

## THE HISTORY OF SUSANNA,

set apart from the beginning of *Daniel*, because it is not in Hebrew, as neither the narration of *Bel and the Dragon*.

<sup>1</sup> THERE dwelt a man in Babylon, called Joacim:  
<sup>2</sup> and he took a wife, whose name *was* Susanna, the daughter of Chelcias, a very fair *woman*, and one that feared the Lord. <sup>3</sup> Her parents also *were* righteous, and taught their daughter according to the law of Moses. <sup>4</sup> Now Joacim was a great rich *man*, and had a fair garden joining unto his house: and to him resorted the Jews; because he was more honourable than all *others*. <sup>5</sup> The same year were appointed two *of the* ancients of the people *to be* judges, such as the Lord spake of, that wickedness came from Babylon from ancient judges, who seemed to govern the people. <sup>6</sup> These kept much at Joacim's house: and all that had any suits in law came unto them. <sup>7</sup> Now when the people departed away at noon, Susanna went into her husband's garden to walk. <sup>8</sup> And the two elders saw her going in every day, and walking; so that their lust was inflamed toward her. <sup>9</sup> And they perverted their own mind, and turned away their eyes, that *they* might not look unto heaven, nor remember just judgments. <sup>10</sup> And albeit they both were wounded with her *love*, yet *durst* not one shew another his grief. <sup>11</sup> For they were ashamed to declare their lust, that they desired to have

to do with her. <sup>12</sup> Yet they watched diligently from day to day to see her. <sup>13</sup> And the one said to the other, Let us now go home: for it is dinner time. <sup>14</sup> So when they were gone out, they parted the one from the other, and turning back *again* they came to the same place; and after that they had asked one another the cause, they acknowledged their lust: then appointed they a time both together, when they might find her alone.

<sup>15</sup> And it fell out, as they watched a fit time, she went in as before with two maids only, and she was desirous to wash herself in the garden: for it was hot. <sup>16</sup> And there was no body there save the two elders, that had hid themselves, and watched her. <sup>17</sup> Then she said to her maids, Bring me oil and washing balls, and shut the garden doors, that I may wash me. <sup>18</sup> And they did as she bade *them*, and shut the garden doors, and went out *themselves* at privy doors to fetch the *things* that she had commanded them: but they saw not the elders, because they were hid. <sup>19</sup> Now when the maids were gone forth, the two elders rose up, and ran unto her, saying, <sup>20</sup> Behold, the garden doors are shut, that no *man can* see us, and we are in love with thee; therefore consent unto us, and lie with us. <sup>21</sup> If *thou wilt* not, we will bear witness against thee, that a young man was with thee: and therefore thou didst send away *thy* maids from thee. <sup>22</sup> Then Susanna sighed, and said, I *am* straited on every side: for if I do this *thing*, it is death unto me: and if I do *it* not, I cannot escape your hands. <sup>23</sup> It is better for me

to fall into your hands, and not do *it*, than to sin in the sight of the Lord. <sup>24</sup> With that Susanna cried with a loud voice: and the two elders cried out against her. <sup>25</sup> Then ran the one, and opened the garden door. <sup>26</sup> So when the *servants* of the house heard the cry in the garden, they rushed in at a privy door, to see what was done unto her. <sup>27</sup> But when the elders had declared their matter, the servants were greatly ashamed: for there was never such a report made of Susanna.

<sup>28</sup> And it came to pass the next day, when the people were assembled to her husband Joacim, the two elders came *also* full of mischievous imagination against Susanna to put her to death; <sup>29</sup> and said before the people, Send for Susanna, the daughter of Chelcias, Joacim's wife. And so they sent. <sup>30</sup> So she came with her father and mother, her children, and all her kindred. <sup>31</sup> Now Susanna was a very delicate *woman*, and beauteous to behold. <sup>32</sup> And *these* wicked *men* commanded to uncover her *face*, (for she was covered) that they might be filled with her beauty. <sup>33</sup> Therefore her friends and all that saw her wept. <sup>34</sup> Then the two elders stood up in the midst of the people, and laid *their* hands upon her head. <sup>35</sup> And she weeping looked up towards heaven: for her heart trusted in the Lord. <sup>36</sup> And the elders said, As we walked in the garden alone, this *woman* came in with two maids, and shut the garden doors, and sent the maids away. <sup>37</sup> Then a young man, who *there* was hid, came unto her, and lay with her. <sup>38</sup> Then we that stood in a corner of the garden, seeing

*this* wickedness, ran unto them. <sup>39</sup> And when we saw them together, the man we could not hold: for he was stronger than we, and opened the door, and leaped out. <sup>40</sup> But having taken this *woman*, we asked who the young man was, but she would not tell us: these *things* do we testify. <sup>41</sup> Then the assembly believed them, as *those that were* the elders and judges of the people: so they condemned her to death.

<sup>42</sup> Then Susanna cried out with a loud voice, and said, O everlasting God, that knowest the secrets, and knowest all *things* before they be: <sup>43</sup> thou knowest that they have borne false witness against me, and behold, I *must* die; whereas I never did such *things* as these *men* have maliciously invented against me. <sup>44</sup> And the Lord heard her voice. <sup>45</sup> Therefore when she was led to be put to death, the Lord raised up the holy spirit of a young youth, whose name *was* Daniel: <sup>46</sup> who cried with a loud voice, I *am* clear from the blood of this *woman*. <sup>47</sup> Then all the people turned them towards him, and said, What *mean* these words that thou hast spoken? <sup>48</sup> So he standing in the midst of them, said, *Are ye* such fools, ye sons of Israel, *that* without examination or knowledge of the truth ye have condemned a daughter of Israel? <sup>49</sup> Return again to the place of judgment: for they have borne false witness against her. <sup>50</sup> Wherefore all the people turned again in haste, and the elders said unto him, Come, sit down among us, and shew *it* us, seeing God hath given thee the honour of an elder. <sup>51</sup> Then said Daniel unto them, Put

these *two* aside one far from another, and I will examine them. <sup>52</sup> So when they were put asunder one from another, he called one of them, and said unto him, O *thou* that art waxen old in wickedness, now thy sins which thou hast committed aforetime are come *to light*: <sup>53</sup> for thou hast pronounced false judgment, and hast condemned the innocent, and hast let the guilty go free; albeit the Lord saith, The innocent and righteous shalt thou not slay. <sup>54</sup> Now then, if thou hast seen her, tell *me*, Under what tree sawest thou them companying together? Who answered, Under a mastick tree. <sup>55</sup> And Daniel said, *Very* well; thou hast lied against thine own head; for *even* now the angel of God hath received the sentence of God to cut thee in two. <sup>56</sup> So he put him aside, and commanded to bring the other, and said unto him, O *thou* seed of Canaan, and not of Juda, beauty hath deceived thee, and lust hath perverted thine heart. <sup>57</sup> Thus have ye dealt with the daughters of Israel, and they for fear companied with you: but the daughter of Juda would not abide your wickedness. <sup>58</sup> Now therefore tell me, Under what tree didst thou take them companying together? Who answered, Under a holm tree. <sup>59</sup> Then said Daniel unto him, Well; thou hast also lied against thine own head: for the angel of God waiteth with the sword to cut thee in two, that he may destroy you. <sup>60</sup> With that all the assembly cried out with a loud voice, and praised God, who saveth them that trust in him. <sup>61</sup> And they arose against the two elders, (for Daniel had convicted

them of false witness by their own mouth;) <sup>62</sup> and according to the law of Moses they did unto them in such sort as they maliciously intended to do to *their* neighbour: and they put them to death. Thus the innocent blood was saved the same day. <sup>63</sup> Therefore Chelcias and his wife praised God for their daughter Susanna, with Joacim her husband, and all the kindred, because there was no dishonesty found in her. <sup>64</sup> From that day forth was Daniel had in great reputation in the sight of the people.

**KJV Cambridge Paragraph Bible**  
**The King James Version or Authorized Version of the**  
**Holy Bible, Cambridge Paragraph Bible edition**

Public Domain

Language: English

2020-12-20

---

PDF generated using Haiola and XeLaTeX on 11 Nov 2022 from source  
files dated 30 Nov 2021  
cb1f64a6-812f-51a0-a3e6-8f6ae47eaaad1