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GREEK TEXT · TRANSLATION · INTERLINEAR · DISCOURSE STRUCTURE

The First Book of Kingdoms, Chapter 31

ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΩΝ Α' ΛΑ'

Each verse opens with the running Greek, an English translation, and a **discourse note** (its connective, relation, and role in the argument). Below follows the word-by-word breakdown in six tiers: gloss, case (color), parsing, *syntax*, **semantic force**, and a | lexical note.

CASE ■ Nominative ■ Genitive ■ Dative ■ Accusative ■ Vocative ■ Verb (no case) ■ Indeclinable

Discourse notes head each verse: **relation** · connective · clause-flow. Indentation marks prominence — flush-left = main line of argument; indented = supporting / subordinate material.

Theme

Saul dies on Mount Gilboa, and 1 Kingdoms closes in defeat, grief, and the honor of Jabesh-gilead's loyalty.

Translation & textual notes

The Greek text of 1 Kingdoms 31 (= 1 Samuel 31 MT) follows the standard critical text of the Septuagint as established in the Rahlfs–Hanhart edition (Septuaginta, rev. ed. 2006), an ancient and public-domain text; the critical apparatus is not reproduced. This is the final chapter of 1 Kingdoms (Α' Βασιλειῶν), and it brings the whole book to its tragic close: the death of Saul. The narrative falls into four movements: the rout of Israel and the death of Saul and his three sons on Mount Gilboa (vv. 1–6), the flight of Israel and the Philistine occupation of the abandoned cities (v. 7), the Philistines' stripping, beheading, and public display of the bodies (vv. 8–10), and the night-time rescue, cremation, and burial of the corpses by the

valiant men of Jabesh-Gilead, followed by a seven-day fast (vv. 11–13). The chapter is dominated by a chain of vivid historic presents (πίπτουσιν, συνάπτουσιν, τύπτουσιν, εὐρίσκουσιν, ἔρχονται, ἀποστρέφουσιν, ἀνέθηκαν, ἀκούουσιν, λαμβάνουσιν), a hallmark of the OG translation of Kingdoms, which renders the Hebrew narrative wayyiqtol chain with a mixture of aorists and dramatic presents. Saul, wounded by the archers (οἱ ἀκοντισταί ... τοξόται, v. 3), begs his armor-bearer (ὁ αἵρων τὰ σκεύη αὐτοῦ) to run him through lest the uncircumcised (οἱ ἀπερίτμητοι) abuse him; the armor-bearer refuses out of fear, and Saul falls on his own sword (ἐπέπεσεν ἐπ' αὐτήν, v. 4). The Philistines fasten his body to the wall of Beth-shan (Βαιθσαν) and dedicate his armor in the temple of Astarte (τὸ Ἀσταρτεῖον, v. 10). The closing scene of the loyal men of Jabesh-Gilead recovering the bodies repays the debt owed to Saul for his deliverance of Jabesh in 1 Kingdoms 11. The book ends on a note of national catastrophe and unresolved grief, opening directly onto 2 Kingdoms, where David receives the news of Saul's death and the kingdom passes to him.

Discourse structure of the chapter

A · 31:1–6

The rout on Gilboa and the death of Saul and his sons

The Philistines war against Israel; the men of Israel flee and fall slain on Mount Gilboa (v. 1). The Philistines press hard upon Saul and his sons, killing Jonathan, Abinadab, and Malchishua (v. 2). The battle bears down on Saul himself, and the archers wound him in the abdomen (v. 3). Saul asks his armor-bearer to dispatch him with the sword lest the uncircumcised abuse him; when the terrified armor-bearer refuses, Saul falls on his own sword (v. 4), and the armor-bearer, seeing Saul dead, falls on his sword and dies with him (v. 5). So Saul, his three sons, and his armor-bearer all die together on that same day (v. 6).

B · 31:7

Israel's flight and the Philistine occupation

The men of Israel on the far side of the valley and beyond the Jordan see that the army has fled and that Saul and his sons are dead; they abandon their cities and flee, and the Philistines come and settle in them. The collapse of Saul's house becomes the collapse of Israelite territory.

C · 31:8–10

The Philistines strip, behead, and display the dead

On the next day the Philistines come to strip the slain and find Saul and his three sons fallen on Gilboa (v. 8). They turn him over, strip off his armor, and send word throughout the land of the Philistines, proclaiming the news to their idols and their people (v. 9). They set his armor in the temple of Astarte and fasten his body to the wall of Beth-shan (v. 10) — the trophy-display of the defeated king of Israel.

D · 31:11–13

Jabesh-Gilead recovers and buries the dead; the seven-day fast

The inhabitants of Jabesh-Gilead hear what the Philistines have done to Saul (v. 11). Every man of valor rises and marches all night, takes the bodies of Saul and Jonathan from the wall of Beth-shan, carries them to Jabesh, and burns them there (v. 12). They take the bones, bury them under the tilled field of Jabesh, and fast seven days (v. 13). This act of loyalty repays Saul's rescue of Jabesh in ch. 11 and closes the book of 1 Kingdoms on a note of grief, opening onto 2 Kingdoms.

1 καὶ οἱ ἀλλόφυλοι ἐπολέμουν ἐπὶ Ἰσραηλ καὶ ἔφυγον οἱ ἄνδρες Ἰσραηλ ἐκ προσώπου τῶν ἀλλοφύλων
καὶ πίπτουσιν τραυματαῖαι ἐν τῷ ὄρει τῷ Γελβουε

And the Philistines were warring against Israel, and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and they fall down slain on Mount Gilboa.

Scene-setting (battle report opening the book's final chapter)

καὶ οἱ ἀλλόφυλοι ἐπολέμουν

The chapter opens with paratactic καί and an imperfect of ongoing action (ἐπολέμουν), framing the battle as already underway — this is the narrative continuation of the muster at 28:1–4 and 29:1, where the Philistines gathered against Israel. The shift from imperfect (ἐπολέμουν) to aorist (ἔφυγον) to historic present (πίπτουσιν) compresses the rout into vivid immediacy. Mount Gilboa (Γελβουε), named at the verse's close, is the fated battlefield announced in ch. 28.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (Hebraizing καὶ-parataxis)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article (with ἀλλόφυλοι)

→ noun-phrase marking

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἀλλόφυλοι

Philistines / foreigners

Nominative

subject (of ἐπολέμουν)

→ participant prominence

ἀλλόφυλος; lit. 'of another tribe / foreigner'; the standard LXX rendering of פִּלְשְׁתִּי ('Philistines'), avoiding transliteration; throughout Kingdoms οἱ ἀλλόφυλοι are Israel's archetypal enemy, and here they are the agents of Saul's destruction.

ἐπολέμουν

were warring

Impf Act Indic 3 Pl · πολεμέω

main verb (durative battle-report)

→ verbal action or state

πολεμέω: 'make war / fight'; renders פָּלַח; the imperfect ἐπολέμουν sets the durative background against which the foreground aorists and presents unfold — the war is already raging as the chapter opens.

ἐπὶ

against

preposition + accusative (hostile direction)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐπὶ + acc.: here in hostile sense, 'against'; πολεμέω ἐπὶ renders לַע / בַּ פָּלַח ('fight against').

Ισραηλ

Israel

object of ἐπὶ (indeclinable proper noun)

→ participant identification

Ισραηλ: transliteration of יִשְׂרָאֵל; indeclinable in the LXX; here denotes the national army/people opposed to the Philistines.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἔφυγον

fled

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · φεύγω

main verb (foreground event: the rout)

→ verbal action or state

φεύγω: 'flee / take flight'; renders פָּלַח; the aorist marks the turning-point of the battle — Israel breaks and runs; the verb recurs at v. 7 in the report of the flight, knitting the chapter together.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article (with ἄνδρες)

→ noun-phrase marking

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἄνδρες

men

Nominative

subject (of ἔφυγον)

→ participant prominence

ἄνθρωπος (pl. ἄνδρες): 'man / warrior'; renders יָדָא / שִׂנְא; οἱ ἄνδρες Ισραηλ is a fixed military phrase for the Israelite fighting force (cf. v. 7).

Ισραηλ

Israel

genitive of relationship (indeclinable: 'men of Israel')

→ participant identification

Ισραηλ: indeclinable; the article-less genitival relation 'men of Israel' is normal LXX usage with indeclinable names.

ἐκ

from

preposition + genitive (source: 'from before')

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐκ: meaning 'from'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + genitive (source: 'from before').

προσώπου

face / presence

Genitive

genitive object of ἐκ (idiomatic: 'from the presence of')

→ relational specification

πρόσωπον: 'face / presence'; the idiom ἐκ προσώπου renders יְצַח ('from before / from the face of'), a Hebraism denoting flight away from a hostile presence.

τῶν

the

Genitive

article (with ἀλλοφύλων)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῶν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἀλλοφύλων

Philistines / foreigners

Genitive

genitive (with προσώπου: 'before the Philistines')

→ relational specification

ἀλλόφυλος (gen. pl.): the Philistines as the hostile presence from whose face Israel flees.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

πίπτουσιν

they fall

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · πίπτω

main verb (historic present: vivid foregrounding)

→ verbal action or state

πίπτω: 'fall'; here euphemistic-military 'fall in battle / be slain'; renders נָפַח; the historic present πίπτουσιν dramatizes the carnage and is the first of the chapter's many vivid presents rendering the Hebrew wayyiqtol chain.

τραυματία

slain / wounded ones

Nominative

predicate nominative / nominative in apposition (those who fall, as slain)

→ participant prominence

τραυματίας: 'wounded man / one slain in battle'; renders לָחָה ('pierced, slain'); the cognate verb τραυματίζω appears at v. 3 of Saul himself; here the plural nominative describes the Israelite dead lying on the mountain.

ἐν

on / in

preposition + dative (locative)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν: meaning 'on'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + dative (locative).

τῷ

the

Dative

article (with ὄρει)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ὄρει

mountain

Dative

dative of place (locative: 'on the mountain')

→ sphere or reference

ὄρος: 'mountain'; renders הָר; the battle is fought on the heights of Gilboa, the place David later curses in his lament (2 Kgdms 1:21).

τῷ

the

Dative

article (attributive, with the appositional name Γελβουε)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Γελβουε

Gilboa

place-name in apposition (indeclinable: 'Mount Gilboa')

→ participant identification

Γελβουε: transliteration of גִּלְבּוֹא ('Gilboa'); indeclinable in the LXX; the mountain range south-east of the Jezreel Valley, fated battlefield of Saul's last stand; recurs at v. 8.

2 καὶ συνάπτουσιν ἄλλόφυλοι τῷ Σαουλ καὶ τοῖς υἱοῖς αὐτοῦ καὶ τύπτουσιν ἄλλόφυλοι τὸν Ἰωναθαν καὶ τὸν Ἀμιναδαβ καὶ τὸν Μελχισα υἱοὺς Σαουλ

And the Philistines closed in upon Saul and his sons, and the Philistines struck down Jonathan and Abinadab and Malchishua, sons of Saul.

Sequential narration (the battle narrows onto Saul's house)

καὶ συνάπτουσιν

Two historic presents (συνάπτουσιν, τύπτουσιν) advance the action with the repeated subject ἄλλόφυλοι framing both clauses, heightening the relentlessness of the assault. The naming of the three sons — Jonathan, Abinadab, Malchishua — and their summary apposition υἱοὺς Σαουλ underscores the extinction of Saul's dynastic line, the climactic loss before Saul's own death.

καὶ
and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

συνάπτουσιν

close in / engage

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · συνάπτω

main verb (historic present)

→ verbal action or state

συνάπτω: 'join together / join battle / close in'; here intransitive-military, 'engage / press close upon'; renders צָבַד ('cling, overtake, press hard'); with the dative τῷ Σαουλ it means the Philistines overtake and engage Saul and his sons at close quarters.

ἄλλόφυλοι

Philistines

Nominative

subject (anarthrous, of συνάπτουσιν)

→ participant prominence

ἄλλόφυλος: here anarthrous, but still definite by context (the Philistine force of v. 1).

τῷ

the

Dative

article (with the indeclinable Σαουλ, marking dative case)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Σαουλ

Saul

dative object of συνάπτουσιν (indeclinable; case shown by article τῷ)

→ noun-phrase marking

Σαουλ: transliteration of שׂאֻל ('Saul'); indeclinable in the LXX (case carried by the accompanying article); the doomed first king of Israel, central figure of the chapter.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

τοῖς

the

Dative

article (with υἱοῖς)

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῖς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

υἱοῖς

sons

Dative

dative (coordinate with Σαουλ: 'upon Saul and his sons')

→ sphere or reference

υἱοῖς: meaning 'sons'; it serves as dative (coordinate with Σαουλ: 'upon Saul and his sons').

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession (Saul's sons)

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (Saul's sons).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

τύπτουσιν

they strike down

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · τύπτω

main verb (historic present)

→ verbal action or state

τύπτω: 'strike / beat / smite'; here 'strike down, kill'; renders הִכָּה (Hiphil); the historic present continues the vivid battle narration and reports the death of Saul's three named sons.

ἄλλόφυλοι

Philistines

Nominative

subject (anarthrous, of τύπτουσιν)

→ participant prominence

ἄλλόφυλοι: meaning 'Philistines'; it serves as subject (anarthrous, of τύπτουσιν).

τὸν

the

Accusative

article (with the indeclinable Ἰωναθαν, marking accusative)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Ἰωναθαν

Jonathan

direct object of τύπτουσιν (indeclinable; case shown by article τὸν)

→ noun-phrase marking

Ἰωναθαν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

τὸν

the

Accusative

article (with the indeclinable Ἀμινάδαβ)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Αμιναδαβ

Abinadab

direct object of τύπτουσιν (indeclinable; case shown by article)

→ participant identification

Αμιναδαβ: the LXX form for אֲבִינָדָב ('Abinadab'), a son of Saul (the Greek tradition assimilates the name to the more familiar Amminadab); indeclinable.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

τὸν

the

Accusative

article (with the indeclinable Μελχισα)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Μελχισα

Malchishua

direct object of τύπτουσιν (indeclinable; case shown by article)

→ participant identification

Μελχισα: the LXX form of מַלְכִישׁוּא ('Malchishua'), a son of Saul; indeclinable; the three sons named together mark the destruction of Saul's house.

υἱούς

sons

Accusative

accusative in apposition (summarizing the three named sons)

→ object specification

υἱός (acc. pl. υἱούς): the appositional 'sons of Saul' gathers the three names under their fatal relation to the king, sealing the dynastic catastrophe.

Σαουλ

Saul

genitive of relationship (indeclinable: 'sons of Saul')

→ participant identification

Σαουλ: indeclinable; the genitival relation 'sons of Saul' needs no article here.

3 καὶ βαρύνεται ὁ πόλεμος ἐπὶ Σαουλ καὶ εὐρίσκουσιν αὐτὸν οἱ ἀκοντισταὶ ἄνδρες τοξόται καὶ ἔτραυματίσθη εἰς τὰ ὑποχόνδρια

And the battle pressed heavily upon Saul, and the spearmen — men, archers — found him, and he was wounded in the abdomen.

Sequential narration (the assault concentrates on Saul himself) καὶ βαρύνεται ὁ πόλεμος

The action now narrows to Saul alone. The historic present βαρύνεται ('grows heavy / presses hard') personifies the battle as a crushing weight, and the present εὐρίσκουσιν ('they find / overtake') depicts the archers closing in. The shift to the aorist passive ἔτραυματίσθη marks the decisive wounding — Saul is now mortally hurt, setting up his request to the armor-bearer in v. 4.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

βαρύνεται

presses heavily

Pres Pass Indic 3 Sg · βαρύνω

main verb (historic present, passive)

→ verbal action or state

βαρύνω: 'make heavy / weigh down'; passive 'grow heavy / press hard'; renders **טָבַח** ('be heavy, severe'); the idiom βαρύνεται ὁ πόλεμος ἐπὶ ('the battle bears down heavily upon') depicts the concentration of the Philistine onslaught against Saul.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article (with πόλεμος)

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλεμος

battle / war

Nominative

subject (of βαρύνεται)

→ participant prominence

πόλεμος: 'war / battle'; renders **מִלְחָמָה**; personified here as a weight that bears down on Saul, the cognate noun to ἐπολέμουν in v. 1.

ἐπὶ

upon / against

preposition + accusative (direction of pressure)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐπὶ + acc.: here 'upon, against'; βαρύνεται ἐπὶ renders **לְטָבַח** ('weigh heavily against').

Σαουλ

Saul

object of ἐπὶ (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Σαουλ: indeclinable; now the sole focus of the Philistine assault.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

εὕρισκουσιν

they find

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · εὕρισκω

main verb (historic present)

→ verbal action or state

εὕρισκω: 'find / come upon'; here 'overtake, catch up with'; renders **לָקַח**; the archers locate and target Saul; the same verb is used at v. 8 when the Philistines find his corpse.

αὐτόν

him

Accusative

direct object (Saul, of εὕρισκουσιν)

→ participant reference

αὐτόν: meaning 'him'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as direct object (Saul, of εὕρισκουσιν).

οἱ

the

Nominative

article (with ἀκοντισταί)

→ noun-phrase marking

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἀκοντισταί

spearmen / javelin-throwers

Nominative

subject (of εὕρισκουσιν)

→ participant prominence

ἀκοντιστής: 'javelin-thrower / spearman'; from ἀκόντιον ('dart, javelin'); renders the Hebrew **מֹרְיִם בִּקְשָׁת** ('shooters with the bow'); the LXX adds the apposition ἄνδρες τοξόται to specify them as bowmen.

ἄνδρες

men

Nominative

nominative in apposition (with ἀκοντισταί / τοξόται)

→ participant prominence

ἄνθρωποι (pl. ἄνδρες): 'men'; here in apposition specifying the spearmen as 'men, archers'; the doubled designation ἀκοντισταί ... ἄνδρες τοξόται renders the Hebrew **מֹרְיִם בִּקְשָׁת וְחֹמֶשׁ יָד**.

τοξόται

archers / bowmen

Nominative

nominative in apposition (specifying ἄνδρες)

→ participant prominence

τοξότης: 'archer / Bowman'; from τόξον ('bow'); renders תַּשְׁבֵּץ בְּקִיּוּרֵי שָׁאוּל; it is the archers' ranged fire that wounds Saul, making his death feel inescapable — he cannot close with them.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἐτραυματίσθη

he was wounded

Aor Pass Indic 3 Sg · τραυματίζω

main verb (decisive event, aorist passive)

→ verbal action or state

τραυματίζω: 'wound / injure'; renders וַיִּכּוּ / ('be wounded, writhe'); cognate with τραυματίαι ('the slain') in v. 1; the aorist passive marks the decisive blow — Saul is now mortally hurt, prompting his plea in v. 4.

εἰς

in / into

preposition + accusative (location of the wound)

→ spatial or relational framing

εἰς + acc.: here marking the place struck, 'in/at the abdomen'; renders the Hebrew preposition of the wounded region.

τὰ

the

Accusative

article (with ὑποχόνδρια)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὰ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ὑποχόνδρια

abdomen / soft parts under the ribs

Accusative

accusative object of εἰς (location of the wound)

→ object specification

ὑποχόνδριον: lit. 'the part under the cartilage of the breastbone' (ὑπό + χόνδρος), i.e. the upper abdomen / soft belly; a medical term; renders the Hebrew טַחֵךְ ('greatly') of the MT loosely as a localization of the wound — the LXX understands Saul to be struck in the vital midsection, hence mortally.

4 καὶ εἶπεν Σαουλ πρὸς τὸν αἵροντα τὰ σκεύη αὐτοῦ σπάσαι τὴν ῥομφαίαν σου καὶ ἀποκέντησόν με ἐν αὐτῇ μὴ ἔλθωσιν οἱ ἀπερίτμητοι οὗτοι καὶ ἀποκεντήσωσίν με καὶ ἐμπαίξωσίν μοι καὶ οὐκ ἐβούλετο ὁ αἴρων τὰ σκεύη αὐτοῦ ὅτι ἐφοβήθη σφόδρα καὶ ἔλαβεν Σαουλ τὴν ῥομφαίαν καὶ ἐπέπεσεν ἐπ' αὐτήν

And Saul said to his armor-bearer, 'Draw your sword and run me through with it, lest these uncircumcised come and run me through and mock me.' But his armor-bearer would not, for he was greatly afraid. So Saul took the sword and fell upon it.

Direct speech embedded in narrative (Saul's death-request) followed by its outcome

καὶ εἶπεν Σαουλ

The verse pivots on Saul's command to his armor-bearer (imperative infinitive σπάσαι + aorist imperative ἀποκέντησόν), motivated by a negative purpose clause (μὴ + aorist subjunctives ἔλθωσιν ... ἀποκεντήσωσιν ... ἐμπαίξωσιν) expressing his dread of being abused by the uncircumcised. The armor-bearer's refusal (οὐκ ἐβούλετο, imperfect of resolve) is explained by a ὅτι-clause (ἐφοβήθη σφόδρα). The closing aorists ἔλαβεν ... ἐπέπεσεν narrate Saul's suicide — he falls on his own sword.

καὶ
and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

εἶπεν
said

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb (speech-introducing)

→ verbal action or state

λέγω: 'say'; the aorist εἶπεν introduces Saul's desperate command to his armor-bearer; the construction εἶπεν πρὸς + acc. is the standard LXX speech-formula.

Σαουλ
Saul

subject (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Σαουλ: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as subject (indeclinable).

πρὸς
to

preposition + accusative (direction of speech)

→ spatial or relational framing

πρὸς: meaning 'to'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (direction of speech).

τὸν

the

Accusative

article (with the substantival participle αἶρωντα)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

αἶροντα

the one bearing

Pres Act Part Acc Sg Masc · αἶρω

substantival participle (object of πρόσ: 'the armor-bearer')

→ verbal action or state

αἶρω: 'lift / carry / bear'; the substantival participle ὁ αἶρων τὰ σκεύη ('the one bearing the gear') is the LXX rendering of מְלִצְנִי ('armor-bearer'); the participial phrase recurs throughout the verse and in vv. 5–6, keeping the loyal attendant in focus.

τὰ

the

Accusative

article (with σκεύη)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὰ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

σκεύη

armor / gear

Accusative

direct object of αἶροντα ('bearing the armor')

→ object specification

σκεῦος (pl. σκεύη): 'vessel / equipment / weapons'; here military 'armor, arms, gear'; renders מִלְחָמָה; τὰ σκεύη Saul's wargear, later stripped and dedicated to Astarte (vv. 9–10).

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession (Saul's armor)

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (Saul's armor).

σπάσαι

draw

Aor Act Inf · σπάω

imperative infinitive (command: 'draw!')

→ verbal action or state

σπάω: 'draw / pull out (a sword)'; renders הִלָּךְ ('draw'); the aorist infinitive here functions as an imperative ('draw your sword'), a recognized Greek and Hebraizing usage; the parallel aorist imperative ἀποκέντησόν follows.

τὴν

the

Accusative

article (with ῥομφαίαν)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ῥομφαίαν

sword

Accusative

direct object of σπάσαι

→ object specification

ῥομφαία: 'sword / large broadsword'; renders רֶבֶרֶת; the LXX's preferred term for the sword (over μάχαιρα) in Kingdoms; the weapon recurs four times in vv. 4–5 as the instrument of both deaths.

σου

your

Genitive

genitive of possession (the armor-bearer's sword)

→ relational specification

σου: meaning 'your'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (the armor-bearer's sword).

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (linking the two commands)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἀποκέντησόν

run through / stab

Aor Act Impv 2 Sg · ἀποκεντέω

main verb (aorist imperative: command to kill)

→ verbal action or state

ἀποκεντέω: 'pierce through / stab to death' (ἀπό + κεντέω, 'prick'); renders קָטַךְ ('pierce, thrust through'); Saul commands the mercy-killing; the same verb recurs in the subjunctive (ἀποκεντήσωσιν) describing what he fears the Philistines will do.

με

me

Accusative

direct object (of ἀποκέντησόν)

→ participant reference

με: meaning 'me'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as direct object (of ἀποκέντησόν).

ἐν

with

preposition + dative (instrumental)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν + dat.: here instrumental, 'with it' (the sword); a Hebraizing instrumental ἐν rendering אֶל.

αὐτῇ

it

Dative

dative of instrument (the sword)

→ participant reference or interest

αὐτός (dat. fem.): refers to ῥομφαία ('sword', fem.); 'with it' = the means of the killing.

μή

lest

negative particle (introducing negative purpose/fear clause)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

μή: 'lest / that not'; with the aorist subjunctive it introduces a clause of apprehension/negative purpose — Saul's fear of what will happen if the Philistines take him alive.

ἔλθωσιν

they come

Aor Act Subj 3 Pl · ἔρχομαι

verb of negative-purpose clause (subjunctive)

→ verbal action or state

ἔρχομαι: 'come'; the aorist subjunctive after μή expresses the dreaded possibility that the uncircumcised will come upon him alive.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article (with ἀπερίτμητοι)

→ noun-phrase marking

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἀπερίτμητοι

uncircumcised

Nominative

subject (of ἔλθωσιν: the Philistines)

→ participant prominence

ἀπερίτμητος: 'uncircumcised' (ἀ- privative + περιτέμνω, 'circumcise'); renders אֲרֵי־לָוִי; a standard contemptuous Israelite epithet for the Philistines (cf. 1 Kgdms 14:6; 17:26); Saul's horror is at dishonor and abuse at the hands of the covenantless enemy.

οὗτοι

these

Nominative

demonstrative (modifying ἀπερίτμητοι: 'these uncircumcised')

→ participant prominence

οὗτος: 'this / these'; the deictic οὗτοι adds contempt and immediacy — 'these uncircumcised ones' closing in on the battlefield.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (within purpose clause)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἀποκεντήσωσίν

run me through

Aor Act Subj 3 Pl · ἀποκεντέω

verb of negative-purpose clause (subjunctive)

→ verbal action or state

ἀποκεντέω: the same verb Saul used in his command (ἀποκέντησόν); the repetition is pointed — he would rather be pierced by his own loyal man than by the mocking enemy.

με

me

Accusative

direct object (of ἀποκεντήσωσιν)

→ participant reference

με: meaning 'me'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as direct object (of ἀποκεντήσωσιν).

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (within purpose clause)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἐμπαίξωσίν

mock / abuse

Aor Act Subj 3 Pl · ἐμπαίζω

verb of negative-purpose clause (subjunctive)

→ verbal action or state

ἐμπαίζω: 'mock / make sport of / abuse'; renders הִתְלַח (Hithpa'el, 'deal wantonly with'); Saul's deepest dread is not death but the humiliation of being a plaything of the enemy — a fate his suicide is meant to forestall (though vv. 9–10 show the body abused anyway).

μοι

me / at me

Dative

dative object (of ἐμπαίξωσιν: 'mock at me')

→ participant reference or interest

ἐγώ (dat. μοι): ἐμπαίξω takes the dative of the one mocked; 'make sport of me.'

καὶ

but

narrative conjunction (adversative in force)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: here adversative in sense ('but'), introducing the armor-bearer's refusal against Saul's command.

οὐκ

not

negative particle (with ἐβούλετο)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

οὐκ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἐβούλετο

was willing

Impf Mid Indic 3 Sg · βούλομαι

main verb (the armor-bearer's refusal)

→ verbal action or state

βούλομαι: 'wish / be willing'; renders הָיָה ('be willing'); the imperfect οὐκ ἐβούλετο depicts a settled, sustained refusal — the armor-bearer simply would not raise his hand against the LORD's anointed.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article (with the substantival participle αἵρων)

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

αἵρων

the one bearing

Pres Act Part Nom Sg Masc · αἵρω

substantival participle (subject: 'the armor-bearer')

→ verbal action or state

αἵρω: the substantival participle ὁ αἵρων τὰ σκεύη ('armor-bearer') reappears as the subject of the refusal; the repeated full title keeps the attendant's loyalty and role vividly before the reader.

τὰ

the

Accusative

article (with σκεύη)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὰ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

σκεύη

armor / gear

Accusative

direct object of αἵρων

→ object specification

σκεύη: meaning 'armor'; it serves as direct object of αἵρων.

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession (Saul's armor)

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (Saul's armor).

ὅτι

for / because

causal conjunction (introducing reason for refusal)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ὅτι: 'because / for'; introduces the explanation of the armor-bearer's refusal — his great fear.

ἐφοβήθη

he was afraid

Aor Pass Indic 3 Sg · φοβέομαι

verb of causal clause

→ verbal action or state

φοβέομαι: 'fear / be afraid'; renders $\kappa\tau$; the aorist passive (deponent) with σφόδρα marks the overwhelming dread that paralyzed the armor-bearer — fear of killing the king.

σφόδρα

greatly

adverb of degree (intensifying ἐφοβήθη)

→ clausal contribution

σφόδρα: 'exceedingly / greatly'; standard LXX rendering of $\tau\kappa\tau$; intensifies the armor-bearer's fear.

καὶ

so / and

narrative conjunction (consecutive)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καί: here consecutive ('so'), introducing Saul's resort to suicide after the refusal.

ἔλαβεν

took

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λαμβάνω

main verb (Saul takes the sword)

→ verbal action or state

λαμβάνω: 'take / seize'; renders $\kappa\tau$; Saul takes his own sword — the loyal man having refused, the king must do the deed himself.

Σαουλ

Saul

subject (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Σαουλ: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as subject (indeclinable).

τὴν

the

Accusative

article (with ῥομφαίαν)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ῥομφαίαν

sword

Accusative

direct object of ἔλαβεν

→ object specification

ῥομφαία: the sword again — now Saul's own; the instrument of his self-inflicted death.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καί: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἐπέπεσεν

fell upon

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἐπιπίπτω

main verb (Saul's suicide)

→ verbal action or state

ἐπιπίπτω: 'fall upon / throw oneself upon'; renders $\kappa\tau$; the aorist ἐπέπεσεν ἐπ' αὐτήν ('he fell upon it') narrates Saul's death by his own sword; the same verb recurs in v. 5 of the armor-bearer's parallel suicide.

ἐπ'

upon

preposition + accusative (elided before vowel: 'upon it')

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐπ': meaning 'upon'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (elided before vowel: 'upon it').

αὐτήν

it

Accusative

accusative object of *ἐπὶ* (the sword)

→ participant reference

αὐτός (acc. fem.): refers to *ρόμφαία* ('sword'); Saul falls 'upon it.'

5 καὶ εἶδεν ὁ αἷρων τὰ σκεύη αὐτοῦ ὅτι τέθνηκεν Σαουλ καὶ ἐπέπεσεν καὶ αὐτὸς ἐπὶ τὴν ρομφαίαν αὐτοῦ καὶ ἀπέθανεν μετ' αὐτοῦ

And his armor-bearer saw that Saul was dead, and he too fell upon his own sword and died with him.

Sequential narration (the armor-bearer's parallel death)

καὶ εἶδεν ὁ αἷρων

The armor-bearer's death mirrors Saul's exactly: *ἐπέπεσεν* ... *ἐπὶ τὴν ρομφαίαν* echoes v. 4 verbatim, and *καὶ αὐτός* ('he too') binds the two deaths. The perfect *τέθνηκεν* ('Saul is/lay dead') marks the settled fact the armor-bearer perceives. His loyalty in life (refusing to kill the king) becomes loyalty in death (dying with him).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

εἶδεν

saw

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ὁράω

main verb (perception introducing *ὅτι*-clause)

→ verbal action or state

ὁράω (aor. εἶδεν): 'see / perceive'; renders *הָרָא*; the aorist of perception governs the *ὅτι*-clause reporting what the armor-bearer saw — that Saul was dead.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article (with the substantival participle *αἷρων*)

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

αἷρων

the one bearing

Pres Act Part Nom Sg Masc · αἶρω

substantival participle (subject: 'the armor-bearer')

→ verbal action or state

αἶρω: ὁ αἷρων τὰ σκεύη ('armor-bearer'); the full title recurs again, keeping the loyal attendant in focus as he follows his master in death.

τὰ

the

Accusative

article (with σκεύη)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὰ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

σκεύη

armor / gear

Accusative

direct object of αἶρων

→ object specification

σκεύη: meaning 'armor'; it serves as direct object of αἶρων.

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession (Saul's armor)

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (Saul's armor).

ὅτι

that

conjunction (introducing object clause after εἶδεν)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ὅτι: 'that'; introduces the content of the armor-bearer's perception.

τέθνηκεν

was dead / had died

Perf Act Indic 3 Sg · θνήσκω

verb of object clause (perfect of state)

→ verbal action or state

θνήσκω (perf. τέθνηκεν): 'be dead / have died'; renders Πη; the perfect expresses the abiding state — Saul now lies dead; the same perfect recurs at v. 7 in the report that reaches the men of Israel.

Σαουλ

Saul

subject of τέθνηκεν (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Σαουλ: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as subject of τέθνηκεν (indeclinable).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἐπέπεσεν

fell upon

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἐπιπίπτω

main verb (the armor-bearer's suicide)

→ verbal action or state

ἐπιπίπτω: 'fall upon'; the verbatim echo of v. 4 (ἐπέπεσεν ἐπ' αὐτήν) makes the armor-bearer's death an exact replica of Saul's — falling on his own sword.

καὶ

also

adverbial (with αὐτός: 'he too')

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καί: here adverbial/ascensive, 'also, too,' joined with αὐτός — 'he too' fell, echoing his master.

αὐτός

he himself

Nominative

intensive pronoun (subject: 'he too')

→ participant reference

αὐτός: intensive 'himself'; καὶ αὐτός = 'he too,' underscoring the parallel between the armor-bearer's death and Saul's.

ἐπὶ

upon

preposition + accusative (direction of the fall)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐπὶ: meaning 'upon'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (direction of the fall).

τὴν

the

Accusative

article (with ῥομφαίαν)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ρόμφαίαν

sword

Accusative

accusative object of ἐπί (the armor-bearer's own sword)

→ object specification

ρόμφαία: the armor-bearer's own sword (αὐτοῦ); the fourth and final occurrence of the word in vv. 4–5, the recurring instrument of death.

αὐτοῦ

his own

Genitive

genitive of possession (the armor-bearer's sword)

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his own'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (the armor-bearer's sword).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἀπέθανεν

died

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἀποθνήσκω

main verb (the armor-bearer's death)

→ verbal action or state

ἀποθνήσκω: 'die'; renders תָּמָה; the blunt aorist seals the armor-bearer's fate; the same verb opens v. 6 in the summary of all the deaths.

μετ'

with

preposition + genitive (accompaniment, elided before vowel)

→ spatial or relational framing

μετά + gen.: 'with'; μετ' αὐτοῦ ('with him') stresses that the armor-bearer dies together with Saul — loyalty unto death.

αὐτοῦ

him

Genitive

genitive object of μετ' (Saul)

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'him'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive object of μετ' (Saul).

6 καὶ ἀπέθανεν Σαουλ καὶ οἱ τρεῖς υἱοὶ αὐτοῦ καὶ ὁ αἵρων τὰ σκεύη αὐτοῦ ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ κατὰ τὸ αὐτό

So Saul died, and his three sons, and his armor-bearer, on that day, all together.

Summary statement (closing the death-scene) καὶ ἀπέθανεν Σαουλ

A summarizing recapitulation gathers all four deaths — Saul, his three sons, the armor-bearer — under a single aorist ἀπέθανεν and two temporal markers: ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ ('on that day') and κατὰ τὸ αὐτό ('together / all at once'). The verse closes the tragedy of Saul's house with stark finality before the narrative widens to the national consequences in v. 7.

καὶ

so / and

narrative conjunction (summarizing)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'so'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἀπέθανεν

died

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἀποθνήσκω

main verb (singular with compound subject: Saul and the rest)

→ verbal action or state

ἀποθνήσκω: 'die'; the singular verb agrees with the first/nearest subject (Σαουλ) but governs the whole compound subject — a common Greek and Hebrew construction; it recapitulates the deaths of vv. 1–5.

Σαουλ

Saul

subject (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Σαουλ: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as subject (indeclinable).

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (joining subjects)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article (with vīoi)

→ noun-phrase marking

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

τρῆς

three

Nominative

numeral (modifying vīoi: 'three sons')

→ measure or count

τρῆς: meaning 'three'; numeral expression contributing count or measure in context.

υἱοὶ

sons

Nominative

subject (coordinate with Σαουλ)

→ participant prominence

υἱός: 'son'; the three sons of Saul, the dynastic line, perish with their father.

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession (Saul's sons)

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (Saul's sons).

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (joining subjects)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article (with the substantival participle αἰρων)

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

αἰρων

the one bearing

Pres Act Part Nom Sg Masc · αἶρω

substantival participle (subject: 'the armor-bearer')

→ verbal action or state

αἶρω: ὁ αἰρων τὰ σκεύη ('armor-bearer'); the fourth and final occurrence of the title, now numbered among the dead.

τὰ

the

Accusative

article (with σκεύη)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὰ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

σκεύη

armor / gear

Accusative

direct object of αἶρων

→ object specification

σκεύη: meaning 'armor'; it serves as direct object of αἶρων.

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession (Saul's armor)

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (Saul's armor).

ἐν

on / in

preposition + dative (temporal)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν: meaning 'on'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + dative (temporal).

τῇ

the

Dative

article (with ἡμέρα)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῇ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἡμέρα

day

Dative

dative of time (when: 'on that day')

→ sphere or reference

ἡμέρα: 'day'; renders $\text{D}\iota\text{:}\ \text{ἐν}\ \text{τῇ}\ \text{ἡμέρᾳ}\ \text{ἐκείνῃ}$ ('on that day') is a standard LXX temporal formula stressing the simultaneity and totality of the catastrophe.

ἐκείνη

that

Dative

demonstrative (modifying ἡμέρα)

→ sphere or reference

ἐκείνος: 'that'; the demonstrative fixes the deaths to the single decisive day of the Gilboa disaster.

κατὰ

according to

preposition + accusative (idiomatic: 'together / at once')

→ spatial or relational framing

κατὰ + acc.: in the idiom κατὰ τὸ αὐτό 'at the same (time/place) / together'; renders $\text{ἰ}\text{π}\text{η}\text{ῖ}$ ('together').

τὸ

the

Accusative

article (substantizing αὐτό in the idiom)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

αὐτό

same / together

Accusative

substantival (in the idiom κατὰ τὸ αὐτό: 'all together')

→ participant reference

αὐτός (neut. τὸ αὐτό): 'the same'; the idiom κατὰ τὸ αὐτό means 'together, all at once, in one and the same event' — all four died as one, on the same day.

7 καὶ εἶδον οἱ ἄνδρες Ἰσραηλ οἱ ἐν τῷ πέραν τῆς κοιλάδος καὶ οἱ ἐν τῷ πέραν τοῦ Ἰορδάνου ὅτι ἔφυγον οἱ ἄνδρες Ἰσραηλ καὶ ὅτι τέθνηκεν Σαουλ καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ αὐτοῦ καὶ καταλείπουσιν τὰς πόλεις αὐτῶν καὶ φεύγουσιν καὶ ἔρχονται οἱ ἀλλόφυλοι καὶ κατοικοῦσιν ἐν αὐταῖς

And the men of Israel who were across the valley and those across the Jordan saw that the men of Israel had fled and that Saul and his sons were dead, and they abandoned their cities and fled; and the Philistines came and settled in them.

Consequence (the national collapse following Saul's death)

καὶ εἶδον οἱ ἄνδρες Ἰσραηλ

The scene widens from the battlefield to the whole region. The aorist εἶδον governs two parallel ὅτι-clauses (the army has fled; Saul and his sons are dead). The consequence unfolds in a chain of historic presents (καταλείπουσιν ... φεύγουσιν ... ἔρχονται ... κατοικοῦσιν), depicting the abandonment of the cities and the Philistine occupation — the death of Saul becomes the dispossession of Israel.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (consequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

εἶδον

saw

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ὀράω

main verb (perception governing ὅτι-clauses)

→ verbal action or state

ὀράω (aor. εἶδον): 'see / perceive'; renders ἤλθῃ; the aorist governs the two ὅτι-clauses reporting what the men of Israel realized — the rout and Saul's death.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article (with ἄνδρες)

→ noun-phrase marking

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἄνδρες

men

Nominative

subject (of εἶδον)

→ participant prominence

άνήρ (pl. ἄνδρες): the men of Israel — here the civilian/military population of the region, not only the army; the phrase οἱ ἄνδρες Ἰσραηλ recurs from v. 1.

Ισραηλ

Israel

genitive of relationship (indeclinable: 'men of Israel')

→ participant identification

Ισραηλ: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as genitive of relationship (indeclinable: 'men of Israel').

οἱ

those

Nominative

article (substantizing the following prepositional phrase: 'those who were across')

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: the article substantizes the prepositional phrase ἐν τῷ πέραν, 'those who were across the valley.'

ἐν

in / on

preposition + dative (locative)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν: meaning 'in'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + dative (locative).

τῷ

the

Dative

article (substantizing the adverb πέραν as a noun: 'the far side')

→ noun-phrase marking

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πέραν

other side / beyond

adverb substantized by the article (locative: 'the region across')

→ noun-phrase marking

πέραν: 'on the other side / beyond'; an adverb here substantized (τὸ πέραν, 'the far side'); renders רֶגֶל ('the region across'); ἐν τῷ πέραν τῆς κοιλάδος = 'on the far side of the valley.'

τῆς

the

Genitive

article (with κοιλάδος)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

κοιλάδος

valley

Genitive

genitive (with πέραν: 'across the valley')

→ relational specification

κοιλάς: 'hollow / valley'; renders רְחֵל; the valley is the Jezreel/Esdraelon plain that the Philistines now dominate; the Israelites on its far side flee.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (joining the two groups)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

οἱ

those

Nominative

article (substantizing the prepositional phrase: 'those across the Jordan')

→ noun-phrase marking

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἐν

in / on

preposition + dative (locative)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν: meaning 'in'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + dative (locative).

τῷ

the

Dative

article (substantizing πέραν)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πέραν

other side / beyond

adverb substantized by the article (locative: 'across')

→ noun-phrase marking

πέραν: the Transjordan region; ἐν τῷ πέραν τοῦ Ιορδάνου = 'beyond the Jordan,' the eastern populations who likewise abandon their towns.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article (with Ἰορδάνου)

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Ἰορδάνου

Jordan

Genitive

genitive (with πέραν: 'across the Jordan')

→ relational specification

Ἰορδάνης (gen. Ἰορδάνου): the Jordan river; unlike many biblical place-names this one is declined as a first-declension masculine noun in the LXX (hence kind 'n'); renders יַרְדֵּן.

ὅτι

that

conjunction (first object clause after εἶδον)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ὅτι: 'that'; introduces the first content of their perception — the flight of the army.

ἔφυγον

had fled

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · φεύγω

verb of object clause

→ verbal action or state

φεύγω: 'flee'; the aorist ἔφυγον echoes v. 1 — the rout that began the chapter is now perceived from afar by the regional Israelites.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article (with ἄνδρες)

→ noun-phrase marking

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἄνδρες

men

Nominative

subject (of ἔφυγον: the army)

→ participant prominence

ἄνῃρ (pl. ἄνδρες): here the fighting force of Israel whose flight is reported.

Ἰσραὴλ

Israel

genitive of relationship (indeclinable: 'men of Israel')

→ participant identification

Ἰσραὴλ: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as genitive of relationship (indeclinable: 'men of Israel').

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (joining the two ὅτι-clauses)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ὅτι

that

conjunction (second object clause after εἶδον)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ὅτι: introduces the second content of perception — the death of Saul and his sons.

τέθνηκεν

were dead

Perf Act Indic 3 Sg · θνήσκω

verb of object clause (perfect of state, singular with compound subject)

→ verbal action or state

θνήσκω (perf. τέθνηκεν): 'be dead'; the perfect echoes v. 5; the singular agrees with the nearest subject (Σαουλ) though it governs Saul 'and his sons.'

Σαουλ

Saul

subject of τέθνηκεν (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Σαουλ: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as subject of τέθνηκεν (indeclinable).

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (joining subjects)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article (with υἱοί)

→ noun-phrase marking

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

υἱοὶ

sons

Nominative

subject (coordinate with Σαουλ)

→ participant prominence

υἱός: Saul's sons, again gathered with him in death.

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession (Saul's sons)

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (Saul's sons).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (consequence)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

καταλείπουσιν

they abandon

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · καταλείπω

main verb (historic present)

→ verbal action or state

καταλείπω: 'leave behind / abandon / forsake'; renders כָּזַב; the historic present dramatizes the Israelites' flight — they desert their own cities, ceding the land to the enemy.

τὰς

the

Accusative

article (with πόλεις)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὰς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλεις

cities

Accusative

direct object of καταλείπουσιν

→ object specification

πόλεις (acc. pl. πόλεις): 'city'; renders עָרִי; the abandoned cities are the ones the Philistines then occupy — the territorial loss following Saul's military collapse.

αὐτῶν

their

Genitive

genitive of possession (the Israelites' cities)

→ relational specification

αὐτῶν: meaning 'their'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (the Israelites' cities).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

φεύγουσιν

they flee

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · φεύγω

main verb (historic present)

→ verbal action or state

φεύγω: 'flee'; the third occurrence of the root in the chapter (cf. vv. 1, 7a), now of the civilian flight that empties the cities.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἔρχονται

come

Pres Mid Indic 3 Pl · ἔρχομαι

main verb (historic present)

→ verbal action or state

ἔρχομαι: 'come'; the historic present depicts the Philistines moving into the vacated territory; the same verb recurs at v. 8 as they come to strip the dead.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article (with ἀλλόφυλοι)

→ noun-phrase marking

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἀλλόφυλοι

Philistines

Nominative

subject (of ἔρχονται and κατοικοῦσιν)

→ participant prominence

ἀλλόφυλος: the Philistines now move from victors to occupiers, settling the land of Israel.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

κατοικοῦσιν

settle / dwell

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · κατοικέω

main verb (historic present)

→ verbal action or state

κατοικέω: 'dwell / settle / inhabit'; renders בָּשׁוּ; the Philistines take up residence in the abandoned cities — the nadir of the chapter's national reversal; the cognate participle κατοικοῦντες recurs at v. 11 of the men of Jabesh.

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (locative)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν: meaning 'in'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + dative (locative).

αὐταῖς

them

Dative

dative object of ἐν (the abandoned cities)

→ sphere or reference

αὐτός (dat. fem. pl.): refers to πόλεις ('cities'); 'in them' — the Philistines settle in the very cities Israel forsook.

8 καὶ ἐγενήθη τῇ ἐπαύριον καὶ ἔρχονται οἱ ἀλλόφυλοι ἐκδιδύσκειν τοὺς νεκροὺς καὶ εὐρίσκουσιν τὸν Σαουλ καὶ τοὺς τρεῖς υἱοὺς αὐτοῦ πεπτωκότας ἐπὶ τὰ ὄρη Γελβουε

And it came about on the next day that the Philistines came to strip the dead, and they found Saul and his three sons fallen on the mountains of Gilboa.

Temporal transition (new scene: the despoiling of the dead)

καὶ ἐγενήθη τῇ ἐπαύριον

The Hebraizing temporal formula καὶ ἐγενήθη ('and it came to pass') with τῇ ἐπαύριον ('on the next day') opens the aftermath scene. Historic presents (ἔρχονται, εὐρίσκουσιν) carry the action; the perfect participle πεπτωκότας ('having fallen, lying dead') depicts the bodies in their final state. εὐρίσκουσιν here grimly echoes v. 3, where the archers 'found' the living Saul — now they find his corpse.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (introducing temporal formula)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἐγενήθη

it came to pass

Aor Pass Indic 3 Sg · γίνομαι

main verb (impersonal temporal formula)

→ verbal action or state

γίνομαι (aor. pass. ἐγενήθη): 'become / come to pass'; the formula καὶ ἐγενήθη / καὶ ἐγένετο renders the Hebrew יְהִי, a stock narrative-transition marker introducing a new temporal scene.

τῇ

the

Dative

article (with ἐπαύριον, marking dative of time)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῇ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἐπαύριον

next day / morrow

adverb (dative of time with the article: 'on the next day')

→ clausal contribution

ἐπαύριον: 'on the next day / the morrow' (ἐπί + αὐριον); an indeclinable adverb used substantivally with the feminine article (τῇ ἐπαύριον, supplying ἡμέρα); renders תַּיְתָּמ ('on the next day').

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (apodosis of the ἐγενήθη formula)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: the 'and' that follows καὶ ἐγενήθη is Hebraistic, introducing the main clause of the temporal construction (rendering the waw of וַיָּבֹא).

ἔρχονται

come

Pres Mid Indic 3 Pl · ἔρχομαι

main verb (historic present)

→ verbal action or state

ἔρχομαι: 'come'; the Philistines return to the battlefield, now to plunder; the historic present continues the vivid narration.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article (with ἀλλόφυλοι)

→ noun-phrase marking

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἀλλόφυλοι

Philistines

Nominative

subject (of ἔρχονται and εὐρίσκουσιν)

→ participant prominence

ἀλλόφυλος: the Philistines, now scavenging the field of their victory.

ἐκδιδύσκειν

to strip

Pres Act Inf · ἐκδιδύσκω

infinitive of purpose (why they came: 'to strip')

→ verbal action or state

ἐκδιδύσκω: 'strip off / despoil (the dead)'; a late form related to ἐκδύω; renders וּשָׁרַף ('strip'); the infinitive of purpose states why the Philistines came — to plunder the corpses of their armor and valuables; cf. ἐξέδυσαν in v. 9.

τοὺς

the

Accusative

article (with νεκρούς)

→ noun-phrase marking

τοὺς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

νεκρούς

dead / corpses

Accusative

direct object of ἐκδιδύσκειν

→ object specification

νεκρός: 'dead (person) / corpse'; renders תָּמַ / לָצָה; the slain of the battlefield whom the Philistines strip; the term sets up the gruesome treatment of Saul's body in vv. 9–10.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

εὐρίσκουσιν

they find

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · εὐρίσκω

main verb (historic present)

→ verbal action or state

εὐρίσκω: 'find'; grimly echoes v. 3, where the archers 'found' the living Saul; now the Philistines find his corpse and those of his sons.

τὸν

the

Accusative

article (with the indeclinable Σαουλ, marking accusative)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Σαουλ

Saul

direct object of εὐρίσκουσιν (indeclinable; case shown by article)

→ participant identification

Σαουλ: indeclinable; Saul's body, found fallen on Gilboa.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (joining objects)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

τούς

the

Accusative

article (with υἱούς)

→ noun-phrase marking

τούς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

τρεῖς

three

Accusative

numeral (modifying υἱούς: 'three sons')

→ measure or count

τρεῖς: 'three'; the three sons again numbered (cf. v. 6), now as corpses on the mountain.

υἱούς

sons

Accusative

direct object of εὐρίσκουσιν (coordinate with Σαουλ)

→ object specification

υἱός (acc. pl. υἱούς): Saul's three sons, found dead alongside their father.

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession (Saul's sons)

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (Saul's sons).

πεπτωκότας

having fallen / lying dead

Perf Act Part Acc Pl Masc · πίπτω

circumstantial/predicative participle (state of the bodies: 'fallen')

→ verbal action or state

πίπτω (perf. part. πεπτωκότας): 'having fallen / lying fallen'; the perfect participle stresses the abiding state — the bodies lie where they fell; cognate with πίπτουσιν in v. 1, bracketing the carnage of the chapter.

ἐπὶ

on

preposition + accusative (location)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐπὶ: meaning 'on'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (location).

τὰ

the

Accusative

article (with ὄρη)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὰ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ὄρη

mountains

Accusative

accusative object of ἐπὶ (location of the bodies)

→ object specification

ὄρος (pl. ὄρη): 'mountains'; here plural (the heights/range of Gilboa), where v. 1 had the singular; renders הָרֵי / הַר; the place of the slaughter and now of the despoiling.

Γελβουε

Gilboa

place-name (indeclinable: 'mountains of Gilboa')

→ participant identification

Γελβουε: indeclinable; the fatal mountain named again, closing the inclusio with v. 1
— the battle began and ended on Gilboa.

9 καὶ ἀποστρέφουσιν αὐτὸν καὶ ἐξέδυσαν τὰ σκεύη αὐτοῦ καὶ ἀποστέλλουσιν αὐτὰ εἰς γῆν ἄλλοφύλων κύκλῳ εὐαγγελίζοντες τοῖς εἰδώλοις αὐτῶν καὶ τῷ λαῷ αὐτῶν

And they turned him over and stripped off his armor and sent it round about into the land of the Philistines, proclaiming the good news to their idols and to their people.

Sequential narration (the despoiling and triumphant proclamation)

καὶ ἀποστρέφουσιν αὐτὸν

A chain of presents (ἀποστρέφουσιν, ἀποστέλλουσιν) frames an aorist (ἐξέδυσαν), narrating the Philistines' handling of Saul's corpse and the dispatch of his armor as a trophy throughout their land. The participle εὐαγγελίζοντες ('bringing good news') is bitterly ironic: the verb that elsewhere announces salvation here heralds the death of YHWH's anointed before pagan idols (εἰδῶλα).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἀποστρέφουσιν

they turn over

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · ἀποστρέφω

main verb (historic present)

→ verbal action or state

ἀποστρέφω: 'turn back / turn round / turn over'; here of turning over / handling Saul's corpse (some witnesses read of cutting off the head, harmonizing with the Hebrew, but the OG has the body 'turned'); renders a form of the Hebrew tradition behind 1 Sam 31:9; the historic present continues the vivid scene.

αὐτὸν

him

Accusative

direct object (Saul's body, of ἀποστρέφουσιν)

→ participant reference

αὐτὸν: meaning 'him'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as direct object (Saul's body, of ἀποστρέφουσιν).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἐξέδυσαν

they stripped off

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ἐκδύω

main verb (the stripping of the armor)

→ verbal action or state

ἐκδύω: 'strip off / take off'; renders נָשַׁף ; the aorist marks the completed despoiling; cognate with ἐκδιδύσκειν ('to strip') in v. 8 — the purpose stated there is now executed.

τὰ

the

Accusative

article (with σκεύη)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὰ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

σκεύη

armor / gear

Accusative

direct object of ἐξέδυσαν

→ object specification

σκεῦος (pl. σκεύη): Saul's armor — the gear his armor-bearer once carried (vv. 4–6) now stripped as a trophy and dedicated to Astarte (v. 10).

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession (Saul's armor)

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (Saul's armor).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καί: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἀποστέλλουσιν

they send

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · ἀποστέλλω

main verb (historic present)

→ verbal action or state

ἀποστέλλω: 'send / send out'; renders נָשַׁף ; the Philistines circulate Saul's armor as proof of victory throughout their land — a propaganda tour announcing Israel's defeat.

αὐτὰ

them

Accusative

direct object (the armor, of ἀποστέλλουσιν)

→ participant reference

αὐτός (neut. pl. αὐτά): refers to τὰ σκεύη ('the armor'); 'them' = the trophies sent round the land.

εἰς

into

preposition + accusative (direction)

→ spatial or relational framing

εἰς: meaning 'into'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (direction).

γῆν

land

Accusative

accusative object of εἰς (destination)

→ object specification

γῆ: 'land'; renders אֶרֶץ ; γῆν ἀλλοφύλων ('land of the Philistines') is the territory through which the trophy is paraded.

ἀλλοφύλων

of the Philistines

Genitive

genitive (with γῆν: 'land of the Philistines')

→ relational specification

ἀλλόφυλος (gen. pl.): the Philistine homeland, the destination of the victory-proclamation.

κύκλῳ

round about

adverb (dative of κύκλος used adverbially: 'all around')

→ clausal contribution

κύκλῳ: 'round about / on every side'; the dative of κύκλος ('circle') fixed as an adverb; renders בְּכָל־צִד ; the armor is sent in a circuit through all the Philistine territory.

εὐαγγελίζοντες

proclaiming good news

Pres Mid Part Nom Pl Masc · εὐαγγελίζω

circumstantial participle (manner/purpose: 'announcing the news')

→ verbal action or state

εὐαγγελίζω: meaning 'proclaiming good news'; it carries the action, process, or state of the clause; here it functions as circumstantial participle (manner/purpose: 'announcing the news').

τοῖς

the / to the

Dative

article (with εἰδώλοις)

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῖς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

εἰδώλοις

idols

Dative

dative (indirect object of εὐαγγελίζοντες: 'to their idols')

→ sphere or reference

εἶδωλον: 'idol / image'; renders / עֲצָנֵי בִּלְזָנִי; the Philistines announce their triumph to their gods — the worthless idols whose 'victory' over YHWH the narrative implicitly mocks; cf. the dedication to Astarte in v. 10.

αὐτῶν

their

Genitive

genitive of possession (the Philistines' idols)

→ relational specification

αὐτῶν: meaning 'their'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (the Philistines' idols).

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

τῷ

the / to the

Dative

article (with λαῶ)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

λαῶ

people

Dative

dative (indirect object of εὐαγγελίζοντες: 'to their people')

→ sphere or reference

λαός: 'people'; renders / אָמָּן; here the Philistine populace, the human recipients of the victory-news, paired with their idols as the divine recipients.

αὐτῶν

their

Genitive

genitive of possession (the Philistines' people)

→ relational specification

αὐτῶν: meaning 'their'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (the Philistines' people).

10 καὶ ἀνέθηκαν τὰ σκεύη αὐτοῦ εἰς τὸ Ἀσταρτεῖον καὶ τὸ σῶμα αὐτοῦ κατέπηξαν ἐν τῷ τείχει Βαιθσαν

And they set his armor in the temple of Astarte, and they fastened his body to the wall of Beth-shan.

Sequential narration (the climactic display of the trophies) καὶ ἀνέθηκαν

Two aorists (ἀνέθηκαν, κατέπηξαν) record the final desecration: Saul's armor dedicated in the temple of Astarte (a votive offering to the Philistine goddess), and his body impaled/fastened on the wall of Beth-shan as a public trophy. The verse marks the lowest point of Saul's humiliation — the very fate he sought to escape in v. 4 — and sets up the rescue by Jabesh-Gilead in vv. 11–13.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἀνέθηκαν

they set up / dedicated

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ἀνατίθημι

main verb (votive dedication)

→ verbal action or state

ἀνατίθημι: 'set up / dedicate / offer up'; renders יָנַח / נָשַׁח (with cultic nuance); the verb of votive dedication — Saul's armor becomes a trophy-offering in a pagan shrine, the Philistine counterpart to Israel's dedication of spoil to YHWH (cf. 1 Kgdms 21:9, Goliath's sword).

τὰ

the

Accusative

article (with σκεύη)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὰ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

σκεύη

armor / gear

Accusative

direct object of ἀνέθηκαν

→ object specification

σκεῦος (pl. σκεύη): Saul's armor, dedicated as a votive trophy in the temple of Astarte.

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession (Saul's armor)

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (Saul's armor).

εἰς

in / into

preposition + accusative (place of dedication)

→ spatial or relational framing

εἰς + acc.: here of placing into / setting in a location, 'in the temple.'

τὸ

the

Accusative

article (with Ἀσταρτεῖον)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Ἀσταρτεῖον

temple of Astarte

Accusative

accusative object of εἰς (the shrine of dedication)

→ object specification

Ἀσταρτεῖον: 'temple of Astarte' (a -εῖον formation, like Ἀφροδίσιον, denoting a deity's shrine); a declined neuter Greek noun (hence kind 'n'); derived from Astarte (עַשְׁתָּרַת), the Canaanite-Philistine fertility goddess; the MT reads בֵּית עֲשֵׁתְרוֹת ('house of the Ashtoreths').

καὶ
and

coordinate conjunction (joining the two acts of display)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

τὸ
the

Accusative

article (with σώμα)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

σῶμα
body

Accusative

direct object of κατέπηξαν (fronted before its verb)

→ object specification

σῶμα: 'body'; here Saul's corpse; renders תַּיִת ('body, corpse'); the body is fastened to the city wall as a public trophy; σώμα recurs three times in v. 12 of the rescued corpses.

αὐτοῦ
his

Genitive

genitive of possession (Saul's body)

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (Saul's body).

κατέπηξαν
they fastened / fixed

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · καταπήγνυμι

main verb (the impaling/fastening of the body)

→ verbal action or state

καταπήγνυμι: 'fix firmly / fasten down / impale'; renders נָחַת ('thrust, fasten'); the Philistines affix Saul's body to the wall of Beth-shan as a public spectacle of conquest — the abuse he dreaded in v. 4.

ἐν
on / to

preposition + dative (location of fastening)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν: meaning 'on'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + dative (location of fastening).

τῷ
the

Dative

article (with τείχει)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

τείχει
wall

Dative

dative of place (where the body was fastened)

→ sphere or reference

τείχος: 'city wall'; renders תִּירוֹן; the wall of Beth-shan, on which Saul's body was displayed; the same noun (gen. τείχους) recurs at v. 12 when the men of Jabesh take the body from it.

Βαιθσαν
Beth-shan

place-name (indeclinable: 'wall of Beth-shan')

→ participant identification

Βαιθσαν: transliteration of בֵּית שָׁן ('Beth-shan'); indeclinable; a fortified city at the east end of the Jezreel Valley near the Jordan, then under Philistine control; recurs at v. 12.

11 καὶ ἀκούουσιν οἱ κατοικοῦντες Ιαβις τῆς Γαλααδίτιδος ἃ ἐποίησαν οἱ ἀλλόφυλοι τῷ Σαουλ

And the inhabitants of Jabesh of Gilead heard what the Philistines had done to Saul.

Transition (the report reaches Jabesh-Gilead, opening the rescue scene) καὶ ἀκούουσιν

The historic present ἀκούουσιν shifts the scene to Jabesh-Gilead, the town Saul had rescued from the Ammonites in 1 Kgdms 11. The relative clause ἃ ἐποίησαν ... τῷ Σαουλ ('what they had done to Saul') refers back to the desecration of vv. 9–10 and motivates the loyal rescue mission of vv. 12–13. The Jabeshites' debt of gratitude to Saul is the unstated key to the whole closing scene.

καὶ
and

narrative conjunction (scene transition)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἀκούουσιν
they hear

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · ἀκούω

main verb (historic present)

→ verbal action or state

ἀκούω: 'hear / learn of'; renders וַיִּשְׁמָע ; the historic present opens the rescue scene — the men of Jabesh learn of the desecration and act; the verb governs the relative clause as its object.

οἱ
the

Nominative

article (with the substantival participle κατοικοῦντες)

→ noun-phrase marking

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

κατοικοῦντες
the inhabitants

Pres Act Part Nom Pl Masc · κατοικέω

substantival participle (subject: 'the inhabitants')

→ verbal action or state

κατοικέω: 'dwell / inhabit'; the substantival participle οἱ κατοικοῦντες ('the inhabitants/dwellers') renders יֹשְׁבֵי ; cognate with κατοικοῦσιν in v. 7 — there the Philistines settle Israel's cities, here the loyal dwellers of Jabesh act for Saul.

Ιαβις
Jabesh

place-name (indeclinable: 'inhabitants of Jabesh')

→ participant identification

Ιαβις: transliteration of יַבֶּשׁ ('Jabesh'); indeclinable; Jabesh-Gilead, the Transjordanian town Saul delivered from Nahash the Ammonite in 1 Kgdms 11 — hence its loyalty here; recurs at vv. 12–13.

τῆς
the / of

Genitive

article (with Γαλααδίτιδος)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Γαλααδίτιδος
of Gilead / Galaaditis

Genitive

genitive (specifying Jabesh: 'Jabesh of Gilead')

→ relational specification

Γαλααδίτις (gen. Γαλααδίτιδος): 'Galaaditis, the region of Gilead'; a declined Greek gentilic/territorial noun (hence kind 'n'); renders גִּלְעָד ; locates Jabesh in the Transjordanian highlands of Gilead.

ἃ

what / the things which

Accusative

relative pronoun (object of ἀκούουσιν and of ἐποίησαν)

→ participant reference

ἃ (neut. pl. ἃ): 'which / what'; the relative clause ἃ ἐποίησαν ('what they did') is the object of ἀκούουσιν — the news of the desecration that reaches Jabesh.

ἐποίησαν

had done

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ποιέω

verb of relative clause

→ verbal action or state

ποιέω: 'do / make'; renders תָּשַׁע; the aorist summarizes the Philistines' treatment of Saul's body in vv. 9–10, which the Jabeshites now hear of and resolve to redress.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article (with ἀλλόφυλοι)

→ noun-phrase marking

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἀλλόφυλοι

Philistines

Nominative

subject of ἐποίησαν (within the relative clause)

→ participant prominence

ἀλλόφυλος: the Philistines, whose desecration of Saul's body provokes the Jabeshites' response.

τῷ

the / to

Dative

article (with the indeclinable Σαουλ, marking dative)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Σαουλ

Saul

dative object (the one to whom it was done; case shown by article τῷ)

→ noun-phrase marking

Σαουλ: indeclinable; 'to Saul' — the dative of disadvantage, the victim of the desecration the Jabeshites set out to undo.

12 καὶ ἀνέστησαν πᾶς ἀνὴρ δυνάμεως καὶ ἐπορεύθησαν ὅλην τὴν νύκτα καὶ ἔλαβον τὸ σῶμα Σαουλ καὶ τὸ σῶμα Ἰωναθαν τοῦ υἱοῦ αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ τείχους Βαιθσαν καὶ φέρουσιν αὐτοὺς εἰς Ἰαβις καὶ κατακαίουσιν αὐτοὺς ἐκεῖ

And every man of valor rose up and marched all night long, and they took the body of Saul and the body of Jonathan his son from the wall of Beth-shan, and they carry them to Jabesh and burn them there.

Sequential narration (the heroic night-rescue of the bodies)

καὶ ἀνέστησαν πᾶς ἀνὴρ δυνάμεως

The rescue unfolds in a string of aorists (ἀνέστησαν, ἐπορεύθησαν, ἔλαβον) capped by two historic presents (φέρουσιν, κατακαίουσιν). The collective subject πᾶς ἀνὴρ δυνάμεως ('every man of valor') takes a plural verb — a constructio ad sensum. The all-night march (ὅλην τὴν νύκτα), the retrieval from the wall of Beth-shan, and the cremation at Jabesh repay Saul's deliverance of the town in ch. 11.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἀνέστησαν

rose up

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ἀνίστημι

main verb (constructio ad sensum: plural with collective subject)

→ verbal action or state

ἀνίστημι: 'rise / stand up / set out'; renders אָרָס ; the intransitive aorist 'they arose' marks the start of the rescue mission; the plural verb agrees by sense with the collective πᾶς ἀνὴρ δυνάμεως.

πᾶς

every

Nominative

adjective (with ἀνὴρ: 'every man')

→ participant prominence

πᾶς: 'every / all'; πᾶς ἀνὴρ δυνάμεως ('every valiant man') is a collective singular taking a plural verb by sense; renders כָּל־אִישׁ .

ἀνὴρ

man

Nominative

subject (collective: 'every man of valor')

→ participant prominence

ἀνὴρ: 'man / warrior'; ἀνὴρ δυνάμεως ('man of power/valor') is a Hebraism for a valiant warrior (לִיָּהּ שִׁינִי); the bravest of Jabesh undertake the dangerous night-rescue.

δυνάμεως

of valor / power

Genitive

genitive of quality (with ἀνὴρ: 'man of valor')

→ relational specification

δύναμις: 'power / strength / might'; the genitive of quality ἀνὴρ δυνάμεως renders לַיָּדָיִץ ('man of valor'), a Hebraism designating a brave and capable warrior.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἐπορεύθησαν

marched / journeyed

Aor Pass Indic 3 Pl · πορεύομαι

main verb (the night march)

→ verbal action or state

πορεύομαι: 'go / journey / march'; renders יָלַךְ; the aorist passive (deponent) ἐπορεύθησαν with ὅλην τὴν νύκτα depicts the forced all-night march to Beth-shan to recover the bodies under cover of darkness.

ὅλην

whole / all

Accusative

adjective (modifying νύκτα: 'the whole night')

→ object specification

ὅλος: 'whole / entire / all'; ὅλην τὴν νύκτα ('all night long') is an accusative of extent of time; renders הַלְיָלָה כָּל; stresses the strenuous devotion of the rescue.

τὴν

the

Accusative

article (with νύκτα)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

νύκτα

night

Accusative

accusative of extent of time (duration of the march)

→ object specification

νύξ (acc. νύκτα): 'night'; renders הַלְיָלָה; the cover of night both conceals the rescue from the Philistines and underscores the men's urgency and risk.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἔλαβον

took

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · λαμβάνω

main verb (the taking of the bodies)

→ verbal action or state

λαμβάνω: 'take / seize'; renders תָּקַח; the return to aorist marks the shift from the vivid murder-scene to the matter-of-fact escape with the trophy head.

τὸ

the

Accusative

article (with σῶμα)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

σῶμα

body

Accusative

direct object of ἔλαβον (Saul's body)

→ object specification

σῶμα: 'body / corpse'; Saul's body, taken from the wall where it had been fastened (v. 10).

Σαουλ

Saul

genitive of relationship (indeclinable: 'body of Saul')

→ participant identification

Σαουλ: indeclinable; 'the body of Saul.'

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (joining the two bodies)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

τὸ

the

Accusative

article (with σῶμα)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

σῶμα

body

Accusative

direct object of ἔλαβον (Jonathan's body)

→ object specification

σῶμα: meaning 'body'; it serves as direct object of ἔλαβον (Jonathan's body).

Ἰωναθαν

Jonathan

genitive of relationship (indeclinable: 'body of Jonathan')

→ participant identification

Ἰωναθαν: indeclinable; Saul's eldest son, named again at the close as his body is rescued — the friend David will lament in 2 Kgdms 1.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article (with υἱοῦ)

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

υἱοῦ

son

Genitive

genitive in apposition (to Ἰωναθαν: 'his son')

→ relational specification

υἱοῦ: meaning 'son'; it serves as genitive in apposition (to Ἰωναθαν: 'his son').

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession (Saul's son)

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (Saul's son).

ἀπὸ

from

preposition + genitive (source: 'from the wall')

→ spatial or relational framing

ἀπὸ: meaning 'from'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + genitive (source: 'from the wall').

τείχους

wall

Genitive

genitive object of ἀπὸ (source of the bodies)

→ relational specification

τείχος (gen. τείχους): 'wall'; the wall of Beth-shan from which the bodies are taken — recovering what was fastened there in v. 10.

Βαιθσαν

Beth-shan

place-name (indeclinable: 'wall of Beth-shan')

→ participant identification

Βαιθσαν: indeclinable; the Philistine-held city whose wall bore Saul's body; named again as the bodies are recovered.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

φέρουσιν

they carry

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · φέρω

main verb (historic present)

→ verbal action or state

φέρω: 'carry / bring'; renders נָיַב / נָפַץ (Hiphil); the historic present quickens the pace as the men bring the bodies home to Jabesh.

αὐτούς

them

Accusative

direct object (the bodies, of φέρουσιν)

→ participant reference

αὐτούς: meaning 'them'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as direct object (the bodies, of φέρουσιν).

εἰς

to

preposition + accusative (destination)

→ spatial or relational framing

εἰς: meaning 'to'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (destination).

Ιαβις

Jabesh

place-name (indeclinable: destination of the bodies)

→ participant identification

Ιαβις: indeclinable; Jabesh-Gilead, home of the rescuers, where the bodies are brought for honorable treatment.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

κατακαίουσιν

they burn

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · κατακαίω

main verb (historic present)

→ verbal action or state

κατακαίω: 'burn up / consume with fire'; renders קָרַץ; the men cremate the bodies at Jabesh — an unusual practice in Israel, perhaps to prevent further desecration or because the corpses were already mutilated; the historic present caps the rescue scene.

αὐτούς

them

Accusative

direct object (the bodies, of κατακαίουσιν)

→ participant reference

αὐτούς: meaning 'them'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as direct object (the bodies, of κατακαίουσιν).

ἐκεῖ

there

adverb of place (at Jabesh)

→ adverbial qualification

ἐκεῖ: 'there'; renders ἐκεῖ; locates the cremation at Jabesh, where the bones will then be buried (v. 13).

13 καὶ λαμβάνουσιν τὰ ὀστᾶ αὐτῶν καὶ θάπτουσιν ὑπὸ τὴν ἄρουραν τὴν Ιαβις καὶ νηστεύουσιν ἑπτὰ ἡμέρας

And they take their bones and bury them under the tilled field of Jabesh, and they fast seven days.

Conclusion (burial of the bones and the seven-day fast — the close of 1 Kingdoms)

καὶ λαμβάνουσιν τὰ ὀστᾶ

The book ends with three historic presents (λαμβάνουσιν, θάπτουσιν, νηστεύουσιν): the bones are buried under the tilled field of Jabesh and mourned with a seven-day fast. The honorable burial and ritual mourning close the tragedy of Saul with a final act of covenant loyalty. The narrative breaks off here, leaving Israel leaderless and the throne empty — the suspended ending that opens directly onto 2 Kingdoms, where the news of Saul's death reaches David and the kingdom passes to him.

καὶ
and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

λαμβάνουσιν

they take

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · λαμβάνω

main verb (historic present)

→ verbal action or state

λαμβάνω: 'take'; renders נָטַף; after the cremation the men gather the bones for burial; echoes ἔλαβον in v. 12, framing the rescue-and-burial sequence.

τὰ

the

Accusative

article (with ὀστᾶ)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὰ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ὀστᾶ

bones

Accusative

direct object of λαμβάνουσιν

→ object specification

ὀστᾶ: meaning 'bones'; it serves as direct object of λαμβάνουσιν.

αὐτῶν

their

Genitive

genitive of possession (the bones of Saul and Jonathan)

→ relational specification

αὐτῶν: meaning 'their'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (the bones of Saul and Jonathan).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

θάπτουσιν

they bury

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · θάπτω

main verb (historic present)

→ verbal action or state

θάπτω: 'bury'; renders תָּכַבַּר; the honorable burial of the bones is the culminating act of loyalty by the men of Jabesh, undoing the dishonor of vv. 9–10.

ὕπὸ

under

preposition + accusative (place of burial)

→ spatial or relational framing

ὕπὸ + acc.: 'under / beneath'; renders תַּחַת; the bones are buried beneath the tilled field (the MT has 'under the tamarisk'; the OG reads ἄρουρα, 'field/ploughland').

τὴν

the

Accusative

article (with ἄρουραν)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἄρουραν

tilled field / ploughland

Accusative

accusative object of ὑπό (place of burial)

→ object specification

ἄρουρα: 'arable land / tilled field / ploughland'; the OG rendering where the MT has תְּמָר (tamarisk tree); the Greek translator read or interpreted the burial-spot as the cultivated ground of Jabesh rather than a specific tree.

τὴν

the / of

Accusative

article (attributive, linking ἄρουραν to the place-name Ιαβις)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Ιαβις

Jabesh

place-name (indeclinable: 'the field of Jabesh')

→ participant identification

Ιαβις: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as place-name (indeclinable: 'the field of Jabesh').

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (sequential)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

νηστεύουσιν

they fast

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · νηστεύω

main verb (historic present — the book's final verb)

→ verbal action or state

νηστεύω: 'fast'; renders צוֹם; the seven-day fast is a solemn rite of national mourning (cf. Gen 50:10); as the last verb of 1 Kingdoms, it leaves the book in an attitude of grief — Israel mourns its fallen king, and the throne stands empty until David.

ἐπτά

seven

numeral (modifying ἡμέρας: 'seven days')

→ measure or count

ἐπτά: 'seven'; indeclinable numeral; renders תַּעֲשֶׂה; the seven-day fast is the customary full period of intense mourning (cf. the seven days of mourning for Jacob, Gen 50:10).

ἡμέρας

days

Accusative

accusative of extent of time (duration of the fast)

→ object specification

ἡμέρα (acc. pl. ἡμέρας): 'day'; the accusative of extent measures the duration of the mourning-fast; the final word of 1 Kingdoms, closing the book on Israel's grief and opening onto 2 Kingdoms.

On the labels. Parsing gives Tense·Voice·Mood·Person·Number (+ Case·Number·Gender for participles) and lemma. The *syntactic-function* and **semantic-force** tiers follow standard intermediate-grammar categories (e.g. Wallace, *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics*); both involve interpretive judgment, and the majority reading has been chosen where opinions differ. Lexical notes condense commonly cited data (etymology, sense range, synonym contrasts, NT frequency, OT/LXX echoes) and are no substitute for a lexicon.

On the discourse tier. Discourse structure operates above the word, so it is shown at the clause/verse level (the connective, the relation it signals, and the role of the clause) and summarized in the chapter outline. Relation labels, any proposed chiasm, and the paragraph divisions reflect a common reading of the argument; other discourse analyses segment and label some relations differently.