

relieve the sufferers in the slums, and certainly spiritual maladies, as much as physical afflictions, should arouse our pity and stimulate our efforts.

ARTICLE IV.

THE BOOK OF JUBILEES.

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CHAP. XII. 1. And it happened in the sixth week, in the seventh year thereof, Abram said unto Tarah, his father, saying, "Father!" And he said, "Behold, here I am, my son!" 2. And he said: "What assistance and what pleasure have we from all the idols which thou dost worship and before which thou dost prostrate thyself? 3. For there is no spirit in them, but they are dumb statues and a deception of the heart: do not worship them. 4. Worship the God of heaven, who sends down dew and rain upon the earth and does everything upon the earth and has created everything through his word and all living things are from before his face. 5. Why do ye worship those who have no heart and spirit in them; for they are the works of hands, and upon your shoulders do ye carry them, and ye have from them no help, but a great disgrace to those who make them and a deception of the heart to those who worship them: do not worship them!" 6. And Tarah said: "I also know it, my son; but what shall I do with this people who command me that I should serve them? 7. If I tell them the truth, they will slay me; for their soul clings to them to worship and to glorify them. 8. Keep silent, my son, lest they slay thee!" 9. And these words he spoke to his two brothers, and they became angry at him, and he kept silent. 10. And in the fortieth jubilee, in the second week, in the seventh year thereof, Abram took to himself a wife, and her name was Sara, the daughter of his father, and

she became to him a wife. 11. And Arân, his brother, took to himself [a wife] in the third year of this week, and his wife bare him a son in the seventh year of this week, and he called his name Lot. 12. And Nachor also, his brother, took to himself a wife. 13. And in the [sixtieth] year of the life of Abram, that is, in the fourth year of the fourth week, Abram arose in the night, and burned down the house of his idols, and burned all that was in the house, and there was no man that knew it. 14. And they arose in the night and desired to save their idols from the midst of the flame. 15. And Arân ran in order to save them, and the fire burned over him and he burned in the midst of the fire, and he died in Ur of the Chaldees before Tarah, his father, and they buried him in Ur. 16. And Tarah went away from Ur of the Chaldees, he and his sons, in order to come into the land of the Lebanon and into the land of Canaan; and he dwelt in Haran, and Abram dwelt with his father Tarah in Haran two weeks of years. 17. And in the sixth week, in the fifth year thereof, Abram arose and sat in the night at the new moon of the seventh month, so that he might observe the stars from the evening to the morning, so that he might know what would be the character of the year with regard to the rains, and he was sitting alone and observing. 18. And a word came into his heart, and he said: "All the signs of the stars and the signs of the sun and of the moon are all in the hand of the Lord; why do I search them out? 19. If he desires, he causes it to rain, morning and evening; and if he desires, he causes it to descend, and all things are in his hands." 20. And he prayed in that night, and said: "My God, God Most High, thou alone art a God to me, and thou hast created all things, and all things that are are the works of thy hand, and thee and thy godship have I chosen. 21. Deliver me from the hands of the evil spirits who reign over the thoughts of the hearts of men, and let them not lead me astray from thee, my God, and cause thou me and my seed in eternity not to go astray from now on and to eternity! 22. And I

say, shall I return to Ur of the Chaldees, who seek my face, that I should return to them; or shall I remain here in this place; the right path before thee prosper in the hands of thy servant, that he may follow it and not walk in the error of my heart, O my God!" 23. He completed his words and prayer, and, behold, the Lord sent a word to him through me, saying: Up, go thou out of thy country, and out of thy kindred, and out of the house of thy father, into a land which I will show to thee, and I will make thee in the land which is great into a great and numerous people. 24. And I will bless thee and will make thy name great, and thou shalt be blessed in the land, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in thee; those that bless thee I will bless, and those that curse thee I will curse. 25. And I will be a God to thee and to thy children and to thy children's children and to all thy seed, and behind thee will be thy God. 26. Fear not, from now on to all the generations of the earth I am thy God." 27. And the Lord God said to me: "Open his mouth and his ears that he may hear and speak with the language which has been revealed;" for it had ceased from the mouths of all the children of men. 28. And I opened his mouth and his lips, and I opened his ears, and I began to speak with him in Hebrew, in the tongue of creation; and he took the books of his father, and these were written in Hebrew, and he copied them, and he began to learn them from then on, and I made known to him every thing he was incapable [of understanding], and he studied them the six months of the rainy period. 29. And it happened in the seventh year of the sixth week, and he spoke with his father, and informed him that he would go from Haran to go to the land of Canaan to see it and to return to him. 30. And Tarah, his father, said to him: "Go in peace! the God of the worlds make straight thy path, and the Lord be with thee and protect thee from all evil, and give to thee good will and mercy and grace before those who see thee; and may none of

the sons of men come over thee to do thee evil; go in peace! 31. And if thou seest a land pleasant to thy eyes to dwell in it, then up, and take me with thee; and take Lot with thee, the son of Arân thy brother, as thy son, and God be with thee. 32. But Nachor thy brother leave with me until thou returnest in peace and we go with thee together."

CHAP. XIII. 1. And Abram went from Haran, and took Sara, his wife, and Lot, the son of his brother Arân, to the land of Canaan, and he came into the land of Asur, and proceeded to Sakimôn, and dwelt near a great oak.¹ And he saw the land, and, behold, it was very beautiful from the entrance of Emêt to the great mountains. 2. And the Lord said to him: "To thee and to thy seed I will give this land." 3. And he built an altar there, and brought upon it a sacrifice to the Lord who had appeared to him. 4. And he arose from there, with the hill Bethel toward the sea [west], and Ai to the east, and fixed his tent there. 5. And he saw, and, behold, the land was pleasant and extended and very wide, and every thing grew on it, vines and figs and pomegranates and terebinths and oil trees and cedars and Lebanon trees and cypresses and all the trees of the field; and water was upon the hills. 6. And he blessed the Lord who had led him out of Ur of the Chaldees and brought him to this hill. 7. And it happened in the first year, in the seventh week, at the new moon of the first month, that he built an altar on this hill, and called upon the name of the Lord: "Thou art my God, the God unto eternity." 8. And he placed upon the altar a sacrifice unto the Lord, that he should be with him and should not desert him all the days of his life. 9. And he arose from there and went toward the north,² and he came to Hebron, and Hebron was built at that time,³ and he dwelt there two years in the land to the

¹ Cf. Gen. xii. 6.

² It should, of course, be "southward,"—probably a blunder of a translator living in Ethiopia.

³ Cf. Num. xiii. 22.

north of Boa-Lot, and there was a famine in the land, and Abram went into Egypt in the third year of this week, and he dwelt in Egypt five years before his wife was torn away from him. 10. But Tanâi' in Egypt was then built in the seventh winter after Hebron. 11. And it happened that when Pharaoh seized Sara, the wife of Abram, the Lord punished Pharaoh and his whole house with large plagues, on account of Sara, the wife of Abram. And Abram was very conspicuous by wealth in sheep and oxen and asses and horses and camels and in man-servants and in maid-servants and in silver and in gold exceedingly, and Lot, also, the son of his brother, was wealthy. 12. And Pharaoh brought back Sara, the wife of Abram, and sent him out of the land of Egypt; and he came to a place where he had first fixed his tent, at the place of the altar at Agê to the east of Bethel, and he went and blessed the Lord his God who had brought him back in peace. 13. And it happened in the forty-first jubilee, in the third year of the first week, he returned to this place, and placed upon it a burnt sacrifice, and called upon the name of the Lord, and said: "Thou, O Lord, Most High God, art my God to all eternity." 14. And in the fourth year of this week Lot separated from him, and Lot dwelt in Sodom; but the men of Sodom were great sinners. And he grieved in his heart that the son of his brother had separated from him, for he had no children. 15. And in that year when Lot was taken captive, the Lord also said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, in the fourth year of this week, and said: "Lift up thine eyes from the place here where thou art dwelling toward the north and south and west and east. 16. For the whole land which thou seest I will give to thee and thy seed to eternity, and I will make thy seed like the sand on the sea; and when man is able to count the sand on the sea, then thy seed will be counted. 17. Arise and go through it in its length

⁴ I. e., *וַיֵּשְׁבֵהוּ*, *Tavlv.* Num. xiii. 22.

and breadth and see it all, for to thy seed I will give it." 18. And Abram went to Hebron and dwelt there. 19. And in that year came Kôlôdôgômôr, the king of Elam, and Emâlphele, the king of Sinâr, and Ariôk, the king of Sêlâsar, and Tîrgâl, the king of the Gentiles, and slew the king of Gomorrha, and the king of Sodom fled, and many fell by wounds in Sêdêmâv and in the salt-district, and they took captive Sodom and Adam and Shêbôêm, and Lot, also, the son of the brother of Abram, and all his possessions, and went to Dan. 20. And one who had escaped came and told Abram, that the son of the brother of Abram had been taken captive.⁵ 21. And the house-servant brought for Abram and his seed the first tenth to the Lord, and the Lord ordained it as an ordinance to eternity, that they should give [this] to the priests who served before him, that they should possess it forever. 22. And to this law is not a limit of days, but it is ordained to the generation of eternity, that they should give the tenth to the Lord, of their seed and of their wine and of their oil and of their oxen and of their sheep. 23. And he gave it to his priests to eat and to drink in joy before him. 24. And the king of Sodom came to him and bowed down before him, and said: "Our lord Abram, give us the souls thou hast saved, but let the booty be thine." 25. And Abram said to him: "I lift up my hands to God on high, from a thread to a shoe-latchet I will take nothing from all that is thine, so that thou sayest not, 'I have made Abram rich,' only except what the youths have eaten and the portion for the men who came with me, Avnân, Eskôl, and Mâmre, these shall take their share."

CHAP. XIV. 1. And after these events, in the fourth year of this week, in the new moon of the third month, the voice of the Lord came to Abram in a dream, saying: "Fear not, Abram, for I am thy defender and thy exceeding great reward." 2. And he said: "O Lord, Lord, what

⁵ There is certainly a *lacuna* between this and the following verse, although there is nothing in the Ethiopic text to show it.

wilt thou give me, and I have no son; and the son of Mâsêk, the son of my maid-servant,^a this Eleazer of Damascus, he will be my heir; but to me thou hast not given any seed." 3. And he said to him: "This one will not be thy heir, but he that comes from thy body, he will be thy heir." 4. And he took him without and said to him: "Look upon the heavens and see the stars of heaven, if thou art able to count them." 5. And he looked at the heavens and saw the stars; and he said to him: "Thus shall be thy seed." 6. And he believed the Lord, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. 7. And he said to him: "I am the Lord thy God, who have brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, that I might give thee the land of Canaan for an eternal possession, and I will be to thee and thy children after thee a God." 8. And he said: "O Lord, Lord, by what am I to know that I shall inherit it?" 9. And he said to him: "Take to thyself a heifer of three years, and a goat of three years, and a sheep of three years, and a turtle-dove and a pigeon." 10. And he took all these in the middle of the month, and he dwelt near the oak Mâmrê, which is near Hebron, and he built there an altar, and sacrificed all these and poured their blood upon the altar, and divided them into halves and laid them opposite each other; but the birds he did not divide. 12. And birds descended upon the pieces, and Abram drove them away and would not suffer the birds to touch them. 13. And it happened when the sun had set, a stupor fell upon Abram, and, behold, a great horror of darkness fell upon him, and it was spoken to Abram: "Know in truth that thy seed will be a stranger in a strange land, and they will make them servants and oppress them four hundred years. 14. But the nation which they serve I will judge, and after that they will go out from there with many possessions. 15. And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace and shalt be buried in a good age. 16. And in the fourth generation they shall return hither, for not yet are

^a Cf. LXX. on Gen. xv. 2.¹ Cf. LXX. on Gen. xv. 13.

the sins of the Amorites completed." 17. And he awoke from his sleep, and he arose, and the sun had set, and there was a flame, and, behold, an oven was smoking, and a flame of fire passed through between the pieces. 18. And on that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To thy seed I will give this land from the river of Egypt unto the great river Euphrates, the Kenites and the Kenizzites and the Kadmonites and the Perizzites and the Rephaimites and the Ewites and the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Girgashites." 19. And Abram went and took up the pieces and the birds and the fruit and the drink offerings, and the fire devoured them. 20. And on that day we made a covenant with Abram according to the covenant which he had made in this month with Noah; and Abram renewed the festival and ordinance for himself unto eternity.⁸ 21. And Abram rejoiced and told all these things to Sara, his wife, and he believed that he would have seed; but she did not bring forth. And Sara advised her husband Abram, and said to him: "Go in to Hagar, my Egyptian maid; it is possible that he will raise up for thee seed from her." 22. And Abram obeyed the voice of Sara, his wife, and said to her, "Do it," and Sara took her Egyptian maid Hagar and gave her to Abram, her husband, that she should become his wife. 23. And he went in to her, and she conceived and bore him a son, and he called his name Ishmael, in the fifth year of this week: and this was the eighty-sixth year of the life of Abram.⁹

CHAP. XV. 1. In the fifth year of the fourth week of this jubilee, in the third month, in the beginning of the month, Abram celebrated the festival of the first of the grain harvest; and he brought new offerings beside offering of the first-fruits to the Lord, an ox and a goat and a sheep upon the altar as a sacrifice to the Lord, and their fruit offerings and their drink offerings he placed upon the altar together with frankincense. 2. And the Lord

⁸ Cf. note on Chap. vi. 15.

⁹ Gen. xvi. 16.

appeared to Abram and said to him: "I am the omnipotent God; be pleasing to me and be perfect, and I will establish my covenant between me and thee, and will increase thee exceedingly." 3. And Abram fell down on his face. 4. And the Lord spoke to him and said: "Behold my ordinance is with thee, and I will make thee the father of many nations, and thy name shall no longer be called Abram, and thy name henceforth and to eternity shall be Abraham, for I will make thee a father of many nations, and I will make thee exceedingly great, and will cause nations and kings to proceed from thee. 5. And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and between thy seed after thee in their generations, as an ordinance of eternity, that I will be a God to thee and to thy seed after thee in their generations, [and I will give thee] the land where thou art a stranger, the land of Canaan, that thou shalt be ruler over it to eternity, and I will be their God." 6. And the Lord said to Abraham: "And thou, preserve my covenant, thou and thy seed after thee, and circumcise all your foreskins, and let it be a sign of my ordinance unto eternity between me and thee and for thy descendants. 7. On the eighth day ye shall circumcise all the males in your generation, the members of the household, and him whom ye have bought with gold from all the sons of the strangers whom ye have as your property, who are not of thy seed,—they shall circumcise the children of the household, and whomsoever ye have bought shall be circumcised. 8. And my covenant shall be on your flesh as an eternal ordinance; and whosoever is not circumcised, all of thy males the flesh of whose foreskin is not circumcised on the eighth day, his soul shall be rooted out of his generation, for he has overthrown my covenant." 9. And the Lord said unto Abraham: "Sara, thy wife, shall no longer be called by her name Sara, for Sarah shall be her name;"¹⁰ for I will bless

¹⁰ The actual change made, according to the Ethiopic, is from Sôrà to Sârà, which is the same as made in the best MSS. of the Ethiopic Bible in

and give to thee a son from her, and I will bless him and he will become a people, and kings and nations shall proceed from him." 10. And Abraham fell upon his face and rejoiced, and he said in his heart: "Should there be born a son to one of a hundred years, and shall Sarah, who is ninety, yet bring forth!" 11. And Abraham said to the Lord: "O that Ishmael might live before thee!" 12. And the Lord said: "Yea, and Sarah also shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name Isaac, and I will establish my eternal covenant with him and with his seed after him. 13. And also in reference to Ishmael have I heard thee, and, behold, I will bless him, and I will make him great and will increase him exceedingly, and twelve princes he will beget, and I will make him a great nation; but I will establish my covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear for thee, in these days, in the second year." 14. And having ended speaking with him, the Lord ascended from over above Abraham. 15. And Abraham did as the Lord had said to him, and took Ishmael his son, and all the members of his household, and those whom he had bought with gold, all the males that were in his house, and circumcised the flesh of their sexual member. 16. And at the time of these days Abraham was circumcised, and all the men of his house and all whom he had bought with gold from among the sons of the strangers were circumcised with him. 17. And this is the law for all the generations of eternity, with no change of days and no deviation of day from the eighth day, for it is an eternal ordinance, ordained and written in the tablets of heaven. 18. And every one that is born, the flesh of whose member is not circumcised upon the eighth day, is not of the children of the covenant which the Lord made with Abraham, but is of the children of destruction; and he has no sign upon

Gen. xvii. 15. Really, throughout the text, before this, the Book of Jubilees has been using the word *Sôrâ*, for which now *Sârâ* is employed. In Ethiopic this involves no change in the meaning of the name. The LXX. changes from *Σάρα* to *Σάρρα*.

him that he is the Lord's, but he is for destruction and slaying from the earth and for rooting out of the earth; for he has broken the covenant of the Lord our God. 19. For all the angels of the face and all the angels of glorification were thus created from the day of their creation;¹¹ and he looked upon the angels of glorification, and he sanctified Israel that they should be with him and with his holy angels. 20. And thou command the children of Israel and let them observe the sign of this covenant, and for their generations as an eternal ordinance that they be not rooted out of the land. 21. For it is ordained as a command of the covenant that they should observe it forever among all the children of Israel. 22. For Ishmael and his sons and his brothers and Esau the Lord did not permit to approach him and did not choose them, for the sons of Abraham are those he acknowledged, and he chose Israel to be his people. 23. And he sanctified it and collected it from among all the children of men, for there are many nations and many peoples, and all are his, and over all has he appointed spirits to rule, that they should lead them astray from him, but over Israel he did not appoint any ruler, neither an angel nor a spirit, but he alone is their ruler, and he preserves them, and he contends for them against the hands of his angels and his spirits and all; and they shall keep all his commandments, and he will bless them, and they shall be his, and he will be theirs, from now on and to eternity. 24. And from now on I will announce to you that the children of Israel will break faith with this ordinance, and will not circumcise their sons according to this whole law, for they will omit this circumcision of the children on the flesh of their circumcision, and they all, the sons of Belial, will leave their children without circumcision as they were born. 25. And the wrath upon the children of Israel will be great from the Lord, for they have deserted his covenant,

¹¹ The angels even are circumcised, or rather created in that condition. One of the MSS. upon which D. bases his Ethiopic text omits this sentence.

and have departed from his word, and enrage him and blaspheme him, as they do not observe this ordinance according to this sign, for they make their members like the Gentiles for being torn and rooted out of the land. And no longer is there forgiveness or pardon for them that all their sin may be forgiven and pardoned for this error to eternity.

CHAP. XVI. 1. And at the new moon of the fourth month we appeared to Abraham at the oak of Mâmre, and we conversed with him, and we announced to him that a son would be given him from Sarah his wife. 2. And Sarah laughed, for she heard that we spoke these words with Abraham; and we admonished her, and she became afraid and denied that she had laughed on account of the words. 3. And we told her the name of her son as it is written on the tablets of heaven, namely, Isaac, as his name. 4. And when we returned to her in a fixed time then she was pregnant with a son. 5. And in this month the Lord carried out the judgments of Sodom and Gomorrah and Sebrûêm and all the circuit of the Jordan, and burnt them with fire and brimstone, and demolished them unto the present day, according to what we have made known to thee concerning all their actions, that they were terrible and very sinful and they defiled themselves and committed fornication and uncleanness over the earth. 6. And accordingly the Lord inflicted judgment upon all the places by the hand of his servants, according to the uncleanness of Sodom, according to the judgment of Sodom. 7. But Lot we saved, for the Lord remembered Abraham, and led him out of the destruction. 8. And he and his daughters committed sin on the earth, such as had not been from the days of Adam until now, for the man lay with his daughters. 9. And, behold, it is commanded and engraven concerning all his seed on the tablets of heaven, that they should tear them out and root them out and judge them according to the judgment of Sodom, and that no seed should be left this man on the earth in

the day of judgment. 10. And in this month Abraham migrated from Hebron, and dwelt between Kades and Shur in the mountains of Gêrârôn. 11. And in the middle of the fifth month he migrated from there and dwelt at the well of the oath.¹⁹ And in the middle of the sixth month the Lord visited Sarah, and did to her as he had said to her, and she conceived and bore a son. And in the third month, in the middle of the month, in the days which the Lord had said to Abraham, on the festival of the first harvest, Isaac was born; and Abraham circumcised his son on the eighth day: he was the first one circumcised in the covenant as it was ordained forever. 12. And in the sixth year, in this month, of the fourth week, we came to Abraham to the well of the oath, and we appeared to him as we had told Sarah, that we would come to her, but she became pregnant with a son, and we returned in the seventh month and found Sarah pregnant before us, and we blessed her and told her all things that had been commanded us concerning him [Abraham] that he should not die until six sons had been born to him, and that he would see them before he should die; but that in Isaac his name and seed should be called. 13. And all the seed of his [other] sons will become Gentiles and will be numbered with the Gentiles; but from the sons of Isaac one shall become a holy seed and shall not be numbered among the Gentiles. 14. For he shall become the portion of the Most High, and among those of whom God is ruler will be his abode and all his seed, that it become a seed of the Lord, a nation of inheritance among all the nations, and that it may be a kingdom and a priesthood and a holy nation. 15. And we went our way, and we announced to Sarah all that we had told him; and these two rejoiced with an exceeding great joy. 16. And he built there an altar to the Lord who had saved him and had filled him with joy in the land of his pilgrimage, and he celebrated a festival of great joy in this month, seven days, at the altar

¹⁹ I. e., Beer-Sheba.

which he had built at the fountain of the oath; and he built tents for himself and his servants on this festival, and he was the first one to celebrate the festival of tabernacles on the earth. 17. And in these seven days Abraham would bring every single day upon the altar a burnt offering to the Lord, two oxen, seven sheep, one young goat, on account of his sins that thereby these might be forgiven him and his seed, and as an offering of salvation seven rams, seven goats, and their fruit offering and their drink offering; over all the fat thereof he burnt incense upon the altar as a sacrifice chosen to the Lord as a sweet savor. 18. At mornings and evenings he burnt frankincense, galbanum, staklē and wood and myrrh and spice and costum; all these seven he brought, united with each other in equal parts and clean. 19. And thus he celebrated his festival seven days, rejoicing with his whole heart and his whole soul, he and all those that were in his house; and there was not any stranger with him nor any bastard. 20. And he blessed his Creator who had created him in his generation, for according to his pleasure did he create him; for he knew and observed that from him would come the plant of righteousness for the generations of eternity, and that from him should also come the holy seed, like him who had made all things." 21. And he blessed his Creator, and he was glad, and he called the name of this festival the festival of the Lord with a joy acceptable to the Most High God. 22. And we blessed him forever and all his seed after him in all the generations of the world on this earth, because he celebrated this festival in its house according to the testimony of the tablets of heaven. 23. On this account it is ordained in the tablets of heaven concerning Israel that they shall celebrate the festival of the tabernacles seven days in jyy, in the seventh month, that it be accepted before the Lord as an eternal law in the generations of all the years. 24.

¹⁸ This is one of the passages in this book which can be interpreted messianically.

And to this there is no limit of days, but it is ordained over Israel as a festival that they shall observe it, and shall dwell in tents, and shall place wreaths upon their heads, and they shall take a willow branch with foliage from the brook. 25. And Abraham took the heart of the palm and good fruit of trees, and every day and day he would go around the altar with the branches, seven times a day, and in the morning he praised and thanked his God for all things in joy.

CHAP. XVII. 1. And in the first year of the fifth week Isaac was weaned, in this jubilee, and Abraham made a great feast in the third month on the day his son Isaac was weaned. 2. And Ishmael, the son of the Egyptian Hagar, was before the face of his father in this place; and Abraham rejoiced and blessed the Lord, because that he could see sons to himself and had not died without sons. 3. And he remembered the words which he had spoken to him on the day that Lot separated from him; and he rejoiced, because the Lord had given him seed on the earth to inherit the land; and he blessed with his whole mouth the Creator of all things. 4. And when Sarah saw that Ishmael was playing and growing, and that Abraham was rejoicing exceedingly, she became jealous of Ishmael, and she said to Abraham: "Drive away this slave and her son, for the son of this one shall not inherit with my son Isaac." 5. And these words were grievous in the eyes of Abraham, on account of his maid, and on account of his son, that he should drive them away from him. 6. And the Lord said to Abraham: "Let it not be grievous in thy eyes concerning the child, and concerning the slave; all that Sarah says to thee, hear her words and do them, for in Isaac shall thy name and thy seed be called for thee. 7. But the son of this [slave] I will make into a great nation, for he is of thy seed. 8. And Abraham arose early in the morning and took bread and a bag of water and put them upon the shoulders of Hagar and of the boy and sent them away. 9. And she went wandering about in the

desert Beer-Sheba; and the water was finished from the bag, and the boy was thirsty, and was not able to walk, and he fell down. 10. And his mother took him, and going, threw him under an olive tree, and she went and sat down opposite him, the distance of an arrow shot, saying: "I cannot see the death of my child;" and she sat weeping. 11. And an angel of God, one of the holy ones, said to her: "Why dost thou weep, Hagar? arising, take the boy, and lead him by the hand, for the Lord has heard thy voice." 12. And she looked at the bag and opened her eyes and saw a well of water, and she went and filled the bag with water and gave her boy to drink, and she arose and went toward the desert of Paran. 13. And the boy grew and became a horseman, and the Lord was with him. 14. And his mother took for him a wife from among the daughters of Egypt, and she bore him a son, and he called his name Nâbêmôth, for she said: "The Lord was near to me when I cried out to him." 15. And it happened in the seventh week, in the first year thereof, in the first month of this jubilee, on the twelfth of this month, there was a word in the heavens concerning Abraham, that he was a believer in all that the Lord told him, and that he loved him, because in all temptations he was faithful. 16. And the prince Mastêmâ approached and said before God: "Behold Abraham loves Isaac his son, and esteems him more than all other things; say that he should bring him as a burnt offering on the altar and thou wilt see if he will do this word, and thou wilt know if he is a believer in everything with which thou triest him." 17. And the Lord knew that Abraham was a believer in all trials which he spoke to him; for he had tried him in his country, and in the strange land, and had tried him with the wealth of kings, and had tried him again with his wife in that she was torn from him, and with the circumcision, and had tried him with Ishmael and Hagar his maid, when he sent them away, and in all in which he had tried him he was found faithful, and his soul did not become impatient, nor

did he hesitate to do it, for he was faithful and a lover of God."

CHAP. XVIII. 1. And the Lord said to Abraham, "Abraham." And he said to him, "Behold, O Lord, here I am." 2. And he said to him: "Take thy son Isaac whom thou lovest, and go into the high land, and take him upon one of the hills which I will show thee." 3. And he arose in the morning from there and saddled his ass, and took two young men with him, and Isaac his son, and split the wood for a sacrifice, and he came to the place on the third day, and saw the place from afar. 4. And he came to a well of water, and he said to the young men: "Remain here with the ass, and I and the boy will go on and will worship, and after worshipping will return to you." 5. And he took the wood for the sacrifice and put it upon the shoulders of his son Isaac and he took in his hands the fire and the knife, and the two went together to that place. 6. And Isaac said to his father: "My father." 7. And he said to him: "Behold, here I am, my son." 8. [And he said] "Behold here is the fire, and the knife, and the wood; but where, my father, is the sheep for the sacrifice?" 9. And he said: "The Lord will show me the sheep for the sacrifice, my son." 10. And he came to the place of the hill of the Lord, and he built an altar and laid the wood upon the altar, and tied Isaac his son and placed him upon the wood over the altar, and he stretched out his hands to take the knife to sacrifice Isaac. 11. And I stood before him [God] and before the prince Mastêmâ, and the Lord said: "Tell him not to lay his hand upon the boy and to do him no harm; for I know that he fears the Lord." 12. And the Lord called to him from heaven and said to him: "Abraham! Abraham!" and he was frightened and said: "Behold, here I am." 13. And he said to him: "Do not lay thy hands upon the boy, and do him no

¹⁴ This list of temptations appears elsewhere, although with variation of figures, in similar writings. The Targum Jerusal. to Gen. xxii. 1 has the same number.

harm, for now I know that thou fearest the Lord, and hast not spared from me thy first-born son." 14 And the prince Mastêmâ was confounded; and Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold a ram held fast with his horns. 15. And Abraham went and took the ram and brought him as a sacrifice in the place of his son Isaac. 16. And Abraham called this place "The Lord seeth," so that it is said "The Lord saw it" for Mount Zion. 17. And the Lord called Abraham by name a second time from heaven as he had appeared to us that we should speak to him in the name of the Lord. 18. And he said: "By my head, I swear, saith the Lord, because thou hast done this thing and hast not spared from me thy first-born son whom thou lovest, therefore I will surely bless thee and will surely increase thy head like the stars of heaven and like the sand of the shore of the sea. 19. And thy seed shall inherit the cities of their enemy, and in thy seed shall be blessed all the nations of the earth, for this that thou hast listened to my voice and hast shown unto all that thou art faithful unto me in all that I say to thee; go in peace." 20. And Abraham went to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beer-Sheba, and Abraham dwelt near the well of the oath; and he celebrated this festival in all the years, seven days in joy, and called it "the festival of the Lord," according to the seven days in which he had gone and returned in peace. 21. And thus it is, and it is engraven and written in the tablets of heaven concerning Israel and its seed to keep this festival seven days in joy.

CHAP. XIX. 1. And in the first year of the first week in the forty-second jubilee Abraham returned and dwelt opposite Hebron, that is, Karjâtârbôk, two weeks of years. 2. And in the first year of the third week of this jubilee the days of the life of Sarah were completed, and she died in Hebron. 5. And Abraham went to mourn over and to bury her; and we tried him if his spirit was patient and if he was impatient in the words of his mouth, and he

was found patient in this, and was not shaken. 4. For in the patience of his soul he conversed with the children of Kêti that they should give him a place that he could bury his body in it; and the Lord gave him grace before all who saw him, and he asked with modesty of heart of the children of Kêti, and they gave him the land of the double cave opposite Mâmôrê, which is Hebron, for forty pieces of silver. 5. But they begged him, saying: "We will give it to thee;" and he did not take anything from them for nothing, for he gave the price for the place, perfect silver; and he bowed down before them twice, and then he buried the body in the double cave. 6. And all the days of the life of Sarah were one hundred and twenty-seven years, and this is two jubilees and four weeks and one year; those are the days of the years of the life of Sarah. And this was the tenth trial with which Abraham was tempted, and he was found faithful and of patient spirit. 8. And he did not speak a single word concerning that God had said that he would give him and his seed after him this land when he petitioned that he might bury his body there, for he was found faithful and patient and was written down as a friend of the Lord in the tablets of heaven. 9. And in the fourth year thereof he took a wife for Isaac his son, and her name was Rebecca, the daughter of Betuel, the son of Nahor, the brother of Abraham. 10. And Abraham took to himself a third wife, and her name was Keturah, from among the sons of his household, for Hagar had died before Sarah. 11. And she bore him six sons, Zambari, and Joksan, and Madai, and Ejazbok, and Sachai in the second week of years.¹⁵ 12. And in the sixth week, in the second year, Rebecca bore to Isaac two sons, Jacob and Esau: but Jacob was pious and righteous and Esau was a rough man, a tiller of the field and hairy, but Jacob dwelt within tents. 13. And the youths grew, and

¹⁵ Only five names are given in the Ethiopic text. The similarity of the names Medan and Midian (Gen. xxv. 2) has manifestly led to the omission of one.

Jacob learned writing ; but Esau did not learn it, for he was a man of the field and a hunter, and learned war and all rough deeds. 14. But Abraham loved Jacob, but Isaac loved Esau. 15. And Abraham saw the deeds of Esau, and he knew that his name and seed should be called for him in Jacob, and he called Rebecca, and commanded her concerning Jacob, for he saw that she too loved Jacob much more than Esau. 16. And he said to her: " My daughter, watch my son Jacob, for he shall be in my stead upon the earth as a blessing among the sons of men and to all the seed of Shem, and for an honor, and I know that the Lord has chosen him for himself as a people secluded from all those upon the face of the earth, and behold, Isaac, my son, loves Esau more than Jacob, and I see that thou lovest righteousness for Jacob ; add yet to do something good for him and let thine eyes be over him as the beloved, for he shall be to me a blessing over the earth, from now on and to all the generations of the earth. 17. Let thy hands be strong, and thou shalt rejoice in thy son Jacob, for him do I love exceedingly above all my children ; for to eternity the Lord will be blessed in him, and his seed shall fill all the land. 18. If a man can number the dust of the earth, then his seed will be numbered. 19. And all the blessings with which the Lord has blessed me and my seed shall be to Jacob and his seed all the days, and in his seed shall my name be blessed and the names of my fathers, Shem, and Noah, and Enoch, and Mahaalel, and Seth, and Adam ; and these will serve to a founding of heaven and a strengthening of the earth and for a removal of all the stars upon the firmament." ¹⁴ 20. And he called Jacob before the eyes of his mother Rebecca, and he kissed him, and blessed him, and said to him ; " My beloved son Jacob, whom my soul loveth, may God bless thee from the firmament above and give thee all the blessings with which he blessed Adam, and Enoch, and Noah,

¹⁴ This probably means that a great nation is to come from Jacob, referring either to the Israel of history or to that of the messianic period.

and Shem, and all that he has conversed with me and all that he has said that he would give me, may he fasten these to thee and to thy seed to eternity, according to the days of heaven over the earth. 21. And the spirits of Mastêmâ shall not become masters over thee and over thy seed to remove thee from the Lord who is thy God, from now on and to eternity. 22. And may the Lord God be thy father, and thou his first-born son, and his people for all days: go, my son, in peace!" 23. And the two went together from Abraham. 24. And Rebecca loved Jacob with all her heart, and with all her soul, exceedingly more than Esau; and Isaac loved Esau exceedingly more than Jacob.

CHAP. XX. 1 And in the thirty-second jubilee, in the first year of the seventh week, Abraham called Ishmael and his twelve sons, and Isaac and his two sons, and the six sons of Keturah and their sons. 2. And he commanded them that they should preserve the path of the Lord to do righteousness and should love each his neighbor, and that they should be thus in all the wars that they go into against every one that is against them, and do justice and righteousness over the earth, and that they circumcise their sons according to the covenant which he had made with them, and that they should not transgress neither to the right hand nor to the left from all the paths which the Lord had commanded them, and that they should preserve themselves from all uncleanness, and that we should remove from our midst all uncleanness and fornication. 3. And if any woman or maid commit fornication amongst you, burn her with fire, and do not commit fornication after their eyes and hearts; and that they should not take unto themselves wives from among the daughters of Canaan, for the seed of Canaan shall be rooted out of the land. 4. And he spoke to them concerning the judgment of the giants and the judgment of Sodom, that these had been judged on account of their wickedness, and on account of fornication and uncleanness and destruction

among each other. 5. "But be on your guard against all fornication and uncleanness and contamination of sin, so that ye do not make our name a curse and bring your lives and your sons to destruction by the sword and ye become accursed like Sodom, and all your remnant like the sons of Gomorrah. 6. And I call upon you as witnesses, my sons, love the God of heaven and submit to all his commandments, and do not walk after their idols and after their uncleanness, and do not make molten gods for yourselves nor wooden ones. 7. For they are vanity, and have no spirit, but they are the work of hands, and all who depend upon them Do not worship them nor bow down to them. 8. But worship ye the Most High God and bow down to him ever, and hope upon his face at all times, and do rectitude and righteousness before him, that he may find pleasure in you and give you his mercy, and send down rain to you morning and evening, and bless all your work which ye do on the earth, and bless thy grain and thy water, and bless the seed of thy body, and the seed of thy land, and the herds of thy oxen, and the herds of thy sheep. 9. And thou shalt be for a blessing over the earth, and all the nations of the earth shall desire for you and will bless thy sons in my name that they be blessed as I am." 10. And he gave to Ishmael his son and to the sons of Keturah a gift and sent them away from Isaac his son. 10. And Ishmael and his sons and the sons of Keturah and their sons went together and dwelt from Pharmon (Pharan) to the entrance of Babylon, in all the land which faces toward the east opposite the desert. 12. And these mingled with each other, and their name was called Arabs and Ishmaelites.

CHAP. XXI. 1. And in the sixth year of the seventh week of this jubilee Abraham called Isaac his son, and his father commanded him saying: "I am gray and do not know the day of my death, for I am satisfied in my days. 2. And behold, my son, I am one hundred and seventy-five years old, and in all the days of my life I have ever

remembered the Lord and sought with all my might that I might do the will of my God, and that I might walk aright in all his paths. 3. My soul hated idols so that I could be on my guard to do the will of him that created me, for he is the living God, and he is holy, and he is faithful, and he is just above all, and no evil is with him to have regard for persons and to take presents, for he is a god of righteousness, and a doer of judgment over all who transgress his commandments, and all that violate his covenant. 4. And thou, my son, observe his commandments and his ordinance and his judgment, and walk not after the unclean and, after the wooden images and after the molten ones. 5. And do not eat any blood of an animal, or of a beast, or of any bird that flies in the heavens. 6. And if thou slaughterest, slaughter as a pure sacrifice that is acceptable; slaughter it and pour out its blood upon the altar and all the fat of the sacrifice place upon the altar with flour and fruit offering, mixed with oil together with drink offering; place all this together upon the altar as a sacrifice of sweet savor before the Lord. 7. Like the fat of the thank offering lay them upon the fire, like the fat of the belly, and all the fat upon the entrails, and the two kidneys and all the fat that is upon them, and upon the thigh pieces, and the liver, together with the kidneys wrapped up in them; bring this all as a sweet savor which will be acceptable before the Lord together with fruit and drink offerings, thou shalt bring them all together for a sweet savor as the bread of the burnt offering for the Lord. 7. And the meat eat on that day and on the second day, and do not let the sun go down on it on the second day until it is eaten and nothing shall be left over for the third day, for it is not acceptable nor chosen, and it shall no longer be eaten, and all who eat bring sin upon themselves. 8. For thus have I found it written in the books of my forefathers, in the words of Enoch and in the words of Noah. 9. And upon all thy sacrifices thou shalt put salt, and thou shalt not violate the covenant of salt in all thy sacrifices before

the Lord. 10. And watch all the wood of the sacrifices, that thou dost not bring sacrificing wood besides the following: cypress, fir, and almond, and pine, and fir, and cedar, and savin, and citron, and olive, and myrrh, and balsam.¹⁷ 11. Of these kinds of wood lay upon the altar, under the sacrifice, having examined its appearance, and do not place any broken or dark wood; hard wood and unbroken, perfect, and nearly grown, and not old, for its savor is gone and there is no more savor in it, as at first. 12. Besides these kinds of wood thou shalt place no other kinds, for its savor has departed, and thou shalt send up the smell of its savor to heaven. 13. Observe this commandment and do it, my son, that thou mayest be right in all thy actions. 14. And at all times be clean in thy body and wash thyself with water, before thou goest to sacrifice upon the altar, and wash thy hands and thy feet before thou approachest the altar; and when thou art done sacrificing, return and wash thy hands and thy feet. 16. And let there not appear upon any one of you any blood, nor upon your clothes: be on thy guard, my son, guard thyself exceedingly against blood; bury it in the ground. 16. And do not eat any blood for it is the soul, eat no blood whatever. 17. And do not receive any present for any blood of man that it should be spilt in vain without judgment, for this blood which is spilt causes sin upon the earth, and it cannot be cleansed of the blood except by blood being shed; and do not receive a present or any gift for the blood of man; blood for blood; and ye shall become acceptable before the Lord God Most High, and he will be the protector of good, and that thou mayest be preserved from all evil and be saved from all death. 18. I see, my son, all the deeds of the sons of men, that they are sin and evil, and all their deeds are uncleanness, and rebellious and defiling, and there is no righteousness with them. 19. Guard thyself, do not go on their paths to step into their footprints and do not commit the error of death before

¹⁷ Cf. on these names Dillmann's *Lexicon Æthiopicum-Latinum*.

the Most High God, lest he hide his face from thee, and return thee into the hands of thy transgression and root thee out of the land, and thy seed from under heaven, and thy name be destroyed and thy seed from all the earth. 20. Preserve thyself from all their deeds and from all their uncleanness, and observe the observance of the Lord Most High and do his will and do right in all things. 21. And he will bless thee in all thy deeds, and will bring forth from thee a plant of righteousness in all the earth, in all the generations of the earth. And my name shall be known, and thy name, under heaven, in all the days. 22. Go, my son, in peace. May the Most High God, my God and thy God, strengthen thee to do his will, and may he bless all thy seed and the descendants of thy seeds to the generations of eternity, with all the blessings of righteousness, that thou mayest be a blessing on all the earth." 23. And he went out from him, rejoicing happy.

CHAP. XXII. 1. And it happened in the first week of the forty-third [fourth] jubilee, in the second year, that is the year in which Abraham died, Isaac and Ishmael came from the fountain of the oath that they might celebrate the festival of the seven days, that is, the festival of the first-fruits of the harvest, with Abraham, their father; and Abraham rejoiced because his two sons came to him. 2. For Isaac had much possessions in Beer-Sheba, and Isaac went out to see his possessions and returned to his father. 3. And in these days Ishmael came to see his father, and they all came together, and Isaac offered up a sacrifice as a burnt offering, and brought it upon the altar which his father had made at Hebron. 4. And he offered a thank offering and made a feast of joy before his brother Ishmael, and Rebecca made new cakes out of new grain, and she gave thereof to Jacob, her best son, that he should bring to Abraham, his father, from the first-fruits of the land, that he might eat and bless the Creator of all before he died. 5. And Isaac, too, sent by the hand of Jacob, who excelled, a thank offering to Abraham, that he

should drink and eat. 6. And he ate and drank and blessed the Most High God, who had created the heavens and the earth, and had made all the fat of the earth and had given it to the children of men to eat and to drink and that they should bless their Creator. 7. "And now I humbly thank thee, my Lord, that thou hast shown to me this day: behold, I am one hundred and seventy-five years old and full of days, and all the days were peace. 8. The sword of the hater did not overcome me in all that thou hast given me and my children all the days of my life until the present day. 9. My God, thy grace be over thy servant and over the seed of his sons, that he may be to thee a chosen nation and an inheritance from amongst all the nations of the earth, from now on and to all the days of the generations of the earth unto all eternities." 10. And he called Jacob and said to him: "My son Jacob, the Lord of all bless thee and strengthen thee to do righteousness and his will before him, and may he choose thee and thy seed that ye may be a people for his inheritance, according to his will in all the days. 11. And thou, my son Jacob, come hither and kiss me." 12. And he approached and kissed him, and he said: "Blessed be Jacob, my son, and all his children to the Lord Most High in all eternities; may the Lord give thee a seed of righteousness from among thy sons, to sanctify him in the midst of all the earth; and may all the nations serve thee and bow down to thy seed. 13. Become powerful before men, as thou rulest over all the seed of the earth and among the seed of Seth, when thy path and the path of thy sons is just for being his holy nation. 14. May the Most High God give thee all the blessings with which he blessed me and with which he blessed Noah and Adam; may they rest upon the sacred head of thy seed to all the generations and to eternity. 15. And may the Lord preserve thee clean from all unclean defilement, that thou mayest be forgiven of all the sins which without knowledge thou hast committed, and may he strengthen thee and bless

thee, and mayest thou inherit the whole earth. 16. And may he renew his covenant with thee, that thou mayest be to him a nation for his inheritance to all eternities, and he may be to thee and to thy seed a God in reality and in truth in all the days of the earth. 17. And thou, my son Jacob, remember my words and observe the commandments of Abraham, thy father; withdraw from among the Gentiles and do not eat with them, and do not according to their actions, and be not their companion; for their actions are unclean and all their ways are defiled and their sacrifices an abomination. 18. They sacrifice to the dead, and the evil spirits they worship, and in the graves they eat, and all their doings are in vain and for naught. 19. They have no heart to think and no eyes to see any of their actions and when they err, saying to a piece of wood, "Thou art my God," and to a stone, "Thou art my Lord and my saviour," and these have no heart. 20. And thou, my son Jacob, may the Most High Lord aid thee, and the God of heaven bless thee and preserve thee from all their uncleanness and from all their error. 21. Be thou on thy guard, my son Jacob, that thou takest not a wife from among all the seed of the daughters of Canaan, for all its seed is to be rooted out of the land; for on account of the sin of Ham and the transgression of Canaan also all his seed will be destroyed from the earth, and none will be left and escape of them on the day of judgment. 22. And all those that worship idols and all haters will have no hope in the land of the living, for they will descend into Sheol and will go unto the place of judgment, and there will not be any remembrance of them on the earth; just as the children of Sodom were taken away from the earth, there will be taken away all those that worship idols. 23. Fear not, my son Jacob, and do not tremble, son of Abraham; the Most High God will protect thee from all destruction, and from all the paths of error he will deliver thee. 24. This house I have built for myself, that I might place my name above it upon the land which is given to

thee and to thy seed forever, and that it should be called the house of Abraham; it is given to thee and to thy seed forever, since thou wilt build up my house and wilt establish my name before God unto eternity, and thy seed and thy name will stand in all the generations of the earth."

25. And he ceased speaking and commanding and blessing. 26. And the two lay together on one bed, and Jacob slept in the bosom of Abraham, the father of his father, and his thoughts kissed him seven times, and his love and his heart rejoiced over him. 26. And he blessed him with his whole heart and said: "The Most High God, the God of all, the Creator of all, who has led me out of Ur of the Chaldees, that he might give me this land as an inheritance to eternity and that I should establish a holy seed, may the Most High be blessed to eternity." 28. And he blessed Jacob and said: "My son, who is in all my heart and in all my thoughts, may I rejoice in him, and may thy grace and thy mercy be extensive over him and over his seed all the days. 29. And do not desert him and do not neglect him from now on and to the eternity of days, and may thy eyes be open over him and over his seed, that thou protectest him and blessest him and sanctifiest him, to be a nation for thy inheritance. 30. And bless him with all thy blessings from now on and to all days to eternity, and renew thy covenant, and be merciful with him and with his seed, in all thy will to all the generations of the earth."

CHAP. XXIII. 1. And he laid two fingers of Jacob upon his eyes, and he blessed the God of gods, and he covered his face and stretched out his feet and slept the sleep of eternity and was gathered to his father. 2. And during all this, Jacob was lying on his bosom and did not know that Abraham, the father of his father, was dead. 3. And Jacob awoke from his sleep, and, behold, Abraham was cold like ice, and he said, "Father! father!" and no one answered, and he knew that Abraham was dead. 4. And he arose from his bosom and ran and told it to

Rebecca, his mother, and Rebecca went to Isaac in the night and told him, and they went together and Jacob with them, and a lamp was in his hand, and going they found Abraham as a corpse. 5. And Isaac fell upon the face of his father Abraham, and wept and blessed him and kissed him; and the words were heard in the house of Abraham, and Ishmael, his son, arose and came to his father Abraham, and wept over Abraham, his father, he and all the house of Abraham, and they wept exceedingly. 6. And his sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the double cave, near to Sarah, his wife, and they mourned over him forty days, all the people of his house, Isaac and Ishmael and all their children and the children of Keturah in their places; and the lamentation and weeping over Abraham was ended. 7. And he lived three jubilees and four weeks of years, one hundred and seventy-five years, and the days of his life were completed, and he was old, perfect in days. 8. For the days of the lives of the first fathers were nineteen jubilees, and after the flood they began to decrease from nineteen jubilees, diminishing in the jubilees and becoming speedily old and satisfying their days on account of the many sufferings and the wickedness of their ways, with the exception of Abraham. 9. But Abraham was perfect in his deeds with the Lord and well pleasing and in righteousness all the days of his life; and behold, he did not complete four jubilees in his life until he grew old on account of wickedness, and satisfied with days. 10. And all the generations that arise from then and unto the day of the great judgment age die speedily before completing two jubilees. 11. And it will be since their knowledge leaves them on account of their old age that also all their knowledge ceases. 12. And on that day if a man lives a jubilee and a half jubilee, they say concerning him, "He has lived long;" and the mass of his days are sufferings and pain and trouble and no peace, for punishment follows upon punishment, hostility upon hostility, trouble upon trouble, wickedness upon

wickedness, sickness upon sickness, and all evil judgments of this kind, as sickness and inflammation and hail and ice and snow and fever and suffering and becoming stiff, and sterility and death and sword and captivity and all the punishments and sufferings. 13. All this comes in the evil generation which sins upon the earth with the uncleanness of fornication and defilement and the abomination of their deeds. 14. And then they will say: "The days of the fathers were many, even to one thousand years, and were good, and behold the days of our lives, if a man has lived many, are seventy years, and if he is strong, eighty years, and all were evil and no peace will be in this evil generation." 15. And in that generation the children will be about to upbraid their fathers and their sires concerning the sin, and concerning the injustice, and concerning the words of their mouth, and concerning the great wickedness which they do, and concerning their deserting the ordinances which the Lord had covenanted between them and him, that they should observe and do all his commandments and his ordinances and all his laws and not depart to the right or to the left. 16. For all are wicked, and every mouth speaks transgression, and all their deeds are unclean and an abomination, and all their paths are contamination and uncleanness and destruction. 17. Behold, the earth will be destroyed on account of all their deeds, and there will be no seed of wine and no oil, because all their deeds are unbelief, and they all will be destroyed together, the beasts and the animals and the birds and all the fish of the sea, on account of the sons of men. 18. And they will contend with each other, the young with the old and the old with the young; the poor with the rich, and the lowly with the great, and the beggar with the prince, on account of the law and on account of the covenant, for they have forgotten his commandments and his covenant and the festivals and the months and the sabbaths and the jubilees and all law. 19. And they will arise with swords and murder to bring

them back to the path, but they will not return until the blood of many has been spilt upon the earth, one over the other. 20. And those who escape will not return on the path of righteousness from their wickedness, for they all will arise for a robbery for wealth, that each one may take that which is his neighbors' and be called by a great name, but not in reality and in truth, and the most holy will be defiled in the uncleanness of the destruction of their defilement. 21. And a great punishment will be over the deeds of this generation from the Lord, and he will give them over to the sword and to judgment and to captivity and to robbery and to devouring. 22. And he will awaken over them the sinners of the Gentiles, who will have no mercy or grace for them, and who regard the face of none, neither old nor young nor any one; for they are wicked and powerful that they act more wickedly than all the children of men; and in Israel they practise violence and sin in Jacob, and the blood of many will be spilt on the land; and there will be none to gather and to bury. 23. And in those days they will cry aloud and call and pray that they be saved from the hands of the sinful Gentiles, and there will be none to save them. 24. And the heads of the children will be white with gray hair, and a child of three weeks will appear as old as a man of a hundred years, and their standing will be destroyed by trouble and oppression. 25. And in those days the children will begin to seek the laws and to seek the commandments and to return to the path of righteousness. 26. And the days will begin to increase and grow many, and the children of men generation by generation and day by day, until their days approach to one thousand years and to a multitude of years and days. 27. And no one will be old or satisfied with days, for all will be [like] children and youths. 28. And all their days will be in peace, and in joy they will end them and live, and there will be no satan nor any destroyer, for all their days will be days of peace and healing and blessings. 29. And

at that time the Lord will heal his servants, and they will arise and will see great peace and will cast out their enemies; and the just shall see it and be thankful and rejoice in joy to all eternity, and shall see judgment and curses upon all their enemies. 30. And their bones shall rest in the earth, but their spirits shall increase in joy, and they shall know that the Lord is the doer of judgment, and gives mercy to the hundreds and thousands and to all that love him. 31. And thou, Moses, write down all these words, for thus are they written, and they have raised them upon the tablets of heaven to the generation of eternity.¹⁸

ARTICLE V.

THE FAMILY AND THE CHURCH.

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THIS theme might be treated as applying to the life and habits of the single home and the work and services of its local church in their power to help or hinder one another, to co-operate for the same great ends, or to counteract each the other's good influence.

But, in order to arrive most intelligently at this special view of their actual, practical relations, we shall first consider the nature and fundamental conception of these two institutions of God, as his thought is revealed to us in them—the ideal family state and the church spiritual and entire, the body of Christ developing on earth and perfected in heaven. This view, if properly taken, will serve to explain and emphasize more clearly the motives and methods for the best life of the individual home and single,

¹⁸ These somewhat crass messianic views this book has in common with other and similar works of the same period. Cf. Enoch c. 5 et passim.