

# UGENESISI

## *Umdabuko*

- 1** Ekuqaleni uNkulunkulu wadala amazulu lomhlaba. <sup>2</sup>Umhlaba wawungelasimo njalo ungelalutho, ubumnyama babengame phezulu kolwandle njalo uMoya kaNkulunkulu wawuzulazula ngaphezulu kwamanzi.
- <sup>3</sup>Yikho uNkulunkulu wasesithi, "Akubekhona ukukhanya," lakanye kwabakhona ukukhanya.
- <sup>4</sup>UNkulunkulu wabona ukuthi ukukhanya kwakukuhle, wasekwehlukana ukukhanya lobumnyama. <sup>5</sup>UNkulunkulu wabiza ukukhanya ngokuthi "lusuku," lobumnyama wabubiza ngokuthi "yibusuku." Yikho kwabakhona ukuhlwa lokusa – usuku lokuqala.
- <sup>6</sup>Njalo uNkulunkulu wathi, "Kakubekhona umkhandlu phakathi kwamanzi ukwehlukana amanzi kwamanye amanzi." <sup>7</sup>Ngakho uNkulunkulu wehlukana amanzi angaphansi komkhandlu kulawo amanzi angaphezulu kwawo. Kwaba njalo.
- <sup>8</sup>UNkulunkulu wabiza umkhandlu ngokuthi "ngumkhathi." Njalo kwabakhona ukuhlwa, kwabakhona njalo ukusa – usuku lwesibili.
- <sup>9</sup>Njalo uNkulunkulu wathi, "Kakuthi amanzi angaphansi komkhathi aqoqane ndawonye endaweni eyodwa, njalo kakuvele umhlabathi owomileyo." Ngakho kwaba njalo. <sup>10</sup>UNkulunkulu wabiza umhlaba owomileyo ngokuthi "ngumhlabathi," lamanzi aqoqeneyo wathi "yizilwandle." Njalo

uNkulunkulu wabona ukuthi kwakukuhle.

- <sup>11</sup>Yikho uNkulunkulu wasesithi, "Umhlabathi kawuthele izimila: izihlahla ezizala intanga lezihlahla emhlabathini ezithela izithelo ezilentanga phakathi, kusiya ngemihlobo yazo eyahlukeneyo." Kwaba njalo. <sup>12</sup>Umhlaba wathela izimila: izihlahla ezilentanga kusiya ngemihlobo yazo, lezihlahla ezizala izithelo ezilentanga phakathi kwazo kusiya ngemihlobo yazo. Njalo uNkulunkulu wabona ukuthi kwakulungile. <sup>13</sup>Kwabakhona njalo ukuhlwa, njalo kwabakhona ukusa – usuku lwesithathu.
- <sup>14</sup>Njalo uNkulunkulu wathi, "Akube lezibane emkhandlwini womkhathi ukwehlukana imini lobusuku, njalo zibe luphawu lokubonisa izibanga zomnyaka, lezinsuku leminyaka, <sup>15</sup>njalo mazibe yizibane emkhandlwini womkhathi ukuletha ukukhanya emhlabeni." Kwaba njalo.
- <sup>16</sup>UNkulunkulu wenza izibane ezimbili ezinkulu – isibane esikhulu ukubusa emini lesibane esincinyane ukubusa ebusuku. Wenza futhi lezinkanyezi. <sup>17</sup>UNkulunkulu wazibeka emkhandlwini womkhathi ukuletha ukukhanya emhlabeni, <sup>18</sup>ukubusa imini lobusuku, kanye lokwahlukanisa ukukhanya lobumnyama. Njalo uNkulunkulu wabona ukuthi kwakukuhle. <sup>19</sup>Njalo kwabakhona ukuhlwa, kwabakhona njalo lokusa – usuku lwesine.
- <sup>20</sup>Njalo uNkulunkulu wathi, "Akuthi amanzi anyakazele ngezidalwa eziphilayo, njalo akuthi izinyoni ziphaphe ngaphezulu komhlaba zidabule emkhandlwini womkhathi." <sup>21</sup>Yikho uNkulunkulu wadala izidalwa ezinkulu zolwandle layo yonke into

ephilayo lehambayo enyakazelayo emanzini, kusiya ngemihlobo yazo, lezinyoni zonke ezilamaphiko, ngemihlobo yazo. Njalo uNkulunkulu wabona ukuthi kwakukuhle.

<sup>22</sup>UNkulunkulu wazibusisa wathi, "Zalani lande ngobunengi ligcwalise amanzi ezilwandle, njalo akuthi lezinyoni lazo zande emhlabeni."

<sup>23</sup>Njalo kwabakhona ukuhlwa, kwabakhona njalo lokusa – usuku lwesihlanu.

<sup>24</sup>Njalo uNkulunkulu wathi, "Akuthi umhlaba uveze izidalwa eziphilayo kusiya ngemihlobo yazo: izinanakazana ezihuquzela emhlabathini, kanye lezinyamazana zeganga, yilezo kusiya ngemihlobo yazo." Lakanye kwaba njalo.

<sup>25</sup>UNkulunkulu wenza izinyamazana zeganga kusiya ngemihlobo yazo, izifuyo kusiya ngemihlobo yazo, njalo zonke izinanakazana ezihuquzela emhlabathini kusiya ngemihlobo yazo. Njalo uNkulunkulu wabona ukuthi kwakukuhle.

<sup>26</sup>UNkulunkulu wasesithi, "Asenze umuntu ngesimo sethu, ngomfuziselo wethu, njalo kabuse phezu kwezinhlanzi zolwandle lezinyoni zemoyeni, phezu kwezifuyo, phezu kwawo wonke umhlaba laphezu kwazo zonke izinanakazana ezihuquzela emhlabathini."

<sup>27</sup>Ngakho uNkulunkulu wamdala umuntu ngesimo sakhe, wamdala ngesimo sikaNkulunkulu; wadala owesilisa lowesifazana.

<sup>28</sup>UNkulunkulu wababusisa wathi kubo, "Zalani lande ngobunengi; wugcwaliseni umhlaba, liwubuse. Busani phezu kwezinhlanzi zolwandle lezinyoni zemoyeni laphezu kwezidalwa zonke ezihambayo emhlabathini."

<sup>29</sup>UNkulunkulu wasesithi, "Ngilinika zonke izihlahla ezizala intanga eziphezu kwawo wonke umhlaba lazo zonke izihlahla ezilezithelo ezilentanga phakathi. Zingezenu ukuthi lizidle.

<sup>30</sup>Njalo nginika zonke izihlahla eziluhlaza kuzo zonke izinyamazana zomhlaba lakuzo zonke izinyoni zemoyeni lakuzo zonke izidalwa ezihambayo emhlabathini – yonke into ephefumula impilo phakathi kwayo – ukuba zibe yikudla kwazo." Kwaba njalo.

<sup>31</sup>UNkulunkulu wakubona konke lokho ayeseqwenzile, njalo kwakukuhle kakhulu. Njalo kwabakhona ukuhlwa, kwabakhona njalo lokusa – usuku lwesithupha.

## 2 Kanjalo amazulu lomhlaba

kwapheleliswa ngakho konke ukuhlonitshwa okukhulu.

<sup>2</sup>Ngosuku lwesikhombisa uNkulunkulu wayesewuqedile umsebenzi ayewenza; yikho ngosuku lwesikhombisa waphumula kuwo wonke umsebenzi wakhe. <sup>3</sup>Njalo uNkulunkulu walubusisa usuku lwesikhombisa walwenza lwaba ngcwele, ngokuba mhla walo waphumula kuwo wonke umsebenzi wokudala lokho ayeseqwenzile.

*U-Adamu lo-Eva*

<sup>4</sup>Lo ngumlando wamazulu lomhlaba ekudalweni kwakho.

Kwathi uJehova uNkulunkulu esenze umhlaba lamazulu – <sup>5</sup>kungakaveli sihlahlana seganga emhlabathini njalo kungakamili lasihlahla bani seganga, ngoba uJehova uNkulunkulu wayengakanisi izulu emhlabeni, njalo

kwakungelamuntu wokusebenza umhlabathi, <sup>6</sup> kodwa izintombo zantuntuza emhlabathini zathelela lonke iphansi – <sup>7</sup> uJehova uNkulunkulu wambumba umuntu ngothuli lomhlabathi waphefumulela emakhaleni akhe umphefumulo wokuphila, yikho umuntu wasesiba yinto ephilayo.

<sup>8</sup> Kunjalo uJehova uNkulunkulu wayelungise isivande empumalanga, e-Edeni; wambeka khona umuntu ayembumbile. <sup>9</sup> Njalo uJehova uNkulunkulu wenza yonke imihlobo yezihlahla ukuthi zikhule emhlabathini – izihlahla ezazibukeka emehlweni njalo zinhle ekudleni. Phakathi laphakathi kwesivande kwakulesihlahla sokuphila lesihlahla sokwazi okuhle lokubi.

<sup>10</sup> Umfula owawuthelela isivande wawugeleza usuka e-Edeni; ususuka lapho wadabukana waba yimifudlana emine. <sup>11</sup> Ibizo lowokuqala yiPhishoni; uzombezeza kulo lonke ilizwe laseHavila, lapho okulegolide khona. <sup>12</sup> (Igolide lalelizwe lihle; amakha erezini le-onikisi lawo akhona.) <sup>13</sup> Ibizo lomfudlana wesibili yiGihoni; uzombezeza kulo lonke ilizwe laseKhushi. <sup>14</sup> Ibizo lomfudlana wesithathu yiThigrisi; ubhoda ngempumalanga kwe-Ashuri. Njalo umfudlana wesine yiYufrethi.

<sup>15</sup> UJehova uNkulunkulu wamthatha umuntu wambeka eSivandeni sase-Edeni ukuthi asisebenze njalo asinakekele.

<sup>16</sup> Njalo uJehova uNkulunkulu wamlaya umuntu wathi, "Ukhululekile ukudla loba yisiphi isihlahla esivandeni;

<sup>17</sup> kodwa ungadli isihlahla sokwazi okuhle lokubi, ngoba ungaze usidle uzakufa ngempela."

<sup>18</sup> UJehova uNkulunkulu wathi, "Kakukuhle ukuba indoda ibe yodwa. Ngizamenzela umsizi omfaneleyo."

<sup>19</sup> Manje-ke uJehova uNkulunkulu wayesebumbile ngomhlabathi zonke

izinyamazana zeganga lazo zonke izinyoni zemoyeni. Waziletha emuntwini ukuthi aziphe amabizo; kwathi loba yikuthini asibiza ngakho isidalwa esiphilayo, kwaba yilona bizo laso. <sup>20</sup> Ngakho umuntu wapha amabizo kuzo zonke izifuyo, lezinyoni zemoyeni lazo zonke izinyamazana zeganga.

Kodwa u-Adamu wayengelaye umsizi omfaneleyo. <sup>21</sup> Yikho uJehova uNkulunkulu wenza indoda yalala ubuthongo bokufa; kwathi khonapho isalele wathatha olunye ubambo lwendoda waseyivala leyondawo ngenyama. <sup>22</sup> Yikho uJehova uNkulunkulu wenza umfazi ngobambo ayeluthethe endodeni, wasemletha endodeni.

<sup>23</sup> Indoda yathi,

"Lo manje uselithambo lamathambo ami lenyama yenyama yami; usezabizwa ngokuthi 'mfazi,' ngokuba wathathwa endodeni."

<sup>24</sup> Ngalesisizatho indoda izadela uyise lonina imanyane lomkayo, bona babe nyamanye.

<sup>25</sup> Indoda lomkayo babehambaze, bengelazo inhloni.

*Ukuwa Komuntu*

**3** Inyoka yayiliqili okudlula zonke izinyamazana zeganga uNkulunkulu ayezenzile. Yathi kowesifazana, "Kambe uNkulunkulu watsho ngeqiniso wathi, 'Lingadli noma yisiphi isihlahla esivandeni?'"

<sup>2</sup> Owesifazana wathi enyokeni, "Singadla izithelo zezihlahla esivandeni, <sup>3</sup> kodwa uNkulunkulu watsho wathi, 'Lingazidli izithelo zesihlahla esiphakathi laphakathi kwesivande, njalo lingasithinti, funa life,' "

<sup>4</sup>Inyoka yathi kowesifazana, "Kalisoze life ngempela. <sup>5</sup>Ngoba uNkulunkulu uyazi ukuthi lingasidla amehlo enu azavuleka, beselisiba njengoNkulunkulu, lazi okuhle lokubi."

<sup>6</sup>Kwathi owesifazana ngokubona ukuthi izithelo zesihlahla leso zaziyakudla okuhle njalo zibukeka emehlweni, njalo zisweleka ukuzuza ukuhlakanipha, wakha ezinye wadla. Wapha njalo ezinye indoda yakhe eyayilaye khonapho, layo yadla. <sup>7</sup>Kwathi amehlo abo bobabili avuleka, basebenanzelela ukuthi babenqunu; yikho base bethungela ndawonye amahlamvu omkhiwa bazenzela izambatho ngawo.

<sup>8</sup>Kwathi indoda lomkayo bezwa umsindo kaJehova uNkulunkulu ehamba esivandeni umkhathi usupholile, yikho basebemcatshela uJehova uNkulunkulu phakathi kwezihlahla zesivande. <sup>9</sup>Kodwa uJehova uNkulunkulu wayimemeza indoda wathi, "Ungaphi?"

<sup>10</sup>Yaphendula yathi, "Ngikuzwile esivandeni, ngesaba ngoba benginqunu; yikho ngasengicatsha."

<sup>11</sup>Njalo wathi, "Ngubani okutshelileyo ukuthi unqunu? Usudlile yini isihlahla engalilaya ukuthi lingasidli?"

<sup>12</sup>Indoda yathi, "Umfazi owambeka lapha lami – ungiphile ezinye izithelo zesihlahla ngazidla."

<sup>13</sup>Yikho uJehova uNkulunkulu wathi kowesifazana, "Kuyini lokhu osukwenzile na?"

Owesifazana wathi, "Inyoka ingikhohlisile, ngadla."

<sup>14</sup>Ngakho uJehova uNkulunkulu wasesithi enyokeni, "Ngokuba usukwenzile lokhu,

"Uthukiwe ngaphezu kwezifuyo zonke

kanye lezinyamazana zonke zeganga!

Uzahuba phansi ngesisu sakho njalo uzakudla uthuli zonke izinsuku zokuphila kwakho.

<sup>15</sup>Njalo ngizafaka ubutha phakathi kwakho lowesifazana, laphakathi kwenzalo yakho leyowesifazana; uzahlifiza ikhanda lakho, njalo wena uzamnqanda isithende sakhe."

<sup>16</sup>Kowesifazana wathi,

"Ngizakwandisa ngokuphindiweyo izinhlungu zakho nxa ubeletha; ngobuhlungu uzazala abantwana. Inkanuko yakho izakuba sendodeni yakho, yona izabusa phezu kwakho."

<sup>17</sup>Ku-Adamu wathi, "Ngokuba ulalele umkakho wadla isihlahla engangikulaye ngathi, 'ungaqali ukusidla,'

"Uthukiwe umhlabathi ngenxa yakho; ngobuhlungu uzakudla okuphuma kuwo zonke izinsuku zokuphila kwakho.

<sup>18</sup>Uzamila ameva lezihlahlana zameva azahlaba wena, njalo uzakudla izihlahla zeganga.

<sup>19</sup>Ngezithukuthuku zebunzi lakho uzakudla ukudla kwakho uze ubuyele emhlabathini, njengoba wathathwa kuwo;

ngokuba uluthuli  
njalo uzabuyela othulini."

<sup>20</sup>U-Adamu wamutha umkakhe wathi ngu-Eva, ngokuba wayezakuba ngunina wabo bonke abaphilayo.

<sup>21</sup>UJehova uNkulunkulu wenza izivunulo zesikhumba wenzela u-Adamu lomkakhe wabagqokisa. <sup>22</sup>Njalo uJehova uNkulunkulu wathi, "Umuntu manje usenjengomunye wethu, usekwazi okuhle lokubi. Kangavunyelwa ukuthi elule isandla sakhe akhe njalo isihlahla sokuphila adle, aphile laphakade."

<sup>23</sup>Yikho uJehova uNkulunkulu wamxotsha eSivandeni sase-Edeni ukuthi asebenze umhlabathi ayethethwe kuwo. <sup>24</sup>Esemxotshile umuntu wamisa ngempumalanga kweSivande sase-Edeni amakherubhi kanye lenkemba ebhebhayo, iphazima isiyale lale ukulinda indlela eya esihlahleni sokuphila.

#### *UKhayini lo-Abela*

**4** U-Adamu wembatha lomkakhe u-Eva wasethatha isisu wazithwala wazala uKhayini. Wathi, "Ngosizo lukaJehova sengibelethe indoda." <sup>2</sup>Muva wazala umfowabo u-Abela.

Kwathi u-Abela waba ngumfuyi wemihlambi yezimvu, kanti uKhayini yena wasebenza umhlabathi. <sup>3</sup>Ngokuya kwesikhathi uKhayini waletha ezinye izithelo zomhlabathi ukuba ngumnikelo kuJehova. <sup>4</sup>Kodwa u-Abela waletha izitho ezinonileyo zisuka kwamanye amazibulo omhlambi wakhe. UJehova wamthokozela u-Abela kanye lomnikelo wakhe, <sup>5</sup>kodwa kamthokozelanga uKhayini lomnikelo wakhe. Yikho uKhayini wazonda kakhulu, lobuso bakhe bahloba.

<sup>6</sup>UJehova wasesithi kuKhayini, "Uzondeleni na? Kungani ubuso bakho buhlobile? <sup>7</sup>Kambe ungaze wenze okulungileyo, kawuyikwamukelwa yini? Kodwa nxa ungenzi okulungileyo, isono sicwathile emnyango wakho; sitshisekela ukukuthumba, kodwa kumele usahlule."

<sup>8</sup>Kwathi uKhayini wathi kumfowabo u-Abela, "Kake sihambe siye egangeni." Kwathi bekhonale egangeni uKhayini wamhlasela umfowabo u-Abela wambulala.

<sup>9</sup>UJehova wasesithi kuKhayini, "Ungaphi umfowenu u-Abela na?"

Waphendula wathi, "Angazi. Ngingumgcini wakhe umfowethu na?"

<sup>10</sup>UJehova wathi, "Usuwenzeni? Lalela! Igazi lomfowenu liyakhala kimi lisuka emhlabathini. <sup>11</sup>Manje usuqalekisiwe njalo usuxotshiwe kuwo umhlabathi osuvule umlomo wawo ukwamukela igazi lomfowenu lisuka esandleni sakho. <sup>12</sup>Lapho uwusebenza umhlabathi kawusayi kuthela amabele kuwe. Uzakuba luzulane emhlabeni."

<sup>13</sup>UKhayini wathi kuJehova, "Isijeziso sami singaphezu kwamandla ami.

<sup>14</sup>Lamhla usungixotsha elizweni, yikho sengizasithela ngingabi khona kuwe; ngizakuba luzulane olungelampumulo emhlabeni, kuthi loba ngubani ongifumanayo angibulale."

<sup>15</sup>Kodwa uJehova wathi kuye, "Akunjalo; lowo ongabulala uKhayini uzaphindiselwa ngokuphindwe kakhombisa." Yikho uJehova wasebeka uphawu kuKhayini ukuze kuthi lowo omfumanayo angambulali. <sup>16</sup>Yikho uKhayini wasesuka emehlweni kaJehova wayahlala elizweni laseNodi, empumalanga kwase-Edeni.

<sup>17</sup>UKhayini wembatha lomkakhe, wathatha isisu wazala u-Enoki. Ngalesosikhathi uKhayini wayesakha

idolobho alibiza ngendodana yakhe u-Enoki. <sup>18</sup> Ku-Enoki kwazalwa u-Iradi, yena u-Iradi waba nguyise kaMehujayeli, uMehujayeli waba nguyise kaMethushayeli, uMethushayeli waba nguyise kaLameki.

<sup>19</sup> ULameki wathatha abafazi ababili, omunye ethiwa ngu-Ada, omunye ethiwa nguZila. <sup>20</sup> U-Ada wazala uJabhali; wayenguyise walabo abahlala emathenteni abafuyileyo. <sup>21</sup> Ibizo lomfowabo lalinguJubhali; wayenguyise wabo bonke abatshaya umhubhe lechacho. <sup>22</sup> UZila laye waba lendodana, uThubhali-Khayini, owayekhanda zonke izinhlobo zezinto ngethusi langensimbi. Udadewabo kaThubhali-Khayini wayenguNama.

<sup>23</sup> ULameki wathi kubomkakhe,

"Ada loZila, lalelani kimi;  
bafazi bakaLameki, zwanini  
amazwi ami.  
Sengibulele umuntu ngenxa  
yokungilimaza,  
ijaha ngoba lingihlasele.

<sup>24</sup> Uma uKhayini ephindiselwa  
kakhombisa  
yikho uLameki okwamatshumi  
ayisikhombisa  
lesikhombisa."

<sup>25</sup> U-Adamu waphinda wembatha lomkakhe njalo, owesifazana wazala indodana wayithi nguSethi, esithi, "UNkulunkulu usengiphile omunye umntwana endaweni ka-Abela, njengoba uKhayini wambulala." <sup>26</sup> USethi laye waba lendodana, wayibiza ngokuthi ngu-Enoshi.

Kulesosikhathi abantu baqalisa ukubiza ibizo likaJehova.

*Kusukela ku-Adamu Kusiya kuNowa*

**5** Lo ngumlando olotshiweyo ngosendo luka-Adamu.

Kwathi uNkulunkulu edala umuntu wamenza ngomfuziselo kaNkulunkulu.

<sup>2</sup> Wabadala baba ngowesilisa lowesifazana wababusisa. Kwathi sebedaliwe wababiza ngokuthi "abantu."

<sup>3</sup> Kwathi u-Adamu esephile iminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi amathathu wathola indodana eyafana laye xathu; wayibiza ngokuthi nguSethi. <sup>4</sup> USethi esezelwe u-Adamu waphila iminyaka engamakhulu aficamibili, njalo wayelamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. <sup>5</sup> Isiyonke iminyaka ka-Adamu yayingamakhulu aficamunye lamatshumi amathathu, yikho wasesifa.

<sup>6</sup> Kwathi uSethi esephile iminyaka elikhulu lanhlanu waba nguyise ka-Enoshi. <sup>7</sup> Ngemva kokuzala u-Enoshi uSethi waphila iminyaka engamakhulu aficamibili lesikhombisa, njalo wayelamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. <sup>8</sup> Isiyonke, uSethi waphila iminyaka engamakhulu aficamunye letshumi lambili, wasesifa.

<sup>9</sup> Kwathi u-Enoshi esephile iminyaka engamatshumi aficamunye wazala uKhenani. <sup>10</sup> Ngemva kokuzala uKhenani u-Enoshi waphila iminyaka engamakhulu aficamibili letshumi lanhlanu, njalo elamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. <sup>11</sup> Isiyonke, u-Enoshi waphila iminyaka engamakhulu aficamunye lanhlanu, wasesifa.

<sup>12</sup> Kwathi uKhenani esephile iminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa wazala uMahalaleli. <sup>13</sup> Ngemva kokuba esezele uMahalaleli, uKhenani waphila iminyaka engamakhulu aficamibili lamatshumi amane, elamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. <sup>14</sup> Isiyonke, uKhenani waphila iminyaka

engamakhulu aficamunye letshumi, wasesifa.

<sup>15</sup> Kwathi uMahalaleli esephile iminyaka engamatshumi ayisithupha lanhlanu, wazala uJaredi. <sup>16</sup> Ngemva kokuzala kwakhe uJaredi, uMahalaleli waphila iminyaka engamakhulu aficamibili lamatshumi amathathu, njalo elamanye amadodana lamadodakazi.

<sup>17</sup> Isiyonke, uMahalaleli waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu aficamibili lamatshumi aficamunye lanhlanu, wasesifa.

<sup>18</sup> UJaredi esephile iminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi ayisithupha lambili, wazala u-Enoki. <sup>19</sup> Ngemva kokuzala kwakhe u-Enoki uJaredi waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu aficamibili, njalo wayelamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. <sup>20</sup> Isiyonke, uJaredi waphila iminyaka engamakhulu aficamunye lamatshumi ayisithupha lambili, wasesifa.

<sup>21</sup> Kwathi u-Enoki esephile iminyaka engamatshumi ayisithupha lanhlanu, wazala uMethusela. <sup>22</sup> Ngemva kokuzala uMethusela u-Enoki wahamba loNkulunkulu okweminyaka engamakhulu amathathu, njalo waba lamanye amadodana lamadodakazi.

<sup>23</sup> Isiyonke, u-Enoki waphila iminyaka engamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi ayisithupha lanhlanu. <sup>24</sup> U-Enoki wahamba loNkulunkulu; yikho wasuka wathi nya, ngoba uNkulunkulu wamsusa.

<sup>25</sup> Kwathi uMethusela esephile okweminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi aficamibili lesikhombisa wazala uLameki. <sup>26</sup> Ngemva kokuzala uLameki uMethusela waphila iminyaka engamakhulu ayisikhombisa lamatshumi aficamibili lambili, njalo elamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. <sup>27</sup> Isiyonke, uMethusela waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu aficamunye lamatshumi ayisithupha laficamunye, wasesifa.

<sup>28</sup> ULameki esephile iminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi aficamibili lambili wazala indodana. <sup>29</sup> Wayitha ibizo wathi nguNowa, wathi, "Izasiduduza emsebenzini lasekutshikatshikeni kwethu okubuhlungu ngezandla zethu okubangwa ngumhlabathi uJehova awuthukileyo." <sup>30</sup> Ngemva kokuzalwa kukaNowa uLameki waphila iminyaka engamakhulu amahlanu lamatshumi aficamunye lanhlanu, njalo wayelamanye amadodana lamadodakazi. <sup>31</sup> Isiyonke, uLameki waphila iminyaka engamakhulu ayisikhombisa lamatshumi ayisikhombisa, wasesifa.

<sup>32</sup> Ngemva kokuphila iminyaka engamakhulu amahlanu, uNowa wazala uShemu, loHamu loJafethi.

### *Uzamcolo*

**6** Kwathi abantu sebesanda ngobunengi emhlabeni, bezala amadodakazi, <sup>2</sup> amadodana kaNkulunkulu abona ukuthi amadodakazi abantu ayemahle, bazikhethe abawafunayo bawathatha. <sup>3</sup> Kwathi uJehova wasesithi, "UMoya wami kawuyikuphikisana lomuntu ngokungapheliyo, ngoba yena ngowenyama nje; izinsuku zakhe zizakuba likhulu elilamatshumi amabili kuphela."

<sup>4</sup> AmaNefilimi ayesemhlabeni ngalezozinsuku – njalo langemuva – lapho amadodana kaNkulunkulu angenela amadodakazi abantu azala lawo abantwana. Ayengamaqhawe ekadeni, amadoda endumela.

<sup>5</sup> UNkulunkulu wabona ukuthi ukuxhwala kwabantu kwasekukhulu kanganani emhlabeni, njalo lokuthi zonke izinkanuko zeminakano yezinhliziyi zabo zaziyibubi kuphela sonke isikhathi. <sup>6</sup> UJehova wadabuka

ngokuthi wayemenzile umuntu emhlabeni, ngakho inhliziyo yakhe yagcwala ubuhlungu. <sup>7</sup>Ngakho uJehova wasesithi, "Umuntu engamenzayo ngizamkhucula emhlabeni – abantu lezinyamazana, lezinanakazana ezihuquzela emhlabathinini, lezinyoni zemoyeni – ngoba kuyangidabukisa ukuthi ngabenza." <sup>8</sup>Kodwa uNowa wathola umusa emehlweni kaNkulunkulu.

<sup>9</sup>Lo ngumlando kaNowa:

UNowa wayeyindoda elungileyo, engelasici phakathi kwabantu ngalesosikhathi, njalo wabambeleva kuNkulunkulu. <sup>10</sup>UNowa wayelamadodana amathathu: UShemu, loHamu loJafethi.

<sup>11</sup>Umhlaba wawuxhwalile phambi kukaNkulunkulu njalo ugcwele ubudlwangu. <sup>12</sup>UNkulunkulu wabona ukuthi umhlaba wawusuxhwale njani, ngoba bonke abantu emhlabeni basebelezindlela zabo ezixhwalileyo. <sup>13</sup>Yikho uNkulunkulu wasesithi kuNowa, "Ngizabatshabalalisa bonke abantu, ngoba umhlaba ugcwele ubudlwangu ngenxa yabo. Ngeqiniso ngizababhubhisa bona kanye lomhlaba. <sup>14</sup>Ngakho zakhele umkhumbi ngezigodo zesihlahla sokubaza; wenze amakamelo kuwo, uwuhuqe ngenhlaka ngaphakathi langaphandle. <sup>15</sup>Uzawakha kanje: Umkhumbi kawube ngamalunga engalo angamakhulu amane lamatshumi amane lanhlanu ukuphakama. <sup>16</sup>Wenzele uphahla uwuphethe umkhumbi sekusilela ingxenye yelunga lengalo ukufika phezulu. Faka umnyango eceleni komkhumbi njalo wenze isigcawu saphansi, lesaphakathi kanye lesaphezulu. <sup>17</sup>Ngizathumela uzamcolo wamanzi emhlabeni ukubhubhisa konke okuphilayo ngaphansi kwezulu, zonke

izidalwa eziphefumulayo. Yonke into emhlabeni izabhubha. <sup>18</sup>Kodwa ngizabopha isivumelwano lawe, njalo wena uzangena emkhunjini – wena lamadodana akho lomkakho kanye labomalokazana bakho babe lawe.

<sup>19</sup>Uzamele ulethe emkhunjini okubili kwezidalwa zonke eziphilayo, okuduna lokusikazi, uzigcine ziphila zikanye lawe. <sup>20</sup>Okubili kwemihlobo yonke yezinyoni, okwemihlobo yonke yezinyamazana lokwezinanakazana zonke ezihuquzela emhlabathini zizakuza kuwe zizogcinwa ziphila. <sup>21</sup>Kumele uthathe yonke imihlobo yokudla okuzadliwa, ukulondolozele wena kanye lazo."

<sup>22</sup>UNowa wakwenza konke njengokulaywa kwakhe nguNkulunkulu.

**7** UJehova wathi kuNowa, "Ngena emkhunjini, wena kanye lendlu yakho yonke, ngokuba ngikufumane ulungile kulesi isizukulwane. <sup>2</sup>Ngena lezinyamazana eziyisikhombisa ezemihlobo yonke yezinyamazana ezihlambulukileyo, enduna lensikazi, lezimbili ezemihlobo yonke yezinyamazana ezingcolileyo, enduna lensikazi yayo, <sup>3</sup>njalo eziyisikhombisa zezinyoni zemihlobo yonke, ezinduna lezinsikazi, ukulomba uhlobo lwazo emhlabeni. <sup>4</sup>Ngemva kwezinsuku eziyisikhombisa kusukela manje ngizathumela izulu emhlabeni okwezinsuku ezingamatshumi amane lobusuku obungamatshumi amane, njalo ngizakhucula lapha emhlabeni sonke isidalwa esiphilayo engisenzileyo."

<sup>5</sup>UNowa wakwenza konke lokho akulaywa nguJehova.

<sup>6</sup>UNowa wayeleminyaka engamakhulu ayisithupha yobudala ekufikeni kwezikhukhula zamanzi emhlabeni. <sup>7</sup>UNowa lamadodana akhe



lomkakhe kanye labomalokazana bakhe bangena emkhunjini ukuphepha amanzi kazamcolo. <sup>8</sup>Ngazimbili izinyamazana ezihlanzekileyo lezingcolileyo, ezezinyoni lezezinakazi zonke ezihuquzela emhlabathini, <sup>9</sup>ezinduna lezinsikazi zeza kuNowa zangena emkhunjini, njengokulaywa kukaNowa nguNkulunkulu. <sup>10</sup>Kwathi ngemva kwezinsuku eziyisikhombisa amanzi kazamcolo eza emhlabeni.

<sup>11</sup>Ngomnyaka wamakhulu ayisithupha wokuphila kukaNowa, ngosuku lwetshumi lesikhombisa lwenyanga yesibili – ngalolosuku yonke imithombo yolwandle olukhulu yadabuka, lamasango amanzi amazulu avuleka. <sup>12</sup>Izulu lana emhlabeni okwezinsuku ezingamatshumi amane lobusuku obungamatshumi amane.

<sup>13</sup>Ngalonalolosuku uNowa lamadodana akhe, uShemu, loHamu loJafethi, kanye lomkakhe labomalokazana bakhe bamadodana akhe womathathu bangena emkhunjini. <sup>14</sup>Babelazo zonke izinyamazana zeganga kusiya ngemihlobo yazo, zonke izifuyo kusiya ngemihlobo yazo, zonke izinanakazana ezihuquzela emhlabathini kusiya ngemihlobo yazo lazo zonke izinyoni kusiya ngemihlobo yazo, yonke into elezimpiko. <sup>15</sup>Zeza kuNowa ngazimbili zonke izidalwa ezilomphefumulo wokuphila zangena emkhunjini. <sup>16</sup>Izinyamazana ezazingena zazingezinduna lezinsikazi ezezinto zonke eziphilayo, njengalokho uNkulunkulu ayekulaye uNowa. Yikho uJehova wasemvalela phakathi.

<sup>17</sup>Okwezinsuku ezingamatshumi amane impophoma zaphikelela zithululeka emhlabeni, kwathi ngokwanda kwamanzi awuphakamisa umkhumbi waba ngaphezulu komhlaba.

<sup>18</sup>Amanzi aqubuka anda kakhulu emhlabeni, umkhumbi wandenda phezu

kwamanzi. <sup>19</sup>Aqubuka kakhulu emhlabeni, kwathi zonke izintaba eziphakemeyo ngaphansi kwawo wonke amazulu zasibekelwa. <sup>20</sup>Amanzi aqubuka asibekela izintaba zatshona okudlula izingalo ezingamatshumi amabili.

<sup>21</sup>Zonke izinto eziphilayo ezihamba phezu komhlaba zabhubha – izinyoni, izifuyo, izinyamazana zeganga, zonke izidalwa ezitshatshama phezu komhlaba, loluntu lonke. <sup>22</sup>Yonke into ephefumula impilo ngamakhala ayo nxa isemhlabathini owomileyo yafa. <sup>23</sup>Yonke into ephilayo phezu komhlaba yakhukhulwa; abantu lezinyamazana lezinakazana ezihuquzela emhlabathini kanye lezinyoni zemoyeni kwakhuculwa emhlabeni. NguNowa kuphela owasalayo, lalabo ababelaye emkhunjini.

<sup>24</sup>Amanzi akhukhula emhlabeni okwezinsuku ezilikhulu lamatshumi amahlanu.

**8** Kodwa uNkulunkulu wamkhumbula uNowa lazo zonke izinyamazana zeganga lezifuyo ezazilaye emkhunjini, wasethumela umoya emhlabeni, amanzi asededa. <sup>2</sup>Manje imithombo yolwandle lamasango amanzi asemazulwini kwasekuvaliwe, lezulu laselisile emkhathini. <sup>3</sup>Amanzi etsha kancane kancane emhlabeni. Ekupheleni kwezinsuku ezilikhulu lamatshumi amahlanu amanzi ayesetshile, <sup>4</sup>kwathi ngosuku lwetshumi lesikhombisa lwenyanga yesikhombisa umkhumbi wayakuma phezu kwezintaba zase-Ararathi. <sup>5</sup>Amanzi aqhubeka esetsha kwaze kwaba yinyanga yetshumi, kwathi ngosuku lokuqala lwenyanga yetshumi iziqongo zezintaba zaqala ukubonakala.

<sup>6</sup>Ngemva kwezinsuku ezingamatshumi amane uNowa wavula iwindi ayelenzile emkhunjini <sup>7</sup>wathuma iwabayi, labe lilokhu liphapha lihamba

liphinde libuye amanzi aze atsha emhlabeni. <sup>8</sup>Wasethuma ijuba ukuthi abone langabe amanzi ayesetshile emhlabathini. <sup>9</sup>Kodwa ijuba laswela indawo yokubeka unyawo ngokuba kwakulamanzi yonke indawo phezu komhlaba; ngakho labuyela kuNowa emkhunjini. Wakhupha isandla walamukela ijuba walibuyisa kuye emkhunjini. <sup>10</sup>Walinda okwezinye izinsuku eziyisikhombisa waphinda walithuma ijuba lisuka emkhunjini. <sup>11</sup>Kwathi ijuba selibuya kuye ntambama, laliphethe ngomlomo walo ihlamvu lesihlahla se-oliva elalisanda kukhiwa! UNowa wasesazi ukuthi amanzi ayesehlile kakhulu emhlabeni. <sup>12</sup>Walinda okwezinye izinsuku eziyisikhombisa walithuma ijuba njalo, kodwa ngalesi isikhathi kalisabuyanga kuye.

<sup>13</sup>Ngosuku lokuqala lwenyanga yokuqala yomnyaka wamakhulu ayisithupha lamunye wokuphila kukaNowa, amanzi ayesomile emhlabeni. Yikho uNowa wasesusa uphahla lomkhumbi esebona ukuthi iphansi lomhlabathi laselomile.

<sup>14</sup>Ngosuku lwamatshumi amabili lesikhombisa lwenyanga yesibili umhlabathi wawusuwomile qha.

<sup>15</sup>UNKulunkulu wasesithi kuNowa, <sup>16</sup>"Phuma emkhunjini, wena lomkakho, lamadodana akho labomkawo. <sup>17</sup>Khupha yonke into ephilayo olayo – izinyoni, izinyamazana lazo zonke izinanakazana ezihuquzela emhlabathini – ukuze zande emhlabeni, zizale zande ngobunengi kuwo."

<sup>18</sup>Yikho uNowa wasephuma, kanye lamadodana akhe, lomkakhe kanye labomkawo. <sup>19</sup>Zonke izinyamazana kanye lezinakazana ezihuquzela emhlabathini lazo zonke izinyoni – yonke into enyakazayo emhlabeni – kwaphuma emkhunjini, ngemihlobo kulandelana.

<sup>20</sup>UNowa wasesakhela uJehova i-lithare, wathatha ezinye izinyamazana lezinyoni ezihlanzekileyo wanikela imihlatshelo yokutshiswa phezu kwalo. <sup>21</sup>UJehova wahotsha uqhatshi olumnandi wathi enhliziyweni yakhe: "Kangisayi kuphinda ngiwuthuke njalo umhlabathi ngenxa yomuntu, lokuba izinkanuko zenhliziyo yakhe zimbi kusukela ebuntwaneni bakhe. Njalo kangisoze lanini ngiphinde ngibhubhise zonke izidalwa eziphilayo, njengalokhu engikwenzileyo.

<sup>22</sup>"Nxa umhlaba ulokhu usekhona, isikhathi sokuhlanyela lesokuvuna, umqando lokutshisa, ihlobo lobusika, imini lobusuku kakusoze kwacina."

*Isivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu loNowa*

**9** UNkulunkulu wambusisa uNowa lamadodana akhe wathi kubo, "Zalani lande ngobunengi ligcwalise umhlaba. <sup>2</sup>Zizalesaba zibe lovalo ngani zonke izinyamazana zomhlaba, lazo zonke izinyoni zemoyeni, lezinakazana ezihuquzela emhlabathini, kanye lezinhlanzi zonke zasolwandle; ziphiwe ezandleni zakho. <sup>3</sup>Yonke into ephilayo lenyakazayo izakuba yikudla kuwe. Njengalokhu ngalipha izihlahla eziluhlaza, manje sengilipha yonke into.

<sup>4</sup>"Kodwa lingadli inyama ilegazi lokuphila kwayo phakathi. <sup>5</sup>Njalo igazi lokuphila kwenu ngizafuna ukwazi ngalo, ngizafuna ukwazi kuyo yonke inyamazana. Njalo emuntwini wonke ngizafuna ukwazi ngempilo yomzalwane wakhe.

<sup>6</sup>"Loba ngubani ochitha igazi lomuntu, igazi lakhe lizachithwa

ngumuntu; ngokuba ngesimo sikaNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu umenzile umuntu.

<sup>7</sup> Mayelana lani, zalani lande ngobunengi; yandani emhlabeni libe banengi."

<sup>8</sup> UNkulunkulu wasesithi kuNowa lakumadodana akhe ayelawo: <sup>9</sup> "Manje sengimisa isivumelwano sami lani lezizukulwana zenu ngemva kwenu <sup>10</sup> laso sonke isidalwa esiphilayo esasilawe – izinyoni, izifuyo lezinyamazana zeganga, zonke lezo ezaphuma lani emkhunjini – sonke isidalwa esiphilayo emhlabeni.

<sup>11</sup> Ngiyasimisa isivumelwano sami lani: Kakusoze njalo impilo yonke iqunywe ngamanzi kazamcolo; kakusoze njalo kube lozamcolo ozabhubhisa umhlaba."

<sup>12</sup> UNkulunkulu wathi, "Lesi yisiboniso sesivumelwano engisenzayo phakathi kwami lani laso sonke isidalwa esiphilayo elilaso, isivumelwano sezizukulwane zonke ezizayo:

<sup>13</sup> Sengibeke umchilowamakhosikazi wami emayezini, wona uzakuba yisiboniso sesivumelwano phakathi kwami lomhlaba. <sup>14</sup> Kuzakuthi nxa ngiletha amayezi phezu komhlaba besekubela umchilo wamakhosikazi emayezini, <sup>15</sup> ngizakhumbula isivumelwano sami phakathi kwami lani lazo zonke izidalwa eziphilayo ezemihlobo yonke. Kakusoze njalo lanini amanzi abe yisikhukhula esizabhubhisa impilo. <sup>16</sup> Kuzakuthi nxa kungavela umchilowamakhosikazi emayezini ngizawubona besengikhumbula isivumelwano saphakade phakathi kukaNkulunkulu lezidalwa zonke eziphilayo ezemihlobo yonke emhlabeni."

<sup>17</sup> Yikho uNkulunkulu wathi kuNowa, "Lesi yisiboniso sesivumelwano

esengisimisile phakathi kwami lakho konke okuphilayo emhlabeni."

*Amadodana kaNowa*

<sup>18</sup> Amadodana kaNowa aphuma emkhunjini ayengoShemu, loHamu loJafethi. (UHamu wayenguyise kaKhenani.) <sup>19</sup> La ayeyiwo amadodana amathathu kaNowa, kuwo kwadabuka abantu abachitheka emhlabeni wonke.

<sup>20</sup> UNowa, indoda yomhlabathi, wasuka wahlanyela isivini. <sup>21</sup> Wathi esenathe iwayini lakhona, wadakwa walala enqunu phakathi kwethente lakhe. <sup>22</sup> UHamu, uyise kaKhenani, wabona ubunqunu bukayise wasetshela abafowabo phandle. <sup>23</sup> Kodwa uShemu loJafethi bathatha isivunulo basiphosela emahlombe abo; bangena behamba nyovane bamboza ubunqunu bukayise. Ubuso babo babukhangele emuva ukuze bangaboni ubunqunu bukayise.

<sup>24</sup> Kwathi uNowa esevukile selehlile iwayini wezwa ngokwakwenziwe kuye yindodana yakhe encane kulamanye,

<sup>25</sup> wathi,

"Uthukiwe uKhenani!  
Isichaka esiphansi sokucina  
uzakuba yiso kubafowabo."

<sup>26</sup> Wabuya wathi njalo,

"Ubusisiwe uJehova, uNkulunkulu kaShemu!

Akuthi uKhenani abe yisigqili sikaShemu.

<sup>27</sup> Sengathi uNkulunkulu angaqhelisa isiqinti sikaJafethi;  
Sengathi uJafethi angahlala emathenteni kaShemu,  
njalo sengathi uKhenani angaba yisichaka sakhe."

<sup>28</sup>Ngemva kwesikhukhula uNowa waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi amahlanu.

<sup>29</sup>Isiyonke, uNowa waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu aficamunye lamatshumi amahlanu, wasesifa.

### *Uhlelo lwezizwe*

**10** Lo ngumlando kaShemu, loHamu loJafethi, amadodana kaNowa, okwathi bona ngokwabo baba lamadodana ngemva kwesikhukhula.

#### *AmaJafethi*

<sup>2</sup> Amadodana kaJafethi nanka:

uGomeri, uMagogi, uMadayi loJavani, uThubhali, uMesheki loThirasi.

<sup>3</sup> Amadodana kaGomeri nanka:

u-Ashikhenazi, uRiphathi loThogama.

<sup>4</sup> Amadodana kaJavani nanka:

u-Elisha, uThashishi, uKhithimi loRodanimu. <sup>5</sup> (Kusukela kulaba abahlala ngasolwandle bachithekana ngezigodi zabo yilabo ngosendo lwabo bephakathi kwezizwe zabo, kuyilabo bekhuluma ulimi lwabo.)

#### *AmaHamithi*

<sup>6</sup> Amadodana kaHamu nanka:

uKhushi, uMizirayimi, uPhuthi loKhenani.

<sup>7</sup> Amadodana kaKhushi nanka:

uSebha, uHavila, uSabhitha, uRahama loSabhitheka. Amadodana kaRahama nanka: uShebha loDedani.

<sup>8</sup> UKhushi wazala uNimrodi, owakhula waba yisiqhwaga esesabekayo emhlabeni. <sup>9</sup> Wayengumzingeli omkhulu phambi kukaJehova; kungakho lokho kwathiwa, "NjengoNimrodi, umzingeli

omkhulu phambi kukaJehova."

<sup>10</sup> Izindawo ezinkulu zembusweni wakhe kwakuyiBhabhiloni, i-Ereki, i-Akhadi leKhaline eShinari. <sup>11</sup> Esuka kulelolizwe waya e-Asiriya lapho akha khona iNineve, leRehobhothi, le-Iri, leKhala <sup>12</sup> leReseni ephakathi kweNineve leKhala; yilo idolobho elikhulukazi.

<sup>13</sup> UMizirayimi wazala amaLudi, lama Anani, lamaLehabi, lamaanafithuhi,

<sup>14</sup> lamaPhathirusi lamaKhasiluhi (okwadabuka khona amaFilisti) lamaKhafithori.

<sup>15</sup> UKhenani wazala uSidoni izibulo lakhe, lamaHithi, <sup>16</sup> lamaJebusi, lama-Amori, lamaGirigashi, <sup>17</sup> lamaHivi, lama-Arikhi, lamaSini, <sup>18</sup> lama-Arivadi, lamaZemari kanye lamaHamathi.

Muva izizwana zamaKhenani zasabalala <sup>19</sup> kwathi imingcele yeKhenani yasukela eSidoni isiya eGerari kufika eGaza, bese kuqonda eSodoma, leGomora, le-Adima leZebhoyimi kuze kuyefika eLasha.

<sup>20</sup> La yiwo amadodana kaHamu ngezinsendo zawo langezindimi zawo, ezigodini zawo kanye langezizwe zawo.

#### *AmaSemi*

<sup>21</sup> Amadodana azalwa njalo kuShemu, umnewabo owayenguJafethi; uShemu wayengukhokho wawo wonke amadodana ka-Ebheri.

<sup>22</sup> Amadodana kaShemu nanka:

u-Elamu, u-Shuri, u-Arifazadi, uLudi lo-Aramu.

<sup>23</sup> Amadodana ka-Aramu nanka:

u-Uzi, uHuli, uGetheri loMesheki.

<sup>24</sup> U-Arifazadi wazala uShela, uShela wazala u-Ebheri.

<sup>25</sup>U-Ebheri wazala amadodana amabili:  
omunye wayebizwa ngokuthi  
nguPhelegi, ngokuba ngesikhathi  
sakhe umhlaba wawehlukene;  
umfowabo kwakuthiwa nguJokithani.  
<sup>26</sup>UJokithani wazala u-Alimadadi,  
loShelefi, uHazarimavethi,  
uJera, <sup>27</sup>uHadorami, u-Uzali, uDikila,  
<sup>28</sup>u-Obhali, u-Abhimayeli, uShebha,  
<sup>29</sup>u-Ofiri, uHavila loJobabi. Bonke laba  
babengamadodana kaJokithani.

<sup>30</sup>Isigodi ababehlala kuso sasisukela  
eMesha kusiya eSefari elizweni  
elilamaqaqa elisempumalanga.

<sup>31</sup>La ngamadodana kaShemu  
ngezinsendo zawo langezindimi zawo,  
emazweni awo lezizweni zawo.

<sup>32</sup>Lezi yizinsendo zamadodana  
kaNowa kusiya ngemindeni yazo,  
phakathi kwezizwe zawo. Kusukela  
kuwo la izizwe zachithekana kuwo  
wonke umhlaba ngemva kukazamcolo.

### *Umphongolo waseBhabheli*

**11** Umhlaba wonke wawulolimi  
lunye lokukhuluma okufananayo.  
<sup>2</sup>Kwathi abantu belokhu betshudukela  
empumalanga, bafumana indawo  
evulekileyo eShinari basebesakha khona.  
<sup>3</sup>Basebetshelana bathi, "Kasitshayeni  
izitina sizitshise kakhulu."  
Babesebenzisa izitina endaweni  
yamatshe, lethara endaweni yodaka.  
<sup>4</sup>Basebesithi, "Zwanini, kasizakheleni  
idolobho libe lomphongolo ofika  
emazulwini, ukuze sizenzele ibizo  
singaze sasabalala umhlaba wonke."  
<sup>5</sup>Kodwa uJehova wehla wazalibona  
idolobho kanye lomphongolo abantu  
ababewakha. <sup>6</sup>UJehova wathi, "Nxa  
bengabantu banye bekhuluma limi lunye

sebeqalisile ukwenza lokhu, pho  
kakukho okungabehlula. <sup>7</sup>Zwanini,  
kasehleni siye phansi sisanganise ulimi  
lwabo bangabe besazwana."

<sup>8</sup>Kanjalo uJehova wabahlakaza  
emhlabeni wonke, bakhawula ukwakha  
idolobho. <sup>9</sup>Kungakho labizwa ngokuthi  
yiBhabheli – ngokuba khonapho  
uJehova wasanganisa ulimi lomhlaba  
wonke. Kusukela lapho uJehova  
wabahlakazela emhlabeni wonke.

### *Kusukela kuShemu kusiya ku-Abhrama*

<sup>10</sup>Lo ngumlando kaShemu:  
Eminyakeni emibili ngemva  
kwesikhukhula, uShemu esemdala  
okweminyaka elikhulu wazala  
u-Afazadi. <sup>11</sup>Esezele u-Afazadi uShemu  
waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu  
amahlanu, njalo wayelamanye  
amadodana lamadodakazi.

<sup>12</sup>Kwathi u-Afazadi esephile iminyaka  
engamatshumi amathathu lanhlano  
wazala uShela. <sup>13</sup>Esezele uShela,  
u-Afazadi waphila okweminyaka  
engamakhulu amane lantathu, njalo  
wayelamanye amadodana lamadodakazi.

<sup>14</sup>UShela esephile iminyaka  
engamatshumi amathathu wazala  
u-Ebheri. <sup>15</sup>Esezele u-Ebheri uShela  
waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu  
amane lantathu, njalo elamanye  
amadodana lamadodakazi.

<sup>16</sup>U-Ebheri esephile iminyaka  
engamatshumi amathathu lane wazala  
uPhelegi. <sup>17</sup>Esezele uPhelegi u-Ebheri  
waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu  
amane lamatshumi amathathu, njalo  
wayelamanye amadodana lamadodakazi.

<sup>18</sup>UPhelegi esephile iminyaka  
engamatshumi amathathu wazala  
uRewu. <sup>19</sup>Esezele uRewu uPhelegi  
waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu  
amabili lesificamunye, njalo  
wayelamanye amadodana lamadodakazi.

<sup>20</sup> Kwathi uRewu esephile iminyaka engamatshumi amathathu lambili wazala uSerugi. <sup>21</sup> Esezele uSerugi uRewu waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu amabili lesikhombisa, njalo elamanye amadodana lamadodakazi.

<sup>22</sup> Kwathi uSerugi esephile iminyaka engamatshumi amathathu wazala uNahori. <sup>23</sup> Esezele uNahori uSerugi waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu amabili, njalo wayelamanye amadodana lamadodakazi.

<sup>24</sup> UNahori esephile iminyaka engamatshumi amabili lesificamunye wazala uThera. <sup>25</sup> Esezele uThera uNahori waphila okweminyaka elikhulu letshumi lesificamunye, njalo elamanye amadodana lamadodakazi.

<sup>26</sup> UThera esephile iminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa wazala u-Abhrama, loNahori loHarani.

<sup>27</sup> Lo ngumlando kaThera:

UThera wazala u-Abhrama, loNahori loHarani. Kwathi uHarani wazala uLothi. <sup>28</sup> Kwathi uyise uThera esaphila uHarani wafa bese-Uri idolobho lamaKhaladiya, elizweni lokuzalwa kwakhe. <sup>29</sup> U-Abhrama loNahori bathatha bobabili. Ibizo lomka-Abhrama lalinguSarayi, kwathi ibizo likamkaNahori linguMilikha; wayeyindodakazi kaHarani uyise kaMilikha kanye lo-Isikha. <sup>30</sup> Kodwa uSarayi wayeyinyumba; wayengelabantwana.

<sup>31</sup> UThera wathatha indodana yakhe u-Abhrama, lomntanomntanakhe uLothi indodana kaHarani, lomalokazana wakhe uSarayi umfazi wendodana yakhe u-Abhrama, basuka bonke e-Uri lamaKhaladiya baqonda eKhenani. Kodwa bafika eHarani basebesakha khona.

<sup>32</sup> UThera waphila okweminyaka engamakhulu amabili lanhlanu, wafela eHarani.

*Ukubizwa kuka-Abhrama*

## 12

UJehova wathi ku-Abhrama,

"Suka elizweni lakini, lebantwini bakini lasendlini kayihlo uye elizweni engizakutshengisa lona.

<sup>2</sup> Ngizakwenza ube yisizwe esikhulu njalo ngizakubusisa. Ngizakwenza ibizo lakho libe likhulu, njalo uzakuba yisibusiso.

<sup>3</sup> Ngizababusi labo abakubusisayo, njalo lowo okuqalekisayo ngizamqalekisa; ngakho bonke abantu bomhlaba bazabusiwa ngawe."

<sup>4</sup> Ngakho u-Abhrama wasuka, njengokutshelwa kwakhe nguJehova; njalo uLothi wahamba laye. U-Abhrama wayeleminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa lanhlanu ekusukeni kwakhe eHarani. <sup>5</sup> Wathatha umkakhe uSarayi, lomntanomfowabo uLothi, lempahla yabo yonke ababeyizuzile kanye labantu ababebatholile eHarani, baqonda elizweni laseKhenani, bayafika khona.

<sup>6</sup> U-Abhrama wahamba walidabula ilizwe waze wafika endaweni yesihlahla esikhulu saseMore eShekemu. Ngalesosikhathi amaKhenani ayephakathi kwelizwe. <sup>7</sup> UJehova wabonakala ku-Abhrama wathi, "Lelilizwe ngizalinika isizukulwane sakho." Yikho wasesakha i-alithare khonapho elakhela uJehova owayebonakele kuye.

<sup>8</sup> Esuka lapho waqonda ezintabeni empumalanga kweBhetheli wamisa ithente lakhe, iBhetheli isentshonalanga le-Ayi isempumalanga. Khonapho

wakhela uJehova i-alithare walidumisa ibizo likaJehova. <sup>9</sup>U-Abhrama wasuka waqhubeka eqonda eNegebi.

*U-Abhrama eseGibhithe*

<sup>10</sup>Kwaba khona indlala elizweni, yikho u-Abhrama waya eGibhithe ukuyahlala khona okwesikhathi esithile ngoba indlala yayibhahile. <sup>11</sup>Kwathi esebanga ukungena eGibhithe wathi kumkakhe uSarayi, "Ngiyazi ukuthi ungumfazi omuhle kakhulu. <sup>12</sup>AmaGibhithe azakuthi ekubona athi, 'Lo ngumkakhe.' Lapho-ke bazangibulala wena bakuyekele uphile. <sup>13</sup>Ubokuthi ungodadewethu, ukuze ngiphathwe kuhle ukuze kukulungele lempilo yami isindiswe ngenxa yakho."

<sup>14</sup>Kwathi u-Abhrama efika eGibhithe, amaGibhithe abona umkakhe ukuthi wayengumfazi omuhle kakhulu.

<sup>15</sup>Izikhulu zikaFaro sezimbonile zamncoma kakhulu kuFaro, uSarayi wasengeniswa esigodlweni sakhe.

<sup>16</sup>Wamphatha kuhle u-Abhrama ngenxa kaSarayi, yikho u-Abhrama wazuza izimvu lezinkomo, obabhemi abaduna labasikazi, izinceku zesilisa lezesifazana lamakamela.

<sup>17</sup>Kodwa uJehova wehlisela uFaro lendlu yakhe izifo ezimbi ngenxa kaSarayi umka-Abhrama. <sup>18</sup>Yikho uFaro wabiza u-Abhrama wathi, "Wenzeni kimi? Kungani ungangitshelanga ukuthi ungumkakho na? <sup>19</sup>Watsholoni ukuthi ungodadewenu, ngacina sengizithathele mina waba ngowami? Manje, nangu umkakho. Mthathe uhambe!" <sup>20</sup>UFaro waselaya ukuthi u-Abhrama lamadoda ayelawo basuswe elizweni, kanye lomkakhe lakho konke ayelakho.

*U-Abhrama loLothi Bayehlukana*

## 13 Ngakho u-Abhrama wasuka

eGibhithe waya eNegebi, kanye lomkakhe lakho konke ayelakho, loLothi ehamba laye. <sup>2</sup>U-Abhrama wayesenothile kakhulu ngezifuyo langesiliva legolide.

<sup>3</sup>Esuka eNegebi wazula lapha lalapha waze wafika eBhetheli, endaweni eyayiphakathi kweBhetheli le-Ayi lapho ayemise khona ithente lakhe kuqala <sup>4</sup>njalo lapho ayeqale khona ukwakha i-alithare. Khonapho u-Abhrama wadumisa igama likaJehova.

<sup>5</sup>Kwathi uLothi owayehamba lo-Abhrama, laye wayelemihlambi yezimvu lezinkomo lamathente. <sup>6</sup>Kodwa ummango wawungabeneli bonke nxa behlala ndawonye, ngoba impahla yabo yayinengi kakhulu isala ukuthi bahlale ndawonye. <sup>7</sup>Kwaba lokuxabana phakathi kwabelusi baka-Abhrama labelusi bakaLothi. AmaKhenani lamaPherizi lawo ayehlala kulelolizwe ngalesosikhathi.

<sup>8</sup>Yikho u-Abhrama wasesithi kuLothi, "Kasingalwi mina lawe, kumbe abelusi bakho labami, ngokuba singabazalwane. <sup>9</sup>Umhlaba wonke kawusobala phambi kwakho na? Kasehlukane. Ungaya kwesokhohlo mina ngizakuya kwesokunene; ungaya kwesokunene mina ngizakuya kwesokhohlo."

<sup>10</sup>ULothi wakhangele wabona ukuthi lonke igceke laseJodani lalilamanzi amanengi, njengesivande sikaJehova, njengelizwe laseGibhithe kusiya eZowari. (Ngalesisikhathi uJehova wayengakabhubhisi iSodoma leGomora.) <sup>11</sup>Yikho uLothi wazikhethela lonke igceke laseJodani, wasesuka waya empumalanga. Amadoda la womabili ehlukana: <sup>12</sup>U-Abhrama wahlala elizweni laseKhenani, kwathi uLothi wahlala phakathi kwamadolobho asemagcekeni

wamisa amathente akhe duzane leSodoma. <sup>13</sup> Abantu baseSodoma babexhwalile besenza izono ezinkulu kuJehova.

<sup>14</sup> UJehova wathi ku-Abhrama ngemva kokuba uLothi esesukile kuye, "Phakamisa amehlo akho asuke lapho okhona, ukhangele enhla leningizimu, empumalanga lentshonalanga. <sup>15</sup> Lonke ilizwe olibonayo ngizalinika wena kanye lesizukulwane sakho lanini.

<sup>16</sup> Ngizakwenza isizukulwane sakho sibe njengothuli lomhlabathi, okokuthi nxa ekhona ongabala uthuli, lesizukulwane sakho sibe lokubalwa. <sup>17</sup> Hamba udabule ubude lobubanzi belizwe, ngokuba ngiyakupha lona."

<sup>18</sup> Ngakho u-Abhrama wathutha amathente akhe wahamba wayakwakha eduze kwezihlahla ezinkulu zikaMamure, eHebhroni, lapho akhela khona uJehova i-alithare.

*U-Abhrama Uhlenga uLothi*

**14** Ngalesi isikhathi u-Amrafeli inkosi yaseShinari, lo-Ariyoki inkosi yase-Elasari, loKhedorilawome inkosi yase-Elami kanye loThidali inkosi yaseGoyimi <sup>2</sup> baya empini behlasela uBhera inkosi yaseSodoma, loBhirisha inkosi yaseGomora, loShinabi inkosi yase-Adima, loShemebha inkosi yaseZebhoyimi lenkosi yaseBhela (kutsho iZowari). <sup>3</sup> Wonke amakhosi la angemuva ahlanganyela eSigodini saseSidimu (uLwandle lweTshwayi). <sup>4</sup> Okweminyaka elitshumi lanye ayebuswa nguKhedorilawome, kodwa ngomnyaka wetshumi lantathu amvukela.

<sup>5</sup> Ngomnyaka wetshumi lane, uKhedorilawome lamakhosi ayemanyene laye baphuma bayanqoba amaRefa e-Ashitherothi Khanayimi,

lamaZuzi eHamu, lama-Emi eShave Khiriyathayimi <sup>6</sup> lamaHori elizweni lamaqaqa laseSeyiri, kwaze kwayafika e-Eli Pharani eduze lenkangala. <sup>7</sup> Yikho basebephenduka baya e-Eni Mishiphathi (kutsho eKhadeshi), banqoba isigodi sonke sama-Amaleki kanye lama-Amori ayehlala eHazazoni Thamari.

<sup>8</sup> Yikho inkosi yaseSodoma, lenkosi yaseGomora, lenkosi yase-Adima, lenkosi yaseZebhoyimi kanye lenkosi yaseBhela (kutsho iZowari) baphuma bayahlela izimpi zabo eSigodini saseSidimi <sup>9</sup> baqondana loKhedorilawome inkosi yase-Elami, loThidali inkosi yaseGoyimi, lo-Amrafeli inkosi yaseShinari kanye lo-Ariyoki inkosi yase-Elasu – amakhosi amane eqondene lamahlanu. <sup>10</sup> Ngalesi isikhathi iSigodi saseSidimi sasigcwele imigodi yengcino, yikho kwathi amakhosi aseSodoma leGomora, esebaleka, abanye abantu bawo bawela kuyo, abanengi babalekela ezintabeni. <sup>11</sup> Amakhosi la amane athumba zonke izimpahla zaseSodoma leGomora lokudla kwabo konke; asehamba. <sup>12</sup> Bathumba njalo loLothi umntanomfowabo ka-Abhrama lezimpahla zakhe, njengoba wayehlala eSodoma.

<sup>13</sup> Omunye owayephunyukile wafika wazabikela u-Abhrama umHebheru. U-Abhrama wayehlala phansi kwezihlahla ezinkulu zikaMamure umAmori, umfowabo ka-Eshikhali lo-Aneri, bonke labo babebambene lo-Abhrama. <sup>14</sup> Kwathi u-Abhrama esizwa ukuthi isihlobo sakhe sasithunjiwe, wabutha amadoda ayengamakhulu amathathu letshumi laficamunye ababefundisiwe ekulweni, bezalwa endlini yakhe, wangena emzileni baze bayafika eDani. <sup>15</sup> Ebusuku u-Abhrama wehlukana abantu bakhe ukuthi babahlasele,



wabatshaya waqothula, waxotshana labo  
waze wafika eHobha, enhla  
kweDamaseko.

<sup>16</sup>Wabemuka zonke izimpahla  
wambuyisa lomhlobo wakhe uLothi  
kanye lemfuyo yakhe, ndawonye  
labesifazana labanye abantu.

<sup>17</sup>U-Abhrama esebuyile ekwehluleni  
uKhedorilawome lalawomakhosi  
ayekanye laye, inkosi yaseSodoma yeza  
yazahlangana laye eSigodini saseShave  
(kutsho iSigodi seNkosi).

<sup>18</sup>Kwathi uMelikhizedeki inkosi  
yaseSalema, waletha isinkwa lewayini.  
Wayengumphristi kaNkulunkulu  
oPhezukonke, <sup>19</sup>wabusisa u-Abhrama  
esithi,

"Ubusisiwe u-Abhrama  
nguNkulunkulu oPhezukonke,  
uMdali wezulu lomhlaba.

<sup>20</sup>Njalo kadunyiswe uNkulunkulu  
oPhezukonke,  
owanikela izitha zakho  
esandleni sakho."

Yikho u-Abhrama wasemupha ingxenye  
eyodwa yetshumi yakho konke.

<sup>21</sup>Inkosi yaseSodoma yathi ku-  
Abhrama, "Ngipha abantu wena  
uzigcinele izimpahla."

<sup>22</sup>Kodwa u-Abhrama wathi enkosini  
yaseSodoma, "Sengiphakamisile isandla  
sami kuJehova, uNkulunkulu  
oPhezukonke, uMdali wezulu lomhlaba,  
ngenza isifungo <sup>23</sup>ukuthi kangisoze  
ngamukele lutho olungolwakho, loba  
kungaze kube ngumuca wohali loba  
ngumchilo wamanyathelo, ukuze lanini  
ungaze wathi, 'U-Abhrama wanothiswa  
yimi.' <sup>24</sup>Angisoze ngamukele lutho  
ngaphandle kwalokho abantu bami  
asebekudlile lesabelo esingesalabobantu  
ababehamba lami – u-Aneri, lo-

Eshikholi loMamure. Kabazuze isabelo  
sabo."

*Isivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu  
lo-Abhrama*

## 15 Ngemva kwalokho ilizwi

likaJehova leza ku-Abhrama ngombono:

"Ungesabi, Abhrama.  
Ngiyisihlangu sakho,  
umvuzo wakho omkhulu kakhulu."

<sup>2</sup>Kodwa u-Abhrama wathi, "O Jehova  
Wobukhosi, ungangiphani njengoba  
ngilokhu ngingelamntwana, ilifa lami  
lizadliwa ngu-Eliyezeri waseDamaseko  
na?" <sup>3</sup>U-Abhrama wathi njalo,  
"Awungiphanga bantwana; ngakho  
inceku endlini yami izakuba yindlalifa  
yami."

<sup>4</sup>Kwathi ilizwi likaJehova lafika kuye  
lathi: "Umuntu lo kayakuba yindlalifa  
yakho, kodwa indodana ephuma  
kowakho umzimba izakuba yindlalifa  
yakho." <sup>5</sup>Wamkhuphela phandle wathi,  
"Khangela emkhathini ubale izinkanyezi  
– nxa ulamandla okuzibala." Wasesithi  
kuye, "Sizakuba njalo isizukulwane  
sakho."

<sup>6</sup>U-Abhrama wamkholwa uJehova,  
lokho kwabalwa kuye njengokulunga.

<sup>7</sup>Waphinda wathi kuye,  
"NginguJehova owakususa e-Uri  
lamaKhaladiya ukuzakupha lelizwe  
ukuthi libe ngelakho."

<sup>8</sup>Kodwa u-Abhrama wathi, "O Jehova  
Wobukhosi, ngingazi kanjani ukuthi  
lizakuba ngelami na?"

<sup>9</sup>Yikho uJehova wathi kuye,  
"Ngilethela ithokazi, lesibhuzikazi  
lenqama, konke kuleminyaka emithathu,  
kanye lejuba lenkwilimba esencinyane."

<sup>10</sup>U-Abhrama wakuletha konke lokhu kuye, yilokho wakudabula phakathi ngakunye wakuhlela izingxenyane zakho zakhangelana; kodwa izinyoni kazidabulanga phakathi. <sup>11</sup>Izinyoni ezidla inyama zehlela ezidunjini, kodwa u-Abhrama wazixotsha.

<sup>12</sup>Kwathi ilanga selitshona, u-Abhrama wathathwa yibuthongo obukhulu, wehlelwa ngumnyama owesabekayo. <sup>13</sup>UJehova wasesithi kuye, "Yazi ngempela ukuthi izizukulwane zakho zizakuba ngabezizwe elizweni elingasilo labo, njalo bazagqilazwa baphathwe kubi okweminyaka engamakhulu amane. <sup>14</sup>Kodwa ngizasiwezisa lesosizwe abazasikhonza njengezigqili, kuthi muva baphume belemfuyo enkulu kakhulu. <sup>15</sup>Kodwa wena, uzakuya kubokhokho bakho ngokuthula, ungcwatshwe usukhulile kakhulu. <sup>16</sup>Isizukulwane sakho sesine sizabuya lapha, ngoba isono sama-Amori kasikafiki ekucineni."

<sup>17</sup>Kwathi ilanga selitshonile, ubumnyama sebufikile, kwavela imbiza yomlilo ethunqa intuthu ilobhaqa olulavuzayo, yadabula phakathi kwezixha zenyama. <sup>18</sup>Ngalelolanga uJehova wenza isivumelwano lo-Abhrama wathi, "Ilizwe leli ngilipha izizukulwane zakho, kusukela emfuleni waseGibhithe kusiyafika emfuleni omkhulu, iYufathe – <sup>19</sup>ilizwe lamaKhenani, lamaKhenizi, lamaKhadimoni, <sup>20</sup>lamaHithi, lamaPherizi, lamaRefayi, <sup>21</sup>lama-Amori, lamaKhenani, lamaGirigashi kanye lamaJebusi.

*UHagari lo-Ishmayeli*

**16** Kwathi uSarayi, umka-Abhrama kaze amzalela bantwana. Kodwa wayelencekukazi yomGibhithe

eyayithiwa nguHagari; <sup>2</sup>ngakho uSarayi wathi ku-Abhrama, "UJehova ungincitshile abantwana. Hamba, wembathe lencekukazi yami; mhlawumbe lami ngingaba lendlu ngaye."

U-Abhrama wavuma kulokho okwakutshiwo nguSarayi. <sup>3</sup>Yikho kwathi u-Abhrama esehlale eKhenani okweminyaka elitshumi, uSarayi umkakhe wathatha incekekazi yakhe yomGibhithe uHagari wamupha indoda yakhe ukuba ngumkayo. <sup>4</sup>U-Abhrama wamthatha uHagari wamupha isisu.

Wathi esezibona eselesisu waseqalisa ukweyisa inkosikazi yakhe. <sup>5</sup>USarayi wasesithi ku-Abhrama, "Ngumlandu wakho ukuze ngihlupheke kangaka. Incekukazi yami ngayethula ezandleni zakho, kodwa ithi ngoba isisazi ukuthi isizithwele isingeyisa. Sengathi uJehova angehlulela phakathi kwami lawe."

<sup>6</sup>"Incekukazi yakho isezandleni zakho," kusitsho u-Abhrama. "Yenza lokho obona kufanele ngayo." USarayi wasemphatha kubi uHagari; yikho wabaleka kuye.

<sup>7</sup>Ingilosi kaJehova yamfumana uHagari eduze komthombo enkangala; kwakungumthombo oseceleni kwendlela eya eShuri. <sup>8</sup>Yathi, "Hagari, ncekukazi kaSarayi, uvela ngaphi, uvele usiya ngaphi?"

Waphendula wathi, "Ngibalekela inkosikazi yami, uSarayi."

<sup>9</sup>Yikho ingilosi kaJehova yamtshela yathi, "Buyela enkosikazini yakho ufike uyilalele." <sup>10</sup>Ingilosi yengeza yathi, "Ngizakwandisa izizukulwane zakho zibe zinengi okungelakubalwa."

<sup>11</sup>Ingilosi kaJehova yaphinda yathi kuye:

"Khathesi usukhulelwe uzazala indodana.

Uzayibiza ngokuthi ngu-Ishmayeli,  
ngokuba uJehova usezwile  
ngokuhawula kwakho.

<sup>12</sup>Uzakuba ngubabhemi ohlanyayo  
wendoda;  
isandla sakhe sizaxabana labantu  
bonke lesandla somuntu wonke  
sixabane laye, njalo uzaphila –  
ngenzondano labafowabo bonke."

<sup>13</sup>UJehova owakhuluma laye wamutha  
lelibizo elithi: "UnguNkulunkulu  
ongibonayo," ngokuba wathi, "Manje  
sengimbonile lowo ongibonayo."

<sup>14</sup>Yikho nje umthombo lowo wabizwa  
ngokuthi yiBeyeri Lahayi Royi; ulokhu  
usekhona, phakathi kweKhadeshi  
leBheredi.

<sup>15</sup>Ngakho uHagari wazalela  
u-Abhrama indodana, u-Abhrama  
wamutha ibizo lokuthi ngu-Ishmayeli.  
<sup>16</sup>U-Abhrama wayeleminyaka  
yokuzalwa engamatshumi aficamibili  
lesithupha lapho uHagari emzalela u-  
Ishmayeli.

### *Isivumelwano Sokusoka*

## **17** U-Abhrama eseleminyaka

engamatshumi aficamunye laficamunye  
yobudala, uJehova wabonakala kuye  
wathi, "NginguNkulunkulu uSomandla;  
hlala usemehlweni ami, ungasoleki.

<sup>2</sup>Ngizasiqinisa isivumelwano phakathi  
kwami lawe, ngandise njalo ubunengi  
benu."

<sup>3</sup>U-Abhrama wawa wathi mbo phansi  
ngobuso, uNkulunkulu wathi kuye,

<sup>4</sup>"Mina ngokwami ngithi lesi  
yisivumelwano sami lawe: uzakuba  
nguyise wezizwe ezinengi. <sup>5</sup>Kawusayi  
kubizwa kuthiwe Abhrama; ibizo lakho  
selizakuba ngu-Abrahama, ngokuba  
sengikwenze uyise wezizwe ezinengi.

<sup>6</sup>Ngizakwenza uzuze inzalo enengi;  
ngizakwenza izizwe ngawe, njalo  
amakhosi azaphuma kuwe. <sup>7</sup>Ngizaqinisa  
isivumelwano sami sibe yisivumelwano  
sanini lanini phakathi kwami lawe kanye  
lezizukulwane ezizayo ukuba  
nguNkulunkulu wakho, loNkulunkulu  
wezizukulwane zakho ngemva kwakho.  
<sup>8</sup>Ilizwe lonke laseKhenani, okwamanje  
ongowezizwe kulo, ngizakupha libe  
yilifa laphakade kuwe lezizukulwane  
zakho ngemva kwakho; njalo ngizakuba  
nguNkulunkulu wabo."

<sup>9</sup>UNkulunkulu wasesithi ku-  
Abrahama, "Wena kumele ugcine  
isivumelwano sami, wena lezizukulwane  
zakho ezizayo. <sup>10</sup>Lesi yisivumelwano  
sami lawe lezizukulwane ezizayo,  
isivumelwano okumele usigcine: Wonke  
umuntu wesilisa phakathi kwenu  
uzamele asokwe. <sup>11</sup>Wena kumele  
usokwe, lokho kuzakuba yisiboniso  
sesivumelwano phakathi kwami lawe.

<sup>12</sup>Okwezizukulwane lezizukulwane  
ezizayo wonke umuntu wesilisa wenu  
oselezinsuku ezificamibili kumele  
asokwe, kusitsho lalabo abazalwa emzini  
wakho loba abathengwa ngemali  
emuntwini wezizwe – labo abangazalwa  
nguwe. <sup>13</sup>Loba bazalwa emzini wakho  
kumbe bathengwa ngemali, kumele  
basokwe. Isivumelwano sami enyameni  
yakho sizakuba yisivumelwano  
esingapheliyo. <sup>14</sup>Lowo owesilisa  
ongasokwanga, ongazange ake asokwe  
enyameni uzakhalalwa ngabantu bakibo;  
usephule isivumelwano sami."

<sup>15</sup>UNkulunkulu waphinda wathi njalo  
ku-Abrahama, "USarayi yena  
umkakho, ungabe usambiza ngokuthi  
nguSarayi; ibizo lakhe selinguSara.  
<sup>16</sup>Ngizambusisa, njalo ngizakunika  
indodana ngaye. Ngizambusisa ukuze  
abe ngunina wezizwe; amakhosi ezizwe  
azavela kuye."

<sup>17</sup>U-Abhrahama wawa wathi mbo ngobuso phansi; wahleka wazitshela wathi, "Kambe indodana ingazalwa ngumuntu oseleminyaka elikhulu na? USara angamazala umntwana yena eseleminyaka engamatshumi aficamunye na?" <sup>18</sup>Yikho u-Abhrahama wasesithi kuNkulunkulu, "Uba nje u-Ishmayeli ubengaphila exhaswe yisibusiso sakho!"

<sup>19</sup>UNkulunkulu wasesithi, "Yebo, kodwa phela umkakho uSara uzakuzalela indodana, wena uyibize ngokuthi ngu-Isaka. Ngizaqinisa isivumelwano sami laye sibe yisivumelwano esingapheliyo esezizukulwane eziza ngemva kwakhe. <sup>20</sup>Mayelana lo-Ishmayeli, ngizwile okutshiloyo: ngeqiniso ngizambusisa; ngizamnika inzalo enkulu, ngandise ubunengi bayo. Uzakuba nguyise wababusi abalitshumi lambili, ngimenze abe yisizwe esikhulu. <sup>21</sup>Kodwa isivumelwano sami ngizasiqinisa lo-Isaka, ozamazalwa nguSara ngasonalesi isikhathi ngomnyaka ozayo." <sup>22</sup>Eseqedile ukukhuluma lo-Abhrahama, uNkulunkulu wakhuphuka wantshiya.

<sup>23</sup>Ngalonalelolanga u-Abhrahama wathatha indodana yakhe u-Ishmayeli labo bonke abazalelwa emzini wakhe loba abathengwayo ngemali yakhe wabasoka, njengoba uNkulunkulu wayemtshelile. <sup>24</sup>U-Abhrahama wayemdala okweminyaka engamatshumi aficamunye laficamunye mhla esokwa, <sup>25</sup>indodana yakhe u-Ishmayeli ileminyaka yobudala elitshumi lantathu; <sup>26</sup>u-Abhrahama lendodana yakhe u-Ishmayeli bobabili basokwa mhlalokho ngalanga linye. <sup>27</sup>Njalo bonke abesilisa ababesemzini ka-Abhrahama, kugoqelwa labo abazalelwa khonapho ekhaya loba labo abathengwa kwabezizwe, basokwa kanye laye.

*Izethekeli Ezintathu*

## 18 UJehova wabonakala ku-

Abhrahama eduzane lezihlahla ezinkulu zikaMamure, ehlezi emnyango wethente lakhe, ilanga litshisa kakhulu.

<sup>2</sup>U-Abhrahama waphosa amehlo wabona amadoda amathathu emi eduze. Wonela ukuwabona wasuka ngokuphangisa emnyango wethente lakhe wawahlangabeza wafika wakhothama phansi.

<sup>3</sup>Wathi, "Aluba ngifumene umusa kuwe, nkosi yami, ungedluli eceleni kwenceku yakho. <sup>4</sup>Wothani kulethwe amanzana nje, ukuze lonke ligeze izinyawo zenu, keliphumule ngaphansi kwesihlahla lesi. <sup>5</sup>Wothani ngilidingele ukudla ukuze lizuze amandla anduba liqhubeke ngohambo lwenu – njengoba manje selizile encekwini yenu."

Baphendula bathi, "Kulungile, yenza lokho okutshoyo."

<sup>6</sup>Ngakho u-Abhrahama waphanga waya ethenteni kuSara. Wathi, "Phangisa, thatha izilinganiso ezintathu zefulawa ecolekileyo, ucube inhlama wenze isinkwa."

<sup>7</sup>Waphanga waya emhlambini wakhetha iguqana elihle, elibuthakathaka walipha isisebenzi ukuba silebule. <sup>8</sup>Waseletha izankefu zamasi, lochago kanye leguqana elaselilungisiwe konke wakuthi qithi phambi kwabo. Bathi besidla yena wema eduzane labo ngaphansi kwesihlahla.

<sup>9</sup>Bambuza bathi, "Ungaphi umkakho uSara na?"

Wathi, "Laphayana, ethenteni."

<sup>10</sup>UJehova wasesithi, "Ngizabuya ngempela kuwe ngalesisikhathi ngomnyaka ozayo, loSara umkakho uzakuba lendodana."

USara wayelokhu elalele esemnyango wethente elalingemuva kwakhe.

<sup>11</sup>U-Abrahama loSara basebebadala sebeleminyaka eminengi, uSara esedlule isikhathi sokuzala abantwana. <sup>12</sup>Yikho uSara wahleka yedwa, wakhumbula wathi, "Kambe sengiphelile kanje lenkosi yami isindala, ngingayikhona ngizuza intokozo le?"

<sup>13</sup>UJehova wasesithi ku-Abrahama, "Kungani uSara ehlekile njalo wathi, 'Kambe sibili ngizakuba lomntwana mina sengiluphele?'" <sup>14</sup>Kambe kulolutho yini olwehlula uJehova na? Ngizabuya kuwe ngesikhathi esimisiweyo ngomnyaka ozayo, lapho uSara azazuza khona indodana."

<sup>15</sup>USara wesaba, yikho waqamba amanga wathi, "Kangizange ngihleke mina."

Kodwa wathi, "Ye, uhlekile."

#### *U-Abrahama Uncengela iSodoma*

<sup>16</sup>Amadoda asuka ahamba aqonda eSodoma, u-Abrahama wawaphelekezela ukubakhupha.

<sup>17</sup>UJehova wasesithi, "Ngimfihlele yini u-Abrahama lokho esengizakwenza na?"

<sup>18</sup>Ngempela u-Abrahama uzakuba yisizwe esikhulu esilamandla, njalo zonke izizwe emhlabeni zizabusiwa ngaye. <sup>19</sup>Ngokuba sengimkhethile, ukuze aqondise abantwabakhe lomuzi wakhe, yena esedlule, ukugcina indlela kaJehova ngokwenza okulungileyo lokuqondileyo, ukuze uJehova amenzele u-Abrahama lokho amthembise khona."

<sup>20</sup>UJehova wasesithi kuye, "Insolo ngeSodoma leGomora inkulu kakhulu njalo isono sakhona siyesabeka

<sup>21</sup>okokuthi sengizakuya khona ngiyobona ingabe lokho abakwenzileyo kubi okulingana lensolo le esifikile kimi. Nxa kungenjalo, ngizakwazi."

<sup>22</sup>Amadoda akhangela phambili aqonda eSodoma, kodwa u-Abrahama wasala emi phambi kukaJehova. <sup>23</sup>Yikho u-Abrahama waya kuye wathi:

"Uzakhucula abalungileyo kanye lababi na? <sup>24</sup>Pho nxa kukhona abangamatshumi amahlanu kulelodobho-ke? Ngempela uzawukhucula na ungalixoleli ngenxa yabangamatshumi amahlanu abalungileyo abakulo na? <sup>25</sup>Akube khatshana lawe ukwenza into enjalo – ukubulala abalungileyo lababi. Kakube khatshana lawe lokho! Kambe uMahluleli womhlaba wonke kayikwenza okufaneleyo na?"

<sup>26</sup>UJehova wathi, "Uma ngifumana abangamatshumi amahlanu abalungileyo edolobheni laseSodoma, ngizalixolela lonke idolobho ngenxa yabo."

<sup>27</sup>Yikho u-Abrahama waphinda wakhuluma njalo wathi: "Njengoba sengibe lesibindi esingaka sokukhuluma loJehova, loba ngingasulutho mina, ngiluthuli nje lomlotha, <sup>28</sup>pho uma inani labalungileyo lingaphansi ngabahlanu ematshumini amahlanu? Uzalibhubhisa idolobho lonke ngenxa yabantu abahlanu na?"

Wathi, "Ngingafumana abangamatshumi amane lanhlana kangiyikulibhubhisa."

<sup>29</sup>Waphinda njalo wakhuluma laye wathi, "Nxa kufunyanwa amatshumi amane kuphela-ke?" Yena wathi, "Ngenxa yabangamatshumi amane kangizukukwenza."

<sup>30</sup>Yikho wasesithi, "UJehova makangathukutheli, kodwa ake ngikhulume. Kungafunyanwa khona amatshumi amathathu-ke?"

Waphendula wathi, "Kangizukukwenza ngingafumana khona amatshumi amathathu."

<sup>31</sup>U-Abrahama wathi, "Kambe njengoba ngibe lesibindi esingaka ngaze

ngakhuluma loJehova, pho uma kufunyanwa abangamatshumi amabili khona kuphela-ke?"

Wathi, "Ngenxa yabangamatshumi amabili kangiyikulibhubhisa."

<sup>32</sup> Yikho wasesithi, "UJehova angathukutheli, kodwa ake ngikhulume kanye kuphela njalo. Kambe nxa kungafunyanwa itshumi lodwa-ke?"

Waphendula wathi, "Ngenxa yabalitshumi kangiyikulibhubhisa."

<sup>33</sup> Kwathi uJehova eseqedile ukukhuluma lo-Abhrahama wasuka, lo-Abhrahama wabuyela ngekhlanya.

*Ukubhujiswa kweSodoma leGomora*

**19** Izingilosi zombili zafika eSodoma kusihlwa, uLothi ehlezi esangweni ledolobho. Wathi ezibona wasukuma wazihlangabeza wathi mbo phansi ngobuso. <sup>2</sup> Wathi, "Makhosi ami, ake liphambukele endlini yenceku yenu. Lingageza izinyawo zenu lilale khona anduba liqhubeke ngendlela yenu ekuseni."

Zaphendula zathi, "Hatshi, sizalala esigcawini phandle."

<sup>3</sup> Kodwa waphikelela kakhulukazi zaze zahamba laye zangena endlini yakhe. Wazilungisela ukudla, wazenzela isinkwa esingelamvubelo, zadla.

<sup>4</sup> Zingakayilala, amadoda aqhamuka kuzo zonke izindawo zedolobho laseSodoma – amajaha lamaxhegu – bayihanqa indlu. <sup>5</sup> Amemeza uLothi athi, "Angaphi amadoda afike kwakho lamuhla kusihlwa? Akhuphe eze lapha ngoba sifuna ukulala lawo."

<sup>6</sup> ULothi waphuma wayakhuluma lawo wavala umnyango ngemuva kwakhe, <sup>7</sup> wathi, "Hatshi, bangane bami. Lingayenzi into le embi kangaka.

<sup>8</sup> Khangelani, ngilamadodakazi amabili angakaze alale lendoda. Wothini

ngiwalethe lapha kini lenze elikuthandayo ngawo. Kodwa lingenzi lutho kula amadoda ngoba angaphansi komthunzi wophahla lwami."

<sup>9</sup> Apendula athi, "Suka endleleni yethu," Bathi njalo, "Umuntu lo weza lapha njengesizwe, kodwa khathesi usefuna ukuba ngumahluleli! Wena-ke sizakuthwalisa nzima kulawo." Babelokhu beminyezela uLothi, bafuqela phambili bezama ukwephula isivalo.

<sup>10</sup> Kodwa amadoda lawo ayephakathi avula adonsela uLothi endlini avala isivalo. <sup>11</sup> Yikho asewatshaya ngobuphofu amadoda ayesemnyango wendlu leyo, amajaha lamaxhegu, basebesehluleka ukubona umnyango.

<sup>12</sup> Amadoda lawo amabili athi kuLothi, "Bakhona yini abanye olabo lapha abakhwenyana, amadodana kumbe amadodakazi, loba nje omunye edolobheni leli ongowakho? Bakhuphe lapha, <sup>13</sup> ngokuba sizayibhubhisa indawo le. Insolo efika kuJehova ngalababantu inkulu kabi okokuthi useze wasithuma ukuthi silibhubhise."

<sup>14</sup> Ngakho uLothi waphuma wayakhuluma labakhwenyana bakhe labo abasebethembise ukulobola amadodakazi akhe. Wathi, "Phangisani, phumani kulindawo, ngokuba uJehova usezalibhubhisa idolobho leli!" Kodwa abakhwenyana bakhe bacabanga ukuthi uyahlayaza.

<sup>15</sup> Kwathi emathathakusa izingilosi zakhuthaza uLothi zathi, "Phangisani! Thatha umkakho lamadodakazi akho womabili akhona lapha, ngoba lizaqabuka likhukhulwa nxa idolobho selijeziswa."

<sup>16</sup> Wathi esatomatoma, amadoda amxhakalaza ngesandla kanye lesandla somkakhe lezamadodakazi akhe womabili abaholela ngaphandle kwedolobho bephephile, ngoba uJehova wayelomusa kubo. <sup>17</sup> Bonela ukuthi

bakhutshwe, omunye wazo wathi, "Balekani liqinise! Lingakhangele emuva, njalo lingemi ndawo emagekeni! Balekelani ezintabeni funa likhukhulwe!"

<sup>18</sup> Kodwa uLothi wathi kuzo, "Hatshi, makhosi ami, bakithi! <sup>19</sup> Inceku yenu isizuze umusa emehlweni enu, njalo selitshengise umusa omkhulu kimi ngokuphephisa impilo yami. Kodwa ngingeke ngibalekele ezintabeni; ububi lobu buzangifica ngihle ngife.

<sup>20</sup> Khangelani, nanku umuzi oseduze engingabalekela kuwo, njalo mncinyane, wothani ngibalekele kuwo – mncinyane, kawunjalo? Lapho ngizasinda."

<sup>21</sup> Yathi kuye, "Kulungile, ngiyasamukela njalo lalesi isicelo; kangizukuwubhidliza umuzi okhuluma ngawo. <sup>22</sup> Kodwa balekela khona masinyane, ngokuba kangiyikwenza lutho uze ufike khona." (Yikho umuzi lowo wabizwa ngokuthi yiZowari.)

<sup>23</sup> Ngesikhathi uLothi efika eZowari ilanga laseliphumile elizweni. <sup>24</sup> Yikho uJehova wasenisa umlilo wesolufa etshisayo phezu kweSodoma leGomora – uvela kuJehova usehla emazulwini. <sup>25</sup> Kanjalo wawabhidliza lawomadolobho lamageceke wonke, labo bonke ababehlala kuwo amadolobho kanye lezimila elizweni. <sup>26</sup> Kodwa umkaLothi wakhangele emuva, waba yisiduli setshwayi.

<sup>27</sup> Ekuseni kakhulu ngosuku olulandelayo u-Abhrahama wasuka wabuyela endaweni lapho ayeme phambi kukaJehova khona. <sup>28</sup> Wakhangele malungana leSodoma leGomora, malungana lalo lonke ilizwe lamageceke, wabona izikhatha zentuthu ziqonga zisuka phansi, njengomlilo usuka esithandweni.

<sup>29</sup> Yikho kwathi uJehova ebhubhisa amadolobho asemagekeni wakhumbula u-Abhrahama, wamkhupha uLothi

enkemenkemeni eyatshabalalisa amadolobho lapho uLothi ayekade ehlala khona.

#### *U-Lothi Lamadodakazi Akhe*

<sup>30</sup> ULothi lamadodakazi akhe womabili basuka eZowari bayahlala ezintabeni, ngokuba wayesesaba ukuhlala eZowari. Yena lamadodakazi akhe womabili babehlala ebhalwini. <sup>31</sup> Ngolunye usuku indodakazi endala yathi kwencinyane, "Ubaba useluphele, njalo kakulandoda lapha engalala lathi, njengoba kungumkhuba emhlabeni wonke.

<sup>32</sup> Kasidakise ubaba ngewayini besesilala laye ukuze silombe usendo lwakwethu ngobaba."

<sup>33</sup> Ngalobobusuku uyise bamnathisa iwayini, indodakazi endala yangena yembatha laye. Yena wayengaboni izolala lokuba isivuka.

<sup>34</sup> Ngosuku olulandelayo indodakazi endala yathi kwencinyane, "Izolo ebusuku ngembathe lobaba. Kasimdakise futhi ngewayini ngalobu ubusuku lawe uhambe uyokwembatha laye ukuze silombe usendo lwakithi ngobaba." <sup>35</sup> Yikho bamdakisa uyise ngewayini ngalobobusuku njalo, indodakazi encinyane yahamba yayakwembatha laye. Njalo kazange ananzelele ukuthi walala nini lokuthi wavuka nini.

<sup>36</sup> Ngakho womabili amadolobho kaLothi athatha izisu kuyise.

<sup>37</sup> Indodakazi endala yazala indodana yamutha ibizo yathi nguMowabi: nguye uyise wamaMowabi alamhla nje.

<sup>38</sup> Indodakazi encinyane layo yazala indodana, yayitha yathi nguBheni-Ami; nguye uyise wama-Amoni alamhla nje.

#### *U-Abhrahama lo-Abhimeleki*

## 20 U-Abrahama wathutha

kuleyondawo waya emmangweni waseNegebi wayahlala phakathi kweKhadeshi leShuri. Okwesikhatshana wake wahlala eGerari, <sup>2</sup>lapho u-Abrahama athi khona ngomkakhe, "Ngudadewethu." Yikho u-Abhimeleki inkosi yaseGerari yathi uSara kalethwe yazithathela.

<sup>3</sup>Kodwa uNkulunkulu wafika ku-Abhimeleki ephutsheni ebusuku wathi kuye, "Usufile wena ngenxa yomfazi omthetheyo; ngumfazi owendileyo."

<sup>4</sup>Kodwa u-Abhimeleki wayelokhu engakamthinti, yikho wathi, "Jehova, uzasibhubhisa isizwe esingelacala na?"

<sup>5</sup>Katshongo kimi yini wathi, 'Ngudadewethu,' laye katshongo na wathi, 'Ungumnewethu'? Ngikwenzile lokhu ngingelasazela langezandla ezimhlophe."

<sup>6</sup>Yikho uNkulunkulu wasesithi kuye ephutsheni, "Yebo, ngiyakwazi ukuthi lokhu ukwenze ungelasazela, yikho ngikuthintile ukuthi ungenzi isono kimi. Yikho ngingakuyekelanga wamthinta.

<sup>7</sup>Manje mbuyisele umfazi womuntu, ngokuba umuntu lowo ungumphrofethi, uzakuthandazela ukuthi uphile. Kodwa uma ungambuyiseli yazi ukuthi wena lakho konke okungokwakho kuzakufa."

<sup>8</sup>Ngakusasa ekuseni kakhulu u-Abhimeleki wabiza zonke izikhulu zakhe, kwathi esezitshelile konke okwenzakeleyo, zesaba kakhulu. <sup>9</sup>Yikho u-Abhimeleki wasebiza u-Abrahama wathi, "Usuwenzeni kithi manje? Ngikone ngani uze ulethe ukona okunje phezu kwami lombuso wami na? Wenze kimi izinto okungafanelanga zenziwe."  
<sup>10</sup>U-Abhimeleki wabuza u-Abrahama wathi, "Besiyini isizatho sakho sokwenza lokhu na?"

<sup>11</sup>U-Abrahama waphendula wathi, "Ngazitshela ngathi, 'Ngempela kakukho ukumesaba uNkulunkulu kule indawo, yikho bazangibulala ngenxa yomkami.'

<sup>12</sup>Ngaphandle kwalokho, uvele ungudadewethu, indodakazi kababa kodwa engasuye kamama; waba ngumkami. <sup>13</sup>Kwathi uNkulunkulu esengisusile emzini kababa ngathi kuSara, 'Nansi indlela ongatshengisa ngayo uthando lwakho kimi: Noma ngaphi lapho esiya khona, ubokuthi ngami, "Ungumnewethu." ' "

<sup>14</sup>Kwathi u-Abhimeleki waletha izimvu lezinkomo, lezichaka zesilisa lezesifazana wazipha u-Abrahama, wabuyisela uSara umkakhe kuye. <sup>15</sup>Njalo u-Abhimeleki wathi, "Nanti ilizwe lami uyalibona; ungahlala lapho othanda khona."

<sup>16</sup>Wathi kuSara, "Umnewenu ngimupha amashekeli esiliva ayinkulungwane. Le iyinhlawulo yehlazo elenziwe kuwe phambi kwabantu bonke bakini; usugeziwe."

<sup>17</sup>U-Abrahama wasekhuleka kuNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu wamsilisa u-Abhimeleki, lomkakhe lamantombazana akhe ayizigqili ukuthi sebengaba labantwana njalo, <sup>18</sup>ngokuba uJehova wayesezivalile zonke izizalo endlini ka-Abhimeleki ngenxa kaSara umka-Abrahama.

*Ukuzalwa kuka-Isaka*

**21** Kwathi uJehova waba lomusa kuSara njengoba wayetshilo, uJehova wamenzela uSara lokho ayekuthembisile. <sup>2</sup>USara wazithwala wazalela u-Abrahama ebudaleni bakhe indodana ngesikhathi sonaleso uNkulunkulu ayemthembise sona.

<sup>3</sup>U-Abrahama wayitha ibizo elithi Isaka leyondodana ayizalelwa nguSara.



<sup>4</sup>Kwathi indodana yakhe u-Isaka isilezinsuku ezifcamibili izelwe, u-Abhrahama wayisoka, njengoba walaywa nguNkulunkulu.

<sup>5</sup>U-Abhrahama wayeseleminyaka elikhulu ekuzalweni kwendodana yakhe u-Isaka.

<sup>6</sup>USara wathi, "UNkulunkulu usengilethele ukuthi ngihleke, njalo bonke abazakuzwa lokhu bazahleka lami." <sup>7</sup>Wabuye wengeza wathi, "Kambe ngubani obengatsho ku-Abhrahama ukuthi uSara angondla abantwana? Kodwa sengimzalele indodana ebudaleni bakhe."

*Ukuxotshwa kukaHagari lo-Ishmayeli*

<sup>8</sup>Wakhula umntwana, wakhutshwa ebeleni, kwathi mhla u-Isaka ekhutshwa ebeleni u-Abhrahama wenza idili elikhulu. <sup>9</sup>Kodwa uSara wabona ukuthi indodana leyo uHagari, umGibhithe, ayeyizalele u-Abhrahama yayihlayaza, <sup>10</sup>wasesithi ku-Abhrahama, "Mxotshe umfazi lo oyisigqili kanye lendodana yakhe, ngoba indodana yesigqilikazi lesi kayisoze yafa yabelana ilifa lendodana yami u-Isaka."

<sup>11</sup>Indaba le yamhlupha kakhulu u-Abhrahama ngoba yayithintana lendodana yakhe. <sup>12</sup>Kodwa uNkulunkulu wathi kuye, "Ungakhathazeki kakhulu ngomfana kanye lesigqilikazi sakho. Lalela konke uSara akutshela khona ngoba isizukulwane sakho sizabalwa ngo-Isaka. <sup>13</sup>Indodana le eyesigqilikazi layo ngizayenza ibe yisizwe ngokuba iyinzalo yakho."

<sup>14</sup>Ngosuku olulandelayo ekuseni kakhulu u-Abhrahama wathatha ukudla lejosaka lamanzi wakunika uHagari. Wakwethatha emahlombe kaHagari wasebakhupha lomfana. Owesifazana wabamba indlela wayantula enkangala yaseBherisheba.

<sup>15</sup>Esephelile amanzi ejosakeni, walahlela umntwana ngaphansi kwesixuku. <sup>16</sup>Yena wasuka wayahlala bucwadlana, okungalingana ukuphosa umtshoko, ngoba wacabanga wathi, "Ngeke ngibukele umfana esifa." Kwathi ehlezi khonapho bucwala wakhala ebubula.

<sup>17</sup>UNkulunkulu wamuzwa umfanyana ekhala, ingilosi kaNkulunkulu yasibiza uHagari isezulwini yathi kuye, "Kwenzenjani, Hagari? Ungesabi; uNkulunkulu usemzwile umfanyana ekhala elele khonaphayana.

<sup>18</sup>Mphakamise umfanyana umbambe ngesandla, ngokuba ngizayenza abe yisizwe esikhulu."

<sup>19</sup>UNkulunkulu wasemvula amehlo akhe wabona umthombo wamanzi. Yikho wasesiyagcwalisa ijosaka ngamanzi wapha umfanyana wanatha.

<sup>20</sup>UNkulunkulu wayelaye umfana ekhula. Wahlala enkangala waba ngumcibi womtshoko. <sup>21</sup>Wathi ehlala eNkangala yasePharani, unina wamdingela umfazi eGibhithe.

*Isivumelwano saseBherisheba*

<sup>22</sup>Ngalesosikhathi u-Abhimeleki loFikholi, umlawuli wamabutho akhe bathi ku-Abhrahama, "UNkulunkulu ulawe kukho konke okwenzayo. <sup>23</sup>Manje funga kimi khonapha phambi kukaNkulunkulu ukuthi kawusoze wenze izinto zobuqili kimi, loba kubantwabami loba izizukulwane zami. Tshengisa kimi lakulo ilizwe ohlezi kulo njengesizwe wona lowomusa engikwenzele wona."

<sup>24</sup>U-Abhrahama wathi, "Ngiyafunga."

<sup>25</sup>Yikho u-Abhrahama wasesola ku-Abhimeleki ngomthombo othile izinceku zika-Abhimeleki ezaziwuthumbile.

<sup>26</sup>Kodwa u-Abhimeleki wathi, "Angikwazi ukuthi ngubani okwenzileyo

lokho. Kawuzange ungitshela,  
sekuyikhona ngikuzwa nje lamhla."

<sup>27</sup>Yikho u-Abrahama waletha izimvu  
lezinkomo wazipha u-Abhimeleki,  
amadoda womabili enza isivumelwano.

<sup>28</sup>U-Abrahama wehlukana amazinyane  
amasikazi ayisikhombisa emhlambini,  
<sup>29</sup>u-Abhimeleki wambuza u-Abrahama  
wathi, "Atshoni amazinyane la  
amasikazi ayisikhombisa owehlukana  
emhlambini wawabeka wodwa na?"

<sup>30</sup>Waphendula wathi, "Yamukela  
ezandleni zami amazinyane la  
ayisikhombisa njengobufakazi bokuthi  
yimi engemba umthombo lo."

<sup>31</sup>Ngakho indawo leyo yathiwa  
yiBherisheba ngokuba amadoda la  
womabili enza isifungo khonapho.

<sup>32</sup>Ngemva kokuba isivumelwano  
sesibotshiwe eBherisheba, o-Abhimeleki  
loFikholi umlawuli wamabutho akhe  
babuyela elizweni lamaFilisti.

<sup>33</sup>U-Abrahama wahlanyela isihlahla  
sethamarisiki eBherisheba, khonapho  
walibiza ibizo likaJehova, uNkulunkulu  
Waphakade. <sup>34</sup>U-Abrahama wahlala  
elizweni lamaFilisti okwesikhathi eside.

*Ukulingwa kuka-Abrahama*

**22** Ngesinye isikhathi ngemva  
kwalokho uNkulunkulu walinga  
u-Abrahama. Wathi kuye,  
"Abrahama!"

Waphendula wathi, "Ngilapha."

<sup>2</sup>UNkulunkulu wasesithi, "Thatha  
indodana yakho, indodana yakho eyiyo  
yodwa, u-Isaka, omthandayo, uye  
emmangweni waseMoriya. Khonapho  
menze umhlatshelo abe ngumnikelo  
wokutshiswa phezu kwenye yezintaba  
engizakutshela yona."

<sup>3</sup>Ngakusasa ekuseni kakhulu

u-Abrahama wavuka wabopha  
ubabhemi wakhe. Wahamba lezinceku  
zakhe ezimbili kanye lendodana yakhe  
u-Isaka. Kwathi esegamule izinkuni  
ezaneleyo ezomnikelo wokutshiswa,  
waqhubeka waya kuleyondawo  
uNkulunkulu ayemtshela yona.

<sup>4</sup>Ngelanga lesithathu u-Abrahama  
wakhangela, wayibona leyondawo kude  
le. <sup>5</sup>Wathi ezincekwini zakhe, "Hlalani  
lapha lobabhemi, mina lomfana sisake  
siye laphayana. Sizakuthi singakhonza  
sibuye kini."

<sup>6</sup>U-Abrahama wathatha izinkuni  
zomnikelo wokutshiswa wazetshatha  
umntanakhe u-Isaka, yena ngokwakhe  
waphatha umlilo lengqamu. Kwathi  
belokhu beqhubeka bobabili, <sup>7</sup>u-Isaka  
wakhuluma wambuza uyise  
u-Abrahama wathi, "Baba?"

"Yebo, ndodana yami?" kusabela  
u-Abrahama.

"Umlilo lenkuni nanku kukhona,"  
kusitsho u-Isaka, "kodwa kanti lingaphi  
izinyane lomnikelo wokutshiswa?"

<sup>8</sup>U-Abrahama waphendula wathi,  
"Ndodana yami, uNkulunkulu  
ngokwakhe uzasipha izinyane lomnikelo  
wokutshiswa." Baqhubeka bobabili  
bahamba.

<sup>9</sup>Sebefikile endaweni uNkulunkulu  
amtshela yona, u-Abrahama wakha

i-alithare khonapho walungisa  
izinkuni phezu kwalo. Wabopha  
indodana yakhe u-Isaka wayilalisa e-  
alithareni phezu kwezinkuni. <sup>10</sup>Yikho  
waseselula isandla sakhe ethatha  
ingqamu ukuba abulale indodana yakhe.  
<sup>11</sup>Kodwa ingilosi kaJehova yammemeza  
isezulwini yathi, "Abrahama!  
Abrahama!"

Waphendula wathi, "Ngilapha."

<sup>12</sup>Yathi, "Ungamthinti ngesandla  
sakho umfana. Ungenzi lutho kuye.  
Khathesi sengisazi ukuthi uyamesaba

uNkulunkulu, ngokuba kawuyigodlanga indodana yakho eyiyo yodwa."

<sup>13</sup>U-Abrahama wathi uyakhanga wabona nansiya inqama esixukwini igaxele ngezimpondo zayo. Waya khona wayithatha inqama wayenza umhlatshele womnikelo wokutshiswa esikhundleni sendodana yakhe. <sup>14</sup>Yikho u-Abrahama wabiza indawo leyo ngokuthi UJehova Uzanakekela. Kuze kube lamuhla kuthiwa, "Entabeni kaJehova kuzanakekelwa."

<sup>15</sup>Ingilosi kaJehova yabiza u-Abrahama izezulwini ngokwesibili <sup>16</sup>yathi, "Ngifunga ngami ngokwami," kutsho uJehova, "ukuthi ngenxa yokuthi ukwenzile lokhu, kawaze wayigodla indodana yakho eyiyo yodwa, <sup>17</sup>ngempela ngizakubusisa ngenze izizukulwane zakho zibe zinengi njengezinkanyezi emkhathini lanjengetshebetshebe ogwini lolwandle. Izizukulwane zakho zizawathatha amadolobho ezitha zazo, <sup>18</sup>kuthi ngenzalo yakho zonke izizwe zomhlaba zizabusiwa, ngokuba ungilalele."

<sup>19</sup>Yikho u-Abrahama wasebuyela ezincekwini zakhe, basebehamba bonke eBherisheba. U-Abrahama wahlala eBherisheba.

#### *Amadodana kaNahori*

<sup>20</sup>Ngesinye isikhathi samuva u-Abrahama watshelwa kwathiwa, "UMilikha laye uselabantwana; sewazalela umfowenu uNahori amadodana: <sup>21</sup>u-Uzi izibulo, loBhuzi umfowabo, loKhemuyeli (uyise ka-Aramu), <sup>22</sup>loKhesedi, loHazo, loPhilidashi, loJidilafu loBhethuweli." <sup>23</sup>UBhethuweli wazala uRabheka. UMilikha wazala amadodana la aficamibili loNahori umfowabo ka-Abrahama. <sup>24</sup>Umkakhe waseceleni owayethiwa nguRehuma laye

wayelamadodana: uThebha, loGahami, loThahashi kanye loMahakha.

#### *Ukufa kukaSara*

**23** USara waphila waze waba

leminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi amabili lesikhombisa ubudala. <sup>2</sup>Wafela eKhiriyathi Aribha (kutsho eHebhroni) elizweni laseKhenani, u-Abrahama wahamba ukuyamzilela uSara lokumlilela.

<sup>3</sup>U-Abrahama wasukuma eseceleni komkakhe ofileyo wakhuluma lamaHithi. Wathi, <sup>4</sup>"Ngiyisizwe lesihambi phakathi kwenu. Ngithengiselani isiqinti sibe yindawo yokungcwaba khonapha abami abafileyo."

<sup>5</sup>AmaHithi amphendula u-Abrahama athi, <sup>6</sup>"Mnumzana, lalela lapha kithi. Uyinkosana elamandla phakathi kwethu. Ngcwaba abafileyo bakini loba kukuwaphi amangcwaba ethu athandeka kakhulu. Kakho owethu ozakwalela ingcwaba lakhe ukuthi ungewabe kulo ofileyo wakini."

<sup>7</sup>Yikho u-Abrahama wasukuma wakhothamela phansi phambi kwabantu balelolizwe, amaHithi. <sup>8</sup>Wathi kubo, "Nxa lithanda ukuthi ngimbele abafileyo bami, lalelani kimi, lingincengele ku-Efroni indodana kaZohari <sup>9</sup>ukuthi angithengisele ubhalu lwakhe lwaseMakhaphela olusekucineni kwesiqinti. Mceleni ukuthi angithengisele sona ngentengo egcweleyo sibe yindawo yamangcwaba phakathi kwenu."

<sup>10</sup>U-Efroni umHithi owayehlezi khonapho phakathi kwabantu bakibo wamphendula u-Abrahama wonke amaHithi ayefikile esangweni ledolobho lakhe ezizwela. <sup>11</sup>Wathi, "Hatshi, nkosi yami. Lalela kimi; ngiyakupha isiqinti,

njalo ngiyakupha lobhalu oluphakathi kwaso. Ngikupha sona phambi kwabantu bakithi. Mbela abafileyo bakho."

<sup>12</sup>U-Abrahama waphinda wakhothamela phansi phambi kwabantu balelolizwe <sup>13</sup>wathi ku-Efroni bona besizwa, "Ake ulalelisise engikutshoyo. Mina ngizayikhupha intengo yesiqinti. Ngicela uyamukele kimi ukuze ngimbele khona abafileyo bami."

<sup>14</sup>U-Efroni waphendula u-Abrahama wathi, <sup>15</sup>"Lalela kimi, nkosi yami; isiqinti lesi sibiza amashekeli esiliva angamakhulu amane, kodwa kungena njani lokho phakathi kwami lawe? Wena mbela abafileyo bakho."

<sup>16</sup>U-Abrahama wayivuma intengo ka-Efroni wasemlinganisela ubunzima bentengo ayeyibizile amaHithi esizwa: amashekeli esiliva angamakhulu amane, mayelana lesisindo esasisetshenziswa ngabathengisi.

<sup>17</sup>Ngakho isiqinti sika-Efroni eMakhaphela, eduze leMamure – isiqinti kanye lobhalu olwaluphakathi kwaso, lazo zonke izihlahla ezaziphakathi kwaso – kwabhaliswa <sup>18</sup>ngo-Abrahama ukuthi sekuyimpahla yakhe, kusenziwa phambi kwamaHithi wonke ayefikile esangweni ledolobho. <sup>19</sup>Ngemva kwalokho u-Abrahama wangcwaba umkakhe uSara ebhalwini olwalusesiqintini saseMakhaphela eduze leMamure (eseHebhroni) elizweni laseKhenani. <sup>20</sup>Kanjalo isiqinti lobhalu olwaluphakathi kwaso kwabhaliswa ngo-Abrahama ngamaHithi ukuba yindawo yamangcwaba.

*U-Isaka loRabheka*

**24** U-Abrahama wayesemdala eseleminyaka eminengi, njalo uJehova wayembusisile kukho konke. <sup>2</sup>Wasesithi encekwini yakhe enkulu, leyo

eyayilawula konke ayelakho, "Beka isandla sakho ngaphansi kwethangazi lami. <sup>3</sup>Ngifuna ukuthi ufunge ngoJehova, uNkulunkulu wasezulwini loNkulunkulu wasemhlabeni, ukuthi kawuyikuzuzela indodana yami umfazi emadodakazini amaKhenani engihlala phakathi kwawo, <sup>4</sup>kodwa uzakuya elizweni lakithi lasezihlotsheni zami uzuzele indodana yami u-Isaka umfazi."

<sup>5</sup>Inceku yambuza yathi, "Pho nxa lowo wesifazana engavumi ukuza lami kulelilizwe-ke? Ngizathatha indodana yakho ngiyise kulelolizwe lapho owavela khona na?"

<sup>6</sup>U-Abrahama wathi, "Ungaqali ukuhambisa indodana yami khonale. <sup>7</sup>UJehova, uNkulunkulu wasezulwini, owangikhupha emzini kababa laselizweni lakithi njalo owakhuluma kimi, wangithembisa ngesifungo wathi, 'Ilizwe leli ngizalinika inzalo yakho' – uzathuma ingilosi yakhe ihambe phambi kwakho ukuze ukwazi ukuzuzela indodana yami umfazi khonale. <sup>8</sup>Nxa lowo wesifazane esala ukuza lapha lawe, uzabe usukhululwe kulesi isifungo sami. Kodwa ungaqali ukusa indodana yami khonale." <sup>9</sup>Yikho inceku yase ifaka isandla sayo ngaphansi kwethangazi lenkosi yayo u-Abrahama yafunga isifungo kuye ngodaba lolu.

<sup>10</sup>Inceku yasithatha amakamela enkosi yayo alitshumi yasuka, yathatha yonke imihlobo yezinto ezinhle zenkosi yayo. Yaqonda e-Aramu Naharayimi, yahamba yaze yayafika emzini waseNahori.

<sup>11</sup>Amakamela yawaguqisa phansi eduzane lomthombo ngaphandle komuzi; kwasekuntambama, sekuyisikhathi sabesifazana ukuyakukha amanzi.

<sup>12</sup>Yase ikhuleka yathi, "O Jehova, Nkulunkulu wenkosi yami u-Abrahama, yenza ngiphumelele lamuhla, utshengise umusa enkosini

yami u-Abrahama. <sup>13</sup> Khangela-ke, nanku ngimi lapha eceleni komthombo lo, njalo amadodakazi abantu balelidolobho asesiza ukuzakukha amanzi. <sup>14</sup> Kungasake kuthi ngingathi entombini, 'Ake ungikhele amanzi ngenkezo yakho nginathe,' yona ithi, 'Natha, njalo ngizanathisa lamakamela akho' – kube yiyo kanye oyikhethela inceku yakho u-Isaka. Ngalesi isikhathi ngizakwazi ukuthi usutshengise umusa enkosini yami."

<sup>15</sup> Ingakaqedi ukukhuleka, uRabheka waphuma ethwele imbiza yakhe yamanzi ehloambe lakhe. Wayeyindodakazi kaBhethuweli indodana kaMilikha, owayengumfazi womfowabo ka-Abrahama uNahori. <sup>16</sup> Intombi le yayinhle kakhulu, igcwele; ingakaze ilale lendoda. Yehlela emthonjeni, yagcwalisa imbiza yayo yasiqansa.

<sup>17</sup> Inceku yaphanga yamhlangabeza yathi, "Ngicela amanzi embizeni yakho."

<sup>18</sup> Wathi, "Natha nkosi yami," watsho esehlisa imbiza eyibamba ngezandla emnathisa.

<sup>19</sup> Esemnathisile wathi, "Ngizakhelela lamakamela akho lawo ngiwanathise."

<sup>20</sup> Wasethululela imbiza yakhe emkolweni, wagijimela emthonjeni njalo ukukha amanye, wawakhelela wonke amakamela akhe. <sup>21</sup> Indoda yabukela ithule ilokhu inanzelela idinga ukubona ukuthi ngeqiniso uJehova wayeluphumelelisile yini uhambo lwayo.

<sup>22</sup> Amakamela eseqedile ukunatha indoda leyo yakhupha isongo lamakhala elenziwe ngegolide elilobunzima bebhikha, lezigqizo zegolide ezimbili ezilobunzima bamashekeli alitshumi.

<sup>23</sup> Yasibuza yathi, "Uyindodakazi kabani na? Ake ungitshela, kambe singazuza indawo yini emzini kayihlo kesicatshise amakhanda lamhla ebusuku?"

<sup>24</sup> URabheka wamphendula wathi, "Ngiyindodakazi kaBhethuweli, indodana

kaMilikha ayizalela uNahori."

<sup>25</sup> Waphinda wengeza wathi, "Silotshani obunengi lamahlanga, kanye lendawo yokulala ikhona okwalamuhla ebusuku."

<sup>26</sup> Indoda yakhothamela phansi yakhonza uJehova, <sup>27</sup> isithi, "Udumo kalube kuJehova, uNkulunkulu wenkosi yami u-Abrahama, ongadelanga umusa wakhe lokuthembeka kwakhe enkosini yami. Mina ngokwami uJehova ungikhokhele ehanjweni lwami ngazafika endlini yezinini zenkosi yami."

<sup>28</sup> Intombi yagijima yayabikela abendlu kanina ngalezizinto. <sup>29</sup> URabheka wayelomnewabo owayethiwa nguLabani, yena waphanga waya kuleyondoda eyayisemthonjeni.

<sup>30</sup> Wonela ukubona isongo lamakhala kanye lezigqizo engalweni kadadewabo, njalo esezwile uRabheka elandisa ngokwatshiwo yindoda leyo kuye, wasuka waya kuyo wayifika imi eceleni kwamakamela eduze komthombo. <sup>31</sup> Wathi, "Woza, wena obusisiweyo nguJehova. Umeleni ngaphandle lapha? Sengilungisile indlu ngalungisa lendawo yamakamela."

<sup>32</sup> Ngakho indoda yaya ngekhaya, lamakamela ethulwa imithwalo. Utshani lamahlanga kwaethwa emakamelweni, yena lamadoda ayelawo balethelwa amanzi okugeza izinyawo zabo.

<sup>33</sup> Kwasekulethwa ukudla kwabekwa phambi kwakhe, kodwa wathi, "Kangizukudla ngize ngiqale ngilitshela lokho engimele ngikutsho."

ULabani wathi, "Sitshela phela."

<sup>34</sup> Yikho wasesithi, "Ngiyinceku ka-Abrahama. <sup>35</sup> UJehova uyibusisile inkosi yami kakhulu, isinothile kakhulu. Uyiphile izimvu lezinkomo, isiliva legolide, lezinceku zesilisa lezesifazana kanye lamakamela labobabhemi.

<sup>36</sup> Inkosikazi yenkosi yami, uSara, imzalele indodana ebudaleni bayo,

inkosi yami yasiyinika leyondodana konke elakho. <sup>37</sup> Njalo inkosi yami yangifungisa isifungo yathi, 'Ungazuzeli indodana yami umfazi emadodakazini amaKhenani, engihlala elizweni lawo, <sup>38</sup> kodwa yana ezininini zikababa, kwabosendo lwakithi, uzuzele indodana yami umfazi.'

<sup>39</sup> "Ngasengiyibuza inkosi yami ngathi, 'Pho uma owesifazana lowo esala ukuza lapha-ke?'

<sup>40</sup> "Yaphendula yathi, 'UJehova, engihamba phambi kwakhe, uzathumela ingilosi yakhe ihambe lawe, iphumelelise uhambo lwakho ukuze uzuzele indodana yami umfazi kwabosendo lwakithi, lasezininini zikababa. <sup>41</sup> Ngakho uzakuthi ungaya kwabosendo lwakithi, uzakhululwa esifungweni sami loba bangaze bale laye – uzakhululwa esifungweni sami.'

<sup>42</sup> "Ngithe ukufika kwami emthonjeni lamuhla ngathi, 'O Jehova, Nkulunkulu wenkosi yami u-Abhrahama, uma uthanda, ngicela uphumelelise uhambo lolu engilapha ngalo. <sup>43</sup> Akubone, ngimi eceleni kwal' umthombo; aluba kufika intombi ifika izokukha amanzi, ngithi kuyo, "Akunginathise amanzana embizeni yakho." <sup>44</sup> ingaze ithi kimi, "Natha, njalo ngizanathisa lamakamela akho lawo," kabe nguye uJehova asemkhethele indodana yenkosi yami.'

<sup>45</sup> "Ngingakaqedi ukukhuleka enhliziyweni yami, uRabheka waphuma, ethwele imbiza yakhe ehloambe. Wehlela emthonjeni wakha amanzi, ngathi kuye, 'Akunginathise.'

<sup>46</sup> "Waphanga wehlisa imbiza yakhe ehloambe lakhe wathi, 'Natha, ngizanathisa lamakamela akho njalo.' Yikho nganatha, waphinda wanathisa lamakamela njalo.

<sup>47</sup> "Ngambuza ngathi, 'Uyindodakazi kabani wena?'

"Wathi, 'Indodakazi kaBhethuweli indodana kaNahori, amzala kuMilikha.'

"Ngasengimgqizisa isongo emakhaleni lezigqizo ezingalweni zakhe, <sup>48</sup> yikho ngasengikhothamela phansi ngamkhonza uJehova. Ngadumisa uJehova uNkulunkulu wenkosi yami u-Abhrahama, obengikhokhele endleleni eqondileyo ngazathola intombi engumzukululu womfowabo wenkosi yami ngayizuzela indodana yayo inkosi yami. <sup>49</sup> Manje-ke uma lizatshengisa umusa lokwethembeka enkosini yami, ngitshelani; loba kungenjalo, ngitshelani ukuze ngazi ukuthi ngithini."

<sup>50</sup> ULabani loBhethuweli baphendula bathi, "Lokhu kuvela kuJehova; kakukho esingakutsho kuwe, ukuthi kunje loba kakunjalo. <sup>51</sup> Nangu uRabheka; mthathe uhambe laye ayekuba ngumfazi wendodana yenkosi yakho, njengalokhu okuqondiswe nguJehova."

<sup>52</sup> Kwathi inceku ka-Abhrahama ikuzwa lokhu abakutshoyo yakhothama phansi emhlabathini phambi kukaJehova. <sup>53</sup> Yikho inceku yase ikhupha amacici egolide lesiliva kanye lezimpahla zokugqoka yakupha uRabheka; yapha njalo umnewabo lonina iziphos ezidulayo. <sup>54</sup> Kwasekusithi yena lamadoda lawo ayehamba lawo badla njalo banatha, balala khona.

Bathi bevuka ngakusasa ekuseni wathi, "Sesicela indlela, sibuyele ekhaya enkosini yami."

<sup>55</sup> Kodwa umnewabo lonina baphendula bathi, "Ake ume, intombazana kesibe layo okwezinsukwana ezingaba litshumi; lapho selingahamba."

<sup>56</sup> Kodwa wathi kubo, "Lingangibambeleli, njengoba uJehova eseluphumelelisile uhambo lwami. Wothani ngihambe ukuze ngiyofika enkosini yami."

<sup>57</sup> Basebesithi, "Wothi sibize untombazana kesimbuzo ngakho."

<sup>58</sup> Ngakho bambiza uRabheka bambuza bathi, "Uyafuna ukuhamba layo indoda le na?"

Wathi, "Ngizahamba layo."

<sup>59</sup> Ngakho basebemkhulula udadewabo uRabheka ukuba ahambe kanye lomlizane wakhe, bahamba lenceku

ka-Abrahama lamadoda ayelayo.

<sup>60</sup> Njalo bambusisa uRabheka bathi kuye,

"We dadewethu, sengathi ungandisa izinkulungwane zezinkulungwane; sengathi inzalo yakho ingathumba amasango ezitha zayo."

<sup>61</sup> URabheka lamantombazana akhe bazilungiselela, basebekhwela amakamela abo bahamba lendoda leyo. Ngakho inceku yamthatha uRabheka yahamba.

<sup>62</sup> Ngalesi isikhathi u-Isaka wayesefikile evela eBheri Lahayi Royi, ngoba wayehlala eNegebi. <sup>63</sup> Ngenye intambama waya ensimini ehambahamba ukuthi ake ahluze ingqondo, wasesithi uyakhanga wabona amakamela esiza. <sup>64</sup> URabheka laye wakhanga wabona u-Isaka. Wehla ekameleni lakhe <sup>65</sup> wabuza inceku wathi, "Indoda leyana esensimini ngubani, leyana esihlangabezayo?"

Inceku yaphendula yathi, "Uyinkosi yami." Yikho uRabheka wasethatha ilembu elilula wazimboza.

<sup>66</sup> Inceku yasimtshela u-Isaka konke lokho eyayikwenzile. <sup>67</sup> U-Isaka wamngenisisa ethenteni likanina uSara, wahle wamthatha uRabheka. Ngakho wasesiba ngumkakhe, wamthanda; u-Isaka waduduzeka ngemva kokufa kukanina.

*Ukufa kuka-Abrahama*

**25** U-Abrahama wathatha omunye umfazi okwakuthiwa nguKhethura.

<sup>2</sup> Wamzalela uZimrani, loJokishani, loMedani, loMidiyani, lo-Ishibhaki loShuwa. <sup>3</sup> UJokishani wazala uSheba loDedani; isizukulwane sikaDedani saba ngama-Ashuri, lamaLethushi

lamaLehumi. <sup>4</sup> Amadodana kaMidiyani kwakungo-Efa, lo-Eferi, loHanokhi, lo-Abhida lo-Elida. Bonke laba babeyizizukulwane zikaKhethura.

<sup>5</sup> Konke u-Abrahama ayelakho waktshiyela u-Isaka. <sup>6</sup> Kodwa wathi esaphila wanika iziphondo kumadodana abafazi bakhe beceleni wabasusa eduze kwendodana yakhe u-Isaka baya elizweni lasempumalanga.

<sup>7</sup> Isiyonke u-Abrahama waphila okweminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi ayisikhombisa lesihlanu. <sup>8</sup> Yikho u-Abrahama wacitsha umphefumulo, wafa eseluphele, eselixhegu elileminyaka emineni; wambelwa labakibo. <sup>9</sup> Amadodana akhe o-Isaka lo-Ishmayeli bamngcwaba ebhalwini lwaseMakhaphela eduze leMamure, esiqintini sika-Efroni indodana kaZohari umHithi, <sup>10</sup> isiqinti leso u-Abrahama asithenga kumaHithi. Khonapho u-Abrahama wangcwatshwa lomkakhe uSara. <sup>11</sup> Ngemva kokuba esefile u-Abrahama uNkulunkulu wayibusisa indodana yakhe u-Isaka, owayehlala eBheri Lahayi Royi.

*Amadodana ka-Ishmayeli*

<sup>12</sup> Lo ngumlando wendodana ka-Abrahama u-Ishmayeli, inceku kaSara uHagari eyamzalela u-Abrahama.

<sup>13</sup>La ngamabizo abantwana baka-Ishmayeli behlelwe ngokwelamana kwabo: nguNebhayothi izibulo lika-Ishmayeli, loKhedari, lo-Adibheli, loMibhisami, <sup>14</sup>loMishima, loDuma, loMasa, <sup>15</sup>loHadadi, loThema, loJethuri, loNafishi kanye loKhedema. <sup>16</sup>La ayengamadodana ka-Ishmayeli, lala ngamabizo ababusi bezizwana ezilitshumi lambili kulandela ukuhlaliswa kwazo lemizi yazo. <sup>17</sup>Isiyonke, u-Ishmayeli waphila okweminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi amathathu lesikhombisa. Wacitsha umphefumulo wafa, wambelwa labakibo. <sup>18</sup>Izizukulwane zakhe zakhela emmangweni osuka eHavila kusiya eShuri, eduzane lomngcele waseGibhithe, nxa uqonda e-Ashuri. Njalo baphila belenzondo labafowabo bonke.

*UJakhobe lo-Esawu*

<sup>19</sup>Lo ngumlando wendodana ka-Abrahama u-Isaka.

U-Abrahama wazala u-Isaka, <sup>20</sup>u-Isaka wathi eseleminyaka engamatshumi amane obudala wathatha uRabheka indodakazi kaBhethuweli umAramu wasePhadani Aramu njalo engudadewabo kaLabani umAramu.

<sup>21</sup>U-Isaka wakhuleka kuJehova ekhulekela umkakhe ngokuba wayeyinyumba. UJehova wawuphendula umthandazo wakhe, umkakhe uRabheka wazithwala. <sup>22</sup>Abantwana bafuqana phakathi kwakhe, wathi, "Kungani lokhu kusenzakala kimi?" Yikho wasehamba wayabuza kuJehova.

<sup>23</sup>UJehova wathi kuye,

"Izizwe ezimbili zisesiswini sakho, njalo abantu ababili phakathi kwakho bazakwehlukaniswa;

ingxenye yabantu izakublamandla kulenye,  
kuthi omdala uzakhonza omncinyane."

<sup>24</sup>Kwathi isikhathi sakhe sokubeletha sesifikile, kwakulamaphahla angabafana esiswini sakhe. <sup>25</sup>Owabona ilanga kuqala wayebomvu, umzimba wakhe wonke ulihwanqa njengengubo yoboya; yikho bamutha bathi ngu-Esawu. <sup>26</sup>Ngemva kwalokhu, umfowabo walandela, isandla sakhe sibambe isithende sika-Esawu; ngakho wathiwa nguJakhobe. U-Isaka wayeleminyaka engamatshumi ayisithupha uRabheka ebazuza.

<sup>27</sup>Bakhula abafana, u-Esawu waba ngumzingeli omkhulu, indoda yegangeni, kodwa uJakhobe wayeyindoda ethuleyo, engasuki ngekhaya emathenteni. <sup>28</sup>U-Isaka owayethanda inyama yenyamazana wayethanda u-Esawu, kodwa uRabheka wayethanda uJakhobe.

<sup>29</sup>Ngesinye isikhathi uJakhobe wayepheka inyama, u-Esawu wafika evela egangeni elambile. <sup>30</sup>Wathi kuJakhobe, "Phangisa, akungiphe ukudla kwakho lokho osukukhazinge kwaba bomvana! Sengifile ngendlala!" (Yikho wabizwa ngokuthi ngu-Edomi.)

<sup>31</sup>UJakhobe waphendula wathi, "Qala ungithengisele ubuzibulo bakho."

<sup>32</sup>U-Esawu wathi, "Khangela, sengisifa. Bungisiza ngani ubuzibulo lobo?"

<sup>33</sup>Kodwa uJakhobe wathi, "Qala ufunge kimi." Yikho wasefunga isifungo kuye, ethengisa ubuzibulo bakhe kuJakhobe.

<sup>34</sup>Yikho uJakhobe wasesipha u-Esawu isinkwa lokudla kwendumba eziphekwa ziluhlaza. Wadla, wanatha, wasukuma wahamba.



Ngaleyondlela u-Esawu wabeyisa ubuzibulo bakhe.

*U-Isaka lo-Abhimeleki*

**26** Kwaba khona indlala elizweni – ngaphandle kwendlala yamandulo eyesikhathi sika-Abhrahama – u-Isaka waya ku-Abhimeleki inkosi yamaFilisti eGerari. <sup>2</sup>UJehova wabonakala ku-Isaka wathi, "Ungehleli eGibhithe; hlala elizweni engithi hlala khona. <sup>3</sup>Ake uhlale kulelilizwe okwesikhatshana, mina ngizakuba lawe ngikubusise. Ngoba wena lezizukulwane zakho ngizalinika wonke amazwe la njalo ngiqinise isifungo engasifunga kuyihlo u-Abhrahama. <sup>4</sup>Ngizakwenza izizukulwane zakho zibe zinengi njengezinkanyezi emkhathini, ngizinike wonke lamazwe, njalo kuthi ngenzalo yakho zonke izizwe emhlabeni zizabusiwa, <sup>5</sup>ngokuba u-Abhrahama wangilalela, wagcina izimiso zami, lemilayo yami, izimemezelo zami lemithetho yami." <sup>6</sup>Ngakho u-Isaka wahlala eGerari.

<sup>7</sup>Kwathi lapho abantu baleyondawo bembuza ngomkakhe wathi, "Ngudadewethu," ngokuba wayesesaba ukuthi, "Ngumkami." Wacabanga wathi, "Amadoda alapha angangibulala ngenxa kaRabheka, ngokuba muhle kakhulu."

<sup>8</sup>Kwathi u-Isaka esehlale khona okwesikhathi eside, u-Abhimeleki inkosi yamaFilisti wakhangelanga ngewindi wabona u-Isaka egone umkakhe uRabheka. <sup>9</sup>Yikho wasebiza u-Isaka wathi, "Kanti ngumkakho ngeqiniso! Kungani uthe ungudadewenu?"

U-Isaka wamphendula wathi, "Ngoba ngakhumbula ukuthi ngingaqabuka ngilahlekelwa yimpilo yami ngenxa yakhe."

<sup>10</sup>U-Abhimeleki wasesithi, "Kuyini lokhu okwenzileyo kithi? Omunye wamadoda ubezaqabuka elala laye umkakho, ubususibangela icala."

<sup>11</sup>Ngakho u-Abhimeleki wasekhupha umlayo kubantu bonke wathi, "Lowo ozake ayithinte indoda le loba umkayo ngempela uzabulawa."

<sup>12</sup>U-Isaka walima amabele kulelolizwe, ngalowomnyaka wavuna okuphindwe ngekhulu, ngoba uJehova wambusisa. <sup>13</sup>Yanotha indoda, kwathi imfuyo yayo yanda yaze yaba yisipatsha. <sup>14</sup>Kwakungasimihlambi yezimvu leyezinkomo kanye lezisebenzi, amaFilisti aze aba lomona ngaye. <sup>15</sup>Kwasekusithi yonke imithombo eyayinjiwe yizisebenzi ngesikhathi sikayise u-Abhrahama, amaFilisti ayivala ngokuyigqibela ngenhlabathi.

<sup>16</sup>U-Abhimeleki wasesithi ku-Isaka, "Suka kithi; ususuke waba lamandla kakhulu kulathi."

<sup>17</sup>Ngakho u-Isaka wasuka lapho wayakuma eSigodini saseGerari, wahle wakha khona. <sup>18</sup>U-Isaka wayiphanda imithombo eyayinjiwe ngesikhathi sikayise u-Abhrahama, eyayigqitshelwe ngamaFilisti ngemva kokuba u-Abhrahama esefile, wayibiza ngawona lawo mabizo uyise ayeyibiza ngawo.

<sup>19</sup>Izisebenzi zika-Isaka zagebha esigodini zafumana umthombo olamanzi amahle khonapho. <sup>20</sup>Kodwa abelusi baseGerari baxabana labelusi baka-Isaka bathi, "Amanzi la ngawethu!" Ngakho umthombo lowo wawuthi yi-Eseki, ngokuba bawubanga laye. <sup>21</sup>Yikho basebesimba omunye umthombo, kodwa lawo bawubanga njalo; wasewubiza ngokuthi yiSithina. <sup>22</sup>Wasuka lapho wayagebha omunye umthombo, akwabe kusaba khona owubangayo. Wawuthi yiRehobhothi, esithi, "Manje uJehova usesiphile indawo, sesizaphumelela kuleli ilizwe."

<sup>23</sup> Esuka lapho waya eBherisheba.

<sup>24</sup> Ngalobobusuku uJehova wabonakala kuye wathi, "NginguNkulunkulu kayihlo u-Abhrahama. Ungesabi, ngokuba ngilawe; ngizakubusisa ngandise ubunengi bezizukulwane zakho ngenxa yenceku yami u-Abhrahama."

<sup>25</sup> U-Isaka wakha i-alithare khonapho wamemeza ibizo likaJehova. Wamisa ithente lakhe khonapho, izisebenzi zakhe zemba umthombo khonapho.

<sup>26</sup> Ngasonalesi isikhathi u-Abhimeleki weza kuye evela eGerari, elo-Ahuzathi umeluleki wakhe loFikholo umlawuli wamabutho akhe. <sup>27</sup> U-Isaka wababuza wathi, "Lilandeni kimi, ikanti lalingizonda laze langixotsha?"

<sup>28</sup> Bamphendula bathi, "Sabona kamhlophe ukuthi uJehova wayelawe; yikho sasesicabanga ukuthi kumele kube lesivumelwano esifungelweyo phakathi kwethu thina lawe. Kasenze isibopho lawe <sup>29</sup> esokuthi kawusoze usihlukuluze, njengoba lathi singazange sikulimaze ngalutho kodwa sakuvalelisa ngokuthula. Khathesi usubusisiwe nguJehova."

<sup>30</sup> U-Isaka wasebenzela idili, badla banatha. <sup>31</sup> Ekuseni kakhulu ngakusasa amadoda wonke enza isifungo omunye komunye. U-Isaka wasebavulela indlela bahamba ngokuthula.

<sup>32</sup> Ngalolosuku izisebenzi zika-Isaka zeza zamtshela ngomthombo ezaziwumbile. Zathi, "Sesiwazuzile amanzi!" <sup>33</sup> Wawuthi yiShiba, osekuze kube namuhla idolobho kuthiwa yiBherisheba.

<sup>34</sup> Kwathi u-Esawu eseleminyaka yobudala engamatshumi amane, wathatha uJudithi indodakazi kaBheri umHithi njalo loBhasemathi indodakazi ka-Eloni umHithi. <sup>35</sup> Baletha ukukhathazeka kakhulu ku-Isaka loRabheka.

*UJakhobe Uthola Isibusiso ku-Isaka*

**27** Kwathi u-Isaka eseluphele,

amehlo akhe esethundubele okokuthi wayengasaboni, wabiza u-Esawu indodana yakhe endala wathi kuye, "Ndodana yami." Waphendula wathi, "Ngilapha."

<sup>2</sup> U-Isaka wathi, "Manje sengilixhegu, yikho kangilazi ilanga lokufa kwami.

<sup>3</sup> Thatha izikhali zakho – umxhaka wemitshoko ledandili lakho – ungene iganga uyengizingelela inyamazana.

<sup>4</sup> Ungilungisele ukudla okumnandi engikukhwabithayo ukulethe kimi lapha ngidle, ukuze ngikuphe isibusiso sami ngingakafi."

<sup>5</sup> URabheka wayelalele u-Isaka ekhuluma lendodana yakhe u-Esawu. Kwathi u-Esawu esephumile waya egangeni ukuyazingela inyamazana ukuze ayilethe, <sup>6</sup> uRabheka wathi endodaneni yakhe uJakhobe, "Khangela, ngizwe uyihlo esithi kumnewenu u-Esawu <sup>7</sup> Ngilethela inyamazana ungilungisele ukudla okumnandi ngidle, ukuze ngikuphe isibusiso sami phambi kukaJehova ngingakafi." <sup>8</sup> Manje-ke lalela kuhle, ndodana yami, wenze lokho engikutshela khona: <sup>9</sup> Yana emhlambini ulethe lapha kimi amazinyane embuzi amabili anonileyo, ukuze ngilungisele uyihlo ukudla okumnandi ngendlela akufuna ngayo. <sup>10</sup> Wena ubusukusa kuyihlo adle, abesekunika isibusiso sakhe engakafi."

<sup>11</sup> UJakhobe wathi kuRabheka unina, "Kodwa umnewethu u-Esawu lihwanqa, mina ngingumswelaboya. <sup>12</sup> Pho ubaba angangithinta-ke? Kuzabonakala ukuthi ngiyamqila ngibe sengizehlisele isethuko phezu kwami esikhundleni sesibusiso."

<sup>13</sup> Unina wathi kuye, "Ndodana yami, lesosethuko kasehlele kimi. Wena yenza

lokho engikutshela khona kuphela; hamba uyongithathela wona."

<sup>14</sup>Yikho wahamba wayawathatha wawaletha kunina, yena walungisa ukudla okumnandi, ngaleyondlela eyayithandwa nguyise. <sup>15</sup>Yikho uRabheka wasethatha izigqoko ezaziyo zoqobo ezika-Esawu indodana yakhe endala, lezo ezazikhona endlini, wazigqokisa indodana yakhe encane, uJakhobe. <sup>16</sup>Wabuya wamgoqela izandla zakhe lentamo lapho okwakubutshelezi khona ngesikhumba sembuzi. <sup>17</sup>Waseqhubela indodana yakhe uJakhobe ukudla lokho okumnandi kanye lesinkwa ayesenzele.

<sup>18</sup>Waya kuyise wafika wathi, "Baba." Wasabela wathi, "Yebo, ndodana yami. Ngubani?"

<sup>19</sup>UJakhobe wathi kuyise, "Ngingu-Esawu izibulo lakho. Sengenzele njengokungilayela kwakho. Vuka uhlale udle inyama yami yenyamazana ukuze ungphe isibusiso sakho."

<sup>20</sup>U-Isaka wayibuza indodana yakhe wathi, "Uyizuze njani masinyane kangaka, ndodana yami?"

Waphendula wathi, "UJehova uNkulunkulu wakho ungiphumelelisile."

<sup>21</sup>U-Isaka wasesithi kuJakhobe, "Sondela eduze ngikuthinte, ndodana yami, ukuze ngazi ngempela ukuthi uyiyo indodana yami u-Esawu noma hatshi."

<sup>22</sup>UJakhobe wasondela kuyise u-Isaka wamthinta wathi, "Ilizwi liyilizwi likaJakhobe, kodwa izandla yizandla zika-Esawu." <sup>23</sup>Kazange amazi ngoba izandla zakhe zaziloboya njengezikamnewabo u-Esawu; ngakho wambusisa. <sup>24</sup>Wabuza wathi, "Kambe unguye na u-Esawu indodana yami?"

Waphendula wathi, "Nginguye."

<sup>25</sup>Wasesithi, "Ndodana yami, ngipha inyama yakho yenyamazana ngidle, ukuze ngikuphe isibusiso sami."

UJakhobe wamupha wadla; waletha lewayini wanatha. <sup>26</sup>Uyise u-Isaka wathi kuye, "Woza lapha, ndodana yami, ungange."

<sup>27</sup>Wasesiya kuye wamanga. Kwathi u-Isaka esezwile iphunga lezigqoko zakhe, wambusisa wathi, "Yeka, iphunga lendodana yami linjengephunga lensimu ayibusisileyo uJehova."

<sup>28</sup>Sengathi uNkulunkulu angakupha amazolo asezulwini lokuvunda komhlabathi – inala yamabele lewayini elitsha.

<sup>29</sup>Sengathi izizwe zingakukhonza labantu bakhothamele kuwe. Sengathi labo abakuqalekisayo bangaqalekiswa lalabo abakubusisayo babusiswe."

<sup>30</sup>U-Isaka eseqedile ukumbusisa njalo uJakhobe esathi uyasuka kuyise, umnewabo u-Esawu wabe engena evela zingela. <sup>31</sup>Laye njalo walungisa ukudla okumnandi wakuletha kuyise. Wasesithi kuye, "Baba, vuka udle inyama yami yenyamazana, ukuze ungphe isibusiso sakho."

<sup>32</sup>Uyise u-Isaka wambuza wathi, "Ungubani wena?"

Waphendula wathi, "Ngiyindodana yakho, izibulo lakho u-Esawu."

<sup>33</sup>U-Isaka wathuthumela kakhulu wathi, "Kanti ubengubani ozingele inyamazana wayiletha kimi? Ngiyidlile khateshi nje usuzafika, ngambusisa – yebo kambe ngempela nguyey ozabusiswa!"

<sup>34</sup>Kwathi u-Esawu ewezwa amazwi kayise waqhunsuka wakhala kakhulu okubuhlungu wathi kuyise, "Ngibusisa –

lami njalo, baba!"

<sup>35</sup> Kodwa wathi, "Umfowenu uze ngobuqili wathatha isibusiso sakho."

<sup>36</sup> U-Esawu wathi, "Kakumfanelanga na ukuthiwa nguJakhobe? Usengiqilile lezi izibanga ezimbili: Wathatha ubuzibulo bami, manje usethethe isibusiso sami?" Wasebuza wathi, "Kawungigcinelanga yini mina esinye isibusiso.?"

<sup>37</sup> U-Isaka wamphendula u-Esawu wathi, "Sengimenze waba yinkosi phezu kwakho, ngenza zonke izihlobo zakhe zaba yizichaka zakhe, njalo ngamsekela ngenala langewayini elitsha. Kambe ngingabe ngisakwenzelani, ndodana yami?"

<sup>38</sup> U-Esawu wathi kuyise, "Kanti ulesibusiso esisodwa kuphela na baba? Ngibusisa lami, baba!" U-Esawu wasekhala kakhulu ephumisela.

<sup>39</sup> Uyise u-Isaka wamphendula wathi,

"Umuzi wakho uzakuba khatshana lokuvunda komhlaba khatshana lamazolo asezulwini eliphezulu.

<sup>40</sup> Uzaphila ngokusebenzisa inkemba njalo uzamkhonza umfowenu.

Kodwa kuzakuthi lapho usudlubulunda, uzalilahla ijogwe lakhe lisuke entanyeni yakho."

*UJakhobe Ubalekela kuLabani*

<sup>41</sup> U-Esawu wagcina isikhwili ngoJakhobe ngenxa yesibusiso uyise ayemuphe sona. Wazitshela wathi, "Izinsuku zokulilela ubaba seziseduze; lapho-ke ngizambulala umfowethu uJakhobe."

<sup>42</sup> Kwathi uRabheka esezwile okwakutshiwo yindodana yakhe endala u-Esawu, wabiza indodana yakhe encinyane uJakhobe wathi kuye,

"Umnewenu u-Esawu uziduduza ngomcabango wokuthi akubulale.

<sup>43</sup> Yikho-ke wena ndodana yami, yenza lokho engikutshela khona: Baleka masinyane uye kumnewethu uLabani eHarani. <sup>44</sup> Uhlale khonale ulaka lukamnewenu luze lubohle. <sup>45</sup> Kuzakuthi nxa umnewenu engasakuzondelanga esekhohliwe ukuthi kuyini owakwenzayo kuye, ngizathumela ilizwi ukuthi ubuye usuka khonale. Kambe kungaba yini ukuthi ngilahlekelwe yini lobabili ngasuku lunye na?"

<sup>46</sup> URabheka wasesithi ku-Isaka, "Impilo iyanginenga ngenxa yabafazi bamaHithi laba. Nxa uJakhobe engathatha umfazi kulaba abafazi balelilizwe, abafazi abanje bamaHithi, impilo yami iyabe ingasangifanelanga."

**28** Yikho u-Isaka wabiza uJakhobe wambusisa wamlaya wathi: "Ungathathi umfazi womKhenani. <sup>2</sup> Hamba khathesi uye ePhadani Aramu, emzini kayihlomkhulu uBhethuweli. Thatha khona umfazi, emadodakazini kaLabani, umnewabo kanyoko. <sup>3</sup> Sengathi uNkulunkulu uSomandla angakubusisa akuphe inzalo, andise ubunengi bayo lize libe yizizwe ezinengi. <sup>4</sup> Sengathi angakupha wena kanye lezizukulwane zakho isibusiso leso esaphiwa u-Abrahama, ukuze lilithathe ilizwe leli ohlezi kulo manje njengowezizweni, ilizwe uNkulunkulu alipha u-Abrahama." <sup>5</sup> Yikho u-Isaka wasemvalelisa uJakhobe, waya ePhadani Aramu, kuLabani indodana kaBhethuweli umAramu, umnewabo kaRebheka, owayengunina kaJakhobe lo-Esawu.

<sup>6</sup> U-Esawu wezwa ukuthi u-Isaka wayembusisile uJakhobe njalo wamthumela ePhadani Aramu ukuthi ayothatha umfazi khona, lokuthi wathi

embusisa wamlaya wathi, "Ungathathi umfazi ongumKhenani," <sup>7</sup> lokuthi uJakhobe wayebalalele oyise lonina wahamba waya ePhadani Aramu.

<sup>8</sup> U-Esawu wakunanzelela ukuthi abafazi bamaKhenani babeyisinengiso kuyise u-Isaka; <sup>9</sup> yikho wasesiya ku-Ishmayeli wathatha uMahalathi, udadewabo kaNebayothi, indodakazi ka-Ishmayeli indodana ka-Abrahama, phezu kwabanye abafazi ayevele eselabo.

### *Iphupho likaJakhobe eBhetheli*

<sup>10</sup> UJakhobe wasuka eBherisheba waqonda eHarani. <sup>11</sup> Wafika kwenye indawo, wema lapho ukuthi alale khona ngoba ilanga laselitshonile. Wathatha ilitshe khona walenza umqamelo walala.

<sup>12</sup> Wehlelwa liphupho wabona ilele ligxile phansi emhlabeni, isiqongo salo sifinyelela ezulwini, kwathi izingilosi zikaNkulunkulu zabe ziqansa zisehla kulo. <sup>13</sup> Laphaya ngaphezu kwalo kwakumi uJehova esithi:

"NginguJehova, uNkulunkulu kayihlo u-Abrahama loNkulunkulu ka-Isaka. Ngizakupha wena kanye lezizukulwane zakho ilizwe leli olele kulo.

<sup>14</sup> Izizukulwane zakho zizakuba njengothuli lomhlabathi, yikho lizaqhela liye entshonalanga lasempumalanga, enyakatho laseningizimu. Bonke abantu bomhlaba bazabusiwa ngenxa yakho lenzalo yakho. <sup>15</sup> Ngilawe njalo ngizakulinda loba ungaze uye ngaphi, njalo ngizakubuyisa kulelilizwe. Kangizukukudela ngize ngikwenze lokho engikuthembise khona."

<sup>16</sup> UJakhobe wathi evuka ebuthongweni bakhe wacabanga wathi, "Ngeqiniso uJehova ukhona kule indawo, kodwa ngibe ngingakunanzeleli." <sup>17</sup> Wesaba wathi, "Yeka ukwesabeka kwale indawo ehloniphekayo! Ngempela iyindlu kaNkulunkulu; leli lisango lasezulwini."

<sup>18</sup> Ngakusasa ekuseni kakhulu uJakhobe walithatha ilitshe ayelele eliqamele walimisa laba yinsika wathela amafutha phezu kwalo. <sup>19</sup> Indawo leyo wayibiza wathi yiBhetheli, ikanti idolobho lakhona lalithiwa yiLuzi.

<sup>20</sup> Ngakho uJakhobe wenza isifungo wathi, "Uma uNkulunkulu ezakuba lami angilondoloze kuloluhambo engikulo, angiphe ukudla lezigqoko, <sup>21</sup> ngibuyele emzini kababa ngiphilile, lapho uJehova uzakuba nguNkulunkulu wami <sup>22</sup> njalo lelitshe leli engilenze insika lizakuba yindlu kaNkulunkulu, njalo kuzakuthi konke onginika khona ngizakunika wena ingxenye yetshumi."

### *UJakhobe Ufika ePhadani Aramu*

## 29 UJakhobe waseqhubeka

ngohambo lwakhe wayafika elizweni labantu bempumalanga. <sup>2</sup> Wabona khonale umthombo esiqintini, kulemihlambi yezimvu emithathu ilele eduzane kwawo ngokuba imihlambi yayinatha khonapho emthonjeni lowo. Ilitshe elalivale umlomo womthombo lalilikhulu. <sup>3</sup> Kwakusithi yonke imihlambi ingabuthana khona, abelusi baligiqe ilitshe balisuse emlonyeni womthombo banathise izimvu. Besebelibuyisela ilitshe endaweni yalo emlonyeni womthombo.

<sup>4</sup> UJakhobe wabuza abelusi wathi, "Bafowethu, livela ngaphi?"

Baphendula bathi, "Sivela eHarani."

<sup>5</sup> Wathi, "Liyamazi yini uLabani, umzukululu kaNahori?"

Baphendula bathi, "Yebo, siyamazi."

<sup>6</sup> UJakhobe wasebabuza wathi, "Uyaphila yini?"

Bathi, "Yebo, uyaphila; nansi indodakazi yakhe uRakheli esiza lezimvu."

<sup>7</sup>Wathi, "Khangelani, ilanga lilokhu lisemini; akukabi yisikhathi sokuthi imihlambi ibuthwe. Zinathiseni izimvu lezi lizibuyisele emadlelweni."

<sup>8</sup>Baphendula bathi, "Singeke, ize iqale iyoqane yonke imihlambi ilitshe beselisuswa emlonyeni womthombo. Lapho-ke sizazinathisa izimvu."

<sup>9</sup>Wathi elokhu esakhuluma labo uRakheli wafika lezimvu zikayise, ngokuba wayengumelusi. <sup>10</sup>UJakhobe wathi ebona uRakheli, indodakazi kaLabani, umnewabo kanina esiza lezimvu zikaLabani, wahamba wayagiqqa ilitshe elalisemlonyeni womthombo wanathisa izimvu zikamalumakhe. <sup>11</sup>UJakhobe wasesanga uRakheli njalo wakhala kakhulu. <sup>12</sup>Wayesemtshelile uRakheli ukuthi wayeyisihlobo sikayise lokuthi wayeyindodana kaRebheka. Ngakho intombi yagijima yayabikela uyise.

<sup>13</sup>ULabani wonela ukuwuzwa umbiko ngoJakhobe, indodana kadadewabo, wahle waphuthuma wayamhlangabeza. Wamgona wamanga, wamletha ngekhaya, lapho uJakhobe amtshela khona izinto lezi. <sup>14</sup>ULabani wasesithi kuye, "Uyinyama yami legazi lami."

#### *UJakhobe Uthatha uLeya loRakheli*

UJakhobe esehlale laye okwenyanga yonke, <sup>15</sup>uLabani wathi kuye, "Kambe sekungathi ngoba uyisihlobo sami ubusungisebenzela ungaholi lutho? Akungitshela, uthi umholo wakho ube yini?"

<sup>16</sup>ULabani wayelamadodakazi amabili; ibizo lendala lalinguLeya, encinyane inguRakheli. <sup>17</sup>ULeya wayelamehlo abuthakathaka, kodwa uRakheli wayelesimo esibukekayo, emuhle. <sup>18</sup>UJakhobe wezwa emthanda uRakheli wasesithi, "Ngizakusebenzela okweminyaka eyisikhombisa ukuze

ungiphe indodakazi yakho encane uRakheli."

<sup>19</sup>ULabani wathi, "Kungcono ngimuphe wena kulokuba ngimuphe enye indoda. Hlala lapha lami."

<sup>20</sup>UJakhobe waseyisebenza iminyaka eyisikhombisa ukuze azuze uRakheli, kodwa yakhanya ingathi yizinsukwana ezimbalwa kuye ngenxa yothando kuye.

<sup>21</sup>UJakhobe wasesithi kuLabani, "Ngipha-ke umkami. Isikhathi sami sesigcwalisekile, sengifuna ukwembatha laye."

<sup>22</sup>Ngakho uLabani wasenxusa bonke abantu bendawo wenza idili. <sup>23</sup>Kodwa kwathi sekusihlwa, wathatha indodakazi yakhe uLeya wamupha uJakhobe, uJakhobe wembatha laye. <sup>24</sup>ULabani waphinda wapha uLeya incekekazi yakhe uZilipha ukuba ibe yincekekazi yakhe.

<sup>25</sup>Kwathi sekusile, wabona kunguLeya! UJakhobe wathi kuLabani, "Kuyini lokhu okwenzileyo kimi? Mina ngasebenzela uRakheli, kakunjalo na? Yini ungikhohlisa?"

<sup>26</sup>ULabani waphendula wathi, "Kakusiwo mkhubo wethu lapha ukwendisa indodakazi encane endala ingakendi. <sup>27</sup>Qeda iviki yakhe lo, yokuqobodisa; yikho sizakupha lalo omncane njalo ngemva kokumsebenzela eminye iminyaka eyisikhombisa."

<sup>28</sup>UJakhobe wenza njalo. Waqeda iviki eloLeya, yikho uLabani wasemupha indodakazi yakhe uRakheli ukuba ngumkakhe. <sup>29</sup>ULabani wanika indodakazi yakhe uRakheli incekekazi yakhe uBhiliha ukuba abe yincekekazi yakhe. <sup>30</sup>UJakhobe wembatha loRakheli laye, wamthanda okudlula uLeya. Wasesebenzela uLabani okweminye njalo iminyaka eyisikhombisa.

*Abantwana bakaJakhobe*

<sup>31</sup>UJehova wathi ngokubona ukuthi uLeya wayengathandwa wavula isizalo sakhe, kodwa uRakheli wayeyinyumba.

<sup>32</sup>ULeya wathatha isisu wazala indodana. Wamutha ibizo wathi nguRubheni, ngoba wathi, "Kungenxa yokuthi uJehova usebonile ukuhlupheka kwami. Ngempela umkami usezangithanda manje."

<sup>33</sup>Wathatha isisu njalo, wathi esephinde umfana njalo wathi, "Ngokuba uJehova wezwa ukuthi kangithandwa, wanginika lo njalo." Ngakho wamutha wathi nguSimeyoni.

<sup>34</sup>Wasithatha njalo isisu, kwathi esezele omunye umfana wathi, "Khathesi-ke umkami usezabambelela kimi ngoba sengimzalele amadodana amathathu." Yikho wathiwa nguLevi.

<sup>35</sup>Waphinda wasithatha isisu, wazuza umfana wathi, "Ngalesi isikhathi ngizadumisa uJehova." Wamutha wathi nguJuda. Wasesima ukuzuza abantwana.

**30** URakheli wathi ebona ukuthi wayengazaleli uJakhobe abantwana, wasekhwelezela udadewabo. Wasesithi kuJakhobe, "Ngizalisa abantwana, ngoba kungaba ngcono ngihle ngife!"

<sup>2</sup>UJakhobe wamzondela wathi, "SeninguNkulunkulu mina, onguye okuvalileyo ukuthi ungazali?"

<sup>3</sup>Yena wasesithi, "Nangu uBhiliha incekekazi yami. Lala laye ukuze angizalele abantwana, ukuze kuthi ngaye ngibe lemuli."

<sup>4</sup>Ngakho wasemupha incekekazi yakhe uBhiliha njengomfazi. UJakhobe wembatha laye, <sup>5</sup>wakhulelwa wamazalela indodana. <sup>6</sup>Yikho uRakheli wathi, "UNKulunkulu usengigezile; ulalele ukuncenga kwami wasenginika indodana." Ngenxa yalokhu wayitha wathi nguDani.

<sup>7</sup>Incekukazi kaRakheli, uBhiliha, yathatha isisu njalo yazalela uJakhobe indodana yesibili. <sup>8</sup>URakheli wasesithi, "Kade kuyimpi phakathi kwami lodadewethu, mina senginqobile." Wasemuthi nguNafithali.

<sup>9</sup>ULeya wathi ngokubona ukuthi kasazali wathatha incekekazi yakhe uZilipha wayipha uJakhobe njengomfazi. <sup>10</sup>Incekukazi kaLeya uZilipha yazalela uJakhobe indodana. <sup>11</sup>ULeya wasesithi, "Yinhlanhla enganani!" Wamutha wathi nguGadi.

<sup>12</sup>Incekukazi kaLeya uZilipha yazalela uJakhobe indodana yesibili. <sup>13</sup>ULeya wathi, "Uthi ngiyathaba yini! Abafazi bazakuthi ngiyathaba." Yikho wambiza ngokuthi ngu-Asheri.

<sup>14</sup>Ngesikhathi sokuvuna ingqoloyi uRubheni waya emasimini wafumana izihlahlana zamamandraki waziletha kunina uLeya. URakheli wathi kuLeya, "Ngicela ezinye zezihlahlana zendodana yakho amamandraki."

<sup>15</sup>Kodwa wathi kuye, "Kakukwanelisanga na ukuthi wangemuka indoda? Usufuna ukuthatha lamamandraki endodana yami njalo?"

URakheli wathi, "Kulungile, angazalala ngakwakho lamuhla ukuze ngizuze amamandraki endodana yakho."

<sup>16</sup>Yikho kwathi uJakhobe efika evela emasimini ngaleyontambama, uLeya wamhlangabeza wathi, "Kumele ulale ngakwami lamuhla. Ngikuqatshile ngamamandraki endodana yami." Ngakho wembatha laye ngalobobusuku.

<sup>17</sup>UNKulunkulu walalela kuLeya, wathatha isisu wazalela uJakhobe indodana yasihlanu. <sup>18</sup>ULeya wathi, "UNKulunkulu usengivuzile ngenxa yokuthi nganika indoda yami incekekazi yami." Ngakho wamutha wathi ngu-Isakhari.

<sup>19</sup> Uleya waphinda wasithatha njalo isisu wazalela uJakhobe indodana yesithupha. <sup>20</sup> Yikho uLeya wathi, "UNKulunkulu usengiphe isipho esiligugu. Khathezi umkami usezangiphatha ngenhlonipho, ngokuba sengimzalele amadodana ayisithupha." Wasemutha wathi nguZebhuluni.

<sup>21</sup> Ngesikhathi samuva wazala intombazana wayithi nguDina.

<sup>22</sup> UNkulunkulu wamkhumbula uRakheli; walalela kuye wavula isizalo sakhe. <sup>23</sup> Wathatha isisu wazala indodana, wathi, "UNKulunkulu uselisusile ihlazo lami." <sup>24</sup> Wamutha wathi nguJosefa, wathi, "Sengathi uJehova angangengezelela enye indodana."

*Imihlambi kaJakhobe Yezimvu Iyanda*

<sup>25</sup> URakheli esezele uJosefa uJakhobe wathi kuLabani, "Ngivumela ukuthi ngibuyele elizweni lakithi. <sup>26</sup> Ngipha omkami labantwana, engibasebenzeleyo kuwe, ngihle ngibambe indlela. Uyawazi umsebenzi engiwusebenzileyo kuwe lapha."

<sup>27</sup> Kodwa uLabani wathi kuye, "Uma ungithanda, hlala. Sengibonile ngokuhlhlala ukuthi uJehova ungibusisile ngenxa yakho." <sup>28</sup> Wengeza ngokuthi, "Qamba loba yiyiphi inkokhelo oyifunayo, ngizakupha."

<sup>29</sup> UJakhobe wathi kuye, "Uyakwazi ukuthi ngikusebenzele njani lokuthi izifuyo zakho ziqhube njani ziphethwe yimi. <sup>30</sup> Okuncinyane owawulakho ngingakafiki sekusele kwanda kakhulu, njalo uJehova ukubusisile langabe kungaphi lapho engike ngaba khona. Kodwa manje ngizaze ngiwenzele nini mina umuzi wami ulutho?"

<sup>31</sup> Wabuza wathi, "Ngikupheni na?"

Waphendula uJakhobe wathi, "Ungangiphi lutho. Kodwa ake ungenzele lokhu kodwa, ukuze

ngiqhubeke ngisondla imihlambi yakho:

<sup>32</sup> Wothi ngingene emihlambini yakho lamuhla ngikhuphe kuyo zonke izimvu ezilamachatha kumbe amabala, lazo zonke ezimnyama lezimbuzi zonke ezilamabala kumbe amachatha. Yizo ezizakuba yinkokhelo yami.

<sup>33</sup> Ngesikhathi esizayo ubuqotho bami buzavela nxa uhlole inkokhelo onginike yona. Ingqe yileyombuzi engizabe ngilayo engelamachatha kumbe amabala, loba lizinyane lemvu elingamnyama liyabe lebiwe."

<sup>34</sup> ULabani wathi, "Kulungile, kakube njengokutsho kwakho." <sup>35</sup> Mhlalokho wazikhupha zonke izimpongo ezazingamaqamule kumbe ezilamabala, njalo lezibhuzikazi ezilamachatha kumbe ezilamabala (zonke ezazi- lokumhlophe kuzo) lamazinyane ezimvu wonke amnyama zonke wathi zikhangelwe ngamadodana akhe.

<sup>36</sup> Wasesuduka kuJakhobe okomango ongahanjwa izinsuku ezintathu, kodwa uJakhobe wabe elokhu esondla yonke imihlambi eseleyo kaLabani.

<sup>37</sup> Kwathi uJakhobe wagamula izingatsha zesihlahla sephopla leze-alimondi lepulane wahamba ezixoxa amaxolo wenza imidwa kwavela kuzo isigodo esimhlophe. <sup>38</sup> Izingatsha lezi ezixozweyo wazibeka kuyo yonke imikolo yokunathela imihlambi ukuthi zime ziqondane lezifuyo nxa zinatha. Kwakusithi lezozifuyo ezidabuleyo zizonatha <sup>39</sup> zifike zixakane phambi kwezingatsha. Zazizala amazinyane alamabala ayimidwa loba alamachatha kumbe amabala nje. <sup>40</sup> UJakhobe wawakhetha wawabeka wodwa amazinyane, kodwa lezo ezinye waziyekela zadunga lezo ezingamaqamule lezimnyama ezazingezikaLabani. Ngaleyondlela wenza imihlambi eyahlukeneyo eyakhe kaze ayihlanganisa lekaLabani.



<sup>41</sup> Kwakusithi kungadabula izibhuzikazi eziqinileyo, uJakhobe wayefaka izingatsha emikolweni phambi kwezifuyo ukuze zixakane eduze kwezingatsha, <sup>42</sup> kodwa nxa lezozibhuzikazi zazingezibuthakathaka wayengazifaki izingatsha. Yikho izifuyo ezibuthakathaka zaba ngezikaLabani, eziqinileyo zabuya ngoJakhobe. <sup>43</sup> Ngale indlela indoda le yanatha kakhulu yaba lemihlambi emikhulu, lezincekukazi, lezincku kanye lamakamela labobabhemu.

*UJakhobe Ubalekela uLabani*

**31** UJakhobe wezwa ukuthi amadodana kaLabani ayesithi, “UJakhobe usethehe konke ubaba ayelakho njalo usezuze yonke inotho ebingekababa.” <sup>2</sup> Njalo uJakhobe wananzelela ukuthi uLabani wayengasamphathi njengakuqala.

<sup>3</sup> UJehova wasesithi kuJakhobe, “Buyela elizweni laboyihlo lasezihlotsheni zakho, mina ngizakuba lawe.”

<sup>4</sup> Yikho uJakhobe wasethumela ilizwi kuRakheli loLeya ukuthi beze egangeni lapho imihlambi yakhe eyayikhona.

<sup>5</sup> Wathi kubo, “Sengibona ukuthi uyihlo kasangiphathi njengakuqala, kodwa uNkulunkulu kababa ube lami.

<sup>6</sup> Liyakwazi ukuthi ngamsebenzela uyihlo ngamandla ami wonke, <sup>7</sup> kodwa uyihlo ungidlezelele ngokuguqula umholo wami okwezikhathi ezilitshumi. Kodwa uNkulunkulu kamvumelanga ukuthi angilimaze. <sup>8</sup> Kwakusithi angathi, ‘Ezimafahlafahla ngezakho, ezomholo,’ imihlambi yonke izale ifehleze; kuthi angathi, ‘Ezingamaqamule zizakuba ngumholo wakho,’ yonke imihlambi izale amazinyane angamaqamule.

<sup>9</sup> Ngaleyondlela uNkulunkulu usethehe imihlambi kayihlo wayipha mina.

<sup>10</sup> “Ngesikhathi sokuxotsha lokumitha kwemihlambi, ngaba lephupho lapho okwathi ngikhangela ngabona ukuthi izimpongo ezazixotsha umhlambi zazingamaqamule, kumbe zingamafahlafahla kumbe zilamabala.

<sup>11</sup> Ingilosi kaNkulunkulu yathi kimi kulelophupho, ‘Jakhobe.’ Ngasabela ngathi, ‘Ngilapha.’ <sup>12</sup> Yathi, ‘Khangela ukuthi zonke izimpongo ezixotsha umhlambi ngezingamaqamule, ngezingamafahlafahla kumbe ngezilamabala, ngoba ngikubonile konke lokho uLabani abekwenza kuwe.

<sup>13</sup> NginguNkulunkulu waseBhetheli, lapho owagcoba khona insika njalo lapho owenza khona isifungo kimi. Suka kulelizwe khona manje ubuyele elizweni lakini.’ ”

<sup>14</sup> URakheli loLeya baphendula bathi, “Sivele siseselesabelo selifa likababa na? <sup>15</sup> Kasevele esesibona njengabemzini na? Kakusikho kodwa ukuthi walobolisa ngathi, kodwa lalawomalobolo sewawadla. <sup>16</sup> Ngempela yonke inotho uNkulunkulu ayemuka ubaba ngeyethu labantwabethu. Ngakho yenza loba yini uNkulunkulu akutshela yona.”

<sup>17</sup> UJakhobe wasekhweza abantwabakhe labomkakhe emakamelweni, <sup>18</sup> waziqhuba zonke izifuyo zakhe zahamba phambili, kanye lezimpahla zonke ayezizuzile ePhadani Aramu, esebuyela kuyise u-Isaka elizweni laseKhenani.

<sup>19</sup> Kwathi uLabani ehambile eyogunda izimvu zakhe, uRakheli weba izithombe zikayise. <sup>20</sup> Phezu kwalokho uJakhobe wakhohlisa uLabani ngokungamtsheli ukuthi yena wayesebaleka. <sup>21</sup> Ngakho wabaleka lakho konke okwakungokwakhe wachapha umfula iYufrathi walubangisa elizweni lamaqaqa eleGiliyadi.

*ULabani Uxotshana loJakhobe*

<sup>22</sup>Ngosuku lwesithathu uLabani watshelwa ukuthi uJakhobe wayesebalekile. <sup>23</sup>Wathatha izihlobo zakhe bangena emzileni kaJakhobe okwezinsuku eziyisikhombisa baze bayambamba elizweni lamaqaqa eGiliyadi. <sup>24</sup>UNkulunkulu weza kuLabani umAramu ephutsheni ebusuku wathi kuye, “Unanzelele ukuthi ungaze watsho lutho kuJakhobe, loba lungoluhle kumbe lungolubi.”

<sup>25</sup>UJakhobe wayemise ithente lakhe elizweni lamaqaqa eGiliyadi efiwa nguLabani, uLabani laye lezihlobo zakhe bakha izihonqo khonapho.

<sup>26</sup>Yikho uLabani wasesithi kuJakhobe, “Wenzi manje? Ungikhohlisile, njalo uthumbe amadodakazi ami njengezithunjwa empini. <sup>27</sup>Kungani ubalekile wanyenya wangikhohlisa na? Ngani ungangazisanga, ukuze ngikuvalelise ngentokozo langokutshaya izigubhu lamachacho? <sup>28</sup>Kawuzange ume ukuthi ngange abazukulu bami lamadodakazi ami ngibavalelise. Wenze into eyibuthutha. <sup>29</sup>Ngilamandla okukulimaza; kodwa kulobu ubusuku obudluleyo uNkulunkulu kayihlo uthe kimi, ‘Unanzelele ungaze watsho lutho kuJakhobe, loba ngoluhle kumbe ngolubi.’ <sup>30</sup>Manje ususukile ngoba ubulangazela ukubuyela emzini kayihlo. Kodwa kungani webe izithombe zami na?”

<sup>31</sup>UJakhobe wamphendula uLabani wathi, “Bengisesaba ukuthi uzangemuka amadodakazi akho ngamandla. <sup>32</sup>Kodwa uma ufumana loba ngubani olezithombe zakho, kayikuphila. Ake ubone, lezihlobo zakho zikhona, ingabe kulolutho lwakho yini lapha kimi; nxa lukhona, luthathe.” UJakhobe wayengazi ukuthi uRakheli wayezebile izithombe.

<sup>33</sup>Ngakho uLabani wangena ethenteni likaJakhobe lethenteni likaLeya

lethenteni lezincekukazi zombili, kodwa kafumananga lutho. Ephuma ethenteni likaLeya, wangena ethenteni likaRakheli.

<sup>34</sup>URakheli wayethethe izithombe lezo wazitshwathika phakathi kwesihlalo sekamela lakhe wasehlala phezu kwakho. ULabani wabhudula kukho konke ethenteni, waswela.

<sup>35</sup>URakheli wathi kuyise, “Ungazondi, nkosi yami, ukuthi kungani ngingakusukumeli, kungenxa yokuba ngisemfuleni.” Ngakho wabhudula kodwa kaze azifumana izithombe zangekhaya.

<sup>36</sup>UJakhobe wazonda kubi wamthwalisa nzima uLabani. Wambuza wathi, “Icala lami kuyini? Ngenze sono bani ukuze ungizingele kanje?”

<sup>37</sup>Njengoba usungiguduzile zonke izimpahla zami, kuyini osukufumene okungokomuzi wakho na? Kubeke khonapha phambi kwezihlobo zakho lezami batsho okuyikho phakathi kwethu sobabili.

<sup>38</sup>“Sengibe lawe okweminyaka engamatshumi amabili. Izimvu zakho lezimbuzi zakho kazizange ziphunze, njalo kangizange ngizihlebele izinqama emihlambini yakho. <sup>39</sup>Kangizange ngizokutshengisa izifuyo ezidatshulwe yizilo; yimi engathwala lokho kulahlekelwa ngazihlawula. Njalo wafuna inhlawulo yalezo ezazebiwe emini loba ebusuku. <sup>40</sup>Impilo yami yayinje: ukutshisa kwakungiqeda emini, ebusuku umqando ungihwahwathe, ubuthongo babaleka emehlweni ami.

<sup>41</sup>Kwakunjalo okweminyaka engamatshumi amabili ngisemzini wakho. Ngakusebenzela okweminyaka elitshumi lane ngisebenzela amadodakazi akho womabili njalo okweminyaka eyisithupha ngisebenzela imihlambi yakho, njalo wena waguqula

imbadalo yami okwezikhathi ezilithshumi. <sup>42</sup> Aluba kungayisikuthi uNkulunkulu kababa, uNkulunkulu ka-Abhrahama loNgukwesaba kuka-Isaka, ubengelami, wawuzangixotsha nje ngingaphathanga lutho. Kodwa uNkulunkulu ububonile ubunzima bami lokusebenza nzima kwezandla zami, yikho ekukhuzile izolo ebusuku.”

<sup>43</sup> ULabani wamphendula uJakhobe wathi, “Abesifazane ngamadodakazi ami, abantwana ngabantwabami, lemihlambi yimihlambi yami. Kodwa kuyini engingakwenza lamuhla ngala amadodakazi ami, kumbe ngabantwana ababazeleyo na? <sup>44</sup> Zwana-ke, kasenze isivumelwano, wena lami, sibe ngufakazi phakathi kwethu.”

<sup>45</sup> Yikho uJakhobe wasethatha ilitsho walimisa laba yinsika. <sup>46</sup> Wasesithi ezihlotsheni zakhe, “Buthelelani amatshe.” Yikho bawathatha amatshe bawabuthelela aba yinqwaba, basebedlela khonapho eceleni kwenqwaba. <sup>47</sup> ULabani wayibiza ngokuthi yiJegari Sahadutha, uJakhobe yena wathi yiGaledi.

<sup>48</sup> ULabani wathi, “Inqwaba ingufakazi phakathi kwami lawe lamuhla.” Yikho yabizwa ngokuthi yiGaledi. <sup>49</sup> Yabizwa njalo ngokuthi yiMizipha, ngokuba wathi, “Sengathi uJehova angalinda phakathi kwakho lami nxa sikhatshana omunye komunye. <sup>50</sup> Ungaze uphathe kubi amadodakazi ami, loba ungaze uthathe abanye abafazi ngaphandle kwamadodakazi ami, loba kungekho omunye umuntu olathi, khumbula ukuthi uNkulunkulu ungufakazi phakathi kwakho lami.”

<sup>51</sup> ULabani wathi njalo kuJakhobe, “Nansi inqwaba le, njalo nansi insika engiyimise phakathi kwakho lami.

<sup>52</sup> Inqwaba le ingufakazi, kanye lensika le ingufakazi wokuthi kangisoze

ngiyidlule inqwaba le ngize kwelakho icele ngizekonela lokuthi lawe kawuyikudlula kule inqwaba lensika uze kwelami icele uzengonela. <sup>53</sup> Sengathi uNkulunkulu ka-Abhrahama, loNkulunkulu kaNahori, uNkulunkulu kayise wabo angehlulela phakathi kwethu.”

Yikho uJakhobe wenza isifungo ebizweni likaMesatshwa kayise u-Isaka.

<sup>54</sup> Wenza umhlatshelo khonapho elizweni lamaqaqa wanxusa izihlobo zakhe ekudleni. Sebedlile, balala khonapho.

<sup>55</sup> Ekuseni kakhulu ngosuku olulandelayo uLabani wanga abazukulu bakhe lamadodakazi akhe wababusisa. Wasefulathela wabuyela ekhaya.

*UJakhobe ulungisela ukuhlangana lo-Esawu*

**32** UJakhobe laye wabamba eyakhe indlela, wasehlangabezwa yizingilosi zikaNkulunkulu. <sup>2</sup> Wathi ezibona uJakhobe wathi, “Le yinkundla kaNkulunkulu!” Waseyibiza leyondawo ngokuthi yiMahanayimi.

<sup>3</sup> UJakhobe wathuma izigijimi ukuba zihambe phambili kwakhe kumnewabo u-Esawu elizweni laseSeyiri, ilizwe lika-Edomi. <sup>4</sup> Wabalaya wathi, “Nanku okuzamela likutsho enkosini yami u-Esawu: “Inceku yakho uJakhobe uthi bengihlezi loLabani, ngahlala khona kuze kube manje. <sup>5</sup> Ngilezinkomo labobabhemi, ngilezimvu, lezimbuzi, njalo ngilezinceku lezincekukazi. Khathesi-ke sengithumezela leli ilizwi enkosini yami, elokuthi sengani ngingafumana umusa kuwe.”

<sup>6</sup> Kwathi izigijimi sezibuya kuJakhobe zathi, “Siyile kumfowenu u-Esawu, okwamanje uyeza uze kuhlangabeza,

ulamadoda angamakhulu amane eza lawo.”

<sup>7</sup>UJakhobe waba lokwesaba lokukhathazeka okukhulu wasesehlukanisa phakathi abantu ayelabo baba ngamaqula amabili, wenzenjalo lemihlambini yezimvu leyezinkomo lamakamela lawo.

<sup>8</sup>Wakhumbula wathi, “Nxa u-Esawu angafika ahlasele elinye iqula, leloqula eliseleyo lingahle libaleke.”

<sup>9</sup>UJakhobe wasekhuleka wathi, “O Nkulunkulu kababa u-Abrahama, Nkulunkulu kababa u-Isaka, O Nkosi, wena owathi kimi, ‘Buyela elizweni lakini lasezihlotsheni zakho, ngizakwenza uphumelele,’ <sup>10</sup> mina kangiwufanelanga wonke umusa lokuthembeka okutshengise inceku yakho. Ngangiphethe induku yami zwi mhla ngichapha leli iJodani, kodwa manje sengingamaqula amabili.

<sup>11</sup>“Ngiyakhuleka ngithi ngisindise esandleni somfowethu u-Esawu, ngokuba ngiyesaba ukuthi uzakuza angihlasele, kanye labesifazana labantwababo. <sup>12</sup>Kodwa wena uthe, ‘Ngempela ngizakwenza uphumelele ngenze lezizukulwane zakho zibe njengetshebetshebe lolwandle elingeke labalwa.’”

<sup>13</sup>Wahlala khonapho ngalobobusuku, kwathi kulokho ayelakho wakhetha isipho sikamnewabo u-Esawu:

<sup>14</sup>izibhuzikazi ezingamakhulu amabili lezimpongo ezingamatshumi amabili; izimvu ezinsikazi ezingamakhulu amabili lezinqama ezingamatshumi amabili; <sup>15</sup>amakamela amasikazi angamatshumi amathathu lamathole awo; amankomokazi angamatshumi amane lezinkunzi ezilitshumi; kanye labobabhemi abasikazi abangamatshumi amabili lemiduna yawo elitshumi.

<sup>16</sup>Wakugcinisa izisebenzi zakhe konke, yilowomhlambi wema wodwa, wathi

kuzo izisebenzi zakhe, “Hambani phambili kwami, njalo litshiye ibanga phakathi kwemihlambi.”

<sup>17</sup>Lowo owayephambili wamlaya wathi, “Nxa umnewethu u-Esawu ekuhlangabeza afike abuze athi, ‘Ungokabani wena, njalo uya ngaphi, njalo ngezikabani zonke lezizifuyo eziphambi kwakho?’ <sup>18</sup>Ubokuthi, ‘Ngezenceku yakho uJakhobe. Ziyisipho esithunyelwe inkosi yami u-Esawu, laye uyeza nje emuva kwethu.’”

<sup>19</sup>Walaya njalo isisebenzi sesibili, lesesithathu lazo zonke ezinye ezaziqhuba imihlambi wathi: “Libokutsho nto yinye ku-Esawu nxa lihlangana laye. <sup>20</sup>Njalo lingakhohlwa ukuthi, ‘Inceku yakho uJakhobe uyeza ngemuva kwethu.’”

Ngokuba wacabanga wathi: “Ngizamthoba ngalezi izipho engizithumela phambili; muva, nxa sengimbona, mhlawumbe uzangemukela.” <sup>21</sup>Yikho izipho zikaJakhobe zahanjiswa phambili kwakhe, kodwa yena wasala ezihonqweni bonke lobobusuku.

*UJakhobe Ubindana loNkulunkulu*

<sup>22</sup>Ngalobobusuku uJakhobe waphakama wathatha omkakhe bobabili, lezincekukazi zakhe zombili kanye lamadodana akhe alitshumi lamunye wawela izibuko likaJabhoki.

<sup>23</sup>Esebachaphisile umfula wasethi kakuweliswe yonke imfuyo yakhe.

<sup>24</sup>Ngakho uJakhobe wasala yedwa, kwathi indoda ethile yabindana laye kwaze kwaba semathathakusa.

<sup>25</sup>Leyondoda yathi ngokubona ukuthi kayimehluli yamxhakalaza enyongeni uJakhobe, inyonga yakhe yakhumuka elokhu ebindana laleyondoda. <sup>26</sup>Indoda yasisithi, “Ngiyekela ngihambe ngoba sekusile.”

Kodwa uJakhobe wamphendula wathi, “Kangisoze ngikuyekele uhambe ngaphandle kokuthi ungibusise.”

<sup>27</sup> Indoda yambuza yathi,

“Ungubani ibizo lakho na?” Wathi, “NginguJakhobe.”

<sup>28</sup> Yikho indoda yase isithi, “Ibizo lakho kalisayi kuba nguJakhobe, kodwa u-Israyeli, ngokuba usutshukane loNkulunkulu kanye labantu wanqoba.”

<sup>29</sup> UJakhobe wathi, “Akungitshele ibizo lakho.”

Kodwa waphendula wathi “Ulibuzelani ibizo lami na?” Wasembusisa khona lapho.

<sup>30</sup> Yikho uJakhobe wabiza indawo leyo ngokuthi yiPheniyeli esithi, “Kungoba ngimbonile uNkulunkulu ubuso ngobuso, kodwa impilo yami kayilinyazwanga.”

<sup>31</sup> Ilanga lamphumela esethi udlula ePheniyeli, ehamba eqhugezela ngenxa yenyonga yakhe. <sup>32</sup> Yikho nje kuze kube lamuhla ama-Israyeli kabayidli inyama elomsipha osuka enyongeni, ngoba inyonga kaJakhobe yenyeliswa eduze lomsipha.

*UJakhobe uhlangana lo-Esawu*

**33** UJakhobe wathi uvusa amehlo wabona nangu u-Esawu, eqhamuka lamadoda akhe angamakhulu amane; yikho wasesehlukanisa abantwana phakathi kukaLeya, loRakheli lezincekukazi zombili. <sup>2</sup> Waqhuba phambili izincekukazi labantwabazo, kwalandela uLeya labantwabakhe, kweza uRakheli loJosefa ngemuva. <sup>3</sup> Yena ngokwakhe wahamba phambili wakhothama phansi emhlabathini kakhombisa esebanga kumnewabo.

<sup>4</sup> Kodwa u-Esawu wagijima wahlangabeza uJakhobe wamgona;

wamgola ngezingalo entanyeni wamanga. Bakhala. <sup>5</sup> U-Esawu wasekhangela wabona abesifazane labantwana. Wabuza wathi, “Ngobani laba ohamba labo na?”

UJakhobe waphendula wathi,

“Ngabantwana uNkulunkulu abaphe ngesihle inceku yakho.”

<sup>6</sup> Kwathi izincekukazi labantwabazo, zasondela zakhothamela phansi.

<sup>7</sup> Kwalandela uLeya kanye labantwabakhe beza bakhothamela phansi. Abokucina kwaba nguJosefa loRakheli, labo bakhothamela phansi.

<sup>8</sup> U-Esawu wabuza wathi, “Utshoni ngemihlambi yonke le engihlangane layo?”

Wathi, “Ngeyokucela umusa kuwe, nkosi yami.”

<sup>9</sup> Kodwa u-Esawu wathi, “Lami sengilakho okunengi, mnawami. Zigcinele lawe lokho olakho.”

<sup>10</sup> UJakhobe wathi, “Hatshi bo, bakithi. Uma ngisamukeleka kuwe yamukela isipho sami lesi. Ngoba ukubona ubuso bakho kufana lokubona ubuso bukaNkulunkulu, ikakhulu njengoba usungamukele ngesihle. <sup>11</sup> Ngicela ukuthi wamukele isipho leso esilethwe kuwe, ngokuba uNkulunkulu ube lomusa kimi, ngaba lakho konke engikuswelayo.” Kwathi ngoba uJakhobe ebelesela, u-Esawu wasamukela.

<sup>12</sup> U-Esawu wasesithi, “Kasihambeni. Ngizahamba lani.”

<sup>13</sup> Kodwa uJakhobe wathi kuye, “Inkosi yami iyazi ukuthi abantwana babuthakathaka lokuthi ngisamele nginakekele izimvukazi lamankomokazi konke okusanda kuzala. Zingahanjiswa ngamandla okwelanga elilodwa nje, izifuyo zizakufa. <sup>14</sup> Ngakho inkosi yami kayizihambele phambili kwenceku yayo, mina ngilandele kancane okwamandla emihlambi eqhutshwayo

labantwana, ngize ngifike enkosini yami eSeyiri.

<sup>15</sup>U-Esawu wathi, “Nxa kunjalo ngizatshiya amanye amadoda ami lawe.” UJakhobe wabuza wathi, “Kambe ube ukwenzelani lokho? Inkosi yami kayingenzele umusa nje kube kuphela.”

<sup>16</sup>Yikho ngalolosuku u-Esawu wasuka esebuyela eSeyiri. <sup>17</sup>Kodwa uJakhobe waya eSukothi lapho azakhela khona umuzi wakha lezibaya zezifuyo zakhe. Kungakho leyondawo ithiwa yiSukothi.

<sup>18</sup>UJakhobe esebuyile ePhadani Aramu wafika kuhle edolobheni

laseShekemu eKhenani wamisa izihonqo idolobho selibonakala.

<sup>19</sup>Ngezinhlamvu zesiliva ezilikhulu wathenga isiqinti somhlabathi emadodaneni kaHamori, uyise kaShekemu, lapho amisa khona ithente lakhe. <sup>20</sup>Khonapho amisa i-alithare walibiza ngokuthi yi-Eli Elohe Israyeli.

### *UDina lamaShekemu*

## 34 UDina, indodakazi ka-Leya

ayizalela uJakhobe wasuka wayakwethekelela abafazi balelolizwe.

<sup>2</sup>Kwathi uShekemu, indodana kaHamori umHivi, umbusi walowommango, ebona uDina, wamthatha wenza ubudlova kuye. <sup>3</sup>Inhliziyo yakhe yathatheka ngoDina indodakazi kaJakhobe, wayithanda intombi le, wakhuluma layo kamnandi. <sup>4</sup>UShekemu wathi kuyise uHamori, “Ngizuzela intombi le ibe ngumkami.”

<sup>5</sup>UJakhobe wathi ekuzwa ukuthi indodakazi yakhe uDina yayingcolisiwe, amadodana akhe ayeseangani lezifuyo; wathula nje aze abuya ekhaya. <sup>6</sup>Yikho usekaShekemu, uHamori wayakhuluma loJakhobe.

<sup>7</sup>Ngalesosikhathi amadodana kaJakhobe ayesebuyile evela egangeni evele esezwile okwasekwenzakele. Babelosizi njalo begcwele ulaka ngoba uShekemu wayenze into elihlazo ko-Israyeli ngokuhlobonga indodakazi kaJakhobe – into okwakungamelanga yenziwe.

<sup>8</sup>Kodwa uHamori wathi kubo, “Indodana yami uShekemu uyayithanda indodakazi yakho. Muphe yona ibe ngumkakhe. <sup>9</sup>Kasendiselane; sipheni amadodakazi enu, lani lizithathele amadodakazi ethu. <sup>10</sup>Lingazihlalela phakathi kwethu; ilizwe livulekile kini. Hlalani kulo, thengisani kulo njalo fuyani kulo.”

<sup>11</sup>U-Shekemu wasesithi kuyise kaDina lakubanewabo, “Ngicela ukuthi lingamukele, ngizalinika loba kuyini elikufunayo. <sup>12</sup>Tshonini amalobolo lokangaziwe, mina ngizakuletha ngobunengi bakho njengokufuna kwenu, njalo ngizakubhadala loba ngokunganani elikubizayo. Lina ngiphani intombi kuphela nje ibe ngumkami.”

<sup>13</sup>Kwathi ngoba udadewabo uDina wayesengcolisiwe, amadodana kaJakhobe aphenula ngobuqili ekhuluma loShekemu loyise uHamori.

<sup>14</sup>Athi kubo, “Singeke siyenze into enjalo; ngeke siphe udadewethu indoda engasokanga. Lokho kungaba lihlazo kithi. <sup>15</sup>Sizavuma kuphela nxa lenze lokhu: ukuthi libe njengathi ngokusoka bonke abesilisa benu. <sup>16</sup>Yikho singalendisela amadodakazi ethu lathi sithathe amadodakazi enu. Sizakwakha phakathi kwenu sibe ngabantu banye lani. <sup>17</sup>Kodwa uma lingavumi ukusokwa sizamthatha udadewethu sihambe.”

<sup>18</sup>Icebo labo lakhanya lilihle kuHamori loShekemu. <sup>19</sup>Ijaha leli eliyilo elalihlonitshwa kakhulu emzini kayise, kalisachithanga isikhathi ukukwenza lokho ababekutshilo

ngokuba lalitshiseka ngendodakazi kaJakhobe. <sup>20</sup> Yikho uHamori lendodana yakhe uShekemu baya entubeni yedolobho bayabonisana lamadoda akibo awedolobho. <sup>21</sup> Bathi, “Amadoda la alomusa kithi. Kabahlale elizweni lethu bathengiselane labantu; ilizwe leli lilendawo enengi abangahlala kuyo. Singathatha amadodakazi abo labo bangathatha awethu. <sup>22</sup> Kodwa bangavuma ukuhlala phakathi kwethu kuphela nxa abesilisa bethu bengasokwa njengabo. <sup>23</sup> Kambe izifuyo zabo, lempahla yabo kanye layo yonke imfuyo yabo kakukuba ngokwethu na? Yikho kasivumeni, yikhona bezakwakha phakathi kwethu.”

<sup>24</sup> Wonke amadoda ayekhona entubeni yedolobho avumelana loHamori lendodana yakhe uShekemu, kwathi bonke abesilisa balelodolobho basokwa.

<sup>25</sup> Ngemva kwezinsuku ezintathu, bonke belokhu besebuhlungwini, amadodana kaJakhobe amabili, uSimeyoni lo-Levi, abanewabo bakaDina, bathatha izinkemba zabo balihlasela idolobho belibele, babulala bonke abesilisa. <sup>26</sup> OHamori lendodana yakhe uShekemu babajuqa ngenkemba bamkhupha uDina endlini kaShekemu bahamba. <sup>27</sup> Amadodana kaJakhobe afikela phezu kwezidumbu aliphanga idolobho lapho udadewabo wayengcoliswe khona. <sup>28</sup> Athumba imihlambi yabo yezimvu lezinkomo, labobabhemi lakho konke okwakungokwabo phakathi edolobheni langaphandle egangeni. <sup>29</sup> Bayiqukula yonke inotho yabo kanye labafazi labantwana, bathumba konke okwakusezindlini. Kwaba yimpango.

<sup>30</sup> UJakhobe wasesithi kuSimeyoni lo-Levi, “Selingehlisele uhlupho langenza nganuka kumaKhenani lamaPherizi, abantu abahlala elizweni leli. Thina sibalutshwana, bangahlangana

bangihlasele, mina lomuzi wami sizabhujiswa.”

<sup>31</sup> Kodwa bona baphendula bathi, “Bekufanele yini ukuthi apha the udadewethu njengesifebe na?”

*UJakhobe Ubuyela eBhetheli*

## 35 UNkulunkulu wasesithi

kuJakhobe, “Yana eBhetheli wakhe khona, njalo khonapho wakhele uNkulunkulu i-alithare, yena owabonakala kuwe lapho wawubalekela umnewenu u-Esawu.”

<sup>2</sup> Ngakho uJakhobe wasesithi kwabomuzi wakhe lakubo bonke ababelaye, “Lahlani onkulunkulu bezizweni labo elilabo, lizihlambulule, lintshintshe lezigqoko zenu. <sup>3</sup> Beselisiza sihambe siye eBhetheli lapho engizakwakha khona i-alithare likaNkulunkulu yena owangisizayo ngosuku lokuhlupheka kwami njalo oselokhu elami loba ngingaze ngiye ngaphi.” <sup>4</sup> Yikho besebemupha uJakhobe bonke onkulunkulu bezizweni ababelabo lamacici ayesezindlebeni zabo, uJakhobe wakumbela ngaphansi kwesihlala som-okhi eShekemu. <sup>5</sup> Yikho basebesuka kwathi ulaka lukaNkulunkulu lwafikela yonke imizi ababakhelane layo, akwaze kwaba khona oxotshana labo.

<sup>6</sup> UJakhobe wafika eLuzi (leyo yiBhetheli) kanye labo bonke ayelabo elizweni laseKhenani. <sup>7</sup> Wakha khona i-alithare, indawo waseyibiza ngokuthi yi-Eli-Bhetheli, ngokuba kwakulapho uNkulunkulu aziveza khona ngesikhathi ebalekela umfowabo.

<sup>8</sup> UDebhora, umlizane kaRabheka wafa, wambelwa ngaphansi kom-okhi ngezansi kweBhetheli. Yikho yathiwa yi-Aloni Bhakhuthi.

<sup>9</sup> UJakhobe esebuyile ePhadani Aramu uNkulunkulu wabonakala kuye njalo,

wambusisa. <sup>10</sup> UNkulunkulu wathi kuye, “Ibizo lakho linguJakhobe, kodwa kawusayi kuthiwa unguJakhobe; ibizo lakho selizathiwa ungu-Israyeli.” Yikho wamutha wathi ngu-Israyeli.

<sup>11</sup> UNkulunkulu wathi kuye, “NginguNkulunkulu uSomandla; zalanani lande ngobunengi. Kuzaphuma kuwe isizwe lezinhlanga zezizwe, lamakhosi azavela emzimbeni wakho.

<sup>12</sup> Ilizwe engalinika u-Abrahama lo-Isaka ngilinika wena lawe, njalo ilizwe leli ngizalinika izizukulwane zakho eziza emva kwakho.” <sup>13</sup> UNkulunkulu wasephakama emtshiya endaweni lapho ayeke wakhuluma laye.

<sup>14</sup> UJakhobe wamisa insika yelitshe endaweni leyo uNkulunkulu ayekhulume laye khona, wasethululela phezu kwayo umnikelo onathwayo; wathela njalo amafutha phezu kwayo. <sup>15</sup> UJakhobe wasebiza indawo leyo lapho uNkulunkulu akhuluma laye khona ngokuthi yiBhetheli.

*Ukufa kukaRakheli lo-Isaka*

<sup>16</sup> Basebehamba besuka eBhetheli. Kwathi belokhu bebucwala kwe-Efrathi, uRakheli wafelelwa kwaba nzima ukubeletha. <sup>17</sup> Kwathi ekulobobunzima bokubeletha umbelethisi wathi kuye, “Ungesabi. Ngokuba uzazuza enye indodana.” <sup>18</sup> Kwathi esephela – ngoba wayesesifa wetha indodana yakhe wathi nguBheni-Oni. Kodwa uyise wayo wayithi nguBhenjamini.

<sup>19</sup> Wafa kanjalo uRakheli wambelwa endleleni kuyiwa e-Efrathi (kutshiwo iBhethilehema.) <sup>20</sup> UJakhobe wakha insika phezu kwethuna, kuze kube lamhla insika leyo itshengisa ithuna likaRakheli.

<sup>21</sup> U-Israyeli wabuye wathutha wayamisa ithente lakhe ngale kweMigidali-Ederi. <sup>22</sup> U-Israyeli esakhile kulowommango uRubheni wasuka waselala lomfazi weceleni kayise

uBhiliha, kwafika ezindlebeni zika-Israyeli. UJakhobe wayelamadodana alitshumi lambili:

<sup>23</sup> Amadodana kaLeya yila:

uRubheni, izibulo likaJakhobe,

uSimeyoni, loLevi, loJuda, lo-

Isakhari

loZebhuluni.

<sup>24</sup> Amadodana kaRakheli yila:

uJosefa loBhenjamini.

<sup>25</sup> Amadodana encekukazi kaRakheli,

uBhiliha yila: uDani loNafuthali.

<sup>26</sup> Amadodana encekukazi kaLeya

uZilipha yila:

uGadi lo-Asheri.

La ayengamadodana kaJakhobe awazalela ePhadani Aramu.

<sup>27</sup> UJakhobe weza ekhaya kuyise

u-Isaka eMamure, eduze leKhiriyathi-Abha (kutsho iHebroni) lapho

u-Abrahama lo-Isaka ababehlala

khona.. <sup>28</sup> U-Isaka waphila okweminyaka elikhulu lamatshumi aficamibili.

<sup>29</sup> Wafika ekucineni wafa wembelwa labantu bakibo eseluphele, iminyaka isiminengi. Amadodana akhe u-Esawu loJakhobe bamngcwaba.

*Izizukulwane zika-Esawu*

**36** Lo ngumlando ka-Esawu (kutsho u-Edomi):

<sup>2</sup> U-Esawu wathatha ebafazini baseKhenani: u-Ada indodakazi ka-Eloni umHithi, lo-Oholibhama indodakazi ka-Ana, njalo eyindodakazi kaZibheyoni umHivi – <sup>3</sup> njalo loBhasemathi indodakazi ka-Ishumayeli njalo engudadewabo kaNebayothi.

<sup>4</sup> U-Ada wazala u-Elifazi ku-Esawu, uBhasemathi wazala uRuweli,



<sup>5</sup> u-Oholibhama wazala uJewushi, loJalamu loKhora. La ayengamadodana ka-Esawu, awazala eKhenani.

<sup>6</sup> U-Esawu wathatha omkakhe lamadodana akhe kanye lamadodakazi akhe labo bonke ababesemzini wakhe, kanye lezifuyo zakhe lezinye izinyamazana zakhe njalo lezimpahla zonke ayezizuzile eKhenani, wasuduka waya khatshana lomfowabo uJakhobe.

<sup>7</sup> Imfuyo yabo yayinengi kakhulu okokuthi babengeke bahlale ndawonye; lomhlaba ababehlala kuwo wawungasoze ubathwale bobabili ngenxa yezifuyo zabo. <sup>8</sup> Yikho u-Esawu (kutshiwo u-Edomi) wayakwakha elizweni lamaqaqa elaseSeyiri.

<sup>9</sup> Lo ngumlando ka-Esawu uyise wama-Edomi elizweni lamaqaqa elaseSeyiri.

<sup>10</sup> La ngamabizo amadodana ka-Esawu:

U-Elifazi, indodana yomka Esawu u-Ada, lo Ruweli indodana yomka-Esawu uBhasemathi.

<sup>11</sup> Amadodana ka-Elifazi:

uThemani, lo-Omari, loZefo, loGathamu loKhenazi.

<sup>12</sup> Indodana ka-Esawu u-Elifazi

wayelomfazi weceleni njalo owayethiwa nguThimina, owamzalela u-Amaleki. Laba babengabazukulu baka-Ada umka-Esawu.

<sup>13</sup> Amadodana kaRuweli:

uNahathi, loZera, loShama loMiza.

Laba bebengabazukulu bomka-Esawu uBhasemathi umka-Esawu.

<sup>14</sup> Amadodana kamka-Esawu

u-Oholibhama, indodakazi ka-Ana, njalo engumzukulu kaZibheyoni, awazalela uEsawu yila:

uJewushi, uJalamu loKhora.

<sup>15</sup> Laba babeyizinduna kwabosendo luka-

Esawu: Amadodana ka-Elifazi izibulo lika-Esawu: Izinduna oThemani, lo-Omari, loZefo, loKhenazi, <sup>16</sup> loKhora, loGatami, lo-Amaleki. Lezi zaziyizinduna ezidabuka ku-Elifazi, e-Edomi; zazingabazukulu baka-Ada.

<sup>17</sup> Amadodana kaRuweli indodana ka-Esawu:

Izinduna oNahathi, loZera, loShama loMiza. Lezizinduna zazidabuka kuRuweli e-Edomi; zazingabazukulu bakaBhasemathi umka-Esawu.

<sup>18</sup> Amadodana ka-Oholibhama, umka-Esawu: Izinduna oJewushi, loJalamu loKhora. Lezi zaziyizinduna ezazidabuka kumka-Esawu, u-Oholibhama, indodakazi ka-Ana.

<sup>19</sup> La ayengamadodana ka-Esawu (kutshiwo u-Edomi), njalo bona babeyizinduna zabo.

<sup>20</sup> La ayengamadodana kaSeyiri umHori, ababehlala kuwona lowo ummango: U-Lothani, loShobhali, loZibheyoni, lo-Ana, <sup>21</sup> loDishoni, lo-Ezeri loDishani.

La amadodana kaSeyiri e-Edomi ayeyizinduna zamaHori.

<sup>22</sup> Amadodana kaLothani:

uHori loHomami. UThimina wayengudadewabo kaLothani.

<sup>23</sup> Amadodana kaShobhali:

u-Alivani, loManahathi, lo-Ebhali, loShefo lo-Onami.

<sup>24</sup> Amadodana kaZibheyoni:

u-Ayiya lo-Ana. Lo nguye u-Ana owafumana izintombo zamanzi atshisayo enkangala eselusa obabhemi bakayise uZibheyoni.

<sup>25</sup> Abantwana baka-Ana:

- uDishoni lo-Oholibhama indodakazi ka-Ana.
- <sup>26</sup> Amadodana kaDishoni:  
uHemidani, lo-Eshibhani, lo-Ithirani loKherani.
- <sup>27</sup> Amadodana ka-Ezeri:  
uBhilihani, loZavani lo-Akhani.
- <sup>28</sup> Amadodana kaDishani:  
u-Uzi lo-Arani.
- <sup>29</sup> Laba babeyizinduna zamaHori:  
ULothani, loShobhali, loZibheyoni, lo- Ana, <sup>30</sup> uDishoni, lo-Ezeri loDishani, laba babeyizinduna zamaHori kusiya ngezigaba zabo elizweni laseSeyiri.
- Ababusi base-Edomi*
- <sup>31</sup> La ayengamakhosi abusa e-Edomi kungakabusi inkosi yako-Israyeli:
- <sup>32</sup> UBhela indodana kaBhewori waba yinkosi e-Edomi. Idolobho lakhe lalibizwa ngokuthi yiDinhaba.
- <sup>33</sup> UBhela esefile, uJobabi indodana kaZera waseBhozira wathatha isikhundla sobukhosi.
- <sup>34</sup> UJobabi esefile, uHushami waselizweni lamaThemani wathatha isikhundla sobukhosi.
- <sup>35</sup> UHushami esefile, uHadadi indodana kaBhedadi, owanqoba uMidiyani elizweni laseMowabi, wathatha isikhundla sobukhosi. Idolobho lakhe lalibizwa ngokuthi yi-Avithi.
- <sup>36</sup> UHadadi esefile, uSamula waseMasireka wathatha isikhundla sobukhosi. <sup>37</sup> USamula esefile, uShawuli waseRehobhothi phezu komfula wathatha isikhundla sobukhosi.
- <sup>38</sup> UShawuli esefile, uBhali-Hanani indodana ka-Akhibhori wathatha isikhundla sobukhosi.

- <sup>39</sup> UBhali-Hanani indodana ka-Akhibhori esefile, uHadadi wathatha isikhundla sobukhosi. Idolobho lakhe labizwa ngokuthi yiPawu; njalo ibizo lomkakhe lalinguMehethabeli indodakazi kaMathiredi, indodakazi kaMe-Zahabi.
- <sup>40</sup> Lezi zaziyizinduna ezadabuka ku-Esawu, ngamabizo azo, kusiya ngosendo lwazo lezigodi zazo:  
UThimina, u-Aliva, uJethethi, <sup>41</sup> lo-Oholibhama, u-Ela, uPhinoni, <sup>42</sup> loKhenazi, loThemani, loMibhizari, <sup>43</sup> uMagidiyeli lo-Iramu. Lezi zaziyizinduna ze-Edomi, kusiya ngokuhlala kwabo elizweni ababakhe kulo.  
Nguye-ke u-Esawu uyise wama-Edomi.

*Amaphupho kaJosefa*

**37** UJakhobe wahlala elizweni lapho uyise laye ahlala kulo, ilizwe laseKhenani.

<sup>2</sup> Lo ngumlando kaJakhobe.

UJosefa ijaha elalileminyaka elitshumi lesikhombisa, wayeselusa imihlambi yezimvu labanewabo, amadodana kaBhiliha lamadodana kaZilipha, abafazi bakayise, wasebaceba kuyise.

<sup>3</sup> U-Israyeli wasuka wamthanda uJosefa okwedlula wonke amanye amadodana akhe, ngoba wamzala eseluphele; yikho wamenzela ijazi eliceciswe kakhulu. <sup>4</sup> Kwathi abafowabo bebona ukuthi uyise wayemthanda okudlula bonke abanye bamzonda kabaze bake bamkhulumise ngothando.

<sup>5</sup> UJosefa waphupha, wathi esebatshelile ngephupho lakhe bamzonda ngokudlulayo. <sup>6</sup> Wathi kubo, “Zwanini iphupho engibe lalo: <sup>7</sup> besibopha izithungo zamabele

sisemasimini lapho okuthe masinyane esami isithungo saphakama sema saqonda, kwathi ezenu izithungo zasihonqolozela esami, zasikhothamela phansi”

<sup>8</sup> Abanewabo bathi kuye. “Ufisa ukubusa phezu kwethu na? Utsho ukuthi uzasibusa ngoqotho na?” Base-bemzonda ngamandla ngenxa yephupho lakhe lalokho ayekutshilo.

<sup>9</sup> Waphinda waba lelinye iphupho, walitshela abanewabo. Wathi, “Lalelani, ngibe lalo elinye iphupho, kuleli, ilanga lenyanga kanye lezinkanyezi ezilitshumi lanye zazingikhothamela phansi.”

<sup>10</sup> Wathi eselitshele uyise njalo labanewabo uyise wamkhalimela wathi, “Liphupho bani leli oliphuphileyo? Utsho ukuthi unyoko lami labanewenu sizaguqa phansi emhlabathini sibili siguqela wena?” <sup>11</sup> Abanewabo bamcaphukela, kodwa uyise wayigcina engqondweni yakhe indaba le.

#### *UJosefa Uthengiswa Ngabafowabo*

<sup>12</sup> Abanewabo basuka bahamba lemihlambi kayise emadlelweni eduze kweShekemu, <sup>13</sup> U-Israyeli wathi kuJosefa, “Njengoba usazi abanewenu basemadlelweni lemihlambi eduze kweShekemu. Lalela-ke, ngifuna ukukuthuma kubo.” Waphendula wathi, “Kulungile.”

<sup>14</sup> Yikho wasesithi kuye, “Hamba uyebona ingabe abafowenu bayaphila yini kanye lemihlambi, ukuze ubuye uzongazisa.” Lakanye wamvalelisa esuka Esigodini saseHebhroni.

UJosefa esefikile eShekemu, <sup>15</sup> wafunyanwa yindoda ezula egangeni yambuza yathi, “Udingani?”

<sup>16</sup> Waphendula wathi, “Ngidinga abafowethu. Kambe ungangitshela ukuthi belusela ngaphi imihlambi yabo na?”

<sup>17</sup> Indoda yaphendula yathi, “Sebesukile lapha. Ngabezwa besithi, ‘Kasiyeni eDothani.’”

Ngakho uJosefa wabalandela abafowabo wayabafumana eduze kweDothani. <sup>18</sup> Kodwa bambona esesekude, wathi engakafiki kubo bakha icebo lokumbulala.

<sup>19</sup> Batshelana bathi, “Nanguyana umphuphi loyana esiza. <sup>20</sup> Zwanini, kasimbulaleni simphosele kwelinye lamagodi la besesisithi udliwe yisilo esesabekayo. Besesibona-ke ukuthi azaphelela ngaphi amaphupho akhe.”

<sup>21</sup> URubheni wathi esekuzwile lokhu wazama ukuthi amlamlele ezandleni zabo. Wathi, “Kasingacimi impilo yakhe. <sup>22</sup> Lingachithi gazi. Mphoseleni emgodini lo lapha enkangala, kodwa lingambeki isandla.” URubheni watsho lokhu ukuze amlamlele kubo abesembuyisela kuyise.

<sup>23</sup> Yikho kwathi uJosefa efika kubafowabo, bamhlabula ijazi lakhe – elalibalazwe kakuhle ayeligqokile – <sup>24</sup> bamthatha bayamphosela emgodini. Umgodi lo wawuze, kungelamanzi phakathi kwawo.

<sup>25</sup> Bathi sebehlezi phansi ukuthi badle, bathi baphosa amehlo babona udwendwe lwama-Ishmayeli luvelela eGileyadi. Amakamela abo ayethwele esisitheka ngeziyoliso, ibhami lemure, konke lokhu bekuthwalela eGibhithe.

<sup>26</sup> UJuda wathi kubafowabo, “Sizazuzani uma sibulala umfowethu sigqibele igazi lakhe na? <sup>27</sup> Zwanini, kasimthengiseni kuma-Ishmayeli thina singambeki sandla; kambe yena evele engumfowethu, eyinyama yethu legazi lethu.” Abafowabo bavuma.

<sup>28</sup> Yikho kwathi abathengisi bamaMidiyani besedlula abafowabo bamkhupha uJosefa emgodini bamthengisa ngamashekeli esiliva

angamatshumi amabili kuma-Ishmayeli, amthatha aya laye eGibhithe.

<sup>29</sup>URubheni wathi esebuyela emgodini wafumana uJosefa engasekho, wasedabula izigqoko zakhe ngokudabuka. <sup>30</sup>Wabuyela kubafowabo wathi, “Umfana kasekho! Sengizakwenzanjani manje?”

<sup>31</sup>Basebethatha ijazi likaJosefa, babulala imbuzi basebegxamuza ijazi lelo egazini. <sup>32</sup>Balithatha ijazi lokuceciswa babuyela lalo kuyise bathi, “Silidobhile. Ake ulikhangele kuhle kumbe lijazi lendodana yakho.”

<sup>33</sup>Lakanye walibona liyilo wathi, “Lijazi lendodana yami. Udliwe yisilo esesabekayo. Ngempela uJosefa usedlithizwe waba yizicucu.”

<sup>34</sup>UJakhobe wasedabula izigqoko zakhe, wagqoka ezamasaka walilela indodana yakhe okwezinsuku ezinengi.

<sup>35</sup>Wonke amadodana akhe lamadodakazi beza ukuzamduduzza, kodwa kavumanga ukududuzeka. Wathi, “Hatshi, ngizakuya ethuneni ngilila nginje, ngiye endodaneni yami.” Uyise wamkhalela kanjalo.

<sup>36</sup>Kusenjalo, amaMidiyani amthengisa uJosefa eGibhithe kuPhothifa, omunye wezikhulu zikaFaro, owayengumlawuli wabalindi.

### *UJuda loThamari*

**38** Ngalesosikhathi uJuda watshiya abafowabo wahamba wayahlala lendoda yase-Adulani eyayithiwa nguHira. <sup>2</sup>Khonale uJuda wabonana lendodakazi yendoda engumKhenani eyayithiwa nguShuwa. Wayithatha wembatha layo; <sup>3</sup>yathatha isisu yazala indodana yathiwa ngu-Eri. <sup>4</sup>Wazithwala njalo wazala indodana wayithi ngu-Onani. <sup>5</sup>Wazala njalo enye indodana wayithi nguShela. Le wayizalela eKhezibi.

<sup>6</sup>UJuda wazuzela u-Eri izibulo lakhe umfazi, ibizo lakhe linguThamari.

<sup>7</sup>Kodwa u-Eri izibulo likaJuda, wayengcolile emehlweni kaJehova; yikho uJehova wambulala.

<sup>8</sup>UJuda wasesithi ku-Onani, “Lala lomkamfowenu ugcwalise umlandu wakho njengomfowabo uzalele umfowenu abantwana.” <sup>9</sup>Kodwa u-Onani wakwazi ukuthi inzalo leyo yayingezukuba ngeyakhe; yikho kwakusithi sonke isikhathi angalala lomkamfowabo achithele phansi emhlabathini inhlanyelo ukuze angaze azalele umfowabo abantwana. <sup>10</sup>Lokho ayekwenza kwakukubi emehlweni kaJehova; yikho laye wambulala.

<sup>11</sup>UJuda wasesithi kumalokazana wakhe uThamari, “Hamba uyohlala njengomfelokazi emzini kayihlo indodana yami uShela ize ikhule.” Phela wanakana wathi, “Laye angafa njengabanewabo.” Ngakho uThamari wahamba wayahlala kwabo.

<sup>12</sup>Ngemva kwesikhathi eside umkaJuda, indodakazi kaShuwa wafa. Kwathi uJuda eseduduzekile waya eThimina, emadodeni ayegunda izimvu zakhe, ehamba lomngane wakhe uHira umAdulami.

<sup>13</sup>Kwathi uThamari esetsheliwe kwathiwa, “Uyihlozala uyeza eThimina ukuzagunda izimvu zakhe,” <sup>14</sup>wakhulula izigqoko zakhe zokuzila wazimboza ngeveli ukuzifihla, wasehlala phansi duzane lesango lase-Enayimi, elisendleleni yaseThimina. Ngoba wabona ukuthi loba uShela wayesekhulile kodwa yena Thamari wayelokhu engamphiwanga ukuthi abe ngumfazi wakhe.

<sup>15</sup>UJuda wathi embona wacabanga ukuthi libele lendlela, ngokuba wayezimbozile ubuso. <sup>16</sup>Kwathi ngoba engamboni ukuthi ngumalokazana wakhe waya kuye eceleni komgwaqo

wathi, "Woza manje, ngifuna ukulala lawe."

Yena wabuza wathi, "Uzangiphani ngingalala lawe?"

<sup>17</sup>Wathi, "Ngizakuthumezela izinyane lembuzi emhlambini wami."

"Uzangipha na ulutho lube yisibambiso ungakalithumezi?" kubuza uThamari.

<sup>18</sup>Wathi, "Ngikuphe sibambiso bani?"

Waphendula wathi, "Isilengiso sophawu lwakho lentambo yaso, kanye lodondolo lwakho oluphetheyo." Yikho wamupha lezozinto waselala laye, wahle wammithisa. <sup>19</sup>Esesuka lapho uThamari wakhumula iveli lakhe wagqoka izigqoko zakhe zokuzila njalo.

<sup>20</sup>Kusenjalo uJuda wathumezela izinyane lembuzi ngomngane wakhe umAdulami ukuze abuyiselwe isibambiso sakhe esasikowesifazana lowo, kodwa wamswela. <sup>21</sup>Wabuza amadoda ayehlala lapho wathi, "Lingaphi lelobele lendlela lesikhonzelo elalilapha eceleni komgwaqo e-Enayimi na?"

Athi, "Kakuzange kube khona lowomuntu lapha."

<sup>22</sup>Ngakho wasebuyela kuJuda wayakuthi, "Kangimfumananga. Futhi amadoda lawo ayehlala khona athi kakuzange kube lesifebe sesikhonzelo lapho."

<sup>23</sup>UJuda wasesithi, "Myekele ahle akugcine khonokho alakho funa sicine sesiyinhlekisa. Ingqe yikuthi mina bengimthumezele izinyane lembuzi, kodwa kawusamfumananga."

<sup>24</sup>Ngemva kwezinyanga ezintathu uJuda watshelwa ukuthi umalokazana wakhe uThamari wayesefebile wasethatha isisu.

UJuda wathi, "Mkhupheni, atshiswe aze afe."

<sup>25</sup>Kwathi khona lapho ekhutshwa wathumela ilizwi kuyisezala wathi, "Ngamithiswa yindoda engumnikazi walezi izinto." Wengeza ngokuthi, "Akubone longabe uthi ngesikabani isilengiso sophawu lesi lentambo kanye lodondolo lolu."

<sup>26</sup>UJuda wazazi izinto lezo wathi, "Ulungile kulami, ngoba kangisamphanga endodaneni yami uShela." Kasaphindanga wembatha laye njalo.

<sup>27</sup>Kwathi isikhathi sakhe sokubeletha sesifikile, wayelamaphahla angabafana esiswini. <sup>28</sup>Wathi khonapho ebeletha omunye wawo wakhupha isandla; yikho umbelethisi wathatha intambo ebomvu wayibophela esihlakaleni sesandla salo wathi, "Leli yilo eliphume kuqala." <sup>29</sup>Kodwa labuyisela isandla, umfowabo waphuma kuqala, wasesithi, "Wo, yiyo indlela ofohle ngayo le!" Laseliphiwa ibizo elithi nguPherezi. <sup>30</sup>Yikho umfowabo, owayelentambo esihlakaleni, waphuma wathiwa ibizo elithi Zera.

*UJosefa LomkaPhothifa*

## 39 Ngalesi isikhathi uJosefa

wasewasiwa eGibhithe. UPhothifa, owayengomunye wezikhulu zikaFaro, eyindunankulu yabalindi, wamthenga kuma-Ishmayeli abayibo abamletha khona.

<sup>2</sup>UJehova wayelaye uJosefa, waphumelela, wahlala endlini yenkosi yakhe umGibhithe. <sup>3</sup>Kwathi inkosi yakhe ikubona ukuthi uJehova wayelaye lokuthi uJehova wamphumelelisa kukho konke ayekwenza, <sup>4</sup>uJosefa wasethandeka kuye wasesiba yinceku yakhe. UPhothifa wasembeka ukuba ngumphathi womuzi wakhe kwathi konke ayelakho wakubeka ezandleni zakhe. <sup>5</sup>Kusukela ngesikhathi embeka

ukuba ngumphathi womuzi wakhe lakho konke okwakungokwakhe, uJehova wawubusisa umuzi womGibhithe ngenxa kaJosefa. Isibusiso sikaJehova saba phezu kwakho konke uPhothifa ayelakho, loba kusendlini loba kusensimini. <sup>6</sup>Yikho watshiya konke okwakhe ezandleni zikaJosefa; kwathi ngoba uJosefa enguye ophetheyo wakhohlwa ngakho konke ngaphandle kokudla ayekudla.

UJosefa lo wayemi kuhle, ebukeya, <sup>7</sup>kwasekusithi ngemva kwesikhathi inkosikazi yenkosi yakhe yathatheka ngoJosefa yathi, “Woza engutsheni lami!”

<sup>8</sup>Kodwa wala. Wamtshela wathi, “Njengoba kuyimi engiphetheyo, inkosi yami kayizihluphi ngalutho emzini wayo; yonke into elayo iyibeke ezandleni zami. <sup>9</sup>Kakho omkhulu kulami kulumuzi. Inkosi yami kayingalisi lutho ngaphandle kwakho, ngoba wena ungumkayo. Pho ngingayenza kanjani into embi kanje ngenze isono kuNkulunkulu na?” <sup>10</sup>Kwathi loba wamphikelela uJosefa insuku ngensuku, wala ukulala laye wala lokuthi ahlale laye.

<sup>11</sup>Ngolunye usuku wangena endlini ukuqhuba umsebenzi wakhe, izisebenzi zasendlini zingekho phakathi endlini. <sup>12</sup>UmkaPhothifa wambamba ngesigqoko wathi, “Woza engutsheni lami!” Kodwa waphunyuka wabaleka waphuma endlini isigqoko sakhe sasala esandleni sowesifazana.

<sup>13</sup>Kwathi ebona ukuthi utshiye isigqoko sakhe esandleni sakhe njalo wabaleka endlini, <sup>14</sup>owesifazana wamemeza izisebenzi zendlini wathi kuzo, “Khangelani, umHebheru lo walethwa lapha ukuzadlala ngathi! Ungene lapha efuna ukulala lami, kodwa ngahlaba umkhosi. <sup>15</sup>Uthe esizwa ngihlaba umkhosi ngidinga uncedo,

wasetshiya isigqoko sakhe eceleni kwami wabaleka waphuma endlini.”

<sup>16</sup>Wasigcina isigqoko eceleni kwakhe inkosi kaJosefa yaze yabuya ngekhaya.

<sup>17</sup>Yikho waseyitshela indaba le wathi: “Isigqili somHebheru lesiyana owasilethela sona sifikile kimi ukuzadlala ngami. <sup>18</sup>Kodwa ngonele ukuthi ngihlabe umkhosi ngidinga uncedo, utshiye isigqoko sakhe eceleni kwami wabaleka waphuma endlini.”

<sup>19</sup>Kwathi inkosi yakhe isizwile indaba eyayitshelwa ngumfazi esithi, “Singenze njalo isigqili sakho,” yazonda yabila. <sup>20</sup>Inkosi yakhe uJosefa yamthatha yamphosela entolongweni, indawo lapho okwakutokisiswa khona izibotshwa zenkosi.

Kodwa kwathi uJosefa ekhonapho entolongweni, <sup>21</sup>uJehova waba laye; wamenzela umusa wamenza wathandeka emehlweni omphathijele. <sup>22</sup>Kwathi-ke umphathijele wamkhweza wamenza umphathi wabo bonke ababebotshiwe besentolongweni, njalo kwaba nguye okhangele konke okwakusenziwa khona. <sup>23</sup>Umpathijele kazange azihluphe loba ngani eyayiphethwe nguJosefa, ngokuba uJehova wayelaye uJosefa wamupha impumelelo kukho konke ayekwenza.

### *UJosefa Uchasisa Amaphupho*

## 40 Ngesinye isikhathi samuva

kwalokhu umphathinkezo lompheki wesinkwa, abenkosi yaseGibhithe bayizondisa inkosi yabo, inkosi yaseGibhithe. <sup>2</sup>UFaro wayezizondele izikhulu zakhe zombili, umphathinkezo omkhulu lompheki wezinkwa omkhulu, <sup>3</sup>wabaphosela entolongweni eyayisendlini kandunankulu wabalindi, kuyona leyontolongo uJosefa ayetokisiswe khona. <sup>4</sup>Undunankulu

wabalindi wabaqhubela kuJosefa, wabalawula.

Kwathi sebehlale entolongweni okwesikhathi esithile, <sup>5</sup> ngulowo wamadoda la amabili – umphathinkezo lompheki wesinkwa, abenkosi yaseGibhithe, ababetokisile – baphupha amaphupho ngabusuku bunye, kwathi yilelo iphupho laba lengcazelo yalo.

<sup>6</sup> Kwathi uJosefa efika kubo ngakusasa ekuseni, wabona bebunile. <sup>7</sup> Wasezibuza izikhulu zikaFaro ezazisentolongweni kanye laye endlini yenkosi yakhe wathi, “Kungani ubuso benu bubunile kanje lamuhla na?”

<sup>8</sup> Baphendula bathi, “Sobabili siphuphile, kodwa kakho ongasichasisela amaphupho ethu.”

Yikho uJosefa wasesithi kubo, “Izingcazelo kasizikaNkulunkulu na? Ngitshelani amaphupho enu.”

<sup>9</sup> Yikho umphathinkezo omkhulu wantshela uJosefa ngephupho lakhe. Wathi kuye, “Ephutsheni lami ngibone isihlahla sevini siphambi kwami, <sup>10</sup> lelovini lilamagatsha amathathu. Lonela ukununkula lahle laqhakaza, amaxha alo ahle avuthwa aba yizithelo ezivuthiweyo. <sup>11</sup> Inkezo kaFaro ibisesandleni sami, ngawathatha amagilebisi ngawakhamela enkezweni kaFaro ngamqhubela esandleni sakhe.”

<sup>12</sup> UJosefa wathi kuye, “Nanku elikutshoyo. Amagatsha amathathu yizinsuku ezintathu. <sup>13</sup> Phakathi kwezinsuku ezintathu uFaro uzaphakamisa ikhanda lakho akubuyisele esikhundleni sakho, njalo uzayibeka inkezo kaFaro esandleni sakhe njengalokhu owawuvele ukwenza usesengumphathinkezo yakhe. <sup>14</sup> Kodwa nxa konke sekulungile ungikhumbule, ungivezele umusa; ungikhulumele kuFaro ukuze ngiphume kule intolongo. <sup>15</sup> Ngoba ngasuswa ngamandla

elizweni lamaHebheru, futhi lapha kangenzanga lutho olufanele ukuthi ngifakwe entolongweni.”

<sup>16</sup> Kwathi umpheki wezinkwa omkhulu ebona ukuthi uJosefa wayenike ingcazelo emnandi, wathi kuJosefa, “Lami njalo ngiphuphile: Phezu kwekhanda lami bekulezitsha zesinkwa ezintathu. <sup>17</sup> Esitsheni esiphezulu bekulemihlobo yonke yalokho okubhakelwe uFaro, kodwa izinyoni zazilokhu zitshobola esitsheni sisekhanda lami.”

<sup>18</sup> UJosefa wathi, “Nanku elikutshoyo. Izitsha ezintathu ziyinsuku ezintathu. <sup>19</sup> Phakathi kwezinsuku ezintathu uFaro uzaliphakamisa ikhanda lakho akulengise esihlahleni. Izinyoni zizakudla inyama yakho.”

<sup>20</sup> Ilanga lesithathu laliyisikhumbuzo sokuzalwa kukaFaro, yikho wenzela izikhulu zakhe idili. Waphakamisa amakhanda elikumphathinkezo omkhulu lelikampheki wezinkwa omkhulu phambi kwezikhulu zakhe: <sup>21</sup> Wabuyisela umphathinkezo esikhundleni sakhe, waphinda njalo ukubeka inkezo esandleni sikaFaro, <sup>22</sup> kodwa walengisa umpheki wezinkwa omkhulu, kwaba njengoba uJosefa wayetshilo kubo ekubachasiseleni kwakhe.

<sup>23</sup> Kodwa umphathinkezo omkhulu kasamkhumbulanga uJosefa; wakhohlwa ngaye.

### *Amaphupho kaFaro*

**41** Kwathi sekudlule iminyaka emibili egcweleyo uFaro waphupha: Wazibona emi ekhunjini likaNayili, <sup>2</sup> kwasekuqhamuka emfuleni lowo amankomokazi ayisikhombisa, egcwele enonile, esidla phakathi kwemihlanga. <sup>3</sup> Ngemva kwawo kwathutsha amanye ayisikhombisa, amabi, njalo acakileyo

ephuma kuNayili afika ema eceleni kwalawo ayesekhunjini lomfula.

<sup>4</sup> Kwathi amankomokazi lawo ayemabi ecakile aginya lawo ayisikhombisa ayegcwele enonile. UFaro wasephaphama.

<sup>5</sup> Wabuye walala waphupha okwesibili: Izikhwebu zamabele eziyisikhombisa, zigcwele zinhle, zazikhula ehlangeni lunye. <sup>6</sup> Ngemva kwazo kwakhula ezinye izikhwebu eziyisikhombisa – zicakile njalo zibuniswe ngumoya wasempumalanga. <sup>7</sup> Izikhwebu lezo ezazicakile zaginya lezo eziyisikhombisa ezaziphilile, zigcwele. UFaro wasephaphama, kwakuliphupho nje.

<sup>8</sup> Ekuseni umoya wakhe wawukhathazekile, yikho wasesithi kakubizwe bonke omasalamusi lezihlakaniphi zaseGibhithe. UFaro wabatshele amaphupho akhe, kodwa kakho owakwaziyo ukuwachasisa.

<sup>9</sup> Yikho umphathinkezo omkhulu wathi kuFaro, “Lamuhla sengikhumbula amaphutha ami. <sup>10</sup> Kwake kwathi uFaro wazondela izinceku zakhe, wangitokisisa mina kanye lompheki omkhulu endlini kandunankulu wabalindi. <sup>11</sup> Ngamunye wethu waba lephupho ngobunye ubusuku bunye, kwaba yilelophupho lilencazelo yalo lodwa. <sup>12</sup> Kwalulejaha lomHebheru khonapho lathi, liyinceku kandunankulu wabalindi. Salitshela amaphupho ethu, wasicasisela wona, esipha ngulowo ingcazelo yephupho lakhe. <sup>13</sup> Izinto zacina zisima njengokusicasisela kwakhe: ngabuyiselwa esikhundleni sami, lomkhula wami walengiswa.”

<sup>14</sup> Yikho uFaro wabiza uJosefa, walethwa masinyane esuka entolongweni. Kwathi esephucile indevu, wantshintsha izigqoko weza phambi kukaFaro.

<sup>15</sup> UFaro wathi kuJosefa, “Ngiphuphile iphupho kodwa kakho ongangicasisela lona. Kodwa ngizwa kuthiwa wena, nxa ungalizwa iphupho uyalicasisa.”

<sup>16</sup> UJosefa wamphendula uFaro wathi, “Ngeke ngikwenze, kodwa uNkulunkulu uzamnika uFaro impendulo ayidingayo.”

<sup>17</sup> UFaro wasesithi kuJosefa, “Ephutsheni lami bengimi ekhunjini likaNayili, <sup>18</sup> ngasengibona kuqhamuka amankomokazi ayisikhombisa, anonileyo, egcwele, esidla phakathi kwemihlanga. <sup>19</sup> Ngemva kwawo kwaqhamuka amanye amankomokazi ayisikhombisa – etshwabhene, emabi kakhulu futhi ecakile. Ngangingakaze ngibone amankomokazi amabi kangako kulo lonke elase-Gibhithe. <sup>20</sup> Lawo mankomokazi acakileyo, amabi adla layana amankomokazi ayisikhombisa ayenonile ayiwo aqhamuka kuqala. <sup>21</sup> Kodwa loba esewadlile lawo kakho owayengatsho ukuthi atheni; ayelokhu emabi njengakuqala. Yikho ngasengiphaphama.

<sup>22</sup> “Emaphutsheni ami ngibone njalo izikhwebu zamabele eziyisikhombisa, zigcwele, njalo zinhle zikhula ehlangeni lunye. <sup>23</sup> Ngemva kwazo, kwahluma ezinye izikhwebu eziyisikhombisa – zibunile njalo zicakile, zitshazwe ngumoya wempumalanga.

<sup>24</sup> Lezozikhwebu zamabele ezicakileyo zaginya leziyana eziyisikhombisa ezinhle. Ngibatshelile omasalamusi ngalokhu kodwa kakho okwazileyo ukungicasisela.”

<sup>25</sup> UJosefa wasesithi kuFaro, “Amaphupho kaFaro ayilutho lunye. UNkulunkulu usevezile kuFaro lokho asezakwenza. <sup>26</sup> Amankomokazi ayisikhombisa amahle ayiminyaka eyisikhombisa, njalo lezikhwebu zamabele ezinhle ziyiminyaka eyisikhombisa; kuliphupho linye. <sup>27</sup> Amankomokazi ayisikhombisa eza



muva yiminyaka eyisikhombisa, kanjalo lezikhwebu eziyisikhombisa ezazingelamsebenzi, zitshazwe ngumoya wempumalanga: Yiminyaka eyisikhombisa yendlala.

<sup>28</sup>“Kunjengokuba ngitshilo kuFaro. UNkulunkulu usevezile kuFaro lokho azakwenza. <sup>29</sup>Sekusiza iminyaka eyisikhombisa eyenala enkulu kulo lonke elaseGibhithe, <sup>30</sup>kodwa izalandelwa yiminyaka eyisikhombisa eyendlala. Kuzakuthi yonke inala enkulu eGibhithe, ikhohlakale, ngoba indlala izalibhubhisa ilizwe. <sup>31</sup>Inala elizweni izabe ingasakhunjulwa, ngoba indlala eyilandelayo izabe inkulu kakhulu. <sup>32</sup>Isizatho sokuthi iphupho liphiwe uFaro ngezindlela ezimbili yingoba indaba isimisiwe yaqiniswa nguNkulunkulu, njalo uNkulunkulu ezakukwenza masinyane.

<sup>33</sup>”Akuthi-ke uFaro adinge indoda elombono ehlakaniphileyo ayibeke phezu kwelizwe laseGibhithe. <sup>34</sup>UFaro abesekeletha abalisa elizweni abazathatha ingxenye eyodwa kwezinhlanu yesivuno saseGibhithe ngeminyaka yenala eyisikhombisa. <sup>35</sup>Kumele baqoqe konke ukudla ngale iminyaka emihle ezayo bakugcine ukudla ngaphansi kukaFaro, kugcinwe emadolobheni ukuthi kube yikudla. <sup>36</sup>Ukudla lokhu kakugcinelwe ilizwe kulondolozelwe ukusetshenziswa ngeminyaka eyisikhombisa yendlala ezafika eGibhithe, ukwenzela ukuthi ilizwe lingabhujiswa yindlala.”

<sup>37</sup>Icebo leli lakhanya lilihle kuFaro lakuzo zonke izikhulu zakhe. <sup>38</sup>UFaro wasezibuza wathi, “Kambe singamfumana yini omunye onjengendoda le, umuntu olomoya kaNkulunkulu?”

<sup>39</sup>UFaro wasesithi kuJosefa, “Njengoba uNkulunkulu esekwazisile konke lokhu, kakho olombono onje

lohlakaniphileyo njengawe. <sup>40</sup>Wena-ke usuzaphatha isigodlo sami, kuthi bonke abantu bami bazalalela iziqondiso zakho. Mina ngizaba mkhulu kulawe ngesikhundla sesihlalo sobukhosi sami kuphela.”

*UJosefa Uphatha Ilizwe laseGibhithe*

<sup>41</sup>Yikho uFaro wasesithi kuJosefa, “Sengikubeka ukuthi wena uliphathe lonke ilizwe laseGibhithe.” <sup>42</sup>UFaro wasethatha indandatho yophawu lwakhe eyayisemunweni wakhe wayifaka emunweni kaJosefa. Wamgqokisa izingubo zelineni elihle wamgqizisa iketane yegolide entanyeni. <sup>43</sup>Kwathiwa usezahamba ngenqola yempi njengoba esenguye umsekeli wakhe oseduze, kwathi edlula abantu bahalalisa bathi, “Vulani indlela!” Wambeka-ke ukuthi apathe ilizwe lonke laseGibhithe.

<sup>44</sup>UFaro wasesithi kuJosefa, “Mina nginguFaro, kodwa ngaphandle kwelizwi lakho kakho ozasiphakamisa isandla loba unyawo kulo lonke elaseGibhithe.”

<sup>45</sup>UFaro wetha uJosefa ibizo elithi Zafenathi – Phaneya, wamupha u-Asenathi indodakazi kaPhothifera, umphristi wase-Oni ukuba abe ngumkakhe. UJosefa walibhoda lonke ilizwe laseGibhithe.

<sup>46</sup>UJosefa wayeleminyaka engamatshumi amathathu yobudala eqalisa ukusebenzela uFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe. UJosefa wasuka phambi kukaFaro walibhoda lonke ilizwe laseGibhithe. <sup>47</sup>Ngeminyaka eyisikhombisa eyenala umhlaba wathela ukudla okunengi kakhulu. <sup>48</sup>UJosefa wakuqoqa konke ukudla okwavunwa phakathi kwaleyominyaka eyisikhombisa eyenala eGibhithe wakulondoloza emadolobheni. Kulelo lalelo idolobho wabeka ukudla

okwakulinywa emasimini aleyondawo. <sup>49</sup>UJosefa waqoqa izinqwaba lezinqwaba zamabele, kwaba njengetshebetshebe lolwandle. Kwaba kunengi waze wayekela ukukubhala phansi ngoba kwasekungaphezu kokulinganiswa.

<sup>50</sup>Ingakafiki iminyaka yendlala, u-Asenathi, indododakazi kaPhothifera, umphristi ka-Oni wazalela uJosefa amadodana amabili. <sup>51</sup>UJosefa wetha izibulo lakhe wathi nguManase, esithi, “Kungenxa yokuthi uNkulunkulu wenzile ukuthi ngilukhohlwe lonke uhlupho lwami kanye layo yonke indlu kababa.”

<sup>52</sup>Indodana yesibili wayibiza ngokuthi ngu-Efrayimi, wathi, “Kungenxa yokuthi uNkulunkulu ungenze ngaba lezithelo elizweni lokuhlupheka kwami.”

<sup>53</sup>Iminyaka yenala eyisikhombisa eGibhithe yaphela, <sup>54</sup>kwaqalisa iminyaka yendlala eyisikhombisa, njengoba uJosefa wayetshilo. Indlala yaba khona kuwo wonke amanye amazwe, kodwa kulo lonke ilizwe laseGibhithe ukudla kwakukhona. <sup>55</sup>Kwathi lapho iGibhithe lonke selingenelwa yindlala abantu bazibika kuFaro befuna ukudla. Yikho uFaro wasebatshela bonke abaseGibhithe wathi, “Yanini kuJosefa lenze lokho alitshela khona.”

<sup>56</sup>Kwathi indlala isimemetheke kulo lonke ilizwe uJosefa wavula iziphala wawathengisela amaGibhithe ukudla ngoba indlala yase ibhahile kulo lonke ilizwe laseGibhithe. <sup>57</sup>Kwathi wonke amanye amazwe eza eGibhithe ezothenga amabele kuJosefa, ngoba indlala yayibhahile kuwo wonke umhlaba.

*Abafowabo BakaJosefa Baya eGibhithe*

**42** Kwathi uJakhobe esezwile ukuthi amabele ayekhona eGibhithe wathi

kumadodana akhe, “Kungani likhangelana nje?” <sup>2</sup>Waqhubeka wathi, “Sengizwile ukuthi amabele akhona eGibhithe. Yehlani liye khona liyosithengela wona ukuze siphile singafi.”

<sup>3</sup>Yikho abanewabo bakaJosefa behla bayathenga amabele eGibhithe. <sup>4</sup>Kodwa uJakhobe kamthumanga labanye uBhenjamini, umnawakhe kaJosefa ngoba wesaba ukuthi angaqabuka ewelwa yingozi. <sup>5</sup>Kungakho amadodana ka-Israyeli ayeludwendwe lunye lalabo abahambayo ukuyathenga amabele ngokuba indlala yayikhona laselizweni leKhenani.

<sup>6</sup>Ngalesosikhathi uJosefa wayengumbusi welizwe, enguye othengisela abantu bonke amabele. Yikho abafowabo bakaJosefa bathi befika khona bakhothamela yena bathi mbo phansi ngobuso. <sup>7</sup>UJosefa wonela ukubabona abafowabo, wabazi, kodwa wazitshaya owezizweni, wabakhulumisa ngokubakhahlameza. Wababuza wathi, “Livela ngaphi?”

Baphendula bathi, “Sivela elizweni laseKhenani ukuzathenga ukudla.”

<sup>8</sup>Loba uJosefa yena wabazi abafowabo, bona kabamazanga. <sup>9</sup>Yikho wasekhumbula amaphupho akhe ngabo wasesithi kubo, “Liyizinhlo! Lilande ukuzabona lapho ilizwe lethu elingavikelekanga khona.”

<sup>10</sup>Baphendula bathi, “Hatshi, nkosi yethu. Izinceku zakho zize ukuzothenga ukudla. <sup>11</sup>Sonke singamadodana endoda yinye. Izinceku zakho zingabantu abaqotho, kasisizo zinhlo.”

<sup>12</sup>Wathi kubo, “Hatshi! Lize ukuzabona lapho ilizwe lethu elingavikelekanga khona.”

<sup>13</sup>Kodwa baphendula bathi, “Izinceku zakho zazingabafowabo abalitshumi lambili, engamadodana endoda yinye,

ehlala elizweni laseKhenani.  
Icinathunjana lisele lobaba, ikanti  
eyodwa kayisekho.”

<sup>14</sup>UJosefa wathi kubo, “Kunjengoba  
ngilitshelile: Liyizinhlo! <sup>15</sup>Manje-ke  
lizahlolwa kanje: Ngifunga uFaro,  
kaliyikusuka lapha ngaphandle kokuthi  
isicino sakwenu sifike lapha. <sup>16</sup>Thumani  
omunye wenu amlande umfowenu;  
lonke abanye lizagcinwa entolongweni,  
ukuze amazwi enu ahlolisiswe ingabe  
likhuluma iqiniso yini. Uma kungenjalo,  
ngimfunge uFaro, liyizinhlo!”  
<sup>17</sup>Wasebafaka ejele bonke okwezinsuku  
ezintathu.

<sup>18</sup>Ngosuku lwesithathu uJosefa wathi  
kubo, “Yenzani lokhu ukuze lisile,  
ngoba mina ngesaba uNkulunkulu:  
<sup>19</sup>Nxa lingabantu abaqotho, omunye  
wenu kahlale lapha entolongweni, nxa  
abanye benu selibuyela ukuhambisa  
amabele ebantwaneni benu asebesifa  
ngendlala. <sup>20</sup>Kodwa limlethe lapha kimi  
umnawenu omncane ukuze amazwi enu  
aqiniseke, njalo ukuze lingafi.”  
Bakwenza lokho.

<sup>21</sup>Basebekhulumisana bathi,  
“Ngempela sijezielwa umfowethu.  
Sambona ukuthi wayekhathazeke  
kangkanani esincengela impilo yakhe,  
kodwa kasaze samlalela; kungakho  
sisehlelwa luhlupho lolu.”

<sup>22</sup>URubheni waphendula wathi,  
“Kambe kangilitshelanga yini ukuthi  
lingenzi isono emfaneni lina laqinisa  
intamo? Nanku-ke sesimele sifakaze  
ngegazi lakhe.”

<sup>23</sup>Babengananzelele ukuthi uJosefa  
wayeluzwa ulimi lwabo ngokuba  
wayelomcasiseli.

<sup>24</sup>Wabafulathela wachiphiza  
izinyembezi, kodwa waphinda  
wabakhangela wabakhulumisa. Wathi  
kakuthathwe uSimeyoni kubo owahle  
wabotshwa phambi kwabo.

<sup>25</sup>UJosefa waselaya ukuthi  
kugcwaliswe amabele emasakeni abo,  
kubuyiselwe imali yalowo lalowo  
ifakwe phakathi kwesaka njalo baphiwe  
umphako wendlela. Sebekwenzelwe  
konke lokho, <sup>26</sup>betshatha amasaka abo  
kubobabhemi basuka.

<sup>27</sup>Endaweni lapho abakanisa khona  
ngalobubusuku omunye wabo wavula  
isaka lakhe ukuthathela ubabhemi wakhe  
ukudla, wasebona imali yakhe yesiliva  
emlonyeni wesaka. <sup>28</sup>Wathi kubafowabo,  
“Isiliva sami sibuyiselwe. Nansi lapha  
phakathi kwesaka lami.”

Zatshona izinhliziyiyo zabo  
bakhangelana bethuthumela bathi,  
“Kuyini kambe lokhu uNkulunkulu  
asekwenzile kithi?”

<sup>29</sup>Bathi sebefike kuyise uJakhobe  
elizweni laseKhenani bamtshele konke  
lokho okwakwenzakele kubo. Bathi,  
<sup>30</sup>“Indoda engumbusi welizwe  
yasikhulumisa ngokusihalada,  
yasiphatha kwangathi siyizinhloli  
elizweni. <sup>31</sup>Kodwa sathi kuyo,  
‘Singamadoda aqotho; kasisizozinhloli  
thina. <sup>32</sup>Sasingabafowabo abalitshumi  
lambili, amadodana endoda yinye.  
Omunye kasekho, kuthi ucinathunjana  
yena wasala lobaba eKhenani.’

<sup>33</sup>“Yikho umuntu lowo olibusayo  
ilizwe wasesithi kithi, ‘Nanku  
okuzangenza ngazi ukuthi lingabantu  
abaqotho: Tshiyani omunye umfowenu  
lapha kimi, lithathe ukudla kwezimuli  
zenu ezilambayo lihambe. <sup>34</sup>Kodwa  
umnawenu limlethe kimi kuyikhona  
ngizakwazi ukuthi kalisizinhloli, kodwa  
lingabantu abaqotho. Lapho-ke  
ngizambuyisela kini umfowenu, lani  
selingazithengisela phakathi  
kwelizwe.’ ”

<sup>35</sup>Bathi sebethulula amasaka abo,  
babona nanko umxhaka wesiliva waleyo  
laleyo indoda esakeni layo! Kwathi

bona ngokwabo kanye loyise bebona imixhaka yemali besaba. <sup>36</sup>Uyise uJakhobe wathi kubo, “Selingiphuce abantwabami. UJosefa kasekho, loSimeyoni kasekho; manje selifuna ukuthatha uBhenjamini. Yonke into iyangihlamukela!”

<sup>37</sup>URubheni wasesithi kuyise, “Ungawabulala womabili amadodana ami uma ngingambuyisi kuwe. Mnikele ezandleni zami, mina ngizambuyisa.”

<sup>38</sup>Kodwa uJakhobe wathi, “Indodana yami kayiyikuhamba lani khonale; umnewabo sewafa, usenguye yedwa oseleyo. Uma evellelwa ngokubi kulolu uhambo lwenu lizakwenza ukuthi ikhanda lami eliyimpunga liye engcwabeni lidabukile.”

*Uhambo Lwesibili Lokuya eGibhithe*

## 43 Indlala yayilokhu ibhahile

elizweni. <sup>2</sup>Yikho kwathi sebekuqedile konke ukudla ababekuthenge eGibhithe, uyise wathi kubo, “Buyelani liyosithengela okunye njalo ukudla okunenganyana.”

<sup>3</sup>Kodwa uJuda wathi kuye, “Indoda leyo yasiqonqosela yabheja yathi, ‘Ngeke liphinde libubone ubuso bami ngaphandle kokuba umnawenu lilaye.’” <sup>4</sup>Uma uzamvumela umnawethu ukuthi sihambe laye, sizahamba siyokuthengela ukudla. <sup>5</sup>Kodwa uma ungezukupuma, ngeke sibuyele, ngoba phela indoda leyo yathi kithi, ‘Ngeke liphinde libubone ubuso bami uma umnawenu lingelaye.’”

<sup>6</sup>U-Israyeli wabuza wathi, “Lakwenzeleni lina ukungehlisela uhlu pho lolu ngokuyitshela indoda leyo ukuthi lilomnawenu na?”

<sup>7</sup>Baphendula bathi, “Leyondoda isibuzisisile ngathi langendlu yakwethu yathi, ‘Uyihlo usaphila na? Lilaye na omunye umfowenu? Thina besiphendula imibuzo yayo kuphela.

Sasingazi kanjani ukuthi yayizakuthi, ‘Mletheni umnawenu lapha?’”

<sup>8</sup>UJuda wasesithi ku-Israyeli uyise, “Wothi umfana kahambe lami, sizahle sisuke nje masinyane, ukwenzela ukuthi thina lawe kanye labantwabethu siphile, singafi. <sup>9</sup>Mina ngokwami ngizazinikela ngokuphepha kwakhe; umlandu wonke ngaye awubekwe phezu kwami. Uma ngingambuyisi kuwe ngimbeke phambi kwakho, ngizawuthwala lowomlandu kuwe impilo yami yonke. <sup>10</sup>Njengoba kunje nje, uba besingalibalanga, ngabe sesihambe sabuya kwaze kwaba kabili.”

<sup>11</sup>Ngakho uyise u-Israyeli wasesithi kubo, “Uma kumele kube njalo, yenzani lokhu: Fakani emasakeni enu ezinye izinto ezinhle kakhulu eziphuma kuleli ilizwe lihambe lazo kulowomuntu zibe yisipho – amagcobo okuthoba loluju, iziyoliso ezithile zemure, izilimo ezicacawayo iphistakhiyo le-alimondi. <sup>12</sup>Thathani isiliva esiphindwe kabili, ngoba kufanele libuyisele lesosiliva esasibuyiselwe emasakeni enu. Mhlawumbe kwaba yimposiso. <sup>13</sup>Mthatheni umnawenu laye libuyele kuleyondoda ngokutshetsha. <sup>14</sup>Sengathi uNkulunkulu uSomandla angalenzela isihawu kuleyondoda ukuze ivumele lowo omunye umfowenu kanye loBhenjamini abuye lani. Mina ngokwami ngithi, kambe okungayisikufa yikuphi!”

<sup>15</sup>Yikho amadoda asezithatha izipho lesiliva esiphindwe kabili, kanye loBhenjamini. Batshitsha baya eGibhithe bayazibika kuJosefa.

<sup>16</sup>Kwathi uJosefa ebona uBhenjamini ekanye labo, wathi kumpheki walapha endlini yakhe, “Hamba lamadoda la endlini yami, uwahlabele isifuyo ulungise ukudla; bazakudla lami emini.”

<sup>17</sup>Indoda yenza njengokutshelwa kwayo nguJosefa, yawathatha amadoda yahamba lawo endlini kaJosefa.

<sup>18</sup> Amadoda ethuka ebona elethwe endlini kaJosefa. Bacabanga bathi, “Silethwe lapha ngenxa yesiliva esabuyiselwa emasakeni ethu ekufikeni kwethu kokuqala. Ufuna ukusihlasela, asehlule abesesithumba sibe yizigqili athathe obabhemi bethu.”

<sup>19</sup> Yikho basebesiya kumpheki kaJosefa bayakhuluma laye entubeni eya endlini. <sup>20</sup> Bathi, “Ake usizwe, mnumzana: Safika lapha okokuqala sizothenga ukudla. <sup>21</sup> Kodwa lapho esakanisa khona ebusuku savula amasaka ethu, kwaba ngulowo wethu wafumana isiliva sakhe – silingana kanye ubunzima baso – sisemlonyeni wesaka lakhe. Yikho size laso. <sup>22</sup> Size lesinye isiliva phezu kwaleso ukuthi sithenge ukudla. Kasikwazi ukuthi ngubani owabuyisela isiliva emasakeni ethu.”

<sup>23</sup> Wathi, “Kulungile. Lingesabi. UNkulunkulu wenu, uNkulunkulu kayihlo, uliphile inotho emasakeni enu; mina ngasiphiwa isiliva senu.” Yikho waseletha uSimeyoni kubo.

<sup>24</sup> Umpheki wasewangenisa amadoda endlini kaJosefa, wawapha amanzi okugeza izinyawo zawo waletha lotshani babobabhemi bawo. <sup>25</sup> Balungisa izipho zabo zalindela uJosefa emini ngoba basebezile ukuthi babezakudla khonapho.

<sup>26</sup> UJosefa esefikile bethula izipho ababengene lazo endlini, njalo bakhothama kuye phansi. <sup>27</sup> Wababuza ukuphila, wasesithi, “Linjani ixhegu elinguyihlo elangitshela ngalo? Lilokhu lisaphila na?”

<sup>28</sup> Baphendula bathi, “Inceku yakho, ubaba, ulokhu esaphila njalo usaqinile.” Njalo bakhothama ukutshengisa inhlonipho.

<sup>29</sup> Wathi elokhu ebakhangela wabona umnawakhe uBhenjamini, umntakanina sibili, wabuza wathi, “Nguye lo

umnawenu oyisicino na, yena lowo elangitshela ngaye?” Wasesithi kuye, “UNkulunkulu kabe lomusa kuwe, ndodana yami.” <sup>30</sup> Wathinteka kakhulu ngokubona umnawakhe, uJosefa waphangisa waphuma wayafuna indawo yokukhala. Waya ekamelweni lakhe wayakhalela khona.

<sup>31</sup> Wathi esegezile amehlo waphuma, wazibamba wasesithi, “Phakululani ukudla.”

<sup>32</sup> Yena bamupha yedwa, abafowabo labo bodwa kwathi lamaGibhithe ayesidla laye lawo aba wodwa, ngoba amaGithithe ayengeze adla lamaHebheru, ngokuba lokho kwakunengeka kumaGibhithe.

<sup>33</sup> Amadoda la ayehlezi ngobudala bawo kusukela ngezibulo kuyecina ngecinathunjana; bakhangelana bemangele. <sup>34</sup> Kwakusithi nxa bephakulelwa kusuka etafuleni likaJosefa okukaBhenjamini kwakusedluliswa okwabanye kahlanu. Ngakho bazitika banatha laye bekhululekile.

### *Inkomitsho Yesiliva Esakeni*

**44** UJosefa wasesipha imilayo le kumpheki wasendlini yakhe wathi: “Gcwalisa silikici amasaka amadoda la ngokudla konke abangakuthwala, ubusubuyisela isiliva salowo lalowo emlonyeni wesaka lakhe. <sup>2</sup> Futhi utshwathike inkomitsho yami, leyana eyesiliva, emlonyeni wesaka lalowo ongomncinyane wabo ndawonye lesiliva sakhe samabele.” Wenza lokho uJosefa ayekutshilo.

<sup>3</sup> Kwathi emadabukakusa bawavalelisa amadoda asuka kanye labobabhemi bawo. <sup>4</sup> Ayengakahambi okuya ngaphi ukusuka edolobheni lapho uJosefa wathi kumpheki wakhe, “Wohluwaxhume

ngokuphangisa amadoda layana, uthi ungawafica uthi kuwo, ‘Lenzeleni ukwenana okuhle ngokubi na?’<sup>5</sup> Le kakusiyo yini inkomitshi enatha ngayo inkosi yami njalo ehlahlula ngayo na? Le yinto embi kakhulu eseliyenzile!’ ”

<sup>6</sup> Wathi esebaficile wawatsho amazwi la kubo. <sup>7</sup> Kodwa bathi kuye, “Kungani inkosi yethu isitsho izinto ezinjalo? Kakube kude lezincedu zakho ukwenza ulutho olunjalo! <sup>8</sup> Phela siyibuyisile kuwe imali yesiliva sisuka elizweni laseKhenani, leyana esayifumana phakathi emilonyeni yamasaka ethu. Pho besingakwenza njani ukweba isiliva loba igolide endlini yenkosi yakho na? <sup>9</sup> Uma omunye wezincedu zakho efunyanwa elayo, uzabulawa; kuthi thina abanye sibe yizigqili zenkosi yethu.”

<sup>10</sup> Wathi, “Kulungile, kakube njengokutsho kwenu. Lowo ozafunyanwa elayo uzakuba yisigqili sami, lina abanye lonke lizakuba lingelacala.”

<sup>11</sup> Ngulowo lalowo wabo wehlisela phansi isaka lakhe walivula. <sup>12</sup> Umpheki wasehamba ehloa, waqala ngomdala wayacina ngomcinyane. Inkomitsho yayafunyanwa esakeni likaBhenjamini. <sup>13</sup> Bekubona lokhu badabula izigqoko zabo. Yikho bonke betshatha obabhemi babo amasaka baphindela edolobheni.

<sup>14</sup> UJosefa wayelokhu ekhona endlini, bafika bazilahla phansi phambi kwakhe. <sup>15</sup> UJosefa wathi kubo, ‘Kuyini lokhu elikwenzileyo? Kalazi na ukuthi umuntu onjengami ubona izinto ngokuhlahlula?’ ”

<sup>16</sup> UJuda waphendula wathi, “Kambe singabe sisathini? Singakuveza kanjani ukuba msulwa kwethu? UNkulunkulu uselidalule icala lezincedu zakho. Manje sesiyizichaka zenkosi yami – thina

ngokwethu lalowo ofunyenwe elayo inkomitshi.”

<sup>17</sup> Kodwa uJosefa wathi. “Kakube kude lami ukwenza into enjalo! Yileyo indoda kuphela efunyanwe ilayo inkomitshi ezakuba yisichaka sami. Abanye lonke buyelani kuyihlo ngokuthula.”

<sup>18</sup> UJuda wasesondela kuye wathi, “Hawu, nkosi yami, akuvumele inceku yakho itsho ilizwi enkosini yami. Ungayizondeli inceku yakho, loba wena ulingana loFaro ngokwakhe. <sup>19</sup> Inkosi yami yabuza izincedu zayo yathi, ‘Lilaye na uyihlo kumbe umfowenu?’ <sup>20</sup> Thina saphendula sathi, ‘Silaye ubaba oseluphele, njalo ikhona indodana ayizala eseluphele. Umnewabo wafa, yikho yiyo yodwa eseleyo kumadodana kanina, yikho uyise uyayithanda.’

<sup>21</sup> “Yikho wasusithi ezincekwini zakho, ‘Mletheni kimi ukuze ngimbone mina ngokwami.’ <sup>22</sup> Thina sathi enkosini yami, ‘Umfana ngeke asuka kuyise; uma esuka kuye, uyise uzakufa.’ <sup>23</sup> Kodwa izincedu zakho wazitshela wathi, ‘Ngaphandle kokuba umnawenu omncane lize laye, ngeke liphinde libubone njalo ubuso bami.’ <sup>24</sup> Sathi ukubuyela encekwini yakho ubaba, samtshela lokho okwakutshiwo yinkosi yami.

<sup>25</sup> “Yikho ubaba wathi, ‘Buyelani liyethenga okunye njalo ukudla.’ <sup>26</sup> Kodwa thina sathi, ‘Ngeke siye khona. Kuphela nxa umnawethu omncane elathi yikho singahamba. Ngeke sibubone ubuso bendoda leyo ngaphandle kokuba umnawethu omncane silaye.’

<sup>27</sup> “Inceku yakho ubaba yathi kithi, ‘Liyakwazi ukuthi umkami wangizalela amadodana amabili. <sup>28</sup> Omunye wabo wasuka kimi, ngathi, “Ngempela udlithiziwe waba yizicucu.” Yikho kangisaphindanga ngambona kusukela kulesosikhathi. <sup>29</sup> Manje lingangithathela lalo laye abesesehlelwa ngokubi,

lizakwehlisela ikhanda lami leli eliyimpunga engcwabeni ngidabukile kabi.’

<sup>30</sup>“Ngakho-ke, uma umfana singelaye nxa sengibuyela encekweni yakho ubaba, yena ompilo yakhe isondelelene kakhulu leyomfana lo, <sup>31</sup>uzakuthi angabona umfana engekho, ahle afe. Thina zinceku zakho sizakusa ikhanda likababa eliyimpunga engcwabeni lihlulukelwe. <sup>32</sup>Inceku yakho yanikela ukuphila kwayo ngokuphepha komfana kubaba. Ngathi, ‘Uma ngingambuyisi kuwe, ngizawuthwala lowomlandu kuwe, baba, impilo yami yonke!’

<sup>33</sup>“Yikho-ke ngiyacela ukuthi uvumele inceku yakho isale lapha njengesichaka senkosi yami esikhundleni somfana, yena umfana akhululwe ahambe labanewabo. <sup>34</sup>Ngingabuyela ngithini kubaba umfana ngingelaye? Hatshi! Ungangenzi ngibone usizi olungamehlela ubaba.”

*UJosefa Uyaziveza*

**45** UJosefa wehluleka ukuzibamba phambi kwazo zonke izinceku zakhe, wasememeza wathi, “Sukani lonke lapha kimi!” Ngakho kakho owayekhona loJosefa lapho eziveza kubafowabo. <sup>2</sup>Wakhala waphumisela waze wezwiwa ngamaGibhithe, labendlu kaFaro bezwa ngalokho.

<sup>3</sup>UJosefa wathi kubafowabo, “Mina nginguJosefa! Kambe ubaba usaphila na?” Kodwa abafowabo behluleka ukumphendula ngokuba besaba kakhulu bephambi kwakhe.

<sup>4</sup>UJosefa wasesithi kubafowabo, “Sondelani kimi.” Bathi sebekwenzile lokho wathi, “Ngingumfowenu uJosefa, yena lowo elamthengisela eGibhithe!

<sup>5</sup>Kodwa manje lingakhathazeki njalo lingaze lazizondela ngenxa

yokungithengisa lapha, ngokuba kwakuyikusiza imiphefumulo ukuba uNkulunkulu angithume ngaphambi kwenu. <sup>6</sup>Sekube yiminyaka emibili manje indlala ikhona elizweni, njalo okweminyaka emihlanu ezayo kakukuba lakulima, lakuvuna. <sup>7</sup>Kodwa uNkulunkulu wangithuma phambi kwenu ukuba alilombele insalela emhlabeni njalo aphephise izimpilo zenu ngokukhulula okukhulu.

<sup>8</sup>“Yikho-ke, kwakungasini elangithuma lapha, kodwa nguNkulunkulu. Wangenza ngaba ngubaba kuFaro, lenkosi yomuzi wakhe wonke kanye lombusi weGibhithe lonke. <sup>9</sup>Manje, phangisani liye kubaba lithi kuye, ‘Nanku indodana yakho uJosefa akutshoyo: UNkulunkulu usengenze ngaba yinkosi yalo lonke eleGibhithe. Yehla uze kimi; ungalibali. <sup>10</sup>Uzahlala esigodini saseGosheni ube seduze lami – wena, labantwabakho, labazukulu bakho; lemihlambi yakho yezimvu leyezinkomo lakho konke olakho. <sup>11</sup>Ngizakunakekela ukhonapho ngokuba kuseza eminye iminyaka emihlanu yendlala. Kungenjalo wena lomuzi wakho, labo bonke abangabakho lizahawukelwa.’

<sup>12</sup>“Liyazibonela ngokwenu, njengoba lomnawami uBhenjamini ebona, ukuthi yimi mina ngeqiniso engikhuluma lani. <sup>13</sup>Limtshela ubaba ngalo lonke udumo engiluphiwayo eGibhithe langakho konke elikubonileyo. Ubaba limlethe ngokuphangisa lapha.”

<sup>14</sup>Wasegona umnawakhe uBhenjamini, wakhala, loBhenjamini wamgona ekhala. <sup>15</sup>Njalo wabonga bonke abafowabo ekhala kulowo lalowo. Ngemva kwalokho abafowabo baxoxa laye.

<sup>16</sup>Kwathi ukuba izindaba zifike esigodlweni sikaFaro ukuthi abafowabo

bakaJosefa babefikile, uFaro lezikhulu zakhe bathokoza. <sup>17</sup>UFaro wathi, kuJosefa, “Tshela abafowenu uthi, ‘Yenzani lokhu: Thwalisani izinyamazana zenu libuyele elizweni laseKhenani, <sup>18</sup>beselibuya loyihlo kanye lemizi yenu kimi. Ngizalipha umhlaba omuhle okudlulayo lapha eGibhithe, likholise amanono elizwe.’

<sup>19</sup>“Uyaqondiswa njalo ukuthi ubatshela uthi, ‘Yenzani lokhu: Thathani izinqola ezithile lapha eGibhithe lisenzela abantwabenu, labomkenu, lithathe uyihlo lize laye.

<sup>20</sup>Lingazihluphi ngezimpahla zenu ngokuba okuhle konke kwaseGibhithe kuzakuba ngokwenu.’ ”

<sup>21</sup>Ngakho amadodana ka-Israyeli akwenza lokhu. UJosefa wabapha izinqola, njengokulaya kukaFaro, wabuye wabapha umphako wendlela.

<sup>22</sup>Ngulowo lalowo wamupha izigqoko ezintsha, kodwa uBhenjamini wamupha amashekeli esiliva angamakhulu amathathu kanye lezigqoko ezinhlanu.

<sup>23</sup>Njalo nanku akuphathisela uyise: obabhemi abalitshumi bethwele konke okuhle kwaseGibhithe, labobabhemi abasikazi abalitshumi bebhensiswa ngamabele lesinkwa lokunye okomphako wakhe wendlela. <sup>24</sup>Yikho wasevalelisa abafowabo, bathi sebesuka wathi kubo, “Lingaxabani endleleni!”

<sup>25</sup>Ngakho basuka baphuma eGibhithe bayafika kuyise uJakhobe elizweni laseKhenani. <sup>26</sup>Bamtshela bathi, “UJosefa ulokhu ephila! Isibili ungumbusi walo lonke elaseGibhithe.” UJakhobe waphela amandla; kazange abakholwe. <sup>27</sup>Kodwa kwathi lapho sebemtshelile konke uJosefa ayekutshilo kubo, njalo esebone izinqola uJosefa ayethe zizomthwala zimlethe, umoya kayise uJakhobe wavuseleleka.

<sup>28</sup>U-Israyeli wathi, “Sengisuthisekile! Indodana yami uJosefa isaphila. Ngizahamba ngiyeyibona ngingakafi.”

*UJakhobe Uya eGibhithe*

**46** Yikho u-Israyeli wasesuka kanye lakho konke okwakungokwakhe, wathi ngokufika eBherisheba wenza umhlatsshelo kuNkulunkulu kayise u-Isaka.

<sup>2</sup>UNkulunkulu wakhuluma ku-Israyeli ngombono ebusuku wathi, “Jakhobe! Jakhobe!”

Waphendula wathi, “Ngilapha.”

<sup>3</sup>Wathi, “NginguNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu kayihlo. Ungesabi ukwehlela eGibhithe, ngokuba ngizakwenza ube yisizwe esikhulu khonale. <sup>4</sup>Mina ngizahamba lawe khonale eGibhithe, njalo ngiqinisile, ngizaphinde ngikubuyise. Isandla sikaJosefa sona ngokwaso sizawavala amehlo akho.”

<sup>5</sup>UJakhobe wasesuka eBherisheba, kwathi amadodana akhe u-Israyeli amthatha uyise uJakhobe, labantwababo kanye labomkabo babafaka ezinqoleni uFaro ayezithumele ukubathwala ngazo. <sup>6</sup>Bathatha njalo lezifuyo zabo kanye layo yonke impahla yabo ababeyiqoqile eKhenani, uJakhobe losendo lwakhe lonke baya eGibhithe. <sup>7</sup>Wathatha amadodana akhe, labazukulu bakhe, lamadodakazi akhe lamadodakazi awo – sonke isizukulwane sakhe – waya eGibhithe.

<sup>8</sup>La ngamabizo amadodana ka-Israyeli (uJakhobe labazukulu bakhe) abahambayo eGibhithe:

uRubheni izibulo likaJakhobe.

<sup>9</sup>Amadodana kaRubheni:

uHanokhi, loPhalu, loHezironi,



kanye loKhami.

<sup>10</sup> Amadodana kaSimeyoni:

uJemuyeli, loJamini, lo-Ohadi,  
loJakhini, loZohari kanye loShawuli  
indodana yomfazi ongumKhenani.

<sup>11</sup> Amadodana kaLevi;

uGeshoni, loKhohathi kanye  
loMerari.

<sup>12</sup> Amadodana kaJuda:

u-Eri, lo-Onani, loShela, loPHEREZI  
kanye loZera (kodwa u-Eri lo-  
Onani

babefele elizweni laseKhenani).

Amadodana kaPHEREZI:

uHerizoni loHamuli.

<sup>13</sup> Amadodana ka-Isakhari:

uThola, loPuwa, loJashubi kanye  
loShimironi.

<sup>14</sup> Amadodana kaZebhuluni:

uSeredi, lo-Eloni kanye loJahileli.

<sup>15</sup> La ayengamadodana uLeya  
awazalela uJakhobe ePhadani Aramu,  
ngaphandle kwendodakazi yakhe  
uDina.

Amadodana la lamadodakazi akhe  
babengamatshumi amathathu  
sebebonke.

<sup>16</sup> Amadodana kaGadi: uZefoni,  
loHagi, loShuni, lo-Eziboni, lo-Eri,  
kanye lo-Areli.

<sup>17</sup> Amadodana ka-Asheri: u-Imina, lo-  
Ishiva, lo-Ishivi loBheriya.  
Udadewabo wayenguSera. Amadodana  
kaBheriya: uHebheri loMalikhiyeli.

<sup>18</sup> Laba ngabantwana abazalelwa  
uJakhobe nguZilipha, uLabani  
ayemuphe indodakazi yakhe uLeya –  
belitshumi lesithupha sebebonke.

<sup>19</sup> Amadodana omkaJakhobe uRakheli:  
uJosefa loBhenjamini. <sup>20</sup> EGibhithe

uJosefa wazala uManase lo-Efrayimi  
ku-Asenathi indodakazi kaPhothifera,  
umphristi ka-Oni.

<sup>21</sup> Amadodana kaBhenjamini:

u-Bhela, loBhekheri, lo-Ashibeli,  
loGera, loNamani, lo-Ehi, loRoshi,  
loMuphimi, loHuphimi kanye lo-Aridi.

<sup>22</sup> La ayengamadodana kaRakheli  
awazalela uJakhobe – elitshumi lane  
esewonke.

<sup>23</sup> Indodana kaDani: nguHushimu.

<sup>24</sup> Amadodana kaNafithali:

uJahiziyeli, loGuni, loJezeri kanye  
loShilemu.

<sup>25</sup> La ayengamadodana kaJakhobe  
awazala loBhiliha, uLabani ayemuphe  
indodakazi yakhe uRakheli –  
beyisikhombisa bebonke.

<sup>26</sup> Bonke labo abaya eGibhithe  
loJakhobe – labo ababeyinzalo yegazi  
lakhe, kungabalwa omalokazana bakhe –  
kwakungabantu abangamatshumi  
ayisithupha lesithupha.

<sup>27</sup> Sekubalwa lamadodana amabili  
azalwa nguJosefa eGibhithe, abendlu  
kaJakhobe abaya eGibhithe babe-  
ngamatshumi ayisikhombisa sebebonke.

<sup>28</sup> UJakhobe wathuma uJuda  
ngaphambili kwakhe kuJosefa ukuba  
amlayele indlela eya eGosheni. Bathi  
sebefikile emmangweni waseGosheni,  
<sup>29</sup> uJosefa walungiselwa inqola yakhe  
waqonda eGosheni ukuyahlangana  
loyise u-Israyeli. UJosefa wonela  
ukumuthi nhla wamgona uyise, wakhala  
okwesikhathi eside.

<sup>30</sup> U-Israyeli wathi kuJosefa, “Manje  
sengikulungele ukufa, ngokuba  
sengizibonele mina ngokwami ukuthi  
usaphila.”

<sup>31</sup> Yikho uJosefa wasesithi kubafowabo lakubo bonke abomuza kayise, “Ngizahamba ngiyekhuluma loFaro ngithi kuye, ‘Abafowethu kanye labendlu kababa ababehlala elizweni laseKhenani sebezile kimi. <sup>32</sup> Amadoda la angabelusi; belusa izifuyo, yikho beze lemihlambi yabo yezimvu leyezinkomo lakho konke abalako.’ <sup>33</sup> Nxa uFaro angalibiza alibuze athi, ‘Umsebenzi wenu ngowani?’ <sup>34</sup> libophendula lithi, ‘Izinceku zakho zingabelusi bezifuyo kwasebufaneni bethu kuze kube manje, njengabokhokho bethu.’ Yikho lizavunyelwa ukwakha emmangweni waseGosheni, ngoba bonke abelusi bayeyiseka kumaGibhithe.”

**47** UJosefa wahamba wayatshela uFaro wathi, “Ubaba labafowethu, kanye lemihlambi yabo yezimvu lezinkomo, kanye lakho konke abalako sebefikile bevela elizweni laseKhenani, okwamanje sebeseGosheni.” <sup>2</sup> Wakhetha abafowabo abahlanu wabethula kuFaro.

<sup>3</sup> UFaro wababuza abafowabo laba wathi, “Umsebenzi wenu ngowani na?”

Baphendula uFaro bathi, “Izinceku zakho zingabelusi, njengalokho ababe yikho okhokho bethu.” <sup>4</sup> Babuya bathi kuye, “Size ukuzohlala lapha okwesikhathi esithile, ngokuba indlala ibhahile eKhenani, njalo lemihlambi yezinceku zakho kayilamadlelo. Manje-ke sicela ukuthi uvumele izinceku zakho zakhe eGosheni.”

<sup>5</sup> UFaro wathi kuJosefa, “Uyihlo labafowenu beze kuwe, <sup>6</sup> lelizwe laseGibhithe uyalibona; hlalisa uyihlo labafowenu endaweni enhle kakhulu yelizwe. Wothi bahlale eGosheni. Njalo nxa bekhona abanye babo abalolwazi oluqakathekileyo, kabakhangele imihlambi yami.”

<sup>7</sup> Yikho uJosefa waseletha uyise uJakhobe wamethula kuFaro. UJakhobe esembusisile uFaro, <sup>8</sup> uFaro wambuza wathi, “Usumdala kangakanani na?”

<sup>9</sup> UJakhobe wathi kuFaro, “Iminyaka yokuhamba kwami ilikhulu lamatshumi amathathu. Iminyaka yami ibimilutshwana njalo ibinzima, njalo kayifiki iminyaka yokuhamba kwabokhokho bami.” <sup>10</sup> UJakhobe wasembusisa uFaro, uFaro wasesuka kuye.

<sup>11</sup> Ngakho uJosefa wasehlalisa uyise labafowabo eGibhithe, wabapha indawo emanonweni elizwe, esiqintini saseRamesesi, njengokulaya kukaFaro.

<sup>12</sup> UJosefa waphinda wapha uyise labafowabo kanye lendlu yonke kayise ukudla, kusiya ngobunengi babantwababo.

#### *UJosefa Ukhangelana Lendlala*

<sup>13</sup> Kwakungelakudla elizwe lonke ngoba indlala yayibhahile; iGibhithe leKhenani womabili amazwe esevuthuzekile ngenxa yendlala.

<sup>14</sup> UJosefa wayiqoqa yonke imali eyayitholakala eGibhithe laseKhenani eyayingeyokuthenga amabele, wayiletha esigodlweni sikaFaro. <sup>15</sup> Kwathi imali yabantu baseGibhithe labaseKhenani isiphelile, iGibhithe yonke yeza kuJosefa bathi, “Siphe ukudla. Singafelani kambe phambi kwamehlo akho? Imali yethu isiphelile.”

<sup>16</sup> UJosefa wathi, “Lethani izifuyo zenu. Ngizalithengisela ukudla libhadale ngezifuyo zenu, njengoba imali yenu isiphelile.” <sup>17</sup> Ngakho basebeletha izifuyo zabo kuJosefa, wabapha ukudla bebhadala ngamabhiza abo, lezimvu kanye lezimbuza zabo, lezinkomo kanye labobabhemi babo. Wabaphutshisa lowomnyaka ngokudla bekubhadala ngezifuyo zabo.

<sup>18</sup>Lowomnyaka usuphelile, beza kuye ngomnyaka olandelayo bathi, “Ngeke sayifihlela inkosi yethu ukuthi njengoba imali yethu isiphelile, ikanti lezifuyo zethu ngezakho, kakusekho okusayisalele inkosi yethu ngaphandle kwemizimba yethu leziqinti zethu kuphela. <sup>19</sup>Kambe sesingaze sife nje usikhangele – thina kanye lelizwe lethu lalo? Sithenge kanye lelizwe lethu usiphe ukudla, kuzakuthi thina kanye lelizwe lethu sibe sebugqilini kuFaro. Siphe inhlanyelo ukuze siphile, singafi, njalo ukuze ilizwe lingabi yinkangala.”

<sup>20</sup>Yikho-ke uJosefa waselithengela uFaro lonke ilizwe laseGibhithe. AmaGibhithe wonke athengisa amasimu awo ngokuba indlala yayisiwabhahele okubi. Ilizwe laselisiba ngelikaFaro, <sup>21</sup>uJosefa wasebagqilaza abantu, kusukela ngapha kwelizwe laseGibhithe kusiya ngale kwalo. <sup>22</sup>Kodwa kayithenganga indawo yabaphristi, ngokuba babephiwa isabelo nguFaro, yikho babelakho ukudla okwaneleyo kusuka kuFaro. Yikho bengawuthengisanga owabo umhlaba.

<sup>23</sup>UJosefa wathi ebantwini, “Njengoba sengilithengile lina lomhlaba wenu lamuhla ukuba libe ngabakaFaro, nansi inhlanyelo ukuze lihlanyele emhlabathini. <sup>24</sup>Kodwa nxa amabele eseqoqwa phanini okobuhlanu bawo kuFaro. Ezinye izingxenye ezine kwezinhlanu lizigcinele inhlanyelo yamasimu njalo kube yikudla kwenu, lemizi yenu kanye labantwabenu.”

<sup>25</sup>Bathi, “Ususilamulele ukuphila kwethu. Sengathi singathola umusa enkosini yethu; sizakuba yizigqili kuFaro.” <sup>26</sup>Kunjalo uJosefa wakumisa kwaba ngumthetho eGibhithe mayelana lomhlaba – okulokhu kulandelwa lalamuhla – ukuthi ingxenye eyodwa kokuhlanu ngekaFaro. Kwakungumhlaba

wabaphristi kuphela ongazange ube ngokaFaro.

<sup>27</sup>Ngalesosikhathi aba-Israyeli bazinza eGibhithe esigodini saseGosheni. Bazuza izifuyo ezinengi khona njalo bazalana kakhulu banda ngobunengi.

<sup>28</sup>UJakhobe wahlala eGibhithe okweminyaka elitshumi lesikhombisa, iminyaka yokuphila kwakhe yaba likhulu lamatshumi amane lesikhombisa.

<sup>29</sup>Kwathi isikhathi sesisondele ukuba u-Israyeli afe, wabiza indodana yakhe uJosefa wathi kuye, “Uba ngifumene umusa kuwe, beka isandla sakho ngaphansi kwethangazi lami uthembise ukuthi uzangenzela umusa lokuthembeka. Ungangingcwabi eGibhithe, <sup>30</sup>kodwa nxa sengiphumule labokhokho bami, ungithwale ngisuke eGibhithe uyongimbela lapho abalele khona.”

Wathi, “Ngizakwenza njengoba usitsho.”

<sup>31</sup>Wathi, “Funga kimi.” Yikho uJosefa wafunga kuye, u-Israyeli wakhuleka eyeme phezu kwenduku yakhe.

### *UManase lo-Efrayimi*

## 48 Ngesinye isikhathi ngemva

kwalokho uJosefa wabikelwa ukuthi uyise wayegula. Yikho wasethatha amadodana akhe womabili, uManase lo-Efrayimi wahamba lawo. <sup>2</sup>UJakhobe esetsheliwe kwathiwa, “Indodana yakho uJosefa isifikile kuwe,” u-Israyeli wabamba ngamandla wavuka embhedeni.

<sup>3</sup>UJakhobe wathi kuJosefa, ‘UNKulunkulu uSomandla wabonakala kimi eLuzi elizweni laseKhenani, khonapho wangibusisa. <sup>4</sup>Wathi kimi, ‘Ngizakwenza uzuze inzalo bande ubunengi bayo. Ngizalenza libe yisizwe sabantu, njalo ngizakupha lelilizwe libe

yilifa elingapheliyo kuzizukulwane zakho ngemva kwakho.’

<sup>5</sup>“Zwana-ke amadodana akho amabili owawazalela eGibhithe ngingakezi lapha kuwe azathathwa njengawami; u-Efrayimi loManase bazakuba ngabami, kanjengoba uRubheni loSimeyoni bengabami. <sup>6</sup>Labobantwana abazelwe ngemva kwabo bazakuba ngabakho; kulesosigodi esizakuba yilifa labo bazabhaliswa ngaphansi kwamabizo abanewabo. <sup>7</sup>Ngathi ngibuya ngivela ePhadani, ngehlelwa lusizi ngafelwa nguRakheli elizweni laseKhenani silokhu sisendleleni, bucwadlana kwe-Efrathi. Yikho ngamngcwaba khonapho eceleni kwendlela eya e-Efrathi,” (kutsho eBhethlehem).

<sup>8</sup>U-Israyeli wathi ngokubona amadodana kaJosefa wabuza wathi, “Ngobani laba?”

<sup>9</sup>UJosefa wathi kuyise, “Ngamadodana uNkulunkulu anginike wona lapha.”

U-Israyeli wasesithi, “Balethe kimi ukuze ngibusise.”

<sup>10</sup>Ngalesisikhathi amehlo ka-Israyeli ayesefiphala ngenxa yokuluphala, engasabonisisi. Ngakho uJosefa wasondeza amadodana akhe kuye, uyise wawanga wawagona.

<sup>11</sup>U-Israyeli wathi kuJosefa, “Ngangingathembi ukuthi ngizaphinda ngibubone ubuso bakho njalo, ikanti manje uNkulunkulu usengivumele ukubona labantwabakho labo.”

<sup>12</sup>UJosefa wasebasusa amadolweni ka-Israyeli wakhothamela phansi ngobuso.

<sup>13</sup>UJosefa wasebathatha bobabili, u-Efrayimi kwesokunene sakhe eqondane lesokhohlo sika-Israyeli, kwathi uManase waba ngesokhohlo waqondana lesokunene sika-Israyeli, wabasondeza kuye. <sup>14</sup>Kodwa u-Israyeli welula isandla sakhe sokunene wasibeka

ekhanda lika-Efrayimi, lokuba yena wayengomncinyane, wasenqumisa izingalo ziphambana, wabeka isandla sakhe sokhohlo ekhanda likaManase, lokuba uManase wayelizibulo.

<sup>15</sup>Yikho wasebusisa uJosefa wathi,

“Sengathi uNkulunkulu okhokho bami, u-Abhrahama lo-Isaka, abahamba phambi kwakhe,

uNkulunkulu obengumalusi wami ukuphila kwami konke

kuze kube namuhla,

<sup>16</sup>ingilosi engihlengileyo kuzo zonke izingozi

– angabusisa abafana laba. Sengathi bangabizwa ngelami ibizo langamabizo abobabamkhulu u-Abhrahama lo-Isaka; njalo sengathi banganda kakhulu emhlabeni.”

<sup>17</sup>Kwathi uJosefa ebona uyise ebeka isandla sakhe sokunene ekhanda lika-Efrayimi akwaze kwamthokozisa; yikho wasibamba isandla sikayise wasisusa ekhanda lika-Efrayimi ukuthi asibeke kwelikaManase. <sup>18</sup>UJosefa wathi kuye, “Hatshi, baba, lo nguyezizibulo; beka isandla sakho sokunene kwelakhe ikhanda .”

<sup>19</sup>Kodwa uyise wala, wathi, “Ngiyazi, ndodana yami, ngiyazi. Laye njalo uzakuba ngabantu abanengi, njalo laye uzakuba mkhulu. Loba kunjalo, umnawakhe uzakuba mkhulu kulaye lezizukulwane zakhe zizakuba ngamaxuku ezizwe.” <sup>20</sup>Wababusisa ngalolusuku wathi,

“Ngebizo lakho u-Israyeli uzakutsho lesisibusiso:

‘Sengathi uNkulunkulu angakwenza ube njengo-Efrayimi loManase.’ ”

Kanjalo wabeka u-Efrayimi phambi kukaManase.

<sup>21</sup> Yikho u-Israyeli wasesithi kuJosefa, “Sengizakufa, kodwa uNkulunkulu uzakuba lani, alibuyisele elizweni labokhokho benu. <sup>22</sup> Wena, njengomuntu olawula abanewenu, ngikunika umqolo welizwe engawemuka ama-Amori ngenkemba yami lomtshoko wami.”

*UJakhobe Ubusisa Amadodana Akhe*

**49** UJakhobe wabiza amadodana

akhe wathi, “Sondelani eduze ngilitshele lokho okuzakwenzakala kini ezinsukwini ezizayo.

<sup>2</sup> “Buthanani lilalele, madodana kaJakhobe, lalelani kuyihlo u-Israyeli.

<sup>3</sup> “Rubheni, ulizibulo lami, amandla ami, isitshengiselo sokuqala samandla ami, uyindlula ngodumo, uyindlula ngamandla akho.

<sup>4</sup> Uyaqubuka njengamanzi, kawusayikuba yindlula, ngoba wakhwela embhedeni kayihlo, phezu kwesandlalo sami wasitshaphaza.

<sup>5</sup> “USimeyoni loLevi bayizelamani – izinkemba zabo yizikhali zodlakela.

<sup>6</sup> Mangingangeni enkundleni yabo, mangingene emhlanganweni wabo, ngokuba bababulala abantu ngokuthukuthela kwabo izinkabi baziquma imisipha santando.

<sup>7</sup> Luqalekisiwe ulaka lwabo, lwesabeka kubi, lentukuthelo yabo, ilesihluku esibi! Ngizakubachithiza kuJakhobe, ngibahlakaze kuIsrayeli.

<sup>8</sup> “UJuda, abafowenu bazakubabaza; isandla sakho sizakuba sentanyeni yezitha zakho;

amadodana kayihlo azakukhothamela.

<sup>9</sup> Ungumdlwane wesilwane, O Juda; uvela ekujimbeni, ndodana yami.

Njengesilwane uyacathama alale phansi,

njengesilwanekazi – ngubani olesibindi sokumhlokoza?

<sup>10</sup> Intonga yobukhosi kayiyikusuka kuJuda,

loba umqwayi wombusi phakathi kwezinyawo zakhe,

aze ayofika kumnini wayo lokulalela kwezizwe

kukuye.

<sup>11</sup> Uzathekeleza ubabhemi wakhe evinini,

ithole likababhemi wakhe ogatsheni oluhle;

uzagezisa izambatho zakhe ngewayini, izigqoko zakhe egazini lamagilebisi.

<sup>12</sup> Amehlo akhe azathuba okudlula iwayini,

amazinyo akhe abe mhlophe kulochago.

<sup>13</sup> “UZebhuluni uzahlala ekhunjini

lolwandle

abe litheku lemikhumbi;

umngcele wakhe uzaqhelela eSidoni.

<sup>14</sup> “U-Isakhari ulithambo likababhemi

elilohlonzi

elele ephahlwe ngamasaka

amabili emithwalo.

<sup>15</sup> Uthi nxa ebona ubuhle bendawo

yakhe yokuphumula kuyo

lokubukeka kwelizwe lakhe,

uzaqinisa ihlombe lakhe

ukuthwala umthwalo azimisele  
umsebenzi wesibhalwa.

<sup>16</sup>“UDani uzakwahlulela kahle abantu  
bakibo abangabanye bezizwana zako-  
Israyeli.

<sup>17</sup>UDani uzakuba yinyoka  
esemgwaqweni,  
inhlangwana elele endleleni,  
eluma izithende zebhiza  
umgadi walo atshelele aye emuva.

<sup>18</sup>“Ngilindele ukuhlenga kwakho, O  
Jehova.

<sup>19</sup>“UGadi uzahlaselwa liqula  
lamanxusa,  
kodwa uzabahlasela bamuphe  
izithende  
zabo.

<sup>20</sup>Ukudla kuka-Asheri kuzakuba  
ngokunonileyo,  
uzakupha izicoco ezifanele inkosi.

<sup>21</sup>“UNafthali yimpalakazi  
ekhululiweyo  
ezala amazinyane amahle.

<sup>22</sup>“UJosefa ulivini elithela kakhulu,  
ivini elithela kakhulu eduze  
komthombo, elimagatsha alo akhwela  
emdulini.

<sup>23</sup>Abahlaseli bemitshoko bamhlasela  
ngolaka;  
bamciba ngenzondo embi.

<sup>24</sup>Kodwa kawalazelanga ngedandili  
lakhe,  
izingalo zakhe eziqinileyo zala  
zilokhu zikhukhumele,  
ngenxa yesandla sikaSomandla  
kaJakhobe, ngenxa kaMalusi,

iDwala lika-Israyeli,  
<sup>25</sup>ngenxa kaNkulunkulu kayihlo,  
okusizayo,  
ngenxa kaSomandla okubusisayo  
ngezibusiso zasezulwini  
ngaphezulu,  
izibusiso zolwandle olungaphansi,  
izibusiso zebele lesizalo. <sup>26</sup>Izibusiso  
zikayihlo zinkulu kulezibusiso zezintaba  
zekadeni, kulezithelo zamaqaqa adabuka  
endulo. Zonke lezi kazehelele ekhanda  
likaJosefa,  
ebunzini lenkosana phakathi  
kwabafowabo.

<sup>27</sup>“UBhenjamini yimpisi ephangayo;  
ekuseni uyayiqhoboza impango,  
ntambama ayabe impango.”

<sup>28</sup>Zonke lezi yizizwana ezilitshumi  
lambili zako-Israyeli, njalo yikho lokho  
uyise akutsho kubo lapho wayebabusisa,  
esipha lowo lalowo isibusiso  
esimfaneleyo.

#### *Ukufa kukaJakhobe*

<sup>29</sup>Yikho wasebanika imilayo le:  
“Sekusondele ukuba ngimbelwe  
ebantwini bakithi. Lingimbele  
labokhokho ebhalwini ensimini ka-  
Efroni umHithi, <sup>30</sup>ubhalu olusensimini  
kaMakhaphela, eduze leMamure  
eKhenani, eyathengwa ngu-Abrahama  
kanye lensimu leyo ku-Efroni umHithi,  
ukuba yindawo yokungcwaba.

<sup>31</sup>Khonapho kwambelwa  
u-Abrahama lomkakhe uSara,  
kwembelwa u-Isaka lomkakhe  
uRabheka, njalo khonapho ngambela  
uLeya. <sup>32</sup>Insimu kanye lobhalu  
oluphakathi kwathengwa kumaHithi.”

<sup>33</sup>Kwathi uJakhobe eseqedile ukunika  
imilayezelo emadodaneni akhe,  
wakhweza izinyawo zakhe embhedeni,

waphefumula okokucina, waya kwabakibo.

**50** UJosefa wazilahlela phezu

kukayise wamkhalela, wamanga.<sup>2</sup> Yikho uJosefa waselaya izinyanga ezazingaphansi kwakhe ukuqhola umzimba kayise u-Israyeli.

Yikho izinyanga zamqhola,<sup>3</sup> zathatha izinsuku ezingamatshumi amane ezigweleyo, ngoba kwakuthatha isikhathi esingako ukuqhola.

AmaGibhithe amlilela izinsuku ezingamatshumi ayisikhombisa.

<sup>4</sup> Izinsuku zokulila sezedlule, uJosefa wathi kwabomphakathi kaFaro, “Uma ngifumane umusa kini, ngikhulumelani kuFaro. Mtsheleni lithi,<sup>5</sup> ‘Ubaba wangifungisa isifungo wathi, “Sengizakufa; lingimbele ethuneni engazigebhela lona mina ngokwami elizweni laseKhenani.” Manje-ke ake ungivumele ngihambe ngiyongcwaba ubaba; ngibe sengibuya.’ ”

<sup>6</sup> UFaro wathi, “Hamba uyongcwaba uyihlo, njengoba wakufungisa ukuthi uzakwenza.”

<sup>7</sup> Ngakho uJosefa wahamba wayangcwaba uyise. Zonke izikhulu zikaFaro zamphelikezela – izikhulu zakhe zomphakathi kanye lazo zonke izikhulu zaseGibhithe –<sup>8</sup> ngaphandle kwabo bonke abendlu kaJosefa labafowabo lalabo ababe ngabendlu kayise. EGosheni kwasala kuphela abantwana lemihlambi yabo yezimvu leyezinkomo. <sup>9</sup> Wahamba elezinqola zempi labakhweli bamabhiza. Kwakulixuku elikhulu. <sup>10</sup> Bathi ngokufika esizeni sika-Athadi eduze kweJodani basiqhinqa isililo esikhulu esibuhlungu; kwathi khonapho uJosefa wazilela uyise okwezinsuku eziyikikhombisa. <sup>11</sup> Kwathi amaKhenani ayehlala eduzane ebona ukulila lokho

esizeni sika-Athadi athi, “AmaGibhithe alenkonzo yawo yokulila.” Yikho nje leyondawo eduze kweJodani ithiwa yi-Abeli Mizirayimi.

<sup>12</sup> Ngalokho amadodana kaJakhobe enza lokho uyise abalaya khona:

<sup>13</sup> Bamthwalela elizweni laseKhenani bayamgcwaba ebhalwini olwalusensimini kaMakhaphela, eduze leMamure, u-Abrahama aluthenga kanye lensimu ku-Efroni umHithi ukuthi kube yindawo yokungcwaba.

<sup>14</sup> Esemngcwabile uyise uJosefa wabuyela eGibhithe, kanye labafowabo labo bonke ababehambe laye ukuyangcwaba uyise.

*UJosefa Ubeka Abafowabo Isibindi*

<sup>15</sup> Abafowabo bakaJosefa sebona ukuthi uyise wayesefile, bathi, “Kambe uJosefa kasibekelanga isikhwili yini abesefuna ukuphindisela ngakho konke esamona ngakho?” <sup>16</sup> Yikho basebethumela ilizwi kuJosefa besithi, “Uyihlo watshiya imilayo le engakafi: <sup>17</sup> ‘Nanku elimele likutsho kuJosefa: Ngiyakucela ukuthi uxolele abafowenu izono leziphambeko abazenzayo ngokukuphatha kubi kangaka.’ Manje siyacela ukuthi uthethelele izono zezinceku zikaNkulunkulu kayihlo.” Kwathi ilizwi labo selifikile kuye uJosefa wakhala.

<sup>18</sup> Abafowabo beza bafika bazilahla phansi phambi kwakhe. Bathi, “Siyizigqili zakho.”

<sup>19</sup> Kodwa uJosefa wathi kubo, “Lingesabi. Mina ngisesikhundleni sikaNkulunkulu na? <sup>20</sup> Laliqonde ukungikhubaza, kodwa uNkulunkulu wayehlose ngakho ubuhle ukuze kugcwaliseke lokhu okwenzakalayo manje, ukuphephisa izimpilo.

<sup>21</sup> Ngakho-ke lingesabi. Ngizalinalakekela

lina labantwabenu.” Wababeka isibindi wabakhulumisa ngomusa.

*Ukufa kukaJosefa*

<sup>22</sup>UJosefa wahlala eGibhithe kanye labo bonke abendlu kayise. Waphila okweminyaka elikhulu letshumi

<sup>23</sup>wabona isizukulwane sesithathu sabantwana baka-Efrayimi. Njalo labantwana bakaMakhiri indodana kaManase bathi bezalwa babekwa emadolweni kaJosefa.

<sup>24</sup>UJosefa wasesithi kuba fowabo, “Sengiseduze lokufa. Kodwa ngempela uNkulunkulu uzalisiza alikhuphe kulelizwe alise elizweni alithembisa ngesifungo ku-Abrahama, lo-Isaka loJakhobe.” <sup>25</sup>UJosefa wasefungisa amadodana ka-Israyeli isifungo wathi, “UNkulunkulu uzalisiza, yikho kumele lithwale amathambo ami lisuke lawo kule indawo.”

<sup>26</sup>UJosefa wasesifa eseleminyaka yobudala elikhulu letshumi. Bathi sebemqholile, isidumbu sakhe basibeka ebhokisini eGibhithe.