

was taken from before Hashem, to be replaced with lechem cham on the day when it was taken away.

|7(8)| Now a certain ish of the avadim of Sha'ul was there that day, detained before Hashem; shmo Do'eg, the Edomi, the chief of the ro'im that belonged to Sha'ul.

|8(9)| And Dovid said unto Achimelech, And is there not here under thine yad khanit or cherev? For I have neither brought my cherev nor my weapons with me, because the devar HaMelech (matter of the King) required haste.

|9(10)| And the Kohen said, The cherev of Golyat (Goliath) the Pelishti, whom thou slewest in the Emek Elah, hinei, it is here wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod; if thou wilt take that, take it; for there is no other except that here. And Dovid said, There is none like that; give it me.

|10(11)| And Dovid arose and fled that day from before Sha'ul, and went to Achish Melech Gat.

|11(12)| And the avadim of Achish said unto him, Is not this Dovid Melech HaAretz? Did they not sing one to another of him in dances, saying, Sha'ul hath slain his thousands, and Dovid his myriads?

|12(13)| And Dovid laid up these devarim in his levav, and was very much afraid of Achish Melech Gat.

|13(14)| And he changed his behavior before them, and feigned himself a madman in their hands, and scratched on the daletot hash'a'ar, and let his spittle fall down upon his zakan (beard).

|14(15)| Then said Achish unto his avadim, Hinei, ye see the man is meshugga; wherefore then have ye brought him to me?

|15(16)| Have I need of meshugga'im, that ye have brought this one to play the meshugga in my presence? Shall this one come into my bais?

22 Dovid therefore departed from there, and escaped to the me'arah (cave) of Adullam; and when his brethren and all the bais aviv heard it, they went down there to him.

|2| And every ish that was in distress, and every ish that was in debt, and every ish that was mar-nefesh (bitter in spirit, discontented) gathered themselves unto him; and he became Sar over them; and there were with him about arba me'ot ish (four hundred men).

|3| And Dovid went from there to Mitzpeh Moav; and he said unto the Melech Moav, Let avi and immi now come out, and be with you, until I know what Elohim will do for me.

|4| And he brought them before Melech Moav; and they dwelt with him all the days that Dovid was in the metzudah (stronghold, *i.e.* *Mitzpeh Moav*).

|5| And Gad HaNavi said unto Dovid, Abide not in the metzudah; depart, and get thee into Eretz Yehudah. Then Dovid departed, and came into the Forest of Cheret.

|6| When Sha'ul heard that Dovid was discovered, and the anashim that were with him, (now Sha'ul abode in Giveah under a tamarisk tree in Ramah, having his khanit in his yad, and all his avadim were standing about him);

|7| Then Sha'ul said unto his avadim that stood about him, Hear now, ye of Binyamin; will Ben Yishai give every one of you sadot and kramim

(vineyards), and make you all sarei alafim and sarei me'ot; |8| That all of you have made a kesher against me, and there is none that reveals unto my ear that beni (my son) hath cut a Brit with Ben Yishai, and there is none of you that is concerned for me, or revealeth unto my ear that beni (my son) hath stirred up avdi against me, to lie in wait, as he does today?

|9| Then answered Do'eg the Edomi, which was set over the avadim of Sha'ul, and said, I saw Ben Yishai coming to Nov, to Achimelech ben Achituv.

|10| And he inquired of Hashem for him, and gave him provision, and gave him the cherev Golyat HaPelishti.

|11| Then HaMelech sent to call Achimelech Ben Achituv HaKohen, and kol Bais Aviv, the Kohanim that were in Nov; and they came all of them to HaMelech.

|12| And Sha'ul said, Hear now, thou Ben Achituv. And he answered, Hineni, adoni.

|13| And Sha'ul said unto him, Why have ye made a kesher against me, thou and Ben Yishai, in that thou hast given him lechem, and a cherev, and hast inquired of Elohim for him, that he should rise against me, to lie in wait, as he does this day?

|14| Then Achimelech answered HaMelech, and said, And who is so ne'emam (loyal) among all thy avadim as Dovid, which is the Choson HaMelech, obedient to thy bidding, and is honored in thine bais?

|15| Did I then begin to inquire of Elohim for him? Chalilah li! Let not HaMelech impute anything unto his eved, nor to all the Bais Avi; for thy eved knew nothing of all this, katon or gadol.