

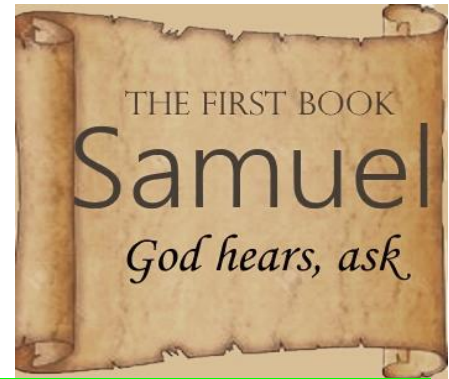
1 SAMUEL 26 vs 1

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In the 350 years of the judges before this book; years characterize by the phrase: and the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord. Obviously, the Lord said enough and sent Samuel, who was the last judge; a good judge, who moved in the power of the Spirit.

This first book of Samuel, focuses on 3 principle people: Samuel, from his birth to his death, Saul, the first king – the people's choice, and David, the blessed king, the Lord's choice.



David Spares with Saul a Second Time

¹Now the Ziphites came to Saul at Gibeah, saying, Is David not hiding in the hill of Hachilah, opposite Jeshimon? ²Then Saul arose and went down to the Wilderness of Ziph, having three thousand chosen men of Israel with him, to seek David in the Wilderness of Ziph. ³And Saul encamped in the hill of Hachilah, which is opposite Jeshimon, by the road. But David stayed in the wilderness, and he saw that Saul came after him into the wilderness. ⁴David So sent out spies, and understood that Saul had indeed come.

⁵So David arose and came to the place where Saul had encamped. And David saw the place where Saul lay, and Abner the son of Ner, the commander of his army. Now Saul lay within the camp, with the people encamped all around him. ⁶Then David answered, and said to Ahimelech the Hittite and to Abishai the son of Zeruiah, brother of Joab, saying, Who will go down with me to Saul in the camp? And Abishai said, I will go down with you.

⁷So David and Abishai came to the people by night; and there Saul lay sleeping within the camp, with his spear stuck in the ground by his head. And Abner and the people lay all around him. ⁸Then Abishai said to David, God has delivered your enemy into your hand this day. Now So, please, let me strike him at once with the spear, right to the earth; and I will not have to strike him a second time!

⁹But David said to Abishai, Do not destroy him; for who can stretch out his hand against the Lord's anointed, and be guiltless? ¹⁰David said furthermore, As the Lord lives, the Lord will strike him, or his day will come to die, or he will go out to battle and perish.

¹¹The Lord forbid that I should stretch out my hand against the Lord's anointed. But please, take now the spear and the jug of water that are by his head, and let us go. ¹²So David took the spear and the jug of water by Saul's head, and they got away; and no man saw or knew it or awoke. For they were all asleep, because a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

¹³Now David went over to the other side, and stood on the top of a hill afar off, a great distance being between them. ¹⁴And David called out to the people and to Abner the son of Ner, saying, Do you not answer, Abner?

Then Abner answered and said, Who are you, calling out to the king?

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¹⁵ So David said to Abner, Are you not a man? And who is like you in **Israel**? Why then have you not guarded your lord the king? For one of the people came in to destroy your lord the king. ¹⁶ This thing that you have done is not good. As the Lord lives, you deserve to die, because you have not guarded your master, the Lord's anointed. And now see where the king's spear is, and the jug of water that was by his head.

¹⁷ **Then Saul knew David's voice, and said, Is that your voice, my son David?**

David said, It is my voice, my lord, O king. ¹⁸ And he said, Why does my lord thus pursue his servant? For what have I done, or what evil is in my hand? ¹⁹ Now So, please, let my lord the king hear the words of his servant: If the Lord has stirred you up against me, let Him accept an offering.

But if it is the children of men, may they be cursed before the Lord, for they have driven me out this day from sharing in the inheritance of the Lord, saying, Go, serve other gods. ²⁰ So now, do not let my blood fall to the earth before the face of the Lord. For the king of Israel has come out to seek a flea, as when one hunts a partridge in the mountains.

²¹ **Then Saul said, I have sinned. Return, my son David. For I will harm you no more, because my life was precious in your eyes this day. Indeed I have played the fool and erred exceedingly.**

²² And David answered and said, Here is the king's spear. Let one of the young men come over and get it. ²³ May the Lord repay every man for his rightness and for his faith; for the Lord delivered you into my hand today, but I would not stretch out my hand against the Lord's anointed. ²⁴ And indeed, as your life was valued much this day in my eyes, so let my life be valued much in the eyes of the Lord, and let Him deliver me out of all tribulation.

²⁵ Then Saul said to David, May you be blessed, my son David! You will both do great things and also still prevail.

So David went on his way, and Saul returned to his place.

The INVASION — Bk 2, Chp2; CSLewisDoodle

[Dr Tour: the origins of life: Syracuse University](#)

We Have Cause To Be Uneasy -- CSLewisDoodle

Check out: Our Brothers and Sisters Around The World Singing GOD'S Praise:  **The Songlist**

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YOU ARE HOLY — Joshua Aaron

The Spirit and the Bride Say Come

EQUALITY — CSLewisDoodle

1 Sam 28 Saul Consults a Medium

28 Now it happened in those days that the Philistines gathered their armies together for war, to fight with Israel. And Achish said to David, You assuredly know that you will go out with me to battle, you and your men.

² So David said to Achish, Surely you know what your servant can do.

And Achish said to David, So I will make you one of my chief guardians forever.

Saul Consults a Medium

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³Now Samuel had died, and all Israel had lamented for him and buried him in Ramah, in his own city. And Saul had put the mediums and the spiritists out of the land.

⁴Then the Philistines gathered together, and came and encamped at Shunem. So Saul gathered all Israel together, and they encamped at Gilboa. ⁵When Saul saw the army of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart trembled greatly. ⁶And when Saul inquired of the Lord, the Lord did not answer him, either by dreams or by Urim or by the prophets.

⁷Then Saul said to his servants, Find me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her and inquire of her.

And his servants said to him, In fact, there is a woman who is a medium at En Dor.

⁸So Saul disguised himself and put on other clothes, and he went, and two men with him; and they came to the woman by night. And he said, Please conduct a séance for me, and bring up for me the one I will name to you.

⁹Then the woman said to him, Look, you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off the mediums and the spiritists from the land. Why then do you lay a snare for my life, to cause me to die?

¹⁰And Saul swore to her by the Lord, saying, As the Lord lives, no punishment will come upon you for this thing.

¹¹Then the woman said, Whom will I bring up for you?

And he said, Bring up Samuel for me.

¹²When the woman saw Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice. And the woman spoke to Saul, saying, Why have you deceived me? For you are Saul!

¹³And the king said to her, Do not be afraid. What did you see?

And the woman said to Saul, I saw a spirit ascending out of the earth.

¹⁴So he said to her, What is his form?

And she said, An old man is coming up, and he is covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground and bowed down.

¹⁵Now Samuel said to Saul, Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?

And Saul answered, I am deeply distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God has departed from me and does not answer me anymore, neither by prophets nor by dreams. So I have called you, that you may reveal to me what I should do.

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¹⁶Then Samuel said: So why do you ask me, seeing the Lord has departed from you and has become your enemy? ¹⁷And the Lord has done for Himself as He spoke by me. For the Lord has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, David. ¹⁸Because you did not obey the voice of the Lord nor execute His fierce wrath upon Amalek, So the Lord has done this thing to you this day. ¹⁹Moreover the Lord will also deliver Israel with you into the hand of the Philistines. And tomorrow you and your sons will be with me. The Lord will also deliver the army of Israel into the hand of the Philistines.

²⁰Immediately Saul fell full length on the ground, and was dreadfully afraid because of the words of Samuel. And there was no strength in him, for he had eaten no food all day or all night.

²¹And the woman came to Saul and saw that he was severely troubled, and said to him, Look, your maidservant has obeyed your voice, and I have put my life in my hands and heeded the words which you spoke to me. ²²Now So, please, heed also the voice of your maidservant, and let me set a piece of bread before you; and eat, that you may have strength when you go on your way.

²³But he refused and said, I will not eat.

So his servants, together with the woman, urged him; and he heeded their voice. Then he arose from the ground and sat on the bed. ²⁴Now the woman had a fatted calf in the house, and she hastened to kill it. And she took flour and kneaded it, and baked unleavened bread from it. ²⁵So she brought it before Saul and his servants, and they ate. Then they rose and went away that night.

1 sam 29 The Philistines Reject David

29 Then the Philistines gathered together all their armies at Aphek, and the Israelites encamped by a fountain which is in Jezreel. ²And the lords of the Philistines passed in review by hundreds and by thousands, but David and his men passed in review at the rear with Achish. ³Then the princes of the Philistines said, What are these Hebrews doing here?

And Achish said to the princes of the Philistines, Is this not David, the servant of Saul king of Israel, who has been with me these days, or these years? And to this day I have found no fault in him since he defected to me.

⁴But the princes of the Philistines were angry with him; so the princes of the Philistines said to him, Make this fellow return, that he may go back to the place which you have appointed for him, and do not let him go down with us to battle, lest in the battle he become our adversary. For with what could he reconcile himself to his master, if not with the heads of these men? ⁵Is this not David, of whom they sang to one another in dances, saying: **Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands?**

⁶Then Achish called David and said to him, Surely, as the Lord lives, you have been upright, and your going out and your coming in with me in the army is good in my sight. For to this day I have not found evil in you since the day of your coming to me. Nevertheless the lords do not favor you. ⁷So return now, and go in peace, that you may not displease the lords of the Philistines.

⁸So David said to Achish, But what have I done? And to this day what have you found in your servant as long as I have been with you, that I may not go and fight against the enemies of my lord the king?

⁹Then Achish answered and said to David, I know that you are as good in my sight as an angel of God; nevertheless the princes of the Philistines have said, He will not go up with us to the battle. ¹⁰Now So, rise early in the morning with your master's servants who have come with you. And as soon as you are up early in the morning and have light, depart.

¹¹So David and his men rose early to depart in the morning, to return to the land of the Philistines. And the Philistines went up to Jezreel.

1 Sam 30 David's Conflict with the Amalekites

30 Now it happened, when David and his men came to Ziklag, on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the South and Ziklag, attacked Ziklag and burned it with fire,² and had taken captive the women and those who were there, from small to great; they did not kill anyone, but carried them away and went their way.³ So David and his men came to the city, and there it was, burned with fire; and their wives, their sons, and their daughters had been taken captive.⁴ Then David and the people who were with him lifted up their voices and wept, until they had no more power to weep.⁵ And David's two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite, had been taken captive.⁶ Now David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and his daughters. But David strengthened himself in the Lord his God.

⁷ Then David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech's son, Please bring the ephod here to me. And Abiathar brought the ephod to David.⁸ So David inquired of the Lord, saying, Will I pursue this troop? Will I overtake them?

And He answered him, Pursue, for you will surely overtake them and without fail recover all.

⁹ So David went, he and the six hundred men who were with him, and came to the Brook Besor, where those stayed who were left behind.¹⁰ But David pursued, he and four hundred men; for two hundred stayed behind, who were so weary that they could not cross the Brook Besor.

¹¹ Then they found an Egyptian in the field, and brought him to David; and they gave him bread and he ate, and they let him drink water.¹² And they gave him a piece of a cake of figs and two clusters of raisins. So when he had eaten, his strength came back to him; for he had eaten no bread nor drunk water for three days and three nights.¹³ Then David said to him, To whom do you belong, and where are you from?

And he said, I am a young man from Egypt, servant of an Amalekite; and my master left me behind, because three days ago I fell sick.¹⁴ We made an invasion of the southern area of the Cherethites, in the territory which belongs to Judah, and of the southern area of Caleb; and we burned Ziklag with fire.

¹⁵ And David said to him, Can you take me down to this troop?

So he said, Swear to me by God that you will neither kill me nor deliver me into the hands of my master, and I will take you down to this troop.

¹⁶ And when he had brought him down, there they were, spread out over all the land, eating and drinking and dancing, because of all the great spoil which they had taken from the land of the Philistines and from the land of **Judah**.¹⁷ Then David attacked them from twilight until the evening

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of the next day. Not a man of them escaped, except four hundred young men who rode on camels and fled. ¹⁸So David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away, and David rescued his two wives. ¹⁹And nothing of theirs was lacking, either small or great, sons or daughters, spoil or anything which they had taken from them; David recovered all. ²⁰Then David took all the flocks and herds they had driven before those other livestock, and said, This is David's spoil.

²¹Now David came to the two hundred men who had been so weary that they could not follow David, whom they also had made to stay at the Brook Besor. So they went out to meet David and to meet the people who were with him. And when David came near the people, he greeted them. ²²Then all the wicked and worthless men of those who went with David answered and said, Because they did not go with us, we will not give them any of the spoil that we have recovered, except for every man's wife and children, that they may lead them away and depart.

²³But David said, My brethren, you will not do so with what the Lord has given us, who has preserved us and delivered into our hand the troop that came against us. ²⁴For who will heed you in this matter? But as his part is who goes down to the battle, so will his part be who stays by the supplies; they will share alike. ²⁵So it was, from that day forward; he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel to this day.

²⁶Now when David came to Ziklag, he sent some of the spoil to the elders of Judah, to his friends, saying, Here is a present for you from the spoil of the enemies of the Lord—²⁷ to those who were in Bethel, those who were in Ramoth of the South, those who were in Jattir, ²⁸those who were in Aroer, those who were in Siphmoth, those who were in Eshtemoa, ²⁹those who were in Rachal, those who were in the cities of the Jerahmeelites, those who were in the cities of the Kenites, ³⁰those who were in Hormah, those who were in Chorashan, those who were in Athach, ³¹those who were in Hebron, and to all the places where David himself and his men were accustomed to rove.

2 sam 9 ness to Mephibosheth

9 Now David said, Is there still anyone who is left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan's sake?

² And there was a servant of the house of Saul whose name was Ziba. So when they had called him to David, the king said to him, Are you Ziba?

He said, At your service!

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³Then the king said, Is there not still someone of the house of Saul, to whom I may show the kindness of God?

And Ziba said to the king, There is still a son of Jonathan who is lame in his feet.

⁴So the king said to him, Where is he?

And Ziba said to the king, Indeed he is in the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, in Lo Debar.

⁵Then King David sent and brought him out of the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, from Lo Debar.

⁶Now when Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, had come to David, he fell on his face and prostrated himself. Then David said, Mephibosheth?

And he answered, Here is your servant!

⁷So David said to him, Do not fear, for I will surely show you kindness for Jonathan your father's sake, and will restore to you all the land of Saul your grandfather; and you will eat bread at my table continually.

⁸Then he bowed himself, and said, What is your servant, that you should look upon such a dead dog as I?

⁹And the king called to Ziba, Saul's servant, and said to him, I have given to your master's son all that belonged to Saul and to all his house. ¹⁰You So, and your sons and your servants, will work the land for him, and you will bring in the harvest, that your master's son may have food to eat. But Mephibosheth your master's son will eat bread at my table always. Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.

¹¹Then Ziba said to the king, According to all that my lord the king has commanded his servant, so will your servant do.

As for Mephibosheth, said the king, he will eat at my table like one of the king's sons. ¹²Mephibosheth had a young son whose name was Micha. And all who dwelt in the house of Ziba were servants of Mephibosheth. ¹³So Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem, for he ate continually at the king's table. And he was lame in both his feet.

2 sam 10 The Ammonites and Syrians Defeated

10 It happened after this that the king of the people of Ammon died, and Hanun his son reigned in his place. ²Then David said, I will show kindness to Hanun the son of Nahash, as his father showed kindness to me.

So David sent by the hand of his servants to comfort him concerning his father. And David's servants came into the land of the people of Ammon. ³And the princes of the people of Ammon said to Hanun their lord, Do you think that David really honors your father because he has sent comforters to you? Has David not rather sent his servants to you to search the city, to spy it out, and to overthrow it?

⁴So Hanun took David's servants, shaved off half of their beards, cut off their garments in the middle, at their buttocks, and sent them away. ⁵When they told David, he sent to meet them, because the men were greatly ashamed. And the king said, Wait at Jericho until your beards have grown, and then return.

⁶When the people of Ammon saw that they had made themselves repulsive to David, the people of Ammon sent and hired the Syrians of Beth Rehob and the Syrians of Zoba, twenty thousand foot soldiers; and from the king of Maacah one thousand men, and from Ish-Tob twelve thousand men. ⁷Now when David heard of it, he sent Joab and all the army of the mighty men. ⁸Then the people of Ammon came out and put themselves in battle array at the entrance of the gate. And the Syrians of Zoba, Beth Rehob, Ish-Tob, and Maacah were by themselves in the field.

⁹When Joab saw that the battle line was against him before and behind, he chose some of Israel's best and put them in battle array against the Syrians. ¹⁰And the rest of the people he put under the command of Abishai his brother, that he might set them in battle array against the people of Ammon. ¹¹Then he said, If the Syrians are too strong for me, then you will help me; but if the people of Ammon are too strong for you, then I will come and help you. ¹²Be of good courage, and let us be strong for our people and for the cities of our God. And may the Lord do what is good in His sight.

¹³So Joab and the people who were with him drew near for the battle against the Syrians, and they fled before him. ¹⁴When the people of Ammon saw that the Syrians were fleeing, they also fled before Abishai, and entered the city. So Joab returned from the people of Ammon and went to Jerusalem.

¹⁵When the Syrians saw that they had been defeated by Israel, they gathered together. ¹⁶Then Hadadezer sent and brought out the Syrians who were beyond the River, and they came to Helam. And Shobach the commander of Hadadezer's army went before them. ¹⁷When it was told David, he gathered all Israel, crossed over the Jordan, and came to Helam. And the Syrians set themselves in battle array against David and fought with him. ¹⁸Then the Syrians fled before Israel; and David killed seven hundred charioteers and forty thousand horsemen of the Syrians, and struck Shobach the commander of their army, who died there. ¹⁹And when all the kings who were servants to Hadadezer saw that they were defeated by Israel, they made peace with Israel and served them. So the Syrians were afraid to help the people of Ammon anymore.

2 sam 12 Nathan's Parable and David's Confession

12 Then the Lord sent Nathan to David. And he came to him, and said to him: There were two men in one city, one rich and the other poor. ²The rich man had exceedingly many flocks and herds. ³But the poor man had nothing, except one little ewe lamb which he had bought and nourished; and it grew up together with him and with his children. It ate of his own food and drank from his own cup and lay in his bosom; and it was like a daughter to him. ⁴And a traveler came to the rich man, who refused to take from his own flock and from his own herd to prepare one for the wayfaring man who had come to him; but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him.

⁵So David's anger was greatly aroused against the man, and he said to Nathan, As the Lord lives, the man who has done this will surely die! ⁶And he will restore fourfold for the lamb, because he did this thing and because he had no pity.

⁷Then Nathan said to David, You are the man! Thus says the Lord God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. ⁸I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your keeping, and gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if that had been too little, I also would have given you much more! ⁹Why have you despised the commandment of the Lord, to do evil in His sight? You have killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword; you have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the people of Ammon. ¹⁰Now So, the sword will never depart from your house, because you have despised Me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. ¹¹Thus says the Lord: 'Behold, I will raise up adversity against you from your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he will lie with your wives in the sight of this sun. ¹²For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, before the sun.

¹³So David said to Nathan, I have sinned against the Lord.

And Nathan said to David, The Lord also has put away your sin; you will not die. ¹⁴However, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme, the child also who is born to you will surely die. ¹⁵Then Nathan departed to his house.

The Death of David's Son

And the Lord struck the child that Uriah's wife bore to David, and it became ill. ¹⁶David So pleaded with God for the child, and David fasted and went in and lay all night on the ground. ¹⁷So the elders of his house arose and went to him, to raise him up from the ground. But he would not, nor did he eat food with them. ¹⁸**Then on the seventh day it came to pass that the child died.** And the servants of David were afraid to tell him that the child was dead. For they said, Indeed, while the child was alive,

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we spoke to him, and he would not heed our voice. How can we tell him that the child is dead? He may do some harm!

¹⁹ When David saw that his servants were whispering, David perceived that the child was dead. So David said to his servants, Is the child dead? And they said, He is dead.

²⁰ So David arose from the ground, washed and anointed himself, and changed his clothes; and he went into the house of the Lord and worshiped. Then he went to his own house; and when he requested, they set food before him, and he ate. ²¹ Then his servants said to him, What is this that you have done? **You fasted and wept for the child while he was alive, but when the child died, you arose and ate food.**

²² And he said, While the child was alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, ‘Who can tell whether the Lord will be gracious to me, that the child may live?’ ²³ But now he is dead; why should I fast? **Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me.**

Solomon Is Born,

²⁴ Then David comforted Bathsheba his wife, and went in to her and lay with her. So she bore a son, and he called his name Solomon. Now the Lord loved him, ²⁵ and He sent word by the hand of Nathan the prophet: So he called his name Jedidiah, because of the Lord.

Rabbah Is Captured

²⁶ Now Joab fought against Rabbah of the people of Ammon, and took the royal city. ²⁷ And Joab sent messengers to David, and said, I have fought against Rabbah, and I have taken the city’s water supply. ²⁸ Now So, gather the rest of the people together and encamp against the city and take it, lest I take the city and it be called after my name. ²⁹ So David gathered all the people together and went to Rabbah, fought against it, and took it. ³⁰ Then he took their king’s crown from his head. Its weight was a talent of gold, with precious stones. And it was set on David’s head. Also he brought out the spoil of the city in great abundance. ³¹ And he brought out the people who were in it, and put them to work with saws and iron picks and iron axes, and made them cross over to the brick works. So he did to all the cities of the people of Ammon. Then David and all the people returned to Jerusalem.

2 sam 13 Amnon and Tamar

13 After this Absalom the son of David had a lovely sister, whose name was Tamar; and Amnon the son of David loved her. **2** Amnon was so distressed over his sister Tamar that he became sick; for she was a virgin. And it was improper for Amnon to do anything to her. **3** But Amnon had a friend whose name was Jonadab the son of Shimeah, David's brother. Now Jonadab was a very crafty man. **4** And he said to him, Why are you, the king's son, becoming thinner day after day? Will you not tell me?

Amnon said to him, I love Tamar, my brother Absalom's sister.

5 So Jonadab said to him, Lie down on your bed and pretend to be ill. And when your father comes to see you, say to him, Please let my sister Tamar come and give me food, and prepare the food in my sight, that I may see it and eat it from her hand. **6** Then Amnon lay down and pretended to be ill; and when the king came to see him, Amnon said to the king, Please let Tamar my sister come and make a couple of cakes for me in my sight, that I may eat from her hand.

7 And David sent home to Tamar, saying, Now go to your brother Amnon's house, and prepare food for him. **8** So Tamar went to her brother Amnon's house; and he was lying down. Then she took flour and kneaded it, made cakes in his sight, and baked the cakes. **9** And she took the pan and placed them out before him, but he refused to eat. Then Amnon said, Have everyone go out from me. And they all went out from him. **10** Then Amnon said to Tamar, Bring the food into the bedroom, that I may eat from your hand. And Tamar took the cakes which she had made, and brought them to Amnon her brother in the bedroom. **11** Now when she had brought them to him to eat, he took hold of her and said to her, Come, lie with me, my sister.

12 But she answered him, No, my brother, do not force me, for no such thing should be done in **Israel**. Do not do this disgraceful thing! **13** And I, where could I take my shame? And as for you, you would be like one of the fools in Israel. Now So, please speak to the king; for he will not withhold me from you. **14** However, he would not heed her voice; and being stronger than she, he forced her and lay with her.

15 Then Amnon hated her exceedingly, 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, Arise, be gone!

16 So she said to him, No, indeed! This evil of sending me away is worse than the other that you did to me.

But he would not listen to her. **17** Then he called his servant who attended him, and said, Here! Put this woman out, away from me, and bolt the door behind her. **18** Now she had on a robe of many colors, for the king's virgin daughters wore such apparel. And his servant put her out and bolted the door behind her.

¹⁹Then Tamar put ashes on her head, and tore her robe of many colors that was on her, and laid her hand on her head and went away crying bitterly. ²⁰And Absalom her brother said to her, Has Amnon your brother been with you? But now hold your peace, my sister. He is your brother; do not take this thing to heart. So Tamar remained desolate in her brother Absalom's house.

²¹But when King David heard of all these things, he was very angry. ²²And Absalom spoke to his brother Amnon neither good nor bad. For Absalom hated Amnon, because he had forced his sister Tamar.

Absalom Murders Amnon

²³And it came to pass, after two full years, that Absalom had sheepshearers in Baal Hazor, which is near Ephraim; so Absalom invited all the king's sons. ²⁴Then Absalom came to the king and said, Kindly note, your servant has sheepshearers; please, let the king and his servants go with your servant.

²⁵But the king said to Absalom, No, my son, let us not all go now, lest we be a burden to you. Then he urged him, but he would not go; and he blessed him.

²⁶Then Absalom said, If not, please let my brother Amnon go with us. And the king said to him, Why should he go with you? ²⁷But Absalom urged him; so he let Amnon and all the king's sons go with him.

²⁸Now Absalom had commanded his servants, saying, Watch now, when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, and when I say to you, Strike Amnon! then kill him. Do not be afraid. Have I not commanded you? Be courageous and valiant. ²⁹So the servants of Absalom did to Amnon as Absalom had commanded. Then all the king's sons arose, and each one got on his mule and fled.

³⁰And it came to pass, while they were on the way, that news came to David, saying, Absalom has killed all the king's sons, and not one of them is left! ³¹So the king arose and tore his garments and lay on the ground, and all his servants stood by with their clothes torn. ³²Then Jonadab the son of Shimeah, David's brother, answered and said, Let not my lord suppose they have killed all the young men, the king's sons, for only Amnon is dead. For by the command of Absalom this has been determined from the day that he forced his sister Tamar. ³³Now So, let not my lord the king take the thing to his heart, to think that all the king's sons are dead. For only Amnon is dead.

Absalom Flees to Geshur

³⁴Then Absalom fled. And the young man who was keeping watch lifted his eyes and looked, and there, many people were coming from the road on the hillside behind him. ³⁵And Jonadab said to the king, Look, the king's sons are coming; as your servant said, so it is. ³⁶So it was, as soon as he had finished speaking, that the king's sons indeed came, and they lifted up their voice and wept. Also the king and all his servants wept very bitterly.

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³⁷ But Absalom fled and went to Talmai the son of Ammihud, king of Geshur. And David mourned for his son every day. ³⁸ So Absalom fled and went to Geshur, and was there three years. ³⁹ And King David longed to go to Absalom. For he had been comforted concerning Amnon, because he was dead.

2 sam 14 Absalom Returns to Jerusalem

¹⁴ So Joab the son of Zeruiah perceived that the king's heart was concerned about Absalom. ² And Joab sent to Tekoa and brought from there a wise woman, and said to her, Please pretend to be a mourner, and put on mourning apparel; do not anoint yourself with oil, but act like a woman who has been mourning a long time for the dead. ³ Go to the king and speak to him in this manner. So Joab put the words in her mouth.

⁴ And when the woman of Tekoa spoke to the king, she fell on her face to the ground and prostrated herself, and said, Help, O king!

⁵ Then the king said to her, What troubles you?

And she answered, Indeed I am a widow, my husband is dead. ⁶ Now your maidservant had two sons; and the two fought with each other in the field, and there was no one to part them, but the one struck the other and killed him. ⁷ And now the whole family has risen up against your maidservant, and they said, 'Deliver him who struck his brother, that we may execute him for the life of his brother whom he killed; and we will destroy the heir also.' So they would extinguish my ember that is left, and leave to my husband neither name nor remnant on the earth.

⁸ Then the king said to the woman, Go to your house, and I will give orders concerning you.

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⁹And the woman of Tekoa said to the king, My lord, O king, let the crime be on me and on my father's house, and the king and his throne be guiltless.

¹⁰So the king said, Whoever says anything to you, bring him to me, and he will not touch you anymore.

¹¹Then she said, Please let the king remember the Lord your God, and do not permit the avenger of blood to destroy anymore, lest they destroy my son.

And he said, As the Lord lives, not one hair of your son will fall to the ground.

¹²So the woman said, Please, let your maidservant speak another word to my lord the king.

And he said, Say on.

¹³So the woman said: Why then have you schemed such a thing against the people of God? For the king speaks this thing as one who is guilty, in that the king does not bring his banished one home again. ¹⁴For we will surely die and become like water spilled on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again. Yet God does not take away a life; but He devises means, so that His banished ones are not expelled from Him. ¹⁵Now So, I have come to speak of this thing to my lord the king 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 perform the request of his maidservant. ¹⁶For the king will hear and deliver his maidservant from the hand of the man who would destroy me and my son together from the inheritance of God. ¹⁷Your maidservant said, The word of my lord the king will now be comforting; for as the angel of God, so is my lord the king in discerning good and evil. And may the Lord your God be with you.

¹⁸Then the king answered and said to the woman, Please do not hide from me anything that I ask you.

And the woman said, Please, let my lord the king speak.

¹⁹So the king said, Is the hand of Joab with you in all this? And the woman answered and said, As you live, my lord the king, no one can turn to the right hand or to the left from anything that my lord the king has spoken. For your servant Joab commanded me, and he put all these words in the mouth of your maidservant. ²⁰To bring about this change of affairs your servant Joab has done this thing; but my lord is wise, according to the wisdom of the angel of God, to know everything that is in the earth.

²¹And the king said to Joab, All right, I have granted this thing. Go So, bring back the young man Absalom.

²²Then Joab fell to the ground on his face and bowed himself, and thanked the king. And Joab said, Today your servant knows that I have found favor in your sight, my lord, O king, in that the king has

fulfilled the request of his servant. ²³So Joab arose and went to Geshur, and brought Absalom to Jerusalem. ²⁴And the king said, Let him return to his own house, but do not let him see my face. So Absalom returned to his own house, but did not see the king's face.

David Forgives Absalom

²⁵Now in all Israel there was no one who was praised as much as Absalom for his good looks. From the sole of his foot to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him. ²⁶And when he cut the hair of his head—at the end of every year he cut it because it was heavy on him -- when he cut it, he weighed the hair of his head at two hundred shekels according to the king's standard. ²⁷To Absalom were born three sons, and one daughter whose name was Tamar. She was a woman of beautiful appearance.

²⁸And Absalom dwelt two full years in Jerusalem, but did not see the king's face. ²⁹So Absalom sent for Joab, to send him to the king, but he would not come to him. And when he sent again the second time, he would not come. ³⁰So he said to his servants, See, Joab's field is near mine, and he has barley there; go and set it on fire. And Absalom's servants set the field on fire.

³¹Then Joab arose and came to Absalom's house, and said to him, Why have your servants set my field on fire?

³²And Absalom answered Joab, Look, I sent to you, saying, Come here, so that I may send you to the king, to say, Why have I come from Geshur? It would be better for me to be there still. Now So, let me see the king's face; but if there is crime in me, let him execute me.

³³So Joab went to the king and told him. And when he had called for Absalom, he came to the king and bowed himself on his face to the ground before the king. Then the king kissed Absalom.