

The  
SECOND BOOK OF SAMUEL 2 SAMUEL 1

*An Amalekite brings the crown to David claiming that he finished killing Saul*

CHAPTER 1

1 And it was after the death of Saul, and David turned back from the strike against the Amalekites, and David sat down in Ziklag two days;

2 And it was on the third day, and behold, a man came out from the camp of Saul with his clothes torn and dirt upon his head; and it was in his coming to David that he fell to the earth and prostrated himself.

3 And David said to him, From where do you come? And he said to him, I escaped out of the camp of Israel.

4 And David said to him, What is the word? Cause it to stand out boldly to me, please. And he said that, The people have fled out of the battle, and also many out of the people have fallen and died; and also Saul and Jonathan, his son, have died.

5 And David said to the young man who caused it to stand out boldly to him, How do you know that Saul and Jonathan, his son, have died?

6 And the young man who caused it to stand out boldly to him said, I happened to encounter *this* on Mount Gilboa: Behold, Saul leaned upon his spear, and lo, the chariots and the lords of the steeds sticking to him like glue.

7 And he faced about behind him, and saw me, and called to me. And I said, Behold, *here I am*.

8 And he said to me, Who *are* you? And I said to him, I *am* an Amalekite.

9 And he said to me, Please stand upon me and cause me to die, because anguish has seized me, since my soul is still whole within me.

10 And I stood upon him and killed him, because I knew by seeing that he could not live after he had fallen; and I took the crown<sup>10</sup> that *was* upon his head and the bracelet that was on his arm, and have brought them to my lord here.

11 And David seized his clothes, and tore them, and likewise all the men who were with him;

12 And they mourned, and wept, and fasted until dusk for Saul and for Jonathan, his son, and for the people of Jehovah, and for the house of Israel, because they had fallen by the sword.

13 And David said to the young man who caused it to stand out boldly to him, From where *are* you? And he said, I *am* an Amalekite, the son of a foreign man;

14 And David said to him, Why *were* you not afraid to send out your hand to destroy the anointed of Jehovah?

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<sup>10</sup> 1:10 crown, *nezer*, the symbol of consecration which sets apart the person from everyone else for his office. It is a *diadem*, the token by which anyone is separated from the people at large, especially for kings, 2 Sam 1:10; 2 Kgs 11:12; Ps 89:40; 132:18; also of the head priest, Ex 29:6; 39:30; Lev 8:9; also the consecration of priests, Lev 21:12; especially a Nazirite, Num 6:4,5,12,19; and the long hair of women, Jer 7:26. See 1 Cor 11:15.

## 2 SAMUEL 2

*David executes the Amalekite, sings over Saul and Jonathan, anointed king at Hebron*

15 And David called one of the young men, and said, Go near and impinge upon him. And he struck him, and he died.

16 And David said to him, Your blood *is* upon your head, because your mouth has answered against you, saying, I have killed the anointed of Jehovah.

17 And David sang this song of mourning over Saul and over Jonathan, his son:

18 (And he said to teach the children of Judah the bow; behold, it is written in *The Book of The Righteous*.) Josh 10:13

19 The beautiful gazelle of Israel is polluted upon your high places - how are the mighty fallen!

20 Do not cause it to stand out boldly in Gath; do not announce good tidings in the streets of Askelon, lest the daughters of the Palestinians rejoice, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised jump for joy.

21 Mountains of Gilboa, *let* no dew and no rain *be* upon you nor fields of offerings, because there the shield of the mighty was defiled, the shield of Saul, not anointed with oil.<sup>21</sup>

22 The bow of Jonathan did not turn back from the blood of those polluted, from the fat of the

<sup>21</sup> **1:21 not anointed with oil.** It was Saul's shield that was not anointed with oil, not Saul. We know that Saul was anointed with oil, because Samuel anointed him, 1 Sam 10:1. It was the custom of Israel to anoint the face of the shields in oil before battle, Isa 21:5, a symbol of the power of the Holy Spirit upon their weapons, as well as to make them bright shining, and to cause the weapons of their opponents to slip and glance away. Saul's shield was no longer protected by the anointing oil of God, but is now defiled with his own blood.

mighty, and the sword of Saul did not turn back empty.

23 Saul and Jonathan, loved and pleasant in their lives; and they were not separated in their death; they were lighter than eagles; they were more prevailing than lions.

24 You daughters of Israel, weep for Saul, who clothed you in crimson with delights, who ascended ornaments of gold upon your garments.

25 How the mighty have fallen in the midst of the battle! Oh Jonathan, you were polluted in your high places.

26 I am distressed over you, my brother, Jonathan! You have been exceedingly pleasant to me; your love to me was wonderful, distinct from the love of women.

27 How the mighty have fallen, and the implements of war are lost!

## CHAPTER 2

1 And it was just after, and David inquired of Jehovah, saying, Shall I ascend to one of the cities of Judah? And Jehovah said to him, Ascend. And David said, To where shall I ascend? And he said, To Hebron.

2 And David ascended there, and his two wives also, Ahinoam, the Jezreelitess, and Abigail, the wife of Nabal of Carmel.

3 And his men who were with him caused David to ascend, every man with his house, and they sat down in the cities of Hebron.

4 And the men of Judah came, and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah.

And they caused it to stand out boldly to David, saying, *It was* the men of Jabesh Gilead who buried Saul.

5 And David sent messengers to the men of Jabesh Gilead, and said to them, You are blessed of Jehovah, that you have done this mercy to your lord, to Saul, and have buried him.

6 And now may Jehovah do mercy and truth to you, and I also will do you this good, because you have done this word.

7 And now let your hands be strong, and be sons of resources, because your lord, Saul, has died; and also the house of Judah has anointed me king over them.

8 And Abner, the son of Ner, commander of the host of Saul, took Ishbosheth, the son of Saul, and caused him to cross over to Mahanaim;

9 And caused him to ascend the throne over Gilead, and over the Ashurites, and over Jezreel, and over Ephraim, and over Benjamin, and over all Israel.

10 A son of forty years *was* Ishbosheth, the son of Saul, when he ascended the throne over Israel, and he reigned two years. Only the house of Judah was after David.

11 And it was *that* the number of days David was king in Hebron over the house of Judah was seven years and six new moons.

12 And Abner, the son of Ner, went out, and the servants of Ishbosheth, the son of Saul, from Mahanaim to Gibeon.

13 And Joab, the son of Zeruiah, and the servants of David, walked out, and made contact by the reservoir of Gibeon; and they sat down as a unit, these on this *side* of the reservoir, and those on that *side* of the reservoir.

14 And Abner said to Joab, Let the young men now rise and make laughter before our face. And Joab said, Let them rise.

15 And there rose and crossed over by number twelve of Benjamin from Ishbosheth, the son of Saul and twelve of the servants of David.

16 And each man seized the head of his neighbor and his sword in the side of his neighbor; and they fell down together; and called that place Helkath Hazzurim, which *is* in Gibeon.

17 And there was a hard, long, vehement battle that day; and Abner was defeated and the men of Israel before the face of the servants of David.

18 And there were three sons of Zeruiah there, Joab, and Abishai, and Asahel, and Asahel was light of foot - one gazelle of the field.

19 And Asahel ran after Abner; and he did not stretch away, walking to the right hand nor to the left, from after Abner.

20 And Abner faced about behind him, and said, *Are you* Asahel? And he said, *I am*.

21 And Abner said to him, Stretch yourself away to your right hand or to your left, and seize one of the young men, and take for yourself his spoil. And Asahel did

**2 SAMUEL 2** *Abner kills Asahel; Joab and Abishai run after Abner; the battle ceases*

not breathe in agreement to turn away from after him.

22 And again Abner continued, and said to Asahel, Turn yourself away from after me; why should I strike you to the earth? And how can I lift up my face to Joab, your brother?

23 And he refused to turn away, and Abner struck him with the back end of the spear into his abdomen, and the spear came out behind him; and he fell down there and died under it; and it was, all who came to the place there where Asahel fell down and died, stood.

24 And Joab and Abishai ran after Abner, and the sun went *down*, and they came to the hill of Ammah, that against the face of Giah, the way of the desert of Gibeon.

25 And the children of Benjamin gathered themselves together after Abner, and were bound together as one, and stood on the head of one hill.

26 And Abner called to Joab, and said, Shall the sword devour forever? Do you not know that it will be bitter at the end? Until when will you not say to the people to turn back from after their brothers?

27 And Joab said, God lives! Because if you had not spoken,<sup>27</sup> doubtless at that time in the dawn the people would have ascended, every man from after his brother.

<sup>27</sup> **2:27** An explanation is needed here to understand what Joab is saying. Abner called out to Joab proposing a truce in the fighting - that the war be called off because it would only get worse, and end in terrible bitterness. Joab responds in agreement, and not without laying the blame for starting the war on Abner. When Joab says, ...**if you had not spoken,**

28 And Joab blew a trumpet, and all the people stood, and did not continue to run after Israel, and they did not devour any more.

29 And Abner and his men walked all that night through the desert, and crossed over Jordan, and walked through all Bithron, and they came to Mahanaim.

30 And Joab turned back from after Abner, and he had gathered all the people together, and had visited the servants of David; nineteen men and Asahel *had fallen*.

31 And the servants of David struck of Benjamin and of the men of Abner, three hundred and sixty men - they died.

32 And they lifted up Asahel, and buried him in the sepulcher of his father, which *was* in Bethlehem. And they walked all night, Joab and his men, and it was light *going* into Hebron.

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**doubtless at that time in the dawn the people would have ascended, every man from after his brother.**...he is not referring to Abner's immediate call for a truce, but to his words early that morning when Abner proposed that the twelve from each side make them laugh, who then killed one another which began the war. It was Abner and the host of Ishbosheth who came against David and his men seeking to devour. Joab, following David's instructions not to devour unless he was attacked, did not start the war. They all sat quietly, each on his own side of the reservoir, until Abner proposed the entertainment to make them laugh by twelve from each side. But then Abner's men started the killing, and Joab's twelve responded in kind. Once Joab was thus attacked, he pushed forward the battle, which walked severely against Abner. Now Abner proposes calling off the war. Joab responds by saying, **God lives! Because if you had not spoken your proposal for the contest of the twelve from each army, doubtless at the time in the dawn before all this began the people would have ascended, every man from after his brother.** I trust this explanation makes the meaning of the words understandable.

CHAPTER 3

1 And there was long war between the house of Saul and the house of David, and David walked stronger, and the house of Saul walked dangling in need.

2 And sons were born to David in Hebron, and his firstborn was Amnon, of Ahinoam, the Jezreelitess;

3 And his second, Chileab, of Abigail, the wife of Nabal of Carmel; and the third, Absalom, the son of Maacah, the daughter of Talmi, king of Geshur;

4 And the fourth, Adonijah, the son of Haggith; and the fifth, Shephatiah, the son of Abital;

5 And the sixth, Ithream, by Eglah, David's wife. These were born to David in Hebron.

6 And it was, there was war between the house of Saul and the house of David, and Abner became strong in the house of Saul.

7 And to Saul *was* a concubine, whose name *was* Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah, and Ishbosheth said to Abner, Why have you gone in to the concubine of my father?

8 And Abner burned over the words of Ishbosheth, and said, *Am* I a dog's head, who against Judah do mercy this day to the house of Saul, your father, to his brothers and to his friends, and have not brought you out into the hand of David, and you visit against me evil *over* the woman today?

9 So God do to Abner, and more also, since what Jehovah has sworn to David, even so I do to him,

10 To cross over the kingdom from the house of Saul, and to raise up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan even to Beer Sheba.

11 And he was not able to continue to turn back to Abner a word because he feared him.

12 And Abner sent messengers to David for himself, saying, Whose *is* the land? Saying, Cut your covenant with me, and behold, my hand *shall be* with you, to circle the boundaries of all Israel to you.

13 And he said, Good; I will cut a covenant with you; only one word I require of you, saying, You shall not see my face, except you bring before my face Michal, the daughter of Saul, when you come to see my face.

14 And David sent messengers to Ishbosheth, the son of Saul, saying, Give *me* my wife Michal, who I espoused to me for a hundred foreskins of the Palestinians.

15 And Ishbosheth sent, and took her from her husband, from Phaltiel, the son of Laish.

16 And walking with her, her husband walked with her, weeping behind her, as far as Bahurim. And Abner said to him, Walk, turn back. And he turned back.

17 And the word of Abner was with the elders of Israel, saying, And yesterday - day before yesterday you sought David as king over you;

18 And at this time, do *it*, because Jehovah has said of David, saying, By the hand of my servant David I will save my people Israel out of the hand of the Palestinians,

**2 SAMUEL 3** *David agrees for Abner to bring all Israel to him and Joab kills Abner*

and out of the hand of all those hating them.

19 And Abner also spoke in the ears of Benjamin, and Abner walked also to speak in the ears of David in Hebron all that was good in the eyes of Israel, and it was good in the eyes of the whole house of Benjamin.

20 And Abner came to David to Hebron and twenty men with him. And David made Abner and the men who *were* with him a feast.

21 And Abner said to David, I will rise, and walk, and will gather all Israel to my lord, the king, and they will cut a covenant with you, and you will reign over all that your heart desires. And David sent Abner away, and he walked in peace.

22 And behold, the servants of David and Joab came from *pursuing* an army, and brought in abundant spoil with them; and Abner was not with David in Hebron, because he had sent him away, and he had walked in peace.

23 And Joab and all the host who *were* with him came, and they caused it to stand out boldly to Joab, saying, Abner, the son of Ner, came to the king, and he has sent him away, and he has walked in peace.

24 And Joab came to the king, and said, What have you done? Behold, Abner came to you! Why this? You sent him away, and walking, he has walked?

25 You know by seeing Abner, the son of Ner; because he came to make you open *to him*, and to know by seeing your going out, and

your coming in, and to know by seeing all that you do.

26 And Joab came out from David, and he sent messengers after Abner, and turned him back at the cistern of Sirah; and David did not know.

27 And Abner turned back to Hebron, and Joab stretched him away to the midst of the gate to speak with him privately, and struck him there in the abdomen, and he died for the blood of Asahel, his brother.

28 And David heard attentively just after, and he said, I and my kingdom *are* innocent with Jehovah forever from the blood of Abner, the son of Ner!

29 It shall twist around the head of Joab and to all the house of his father; and there shall not be cut off from the house of Joab those with running sores, and leprous, and strengthened by a walking stick, and falling by the sword, and in need of food.

30 And Joab and Abishai, his brother, struck Abner fatally, because he had killed their brother, Asahel, at Gibeon in the battle.

1 Kgs 2:31-34

31 And David said to Joab, and to all the people who *were* with him, Tear your clothing, and gird on sackcloth, and mourn before the face of Abner. And King David walked behind the bier.

32 And they buried Abner in Hebron, and the king lifted up his voice and wept at the grave of Abner; and all the people wept.

33 And the king sang a song of mourning over Abner, and said, Should Abner die the death of a fool?

34 Your hands were not tied, and your feet not drawn into bronze fetters; as a man falls before the face of evil sons, you fell. And all the people wept again over him.

35 And all the people came to cause David to eat food while *it was* yet day, and David swore, saying, So may God do to me and more also, if before the face of the sun goes *down* I taste food or a speck of anything.

36 And all the people recognized *it*, and it was good in their eyes - all that the king did in the eyes of all the people was good;

37 And all the people, and all Israel knew by seeing that day, that it was not from the king to put Abner, the son of Ner, to death.

38 And the king said to his servants, Do you not know by seeing that a commander - and a great one - has fallen this day in Israel?

39 And I this day *am* soft hearted, though anointed king, and these men, the sons of Zeruijah, *are* too hard for me; Jehovah make complete<sup>39</sup> the doer of evil evil!

<sup>39</sup> **3:39 make complete** is *shalam*, a form of the word for peace, and the greeting and the farewell on most all occasions. The primary meaning of *shalam* is to finish, to be complete, to bring together the other half needed to make something perfect, and therefore at peace. **And the wall shalam on the twenty-fifth of Elul....Neh. 6:15**, meaning that the wall was complete. In other translations *shalam* is represented with such words as: fulfill, make up, make good, restore, pay, repay, full, whole, wholly, ended, entire, without harm, friendly, peaceably, to be at peace, make peace, perform, prosperous, safe, reward, retribution, restitution, recompense, vengeance, bribe, peace of-

## CHAPTER 4

1 And the son of Saul heard attentively that Abner had died in Hebron, and his hands slacked down, and all Israel trembled.

2 And two men, commanders of armies, *were* to the son of Saul; the name of one, Baanah, and the name of the second, Rechab, sons of Rimmon, a Beerothite, of the children of Benjamin, because Beeroth also was calculated to Benjamin:

3 - And the Beerothites fled to Gittaim, and turned aside there until this day -

4 And to Jonathan, a son of Saul, *was* a son with maimed feet. He was a son of five years when the report came about Saul and Jonathan out of Jezreel, and the one to whom he was entrusted lifted him up, and fled; and it was, because she hurried in fear to escape, he fell, and became lame. And his name *was* Mephibosheth.

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fering, and some other words. *The Heritage Bible* consistently translates the verb *shalam* complete or make complete. No word in any language has many different meanings, and especially contradictory meanings. The basic meaning of the word is used in many different circumstances, and its basic meaning always remains the same. The translator of *The Heritage Bible* has put forth great effort to maintain this principle in translating the Word of God. David is judging in prayer in making this statement toward Joab - he is also prophesying - that Jehovah will make this deed Joab has done complete to Joab, and that ultimately Joab shall be complete. It is also David's prayer for repentance in Joab so God can forgive Joab, and make him complete. I desire that we all pray this kind of prayer for all those who have done evil evil to us. [**evil evil** appears in the Hebrew text, *ra ra*, exactly as we have it here in English.]

**2 SAMUEL 5** *David executes the men who killed Ishbosheth; the elders of Israel make David king*

5 And the sons of Rimmon, the Beerothite, Rechab, and Baanah, walked, and came in the heat of the day to the house of Ishbosheth, and he lay on a bed at noon.

6 And they themselves came into the midst of the house to take wheat, and they struck him in the abdomen; and Rechab and Baanah, his brother, escaped.

7 And they came into the house, and he lay on his bed in his apartment, and they struck him, and killed him, and departed his head from him, and took his head, and walked through the desert all night.

8 And they came with the head of Ishbosheth to David at Hebron, and said to the king, Behold the head of Ishbosheth, the son of Saul, the one hating you who sought your soul; and Jehovah has given my lord, the king, vengeance this day upon Saul and his seed.

9 And David answered Rechab and Baanah, his brother, the sons of Rimmon, the Beerothite, and said to them, Jehovah lives who redeemed my soul out of all distress,

10 Because one caused it to stand out boldly to me, saying, Behold, Saul is dead, and it was an announcement of good tidings in his eyes, I took hold of him, and struck him fatally in Ziklag, which I gave to him as a reward for his good tidings;

11 How much more, because wicked men have struck fatally a righteous man in his own house upon his bed? Shall I not at this time search out his blood at your hand

and consume you from the earth?

12 And David commanded his young men, and they struck them, and chopped off their hands and their feet, and hanged them up over the reservoir in Hebron. And they took the head of Ishbosheth and buried *it* in the sepulcher of Abner in Hebron.

**CHAPTER 5**

1 And all the tribes of Israel came to David in Hebron, and said, saying, Behold, we *are* your bone and your flesh.

2 In days past when Saul was king over us, you were *the one* causing Israel to go out and come in; and Jehovah said to you, You shall shepherd my people, Israel, and you shall be commander over Israel.

3 And all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David cut a covenant with them in Hebron before the face of Jehovah, and they anointed David king over Israel.

4 David was a son of thirty years when he began to reign; he reigned forty years.

5 He reigned in Hebron over Judah seven years and six new moons, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-three years over all Israel and Judah.

6 And the king and his men walked to Jerusalem to the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, and they said to David, saying, You shall not come in here unless you first turn away the blind and the lame; saying, David cannot come



in here.

7 And David captured the stronghold of Zion; it *is* the city of David.

8 And David said on that day, Of all who strikes the Jebusites, let him lay hold of the water-shaft, and the lame and the blind, those hated by the soul of David. Therefore they said, The blind and the lame cannot come into the house.

9 And David sat down in the stronghold, and called it the City of David. And David built around from the citadel and the house.

10 And David walked on, walking even greater, and Jehovah God of hosts *was* with him.

11 And Hiram, king of Tyre, sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, and fabricators of wood, and fabricators of stone walls, and they built a house for David.

12 And David knew by seeing that Jehovah had set him up as king over Israel, and that he had lifted his kingdom on account of his people, Israel.

13 And David took more concubines and wives out of Jerusalem, after he came from Hebron, and there were born yet to David sons and daughters.

14 And these *are* the names of those born to him in Jerusalem: Shammuah, and Shobab, and Nathan, and Solomon,

15 And Ibhar, and Elishua, and Nepheg, and Japhia,

16 And Elishama, and Eliada, and Eliphalet.

17 And the Palestinians heard attentively that they had anointed David king over Israel, and all the Palestinians ascended to seek David; and David attentively heard, and descended to the stronghold.

18 And the Palestinians came and thrust out in the valley of Rephaim.

19 And David inquired of Jehovah, saying, Shall I ascend to the Palestinians? Will you give them into my hand? And Jehovah said to David, Ascend, because, giving, I will give the Palestinians into your hand.

20 And David came to Baal Perazim, and David struck them there, and said, Jehovah has broken out upon those hating me before my face, as the breaking out of waters. And he called the name of that place Baal Perazim.

21 And there they left their idolatrous images, and David and his men lifted them away.<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>21</sup> **5:21 lifted them away**, *nasa em*, which means they lifted them, and carried them away to Jerusalem to show that the Palestinian gods were powerless to protect the Palestinians. When the Palestinians in the days of the Judges took the ark of the covenant of Jehovah into their temple of Dagon to show their triumph over the God of Israel, Jehovah God struck them with plagues until they gladly returned the ark of the covenant to Israel, 1 Sam 5:1-11. Here, David and his men took the idols of the Palestinians to Jerusalem, not to worship, but to show their victory over these idols, and nothing of a judgmental nature happened. The translators of the KJV changed the text to "and burned them" to agree with what was recorded later in 1 Chr 14:12. Both 2 Sam and 1 Chr are correct. 2 Sam tells what happened immediately after the battle - they lifted the idols, and carried them away with them to Jerusalem to show the people the total helplessness of the idols of the Palestinians. After the parade through the city demonstrating the powerlessness of the idols, David gave order to burn them. So, both accounts are correct. Do not ever change

**2 SAMUEL 6** *David defeats Palestinians; David brings the Ark; Uzzah is killed touching the Ark*

22 And again the Palestinians ascended still, and thrust out in the valley of Rephaim.

23 And David inquired of Jehovah, but he said, You shall not ascend, but circle around behind them, and come upon them opposite the *baka* trees.<sup>23</sup>

24 And it shall be, when you attentively hear the sound of marching in the heads of the *baka* trees, at that time you shall cut straight to the point, because at that time Jehovah shall go out before your face to strike the army of the Palestinians.

25 And David did so, what Jehovah commanded him, and struck the Palestinians from Geba until you come to Gazer.

**CHAPTER 6**

1 And David continued again with all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand.

2 And David rose and walked, and all the people who *were* with him from Baale of Judah, to cause to ascend from there the ark of God, whose is called by the name, the name Jehovah of hosts who sits as judge *above* the cherubs over it.

3 And they set the ark of God upon a new cart, and lifted it out of the house of Abinadab who *was* in Gibeah; and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drove the new cart.

the text. God is always right whether we know the explanation to solve the seeming contradiction or not.

<sup>23</sup> **5:23 *baca* trees**, *baka*, meaning weeping trees, trees that drop sap or gum to the ground. *Baka* is mentioned only in this story, 2 Sam 5:23,24, and 1 Chr 14:14,15.

4 And they lifted it out of the house of Abinadab who was at Gibeah, with the ark of God, and Ahio walked before the face of the ark.

5 And David, and all the house of Israel danced with laughter before the face of Jehovah with all *instruments of* fir wood, with harps, and with triangular instruments, and with tambourines, and with sistrums<sup>5</sup>, and with cymbals.

6 And they came to the threshingfloor of Nachon, and Uzzah reached out to the ark of God, and seized it, because the oxen jostling let it drop.

7 And the nostrils of Jehovah burned against Uzzah, and God struck him there for his error; and he died there by the ark of God.

8 And David burned because Jehovah broke out a break upon Uzzah, and he called the place Perez<sup>8</sup> Uzzah until this day.

<sup>5</sup> **6:5 *sistrum***, *mena' na*, an ancient instrument with metal rods and/or rings to be shaken in rhythm with the music. [found in your English dictionary.]

<sup>8</sup> **6:8 *Perez***, *perets* or *perez*, The Break of Uzzah. David burned or was angry because God broke out with this break upon Uzzah. David did not understand that: (1) The ark symbolized the holiness of God in such a strong way, that not even the holy priests were allowed to touch it in transporting it, Exo 25:14-15; 37:5. (2) The ark symbolized the holy meeting place between God and man, and man could not come near it except once each year, and only the head priest, and he could come near only with blood, and with all his priestly dress, Lev 16:4, but not even he could touch it, Lev 16:1ff;16:12,14,15; 16:34;. (3) The two tables of stone placed there by Moses were all that was found in it when Solomon placed it in the Temple, 1 Kng 8:9; Exo 25:16, 21; 40:20; (4) The ark was a symbol of the very holiness of God which could not be touched by man until His full holiness was revealed in Jesus Who fulfilled all the Ten Commandments and

9 And David feared Jehovah that day, and said, How shall the ark of Jehovah come to me?

10 And David did not breathe in agreement to cause the ark of Jehovah to depart to him into the city of David, and David turned it aside into the house of Obed Edom, the Gittite.

11 And the ark of Jehovah sat down in the house of Obed Edom, the Gittite, three new moons, and Jehovah knelt down with goodness to Obed Edom and to all his house.

12 And it was caused to stand out boldly to King David, saying, Jehovah has knelt down with goodness to the house of Obed Edom and all that *is* his on account of the ark of God. And David walked, and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed Edom into the city of David with joy.

13 And it was, that when they who lifted the ark of Jehovah had marched six paces, he sacrificed bullocks and stall fed cattle.

14 And David danced before the face of Jehovah with all *his* might, and David was girded with a linen ephod.

15 And David and all the house of Israel caused the ark of Jehovah to ascend with acclamations of joy, and with the voice of

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the whole law for us, and made us righteous in His sight. David at this time did not fully discern the holiness of the Son of God as symbolized in the ark. Every believer is now made a priest qualified to touch God through the holiness of Jesus transferred to us through the cross. Everyone who tries to touch God without coming through Jesus, the Anointed of God, is struck with death, because he does not through faith discern who Jesus is. See Note Jer 3:16.

the trumpet.

16 And it was, the ark of Jehovah came into the city of David, and Michal, daughter of Saul, leaned out a window, and saw King David leaping and dancing before the face of Jehovah, and she despised him in her heart.

17 And they brought in the ark of Jehovah, and placed it in its place, in the midst of the tent that David had stretched out for it, and David caused burnt offerings and peace offerings to ascend up before the face of Jehovah.

18 And David finished ascending burnt offerings and peace offerings, and he blessed the people in the name of Jehovah of hosts.

19 And he allotted to all the people, to the whole multitude of Israel, to the men equally with the women, to each man one cake of bread, one portion *of food*, and one cake of raisins. And all the people walked every man to his house.

20 And David turned back to kneel down with goodness to his house. And Michal, the daughter of Saul, came out to meet David, and said, What heavy glory was to the king of Israel today, who uncovered himself today before the eyes of the maidservants of his servants, uncovering yourself as one of the worthless ones uncovers himself!

21 And David said to Michal, *It was* before the face of Jehovah, who chose me over your father and all his house, to command me *to be* commander over the people of Jehovah, over Israel, and I laughed

**2 SAMUEL 7**     *Jehovah promises to give David's Seed an eternal house and kingdom*

before the face of Jehovah.

22 And I will yet be more light than this, and will be humble in my own eyes; and with the maidservants of whom you said - with them I shall be heavy in honor.

23 And to Michal, the daughter of Saul, there was no child to the day of her death.

**CHAPTER 7**

1 And it was that the king sat in his house, and Jehovah had given him rest all around from all those hating him;

2 And the king said to Nathan, the prophet, See please, I sit in a house of cedar, and the ark of God sits within curtains.

3 And Nathan said to the king, All that is in your heart, walk to do, because Jehovah *is* with you.

4 And it was that night, that the word of Jehovah was to Nathan, saying,

5 Walk, and say to my servant, David, Thus says Jehovah, Will you build me a house to dwell in?

6 Because I have not dwelt in a house since the day I caused the children of Israel to ascend out of Egypt, even to this day, and have been walking in a tent and in a tabernacle.

7 In all where I have walked with all the children of Israel, have I spoken a word with one of the tribes of Israel whom I commanded to shepherd my people, Israel, saying, Why have you not built me a house of cedar?

8 And at this time you shall say thus to my servant, David, Thus says Jehovah of hosts, I took you from *your* place of rest, from after the flock, to be commander over my people, over Israel;

9 And I was with you everywhere you walked, and have cut off all those hating you from before your face, and have made you a great name, like the name of the great who *are* in the earth.

10 And I will put a place for my people, Israel, and will plant them, that they may permanently reside in their place, and not be agitated any more; and the children of wickedness shall no more look down upon them with harshness as at the first,

11 Even from that day I commanded those who judge over my people, Israel; and I will cause you to rest from all those hating you. And Jehovah will cause it to stand out boldly to you that Jehovah will make you a house.

12 When your days are full, and you shall lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your seed after you, who shall go out of your insides, and I will set up his kingdom.

13 He shall build a house for my name, and I will set up the throne of his kingdom forever.

14 I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he bends away, I will make him right with the rod of men and with the blows of the children of men;

15 And my mercy shall not turn away from him, as I turned away from Saul, whom I turned

*David sits before Jehovah and praises Him for His goodness to Israel and himself* **2 SAMUEL 8**  
away from my face.

16 And I will nourish your house and your kingdom forever before your face; your throne shall be set up forever.

17 According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so Nathan spoke to David.

18 And King David walked in and sat before the face of Jehovah, and he said, Who *am* I, Oh Lord Jehovah? And what is my house, that you have brought me to here?

19 And this was yet a small word in your eyes, Oh Lord Jehovah, and you have spoken also of your servant's house for a great while to come. And is this the custom of man, Oh Lord Jehovah?

20 And what can David speak more to you? And you know by seeing your servant, Lord Jehovah.

21 On account of your word, and according to your own heart, you have done all these great acts, to make your servant know by seeing them.

22 Therefore you are great, Oh Lord Jehovah, because *there is* none like you, and *there is* no God except you, according to all that we have attentively heard with our ears.

23 And what one people in the earth is like your people, like Israel, whom God walked to redeem a people to himself, and to put him a name, and to do for you great and fearful acts for your land, before the face of your people, whom you redeemed to yourself from Egypt, from the peoples and their gods?

24 And you have set up for yourself your people, Israel, a people to yourself forever, and you, Jehovah, have become their God.

25 And now, Oh Jehovah God, the word that you have spoken concerning your servant, and concerning his house, raise it up forever, and do what you have spoken.

26 And let your name be great forever, saying, Jehovah of hosts *is* the God over Israel, and let the house of your servant, David, be set up before your face.

27 Because, Oh Jehovah of hosts, God of Israel, you have revealed to the ear of your servant, saying, I will build you a house; therefore your servant has found in his heart to judge in prayer to you this prayer.

28 And now, Oh Lord Jehovah, you are that God, and your words are true; and you have spoken to your servant this goodness;

29 And now, yield *assent* to kneel down with goodness to the house of your servant, that it may be forever before your face, because you, Oh Lord Jehovah, have spoken, and with your blessing let the house of your servant be blessed forever.

## CHAPTER 8

1 And it was just after, and David struck the Palestinians, and they bent the knee, and David took *Metheg ha Ammah*<sup>1</sup> out of the hand of the Palestinians.

<sup>1</sup> 8 :1 *Metheg ha Ammah*, means The Bridle of the Mother City, and refers to Gath. Gath had become the main city of the Palestinians, which had reduced all the other Palestinian cities to subservient cities, 1 Chr 18:1.

**2 SAMUEL 8** *David strikes Moab, Zobah, Syria, Ammon, Palestine, Amalek, Edom; David's men*

2 And he struck Moab, and measured them with a line, making them lie down on the ground; and he measured with two lines to put to death, and the fullness of the line to keep alive. And the Moabites became David's servants, and lifted up gifts *to him*.

3 And David struck Hadadezer, the son of Rehob, king of Zobah, as he walked to turn back his hand at the river Euphrates.

4 And David captured from him a thousand and seven hundred chariot horses, and twenty thousand footmen; and David hamstrung all the chariot *horses*, and reserved out of them a hundred chariots.

5 And the Syrians of Damascus came to surround Hadadezer, king of Zobah, with aid, and David struck of the Syrians twenty-two thousand men.

6 And David put a military post in Syria of Damascus, and the Syrians became servants to David, and lifted up gifts. And Jehovah saved David everywhere he walked.

7 And David took the shields of gold that were on the servants of Hadadezer, and brought them to Jerusalem.

8 And from Bethah, and from Berothai, cities of Hadadezer, King David took exceeding much bronze.

9 And Toi, king of Hamath, heard attentively that David had struck all the host of Hadadezer,

10 And Toi sent Joram, his son, to King David, to ask of his peace, and to bless him, because he had devoured against

Hadadezer, and struck him, because Toi was as a man of war to Hadadezer. And in his hand were implements of silver, and implements of gold, and implements of bronze,

11 Both which King David sanctified to Jehovah, with the silver and gold that he sanctified of all peoples which he treaded down;

12 Of Syria, and of Moab, and of the children of Ammon, and of the Palestinians, and of Amalek, and of the spoil of Hadadezer, son of Rehob, king of Zobah.

13 And David made him a name when he returned from striking the Syrians in the valley of salt, eighteen thousand *men*.

14 And he put military posts in Edom; he put military posts throughout all Edom, and all they of Edom became David's servants. And Jehovah saved David everywhere he walked.

15 And David reigned over all Israel, and David was the doer of judgment and righteousness to all his people.

16 And Joab, the son of Zeruiah, *was* over the host, and Jehoshaphat, the son of Ahilud, was recorder;

17 And Zadok, the son of Ahitub, and Ahimelech, the son of Abiathar, *were* the priests; and Seraiah was the scribe;

18 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over both the bodyguards, and the official couriers; and David's sons were priests.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>18</sup> **8:18** See 1 Chr 18:17 for the explanation of the words, **and David's sons were priests**.

### CHAPTER 9

1 And David said, Is there still *any* who is left of the house of Saul, and I will do him mercy on account of Jonathan?

2 And of the house of Saul *there was* a servant whose name was Ziba. And they called him to David, and the king said to him, *Are you Ziba?* And he said, Your servant!

3 And the king said, *Is there* also yet a man of the house of Saul, and I will do the mercy of God to him? And Ziba said to the king, there continues to Jonathan a son, maimed in his feet.

4 And the king said to him, Where *is* he? And Ziba said to the king, Behold, he *is* in the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, in Lo'debar.

5 And King David sent, and took him out of the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, from Lo'debar.

6 Now Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, came to David, and he fell on his face, and prostrated himself. And David said, Mephibosheth. And he said, Behold, your servant!

7 And David said to him, Do not fear, because doing, I will do to you mercy on account of Jonathan, your father, and will return to you all the fields of Saul, your father; and you shall eat food at my table continually.

8 And he prostrated himself, and said, What is your servant, that you should face about to a dead dog such as I?

9 And the king called to Ziba, Saul's servant, and said to him, All that is to Saul, and all to his house I have given to the son your lord.

10 And you shall work the soil for him, you, and your sons, and your servants, and you shall bring in, that there may be food to eat to the son of your lord; and Mephibosheth, the son of your lord, shall eat food continually at my table. And Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.

11 And Ziba said to the king, All that my lord, the king, has commanded his servant, so shall your servant do. And Mephibosheth shall eat at my table as one of the sons of the king.

12 And to Mephibosheth *was* a young son, whose name *was* Micha. And all who *were* seated in the house of Ziba *were* servants to Mephibosheth.

13 And Mephibosheth sat down in Jerusalem, because he ate continually at the king's table, and was lame in his two feet.

### CHAPTER 10

1 And it was right after, that the king of the children of Ammon died, and Hanun, his son, reigned in his stead.

2 And David said, I will do mercy to Hanun, the son of Nahash, as his father did mercy to me. And David sent to comfort him by the hand of his servants concerning his father. And David's servants came into the land of the children of Ammon.

**2 SAMUEL 10** *Hanun reproaches David's envoys; Joab strikes Ammonites and Syrians*

3 And the chief rulers of the children of Ammon said to Hanun, their lord, Is David giving heavy glory to your father in your eyes because he has sent comforters to you? *Is it* not to cross over to search the city, and to walk as spies, and David has sent his servants to you to overthrow it?

4 And Hanun took David's servants, and shaved off the one half of their beards, and cut off their garments in the middle, to their buttocks, and sent them away.

5 And they caused it to stand out boldly to David, and he sent to meet them, because the men were exceedingly reproached, and the king said, Sit down at Jericho until your beards have grown, and then return.

6 And the children of Ammon saw that they stunk before David, and the children of Ammon sent and hired the Syrians of Beth Rehob and the Syrians of Zoba, twenty thousand footmen, and a thousand men of King Maacah, and twelve thousand men of Ishtob.

7 And David attentively heard, and he sent Joab and all the host of the mighty men.

8 And the children of Ammon came out and arranged the battle at the entrance of the gate; and the Syrians of Zoba, and of Rehob, and the men of Ishtob, and Maacah, were separate *from Ammon* in the field.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>8</sup> **10:8** The Ammonites had put themselves in battle array, and the Syrian mercenaries Ammon had sent for, had not yet been able to join the Ammonites, and were still on their way in the countryside. So Joab attacked the Syrians before they could get to the Ammo-

9 And Joab saw that the face of the battle was near him to *his* face and to *his* rear, and he chose all the choice men of Israel, and arranged them to meet the Syrians;

10 And what was left of the people he gave into the hand of Abishai, his brother, and he arranged them against the children of Ammon.

11 And he said, If the Syrians are too strong for me, then you are to save me, and if the children of Ammon are too strong for you, then I will walk to save you.

12 Seizing strength, let us seize strength for our people and for the cities of our God, and Jehovah will do good in his eyes.

13 And Joab drew near, and the people who *were* with him, to the battle against the Syrians, and they fled before his face.

14 And the children of Ammon saw that the Syrians had fled, and they fled before the face of Abishai, and entered into the city. And Joab returned from the children of Ammon, and came to Jerusalem.

15 And the Syrians saw that they were struck before the face of Israel, and they gathered themselves as a unit.

16 And Hadarezer sent, and brought out the Syrians who *were* across the river, and they came to Helam, and Shobach, the chief ruler of the host of Hadarezer, *was* before their face.

nites, thereby avoiding having to devour them all arrayed against him at the same time. He figured that the Ammonites would not attack unless they could see that the Syrians were defeating Israel.



17 And it was caused to stand out boldly to David, and he gathered together all Israel, and crossed over Jordan, and came to Helam. And the Syrians arranged themselves to meet David, and devoured against him.

18 And the Syrians fled before the face of Israel, and David fatally struck seven hundred chariots and forty thousand chariot horses of the Syrians, and he struck Shobach, the chief ruler of their host, who died there.

19 And all the kings, servants to Hadarezer, saw that they were struck before the face of Israel, and they completed peace with Israel, and served them. And the Syrians feared to save the children of Ammon any more.

## CHAPTER 11

1 And it was at the return of the year, at the time kings go out *to battle*, and David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the children of Ammon, and besieged Rabbah. And David sat in Jerusalem.

2 And it was in the time of dusk, and David rose from his bed, and walked upon the roof of the house of the king; and from the roof he saw a woman bathing herself; and the woman was very good in appearance.

3 And David sent, and treaded after the woman. And one said, Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah, the Hittite?

4 And David sent messengers, and took her; and she came in to him, and he lay down with her; and she was purified from her uncleanness, and she returned to her house.

5 And the woman conceived, and sent, and caused it to stand out boldly to David, and said, *I am* with child.

6 And David sent to Joab: Send me Uriah, the Hittite. And Joab sent Uriah to David.

7 And Uriah came to him, and David inquired of him about the peace of Joab, and the peace of the people, and the prosperity<sup>7</sup> of the war.

8 And David said to Uriah, Descend to your house, and wash your feet. And Uriah walked out of the king's house, and there walked out after him a present raised from the king.

9 And Uriah lay down at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not descend to his house.

10 And they caused it to stand out boldly to David, saying, Uriah did not descend to his house; and David said to Uriah, Did you not come from your journey? And why did you not descend to your house?

11 And Uriah said to David, The ark, and Israel, and Judah sit in booths, and my lord, Joab, and the servants of my lord, are pitched

<sup>7</sup> 11:7 **prosperity** is *shalom*, the same word as the other two, the peace of Joab, the peace of the people, the peace of the war. *Shalom* means peace, safety, prosperity, and all good things. That is why *Shalom* is the greeting when you meet someone, and the greeting when you leave someone.

## 2 SAMUEL 11

*David causes Uriah to be killed in battle*

in the face of the fields; and shall I go into my house, to eat, and to drink, and to lie down with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do this word.

12 And David said to Uriah, Sit down here today also, and tomorrow I will send you away. And Uriah sat in Jerusalem that day and the next day.

13 And David called him, and he ate and drank before his face, and he made him drunk; and he walked out at dusk to lie on his bed with the servants of his lord, and did not descend to his house.

14 And it was in the dawn, and David wrote a writing to Joab, and sent *it* by the hand of Uriah.

15 And he wrote in the writing, saying, Set Uriah in front of the face of the strongest battle, and turn back from him, and he will be struck and die.

16 And it was, Joab hedged about the city, and he gave Uriah in a place where he knew by seeing that men of resources *were* there.

17 And the men of the city walked out and devoured against Joab, and there fell of the people of the servants of David; and Uriah, the Hittite, died also.

18 And Joab sent and caused it to stand out boldly to David all words concerning the war;

19 And commanded the messenger, saying, When you have ended speaking the words about the war to the king,

20 And if it is that the king's wrath ascends, and he says to you, Why did you draw near to the city to devour? Did you not know by

seeing that they would cause *arrows* to flow from the wall?

21 Who struck Abimelech the son of Jerubbesheth? Did not a woman throw down a piece of a millstone upon him from the wall, and he died in Thebez? Why did you draw near to the wall? And you say, Also your servant Uriah, the Hittite, is dead. Jud 9:53

22 And the messenger walked, and came, and caused to stand out boldly to David all that Joab had sent.

23 And the messenger said to David, Assuredly the men prevailed against us, and came out to us into the field, and we were upon them as far as the opening of the gate.

24 And the shooters caused *arrows* to flow upon your servants from upon the wall; and *some* of the king's servants died, and also your servant Uriah, the Hittite, is dead.

25 And David said to the messenger, Thus you shall say to Joab, Not being evil, let this not be an evil word in your eyes, because the sword devours this as well as that; seize strength for your battle against the city, and pull it down; and you seize strength for him.

26 And the wife of Uriah attentively heard that Uriah, her husband, was dead, and she mourned for her husband.

27 And the lamentation crossed over, and David sent and gathered her to his house, and she was to him a wife, and bore him a son. And the word that David had done was evil in the eyes of Jehovah.

### CHAPTER 12

1 And Jehovah sent Nathan to David. And he came to him, and said to him, There were two men in one city; one rich, and one poor.

2 To the rich *man* were exceeding many flocks and herds;

3 And to the poor *man* was nothing, except one little ewe lamb, which he had bought, and it lived, and grew up together with him, and with his children; it ate of his morsel, and drank from his cup, and lay in his bosom, and was to him as a daughter.

4 And a traveler came to the rich *man*, and he spared to take from his flock and from his herd to do for the traveler who came to him; and took the lamb of the poor man, and made it for the man who came to him.

5 And the nostrils of David burned against the man exceedingly, and he said to Nathan, Jehovah lives! The son of man who did this shall die;

6 And he shall make the lamb complete fourfold, because he did this word, and because he did not spare in pity.

7 And Nathan said to David, You *are* the man! Thus says Jehovah God of Israel, I anointed you king over Israel, and I snatched you out of the hand of Saul;

8 And I gave you your lord's house, and *I gave* your lord's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if *that were* too little, I would have added to you this and that.

9 Why have you despised the word of Jehovah to do evil in his eyes? You have struck Uriah, the Hittite, with the sword, and have taken his wife as your wife, and have struck him with the sword of the children of Ammon.

10 And now the sword shall not turn away from your house forever, because you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah, the Hittite, to be your wife.

11 Thus says Jehovah, Behold, I will raise up evil against you out of your own house, and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie down with your wives in the eyes of this sun.

12 Because you did it secretly, but I will do this word in front of all Israel, and in front of the sun.

13 And David said to Nathan, I have sinned against Jehovah. And Nathan said to David, Jehovah also has crossed over your sin; you shall not die.

14 Also, since causing to scorn, you have caused those hating Jehovah to scorn by this word, the child also that is born to you, dying, shall die.

15 And Nathan walked to his house. And Jehovah struck the child whom Uriah's wife bore to David, and it was very sick.

16 And David sought God for the child, and David fasted a fast, and went in and lay down all night on the earth.

17 And the elders of his house rose, and walked to him to raise him up from the earth, and he did not breathe in agreement, and he

**2 SAMUEL 12** *The child of David and Bath Sheba dies; Solomon is born; Joab conquers Rabbah*

did not cut food with them.

18 And it was on the seventh day, and the child died. And the servants of David feared to cause it to stand out boldly to him that the child had died, because they said, Lo, while the child was alive, we spoke to him, and he would not hear attentively our voice; and how shall we say to him, The child is dead; and he will do badly?

19 And David saw that his servants whispered, and David understood that the child had died; and David said to his servants, Has the child died? And they said, He has died.

20 And David rose from the earth, and washed, and anointed *himself*, and changed his clothes, and came into the house of Jehovah, and prostrated himself; and he came to his own house; and he requested, and they put food before him, and he ate.

21 And his servants said to him, What word is this that you have done? When the child was alive you fasted and wept, and when the child has died you rise and eat food.

22 And he said, While the child was alive, I fasted and wept, because I said, Who can know by seeing - and Jehovah may stoop down in grace to me, and the child may live?

23 And now he has died; why should I fast? Am I able to bring him back again? I shall walk to him, and he shall not return to me.

24 And David comforted Bathsheba, his wife, and went in to her, and lay down with her; and she

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bore a son, and he called his name Solomon, and Jehovah loved him.

25 And he sent by the hand of Nathan, the prophet, and he called his name Jedidiah,<sup>2 5</sup> because of Jehovah.

26 And Joab devoured against Rabbah of the children of Ammon, and captured the royal city.

27 And Joab sent messengers to David, and said, I have devoured against Rabbah, and have captured the city of waters.

28 And at this time gather what is left of the people together, and pitch against the city, and take it, lest I capture the city, and it be called after my name.

29 And David gathered all the people together, and walked to Rabbah, and devoured against it, and captured it.

30 And he took their king's crown from off his head, and its weight *was* a talent of gold with the precious stones; and it was on David's head. And he brought out the spoil of the city in great abundance.

31 And he brought out the people who *were* there, and put them under saws, and under threshing instruments of iron, and under cutting instruments of iron, and caused them to cross over through the brick-kiln;<sup>3 1</sup> and so he did to

<sup>25</sup> **12:25 Jedidiah**, beloved of Jehovah. A little known fact that Jehovah gave Solomon another name at his birth, Jedidiah, meaning beloved of Jehovah. No where else in the Bible is it mentioned. Jehovah loved him. This is the case with God with all babies, regardless of the sins of their parents.

<sup>31</sup> **12:31 brick-kiln**. The brick-kilns probably were the ovens where the pagans practiced sacrificing their babies in fire to Molek. David returned upon their head the kind of treatment they had done to their own babies. See Note Lev 18:21.

all the cities of the children of Ammon. And David returned, and all the people to Jerusalem.

**CHAPTER 13**

1 And it was just after, and to Absalom, the son of David, *was* a beautiful sister, and her name was Tamar; and Amnon, the son of David, loved her.

2 And Amnon was so distressed that he was worn *out* on account of his sister, Tamar, because she *was* a virgin, and it was difficult in the eyes of Amnon to do to her anything.

3 And to Amnon *was* a friend, whose name *was* Jonadab, the son of Shimeah, David's brother, and Jonadab was a very skillful man.

4 And he said to him, Why are you, the king's son, just dangling in need from dawn to dawn? Will you not cause it to stand out boldly to me? And Amnon said to him, I love Tamar, the sister of Absalom, my brother.

5 And Jonadab said to him, Lie down on your bed, and *pretend to be worn out*; and your father will come to see you, and you say to him, Please, let my sister Tamar come, and feed me food, and make the food before my eyes that I may see and eat from her hand.

6 And Amnon lay down, and *pretended to be worn out*, and the king came to see him, and Amnon said to the king, Please, let Tamar, my sister, come, and make for me a couple of cakes before my eyes, that I may be fed from her hand.

7 And David sent to Tamar at the house, saying, Walk now to your brother, Amnon's house, and make for him food.

8 And Tamar walked to her brother, Amnon's house, and he was lying down. And she took flour, and kneaded it, and made cakes before his eyes, and baked the cakes.

9 And she took a pan, and poured them out before his face; and he refused to eat. And Amnon said, All men go out from me. And they went out, every man from him.

10 And Amnon said to Tamar, Bring the food into the apartment, and I will be fed from your hand. And Tamar took the cakes which she had made, and brought them to Amnon, her brother, into the apartment.

11 And she brought to him to eat, and he seized her, and said to her, Come, lie down with me, my sister.

12 And she said to him, No, my brother, do not look down with harshness upon me, because such is not done in Israel; do not do this foolishness.

13 And I, where shall I cause my reproach to walk? And you, you shall be as one of the fools in Israel. And now, speak, please, to the king, because he will not withhold me from you.

14 And he did not breathe in agreement to attentively hear her voice, and, seizing her, he looked down with harshness upon her, and lay down with her.

## 2 SAMUEL 13

*Amnon hates Tamar; Absalom protects Tamar and kills Amnon*

15 And Amnon hated her with a hatred exceedingly great, so that the hatred with which he hated her was greater than the love with which he had loved her. And Amnon said to her, Rise, walk.

16 And she said to him, There is no cause; this evil in sending me away is greater than the other that you do to me. And he would not breathe in agreement to attentively hear her.

17 And he called his servant that ministered to him, and said, Send this<sup>17</sup> away from me now outside, and bar the door after her.

18 And on her *was* a long tunic, because the robes of the king's daughters who were virgins were *clothed* with such garments. And his servant brought her out, and barred the door after her.

19 And Tamar took ashes on her head, and tore her long tunic that was on her, and put her hand on her head, and walked the way crying.

20 And Absalom, her brother, said to her, Has Amnon, your brother, been with you? Even at this time, my sister, be silent; he is your brother; do not hold this word in your heart. So Tamar sat down desolate in the house of Absalom, her brother.

21 And King David attentively heard all these words, and he burned exceedingly.

<sup>17</sup> 13:17 **this**, *zot*. Note that all his respect for her is gone. In disgust he refers to her as **this**! He no longer refers to her as sister, nor even as woman. She is only a **this** now, since he has satisfied his lust upon her. So very often this is the way that men treat women after they have used them to satisfy their lust.

22 And Absalom did not speak to Amnon bad or good, because Absalom hated Amnon over the word by which he had looked down with harshness upon Tamar, his sister.

23 And it was after two years of days, and with Absalom were flock shearers in Baalhazor, which *is* beside Ephraim; and Absalom called all the king's sons.

24 And Absalom came to the king, and said, Behold now, to your servant *are* flock shearers; please let the king and his servants walk with your servant.

25 And the king said to Absalom, No, my son; let us not all now walk, lest we be heavy to you. And he broke out *with pleading* upon him, and he did not breathe in agreement to walk, and blessed him.

26 And Absalom said, And if not, please, let my brother, Amnon, walk with us. And the king said to him, Why should he walk with you?

27 And Absalom broke out *with pleading* to him, and he sent Amnon and all the king's sons with him.

28 And Absalom commanded his servants, saying, See now when Amnon's heart is good with wine, and I say to you, Strike Amnon and kill him, do not fear because I have commanded you; seize strength, and be sons of resources.

29 And the servants of Absalom did to Amnon what Absalom commanded. And all the king's sons rose, and every man rode upon his mule, and fled.

30 And it was, they *were* on the way, and the report came to David, saying, Absalom has struck all the king's sons, and not one is left of them.

31 And the king rose and tore his garments, and lay down on the earth; and all his servants stationed *by him* with their garments torn.

32 And Jonadab, the son of Shimeah, David's brother, answered, and said, Let not my lord say that all the young men, the king's sons, are killed, because Amnon only is killed, because by the mouth of Absalom this has been put *in place* from the day that he looked down with harshness upon his sister, Tamar.

33 And now let not my lord, the king, take the word to heart, to say that all the king's sons are killed, because that Amnon only is killed.

34 And Absalom fled. And the young man who kept the watch lifted up his eyes, and saw, and lo, there were many people on the way behind him on the side of the hill.

35 And Jonadab said to the king, Behold, the sons of the king come; what your servant spoke, so it is.

36 And it was, he finished speaking, and behold, the king's sons came, and lifted up their voice, and wept; and the king also, and all his servants wept very greatly.

37 And Absalom fled, and walked to Talmi, the son of Ammihud, king of Geshur. And David mourned for his son every day.

38 And Absalom fled, and walked to Geshur, and was there three years.

39 And King David ended going after Absalom, because he was comforted over Amnon since he was dead.

#### CHAPTER 14

1 And Joab, the son of Zeruiah, knew by seeing that the king's heart was upon Absalom.

2 And Joab sent to Tekoah, and took there a wise woman, and said to her, Please, mourn, and put on mourning garments now, and do not anoint yourself with oil, and be as a woman that had mourned a long day for the dead;

3 And come to the king, and speak to him this word. And Joab put the words in her mouth.

4 And the woman of Tekoah said to the king, and she fell on her face to the earth, and prostrated herself, and said, Save me, Oh king.

5 And the king said to her, What *troubles* you? And she said, I *am* indeed a widow woman, and my husband is dead.

6 And to your maidservant *were* two sons, and they two fought together in the field, and there was none to snatch them away, and the one struck the other and killed him.

7 And behold, the whole family has risen against your maidservant, and they said, Give him who struck his brother, that we may put him to death for the soul of his brother whom he killed, and we will also desolate the heir; and they shall extinguish my ember which is left, and shall not put my husband's

**2 SAMUEL 14** *Joab's deception through the woman succeeds; David sends Joab to return Absalom*

name or survivor upon the face of the earth.

8 And the king said to the woman, Walk to your house, and I will command concerning you.

9 And the woman of Tekoah said to the king, My lord, Oh king, let the iniquity be on me and on my father's house, and the king and his throne *be* innocent.

10 And the king said, Whoever speaks to you, bring him to me, and he shall not touch you any more.

11 And she said, please, let the king remember Jehovah your God, that you would not increase the kinsman redeemers of blood to destroy any more, lest they desolate my son. And he said, Jehovah lives! Not a hair of your son shall fall to the earth.

12 And the woman said, Let your maidservant, please, speak a word to my lord, the king. And he said, Speak.

13 And the woman said, And why have you calculated this against the people of God, and the king speaks this word as one who is guilty, since the king does not cause his banished to return?

14 Because dying, we shall die, and are as water poured out on the earth, which cannot be gathered again, and God does not respect any soul; and he calculates devices that his banished not be banished from him.

15 And now that I have come to speak to my lord, the king, this word, *it is* because the people have made me afraid; and your maidservant said, I will now speak to the

king; it may be that the king will do the word of his maidservant.

16 Because the king will attentively hear, to snatch away his maidservant out of the palm of the man who would desolate me and my son together out of the inheritance of God.

17 And your maidservant said, The word of my lord, the king, shall now be at rest, because as a messenger of God, so is my lord, the king, to attentively hear good and bad, and Jehovah your God will be with you.

18 And the king answered and said to the woman, Please do not hide from me the word that I shall ask you. And the woman said, Let my lord, the king, now speak.

19 And the king said, The hand of Joab *is* with you in all this? And the woman answered and said, Your soul lives, my lord, the king! There is nothing to the right hand or to the left of all that my lord, the king, has spoken, because your servant Joab commanded me, and he put all these words in the mouth of your maidservant,

20 To cross over to circle around the face of these words; your servant Joab has done this word, and my lord is wise, according to the wisdom of a messenger of God to know by seeing all that *is* in the earth.

21 And the king said to Joab, Behold now, I have done this word; and walk; cause the young man, Absalom, to return.

22 And Joab fell on his face to the earth, and prostrated himself, and blessed the king; and Joab



said, Today your servant knows by seeing that there is grace in your eyes toward me, my lord, Oh king, in that the king has done the word of his servant.

23 And Joab rose, and walked to Geshur, and brought Absalom to Jerusalem.

24 And the king said, Let him turn to his own house, and let him not see my face. And Absalom returned to his own house, and he did not see the face of the king.

25 And in all Israel there was not a man so beautiful to boast exceedingly as Absalom; from the sole of his foot, and to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him.

26 And he shaved his head - and it was at the end of days that he shaved it, because it was heavy on him, - and he shaved it, and he weighed the hair of his head at two hundred shekels according to the king's stone.

27 And to Absalom there were born three sons and one daughter, whose name was Tamar; she was a woman of a beautiful appearance.

28 And Absalom sat down two years of days in Jerusalem, and did not see the king's face.

29 And Absalom sent for Joab, to send him to the king, and he did not breathe in agreement to come to him; and he sent again the second time, and he did not breathe in agreement to come.

30 And he said to his servants, See, the allotment of land of Joab is near mine, and to him there *is* barley; walk and set it on fire. And

Absalom's servants set the allotment of land on fire.

31 And Joab rose and came to Absalom to his house, and said to him, Why have your servants set my allotment of land on fire?

32 And Absalom answered Joab, Lo, I sent to you, saying, Come here, that I may send you to the king, to say, Why have I come from Geshur? *It would have been* good for me that I *were* still there; and at this time let me see the king's face; and if there is any iniquity in me, let him kill me.

33 And Joab came to the king, and caused it to stand out boldly to him, and he called for Absalom; and he came to the king, and prostrated himself with his nostrils to the earth before the face of the king, and the king kissed Absalom.

## CHAPTER 15

1 And it was just after, that Absalom made for himself chariots and horses and fifty men to run before his face.

2 And Absalom loaded up early, and stood beside the way of the gate; and it was, any man that to him was a controversy came to the king for judgment, and Absalom called to him, and said, Of what city *are* you? And he said, Your servant is of one of the tribes of Israel.

3 And Absalom said to him, See, your words are good and right, and there is no man of the king to attentively hear you.

4 And Absalom said, Oh that I were put as the one judging in the land, so that every man to whom is any controversy or *need* for judg-

**2 SAMUEL 15** *Absalom executes his conspiracy to take the throne; David flees from Jerusalem*

ment might come to me, and I would do him right!

5 And it was, when any man came near to prostrate himself to him, he sent out his hand, and seized him, and kissed him.

6 And Absalom did this word to all Israel who came for judgment to the king, and Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.

7 And it was at the end of four years, and Absalom said to the king, please, let me walk, and make my vow complete, which I vowed to Jehovah in Hebron.

8 Because your servant vowed a vow while I sat down at Geshur in Syria, saying, If Jehovah returning me, shall return me to Jerusalem, then I will serve Jehovah.

9 And the king said to him, Walk in peace. And he rose, and walked to Hebron.

10 And Absalom sent those walking as spies throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, When you attentively hear the sound of the trumpet, then you shall say, Absalom reigns in Hebron.

11 And two hundred men walked with Absalom out of Jerusalem, called ones, and they walked in their complete *innocence*, and they did not know a word.

12 And Absalom sent for Ahithophel, the Gilonite, counselor to David, out of his city, out of Giloh, while he sacrificed sacrifices. And the conspiracy was strong, and the people were walking and increasing with Absalom.

13 And there came a messenger to David, saying, The hearts of the men of Israel are after Absalom.

14 And David said to all his servants who *were* with him at Jerusalem, Rise, and let us flee, because we shall not otherwise escape from Absalom; walking, flow like liquid, lest he flowing like liquid reaches us, and brings evil upon us, and strikes the city with the mouth of the sword.

15 And the king's servants said to the king, Behold, all that my lord, the king, shall decide - Behold! *We are your servants!*

16 And the king walked and all his house on foot. And the king left ten women, concubines, to hedge about the house.

17 And the king went out, and all the people on foot, and stood in Beth ha Merchaq.

18 And all his servants crossed on at his hand, and all the body guard, and all the official couriers, and all the Gittites, six hundred men who came on foot from Gath, crossed on before the face of the king.

19 And the king said to Ittai, the Gittite, Why do you walk also with us? Turn back to your place, and sit down with the king, because you are a stranger and also an exile.

20 Yesterday you came, and today should I cause you to wander with us? Walking, I walk wherever I can walk; turn back, and turn back your brothers; mercy and truth *be* with you.

21 And Ittai answered the king, and said, As Jehovah lives, and my lord, the king, lives, surely in what place there my lord, the king, shall be, whether in death or life, even there your servant will be.

22 And David said to Ittai, Walk, and cross over. And Ittai, the Gittite, crossed over, and all his men, and all the little ones who *were* with him.

23 And all the country wept with a loud voice, and all the people crossed over; the king also crossed over the stream Kidron, and all the people crossed over, facing the way of the desert.

24 And lo, also Zadok, and all the Levites with him, bore the ark of the covenant of God, and they poured the ark of God *in place*; and Abiathar caused *offerings* to ascend<sup>2 4</sup> until all the people had completed crossing out of the city.

25 And the king said to Zadok, Return the ark of God to the city; if I shall find grace in the eyes of Jehovah he will return me, and cause me to see it and his place of rest;

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<sup>24</sup> **15:24 Abiathar caused offerings to ascend until.** The word for ascend, *alah*, is the same word normally translated ascend. It is the word to cause a sacrifice to ascend as a burnt offering, and generally sacrifice or burnt offering appears with it. Since no other word appears here with ascend, we do not know for sure what it means that Abiathar caused to ascend while all the people crossed over. Since it would take quite a while for them all to cross over out of the city, and the priests and Levites had the ark of the covenant with them, which had been firmly placed, we suppose that Abiathar was causing sacrifices and offering to ascend to sanctify the king and the people in their retreat to safety. See 1 Sam 2:28; 2 Sam 24:22.

26 And if he thus says, I have no inclination toward you, behold, let him do to me what *is* good in his eyes.

27 And the king said to Zadok, the priest, You see! Return to the city in peace, and Ahimaaz, your son, and Jonathan, the son of Abiathar, your two sons with you.

28 See, I will wait in the desert of the open country until there comes word from you to cause it to stand out boldly to me.

29 And Zadok and Abiathar returned the ark of God to Jerusalem, and they sat down there.

30 And David ascended by the ascent of Olivet, and wept as he ascended, and his head was covered, and he walked barefoot; and all the people who were with him; every man covered his head, and ascending, they ascended, weeping as they ascended.

31 And one caused it to stand out boldly to David, saying, Ahithophel is among those tied to Absalom. And David said, Oh Jehovah, please turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness.

32 And it was, David came to the head of the mount, where he worshipped God there, and behold, Hushai, the Archite came to meet him with his clothing torn, and dirt upon his head;

33 And to whom David said, If you cross over with me, then you shall be a burden to me;

34 And if you turn back to the city, and say to Absalom, *I will be* your servant, Oh king; as I have been your father's servant until now, so now *I will also be* your

**2 SAMUEL 16** *Zadok, Abiathar, Hushai spy for David; Shimei curses David as he leaves*

servant; and you may break up for me the counsel of Ahithophel.

35 And *are* there not with you Zadok and Abiathar, the priests? And it shall be, that whatever word you shall attentively hear out of the king's house, you shall cause it to stand out boldly to Zadok and Abiathar, the priests.

36 Behold, there *are* with them their two sons, Ahimaaz, Zadok's *son*, and Jonathan, Abiathar's *son*; and you shall send by their hand to me every word that you attentively hear.

37 And Hushai, David's friend, came into the city, and Absalom came into Jerusalem.

**CHAPTER 16**

1 And David crossed over a little of the head of the hill, and behold, Ziba, the servant of Mephibosheth, met him, with a team of donkeys bound, and upon them two hundred loaves of bread, and a hundred cakes of raisins, and a hundred of harvest produce, and a skin bottle of wine.

2 And the king said to Ziba, What *do* you *mean* by these? And Ziba said, The donkeys *are* for the king's house to ride on, and the bread and harvest produce *are* for the young men to eat; and the wine, for those who are exhausted in the desert to drink.

3 And the king said, And where is your lord's son? And Ziba said to the king, Behold, he sits in Jerusalem, because he said, Today the house of Israel shall return to me the kingdom of my father.

4 And the king said to Ziba, Behold, to you *is* all that *is* to Mephibosheth. And Ziba said, I prostrate myself to you in whose eyes there is grace to me, my lord, Oh king.

5 And King David came to Bahurim, and behold, there came out a man of the family of the house of Saul, whose name was Shimei, the son of Gera; he coming out, came out, and made light of *him*.

6 And he threw stones at David, and at all the servants of King David, and all the people and all the mighty men *were* on his right hand and on his left.

7 And thus said Shimei when he made light of *him*, Come out, come out, you bloody man, and you man of worthlessness;

8 Jehovah has returned upon you all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose stead you have reigned; and Jehovah has given the kingdom into the hand of Absalom, your son, and behold, you are evil because you are a bloody man.

9 And Abishai, the son of Zeruiah, said to the king, Why should this dead dog make light of my lord, the king? Let me cross over, please, and take off his head.

10 And the king said, What *is* with you, you sons of Zeruiah? Let him thus make light of *me*, because Jehovah has said to him, Make light of David. Who shall then say, Why have you done so?

11 And David said to Abishai, and to all his servants, Behold, my son who came out of my insides, seeks my soul, and shall not this Benjamite do it? Leave him, and

let him make light of *me*, because Jehovah has said *it* to him.

12 Perhaps Jehovah will see my affliction, and Jehovah will return to me good in the place of his cursing this day.

13 And David and his men walked by the way, and Shimei walked along on the side of the hill beside him, and made light of *him* as he walked; and threw stones at him, and threw dust.

14 And the king and all the people who *were* with him came weary and breathed *awhile* there.

15 And Absalom and all the people - the men of Israel - came to Jerusalem, and Ahithophel with him.

16 And it was, when Hushai the Archite, David's friend, came to Absalom, that Hushai said to Absalom, Let the king live! Let the king live!

17 And Absalom said to Hushai, Is this your mercy to your friend? Why did you not walk with your friend?

18 And Hushai said to Absalom, No; because whom Jehovah and this people and all the men of Israel, choose, his I will be, and with him I will sit down.

19 And again, whom should I serve? Should I not serve before the face of his son? As I have served before the face of your father, so I will be before your face.

20 And Absalom said to Ahithophel, Give counsel, you together, what we shall do.

21 And Ahithophel said to Absalom, Go in to your father's concubines, whom he has depos-

ited to hedge about the house, and all Israel shall attentively hear that you stink to your father; and the hands of all who are with you shall seize strength.

22 And they stretched out a tent for Absalom upon the top of the house, and Absalom went in to his father's concubines in the eyes of all Israel. <sup>2 Sam 12:11</sup>

23 And the counsel of Ahithophel, which he counseled in those days, *was* as a man had inquired at the word of God; so *was* all the counsel of Ahithophel, both with David, and with Absalom.

## CHAPTER 17

1 And Ahithophel said to Absalom, Let me now choose out twelve thousand men, and I will rise and pursue after David tonight;

2 And I will come upon him while he is tired and slack handed, and will make him tremble; and all the people who *are* with him shall flee; and I will strike the king only,

3 And I will turn back all the people to you, the return of all *except* the man whom you seek; all the people shall be in peace.

4 And the word was right in the eyes of Absalom and all the elders of Israel.

5 And Absalom said, Now call Hushai, the Archite, also, and let us attentively hear also what *is* in his mouth.

6 And Hushai came to Absalom, and Absalom said to him, Ahithophel has spoken these words; shall we do after his words? If not, you speak.

**2 SAMUEL 17** *Absalom accepts Hushai's counsel; a woman protects the messengers to David*

7 And Hushai said to Absalom, The counsel that Ahithophel has counseled is not good at this stroke;

8 And Hushai said, You know by seeing your father and his men, that they *are* mighty men, and they *are* bitter in their soul, as a bear bereaved in the field; and your father is a man of war, and will not lodge with the people.

9 Behold, at this time he is hidden in a pit, or in some other place, and it will be, some of them shall fall at the commencement, and whoever attentively hears it will say, There is a blow among the people who follow Absalom.

10 And he also *who* is a son of resources, whose heart *is* as the heart of a lion, melting, shall melt, because all Israel knows by seeing that your father is a mighty man, and *so are* the sons of resources with him.

11 Therefore I counsel that all Israel being gathered, shall be gathered to you, from Dan to Beer Sheba, as the sand that is by the sea for abundance; and that your face walks in the battle.

12 And we shall come upon him in a place where there he shall be found, and we will settle on him as the dew falls on the ground; and there shall not be left of him, and of all the men who are with him so much as one.

13 And if he gets into a city, then all Israel will lift ropes to that city, and we will drag it into the stream, until there is not found there even a particle.

14 And Absalom and all the men of Israel said, The counsel of Hushai, the Archite, is better than the counsel of Ahithophel. And Jehovah had commanded to break up the good counsel of Ahithophel, in order that Jehovah might bring evil upon Absalom.

15 And Hushai said to Zadok and to Abiathar, the priests, This and this Ahithophel counseled Absalom and the elders of Israel, and this and this I have counseled.

16 And at this time send quickly, and cause it to stand out boldly to David, saying, Do not lodge this night in the open country of the desert, and crossing over, cross over, lest the king be swallowed up, and all the people who *are* with him.

17 And Jonathan and Ahimaaz stood by Enrogel, and a maidservant walked and caused it to stand out boldly to them; and they walked, and caused it to stand out boldly to King David because they could not be seen coming into the city.

18 And a young man saw them, and caused it to stand out boldly to Absalom; and they walked, the two of them, quickly, and came to a man's house in Bahurim, to whom was a dug well in his yard, and they descended there.

19 And the woman took, and spread out a covering over the face of the well, and spread ground grain upon *it*; and the word was not known by seeing.

20 And Absalom's servants came to the woman to the house, and they said, Where *are* Ahimaaz and Jonathan? And the woman said to them, They have crossed over the brook of water. And they sought, and could not find them, and they returned to Jerusalem.

21 And it was, after they walked, they ascended out of the dug well, and walked, and caused it to stand out boldly to King David, and said to David, Rise and cross over quickly over the water, because just so has Ahithophel counseled against you.

22 And David rose and all the people who *were* with him, and they crossed over Jordan; by the light of the dawn there lacked not one of them who had not crossed over Jordan.

23 And Ahithophel saw that his counsel was not done, and he bound his donkey, and rose, and walked to his house, to his city, and commanded his house, and hanged himself, and died, and was buried in the sepulcher of his father.

24 And David came to Mahanaim. And Absalom crossed over Jordan, he and all the men of Israel with him.

25 And Absalom put Amasa over the host instead of Joab, and Amasa *was* a man's son whose name *was* Ithra, an Israelite, who went in to Abigail, the daughter of Nahash, sister to Zeruiah, Joab's mother.

26 And Israel and Absalom pitched in the land of Gilead.

27 And it was, David came to Mahanaim, and Shobi, the son of Nahash of Rabbah of the children of Ammon, and Machir, the son of Ammiel of Lo'debar, and Barzillai, the Gileadite of Rogelim,

28 *Brought* beds, and basons, and earthen vessels, and wheat, and barley, and flour, and roasted grain, and beans, and lentils,

29 And honey, and curdled milk, and flock animals, and cheese of cattle to bring near to David, and for the people who *were* with him, to eat, because they said, The people are hungry and tired and thirsty in the desert.

## CHAPTER 18

1 And David visited the people who *were* with him, and put over them chief rulers of thousands, and chief rulers of hundreds.

2 And David sent out a third part of the people under the hand of Joab, and a third part under the hand of Abishai, the son of Zeruiah, Joab's brother, and a third part under the hand of Ittai, the Gittite. And the king said to the people, Going out, I will go out myself also with you.

3 And the people answered, You shall not go out, because if fleeing, we flee, they will not put their heart on us, and if half of us die, they will not put their heart on us, because now *you are* like ten thousand of us; and now it is better that you help us from out of the city.

4 And the king said to them, I will do what is good in your eyes. And the king stood at the hand of the gate, and all the people came

**2 SAMUEL 18** *David commands his men to deal gently with Absalom; Joab kills Absalom*

out by hundreds and by thousands.

5 And the king commanded Joab, and Abishai, and Ittai, saying, *Deal* gently for my sake with the young man, with Absalom. And all the people heard attentively when the king commanded all the chief rulers concerning the word about Absalom.

6 And the people went out into the field to meet Israel, and the battle was in the forest of Ephraim,

7 Where the people of Israel were struck before the face of the servants of David, and there was there a great blow that day of twenty thousand.

8 And the battle there was forcibly scattered over the face of all the land, and the woods devoured more people than the sword devoured that day.

9 And Absalom came before the face of the servants of David. And Absalom rode upon a mule, and the mule went under the thick boughs of a great oak, and his head caught hold of the oak, and he was given up between the heavens and the earth; and the mule that *was* under him crossed on.

10 And a certain man saw it, and caused it to stand out boldly to Joab, and said, Behold, I saw Absalom suspended in an oak.

11 And Joab said to the man who caused it to stand out boldly to him, And lo, you saw *him*, and why did you not strike him there to the earth, and I would have given you ten *shekels* of silver, and a girdle.

12 And the man said to Joab, Though I should weigh in my palm a thousand *shekels* of silver, I would not send out my hand against the son of the king, because in our ears the king commanded you, and Abishai, and Ittai, saying, Hedge about everyone from the young man, Absalom.

13 Also I would have done falsehood against my own soul, and not any word is hidden from the king, and you would have stood out boldly against me yourself.

14 And Joab said, I will not just wait before your face! And he took three spears in his palm, and thrust them through the heart of Absalom while he was yet alive in the heart of the oak.

15 And ten young men who bore Joab's weapons surrounded and struck Absalom, and killed him.

16 And Joab blew the trumpet, and the people turned back from running after Israel, because Joab restrained the people.

17 And they took Absalom, and threw him into a great pit in the woods, and stationed a very great heap of stones upon him; and all Israel fled every one to his tent.

18 And Absalom had taken and stationed for himself a monument while alive, which *is* in the king's dale, because he said, *There is* no son to me so that my name will be remembered; and he called the monument after his own name, and it is called The Hand of Absalom to this day.



19 And Ahimaaz, the son of Zadok, said, Let me now run and announce good tidings to the king that Jehovah has vindicated him against those hating him.

20 And Joab said to him, You *are* not the man to announce good tidings this day, and you shall announce good tidings another day; and this day you shall not announce good tidings, because the king's son is dead.

21 And Joab said to Cush, Walk! Cause what you have seen to stand out boldly to the king. And Cush prostrated himself to Joab and ran.

22 And yet again Ahimaaz, the son of Zadok, said to Joab, Be it whatever, please let me also run after Cush. And Joab said, What is this! Will you run, my son? No tidings exist to you!

23 Be it whatever, let me run! And he said to him, Run. And Ahimaaz ran by the way of the circuit, and crossed past Cush.

24 And David sat between the two gates, and the watchman walked to the roof over the gate to the wall, and lifted up his eyes, and saw, and behold a man running alone.

25 And the watchman called out, and caused it to stand out boldly to the king. And the king said, If he *is* alone there are good tidings in his mouth. And walking, he walked, and drew near.

26 And the watchman saw another man running, and the watchman called out to the doorkeeper, and said, Behold a man running separately. And the king

said, He also announces good tidings.

27 And the watchman said, I see the running of the first like the running of Ahimaaz, the son of Zadok. And the king said, He *is* a good man, and comes with good tidings.

28 And Ahimaaz called, and said to the king, Peace! And he prostrated himself before the king with his nostrils to the earth, and said, Blessed *is* Jehovah your God, who has shut up the men who lifted up their hand against my lord, the king.

29 And the king said, Is there peace to the young man, Absalom? And Ahimaaz answered, I saw a great tumult when Joab sent the king's servant, your servant, and I did not know by seeing what.

30 And the king said to him, Turn around! Stand here! And he turned around, and stood.

31 And behold, Cush came, and Cush said, Good tidings, my lord, the king, because Jehovah has judged today all them who rose up against you.

32 And the king said to Cush, Is there peace to the young man, Absalom? And Cush said, May those hating my lord, the king, and all who rise against you for evil be as that young man.

33 And the king was agitated, and ascended to the room over the gate and wept; and thus he said as he walked, Oh my son, Absalom, my son, my son, Absalom! Oh that I were given to die in your place; Oh Absalom, my son, my son!

**CHAPTER 19**

1 And it was caused to stand out boldly to Joab, Behold, the king weeps and mourns for Absalom.

2 And the victory that day was mourning to all the people, because the people heard attentively that day, saying, The king is grieved for his son.

3 And the people that day went into the city by stealth, as people reproached steal away when they flee in battle.

4 And the king covered his face, and the king cried with a loud voice, Oh my son, Absalom, Oh Absalom, my son, my son!

5 And Joab came into the house to the king, and said, You have made us ashamed today before the faces of all your servants, who this day have caused your soul to escape, and the souls of your sons, and of your daughters, and the souls of your wives, and the souls of your concubines,

6 By loving those who hate you, and hating those who love you, because you have caused to stand out boldly today that princes or servants do not exist to you, because I know by seeing today that if Absalom had lived and all we had died today, now it would be right in your eyes.

7 And now rise, go out, and speak to the heart of your servants, because by Jehovah I swear, if you do not go out, not a man will stay with you the night; and this will be more evil to you than all the evil that came upon you from your youth until now.

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8 And the king rose and sat in the gate. And they caused it to stand out boldly to all the people, saying, Behold, the king sits in the gate. And all the people came before the face of the king - and Israel had fled every man to his tent.

9 And all the people were judging throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, The king snatched us out of the palm of those hating us, and he caused us to escape out of the palm of the Palestinians; and now he is fled out of the land over Absalom.

10 And Absalom whom we anointed over us is dead in battle. And now why are you silent to bring back the king?

11 And King David sent to Zadok and to Abiathar, the priests, saying, Speak to the elders of Judah, saying, Why are you the last to bring back the king to his house? And the word of all Israel has come to the king to his house.

12 You *are* my brothers; you *are* my bones and my flesh! Why are you the last to bring back the king?

13 And you say to Amasa, *Are you not my bone and my flesh?* God do to me, and more also, if you are not chief ruler of the host before my face all days in place of Joab.

14 And he stretched away to himself the heart of all the men of Judah as of one man, and they sent to the king, Return! You, and all your servants!

15 And the king returned and came to Jordan. And Judah came to Gilgal to walk to meet the king,

to cross the king over Jordan.

16 And Shimei, the son of Gera, a Benjamite, who was of Bahurim, flowed like liquid, and descended with the men of Judah to meet King David,

17 And a thousand men of Benjamin with him, and Ziba, the servant of the house of Saul, and his fifteen sons, and his twenty servants with him; and they pushed forward over Jordan before the face of the king;

18 And crossed over at a crossing place to cause the king's house to cross over, and to do good in his eyes; and Shimei, the son of Gera, fell down before the face of the king as he crossed over Jordan;

19 And said to the king, Let not my lord calculate iniquity to me, and do not remember what your servant did perversely the day that my lord, the king, went out of Jerusalem that the king should take it to his heart,

20 Because your servant knows by seeing that I have sinned, and behold, I have come the first today of all the house of Joseph to descend to meet my lord, the king!

21 And Abishai, the son of Zeruiah, answered, and said, Shall Shimei not be put to death for this, because he made light of the anointed of Jehovah?

22 And David said, What *shall I do* with you, you sons of Zeruiah, that you should today be adversaries to me? Shall any man be put to death today in Israel? Because, do I not know by seeing that I am today king over Israel?

23 And the king said to Shimei, You shall not die. And the king swore to him.

24 And Mephibosheth, the son of Saul, descended to meet the king, and had neither done his feet, nor done his beard, nor washed his clothes from the day the king walked until the day he came in peace.

25 And it was, because he had come to Jerusalem to meet the king, that the king said to him, Why did you not walk with me, Mephibosheth?

26 And he said, My lord, Oh king, my servant deceived me, because your servant said, I will bind me a donkey, and I will ride on it, and walk to the king, because your servant is lame.

27 And he has walked as a spy toward your servant to my lord, the king, and my lord, the king, *is* a messenger of God; and do good in your eyes;

28 Because were not all of my father's house assuredly dead men before my lord, the king, and you placed your servant among them who ate at your own table? And what right exists to me yet to cry any more to the king?

29 And the king said to him, Why speak any more of your words? I have said, You and Ziba apportion the field.

30 And Mephibosheth said to the king, Yes, let him take all, since my lord, the king, has come in peace to his own house.

31 And Barzillai, the Gileadite, descended from Rogelim, and crossed over Jordan with the king

**2 SAMUEL 20** *The King talks with Barzillai; Israel contends with Judah over the King; Sheba rebels*  
to send him *over* Jordan.

32 Now Barzillai *was* very aged, a son of eighty years, and he had maintained the king with nourishment in his residence at Mahanaim, because he *was* a very great man.

33 And the king said to Barzillai, You cross over with me, and I will maintain you with me in Jerusalem.

34 And Barzillai said to the king, How many days have I to live that I should ascend with the king to Jerusalem?

35 I am a son of eighty years today! Can I discern by seeing between good and evil? Can your servant taste what I eat or what I drink? Can I hear intelligently any more the voice of singing men and singing women? Why should your servant be yet a burden to my lord, the king?

36 Your servant will cross over Jordan a little way with the king, and why should the king repay me with such a reward?

37 Let your servant, please, turn back again, that I may die in my own city, by the grave of my father and of my mother. And behold your servant, Chimham, let him cross over with my lord, the king, and do to him what *is* good in your eyes.

38 And the king said, Chimham shall cross over with me, and I will do to him what *is* good in your eyes, and all that you choose from me I will do for you.

39 And all the people crossed over Jordan. And the king crossed over, and the king kissed Barzillai,  
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and blessed him, and he returned to his place.

40 And the king crossed on to Gilgal, and Chimham crossed on with him; and all the people of Judah caused the king to cross over, and also half the people of Israel.

41 And behold, all the men of Israel came to the king, and said to the king, Why have our brothers, the men of Judah, stolen you away, and have caused the king to cross over, and his house, and all David's men with him, over Jordan?

42 And all the men of Judah answered the men of Israel, Because the king is near of kin to us; why *is* this *that* you are angry for this word? Have we eaten at all of the king's *possessions*, or has he lifted any gift to us?

43 And the men of Israel answered the men of Judah, and said, To us *are* ten parts in the king, and also to us *is more right* in David than you. Why did you make light of us, and our word should not be first in bringing back our king? And the words of the men of Judah were fiercer than the words of the men of Israel.

## CHAPTER 20

1 And there happened to be there a man of worthlessness, whose name was Sheba, the son of Bichri, a Benjamite, and he blew a trumpet, and said, To us *is* no allotment in David, and we have no inheritance in the son of Jesse; every man to his tents, Oh Israel.

2 And every man of Israel ascended from after David, and *were* after Sheba, the son of Bichri;

and the men of Judah clung to their king from Jordan to Jerusalem.

3 And David came to his house at Jerusalem, and the king took ten women, concubines, whom he had deposited to hedge about the house, and gave them in house custody, and maintained them, and did not go in to them. And they were shut up to the day of their death, living in widowhood.

4 And the king said to Amasa, Call the men of Judah to assemble to me within three days, and you stand here.

5 And Amasa walked to call the men of Judah to assemble, and he delayed longer than the appointed meeting which he had appointed him.

6 And David said to Abishai, Now Sheba, the son of Bichri, shall break us up more than Absalom; you take your lord's servants, and pursue after him, lest there are to him fortified cities, and *he* snatches himself from us.

7 And there walked after him the men of Joab, and the bodyguards, and the official couriers, and all the mighty men, and they went out of Jerusalem to run after Sheba, the son of Bichri.

8 They *were* at the great stone which *is* in Gibeon, and Amasa had gone before their face. And Joab was girded with a long robe as his clothing, and upon it a girdle with a sword girded upon his loins in its scabbard, and as he went out it fell out.

9 And Joab said to Amasa, Peace to you, my brother! And Joab seized Amasa by the beard

with the right hand to kiss him.

10 And Amasa did not hedge against the sword that was in the hand of Joab, and he struck him in the abdomen, and his intestines spilled out on the ground; and he did not strike him again, and he died. And Joab and Abishai, his brother, ran after Sheba, the son of Bichri.

11 And one of Joab's men stood by him, and said, Whoever is inclined toward Joab, and whoever *is* for David, *let him follow* after Joab.

12 And Amasa wallowed in blood in the midst of the highway, and the man saw that all the people stood still, and he removed Amasa out of the highway into the field, and threw a covering over him, when he saw everyone who came upon him stood still.

13 When he was removed out of the highway, all the people crossed on after Joab to run after Sheba, the son of Bichri.

14 And he crossed over through all the tribes of Israel to Abel, and to Beth ma Achah, and all the Berites; and they were gathered together, and went also after him.

15 And they came, and besieged him in Abel of Beth ma Achah, and they threw up a mound against the city, and it stood against the rampart; and all the people who were with Joab weakened the wall to cause it to fall.

16 And a wise woman called out of the city, Hear! Hear! Please say to Joab, Come near here, and I will speak with you.

**2 SAMUEL 21** *A mother in Israel gives Sheba to Joab; David's Cabinet; judgment on house of Saul*

17 And when he drew near to her, the woman said, *Are you Joab?* And he said, *I am.* And she said to him, Hear attentively the words of your maidservant. And he said, I attentively hear.

18 And she spoke, saying, Speaking, they spoke formerly, saying, Asking, they shall ask at Abel, and so they ended *the matter.*

19 *I am* completely faithful in Israel. You seek to destroy a city and a mother in Israel. Why will you swallow up the inheritance of Jehovah?

20 And Joab answered, and said, Far be it, far be it from me that I should swallow up or destroy.

21 The word is not so, because a man of Mount Ephraim named Sheba, the son of Bichri, has lifted up his hand against the king, against David; only give him up, and I will walk from the city. And the woman said to Joab, Behold, his head shall be thrown to you beside the wall.

22 And the woman went to all the people in her wisdom. And they cut off the head of Sheba, the son of Bichri, and threw it out to Joab. And he blew a trumpet, and they scattered from the city, every man to his tent. And Joab returned to Jerusalem to the king.

23 And Joab *was* over all the host of Israel, and Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, *was* over the bodyguards, and over the official couriers; See Note on 2 Chr 8:8 on tax

24 And Adoram *was* over the forced labor tax, and Jehoshaphat, the son of Ahilud, *was* recorder;

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25 And Sheba *was* scribe, and Zadok and Abiathar were the priests;

26 And Ira also, the Jairite, was a priest to David.

**CHAPTER 21**

1 And there was a famine in the days of David three years, year after year, and David inquired before the face of Jehovah; and Jehovah answered, It is for Saul, and for *his* bloody house, because he killed the Gibeonites.

2 And the king called the Gibeonites, and said to them (and the Gibeonites *were* not of the children of Israel, but what was left of the Amorites; and the children of Israel had sworn to them, and Saul sought to strike them in his zeal to the children of Israel and Judah.)

Josh 9:15

3 And David said to the Gibeonites, What shall I do for you, and how shall I cover *what was done to you*, that you may bless the inheritance of Jehovah?

4 And the Gibeonites said to him, *There will not be* to us silver nor gold of Saul, nor of his house, and you shall not kill any man in Israel for us. And he said, What you shall say, I will do for you.

5 And they answered the king, The man who consumed us, and who purposed against us *that* we be desolated from remaining in any of the borders of Israel,

6 Let seven men of his sons be given to us, and we will impale them unto Jehovah in Gibeah of Saul, the chosen of Jehovah. And the king said, I will give them.

7 And the king in pity spared Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, upon *his* oath to Jehovah that *was* between them, between David and Jonathan, the son of Saul.

8 And the king took the two sons of Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah, whom she bore to Saul, Armoni, and Mephibosheth;<sup>8</sup> and the five sons of Michal, the daughter of Saul, whom she bore to Adriel, the son of Barzillai, the Meholathite,

9 And he gave them into the hands of the Gibeonites, and they impaled them in the hill before the face of Jehovah; and they fell all seven together, and were put to death in the days of harvest, in the first, in the commencement of barley harvest.

10 And Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah, took sackcloth, and spread it for her upon the strong rock from the commencement of harvest until water poured upon them out of the heavens, and did not give in for the birds of the air to settle on them by day, nor the living creatures of the field by night.

11 And it was caused to stand out boldly to David what Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah, the concubine of Saul, had done.

12 And David walked, and took the bones of Saul, and the bones of Jonathan, his son, from the men of Jabesh Gilead, who had stolen them from the street of

Bethshan, where the Palestinians had suspended them, the day the Palestinians had struck Saul in Gilboa, <sup>1 Sam 31:8-13</sup>

13 And he brought up the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan, his son, from there, and they gathered the bones of them who had been impaled.

14 And they buried the bones of Saul and Jonathan, his son, in the land of Benjamin in Zelah, in the sepulcher of Kish, his father, and they did all that the king commanded; and God received their perfumed incense for the land afterwards.

15 And it was yet again that the Palestinians warred with Israel, and David descended, and his servants with him, and devoured against the Palestinians; and David swooned from faintness.

16 And Ishbibenob, who *was* of the sons of the giant, the weight of whose spear *was* three hundred *shekels* of bronze in weight, he being girded with a new *sword*, was said to have struck David.

17 And Abishai, the son of Zeruiah, surrounded him with help, and struck the Palestinian, and killed him. Then the men of David swore to him, saying, You shall not go out any more with us to battle, so that you do not extinguish the lamp of Israel.

18 And it was just after, there was again a battle with the Palestinians at Gob; at that time Sibbechai, the Hushathite, struck Saph, who *was* of the sons of the giant.

<sup>8</sup> **21:8** This Mephibosheth is the son of Saul by Rizpah, not the Mephibosheth who was the son of Jonathan, the grandson of Saul. See verse 7.

**2 SAMUEL 22** *Exploits of David's men; a Song of David celebrating Jehovah's deliverance from Saul*

19 And there was again a battle in Gob with the Palestinians, where Elhanan, the son of Ja'are-oregim, a Bethlehemite, struck *the brother* of Goliath, the Gittite, the wood handle of whose spear *was* like a weaver's beam. <sup>1Chr 20:5</sup>

20 And there was yet a battle in Gath, where was a man of great height, and on each hand six fingers, and on each foot six toes, twenty-four in number; and he also was born to the giant.

21 And he reproached Israel, and Jonathan, the son of Shimeah, the brother of David, struck him.

22 These four were born to the giant in Gath, and fell by the hand of David, and by the hand of his servants.

**CHAPTER 22**

1 And David spoke to Jehovah the words of this song in the day that Jehovah had snatched him out of the palm of all those hating him, and out of the palm of Saul;

2 And he said, Jehovah! My lofty rock, and my stronghold, and my deliverer!

3 The God, my Strong Rock; I will flee to him for refuge; my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my lofty cliff, and my refuge, my savior; you save me from violence.

4 The One in whom to boast; I will call on Jehovah, and I shall be saved from those hating me,

5 Because the breaking waves of death surrounded me, the streams of worthlessness terrified me;

6 The binding sorrows of the world of the dead surrounded me; the snares of death came before me;

7 In my oppression I called upon Jehovah, and called to my God; and he attentively heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry *came* into his ears.

8 And the earth was violently agitated and trembled; the foundations of the heavens quivered and were violently agitated because he blazed in anger.

9 There ascended a smoke out of his nostrils, and fire out of his mouth devoured; coals were kindled by it.

10 He spread out the heavens, and descended, and a thick darkness *was* under his feet.

11 And he rode upon a cherub, and flew; and he was seen upon the wings of the Spirit.

12 And he placed pavilions of darkness all around him, clouds of waters, and dark clouds of the firmaments.

13 The brightness before him kindled coals of fire.

14 Jehovah was violently agitated from the heavens, and the Most High gave his voice.

15 And he sent out arrows, and forcibly scattered them, *the* lightning, and put them in commotion.

16 And the channels of the sea were seen; the foundations of the world were uncovered at the rebuking of Jehovah, at the breath of the Spirit of his nostrils.



17 He sent from above; he took me; he drew me out of many waters;

18 He snatched me from my forceful enemy, and from them who hated me exceedingly, because they were too powerfully alert for me.

19 They came before me in the day of my bending under oppression, and Jehovah was my protector.

20 He brought me out into a large place; he equipped me for warfare, because he delighted in me.

21 Jehovah rewarded me according to my righteousness; he has returned it to me according to the purity of my hands,

22 Because I have hedged about the ways of Jehovah, and have not wronged my God,

23 Because all his judgments were before me; and I did not turn away from his statutes.

24 I was without blemish before him, and have hedged myself about from iniquity.

25 And Jehovah has returned to me according to my righteousness, according to my purity in his eyes.

26 With the merciful you will be merciful; with the man without blemish you will be without blemish.

27 With the chosen you will be the chosen, and with the perverted you will be twisted.

28 And you will save poor people, and your eyes are upon the exalted to bring them down,

29 Because you are my lamp, Oh Jehovah, and Jehovah will shine in my darkness,

30 Because by you I have run through an army; by my God I have leaped over a wall.

31 God, his way is perfect; the word of Jehovah is refined; he is a shield to all them who trust in him,

32 Because who is God except Jehovah? And who is a strong rock except our God?

33 God is my fortress and resources, and he shakes<sup>33</sup> my way to perfection.

34 He makes my feet level like a deer's feet, and causes me to stand upon my high places.

35 He teaches my hands to war, so that a bow of metal is broken by my arms.

36 You have given me the shield of your salvation, and your looking down upon me with harshness<sup>36</sup> has made me great.

<sup>33</sup> **22:33 shakes** my way to perfection. All the translations I have consulted miss the mark on this word. KJV has maketh my way perfect, and most others follow this same idea. The word, *nathar*, means to shake violently, to tremble, to agitate. This is exactly what God does to the believer until he is perfect. He allows us to go through all sorts of trying, testing, shaking experiences where there is no other alternative but to learn to trust Him. This is the meaning of the phrase, he shakes my way to perfection.

<sup>36</sup> **22:36 looking down upon me with harshness, anah.** This is the same word God used to describe what the Egyptians would do, and did, to Israel, Gen 15:13; Ex 1:11,12; and what Sarah did to Hagar, Gen 16:6; and what Hagar was to submit to, Gen 16:9; and what God did to Israel in the desert journey, Deut 8:16. It is the word used when Shechem went to bed with Dinah, Gen 34:2; and when Ammon raped Tamar, 2 Sam 13:12,14,22. It is amazing that the KJV translators could translate this same word forced in 2 Sam 13:12, and gentleness in 2 Sam 22:36. There are many other places this word is used. *Anah* means to look down on, to pressure, to deal

**2 SAMUEL 23**<sup>A</sup> *Song of David celebrating Jehovah's deliverance from Saul; the last words of David*

37 You have enlarged my steps under me so that my feet did not waver.

38 I have pursued those hating me, and desolated them, and did not turn back until I had finished them.

39 And I have devoured them, and dashed them to pieces; and they could not rise, and they are fallen under my feet.

40 And you have girded me *with* resources to battle; you have caused them who rose up against me to bend the knee under me.

41 And you have given me the necks of those hating me, and I have pulled up them who hate me by the roots.

42 They gazed about, and there was none to save, to Jehovah, and he did not answer them.

43 And I beat them to dust of the earth; I crushed them as the mud of the street, and spread them abroad.

44 And you have delivered me from the controversies of my people; you have hedged me about to be head of the peoples; a people whom I did not know by seeing shall serve me.

45 Children of strangers shall feign themselves submissive to me; upon their attentively hearing in the ear they shall hear me attentively.

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severely and harshly with. Never does it mean gentleness as the KJV translates it in 2 Sam 22:36. The meaning of God's looking down upon us with harshness and severely agrees completely with Prov 3:11-12, and Heb 12:5-11. Here is another illustration of the extreme importance of using the same basic meaning of the Hebrew word in each place it occurs, rather than changing its meaning to fit what the translators interpret it to be in the circumstances.

46 Children of strangers fade away, and they gird themselves by their strongholds.

47 Jehovah lives, and blessed *is* my strong rock; and exalted *is* the God of the strong rock of my salvation.

48 God gives me vengeance, and brings the people down under me,

49 And brings me out from those hating me, and you have exalted me; you have snatched me away from the violence of man.

50 Therefore, Oh Jehovah, I will raise my hands to you among the peoples, and I will play, singing<sup>50</sup> praises to your name.

51 He makes his salvation great for his king, and does mercy to his anointed, to David, and to his seed forever.

**CHAPTER 23**

1 And these *are* the last words of David. The oracle of David, the son of Jesse, and the oracle of the mighty man, who was raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the pleasant psalmist of Israel:

2 The Spirit of Jehovah spoke by me, and his word *was* upon my tongue.

3 The God of Israel said, the Strong Rock of Israel spoke to me: He who rules over mighty men *must be* just, ruling in the fear of God.

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<sup>50</sup> 22:50 **play, singing, *zamar***, which means to strike a musical instrument and accompany the playing with the singing of the voice.

4 And he *shall be* as the light of the dawn, as the sun rising with brilliancy in the dawn without dark clouds, as the tender sprout out of the earth after rain,

5 Because *is* not my house set upright with God? Because he has put with me an everlasting covenant, arranged all, and hedged it about; because this is all my salvation and all my desire, because will he not cause it to sprout up?

6 And the sons of worthlessness, all of them *shall be* driven away as thorns, because they cannot be taken with hands;

7 And the man who shall touch them must be filled with iron, and the shaft of a spear, and being set on fire with fire, they shall be burned in their place.

8 These *are* the names of the mighty men who *were* to David: The Tachmonite, seated in his position as head of the three; he *was known as* Sharp Spear because he polluted<sup>8</sup> eight hundred at one stroke.

9 And after him, Eleazar, the son of Dodo, the son of Achoach, of the three mighty men with David, when they reproached the Palestinians *who* gathered together there to battle, and the men of Israel had ascended,

10 He rose, and struck the Palestinians until his hand was exhausted, and his hand clung to the sword; and Jehovah did a great deliverance that day, and the people returned after him only to strip off from *the slain*.

<sup>8</sup> 23:8 **polluted**, in their own blood when they were killed.

11 And after him *was* Shammah, the son of Agee, the Hararite. And the Palestinians were vigorously gathered together where was an allotment of a field full of lentils, and the people fled from the face of the Palestinians.

12 And he placed himself in the center of the allotment, and snatched it out, and struck the Palestinians, and Jehovah did a great deliverance.

13 And three of the thirty heads descended, and came to David in the harvest to the cave of Adullam; and the vigorous Palestinians pitched in the valley of Rephaim.

14 And David *was* at that time in a stronghold, and the military post of the Palestinians *was* then in Bethlehem.

15 And David longed, and said, Who will give me a drink of the water of the cistern of Bethlehem which *is* by the gate!

16 And the three mighty men broke through the camp of the Palestinians, and drew water out of the cistern of Bethlehem that *was* by the gate, and took *it*, and brought *it* to David; and he did not breathe in agreement to drink it, and poured it out to Jehovah.

17 And he said, Be it far from me, Oh Jehovah, that I should do this; is not this the blood of the men who walked in jeopardy of their souls? And he did not breathe in agreement to drink it. These *things* the three mighty men did.

## 2 SAMUEL 23

*David's mighty men*

18 And Abishai, the brother of Joab, the son of Zeruiah, *was* head among three. And he woke up his spear against three hundred, and polluted *them*, and to him *was* a name among *the* three.<sup>18</sup>

19 Was he not more heavy in honor than the three? And he became their chief ruler, and to the first three he did not come.

20 And Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, the son of a man of resources of Kabzeel, to whom *were* many acts; he struck two lion like men of Moab; and he descended and struck a lion in the midst of a pit on a day of snow;

21 And he struck an Egyptian, a handsome man, and to the Egyptian *was* a spear in his hand; and he descended to him with a staff, and plucked off the spear out of the Egyptian's hand, and struck him fatally with his own spear.

22 These *things* Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, did, and to him *was* a name among three mighty men.

23 He was more heavy in honor than the thirty, and to the first three he did not come. And David put him over his royal court.

24 Asahel, the brother of Joab, *was* one of the thirty: Elhanan, the son of Dodo of Bethlehem,

25 Shammah, the Harodite, Elika, the Harodite,

26 Helez, the Paltite, Ira, the son of Ikkesh, the Tekoite,

27 Abiezer, the Anethothite, Mebunnai, the Hushathite,

28 Zalmon, the Ahohite, Maharai, the Netophathite,

29 Heleb, the son of Baanah, a Netophathite, Ittai, the son of Ribai, out of Gibeah of the children of Benjamin,

30 Benaiah, the Pirathonite, Hiddai of the streams of Gaash,

31 Abi Albon, the Arbathite, Azmaveth, the Barhumite,

32 Eliahba, the Shaalbonite, of the sons of Jashen, Jonathan,

33 Shammah, the Hararite, Ahiam, the son of Sharar, the Hararite,

34 Eliphelet, the son of Ahasbai, the son of the Maachathite, Eliam, the son of Ahithophel, the Gilonite,

35 Hezrai, the Carmelite, Paarai, the Arbite,

36 Igal, the son of Nathan of Zobah, Bani, the Gadite,

37 Zelek, the Ammonite, Naharai, the Beerothite, the one bearing the weapons of Joab, the son of Zeruiah,

38 Ira, an Ithrite, Gareb, an Ithrite,

39 Uriah, the Hittite: thirty-seven in all.

<sup>18</sup> 23:18 The JFB Commentary has this explanation: The mighty men or champions in David's military staff were divided into three classes - the highest, Jashobeam, Eleazer, and Shammah. The distinguished position of this warrior, who was in the first class of David's mighties, arose from the gallant service which along with Eleazer, he rendered to the King, by enabling him to maintain a successful stand against a troop of Palestinians. The second class, Abishai, Benaiah, and Asehel; and the third class, the thirty, of which Asahel was the chief.

CHAPTER 24

1 And again the nostrils of Jehovah burned against Israel, and *an adversary* prodded David against them to say, Walk, weigh out *the number* of Israel and Judah.

2 And the king said to Joab, the chief ruler of the resources who *was* with him, Travel now through all the tribes of Israel, from Dan even to Beer Sheba, and visit the people, and I will know by seeing the number of the people.

3 And Joab said to the king, And may Jehovah your God add to the people, them, them, a hundredfold, and that the eyes of my lord, the king, may see *it*; and why is my lord, the king, inclined to this word?

4 And the king's word seized upon Joab and upon the chief rulers of the resources. And Joab and the chief rulers of the resources went out from the face of the king to visit the people of Israel.

5 And they crossed over Jordan, and pitched in Aroer, on the right side of the city, that *was* in the midst of the stream, Gad, and toward Jazer;

6 And they came to Gilead, and to the land of Tahtimhodshi; and they came to Danjaan, and around to Zidon,

7 And came to the fortress of Tyre, and to all the cities of the Hivites, and of the Canaanites; and they went out to the Negev of Judah, to Beer Sheba.

8 And they traveled through all the land, and they came to Jerusalem at the end of nine new moons and twenty days.

9 And Joab gave the number of the census of the people to the king, and there were in Israel eight hundred thousand men of resources who drew the sword; and the men of Judah were five hundred thousand men.

10 And David's heart struck him just after he had tallied up the people. And David said to Jehovah, I have sinned greatly in what I have done, and now, please, Oh Jehovah, cross over the iniquity of your servant, because I have been very foolish.

11 And David rose up in the dawn, and the word of Jehovah was to the prophet Gad, the one who gazed at visions for David, saying,

12 Walk, and say to David, Thus says Jehovah, I lay upon you three *choices*; choose for yourself one of them, that I may do it to you.

13 And Gad came to David, and caused it to stand out boldly to him, and said to him, Shall seven years of famine come to you in your land? Or will you flee three new moons before the face of your oppressors while they pursue you? Or that there be three days of pestilent destruction in your land? Now know and see what word I shall return to him who sent me.

14 And David said to Gad, I *am in* a great strait; let us fall now into the hand of Jehovah, because his compassions are great, and let me not fall into the hand of man.

15 And Jehovah gave a pestilent destruction upon Israel from the dawn even to the time of the appointed meeting, and there died of the people from Dan even to Beer

**2 SAMUEL 24** *The Messenger of Jehovah stops; David confesses his sin, buys land for an altar*  
Sheba seventy thousand men.

16 And the Messenger sent out his hand to Jerusalem to destroy it, and Jehovah comforted himself over the evil, and said to the Messenger who destroyed the people, Enough! Slack off now your hand. And the Messenger of Jehovah was by the threshingfloor of Araunah, the Jebusite.

17 And David spoke to Jehovah when he saw the Messenger who struck the people, and said, Lo, I have sinned, and I have done wickedly; and these sheep, what have they done? Let your hand, please, be against me, and against my father's house.

18 And Gad came that day to David, and said to him, Ascend, raise an altar to Jehovah in the threshingfloor of Araunah, the Jebusite.

19 And David, according to the saying of Gad, ascended as Jehovah commanded.

20 And Araunah leaned out, and saw the king, and his servants crossing over toward him; and Araunah went out, and prostrated himself before the king with his nostrils to the ground.

21 And Araunah said, Why has my lord, the king, come to his servant? And David said, To set up from you the threshingfloor, to build an altar to Jehovah, and the plague will be restrained from the people.

22 And Araunah said to David, Let my lord, the king, take, and cause to ascend up what is good in his eyes; see, *here are* oxen for burnt sacrifice, and threshing instruments, and other instruments

of the oxen for wood.

23 Araunah, the king,<sup>23</sup> gave all to the king. And Araunah said to the king, Jehovah, your God, graciously accept you.

24 And the king said to Araunah, No, because setting it up, I will set it up from you at a price, and I will not cause burnt offerings to ascend to Jehovah, my God, devoid of cost to me. And David set up the threshingfloor, and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.

25 And David built there an altar to Jehovah, and caused burnt offerings and peace offerings to ascend, and Jehovah received the incense for the land, and the plague was restrained from Israel.

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<sup>23</sup> **24:23 Araunah** was king of the Jebusites, although already subject to David and Israel.