

Judges 17:1-18:1a

v1 – Ephraim	(proper noun)	a tribe in Israel
v2 – utter	(verb)	say
v3 – curse	(noun)	words that call on a supernatural power to cause harm to someone
v2 – bless	(verb)	show favour to someone
v3 – solemnly	(adverb)	seriously and formally
v3 – consecrate	(verb)	set aside for God’s purpose
v3 – overlaid	(adjective)	covered
v4 – silversmith	(noun)	someone who shapes silver into various items
v4 – idol	(noun)	a statue that is worshipped
v5 – shrine	(noun)	a place where an idol is worshipped
v5 – ephod	(noun)	an apron worn by priests in the Old Testament
v5 – installed	(verb)	officially put someone in an important position
v5 – priest	(noun)	someone who speaks to God and performs religious rituals on behalf of people
v6 – fit	(adjective)	appropriate, right
v7 – clan	(noun)	a group of families that are related to each other
v9 – Levite	(proper noun)	someone from the tribe of Levi. Levites were assigned by God to be priests.

Judges 17:1 – 18:1a (New International Reader’s Version)

^{17:1} A man named Micah lived in the hill country of Ephraim. ² He said to his mother, “Someone took 28 pounds of silver from you. I heard you curse the one who took it. I have the silver with me. I’m the one who took it.”

Then his mother said, “My son, may the LORD bless you!”

³ He gave the 28 pounds of silver back to his mother. She said to him, “I’m making a promise to set apart my silver to the LORD. My son, I want you to use it to cover a statue of a god made out of wood or stone. That’s why I’ll give the silver back to you.”

⁴ Micah gave the silver back to his mother. Then she gave five pounds of it to a skilled worker who made things out of silver. He used the silver for the statue. The statue was put in Micah’s house.

⁵ That same Micah had a small temple. He made a sacred linen apron and some statues of his family gods. He appointed one of his sons to serve as his priest. ⁶ In those days Israel didn’t have a king. The people did anything they thought was right.

⁷ A young Levite had been living in land that belonged to the tribe of Judah. He was from Bethlehem in Judah. ⁸ He left that town to look for some other place to stay. On his way he came to Micah’s house. It was in the hill country of Ephraim.

⁹ Micah asked him, “Where are you from?”

“I’m a Levite,” he said. “I’m from Bethlehem in Judah. I’m looking for a place to stay.”

¹⁰ Then Micah said to him, “Live with me. Be my father and priest. I’ll give you four ounces of silver a year. I’ll also give you clothes and food.” ¹¹ So the Levite agreed to live with him. The young man became just like one of Micah’s sons to him. ¹² Then Micah appointed the Levite to serve as his priest. He lived in Micah’s house. ¹³ Micah said, “Now I know that the LORD will be good to me. This Levite has become my priest.”

^{18:1} In those days Israel didn’t have a king.

And in those days the tribe of Dan was looking for a place where they could make their homes. They hadn’t been able to take over their own share of land among the tribes of Israel.

Ephesians 1:3-10

v3 – blessed	(verb)	showed favour to
v3 – ‘heavenly realms’		spiritual domain
v4 – holy	(adjective)	set apart for God’s purpose
v4 – predestined	(verb)	decided ahead of time
v4 – adoption	(noun)	taking someone else’s child into your family and giving them the legal status as your own child
v5 – ‘in accordance with’		in a way that is consistent with
v5 – pleasure	(noun)	a sense of happiness and satisfaction
v5 – will	(noun)	what someone wants to have happen
v6 – glorious	(adjective)	wonderful, beautiful, deserving of praise
v6 – grace	(noun)	undeserved kindness
v7 – redemption	(noun)	the act of buying someone back
v7 – sins	(noun)	rebellion against God; rejection of God
v8 – lavished	(verb)	gave generously in large amounts
v9 – mystery	(noun)	something that was hidden and has now been revealed
v10 – fulfilment	(noun)	completion

Ephesians 1:3-10 (New International Reader’s Version)

³ Give praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. He has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. Those blessings come from the heavenly world. They belong to us because we belong to Christ. ⁴ God chose us to belong to Christ before the world was created. He chose us to be holy and without blame in his eyes. He loved us. ⁵ So he decided long ago to adopt us. He adopted us as his children with all the rights children have. He did it because of what Jesus Christ has done. It pleased God to do it. ⁶ All those things bring praise to his glorious grace. God freely gave us his grace because of the One he loves. ⁷ We have been set free because of what Christ has done. Because he bled and died our sins have been forgiven. We have been set free because God’s grace is so rich. ⁸ He poured his grace on us. By giving us great wisdom and understanding, ⁹ he showed us the mystery of his plan. It was in keeping with what he wanted to do. It was what he had planned through Christ. ¹⁰ It will all come about when history has been completed. God will then bring together all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.