

# 2 SAMUEL 18 vs 1

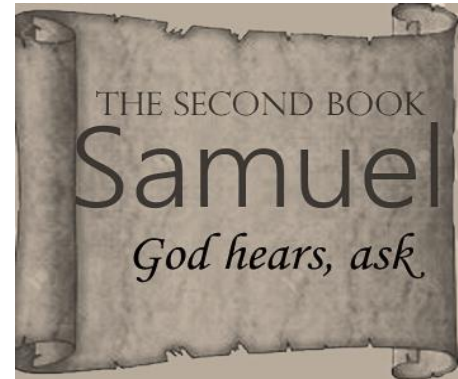
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In the 350 years of the judges before this book; years characterize by the phrase: and the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord. Obviously, the Lord said enough and sent Samuel, who was the last good judge, who moved in the power of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

This second book of Samuel focuses on the history of the reign of King David, making Jerusalem both the political and religious center of the nation. At this time, Zadok is the high priest,

The death of Absalom,



**<sup>1</sup> And David organized the people who were with him, and set commanders of 1000s, and commanders of 100s over them.**

**<sup>2</sup> And David sent the people out, one third under the command of Joab, one third under the command of Abishai the son of Zeruiah, Joab's brother, and one third under the command of Ittai the Gittite. And the king said to the people, I myself will surely go out with you also.**

**<sup>3</sup> But the people answered, You will not go out: for if we must flee, they will not care about us; nor if half of us die, will they care about us: but you are worth ten thousand of us: so now it is better that you help us from the city.**

**<sup>4</sup> And the king said to them, Whatever seems best to you I will do. So the king stood beside the city gate, and all the people came out by 100s and by 1000s.**

**<sup>5</sup> And the king charged Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom. And all the people heard when the king charged all the commanders concerning Absalom.**

**<sup>6</sup> Then the people went out to the field against Israel: and the battle was in the forest of Ephraim.**

**<sup>7</sup> And the people of Israel were defeated before the servants of David, and that day there was a great slaughter of 20,000 men.**

**<sup>8</sup> For the battle there was scattered over the whole country: and the forest devoured more people that day than the sword devoured.**

**<sup>9</sup> Now Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on a mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak, and his head of hair caught hold in the oak, and he was left hanging between heaven and earth; and the mule that was under him kept going.**

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**<sup>10</sup> And when a certain man saw it, he told Joab, and said, Behold, I saw Absalom hanging in an oak.**

**<sup>11</sup> Then Joab said to the man who told him, Now behold, you saw him, so why did you not strike him there to the ground? I would have given you ten pieces of silver, and a belt.**

**<sup>12</sup> And the man said to Joab, Even if I received 1000 pieces of silver in my hand, yet I would not put forth my hand against the son of the king: for we all heard the king charge you and Abishai and Ittai, saying, Protect the young man Absalom.**

**<sup>13</sup> Otherwise, if I had worked treacherously against his own life: for there is nothing hid from the king), then you yourself would have set yourself against me.**

**<sup>14</sup> Then Joab said, I will not waste time with you. And he took three spears in his hand, and thrust them through the heart of Absalom, while he was yet alive in the midst of the oak.**

**<sup>15</sup> And ten young men who carried the armor of Joab surrounded Absalom and struck and killed him.**

**<sup>16</sup> Then Joab blew the trumpet, and the people returned from pursuing Israel: for Joab restrained the people.**

**<sup>17</sup> And they took Absalom, and cast him into a deep pit in the forest, and laid a very great heap of stones over him: and all Israel fled each to his tent.**

**<sup>18</sup> Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and set up for himself a pillar, which is in the Valley of the King: for he said, I have no son to preserve my name: so he named the pillar after his own name: and it is called to this day, Absalom's place.**

**<sup>19</sup> Then Ahimaaz the son of Zadok said, Please let me now run, and bring the king news, how the LORD has freed him from his enemies.**

**<sup>20</sup> But Joab said to him, You will not carry news this day, but you will carry news another day: however this day you will carry no news, because the son of the king is dead.**

**<sup>21</sup> Then Joab said to Cush, Go tell the king what you have seen. And Cush bowed to Joab, and ran.**

**<sup>22</sup> Then Ahimaaz the son of Zadok said yet again to Joab, But whatever happens, please let me also run after Cush. And Joab said, Why will you run, my son, seeing that you will have no reward for it?**

**<sup>23</sup> But whatever happens, he said, let me run. And Joab said to him, Run. Then Ahimaaz ran by the way of the Arabah, and overran Cush.**

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**<sup>24</sup> Now David was sitting between the two gates: and the watchman went up to the roof over the gate on the wall, and lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold a man running alone.**

**<sup>25</sup> And the watchman cried out, and told the king. And the king said, If he is alone, there is good news in his mouth. And he continued his pace, and drew near.**

**<sup>26</sup> And the watchman saw another man running: and the watchman cried out to the gate-keeper, and said, Behold another man is running alone. And the king said, He also brings good news.**

**<sup>27</sup> And the watchman said, I think the first runner is how Ahimaaz the son of Zadok runs. And the king said, He is a good man, and comes with good news.**

**<sup>28</sup> And Ahimaaz called, and said to the king, All is well. And he fell down on his face to the ground before the king, and said, Blessed is the LORD your God, who delivered up the men who lifted up their hands against my lord the king.**

**<sup>29</sup> And the king said, Is it well with the young man Absalom? And Ahimaaz answered, When Joab sent the king's servant, I your servant saw a great tumult, but I did not know what it was.**

**<sup>30</sup> Then the king said, Turn aside and stand here. And he turned aside and stood still.**

**<sup>31</sup> And, behold, Cushite arrived; and the Cushite said, Let my lord the king receive good news: for the LORD has freed you this day from all those who rose up against you.**

**<sup>32</sup> And the king said to the Cushite, Is it well with the young man Absalom? And the Cushite answered, Let the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise against you to do you wrong, be as that young man.**

**<sup>33</sup> And the king was deeply moved, and went up to the room over the gate, and wept. And thus he said as he went, O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! O that I would have died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!**

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