
that will fulfill the vision of your created purpose
To which the voice of God in your hearts
will continually be calling you
during the times of your tribulations

61 And be diligent to see through the eyes of God
And do not cling to the pleasure of your possessions
and your place of dominance above your fellows
or your position of esteem
But look only to that still small voice inside of you
that will lead you to become one who loves the Lord God
in ways acceptable to Him

62 And it will come to pass
that he will lead you forth to times of refreshing
and to places of safety
and into the cool waters of a good life

63 And thus it was
that these discussions were continuing on in their midst

during their forty years of travel
and even as Jared sought to find possessions
in the village of Yathomiah
and Achee said the Lord forbade it
this distinction did not cease but continued
and as it may be seen
came to the full in the life of Ziklag

64 And it came to pass
that Ziklag began to be the foremost to declare
that the only justification for their many travels
was to find and secure land
and the wealth of possessions
and positions of dominance
and he declared that as they traveled
this was all they must seek after
and he said that it was only by the cunning of a man
that he would survive
and not by the hand of the Lord
and he said that God granted to some the skill and prowess insomuch
that it was their vision from God
to rule over their fellows
for he said that it was only in this way
the people could know who was the greatest of all

65 But Pagag began to put forth his influence
and be the foremost to declare
that all that must direct their lives and travel
was the hand of the Lord
and His purposes for this people

66 And it came to pass that these two opinions followed the people
until they arrived at the land of Sooramec
and it was even after the same manner
as it was in the days of Cain and Abel
and the lies of Semihazah were ancient and old
and they said again that one ought to be compared to others

and that those found wanting
ought to submit themselves unto the dominance of others in much the same
way as it was with Cain and Abel

- 67 And thus were the people pondering between these two opinions
as they entered into the land of Sooramec
and the sorrow of Achee and Tipharah began to grow
- 68 And it came to pass that Poog
the father of Ziklag
died in Sooramec about a year after their arrival
when he ate a strange herb of the field
and all the people mourned his passing
and before he died he had cast aside the use of his lair
and built a house of bricks
like unto that which was known in the land of Shinar
and he built it to bring him comfort and to hold his possessions
- 69 And it came to pass in those days that Ziklag married
and laid hold upon all the possessions of his father after he died
and he refused to look after the welfare of his mother
and Yathomiah was cast out of her house by the wife of Ziklag
and the Lord suffered with her again
to feel her feelings of being abandoned
and thus we see the calamities of sorrow and despair
the tender hearts of the Lord and men must endure
because of sin and selfishness
- 70 And it came to pass that Yathomiah was again taken in by Shema
and she lived out all the remainder of her days with her
and their souls were bound together in the Lord
- 71 Now Sooramec was a place of great bounty
and the people lived after the manner of happiness
for the space of four years
the righteous dwelt in lairs by the banks of a river of water
and tended to the care of their gardens
and they saw to the nourishment and care of their animals

but the others went up upon the hillside
and built themselves houses of bricks

72 And it came to pass that when the great sea was discovered
Ziklag determined with his companions
to establish themselves in a permanent way
like unto the way the people know in the land of Shinar
and they built a village of bricks
and they no longer sought out the righteousness of living in lairs¹⁰
as had been their custom for so many years
but the righteous said the bricks closed out the Eerkodeshoi
and they were loath to dwell in them
for they loved the righteousness of their lairs
and the weather in that place was warm

73 And it came to pass that the urgings of the Lord did not cease
before the face of the people as they stood before the great sea
and to many it felt like the wilderness of Kadel
for no man knew the extent of the vastness of it
and the wind continually blew out to sea
and away from the shore
and it was heard that it was said by some
that once someone should put forth into the sea
there would be no turning back to push against the wind
but the Eerkodeshoi kept calling out to the righteous
and it was a familiar voice
and one in which they knew they could put their trust
and Tipharah would stand by the sea for long moments listening
and she knew that the vision of Nachash
lay within the hills on the other side
and the visions of her children and grandchildren
did not cease from before her face day and night
and all her soul cried out to cross the sea
and obtain the will of the Lord for them

¹⁰See Hebrews 11:38 for a similar condition for Israel.

- 74 Now it came to pass
that Ziklag could remember the accounts of his mother
that she would tell concerning the land of Kadel
where he was born
and for all his bravery
in his heart
there was impressed a fear to venture forth
and he denied his inner urgings
and determined not to cross the great sea
- 75 And it came to pass
that the village and dwelling places of Ziklag and his companions began to be
permanent for them
and the people now numbered nearly three hundred souls
and those who dwelt in the lairs by the river
began to be fewer and fewer
and those who worshiped at the altar of Shabuot dwindled also
and those who clung to Shabuot and dwelt in lairs
began to be considered old fashioned
and the people did not continue to seek them for advice
except during illness and times of distress
and the Religion of Shabuot was said by the villagers
to be an old religion of former days
and not suited for the land of Sooramec
- 76 And thus by reason of all these forces
and opinions
and disputes
and doubts
and oppressions Achee did not call upon the name of the Lord regarding what course
they should take in their travels
- 77 And it came to pass that Achee
and Tipharah
and Shema
and Yathomiah
and all who would
went at the appointed time

to declare Shabuot
and as they approached the altar
a cloud had descended to cover it
and the voice of the Lord was gently speaking
from within the cloud
and Abariel held the voice of Messiah
and He chastened Achee for not calling on His name
to seek counsel for their journey across the great sea
and Achee heard the Lord from in the midst of the cloud
and Achee and all those with him
were very intent to listen to their God
and they all repented before Him
and they assured Him that they would be obedient
and they grieved over their sins

78 And it came to pass when they had thus repented
the cloud lifted and went away
and the altar of Shabuot was wet
as if to be cleansed from their sins in purification
and they proceeded to affirm Shabuot upon it

79 And after the declaration of Shabuot
they held a council one with another
and determined that they would approach
to speak to all of the people
and report the word of the Lord
and they were diligent to heed the voice of all the Eerkodeshoi

80 And it came to pass that when they returned from the altar
they called the people together
and rehearsed unto them all that the Lord had said
and what Abariel had done for them at the altar of Shabuot
and Ziklag rose up
and he chided against his elders and said
We have labored diligently
to make our dwellings of brick and tiles
And you expect us to leave them to perish
in the midst of a raging sea

Go back to your poor little dwellings
and trouble us no more with such things

81 And a stir spread among all those assembled
and he went on to say
 Know you not that a man must exercise cunning to survive
 For man is evil from the day of his creation
 And it is by his exceeding skill
 that he can overcome all of the hardships and adversities
 of that which you call the Eerkodeshoi
 For the earth is our enemy and it must be subdued
 And the evil of the creation of man must be overcome
 and suppressed
 and conquered by diligence and steady discipline
 And all this will not be accomplished
 by the prayers of women
 or those like unto them
and he departed out of their midst in the anger of his heart
and there were some who said they were ashamed of his rudeness but he spoke of the
concerns of their hearts also

82 And it came to pass that Yathomiah was greatly ashamed
and embarrassed at the ill words of her son to his elders
 before the face of all the people
and she began to be sick with fever
and Achee prayed prayers of righteousness over her
and Tipharah gave Shema healing herbs for her
 and Yathomiah repented before the Lord¹¹
and by these things and the tender care of Shema she recovered
 but refrained from walking in the midst of the people
 for the hardship of her shame
and in that year she was fifty and two years old
and Shema was seventy and five

83 And it came to pass that the righteous were obedient unto the Lord

¹¹ Isn't this a marvelous statement? Her son was rude but she repented and was healed.

and Jared was afraid to leave his house of bricks
but was compelled to come to the support of his elder brother
as it had been he who had requested of him
as to whether they should depart from the land of Shinar

84 And it came to pass
that the children of Jared
and Achee
and Shema began to work timbers
and they began to assemble that which was required
for the building of ships
and they made ropes
and pottery
and containers for their possessions
and they spun fabric and oiled it against the rain and the weather
and all this was being accomplished
in the midst of their encampment of lairs
by the bank of the river
and thus the preparations were begun
for the crossing of the great sea
before the eyes of all the people

85 And it came to pass
that the people of the village kept making buildings of bricks
and they hunted and tended their gardens for themselves
and would not have gardens any longer in common
with their righteous elders
which thing was a hardship for them
as they had to put in store much dried provision
for their long journey
but the hand of the Lord was with them
and he eased their burdens
and made their crops grow in abundance
even to exceed those of the people of the village

86 And the people of the village were exceedingly industrious
and their wealth of substance began to accumulate
for they began to use a blue stone they had discovered

for the substance of wealth
and as a means of trading
and obtaining possessions
but the people of the encampment
were intent only upon preparing to cross the great sea

87 And the villagers thought that man was evil
and the elements of the earth were enemies to be overcome
but those of the encampment knew and trusted
their beloved Eerkodeshoi
and in their hearts they fervently hoped
that man was good and holy in his creation
and they said
For how can a good tree bring forth evil fruit
Are not the seeds of a tree like the children of the tree
Could a soft
and fragrant
and lovely tree bring forth the seed of a tree
that was hard and cruel with thorns
Could a God who is holy create and love His children
who He had made to be evil in their natures
Surely our evil natures come to us by how we choose

88 And thus it was that Achee went with a heavy heart
being in the midst of this turmoil of soul
between these two opinions
to seek out the Lord as to how they might receive air
in the midst of their ships

89 And it came to pass that after Achee had altered the ships
according to the word of the Lord
so that they might receive air
he pondered in his heart to find in what manner
he might obtain light for their journey in their ships
according as the Lord had asked of him

90 Now Semihazah had gained access into their community
by means of the rebellions of Ziklag

and those who supported him
and Semihazah was wroth with Achee
and was lying in wait to oppress him
and his evil presence began to come in against the righteous
and in particular it was against Achee
seeing he was a priest of the Most High God
notwithstanding it had not yet been made known to him
by the Lord

91 And it came to pass
that his dreams in the night began to be hard upon him
and Tipharah began to stay awake at night to sit by him as he slept and she prayed
mighty prayers for him
and in the midst of these struggles
Achee came into distress with fever
and his skin was burning with heat
and the healing herbs of Tipharah brought him no relief
and she calling upon her neighbors for help
brought him out in the night to lay by the bank of the river
and she held his head in her lap with her legs folded under
and she slipped her hand into the cool water of the river
to wet his face
and Semihazah drew near
and great darkness overshadowed them
and it was thick upon Achee
and it was as if he could not breathe
and when he thought he was about to perish for want of breath
he cried out to the Lord to be delivered

92 And Semihazah approached before him
and he said
You pretend to be a man of God
And you desire to take these people out upon the raging sea
so that they will perish
A loving God would direct you to do no such thing
You are poor and live in a house of reeds
And you have no possessions nor standing among the people
What manner of man are you that you think to lead this people



The Protection Song

And who is the Lord that he would tell you such foolishness
You are old and without strength
Stay here and become wealthy and respectable
 under the kind leadership of Ziklag
For I tell you of a surety that it is the only way
 to overcome your evil and haughty nature
Your sins are too great and now God does not care for you
 nor bring you to mind
For now God does not love you
 for you have humiliated Him
 because you have not called upon Him for these four years
And you know of a surety that now He does no longer love you
 nor hold you dear for the great severity of your sins
And God has sent me to declare these things to you
 so you will stop this foolish building of ships

93 And it came to pass that Achee cried out in the agony of his soul
and he said
 Of this one thing I am certain
 and I will declare it to you before your face
Yea even under the duress of my present affliction
And I tell you now that the Lord God loves me
 even though I have sins
And in the knowledge of that love I shall not be shaken
Depart from me oh watcher of lies

94 And when he had said these words he opened his eyes
and found Tipharah holding him
 and washing his face with cool water
and she was quietly singing a song of protection
 that was given to her by Sedeqetelebab
and it was one that the Lord had brought to her
 to ease the distress of her husband
 when he suffered from the onslaught of evil
 before the time of the flood

95 And Semihazah

could not stand before the faith of Achee in the love of the Lord
nor could he abide in the presence of the song
and the song says
Eerkodeshoi come to my home
see the grandeur of my soul
Eerkodeshoi sit beside me
speak for God and make me whole
See the handiwork of light
stay to lighten up my night
Take my hand that I might know
in His presence I shall grow
See the vision of my life
bring Him near to end all strife
See the hills that are my place
take me in and make me safe
I came from Elda to this place
let us share His wondrous grace
See what God has done for me
use your love to set me free
Elda

96 And this song of righteousness of Tipharah

carried softly upon the waters
and Semihazah departed in haste away from before them
with a cry
and the day began to dawn in the land of Sooramec

97 And it came to pass that Achee received his strength back again

and the fever passed from him
and his rib rejoiced greatly
and all the Eerkodeshoi looked upon them
and called them their own
and they hovered about them as a hen hovers over her chicks

98 And it came to pass

that Achee said to his rib
Do you know where I can find clear stones

that will hold the light of the Lord
and she said
Once when I was cooking on Mount Shelem
the fire was put in small stones very pure and white
And the fire melted the stones into a lump
clear and bright in the light of the sun
And she told him where the place was

99 And it came to pass that after he had rested a few days
Achee went there
and he blew on coals of fire with the skins of animals
insomuch that he was able to molten out of the small rocks
sixteen small smooth stones shaped like a small egg
about the size of the end joint of the finger of a man
and he rubbed them on stones in water
until they became smooth and clear
and they were precious in his sight
and after four days he spent in this manner
he gathered them up unto his bosom
and he was intent to take them to his altar that he used for Shabuot

100 Now Achee was so set upon his task
that he fasted all the while he was obtaining the stones
and he went straight away unto the altar of the Lord