



unfoldingWord® Translation Questions

2 Samuel

Version 32

[en]

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unfoldingWord® Translation Questions

Date: 2022-04-29

Version: 32

Published by: unfoldingWord

unfoldingWord® Literal Text

Date: 2022-04-29

Version: 35

Published by: unfoldingWord

unfoldingWord® Simplified Text

Date: 2022-04-29

Version: 34

Published by: unfoldingWord

unfoldingWord® Hebrew Bible

Date: 2021-09-07

Version: 2.1.23

Published by: unfoldingWord

unfoldingWord® Greek New Testament

Date: 2022-03-19

Version: 0.23

Published by: unfoldingWord

unfoldingWord® Translation Questions

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2 Samuel

2 Samuel 1

2 Samuel 1:1

ULT

¹ And it happened after the death of Saul, and David returned from attacking the Amalekites, that David remained in Ziklag two days.

UST

¹ After Saul died, David and the men who were with him returned to the town of Ziklag after defeating the descendants of Amalek. They stayed in Ziklag for two days.

What did David do after the death of Saul?

After the death of Saul, David returned from attacking the Amalekites and remained in Ziklag for two days.

2 Samuel 1:2

ULT

² And it happened on the third day, that behold, a man came from the camp, from with Saul, and his clothes were torn and dirt was on his head. And it happened when he came to David that he fell to the ground and prostrated himself.

UST

² On the third day, a man unexpectedly arrived there who had been in Saul's army. He had torn his clothes and put dust on his head to show that he was grieving. He came to David and prostrated himself on the ground in front of David to show respect for him.

On the third day, who came to David from Saul's camp?

On the third day a man with his clothes torn and with dirt on his head came to David.

2 Samuel 1:3**ULT**

³ And David said to him, "Where are you coming from?" And he said to him, "I escaped from the camp of Israel."

UST

³ David asked him, "Where have you come from?" The man replied, "From the Israelite army."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 1:4**ULT**

⁴ And David said to him, "What is the matter? Tell to me please." And He said that, "The people have fled from the battle, and also many from the people have fallen and died, and Saul and Jonathan his son are also dead."

UST

⁴ David asked him, "What happened? Tell me about the battle!" The man replied, "Our soldiers ran away. Many of them were killed. And Saul and his son Jonathan are dead."

What did the young man say about Saul and Jonathan?

The young man said Saul and Jonathan his son were dead.

2 Samuel 1:5**ULT**

⁵ And David said to the young man, the one who was reporting to him, "How do you know that Saul and Jonathan his son are dead?"

UST

⁵ David said to the young man, "How do you know that Saul and Jonathan are dead?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 1:6**ULT**

⁶ And the young man, the one who was reporting to him, said, "Certainly I happened to be in the mountain of Gilboa, and behold, Saul was leaning on his spear, and behold, the chariots and the masters of the horses clung to him.

UST

⁶ The young man replied, "I was on Mount Gilboa where the fighting was. I saw Saul; he was leaning on his spear. The enemy chariots and their drivers were coming very close to him.

Where did the young man say he found Saul?

The young man said he was on Mount Gilboa, and there Saul was leaning on his spear.

2 Samuel 1:7**ULT**

⁷ And Saul turned behind him and saw me. And he called out to me, and I said, 'Here I am.'

UST

⁷ Saul turned around and saw me, and he called out to me. I answered him and said, 'What do you want me to do?'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 1:8**ULT**

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

UST

⁸ He replied, 'Who are you?' I replied, 'I am a descendant of Amalek.'

What did the young man say Saul asked him to do?

The young man said Saul asked him to stand over him and kill him.

2 Samuel 1:9**ULT**

⁹ And he said to me, 'Now stand over me and kill me, for agony has grasped me, because my life is still wholly in me.'

UST

⁹ Then he said to me, 'Come over here and kill me. I am in very much pain.'

Why did Saul ask the young Amalekite man to kill him?

Saul asked the young Amalekite man to kill him because he said, "...great suffering has taken hold of me because life is still in me."

2 Samuel 1:10**ULT**

¹⁰ So I stood over him and killed him, because I knew that he would not live after his fall. And I took the crown that was on his head and the band that was on his arm, and I brought them here to my lord."

UST

¹⁰ So I went to him and killed him, because I saw that he was wounded very badly and would not continue to live. I took the crown from his head and his armband, which I have brought to you, my master."

After the young man killed Saul what did he take from Saul?

The young man took the crown that was on Saul's head and the band that was on his arm.

2 Samuel 1:11**ULT**

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

UST

¹¹ Then David took hold of his clothing and he tore it apart, and all the men who were with him tore their clothes apart as well.

What did David and his men do when they heard about Saul's and Jonathan's death? (vv11-12)

David and his men tore their clothes and they mourned, wept, and fasted until evening.

2 Samuel 1:12**ULT**

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

UST

¹² They tore their clothing because they were very sad and they refused to eat anything until evening because they remembered that Saul and his son Jonathan had died, and that so many of the people of Yahweh had died, and they were sad because of the great dangers the descendants of Israel had gone through, and because so many of them died in battle.

For whom else were David and his men mourning, weeping, and fasting?

David and his men also mourned, wept, and fasted for the people of Yahweh and for the house of Israel because they had fallen by the sword.

2 Samuel 1:13**ULT**

¹³ And David said to the young man, the one who was reporting to him, "Where are you from?" And he said, "I am a son of a man, a foreigner, an Amalekite."

UST

¹³ But David asked the young man who had told him about the battle, "Where are you from?" He replied, "My father is a descendant of Amalek, but we live in Israel."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 1:14**ULT**

¹⁴ And David said to him, "How were you not afraid to stretch out your hand to destroy the anointed one of Yahweh?"

UST

¹⁴ David asked him, "Why were you not afraid that you would be punished if you killed Saul, whom Yahweh made king?"

Why did David have the young Amalekite man killed?

David had the young Amalekite man killed because he had killed Yahweh's anointed king.

2 Samuel 1:15**ULT**

¹⁵ And David called out to one of the young men and said, "Come near, fall upon him." And he struck him, and he died.

UST

¹⁵⁻¹⁶ You yourself said, 'I killed the man whom Yahweh appointed to be the king.' So you have made yourself guilty; you deserve to die!" Then David summoned one of his soldiers and said to him, "Kill him!" So the soldier killed him.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 1:16**ULT**

¹⁶ And David said to him, "Your blood is on your head because your mouth has testified against you saying, 'I myself killed the anointed one of Yahweh.'"

UST

¹⁵⁻¹⁶ You yourself said, 'I killed the man whom Yahweh appointed to be the king.' So you have made yourself guilty; you deserve to die!" Then David summoned one of his soldiers and said to him, "Kill him!" So the soldier killed him.

Why did David have the young Amalekite man killed?

David had the young Amalekite man killed because he had killed Yahweh's anointed king.

2 Samuel 1:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Then David sang this funeral song for Saul and for Jonathan his son.

UST

¹⁷ Then David composed this sad song about Saul and Jonathan,

In what book is the funeral song that David sang about Saul and his son Jonathan written? (vv17-18)

The funeral song that David sang about Saul and his son Jonathan has been written in the book of Jashar.

2 Samuel 1:18**ULT**

¹⁸ And he said to teach the sons of Judah the bow, behold, which has been written in the Book of the Upright.
[1]

UST

¹⁸ and he ordered the men with him to teach it to the people of Judah. The song is called "The Bow," and it has been written down in the Book of Jashar:

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 1:19**ULT**

¹⁹ "The beauty of Israel is slain on your high places! How the mighty have fallen!

UST

¹⁹ "You Israelite people, your glorious leaders have been killed on the mountains! It is very sad that these mighty men have died!

What is dead, killed on Israel's mountains?

Israel's glory is dead.

2 Samuel 1:20**ULT**

²⁰ Do not tell it in Gath, do not announce it in the streets of Ashkelon, lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised exult.

UST

²⁰ Do not tell it to our enemies in the region of Philistia. Do not tell the people who live in the city of Gath. Do not proclaim it in the streets of the city of Ashkelon, or their women would celebrate. Do not allow those pagan women to rejoice.

Why did David say not to proclaim that Israel's glory was dead in Gath or in the streets of Ashkelon?

David said not to proclaim it in Gath or in the streets of Ashkelon so that the daughters of the Philistines may not rejoice, and so that the daughters of the uncircumcised may not celebrate.

2 Samuel 1:21**ULT**

²¹ Mountains in Gilboa, let there not be dew and let there not be rain on you, nor fields that give contributions, for there the shield of the mighty was defiled. The shield of Saul is not anointed with oil.

UST

²¹ I hope there will be no rain or dew ever again on the mountains of Gilboa and that no grain will grow in the fields there, because it was there that the shield of Saul, the mighty king, fell to the ground. Now there is no one to rub olive oil on Saul's shield.

Where was the shield of the mighty defiled?

The shield of the mighty was defiled on the mountains of Gilboa.

2 Samuel 1:22**ULT**

²² From the blood of the slain, from the fat of the mighty, the bow of Jonathan did not turn back, and the sword of Saul did not return empty.

UST

²² Jonathan's arrows were his servants who always pierced his enemies and drew their blood. and Saul's sword was his servant who always struck his enemies.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 1:23**ULT**

²³ Saul and Jonathan, the ones who were loved and the delightful ones in their life, and in their death they were not separated. They were swifter than eagles, they were mightier than lions.

UST

²³ Saul and Jonathan were loved; they pleased many people. They were together while they lived and when they died. In battle they were swifter than eagles and stronger than lions.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 1:24**ULT**

²⁴ Daughters of Israel, weep for Saul, the one who clothed you in scarlet, with luxuries, the one who put ornaments of gold on your clothing.

UST

²⁴ You women in Israel, weep about Saul. He provided beautiful scarlet clothes for you and gave you gold ornaments to put on.

What did Saul do for the daughters of Israel?

Saul clothed them in scarlet delicately, and put ornaments of gold on their garments.

2 Samuel 1:25**ULT**

²⁵ How the mighty have fallen in the midst of the battle! Jonathan is slain on your high places.

UST

²⁵ It is very sad that my brother Jonathan has died. He was a mighty soldier, and his enemies killed him on the mountain.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 1:26**ULT**

²⁶ It is distressing to me concerning you, my brother Jonathan. You were very pleasant to me. Your love for me was wonderful, more than the love of women.

UST

²⁶ Jonathan, my dear friend, I grieve for you. You were very dear to me. You loved me in a wonderful manner. It was even better than the way that a woman loves her husband and her children.

How great was the love of Jonathan to David?

David said Jonathan's love to David was wonderful, exceeding the love of women.

2 Samuel 1:27

ULT

²⁷ How the mighty have fallen, and the weapons of war perished!"

1:18 ^[1]

UST

²⁷ It is very sad that these mighty men have died, and that their weapons are now no more!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 2

2 Samuel 2:1

ULT

¹ And it happened after this that David asked of Yahweh saying, "Should I go up into one of the cities of Judah?" And Yahweh said to him, "Go up." Then David said, "Where should I go?" And he said, "To Hebron."

UST

¹ Some time after that, David asked Yahweh, "Should I go up to one of the towns in Judah?" Yahweh replied, "Yes, go up there." Then David asked, "To which town should I go?" Yahweh replied, "To Hebron."

How did Yahweh reply to David when David asked him, "Should I go up to one of the cities of Judah?"

Yahweh replied to David, "Go up." when David asked him.

2 Samuel 2:2

ULT

² So David went up there and with his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelite, and Abigail, the wife of Nabal the Carmelite.

UST

² So David went up there, taking his two wives, Ahinoam who was from the city of Jezreel, and Abigail, the widow of Nabal, who was from the city of Carmel.

To which city did Yahweh tell David to go?

Yahweh told David to go to Hebron.

Who went up with David to Hebron? (vv2-3)

David went up to Hebron with his two wives, Ahinoam and Abigail. David also brought the men who were with him, who each brought his family.

2 Samuel 2:3**ULT**

³ And David brought up his men who were with him, each man with his household, and they lived in the cities of Hebron,.

UST

³ He also took the men who had been with him, together with their families. They all started to live in the city of Hebron and its surrounding villages.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 2:4**ULT**

⁴ And the men of Judah came, and there they anointed David as king over the house of Judah. And they told to David saying, "The men of Jabesh Gilead, who buried Saul."

UST

⁴ Then the men of Judah came to Hebron, and one of them poured olive oil on David's head to show they were appointing him to be the king of the tribe of Judah. When David found out that the people of the city of Jabesh in the region of Gilead had buried Saul's body,

What did men from Judah do when they came to David?

Men from Judah came and anointed David king over the house of Judah.

2 Samuel 2:5**ULT**

⁵ So David sent messengers to the men of Jabesh Gilead and said to them, "Blessed are you by Yahweh, because you did this kindness with your master, with Saul, and have buried him.

UST

⁵ he sent messengers to the men of Jabesh to tell them, "I desire that Yahweh will bless you for having buried Saul. By doing this, you have shown that you were loyal to him.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 2:6**ULT**

⁶ And now may Yahweh do to you kindness and faithfulness. And also I will do for you this good because you have done this thing.

UST

⁶ Now I also desire that Yahweh will faithfully love you and be loyal to you. And I will do good things for you because of what you have done for Saul.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 2:7**ULT**

⁷ So now, let your hands be strong; and be as sons of might for Saul your master is dead, and also the house of Judah has anointed me for king over them."

UST

⁷ Now, although Saul your king is dead, be strong and courageous, like the people of Judah, who have appointed me to be their king."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 2:8**ULT**

⁸ And Abner son of Ner, commander of Saul's army, took Ishbosheth son of Saul and brought him over to Mahanaim.

UST

⁸ However, Ner's son Abner, the commander of Saul's army, took Saul's son Ishbosheth and went across the Jordan River to the city of Mahanaim.

Who was Abner?

Abner was the son of Ner, commander of Saul's army.

What did Abner do to Ishbosheth, the son of Saul? (vv8-9)

Abner took Ishbosheth and brought him to Mahanaim; he made Ishbosheth king over Gilead, Asher, Jezreel, Ephraim, Benjamin, and over all Israel.

2 Samuel 2:9**ULT**

⁹ And he made him king over Gilead, and over the Ashurites, and over Jezreel, and over Ephraim, and over Benjamin, and over all Israel.

UST

⁹ There Abner proclaimed that Ishbosheth was now the king ruling the regions of Gilead and Jezreel, and the tribes of Asher, Ephraim, and Benjamin. That meant that he was the king of most of Israel.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 2:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Ishbosheth son of Saul, was forty years old when he began to reign over Israel, and he reigned two years. But the house of Judah was behind David.

UST

¹⁰ Ishbosheth was forty years old when he started to rule over the Israelite people. He ruled them for two years. But the tribe of Judah was loyal to David.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 2:11**ULT**

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

UST

¹¹ David ruled them for seven and a half years while he was living in Hebron.

How long was David king in Hebron over the house of Judah?

David was king in Hebron over the house of Judah for seven years and six months.

2 Samuel 2:12**ULT**

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

UST

¹² One day Abner and the officials of Isbosheth went from Mahanaim across the Jordan River to the city of Gibeon.

Where did Joab the son of Zeruiah and the servants of David meet Abner the son of Ner, and the servants of Ishbosheth? (vv12-13)

Joab the son of Zeruiah and the servants of David met Abner the son of Ner, and the servants of Ishbosheth by the pool of Gibeon.

2 Samuel 2:13**ULT**

¹³ And Joab the son of Zeruiah, and the servants of David, went out and met them by the pool of Gibeon; and they sat down together, these by the pool on this side, and these by the pool on this side.

UST

¹³ Joab, whose mother was Zeruiah, and some of David's officials went from Hebron to Gibeon, and they met at the pool of water there. They all sat down, one group on one side of the pool and the other group on the other side.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 2:14**ULT**

¹⁴ And Abner said to Joab, "Now let the young men arise and compete before us." And Joab said, "Let them arise."

UST

¹⁴ Abner said to Joab, "Let us tell some of our young men to fight each other!" Joab replied, "Very well!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 2:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Then they arose and passed by, by number, twelve for Benjamin and Ishbosheth son of Saul, and twelve from the servants of David.

UST

¹⁵ So twelve men from the tribe of Benjamin fought for Ishbosheth, against twelve of David's soldiers.

How many young men got up to compete before Joab and Abner?

Twelve young men got up for Benjamin and Ishbosheth the son of Saul, and twelve young men got up from the servants of David.

2 Samuel 2:16**ULT**

¹⁶ And each man grasped his opponent by the head and his sword into the side of his opponent, and they fell down together. Therefore that place was called "Helkath Hazzurim," or "Field of Swords," which is in Gibeon.

UST

¹⁶ Each of them grabbed the head of the man against whom he was fighting, and thrust his sword into that man's side. The result was that all twenty-four of them fell down dead. So that area in Gibeon is now called "Field of Swords."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 2:17**ULT**

¹⁷ And the battle was very severe that day and Abner and the men of Israel were defeated before the servants of David.

UST

¹⁷ Then the others started to fight also. It was a very fierce battle. Abner and the men of Israel were defeated by David's soldiers.

Who won the battle that day?

Abner and the men of Israel were defeated before the servants of David.

2 Samuel 2:18**ULT**

¹⁸ The three sons of Zeruiah were there: Joab, and Abishai, and Asahel. Asahel was swift on his feet like one of the gazelles which are in the field.

UST

¹⁸ Zeruiah's three sons were there on that day: Joab, Abishai, and Asahel. Asahel was able to run very fast. He could run as fast as a wild gazelle.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 2:19**ULT**

¹⁹ And Asahel pursued after Abner, and he turned not aside by going to the right or to the left from after Abner.

UST

¹⁹ Asahel started to pursue Abner. He ran straight toward Abner, without stopping.

Which one of the sons of Zeruiah pursued Abner?

Asahel closely pursued Abner and followed him.

2 Samuel 2:20**ULT**

²⁰ Then Abner looked behind him and said, "Is that you Asahel?" And he answered, "It is I."

UST

²⁰ Abner looked behind him, and said, "Is that you, Asahel?" Asahel replied, "Yes!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 2:21**ULT**

²¹ And Abner said to him, "Turn aside to your right or to your left, and seize for you from one of the young men, and take for you his belongings." But Asahel was not willing to turn aside from behind him.

UST

²¹ Abner shouted, "Stop chasing me; go after someone else!" But Asahel would not stop pursuing Abner.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 2:22**ULT**

²² And Abner said again to Asahel, "You turn aside from behind me. Why should I strike you to the ground? How then could I lift up my face towards Joab, your brother?"

UST

²² So Abner yelled at him again, "Stop chasing me! Why should I kill you? How could I face your brother Joab and explain your death to him?"

What did Abner say to Asahel to encourage Asahel to stop pursuing him?

Abner told Asahel, "Why should I strike you to the ground? How then could I hold up my face to Joab, your brother?"

2 Samuel 2:23**ULT**

²³ But he refused to turn aside, and so Abner struck him in the stomach with the back of the spear, so that the spear came out from his back. And he fell there, and died on the spot. And it happened that all the ones coming to the place where Asahel fell there and died, they stood.

UST

²³ But Asahel refused to stop pursuing Abner. So Abner suddenly turned and thrust the butt end of his spear into Asahel's stomach. Because he thrust it very strongly, that end of the spear went through his body and came out at Asahel's back, and he fell to the ground, dead. All the other soldiers who came to the place where his body was lying stopped and stood there, stunned at Asahel's body.

What happened to Asahel when he refused to turn aside from Abner?

When Asahel refused to turn aside from Abner, Abner stabbed him in the body with the blunt end of his spear so that the spear came out the other side, and Asahel fell down and died there.

2 Samuel 2:24**ULT**

²⁴ But Joab and Abishai pursued after Abner. And when the sun was going down, they came to the hill of Ammah, which is on the front of Giah by the road to the wilderness of Gibeon.

UST

²⁴ But Joab and Abishai continued to pursue Abner. At sunset they came to the hill of Ammah, which is east of Giah, along the road to the wilderness near Gibeon.

To what location did Joab and Abishai pursue Abner?

Joab and Abishai pursued Abner to the hill of Ammah, which is near Giah by the road to the wilderness of Gibeon.

2 Samuel 2:25**ULT**

²⁵ And the sons of Benjamin gathered themselves behind Abner, and they were as one band, and they stood on the top of the hill as one.

UST

²⁵ The men from the tribe of Benjamin gathered around Abner in a line of battle and stood at the top of a hill.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 2:26**ULT**

²⁶ Then Abner called to Joab and said, "Must the sword devour forever? Do you not know that it will be bitter in the end? And until when will it be that you not tell to the people to turn from after their brothers?"

UST

²⁶ Then Abner called out to Joab, saying, "Are we going to continue to fight forever? Do you not realize that if we continue fighting the result will be very bad? We are all descendants of Jacob, so we should stop fighting each other! How long will it be until you tell your soldiers to stop pursuing us?"

What did Abner say that stopped Joab and Abishai from pursuing him? (vv26-27)

Abner called to Joab and said, "Must the sword devour forever? Do you not know it will be bitter in the end? How long will it be before you tell your men to stop pursuing their brothers?"

2 Samuel 2:27**ULT**

²⁷ And Joab said, "As God lives, if you had not spoken, surely then the people would have pulled back, a man from after his brother, until the morning!"

UST

²⁷ Joab replied, "Just as surely as God lives, if you had not said that, my soldiers would have continued pursuing your men until tomorrow morning!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 2:28**ULT**

²⁸ So Joab blew on the trumpet, and all the people stood and did not pursue after Israel anymore, and they did not continue to fight anymore.

UST

²⁸ So Joab blew a trumpet to signal that they should stop fighting. So all his men stopped pursuing the soldiers of Israel.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 2:29**ULT**

²⁹ And Abner and his men went all that night through the Arabah. And they crossed the Jordan and they walked all the morning, and they came to Mahanaim.

UST

²⁹ That night Abner and his soldiers went through the plain along the Jordan River. They crossed the Jordan and marched all the next morning, and they finally arrived back at Mahanaim.

Where did Abner and his men travel to?

Abner and his men reached Mahanaim.

2 Samuel 2:30**ULT**

³⁰ And Joab returned from after Abner, and he assembled all the people, and were missing Asahel and nineteen men from the servants of David.

UST

³⁰ Joab and his soldiers gathered together after they stopped chasing Abner. Then Joab found out that in addition to Asahel, only nineteen of them had been killed in the battle.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 2:31**ULT**

³¹ But the servants of David struck down from Benjamin, from the men of Abner, 360 men they killed.

UST

³¹ But David's soldiers had killed 360 of Abner's men, all from the tribe of Benjamin.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 2:32**ULT**

³² And they took up Asahel and buried him in the tomb of his father, which was in Bethlehem. Joab and his men walked all of the night, and it became light on them at Hebron.

UST

³² Some of Joab's soldiers took Asahel's body and buried it in the tomb where his father had been buried, in Bethlehem. Then they marched all during the night, and at dawn they arrived back home at Hebron.

To where did Joab and his men travel?

Joab and his men went to Hebron.

2 Samuel 3

2 Samuel 3:1

ULT

¹ And the war was long between the house of Saul and between the house of David. And David was progressing stronger and stronger, but the house of Saul was progressing weaker and weaker.

UST

¹ After that, a long war developed between those who wanted Saul's son to be their king and those who wanted David to be their king. But more and more people began to want David, while fewer and fewer wanted Saul's son.

In the long war between the house of Saul and the house of David, which house grew stronger and which house grew weaker?

The house of David grew stronger and the house of Saul grew weaker in the long war between the two houses.

2 Samuel 3:2

ULT

² And sons were born to David in Hebron. And his firstborn was Amnon, by Ahinoam the Jezreelitess.

UST

² David's wives gave birth to six sons at Hebron. The oldest was Amnon, whose mother was Ahinoam from the city of Jezreel.

Who were David's first three sons born to him in Hebron? (vv2-3)

Amnon, Chileab, and Absalom were the first three sons born to David in Hebron.

2 Samuel 3:3

ULT

³ And his second, Kileab, by Abigail, the wife of Nabal the Carmelite. And the third, Absalom, was son of Maacah, daughter of Talmai, king of Geshur.

UST

³ The next son was Kileab, whose mother was Abigail, the widow of Nabal, from the city of Carmel. The next son was Absalom, whose mother was Maacah, the daughter of Talmai, the king of the region of Geshur.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:4**ULT**

⁴ And the fourth was Adonijah, son of Haggith. And the fifth was Shephatiah, son of Abital.

UST

⁴ The next son was Adonijah, whose mother was Haggith. The next son was Shephatiah, whose mother was Abital.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:5**ULT**

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

UST

⁵ The youngest son was Ithream, whose mother was Eglah, another one of David's wives. These sons of David were all born in Hebron.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:6**ULT**

⁶ And it happened during the war between the house of Saul and between the house of David that Abner was strengthening himself in the house of Saul.

UST

⁶ During the conflict between those who wanted Saul's son to rule over them and those who wanted David to rule over them, Abner was becoming more influential among those who wanted Saul's son to be the king.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:7**ULT**

⁷ And Saul had a concubine, and her name was Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah. And he said to Abner, "Why have you gone in to my father's concubine?"

UST

⁷ Saul had as one of his wives a slave woman named Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah. But one day Abner slept with her. So Ishbosheth said to Abner, "Why have you slept with my father's slave wife?"

What did Ishbosheth accuse Abner of doing?

Ishbosheth accused Abner of sleeping with his father's (Saul's) concubine.

2 Samuel 3:8**ULT**

⁸ And Abner was very angry at the words of Ishbosheth and said, "Am I a dog's head that belongs to Judah? Today I do covenant faithfulness with the house of Saul, your father, to his brothers, and to his friends, by not delivering you into the hand of David. And today you call me to account concerning a fault with this woman?"

UST

⁸ Abner became very angry about what Ishbosheth said to him. He said to Ishbosheth, "Do you think that I am a worthless dog from Judah? From the beginning I have been loyal to Saul your father, to his brothers, and to his friends. And I have kept David's army from defeating you. So now why are you criticizing me about what I have done with some woman?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:9**ULT**

⁹ So may God do to Abner, and so more also to him, if as has sworn Yahweh to David, that so I do for him,

UST

⁹⁻¹⁰ Yahweh solemnly promised that he would not allow Saul and his descendants to continue to rule. He promised that he would cause David to rule over all the tribes of Israel and Judah, from the city of Dan far in the north to the city of Beersheba far in the south. So I hope that God will kill me if I do not enable that to happen!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:10**ULT**

¹⁰ to transfer the kingdom from the house of Saul and to set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan to Beersheba.”

UST

⁹⁻¹⁰ Yahweh solemnly promised that he would not allow Saul and his descendants to continue to rule. He promised that he would cause David to rule over all the tribes of Israel and Judah, from the city of Dan far in the north to the city of Beersheba far in the south. So I hope that God will kill me if I do not enable that to happen!”

After Ishbosheth accused Abner of sleeping with his father’s concubine, what did Abner swear he was going to do?

Abner swore to transfer the kingdom from the house of Saul and set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan to Beersheba.

2 Samuel 3:11**ULT**

¹¹ And he was not able to answer Abner another word, because of his fear of him.

UST

¹¹ Ishbosheth was very afraid of Abner, so he did not say anything to reply to Abner.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:12**ULT**

¹² And Abner sent messengers to David on his behalf saying, “Whose land is this? Cut your covenant with me, and behold my hand is with you, to bring over all of Israel to you.”

UST

¹² Then Abner sent messengers to David when he was at Hebron to say to him, “Either you or I should be the ruler of this entire nation, but not Isbosheth. However, if you make an agreement with me, I will help you by encouraging all the people of Israel to ask for you to be their king.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:13**ULT**

¹³ And he said, "Good, I will cut a covenant with you. Only one thing I require from you, that is, that you will not see my face unless to my face you bring Michal, Saul's daughter, when you come to see my face."

UST

¹³ David sent back this reply, "Good! I am willing to make an agreement with you. But before that happens, there is one thing that you must do. When you come to see me, you must bring my wife Michal, Saul's daughter."

What did David say Abner must do before Abner could see David's face and make a covenant with him?

David told Abner's messengers that Abner could not see David's face unless Abner brought Michal, Saul's daughter, with him when he came to see David.

2 Samuel 3:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Then David sent messengers to Ishbosheth, Saul's son, saying, "Give me my wife Michal, whom I betrothed to myself with one hundred Philistine foreskins."

UST

¹⁴ Then David sent messengers to Ishbosheth to say to him, "I killed one hundred men from Philistia and cut off their foreskins to give to Saul to pay for Michal to be my wife. So now give her back to me!"

What price had David paid for Michal to be his wife?

David had paid the price of 100 Philistine foreskins for Michal.

2 Samuel 3:15**ULT**

¹⁵ And Ishbosheth sent and took her from with her husband, from with Paltiel, son of Laish.

UST

¹⁵ So Ishbosheth sent some men to take Michal from her husband Paltiel. But when they took her, her husband followed them all the way to the city of Bahurim, crying as he went.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:16**ULT**

¹⁶ And her husband walked with her, walking and weeping behind her to Bahurim. Then Abner said to him, "walk back" and he returned back.

UST

¹⁶ Then Abner turned and said to him, "Go back home!" so he did.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:17**ULT**

¹⁷ And Abner had communication with the elders of Israel saying, "Yesterday and the day before, you were seeking to secure David for a king over you.

UST

¹⁷ Abner went to the Israelite leaders and talked with them. He said, "You have wanted David to be your king for a long time.

In short what did Abner say to the elders of Israel? (vv17-18)

Abner told the elders of Israel they should make David king over them as they had wanted to do in the past.

2 Samuel 3:18**ULT**

¹⁸ And now do it, for Yahweh said concerning David saying, 'By the hand of my servant David I will save my people Israel from the hand of the Philistines and from the hand of all their enemies.'"

UST

¹⁸ So now you have an opportunity for this to happen. Keep in mind that Yahweh promised this, 'With the help of David, who serves me well, I will rescue my people from the power of all their other enemies'."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:19**ULT**

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

UST

¹⁹ Abner also spoke to the people of the tribe of Benjamin. Then he went to Hebron to tell David what all the people of Israel and the people of the tribe of Benjamin had agreed to do.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:20**ULT**

²⁰ And Abner came to David in Hebron, and with him twenty men; and David had made a feast for Abner and for the men who were with him.

UST

²⁰ When Abner came with twenty of his soldiers to see David at Hebron, David made a feast for all of them.

What did David do for Abner when Abner arrived in Hebron with twenty of his men?

David had a feast prepared for Abner and his men.

2 Samuel 3:21**ULT**

²¹ And Abner said to David, "Let me arise, and let me go, and let me gather to my lord the king, all of Israel that they may cut a covenant with you, and you will reign over all that your soul desires." And David sent Abner away, and he left in peace.

UST

²¹ Afterwards, Abner said to David, "Sir, I will now go and encourage all the people of Israel to accept you to be their king, as you have desired." Then Abner left, peacefully.

Briefly what did Abner tell David he planned to do?

Abner told David that he would gather all Israel to David to make a covenant with him so he could reign as king over all Israel.

2 Samuel 3:22**ULT**

²² And behold, the servants of David and Joab came from a raid and brought with them much plunder, but Abner was not with David in Hebron because he had sent him away and he had gone in peace.

UST

²² Soon after that, Joab and some of David's other soldiers returned to Hebron after raiding one of their enemy's villages, bringing with them a lot of things that they had captured. But Abner was not there at Hebron, because David had already sent him safely away.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:23**ULT**

²³ And Joab and all the army which was with him arrived, and they told to Joab saying, "Abner son of Ner came to the king, and he let him go, and he went in peace."

UST

²³ When Joab and the soldiers who were with him arrived, someone told him that Abner had come there and talked with the king, and that the king allowed Abner to go away safely.

How did David and Abner part company?

David sent Abner away, and Abner left in peace.

2 Samuel 3:24**ULT**

²⁴ And Joab came to the king and said, "What have you done? Behold, Abner came to you! Why is this you have let him go, and he went and is surely gone?"

UST

²⁴ So Joab went to the king and said, "Why have you done that? Listen to me! Abner is your enemy, but when he came to you, you allowed him to leave!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:25**ULT**

²⁵ You know that Abner son of Ner came to deceive you and to know your going out and your coming in and to know all which you are doing?"

UST

²⁵ Do you not know that he came to you to deceive you and to find out everything that you are doing, and all the places that you go to?"

When Joab came to David, what did Joab accuse Abner of doing?

Joab accused Abner of trying to deceive David, of trying to discover David's plans and learn everything David was doing.

2 Samuel 3:26**ULT**

²⁶ And Joab went out from with David and he sent messengers after Abner, and they brought him back from the cistern of Sirah, but David did not know.

UST

²⁶ After Joab left David, he sent some messengers to get Abner. They found him at the well of Sirah and brought him back to Hebron, but David did not know that they had done this.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:27**ULT**

²⁷ And Abner returned to Hebron, and Joab took him aside into the middle of the gate to speak with him in the quietness. There Joab stabbed him in the stomach, and he died for the blood of Asahel, his brother.

UST

²⁷ So when Abner returned to Hebron, Joab met him at the city gate, and took him into a side room as though he wanted to speak with him privately. Then he stabbed Abner in the stomach with his knife. In that way he murdered Abner because Abner had killed Joab's brother Asahel.

What did Joab do after he had Abner brought back to Hebron?

Joab stabbed Abner in the stomach and killed him.

Why did Joab kill Abner?

Joab killed Abner to avenge the blood of Asahel his brother.

2 Samuel 3:28**ULT**

²⁸ And afterward, David heard this, and he said, "I and my kingdom are forever innocent before Yahweh of the blood of Abner son of Ner.

UST

²⁸ Later, after David heard what had happened, he said, "Yahweh knows that I and the people of my kingdom are not at all responsible for Abner.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:29**ULT**

²⁹ Let the guilt of Abner's death fall on the head of Joab and on all his father's house. May there never fail to be in the family of Joab someone who has a flowing sore or skin disease or who is lame and must walk with a staff or who is killed by the sword or who goes without food."

UST

²⁹ I hope that there will always be someone in his family who has sores, or someone who is a leper, or some man who is forced to do women's work, or someone who is killed in a battle, or someone who does not have enough food to eat!"

When David learned that Joab had killed Abner, what did he say concerning Joab and Joab's family?

David said to let the guilt of Abner's death fall on the head of Joab and on all his father's house.

2 Samuel 3:30**ULT**

³⁰ So Joab and Abishai his brother killed Abner, because he had killed their brother Asahel at Gibeon in battle.

UST

³⁰ That is how Joab and his brother Abishai murdered Abner, because he had killed their brother Asahel in the battle at Gibeon.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:31**ULT**

³¹ David said to Joab and to all the people who were with him, "Tear your clothes, put on sackcloth, and mourn before Abner's body." Now King David walked behind the body in the funeral procession.

UST

³¹ Then David said to Joab and to all Joab's soldiers, "Tear your clothes and put on coarse cloth to show that you are sad, and mourn for Abner!" And at the funeral, King David walked behind the men who were carrying the coffin.

What did David tell Joab and all the people with him to do?

David told Joab and all the people with him to tear their clothes, put on sackcloth, and mourn before Abner's body.

2 Samuel 3:32**ULT**

³² They buried Abner in Hebron. The king wept and cried loudly at the tomb of Abner, and all the people also wept.

UST

³² They buried Abner's body at Hebron. And at the grave, the king cried loudly, and all the other people also cried.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:33**ULT**

³³ The king lamented for Abner and sang, "Should Abner die as a fool dies?"

UST

³³ David sang this sad song to lament for Abner: "It is not right that Abner should have died in disgrace!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:34**ULT**

³⁴ Your hands were not bound. Your feet were not shackled. As a man falls before the sons of injustice, so you have fallen." Once more all the people wept over him.

UST

³⁴ No one tied his hands or put chains on his feet, as they do to criminals. No, he was murdered by wicked men!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:35**ULT**

³⁵ All the people came to make David eat while it was still day, but David swore, "May God do so to me, and more also, if I taste bread or anything else before the sun goes down."

UST

³⁵ Then many people came to David to tell him to eat some food before sunset, but David refused. He said, "I hope that God will kill me if I eat any food before the sun goes down!"

When the people came to make David eat while it was still day, what did David swear?

David swore, "May God do so to me, and more also, if I taste bread or anything else before the sun goes down."

2 Samuel 3:36**ULT**

³⁶ All the people took notice of David's grief, and it pleased them, as whatever the king did pleased them.

UST

³⁶ All the people saw what David did, and they were pleased. Truly, everything that the king did pleased the people.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 3:37**ULT**

³⁷ So all the people and all Israel understood that day that it was not the king's desire to kill Abner son of Ner.

UST

³⁷ So all the people realized that the king had not wanted Abner to be killed.

What did all the people and all Israel understand after they took notice of David's grief concerning Abner?

All the people and all Israel understood that it was not the king's desire to kill Abner.

2 Samuel 3:38**ULT**

³⁸ The king said to his servants, "Do you not know that a prince and a great man has fallen this day in Israel?"

UST

³⁸ The king said to his officials, "Do you not realize that a leader and a great man has died today in Israel?"

What did the king say to his servants concerning Abner?

The king told his servants, "Do you know that a prince and a great man has fallen this day in Israel?"

2 Samuel 3:39**ULT**

³⁹ Now I am weak today, though I am an anointed king. These men, the sons of Zeruiah, are too brutal for me. May Yahweh repay the evildoer by punishing him for his wickedness, as he deserves."

UST

³⁹ Even though Yahweh appointed me to be the king, today I feel weak. These two sons of Zeruiah, Joab and Abishai, are very violent. I cannot control them. So I hope that Yahweh will punish them severely in return for this wicked deed that they have done!"

What did David wish concerning the sons of Zeruiah?

David wished for Yahweh to repay the evildoer by punishing him for his wickedness, as he deserved it.

2 Samuel 4

2 Samuel 4:1

ULT

¹ When Ishbosheth, Saul's son, heard that Abner was dead in Hebron, his hands became weak, and all Israel was troubled.

UST

¹ When Saul's son Ishbosheth heard that Abner had been killed at Hebron, he became very discouraged, and all the Israelite people with him.

What caused the hands of Ishbosheth to become weak?

When Ishbosheth heard that Abner was dead in Hebron, his hands became weak.

2 Samuel 4:2

ULT

² Now Saul's son had two men who were captains of groups of soldiers. The name of one was Baanah and the other Recab, sons of Rimmon the Beerothite of the people of Benjamin (for Beeroth is also considered part of Benjamin,

UST

² Ishbosheth had two officers who were leaders of groups of soldiers. They were brothers with the names of Baanah and Recab; they were sons of Rimmon from the town of Beeroth in the tribe of Benjamin. Now Beeroth is in the area that had been assigned to the tribe of Benjamin.

What were the names of two of Saul's men who were captains of groups of soldiers?

The names of two of Saul's men who were captains of groups of soldiers were Baanah and Rechab.

2 Samuel 4:3

ULT

³ and the Beerothites fled to Gittaim and have been living there until this very time).

UST

³ But the original inhabitants of Beeroth had fled to the town of Gittaim, where they still live.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 4:4**ULT**

⁴ Now Jonathan, Saul's son, had a son who was crippled in his feet. He was five years old when the news about Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel. His nurse picked him up to flee. But as she was running, Jonathan's son fell and became lame. His name was Mephibosheth.

UST

⁴ Saul's son Jonathan had a son named Mephibosheth. Mephibosheth was five years old when Saul and Jonathan died in the battle. When people brought that news from Jezreel, Mephibosheth's nursemaid picked him up and ran away, but she ran very fast and she dropped him, and he became crippled in his legs.

What was the name of Saul's son who was crippled in his feet?

The name of Saul's son who was crippled in his feet was Mephibosheth.

2 Samuel 4:5**ULT**

⁵ So the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, Recab and Baanah, traveled during the heat of the day to the house of Ishbosheth, as he was resting at noon.

UST

⁵ One day, Recab and Baanah left their home to go to Ishbosheth's house. They arrived there about noontime, when Ishbosheth was taking his midday nap.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 4:6**ULT**

⁶ Behold, the woman guarding the door had fallen asleep while sifting wheat, and Recab and Baanah, his brother, walked in quietly, stabbed Ishbosheth in the stomach, and then escaped.

UST

⁶ The woman who was serving as the doorkeeper was sifting wheat; but she became sleepy and then fell asleep. So Recab and his brother Baanah were able to creep in quietly.

How did Rechab and Baanah get into the house of Ishbosheth?

Rechab and Baanah got into the house by walking in quietly and passing the sleeping woman who had been guarding the door.

2 Samuel 4:7**ULT**

⁷ So after they entered the house, they attacked him and killed him as he was lying on his bed in his room. Then they cut off his head and carried it away, traveling on the road all night to the Arabah.

UST

⁷ They entered Ishbosheth's bedroom, where he was sleeping. They killed him with their swords and cut off his head. They carried his head and walked all night through the plain along the Jordan.

What did Rechab and Baanah do once they got into Ishbosheth's house?

Once Rechab and Baanah got into Ishbosheth's house, they killed him as he was lying on his bed in his room.

2 Samuel 4:8**ULT**

⁸ They brought the head of Ishbosheth to David at Hebron, and they said to the king, "Look, this is the head of Ishbosheth son of Saul, your enemy, who sought your life. Today Yahweh has avenged our master the king against Saul and his descendants."

UST

⁸ They took the head of Ishbosheth to David at Hebron. They said to him, "Here is the head of Ishbosheth, the son of your enemy Saul, who tried to kill you. Your Majesty, today Yahweh has allowed you to get revenge on Saul and his descendants!"

Where did Rechab and Baanah go after they killed Ishbosheth and cut off his head?

Rechab and Baanah brought the head of Ishbosheth to David at Hebron.

2 Samuel 4:9**ULT**

⁹ David answered Rechab and Baanah his brother, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite; he said to them, "As Yahweh lives, who delivered my life from every trouble,

UST

⁹ But David replied to them, "Just as surely as Yahweh lives—and he is the one who has rescued me from all trouble, I will tell you this:

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 4:10**ULT**

¹⁰ when someone told me, 'Look, Saul is dead,' thinking he was bringing good news, I seized him and killed him at Ziklag. That was the reward I gave him for his news.

UST

¹⁰ When a messenger came to Ziklag and told me 'Saul is dead!' (and he thought that the news that he was bringing to me was good news), I told one of my soldiers to kill him. That was the reward I gave to him for his news!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 4:11**ULT**

¹¹ How much more, when wicked men have killed an innocent person in his own house on his bed, should I not now require his blood from your hand, and remove you from the earth?"

UST

¹¹ So because you two evil men have murdered a man who did nothing wrong—and you killed him when he was sleeping on his bed in his own house, I will do something worse to you. I will surely get revenge on you two for murdering him, and wipe you off from the earth!"

What did David say about Rechab and Baanah?

David said Rechab and Baanah were wicked men who had killed an innocent person in his own house on his own bed.

2 Samuel 4:12**ULT**

¹² Then David gave orders to the young men, and they killed them and cut off their hands and feet and hung them up beside the pool at Hebron. But they took the head of Ishbosheth and buried it in the grave of Abner in Hebron.

UST

¹² Then David gave a command to his soldiers, and they killed the two men, and cut off their hands and their feet, and hung their bodies on a pole near the pool at Hebron. But they took the head of Ishbosheth and buried it respectfully in the tomb of Abner, there at Hebron.

On David's orders, what did the young men do with Rechab and Baanah?

The young men killed Rechab and Baanah and cut off their hands and feet and hung them up beside the pool at Hebron.

What did David have done with the head of Ishbosheth?

David had the head of Ishbosheth buried in the grave of Abner in Hebron.

2 Samuel 5

2 Samuel 5:1

ULT

¹ Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, "Look, we are your flesh and bone.

UST

¹ Then the leaders of all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said to him, "Listen, we have the same ancestors that you do.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 5:2

ULT

² In the recent past, when Saul was king over us, it was you who led the Israelite army. Yahweh said to you, "You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become ruler over Israel."

UST

² In the past, when Saul was our king, it was you who led our soldiers into battle. You are the one to whom Yahweh promised, "You will be the leader of my people. You will be their king."

What did all the tribes of Israel acknowledge Yahweh had said to David?

All the tribes of Israel acknowledged Yahweh had told David, "You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become ruler over Israel."

2 Samuel 5:3

ULT

³ So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a covenant with them before Yahweh. They anointed David king over Israel.

UST

³ So while Yahweh was listening, all those leaders of the people of Israel declared there at Hebron that David would be their king. And David made an with them. They anointed him with olive oil to set him apart to be the king of the Israelites.

Who came to Hebron, made a covenant with David, and anointed him king over Israel?

All the elders of Israel came to Hebron, made a covenant with David, and anointed him king over Israel.

2 Samuel 5:4**ULT**

⁴ David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years.

UST

⁴ David was thirty years old when he became their king. He ruled them for forty years.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 5:5**ULT**

⁵ In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years over all Israel and Judah.

UST

⁵ In Hebron he had ruled over the tribe of Judah for seven and a half years, and in Jerusalem he would rule over all the people of Judah and Israel for thirty-three years.

How many years did David reign in Jerusalem over all Israel and Judah?

David reigned thirty-three years in Jerusalem over all Israel and Judah.

2 Samuel 5:6**ULT**

⁶ The king and his men went to Jerusalem against the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land. They said to David, "You will not come here except to be turned away by the blind and the lame. David cannot come here."

UST

⁶ One day King David and his soldiers went to Jerusalem to fight against the Jebus people group who lived there. The people there thought that David's army would not be able to capture the city, so they said to David, "Your army will never be able to get inside our city! Even the blind and crippled people can stop you!"

By what other names was Jerusalem called? (vv6-7)

Jerusalem was also called the stronghold of Zion and the City of David.

2 Samuel 5:7**ULT**

⁷ Nevertheless, David captured the stronghold of Zion, which now is the city of David.

UST

⁷ But David's army did indeed capture the fortress on Mount Zion; later it was known as the city of David.

From whom did David capture the stronghold of Zion?

David captured the stronghold of Zion from the Jebusites.

2 Samuel 5:8**ULT**

⁸ At that time David said, "Those who attack the Jebusites will have to go through the water shaft to reach the 'lame and the blind' who are David's enemies." That is why people say, "The 'blind and the lame' must not enter the palace."

UST

⁸ On that day, David said to his soldiers, "Those who want to get rid of the Jebus people should go through the water tunnel to enter the city. That is where my enemies are, even my enemies who are 'crippled people and blind people.'" That is why people say, "Those who are 'blind and crippled' are not allowed to go into David's palace."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 5:9**ULT**

⁹ So David lived in the stronghold and called it the city of David. He fortified around it, from the terrace toward the inside.

UST

⁹ After David and his soldiers captured the city with its strong walls around it, he lived there, and they named it the city of David. David and his soldiers built the city around the fortress, starting where the land was filled in on the east side of the hill.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 5:10**ULT**

¹⁰ David became very powerful because Yahweh, the God of hosts, was with him.

UST

¹⁰ David continued to become more and more powerful because Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, was helping him.

Why did David become greater and greater?

David became greater and greater because Yahweh, the God of hosts, was with him.

2 Samuel 5:11**ULT**

¹¹ Then Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, carpenters, and masons. They built a house for David.

UST

¹¹ One day Hiram, the king of the city of Tyre, sent ambassadors to David to talk about making an agreement between their countries. Hiram agreed to provide cedar trees to make lumber, and he also agreed that he would send carpenters and masons to build a palace for David.

What did Hiram king of Tyre send to David?

Hiram sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, carpenters, and masons.

2 Samuel 5:12**ULT**

¹² David knew that Yahweh had established him as king over Israel, and that he had exalted his kingdom for the sake of his people Israel.

UST

¹² Because Hiram did these things, David realized that Yahweh had truly appointed him to be the king of Israel. He also realized that because Yahweh loved the Israelites and chosen them to belong to himself, he had increased David's own power as king.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 5:13**ULT**

¹³ David took more concubines and wives from Jerusalem after he left Hebron, and more sons and daughters were born to him.

UST

¹³ After David moved from Hebron to Jerusalem, he took more slave women to be his wives, and he also married other women. All of those women gave birth to more sons and daughters.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 5:14**ULT**

¹⁴ These were the names of the children who were born to him in Jerusalem: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon,

UST

¹⁴ The names of his sons who were born in Jerusalem were Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon,

How many children were born to David in Jerusalem? (vv14-16)

Eleven children were born to David in Jerusalem.

2 Samuel 5:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Ibhar, Elishua, Nepheg, Japhia,

UST

¹⁵ Ibhar, Elishua, Nepheg, Japhia,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 5:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphelet.

UST

¹⁶ Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphelet.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 5:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Now when the Philistines heard that David had been anointed as king over Israel, they all went out looking for him. But David heard about it and went down to the stronghold.

UST

¹⁷ When the Philistine people heard that David had been made king of Israel, their army went up toward Jerusalem to try to capture David. But David heard that they were coming, so he went down to another fortified place.

What did the Philistines do when they heard that David had been anointed as king over Israel?

The Philistines went out looking for David when they heard he had been anointed as king over Israel.

2 Samuel 5:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Now the Philistines had come and spread out in the Valley of Rephaim.

UST

¹⁸ The army of Philistia arrived at the Valley of Rephaim southwest of Jerusalem and spread themselves out inside it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 5:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Then David asked for help from Yahweh. He said, "Should I attack the Philistines? Will you give victory over them?" Yahweh said to David, "Attack, for I will certainly give you victory over the Philistines."

UST

¹⁹ David asked Yahweh, "Should my men and I attack the Philistine army? Will you enable us to defeat them?" Yahweh replied, "Yes, attack them, because I will certainly enable your army to defeat them."

What did Yahweh tell David in response to David's question, "Should I attack the Philistines? Will you give me victory over them?"

Yahweh said to David, "Attack, for I will certainly give you victory over the Philistines."

2 Samuel 5:20**ULT**

²⁰ So David attacked at Baal Perazim, and there he defeated them. He commented, "Yahweh has burst through my enemies before me like a bursting flood of water." So the name of that place became Baal Perazim.

UST

²⁰ So David and his army went to where the Philistine army was, and there they defeated them. Then David said, "Yahweh has burst through my enemies like a flood." So that place is called Baal Perazim.

Where did David attack the Philistines and what was the outcome?

David attacked at Baal Perazim, and there he defeated the Philistines.

2 Samuel 5:21**ULT**

²¹ The Philistines left their idols there, and David and his men carried them away.

UST

²¹ The Philistine men left their idols there, and David and his soldiers took them away.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 5:22**ULT**

²² Then the Philistines came up again and spread out once more in the Valley of Rephaim.

UST

²² Then the Philistine army returned to the Valley of Rephaim and spread all over the valley once again.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 5:23**ULT**

²³ So David asked help from Yahweh again, and Yahweh said to him, "You must not attack their front, but rather circle around behind them and come on them through the balsam woods.

UST

²³ So again David asked Yahweh if his army should attack them. But Yahweh replied, "Do not attack them from here. Tell your men to go around them and attack them from the other side, near the balsam trees.

When the Philistines came up a second time, how did Yahweh tell David to attack them?

Yahweh told David not to attack the Philistine's front, but to circle behind them and come at them through the balsam woods.

2 Samuel 5:24**ULT**

²⁴ When you hear the sound of marching in the wind blowing through the balsam treetops, then attack with force. Do this because Yahweh will have gone out before you to attack the army of the Philistines."

UST

²⁴ When you hear something in the tops of the balsam trees that sounds like an army marching, attack them. Then you will know that I will have gone ahead of you to enable your army to defeat their army."

What sound did Yahweh tell David to listen for before attacking the Philistines?

Yahweh told David to attack the Philistines when he heard the sound of marching in the wind blowing through the balsam treetops.

2 Samuel 5:25**ULT**

²⁵ So David did as Yahweh had commanded him. He killed Philistines from Geba all the way to Gezer.

UST

²⁵ So David did what Yahweh told him to do, and his army defeated the Philistine army and chased it from the city of Geba all the way west to the city of Gezer.

What was David's response to Yahweh's command?

David did as Yahweh had commanded him.

What was the outcome of this battle against the Philistines?

The outcome of this battle was that David killed Philistines from Geba all the way to Gezer.

2 Samuel 6

2 Samuel 6:1

ULT

¹ Now David again gathered together all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand.

UST

¹ Then David chose thirty thousand Israelite men and gathered them together.

Why did David again gather all the chosen men of Israel? (vv1-2)

David gathered all the chosen men of Israel to bring up the ark of God.

2 Samuel 6:2

ULT

² David arose and went with all his men who were with him from Baalah in Judah to bring up from there the Box of the Covenant of God, which is called by the name of Yahweh of hosts, who sits enthroned over the cherubim.

UST

² He led them to the place in Judah formerly called Baalah, now called Kiriath Jearim. They went in order to bring the sacred chest to Jerusalem, the chest that had the name of Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, written on it, and that had the figures of the winged creatures on top of it. Between those statues was where Yahweh himself was present, though he remained unseen.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 6:3

ULT

³ They set the Box of the Covenant of God on a new cart. They brought it out of Abinadab's house, which was on a hill. Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were guiding the new cart.

UST

³ The sacred chest was in the house of Abinadab, on top of a hill. They went there, and put the chest on a new cart. Uzzah and Ahio, Abinadab's two sons, were guiding the oxen that were pulling the cart.

On what did they set the ark of God?

They set the ark of God on a new cart.

Who was guiding the new cart?

Uzzah and Ahio, Abinadab's sons, were guiding the new cart.

2 Samuel 6:4**ULT**

⁴ They brought the cart out of Abinadab's house on the hill with the Box of the Covenant of God on it. Ahio was walking in front of the ark.

UST

⁴ Uzzah walked alongside the cart, and Ahio walked in front of it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 6:5**ULT**

⁵ Then David and all the house of Israel began to play before Yahweh, celebrating with wooden instruments, harps, lyres, tambourines, rattles, and cymbals.

UST

⁵ David and all the Israelite men were celebrating in God's presence, singing with all their strength and playing wooden lyres and harps, and beating tambourines, and clashing castanets and cymbals.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 6:6**ULT**

⁶ When they came to the threshing floor of Nakon, the oxen stumbled, and Uzzah reached out with his hand to grab the Box of the Covenant of God, and he took hold of it.

UST

⁶ But when they came to the place where Nakon threshed grain, the oxen stumbled. So Uzzah put his hand on the sacred chest to steady it.

What happened when they came to the threshing floor of Nacon?

When they came to the threshing floor of Nacon, the oxen stumbled, and Uzzah reached out his hand to grab the ark of God, and he took hold of it.

2 Samuel 6:7**ULT**

⁷ Then the anger of Yahweh burned against Uzzah. God attacked him there for his error. Uzzah died there by the Box of the Covenant of God.

UST

⁷ Yahweh immediately became very angry with Uzzah, and killed him right there alongside the sacred chest, because he had touched the chest.

What did Yahweh do in response to Uzzah's action?

Yahweh got angry and he attacked Uzzah there for his sin, and Uzzah died there by the ark of God.

2 Samuel 6:8**ULT**

⁸ David was angry because Yahweh had attacked Uzzah, and he called the name of that place Perez Uzzah. That place is called Perez Uzzah to this day.

UST

⁸ But David was angry because Yahweh had punished Uzzah. So ever since that time, that place has been called Perez Uzzah.

How did David feel about what Yahweh had done to Uzzah? (vv8-9)

David was angry because Yahweh had attacked Uzzah, and David was afraid of Yahweh that day.

2 Samuel 6:9**ULT**

⁹ David was afraid of Yahweh that day. He said, "How can the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh come to me?"

UST

⁹ Then David was afraid of what else Yahweh would do to punish them, so he said, "How can I take the sacred chest with me to Jerusalem?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 6:10**ULT**

¹⁰ So David was not willing to take the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh with him into the city of David. Instead, he put it aside in the house of Obed Edom the Gittite.

UST

¹⁰ So he decided not to take the sacred chest to Jerusalem. Instead, they took it to another place, the house of Obed Edom the Gittite.

What did David do with the ark of God after Uzzah died?

David put the ark of God aside in the house of Obed Edom the Gittite.

2 Samuel 6:11**ULT**

¹¹ The Box of the Covenant of Yahweh remained in the house of Obed Edom the Gittite for three months. So Yahweh blessed him and all his household.

UST

¹¹ They left the sacred chest in the house of Obed Edom for three months, and during that time Yahweh blessed him and his family.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 6:12**ULT**

¹² Now King David was told, "Yahweh has blessed Obed Edom's house and everything that belongs to him because of the Box of the Covenant of God." So David went and brought up the Box of the Covenant of God from Obed Edom's house to the city of David with joy.

UST

¹² Some time later, people told David, "Yahweh has blessed Obed Edom and his family because he is taking care of the sacred chest!" When David heard that, he and some other men went to Obed Edom's house, and very joyfully brought the sacred chest from there to Jerusalem.

Why did David bring up the ark of God from Obed Edom's house to the city of David?

David brought up the ark of God from Obed Edom's house because David was told that Yahweh had blessed Obed Edom's house and everything that belonged to him because of the ark of God.

2 Samuel 6:13**ULT**

¹³ When those who were carrying the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh had gone six steps, he sacrificed an ox and a fattened calf.

UST

¹³ When the men who were carrying the sacred chest had walked six steps, they stopped, and there David killed a bull and a fat calf, and offered them to Yahweh as a sacrifice.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 6:14**ULT**

¹⁴ David danced before Yahweh with all his might; he was wearing only a linen ephod.

UST

¹⁴ David was wearing only a linen cloth wrapped around his waist, and was dancing very energetically to honor Yahweh.

What did David do as the ark of God was being brought up?

As the ark of God was being brought up, David, wearing only a linen ephod, danced before Yahweh with all his might.

2 Samuel 6:15**ULT**

¹⁵ So David and all the house of Israel brought up the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh with shouting and the sound of trumpets.

UST

¹⁵ David and the Israelite men took the sacred chest up to Jerusalem, shouting loudly and blowing trumpets.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 6:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Now as the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh came into the city of David, Michal, the daughter of Saul, looked out the window. She saw King David leaping and dancing before Yahweh. Then she despised him in her heart.

UST

¹⁶ While they were carrying the sacred chest into the city, his wife Michal, Saul's daughter, looked out the window of her house. She saw King David leaping and dancing to honor Yahweh. But she was disgusted with him.

What was Michal's response when she saw King David leaping and dancing before Yahweh?

When Michal saw King David leaping and dancing before Yahweh, she despised David in her heart.

2 Samuel 6:17**ULT**

¹⁷ They brought in the Box of the Covenant of Yahweh and put it in its place, in the middle of the tent that David had set up for it. Then David offered burnt offerings and fellowship offerings before Yahweh.

UST

¹⁷ They brought the sacred chest into the tent that David had erected for it. Then David gave to Yahweh offerings to be completely burned on an altar, and other offerings to promise friendship with Yahweh.

After the ark of Yahweh was set in its place, what offerings did David make to Yahweh?

David made burnt offerings and fellowship offerings to Yahweh.

2 Samuel 6:18**ULT**

¹⁸ When David had finished sacrificing the burnt offerings and the fellowship offerings, he blessed the people in the name of Yahweh of hosts.

UST

¹⁸ When David had finished offering those sacrifices, he asked Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, to bless the people.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 6:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Then he distributed among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel, both to men and women, a loaf of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins. Then all the people left; each one returned to his own house.

UST

¹⁹ He also distributed food to all the people. To each man and woman he gave a loaf of bread, some meat, and a raisin cake. Then they all returned to their homes.

What did David distribute among all the people, both men and women?

David distributed among all the people, both men and women, a loaf of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins.

2 Samuel 6:20**ULT**

²⁰ Then David returned to bless his family. Michal, the daughter of Saul, came out to meet David and said, "How honored the king of Israel was today, who undressed himself today before the eyes of the slave girls among his servants, like one of the crude fellows who shamelessly undresses himself!"

UST

²⁰ When David went home to ask Yahweh to bless his family, his wife Michal came out to meet him. She said to him, "Maybe you, the king of Israel, think that you were acting in an honorable way today, but really, you acted like a fool. You were nearly naked in front of the female servants of your officials!"

What did Michal, the daughter of Saul, say to David?

Michal said to David, "How honored the king of Israel was today, who undressed himself today before the eyes of the slave girls among his servants, like one of the crude fellows who shamelessly undresses himself!"

2 Samuel 6:21**ULT**

²¹ David responded to Michal, "I did that before Yahweh, who chose me above your father and above all his family, who appointed me leader over the people of Yahweh, over Israel. Before Yahweh I will be joyful!"

UST

²¹ David replied to Michal, "I was doing that to honor Yahweh, who chose me instead of your father and other members of his family, to be the king of the Israelite people, the people who belong to Yahweh. And I will continue to dance to honor Yahweh!"

What were David's responses to Michal's rebuke? (vv21-22)

David said he leapt and danced before Yahweh and that before Yahweh he would be joyful, and that he would be humiliated in his own eyes, but he would be honored among the slave girls.

2 Samuel 6:22**ULT**

²² I will be even more undignified than this, and I will be humiliated in my own eyes. But by these slave girls you have spoken about, I will be honored."

UST

²² Even though you think that what I did was disgraceful, I will continue to act in this way because I am willing to be made a fool in my own eyes. But the female servants whom you were talking about, they will give me honor!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 6:23**ULT**

²³ So Michal, the daughter of Saul, had no children to the day of her death.

UST

²³ As a result, Saul's daughter never gave birth to any children.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 7

2 Samuel 7:1

ULT

¹ It happened that after the king had settled in his house, and after Yahweh had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies,

UST

¹ The king began to live in his palace. By now Yahweh had caused the enemy people groups to stop attacking Israel.

What did Yahweh give David?

Yahweh gave David rest from all his surrounding enemies.

2 Samuel 7:2

ULT

² the king said to Nathan the prophet, "Look, I am living in a house of cedar, but the Box of the Covenant of God is staying in the middle of a tent."

UST

² One day David said to the prophet Nathan, "It is not right that I am here, living in a beautiful house made of cedar wood, but the chest that contains God's Ten Commandments is kept in a tent!"

What did the king say to Nathan the prophet?

The king said to Nathan the prophet, "Look, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God is staying in the middle of a tent."

2 Samuel 7:3

ULT

³ Then Nathan said to the king, "Go, do what is in your heart, for Yahweh is with you."

UST

³ Then Nathan said to the king, "Yahweh is helping you, so do about the sacred chest whatever you think is right."

What did Nathan tell David before the word of Yahweh came to Nathan? (vv3-4)

Nathan told David, "Go, do what is in your heart, for Yahweh is with you."

2 Samuel 7:4**ULT**

⁴ But that same night the word of Yahweh came to Nathan, saying:

UST

⁴ But that night, Yahweh spoke to Nathan:

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 7:5**ULT**

⁵ "Go and tell David my servant, 'This is what Yahweh says: Will you build me a house in which to live?

UST

⁵ "Go and tell my servant, David, that this is what Yahweh says to him: He is not the one who will build a temple for me to live in.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 7:6**ULT**

⁶ For I have not lived in a house from the day that I brought up the people of Israel out of Egypt until this present day; instead, I have been moving about in a tent, a tabernacle.

UST

⁶ I have not lived in any building from the day that I brought the Israelites up from Egypt until now. Instead, I have been living in my sacred tent, moving from one place to another with the people.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 7:7**ULT**

⁷ In all places where I have moved among all the people of Israel, did I ever say anything to any of Israel's leaders whom I appointed to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"

UST

⁷ Wherever I went with the Israelites as they traveled, I never said to any of the leaders whom I appointed to lead them, 'Why have you not built me a temple made of cedar wood?'

What question did Yahweh ask David about any of Israel's leaders up until that time?

Yahweh asked David if Yahweh had ever said, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" to any of Israel's leaders whom Yahweh had appointed.

2 Samuel 7:8**ULT**

⁸ Now then, tell my servant David, 'This is what Yahweh of hosts says: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, so that you would be ruler over my people Israel.'

UST

⁸ So tell my servant David that Yahweh, the commander of the angel armies, says that he took him from a pasture and from taking care of sheep, and appointed him to become the ruler of my Israelite people.

What did Yahweh say he had done for David? (vv8-9)

Yahweh said he had made David ruler over Yahweh's people Israel, had been everywhere with David, and had cut off David's enemies from before him.

2 Samuel 7:9**ULT**

⁹ I have been with you wherever you went. I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the great ones of the earth.

UST

⁹ Remind him I have been with him wherever he has gone. I have gotten rid of all his enemies who attacked him. I will make him very famous, as well known as the names of all the greatest men who have ever lived on the earth.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 7:10**ULT**

¹⁰ I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them there, so that they may live in their own place and be troubled no more. No longer will wicked people oppress them, as they did before,

UST

¹⁰⁻¹¹ Formerly, during the time that I appointed leaders for my Israelite people, many violent groups oppressed them. But this will not happen anymore. I have chosen a place where my people can live peacefully and where no one will disturb them anymore. I will make all their enemies stop attacking them. And I will defeat all their enemies. Tell David that I declare to him that I, Yahweh, will enable his descendants to rule after him.

What did Yahweh say he was going to do for Israel?

Yahweh said he would appoint a place for them and plant them there, so they might live in their own place and be troubled no more, and not be oppressed by wicked people as they were before.

2 Samuel 7:11**ULT**

¹¹ as they were doing from the days that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel. Now I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, I, Yahweh, declare to you that I will make you a house.

UST

¹⁰⁻¹¹ Formerly, during the time that I appointed leaders for my Israelite people, many violent groups oppressed them. But this will not happen anymore. I have chosen a place where my people can live peacefully and where no one will disturb them anymore. I will make all their enemies stop attacking them. And I will defeat all their enemies. Tell David that I declare to him that I, Yahweh, will enable his descendants to rule after him.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 7:12**ULT**

¹² When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up a descendant after you, one who will come out from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.

UST

¹² When he dies and is buried, I will appoint one of his own sons to be king, and I will make him to be a very powerful king.

Who did Yahweh say would build a house for him? (vv12-13)

Yahweh said he would raise up a descendant of David, out of David's body, who would build a house for Yahweh's name.

2 Samuel 7:13**ULT**

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

UST

¹³ He is the one who will arrange for a temple to be built for me. I will make his rule over Israel to last forever.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 7:14**ULT**

¹⁴ I will be a father to him, and he will be my son. When he sins, I will discipline him with the rod of men and with the whipping of the sons of men.

UST

¹⁴ I will be like a father to him, and it will be as though he is a son to me. When he does something that is wrong, I will punish him as fathers punish their sons.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 7:15**ULT**

¹⁵ But my covenant faithfulness will not leave him, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you.

UST

¹⁵ But I will never stop faithfully loving him as I stopped loving Saul, whom I removed from being king before David became king.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 7:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Your house and kingdom will be confirmed forever before you. Your throne will be established forever.”

UST

¹⁶ David’s descendants will rule the kingdom of Israel forever. Their rule will never end.”

What did Yahweh say concerning David’s house and kingdom?

Yahweh said David’s house and kingdom would be confirmed forever before David.

2 Samuel 7:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Nathan spoke to David and reported to him all these words and the entire vision.

UST

¹⁷ So Nathan told David everything that Yahweh had told him.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 7:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Then David the king went in and sat before Yahweh and said, "Who am I, Lord Yahweh, and what is my family that you have brought me to this point?"

UST

¹⁸ When David heard Nathan's message, he went into the sacred tent and sat in Yahweh's presence, and prayed this: "Yahweh, my God, I am not worthy of all the things that you have done for me, and my family is not worthy either.

After Nathan spoke to David all the words Yahweh had said and told David about the entire vision, what did David do? (vv18-20)

David went in and sat before Yahweh and spoke to him.

2 Samuel 7:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Now this was a small thing in your sight, Lord Yahweh. You have even spoken about your servant's family for a great while to come, and have shown me future generations, Lord Yahweh!

UST

¹⁹ And now, O Yahweh my God, in addition to everything else, you have spoken about what will happen to my descendants in the future for many generations.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 7:20**ULT**

²⁰ What more can I, David, say to you? You have known your servant, Lord Yahweh.

UST

²⁰ O Yahweh God, what more can I, David, say to you for honoring me? Although you know very well what I am like, Yahweh my God, you have acted toward me as though I were the most important man on the earth!

After hearing all the prophecy concerning David and his family, what did David say Yahweh had done for him?

David said the Lord Yahweh had honored his servant, David..

2 Samuel 7:21**ULT**

²¹ For your word's sake, and to fulfill your own purpose, you have done this great thing and revealed it to your servant.

UST

²¹ You have done all these great things to teach me, and you have done them just because you wanted to do them and because you decided to do them.

What did David say was the reason Yahweh had done this great thing and had revealed it to him?

David said Yahweh had done this for the sake of Yahweh's word and to fulfill Yahweh's own purpose.

2 Samuel 7:22**ULT**

²² Therefore you are great, Lord Yahweh, for there is no one like you, and there is no God besides you, as we have heard with our own ears.

UST

²² O Yahweh my God, you are great. There is no one like you. Only you are God, just as we have always heard.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 7:23**ULT**

²³ What nation is like your people Israel, the one nation on earth whom you, God, went and rescued for yourself? You did this so that they would become a people for yourself, to make a name for yourself, and to do great and fearful deeds for your land. You drove out nations and their gods from before your people, whom you rescued from Egypt.

UST

²³ And there is no other nation in the world like Israel. Israel is the only nation on the earth whose people you went out to rescue, as you rescued them from Egypt. Then you made them belong to you yourself. And for doing all these things, you are now well known throughout the world. As your people advanced through this land, you drove out other people groups who were in Canaan, along with their gods.

What did David say was the reason God went and rescued Israel?

David said Yahweh rescued Israel so they would become a people for God, to make a name for himself, and to do great and fearful deeds for Yahweh's land.

2 Samuel 7:24**ULT**

²⁴ You established Israel as your own people forever, and you, Yahweh, became their God.

UST

²⁴ You caused us Israelites to be your people forever, and you, Yahweh, have become our God!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 7:25**ULT**

²⁵ So now, Yahweh God, may the promise that you made concerning your servant and his family be established forever. Do as you have spoken.

UST

²⁵ And now, Yahweh my God, I pray that you will cause the things that you promised to me about my descendants to come true and be true forever, and that you will do the things that you said that you would do.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 7:26**ULT**

²⁶ May your name be forever great, so the people will say, 'Yahweh of hosts is the God of Israel,' while the house of me, David, your servant is established before you.

UST

²⁶ When that happens, you will become famous forever, and people will exclaim, 'Yahweh, the commander of angel armies, is the God who rules Israel.' And you will cause that there will forever be descendants of mine who will rule.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 7:27**ULT**

²⁷ For you, Yahweh of hosts, the God of Israel, have revealed to your servant that you will build him a house. That is why I, your servant, have found courage to pray to you.

UST

²⁷ Yahweh, the God whom we Israelite people worship, you have revealed to me that you will make some of my descendants kings. For that reason, I have been brave enough to pray like this to you.

How did David say he had found courage to pray to Yahweh of hosts?

David said he had found courage to pray to Yahweh of hosts because Yahweh of hosts had revealed to David that he would build David a house.

2 Samuel 7:28**ULT**

²⁸ Now, Lord Yahweh, you are God, and your words are trustworthy, and you have made this good promise to your servant.

UST

²⁸ So now, O Yahweh, because you are God, we can trust that you will do what you promise. You have promised these good things to me.

What did David consider Yahweh's word to be?

David considered Yahweh's word to be trustworthy.

2 Samuel 7:29

ULT

²⁹ Now then, let it please you to bless the house of your servant, so that it may continue forever before you. For you, Lord Yahweh, have said these things, and with your blessing your servant's house will be blessed forever."

UST

²⁹ So now I ask you that if it pleases you, you will bless my descendants, in order that they may continue to rule forever. Yahweh God, you have promised these things, so I know that if you do these things, you will keep blessing my descendants forever."

What did David want Yahweh to do?

David wanted Yahweh to do the things he had said to David and bless the house of David.

2 Samuel 8

2 Samuel 8:1

ULT

¹ After this it came about that David attacked the Philistines and defeated them. So David took Metheg Ammah from the control of the Philistines.

UST

¹ Some time later, David's army attacked the Philistine army and defeated them. They took control over the Philistine city of Gath and its surrounding villages.

What did David get by attacking the Philistines and defeating them?

David took Gath and its villages out of the Philistine's control.

2 Samuel 8:2

ULT

² Then he defeated Moab and measured their men with a line by making them lie down on the ground. He measured off two lines to put to death, and one full line to keep alive. So the Moabites became servants to David and began to pay him tribute.

UST

² David's army also defeated the army of the Moab people group. David forced their soldiers to lie down on the ground close to each other. His men killed two out of every three of them. The others of the Moab people were forced to accept David as their ruler, and they were forced to give to him every year the payment that he demanded.

After David defeated Moab, how did he decide which of the Moabite men would live and which would die?

David decided which of the Moabite men would live or die by making them lie down on the ground and measuring off two lines to put to death and one full line to keep alive.

What happened to the Moabites who were left alive?

The Moabites became servants to David and began to pay him tribute.

2 Samuel 8:3**ULT**

³ David then defeated Hadadezer son of Rehob, the king of Zobah, as Hadadezer was traveling to recover his rule by the Euphrates River.

UST

³ David's army also defeated the army of Hadadezer son of Rehob, who ruled the region of Zobah in Aram. That happened when he went try to regain power over the area at the upper part of the Euphrates River.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 8:4**ULT**

⁴ David captured from him 1700 chariots and 20000 footmen. David hamstringed all the chariot horses, but reserved enough of them for 100 chariots.

UST

⁴ David's army captured 1,700 of Hadadezer's soldiers who used chariots, and twenty thousand soldiers on foot. They also crippled all but one hundred of the horses, and they would be used to pull chariots.

What did David capture from Hadadezer the son of Rehob, king of Zobah?

David captured from him a thousand chariots, seven hundred horsemen, and twenty thousand footmen.

2 Samuel 8:5**ULT**

⁵ When the Arameans of Damascus came to help Hadadezer king of Zobah, David killed 22000 Aramean men.

UST

⁵ When the army of Aram came from the city of Damascus to help King Hadadezer's army, David's soldiers killed twenty-two thousand of them.

What did David do to the Arameans of Damascus when they came to help Hadadezer king of Zobah?

David killed twenty-two thousand Aramean men.

2 Samuel 8:6**ULT**

⁶ Then David put garrisons in Aram of Damascus, and the Arameans became servants to him and brought him tribute. Yahweh gave victory to David wherever he went.

UST

⁶ Then David stationed groups of his soldiers in their area, and the people of Aram were forced to accept David to be their ruler, and to give to David's government every year the payment of tribute money that he demanded. And Yahweh enabled David's army to win victories wherever they went.

Why was David victorious?

Yahweh gave victory to David wherever he went.

2 Samuel 8:7**ULT**

⁷ David took the golden shields that were on Hadadezer's servants and brought them to Jerusalem.

UST

⁷ King David's soldiers took the gold shields that were carried by Hadadezer's officials, and brought them to Jerusalem.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 8:8**ULT**

⁸ From Tebah and Berothai, cities of Hadadezer, King David took very much bronze.

UST

⁸ They also brought to Jerusalem much bronze that they found in Tebah and Berothai, two cities that King Hadadezer had previously ruled.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 8:9**ULT**

⁹ When Tou, king of Hamath, heard that David had defeated all the army of Hadadezer,

UST

⁹ When Tou, the king of the city of Hamath in Aram, heard that David's army had defeated the entire army of King Hadadezer,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 8:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Tou sent Hadoram his son to King David to greet him and to bless him, because David had fought against Hadadezer and defeated him, and because Hadadezer had waged war against Tou. Hadoram brought with himself objects of silver, gold, and bronze.

UST

¹⁰ he sent his son Joram to greet King David and to congratulate him about his army defeating Hadadezer's army, which Tou's army had fought many times. Joram brought to David many gifts made from gold, silver, and bronze.

What did Tou, king of Hamath do for David when he heard that David had defeated all the army of Hadadezer?

Tou sent his son, Hadoram, to David to greet and bless him, and Hadoram brought objects of silver, gold, and bronze to David.

2 Samuel 8:11**ULT**

¹¹ King David set aside these objects to Yahweh, together with the silver and gold from all the nations that he conquered—

UST

¹¹ King David dedicated all those items to Yahweh. He also dedicated the silver and gold that his army had taken from the nations that they had conquered.

What did David do with the silver and gold from the nations he had conquered?

David dedicated the silver and gold from the nations he had conquered to Yahweh.

2 Samuel 8:12**ULT**

¹² from Aram, Moab, the people of Ammon, the Philistines, and Amalek, along with all of the plundered goods of Hadadezer son of Rehob, the king of Zobah.

UST

¹² They had taken items from the people groups of Edom and Moab, from Ammon, from the Philistine, from the those who descended from Amalek, and from the people whom Hadadezer previously ruled.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 8:13**ULT**

¹³ David's name was well known when he returned from conquering the Arameans in the Valley of Salt, with their 18000 men.

UST

¹³ When David returned after defeating the armies of Aram, he became more famous because his army killed eighteen thousand soldiers from the Edom people group in the Valley of Salt near the Dead Sea.

Where did David conquer the Arameans?

David conquered the Arameans in the Valley of Salt.

2 Samuel 8:14**ULT**

¹⁴ He placed garrisons throughout all of Edom, and all the Edomites became servants to him. Yahweh gave victory to David wherever he went.

UST

¹⁴ David stationed groups of his soldiers throughout the region of Edom, and forced the people there to accept him to be their king. Yahweh enabled David's army to win battles wherever they went.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 8:15**ULT**

¹⁵ David reigned over all Israel, and he administered justice and righteousness to all his people.

UST

¹⁵ David ruled over all the Israelite people, and he always did for them what was fair and just.

What did David administer to all his people?

David administered justice and righteousness to all his people.

2 Samuel 8:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Joab son of Zeruiah was the commander of the army, and Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was recorder.

UST

¹⁶ Joab was the army commander. Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud, was the man who reported to the people everything that David decided that they should do.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 8:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Zadok son of Ahitub and Ahimelech son of Abiathar were priests, and Seraiah was scribe.

UST

¹⁷ Zadok son of Ahitub and Ahimelech son of Abiathar were the priests. Seraiah was the official secretary;

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 8:18

ULT

¹⁸ Benaiah son of Jehoiada was in charge of the Kerethites and Pelethites, and David's sons were the chief officials at the king's hand. ^[1]

8:18 ^[1]; but the MT has, .

UST

¹⁸ Benaiah son of Jehoiada was the commander of David's bodyguards, and David's sons were his advisors.

Who were king David's leading advisors?

King David's sons were the king's leading advisors.

2 Samuel 9

2 Samuel 9:1

ULT

¹ David said, "Is there anyone left in Saul's family to whom I may show kindness for Jonathan's sake?"

UST

¹ One day David asked some of his servants, "Is there anyone who is a descendant of Saul to whom I can act kindly?" He asked this because he had loved Jonathan.

Why did David want to show kindness to anyone left in Saul's family?

David wanted to show kindness to anyone left in Saul's family for Jonathan's sake.

2 Samuel 9:2

ULT

² There was in Saul's family a servant whose name was Ziba, and they called him to David. The king said to him, "Are you Ziba?" He replied, "Yes. I am your servant."

UST

² They told him that there was in Jerusalem a man named Ziba who had been a servant of Saul's family. So David sent messengers to summon Ziba. When he arrived, the king asked him, "Are you Ziba?" He replied, "Yes, your Majesty, I am."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 9:3

ULT

³ So the king said, "Is there anyone left of Saul's family to whom I may show the kindness of God?" Ziba replied to the king, "Jonathan still has a son, who is lame in his feet."

UST

³ The king asked him, "Is there anyone in Saul's family to whom I can act kindly, as I promised God that I would do?" Ziba replied, "Yes, there is one son of Jonathan who is still alive. His feet are crippled."

How did Ziba answer the king when he was asked if there was anyone left in Saul's family to whom the king could show the kindness of God?

Ziba replied to the king, "Jonathan still has a son, who is lame in his feet."

2 Samuel 9:4**ULT**

⁴ The king said to him, "Where is he?" Ziba replied to the king, "Look, he is in the house of Machir son of Ammiel in Lo Debar."

UST

⁴ The king asked him, "Where is he?" Ziba replied, "He is living in the house of Machir son of Ammiel, in the city of Lo Debar east of the Jordan River."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 9:5**ULT**

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

UST

⁵ So King David sent messengers to bring Mephibosheth to Jerusalem.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 9:6**ULT**

⁶ So Mephibosheth son of Jonathan son of Saul, came to David and bowed down his face to the floor in honor of David. David said, "Mephibosheth." He answered, "See, I am your servant!"

UST

⁶ When Mephibosheth came to David, he knelt down with his face on the ground, to show respect. Then David said, "Mephibosheth!" He replied, "Yes, your Majesty, how may I serve you?"

Who was left in Saul's family?

Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, was left.

2 Samuel 9:7**ULT**

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

UST

⁷ David said to him, "Do not be afraid. I will be kind to you because Jonathan your father was my friend. I will give back to you all the land that belonged to your grandfather Saul. And I want you to always eat with me in my house."

What kindness did David show Mephibosheth for Jonathan's sake?

David restored to Mephibosheth all the land of Saul, his grandfather, and David had Mephibosheth eat at his table.

2 Samuel 9:8**ULT**

⁸ Mephibosheth bowed and said, "What is your servant, that you should look on such a dead dog as I am?"

UST

⁸ Mephibosheth bowed in front of David again and said, "Sir, I am as worthless as a dead dog. I do not deserve that you act kindly toward me!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 9:9**ULT**

⁹ Then the king called to Ziba, Saul's servant, and said to him, "All that belonged to Saul and his family I have given to your master's grandson.

UST

⁹ Then the king summoned Saul's servant Ziba and said to him, "Saul was your master, and now I am giving to Mephibosheth everything that belonged to Saul and his family.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 9:10**ULT**

¹⁰ You, your sons, and your servants must till the land for him and you must harvest the crops so that your master's grandson will have food to eat. For Mephibosheth, your master's grandson, must always eat at my table." Now Ziba had 15 sons and 20 servants.

UST

¹⁰ You and your fifteen sons and your twenty servants must plow the land for Mephibosheth's family and plant crops and harvest them, in order that they will have food to eat. But Mephibosheth will eat with me at my house."

What did David tell Ziba to do for Mephibosheth?

David told Ziba for him, his sons and his servants, to plow Mephibosheth's land for him and harvest the crops for him.

2 Samuel 9:11**ULT**

¹¹ Then Ziba said to the king, "Your servant will do all that my master the king commands his servant." The king added, "As for Mephibosheth he will eat at my table, as one of the king's sons."

UST

¹¹ Ziba replied to the king, "Your Majesty, I will do everything that you have commanded me to do." So after that, Mephibosheth always ate at the king's table, as though he were one of the king's sons.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 9:12**ULT**

¹² Mephibosheth had a young son whose name was Mika. All who lived in the house of Ziba were servants of Mephibosheth.

UST

¹² Mephibosheth had a young son named Mika. All of Ziba's family became servants of Mephibosheth.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 9:13

ULT

¹³ So Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, and he always ate at the king's table, though he was lame in both his feet.

UST

¹³ So Mephibosheth, who was still crippled in both of his feet, started to live in Jerusalem, and he always ate at the king's table.

Where did Mephibosheth live after David showed kindness to him?

Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem.

What physical problem did Mephibosheth have?

Mephibosheth was lame in both feet.

2 Samuel 10

2 Samuel 10:1

ULT

¹ It came about later that the king of the people of Ammon died, and that Hanun his son became king in his place.

UST

¹ Some time later, Nahash, the king of the Ammon people group, died; then his son Hanun became their king.

Who became king of the people of Ammon after the former king died?

Hanun the son of the former king became the new king of Ammon.

2 Samuel 10:2

ULT

² David said, "I will show kindness to Hanun son of Nahash, as his father showed kindness to me." So David sent his servants to comfort Hanun concerning his father. His servants entered the land of the people of Ammon.

UST

² David thought to himself, "Nahash was kind to me, so I will be kind to his son." So David sent some officials there, to tell Hanun that David was sorry that Hanun's father had died. When those messengers arrived in the land of Ammon,

What did David do to show kindness to Hanun?

David showed kindness to Hanun by sending his servants to Hanun to comfort Hanun concerning his father.

2 Samuel 10:3**ULT**

³ But the leaders of the people of Ammon said to Hanun their master, "Do you really think that David is honoring your father because he has sent men to comfort you? Has not David sent his servants to you to look at the city, to spy it out, in order to overthrow it?"

UST

³ the Ammonite leaders said to Hanun, "Do you think that it is to honor your father that David has sent these men to say that he is sorry that you father died? We think that he has sent them here to look around the city to determine how his army can conquer us!"

Briefly, what did the leaders of the people of Ammon say concerning David's show of kindness to Hanun?

The leaders of the people of Ammon told Hanun that David sent his servants to spy out the city in order to overthrow it.

2 Samuel 10:4**ULT**

⁴ So Hanun took David's servants, shaved off half their beards, cut off their garments up to their buttocks, and sent them away.

UST

⁴ Hanun believed what they said. So he commanded some soldiers to seize David's officials and insult them by shaving off one side of their beards, and by cutting off the lower part of their robes, with the result that their buttocks could be seen, and then they sent them away.

What did Hanun do to the servants David had sent to Hanun?

Hanun took David's servants, shaved off half their beards, cut off their garments to the waist, up to their buttocks, and sent them away.

2 Samuel 10:5**ULT**

⁵ When they explained this to David, he sent to meet with them, for the men were deeply ashamed. The king said, "Stay at Jericho until your beards have grown back, and then return."

UST

⁵ The men were very humiliated, so they did not want to return home. When David found out about what had happened to his officials, he sent someone to tell them, "Stay at Jericho until your beards have grown again, and then return home."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 10:6**ULT**

⁶ When the people of Ammon saw that they had become a stench to David, the people of Ammon sent messengers and hired the Arameans of Beth Rehob and Zobah, 20000 foot soldiers, and the king of Maacah with 1000 men, and the men of Tob with 12000 men.

UST

⁶ Then the Ammonite leaders realized that they had greatly insulted David. So they sent some men to hire some soldiers from other nearby areas to help defend them. They hired twenty thousand soldiers from the regions of Beth Rehob and Zobah northeast of Israel, and twelve thousand soldiers from the region of Tob, and one thousand soldiers from the army of the king of the region of Maacah.

Why did the people of Ammon hire twenty thousand Aramean foot soldiers, the king of Maacah with a thousand men, and the men of Tob with twelve thousand men?

The people of Ammon hired all these soldiers when the people of Ammon saw they had become a stench to David.

Where did the Ammonites and the hired soldiers position themselves? (vv6-8)

The Ammonites positioned themselves at the entrance to their city gate, while the Arameans of Zobah and of Rehob, and the men of Tob and Maacah, stood by themselves in the open fields.

2 Samuel 10:7**ULT**

⁷ When David heard of it, he sent Joab and all the army of soldiers.

UST

⁷ When David heard about that, he sent Joab with all of the Israelite army to fight against them.

What did David do when he heard that the people of Ammon had hired thousands of soldiers?

When David heard of it, he sent Joab and all the army of soldiers.

2 Samuel 10:8**ULT**

⁸ The Ammonites came out and formed a line of battle at the entrance to their city gate, while the Arameans of Zobah and of Rehob, and the men of Tob and Maacah, stood by themselves in the open fields.

UST

⁸ The Ammonite soldiers came outside their city gate and stood in a line ready for battle. At the same time, the foreign soldiers whom their king had hired grouped themselves in the open fields nearby.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 10:9**ULT**

⁹ When Joab saw the battle lines facing him both in front and behind, he chose some of Israel's best fighters and arranged them against the Arameans.

UST

⁹ Joab saw that there were enemy soldiers in front of his troops and behind his troops. So he chose some of the best Israelite soldiers, and put them in positions to fight against the soldiers in the fields.

What did Joab do to prepare for the battle? (vv9-10)

Joab prepared for battle by arranging some of Israel's best fighters against the Arameans and putting Abishai his brother in charge of the rest of the army who were put in battle lines against the army of Ammon.

2 Samuel 10:10**ULT**

¹⁰ The rest of his people he put into the hand of Abishai his brother, and he arranged them against the sons of Ammon.

UST

¹⁰ He told his brother Abishai to command the other soldiers, those who were facing the Ammonite soldiers in front of their city gate.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 10:11**ULT**

¹¹ Joab said, "If the Arameans are too strong for me, then you, Abishai, must rescue me. But if the sons of Ammon are too strong for you, then I will come and rescue you.

UST

¹¹ Then Joab said, "If the soldiers from Aram are too strong for us to defeat them, your men must come and help us. But if the Ammonite soldiers are too strong for you, we will come and help your men.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 10:12**ULT**

¹² Be strong, and let us show ourselves to be strong for our people and for the cities of our God, for Yahweh will do what is good for his purpose.”

UST

¹² We must be strong and fight hard to defend our people and the cities that belong to our God. I will pray that Yahweh do what he considers to be good.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 10:13**ULT**

¹³ So Joab and the soldiers of his army advanced to the battle against the Arameans, who were forced to flee before the army of Israel.

UST

¹³ So Joab and his army advanced to attack the army of Aram, and the Aramites ran away from them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 10:14**ULT**

¹⁴ When the sons of Ammon saw that the Arameans had fled, they also fled from Abishai and went back into the city. Then Joab returned from the people of Ammon and went back to Jerusalem.

UST

¹⁴ When the Ammonites saw that the Aramites were running away, they also started to run away from Abishai and his men; they retreated back inside the city. Then Joab and his army left that place and went back to Jerusalem.

What did the army of Ammon do when they saw that the Arameans had fled from Joab and the soldiers of his army?

When the army of Ammon saw that the Arameans had fled, they also fled from Abishai and went back into the city.

2 Samuel 10:15**ULT**

¹⁵ When the Arameans saw that they were being defeated by Israel, they gathered themselves together again.

UST

¹⁵ After the leaders of the army of Aram saw that the Israelite army had defeated them, they gathered all their troops together.

What did the Arameans do when they saw they were being defeated by Israel? (vv15-16)

The Arameans gathered themselves together again and Hadarezer sent for Aramean troops from beyond the Euphrates River.

2 Samuel 10:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Then Hadarezer sent for Aramean troops from beyond the Euphrates River. They came to Helam, and Shobak, the commander of Hadarezer's army, went before them.

UST

¹⁶ Their king, Hadadezer, summoned the soldiers of Aram who lived on the east side of the Euphrates River. They gathered at the city of Helam. Their commander was Shobak.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 10:17**ULT**

¹⁷ When David was told this, he gathered all Israel together, crossed the Jordan, and arrived at Helam. The Arameans arranged themselves in battle lines against David and fought him.

UST

¹⁷ When David heard about that, he gathered all the Israelite soldiers, and they crossed the Jordan River and marched to Helam. There the army of Aram took their positions, and the battle started.

What did David do when he heard that the Arameans had gathered together again and had sent for and received fresh Aramean troops from beyond the Euphrates River?

When David heard that news, he gathered all Israel together, crossed the Jordan, and arrived at Helam to fight the Arameans.

2 Samuel 10:18**ULT**

18 The Arameans fled from Israel, and David killed 700 of their men in chariots and 40000 horsemen. Shobak the commander of their army was wounded and died there.

UST

18 But the Aramites ran away from the Israelite soldiers. David and his army killed seven hundred of their chariot soldiers and forty thousand other soldiers. They also wounded Shobak, their commander, and he died there.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 10:19**ULT**

19 When all the kings who were servants of Hadarezer saw that they were defeated by Israel, they made peace with Israel and became their subjects. So the Arameans were afraid to help the people of Ammon anymore.

UST

19 When all the kings whom Hadadezer ruled realized that Israel had defeated them, they made peace with the Israelites and agreed to accept David as their king. So the Arameans were unwilling to help the Ammonites any longer, because they were afraid of Israel.

What did all the kings who were servants of Hadarezer do when they saw they were defeated by Israel?

The kings who were servants of Hadarezer made peace with Israel and became their subjects.

2 Samuel 11

2 Samuel 11:1

ULT

¹ It came about in the springtime, at the time when kings normally go to war, that David sent out Joab, his servants, and all the army of Israel. They destroyed the sons of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. But David stayed in Jerusalem.

UST

¹ In that region, kings usually went with their armies to fight their enemies in the springtime. But the following year, in the springtime, David did not do that. Instead, he stayed in Jerusalem, and he sent his commander Joab to lead the army. So Joab went with the other officers and the rest of the Israelite army. They crossed the Jordan River and defeated the army of the Ammon people group. Then they surrounded their capital city, Rabbah.

When did kings normally go off to war?

Kings normally went off to war in the springtime.

Where was King David on this particular spring?

King David had stayed in Jerusalem.

2 Samuel 11:2

ULT

² So it came about one evening that David got up from his bed and walked on the roof of his palace. From there he saw a woman who was bathing, and the woman was very beautiful to look at.

UST

² Late one afternoon, after David woke up from a short sleep, he walked around the flat roof of his palace. He saw a woman who was bathing in the courtyard of her house. The woman was very beautiful.

Who did David see one evening when he got up from his bed and walked on the roof of his palace? (vv2-3)

David saw a woman bathing and her name was Bathsheba.

2 Samuel 11:3**ULT**

³ So David sent and he inquired about the woman. Someone said, "Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, and is she not the wife of Uriah the Hittite?"

UST

³ David sent a messenger to find out who she was. The messenger returned and said, "She is Bathsheba. She is the daughter of Eliam, and her husband is Uriah, from the Heth people group."

Who was Bathsheba's husband?

Bathsheba's husband was Uriah the Hittite.

2 Samuel 11:4**ULT**

⁴ David sent messengers and took her; she came in to him, and he lay with her (for she had just purified herself from menstruation). Then she returned to her house.

UST

⁴ Then David sent more messengers to get her. They brought her to David, and he slept with her. (She had just finished performing the rituals to make herself pure after her menstrual period.) Then Bathsheba went back home.

What did David do with Bathsheba? (vv4-5)

David slept with Bathsheba and got her pregnant.

2 Samuel 11:5**ULT**

⁵ The woman conceived, and she sent and told David; she said, "I am pregnant."

UST

⁵ After some time, she realized that she was pregnant. So she sent a messenger to tell David this news.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 11:6**ULT**

⁶ Then David sent to Joab saying, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." So Joab sent Uriah to David.

UST

⁶ Then David sent a message to Joab. He said, "Send Uriah, from the Heth people group, to me." So Joab did that. He sent Uriah to David.

After David found out Bathsheba was pregnant, what did he do?

When David found out that Bathsheba was pregnant he told Joab to send Uriah the Hittite to him.

2 Samuel 11:7**ULT**

⁷ When Uriah arrived, David asked him how Joab was, how the army was doing, and how the war was going.

UST

⁷ When he arrived, David asked if Joab was well, if other soldiers were well, and how the war was progressing.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 11:8**ULT**

⁸ David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." So Uriah left the king's palace, and the king sent a gift for Uriah after he left.

UST

⁸ Then David, hoping that Uriah would go home and sleep with his wife, said to Uriah, "Now go home and relax for a while." So Uriah left, and David gave someone a gift to take to Uriah's house.

When Uriah came to David, what did David try to get Uriah to do?

David tried to get Uriah to go down to Uriah's house and wash his feet.

2 Samuel 11:9**ULT**

⁹ But Uriah slept at the door of the king's palace with all the servants of his master, and he did not go down to his house.

UST

⁹ But Uriah did not go home. Instead, he slept at the palace entrance with the palace guards.

What did Uriah do after David told him to go down to Uriah's house?

Uriah did not go down to his house, but instead slept at the door of the king's palace with all the servants of his master.

2 Samuel 11:10**ULT**

¹⁰ When they told David, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "Have you not come from a journey? Why did you not go down to your house?"

UST

¹⁰ When someone told David that Uriah did not go to his house that night, David summoned him again and said to him, "Why did you not go home to be with your wife last night, after having been away for a long time?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 11:11**ULT**

¹¹ Uriah answered David, "The Box, and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, and my master Joab and my master's servants are camped in an open field. How then can I go into my house to eat and to drink and to lie with my wife? As sure as you are alive, I will not do this."

UST

¹¹ Uriah replied, "The soldiers of Judah and Israel are camping in the open fields, and even our commander Joab is sleeping in a tent, and the sacred chest is with them. I could not possibly go home, eat and drink, and sleep with my wife. I solemnly declare that I will never do such a thing!"

How did Uriah answer David when David asked him, "Why did you not go down to your house?"

Uriah said he would not go to his house to eat and drink and sleep with his wife while the ark, and Israel, and Judah were staying in tents, and Joab and Joab's servants were camped in an open field.

2 Samuel 11:12**ULT**

¹² So David said to Uriah, "Stay here today also, and tomorrow I will let you leave." So Uriah stayed in Jerusalem that day and the next day.

UST

¹² Then David said to Uriah, "Stay here today. I will let you return to the battle tomorrow." So Uriah stayed in Jerusalem that day and that night.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 11:13**ULT**

¹³ When David called him, he ate and drank before him, and David made him drunk. At evening Uriah went out to sleep on his bed with the servants of his master; he did not go down to his house.

UST

¹³ The next day, David invited him to a meal. So Uriah had a meal with David, and David made him drink a lot of wine so that he would get drunk, hoping that if he was drunk, he would sleep with his wife. But that night, Uriah again did not go home. Instead, he slept on a cot with the king's servants.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 11:14**ULT**

¹⁴ So in the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah.

UST

¹⁴ Someone reported that to David, so the next morning he wrote a letter to Joab, and gave it to Uriah to take to Joab.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 11:15**ULT**

¹⁵ David wrote in the letter saying, "Set Uriah at the very front of the most intense battle, and then withdraw from him, that he may be hit and killed."

UST

¹⁵ In the letter, he wrote, "Put Uriah in the front line, where the fighting is the worst. Then command the soldiers to pull back from him, in order that our enemies will kill him."

David sent a note back to Joab by the hand of Uriah. What did the note say?

The note said, "Set Uriah at the very front of the most intense battle, and then withdraw from him, that he may be hit and killed."

2 Samuel 11:16**ULT**

¹⁶ So as Joab watched the siege upon the city, he assigned Uriah to the place where he knew the strongest enemy soldiers would be fighting.

UST

¹⁶ So after Joab got the letter, as his army was surrounding the city, he sent Uriah to a place where he knew that their enemies' strongest and best soldiers would be fighting.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 11:17**ULT**

¹⁷ When the men of the city went out and fought against Joab's army, some of the soldiers of David fell, and Uriah the Hittite was also killed there.

UST

¹⁷ The men from the city came out and fought with Joab's soldiers. They killed some of David's officers, including Uriah.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 11:18**ULT**

¹⁸ When Joab sent word to David about everything concerning the war,

UST

¹⁸ Then Joab sent a messenger to David to tell him about the fighting.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 11:19**ULT**

¹⁹ he commanded the messenger, saying, "When you have finished telling all the things concerning the war to the king,

UST

¹⁹ He said to the messenger, "Tell David the news about the battle. After you finish telling that to him,

What did Joab tell his messenger might happen when the messenger brought news concerning the war to David? (vv19-20)

Joab told his messenger that David might become angry after the messenger brought news concerning the war to David.

2 Samuel 11:20**ULT**

²⁰ it may happen that the king will become angry, and he will say to you, 'Why did you go so near to the city to fight? Did you not know that they would shoot from the wall?

UST

²⁰ if David is angry because so many officers were killed, he may ask you, 'Why did your soldiers go so close to the city to fight? Did you not know that they would shoot arrows at you from the top of the city wall?

What news did Joab think David might be angry about concerning the war?

Joab thought David might get angry about the fact that the army went so near to the wall of the city to fight..

2 Samuel 11:21**ULT**

²¹ Who killed Abimelech son of Jerub-Besheth? Did not a woman cast an upper millstone on him from the wall, so that he died at Thebez? Why did you go so near the wall? Then you must answer, 'Your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.'

UST

²¹ Do you not remember how Abimelech son of Gideon was killed? A woman who lived in Thebez threw a huge millstone on him from the top of a tower, and he died. So why did our troops go near to the city wall? If the king asks this, then tell him, 'Your officer Uriah also was killed.'

What did Joab tell the messenger to tell David if David got angry about the news concerning the war?

Joab told the messenger that if David got angry to answer David, "Your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also."

2 Samuel 11:22**ULT**

²² So the messenger left and went to David and told him everything that Joab had sent him to say.

UST

²² So the messenger went and told David everything that Joab told him to say.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 11:23**ULT**

²³ Then the messenger said to David, "The enemy were stronger than we were at first; they came out to us into the field, but we drove them back to the entrance of the gate.

UST

²³ The messenger said to David, "Our enemies were very brave, and came out of the city to fight us in the fields. They were driving us back at first, but then we forced them back to the city gate.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 11:24**ULT**

²⁴ Then their shooters shot at your soldiers from off the wall, and some of the king's servants were killed, and your servant Uriah the Hittite was killed, too."

UST

²⁴ Then their archers shot arrows at us from the top of the city wall. They killed some of your officers. They killed your officer Uriah, too."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 11:25**ULT**

²⁵ Then David said to the messenger, "Say this to Joab, 'Do not let this displease you, for the sword devours one as well as another. Make your battle even stronger against the city, and overthrow it,' and encourage him."

UST

²⁵ David said to the messenger, "Go back to Joab and say to him, 'Do not worry about what happened, because no one ever knows who will die in battle.' Tell him that the next time, his troops should attack the city more strongly and capture it. Encourage Joab in this way."

What did David tell the messenger to tell Joab to do?

David told the messenger to tell Joab to make his battle even stronger against the city and overthrow it.

2 Samuel 11:26**ULT**

²⁶ So when the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she lamented deeply for her husband.

UST

²⁶ When Uriah's wife Bathsheba heard that her husband had died, she mourned for him.

What did the wife of Uriah do when she heard that her husband was dead?

When she heard her husband was dead, she lamented deeply for her husband.

2 Samuel 11:27

ULT

²⁷ When her sorrow passed, David sent and took her home to his palace, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But what David had done displeased Yahweh.

UST

²⁷ When her time of mourning was over, David sent messengers to bring her to the palace. In this way she became David's wife. She later gave birth to a son. But Yahweh was very displeased with what David had done.

What happened to Bathsheba?

After her sorrow had passed, David took her home to his palace, and she became his wife and bore him a son.

Who was displeased with what David had done?

Yahweh was displeased with what David had done.

2 Samuel 12

2 Samuel 12:1

ULT

¹ Then Yahweh sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said, "There were once two men in a city. One man was rich and the other poor.

UST

¹ Yahweh told the prophet Nathan what David had done, and he sent Nathan to tell this story to David, "Once there were two men in a certain city. One man was rich and the other was poor.

Why did Nathan go to David?

Nathan went to David because Yahweh sent Nathan to him.

2 Samuel 12:2

ULT

² The rich man had huge numbers of flocks and herds,

UST

² The rich man owned a lot of cattle and sheep.

Nathan told David a story. What was the story about? (vv2-3)

The story Nathan told David was about a rich man who had many flocks and herds, and a poor man who had only one ewe lamb that was like a daughter to him.

2 Samuel 12:3

ULT

³ but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and fed and raised. It grew up together with him and with his children. The lamb even ate with him and drank from his own cup, and it slept in his arms and was like a daughter to him.

UST

³ But the poor man had only one little female lamb, which he had bought. He raised the lamb, and it grew up with his own children. He would give the lamb some of his own food and let it drink from his cup. He let the lamb sleep as he held it next to himself. The lamb was like a daughter to him.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 12:4**ULT**

⁴ One day a visitor came to the rich man, but the rich man was unwilling to take an animal from his own flocks and herds to provide food for the traveler. Instead he took the poor man's ewe lamb and cooked it for his visitor."

UST

⁴ One day a visitor came to see the rich man. The rich man did not want to take one of his own animals and kill it to prepare a meal for his guest. So instead, he sent men to take the poor man's lamb; then he had someone kill it and prepare a meal with it for his guest."

What did the rich man do to the poor man and his ewe lamb?

When a visitor came to the rich man, the rich man took the poor man's ewe lamb and cooked it for his visitor.

2 Samuel 12:5**ULT**

⁵ David was hot with anger against the rich man, and he raged to Nathan, "As Yahweh lives, the man who has done this deserves to be put to death.

UST

⁵ When David heard that, he was very angry. He said to Nathan, "I solemnly declare that the man who did that should be executed!

What was David's reaction upon hearing Nathan's story about the rich man and the poor man?

David was hot with anger against the rich man and said the rich man deserved to be put to death.

2 Samuel 12:6**ULT**

⁶ He must pay back the lamb four times over because he did such a thing, and because he had no pity."

UST

⁶ He should at least pay back to the poor man four lambs for doing this, and for not having pity on the poor man."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 12:7**ULT**

⁷ Then Nathan said to David, "You are that man! Yahweh, the God of Israel, says, 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you out of the hand of Saul.'

UST

⁷ Nathan said to David, "You are the man I have been talking about! And this is what Yahweh, the God whom we Israelites worship, says to you: 'I rescued you from Saul, and I made you king of Israel.'

What did Nathan tell David after David responded in anger to the rich man in Nathan's story?

Nathan told David, "You are that man!"

2 Samuel 12:8**ULT**

⁸ I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your arms. I also gave you the house of Israel and Judah. But if that had been too little, I would have given you many other things in addition.

UST

⁸ I gave you his palace; I let you hold his wives next to you. I made you king over Israel and Judah. If you had told me that you were not content with what I gave you, I would have given you much more!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 12:9**ULT**

⁹ So why have you despised the commands of Yahweh, so as to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your own wife. You killed him with the sword of the army of Ammon.

UST

⁹ So why have you rejected what I have commanded, when I said that my people must not commit adultery? You have done what I consider to be very evil! You have arranged for Uriah to die in battle with the Ammonites, and you have taken his wife to be your wife!

What did Yahweh say David had done?

Yahweh said David had killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword of the army of Ammon and had taken Uriah's wife to be his wife.

2 Samuel 12:10**ULT**

¹⁰ So now the sword will never leave your house, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite as your wife.'

UST

¹⁰ You have rejected me, because you took Uriah's wife to be your wife. So some of your descendants will always die in battle.

What did Yahweh say he was going to do because David had despised Yahweh and taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite as his wife? (vv10-11)

Yahweh told David the sword would never leave his house, that Yahweh would raise up disaster against David out of his own house, that his neighbor would sleep with David's wives in broad daylight, and that the child who would be born to David would surely die.

2 Samuel 12:11**ULT**

¹¹ Yahweh says, 'Look, I will raise up disaster against you out of your own house. Before your own eyes, I will take your wives and give them to your neighbor, and he will lie with your wives in broad daylight.

UST

¹¹ I solemnly declare to you that I will cause someone from your own family to bring disaster to you. I will take your wives and give them to that person, and he will sleep with them in the daytime, where everyone can see it, and you will know all about it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 12:12**ULT**

¹² For you committed your sin secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, in the sunlight.'"

UST

¹² What you did, you did secretly, but what I cause to happen, everyone in Israel will be able to see it or know about it.'"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 12:13**ULT**

¹³ Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against Yahweh." Nathan replied to David, "Yahweh also has passed over your sin. You will not be killed."

UST

¹³ David replied, "I have sinned against Yahweh." Nathan said to David, "Yahweh has overlooked your sin. You will not die because of this sin."

What did Nathan say would not happen to David after he said, "I have sinned against Yahweh."?

Nathan told David, "Yahweh also has passed over your sin. You will not be killed."

2 Samuel 12:14**ULT**

¹⁴ However, because by this act you have despised Yahweh, the child who is born to you will surely die."

UST

¹⁴ But you have shown contempt for Yahweh by doing this. So your baby will die."

What did Yahweh say he was going to do because David had despised Yahweh and taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite as his wife?

Yahweh told David the sword would never leave his house, that Yahweh would raise up disaster against David out of his own house, that his neighbor would sleep with David's wives in broad daylight, and that the child who would be born to David would surely die.

2 Samuel 12:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Then Nathan left and went home. Yahweh attacked the child that Uriah's wife bore to David, and he was very sick.

UST

¹⁵ Then Nathan went home. Then Yahweh caused the baby, the one that Uriah's wife had given birth to, to become very sick.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 12:16**ULT**

¹⁶ David then implored God for the boy. David fasted and went inside and lay all night on the floor.

UST

¹⁶ So David prayed to God that the child would not die. He fasted, and he went into his room and lay all night on the floor.

What did David do when the child that Uriah's wife bore to David was very sick? (vv16-17)

David implored God for the boy and David fasted and went inside and lay all night on the floor.

2 Samuel 12:17**ULT**

¹⁷ The elders of his house arose and stood beside him, to raise him up from the floor, but he would not get up, and he would not eat with them.

UST

¹⁷ The next morning his most important servants stood around him and tried to urge him to get up. But he would not get up, and he would not eat with them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 12:18**ULT**

¹⁸ It came about on the seventh day that the child died. David's servants were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, for they said, "Look, while the child was still alive we spoke to him, and he did not listen to our voice. What might he do to himself if we tell him that the boy is dead?!"

UST

¹⁸ One week later the baby died. David's servants were afraid to tell that to David. They said to each other, "While the baby was still alive, we talked to him, but he would not answer us. Now, if we tell him that the baby is dead, he may do something to harm himself!"

When did the child that Uriah's wife bore to David die?

The child died on the seventh day.

2 Samuel 12:19**ULT**

¹⁹ But when David saw that his servants were whispering together, David perceived that the child was dead. He said to his servants, "Is the child dead?" They answered, "He is dead."

UST

¹⁹ But when David saw that his servants were whispering something to each other, he realized that the baby must be dead. So he asked them, "Is the baby dead?" They replied, "Yes, he is dead."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 12:20**ULT**

²⁰ Then David arose from the floor and washed himself, anointed himself, and changed his clothes. He went to the tabernacle of Yahweh and worshiped there, and then he came back to his own palace. When he asked for it, they set food before him, and he ate.

UST

²⁰ Then David got up from the floor. He bathed himself, put lotions on his body, and put on other clothes. Then he went into Yahweh's sacred tent and worshiped him. Then he went home. He requested his servants bring some food. They gave him some, and he ate it.

What did David do once he knew the child was dead?

Once David knew the child was dead, he arose from the floor, washed himself, anointed himself, and changed clothes.

2 Samuel 12:21**ULT**

²¹ Then his servants said to him, "Why have you done this? You fasted and wept for the child while he was alive, but when the child died, you got up and ate."

UST

²¹ Then his servants said to him, "We do not understand why you have done this! While the baby was still alive, you cried for him and refused to eat anything. But now that the baby has died, you are not crying anymore. You got up and ate some food!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 12:22**ULT**

²² David answered, "While the child was still alive I fasted and wept. I said, 'Who knows whether or not Yahweh will be gracious to me, that the child may live?'"

UST

²² He replied, "While the baby was still alive I fasted and cried. I thought, 'Perhaps Yahweh will act mercifully toward me and not allow the baby to die.'"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 12:23**ULT**

²³ But now he is dead, so why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me."

UST

²³ But now the baby is dead. So there is no reason for me to fast anymore. I cannot bring him back to myself. Some day I will go to where he is, but he will not return to me."

What was David's reason for not fasting after the child had died?

David reasoned that after the child died there was no reason to fast since he could not bring the child back again.

2 Samuel 12:24**ULT**

²⁴ David comforted Bathsheba his wife, and went in to her and lay with her. Later she gave birth to a son, and the child was named Solomon. Yahweh loved him

UST

²⁴ Then David comforted his wife, Bathsheba. Then he slept with her, and she became pregnant again and gave birth to another son. David named that boy Solomon. Yahweh loved this little boy.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 12:25**ULT**

²⁵ and he sent word through Nathan the prophet to name him Jedidiah, because Yahweh loved him.

UST

²⁵ He told the prophet Nathan to tell David to name the baby boy Jedidiah, because Yahweh loved him.

Why did Yahweh send word through Nathan the prophet to name Bathsheba's and David's next son Jedidiah?

Yahweh said to name him Jedidiah because Yahweh loved him.

2 Samuel 12:26**ULT**

²⁶ Now Joab fought against Rabbah of the Ammonites, and he captured the royal city.

UST

²⁶ Meanwhile, Joab's soldiers attacked Rabbah, the capital city of the Ammon people group. They captured the king's fortress, which protected the water supply.

At this time, against whom was Joab fighting?

Joab fought against Rabbah, the royal city of the people of Ammon.

2 Samuel 12:27**ULT**

²⁷ So Joab sent messengers to David and said, "I have fought against Rabbah, and I have taken the city's water supply.

UST

²⁷ Then Joab sent messengers to David to tell him this, "My troops are attacking Rabbah, and we have captured the city's water supply.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 12:28**ULT**

²⁸ Now therefore gather the rest of the army together and camp against the city and take it, because if I take the city, it will be named after me.”

UST

²⁸ Now gather your troops and come and surround the city and capture it. If you do not do that, my troops will capture the city and it will then be named for me instead: The City of Joab.”

Why did Joab tell David to gather the rest of the army together and camp against the city and take it?

Joab told David to come and camp against the city and take it because Joab said if he took the city it would be named after him.

2 Samuel 12:29**ULT**

²⁹ So David gathered all the army together and went to Rabbah; he fought against the city and captured it.

UST

²⁹ So David gathered all his troops. They went to Rabbah, attacked it, and captured it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 12:30**ULT**

³⁰ David took the crown from their king’s head—it weighed a talent of gold, and there was a precious stone in it. The crown was placed on David’s own head. Then he brought out the plunder of the city in large quantities.

UST

³⁰ Then David took the crown from the head of their king and put it on his own head. It was very heavy; it weighed about thirty-three kilograms, and it had a very valuable stone in it. His soldiers also took many other valuable things from the city.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 12:31**ULT**

³¹ He brought out the people who were in the city and forced them to work with saws, iron picks, and axes; he also made them work at brick kilns. David required all the cities of the people of Ammon to do this labor. Then David and all the army returned to Jerusalem.

UST

³¹ Then they brought the people out of the city and forced them to work for them, using saws, iron picks, and axes. David's troops also forced them to make bricks. David's soldiers did this in all the cities of the Ammonites. Then David and all of his army returned to Jerusalem.

Once the city of Rabbah was captured, what did David make the people who were in the city do?

David forced the people of Rabbah to work with saws, iron picks, and axes; he also made them work at brick kilns.

2 Samuel 13

2 Samuel 13:1

ULT

¹ It came about after this that Amnon son of David was very attracted to his beautiful half-sister Tamar, who was a full sister of Absalom, another of David's sons.

UST

¹ David's son Absalom had a beautiful sister named Tamar. Another of David's sons, Amnon, was attracted to Tamar, with whom he was a half-brother.

To whom was Amnon, the son of David, very attracted?

Amnon was very attracted to his beautiful half-sister Tamar, who was a full sister of Absalom, another of David's sons.

2 Samuel 13:2

ULT

² Amnon was so frustrated that he became sick because of his sister Tamar. She was a virgin, and it seemed impossible to Amnon to do anything to her.

UST

² He wanted to sleep with Tamar very much, so much that he felt sick with desire. But it seemed impossible for Amnon to get her, because she was a virgin, so they kept men away from her.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 13:3

ULT

³ But Amnon had a friend whose name was Jonadab son of Shimeah, David's brother. Jonadab was a very shrewd man.

UST

³ But Amnon had a friend named Jonadab, who was a nephew to David, son of David's brother Shimeah. Jehonadab was a very crafty man.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 13:4**ULT**

⁴ Jonadab said to Amnon, "Why, son of the king, are you depressed every morning? Will you not tell me?" So Amnon answered him, "I love Tamar, my brother Absalom's sister."

UST

⁴ One day Jehonadab said to Amnon, "You are the king's son, but every day I see that you seem very depressed. What is your problem?" Amnon replied, "I am in love with Tamar, my half-brother Absalom's sister."

How did Amnon respond when Jehonadab asked him why he was depressed every morning?

Amnon told Jehonadab that he loved Tamar, his brother Absalom's sister.

2 Samuel 13:5**ULT**

⁵ Then Jonadab said to him, "Lie down on your bed and pretend to be sick. When your father comes to see you, ask him, 'Would you please send my sister Tamar to give me something to eat and cook it before me, so that I may see it and eat it from her hand?'"

UST

⁵ Jehonadab said to him, "Lie down on your bed and pretend that you are sick. When your father comes to see you, ask him to let your half-sister Tamar come and give you some food to eat. Ask for her to cook the food while you are watching her. Then she can serve it to you herself."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 13:6**ULT**

⁶ So Amnon lay down and pretended to be sick. When the king came to see him, Amnon said to the king, "Please send my sister Tamar to make some food for my sickness in front of me so that I may eat from her hand."

UST

⁶ So Amnon lay down and pretended that he was sick. When the king came to see him, Amnon said to him, "I am sick. Please allow Tamar to come and make a couple breadcakes for me while I am watching, and then she can serve them to me."

What did Amnon do in order to get to see Tamar?

Amnon pretended to be sick and when David came to see Amnon, he asked David to send Tamar to make some food in front of him so he might eat from her hand, and David did as Amnon asked.

2 Samuel 13:7**ULT**

⁷ Then David sent word to Tamar at his palace, saying, "Go now to your brother Amnon's house and prepare food for him."

UST

⁷ So David sent a message to Tamar in the palace saying, "Amnon is sick; he wants you to go to his house and prepare some food for him."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 13:8**ULT**

⁸ So Tamar went to her brother Amnon's house where he was lying down. She took dough and kneaded it and formed bread in his sight, and then she baked it.

UST

⁸ So Tamar went to Amnon's house, where he was lying in bed. She took some dough and kneaded it, and formed them into some breadcakes while he was watching her. Then she baked them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 13:9**ULT**

⁹ She took the pan and gave the bread to him, but he refused to eat. Then Amnon said to the others present, "Send everyone out, away from me." So everyone went out from him.

UST

⁹ She took them out of the pan and put them on a plate in front of him, but he refused to eat them. Then he said to his servants in the room, "All the rest of you, leave me!" So they all left.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 13:10**ULT**

¹⁰ So Amnon said to Tamar, "Bring the food into my room that I may eat from your hand." So Tamar took the bread that she had made, and brought it into the room of Amnon her brother.

UST

¹⁰ Then Amnon said to Tamar, "Bring the food to my bed and serve it to me." So Tamar took into his room the breadcakes that she had made.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 13:11**ULT**

¹¹ When she had brought the food to him, he took hold of her and said to her, "Come, lie with me, my sister."

UST

¹¹ But when she brought them close for him to eat them, he grabbed her and said to her, "Come to bed with me!"

What did Amnon do when Tamar came to him to feed him from her hand?

When Tamar came to feed Amnon, he took hold of her and said to her, "Come, lie down with me, my sister."

2 Samuel 13:12**ULT**

¹² She answered him, "No, my brother, do not force me, for nothing like this should be done in Israel. Do not do this appalling thing!"

UST

¹² She replied, "No, do not force me to do such a disgraceful thing! We never do things like that in Israel! That would be shameful!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 13:13**ULT**

¹³ How could I be rid of my shame? What about you? You would be like one of the fools in Israel! Now, please speak to the king, for he would not keep me from you."

UST

¹³ I would not be able to endure being disgraced by having done that. And as for you, everyone in Israel would condemn you for having done such a disgraceful deed. So I plead with you, talk to the king. I am sure that he will allow me to marry you."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 13:14**ULT**

¹⁴ However Amnon would not listen to her, and he was stronger than she was, and he overpowered her, and he lay with her.

UST

¹⁴ But he paid no attention to her. He was stronger than she was, so he forced her to sleep with him.

What did Amnon do when Tamar told him not to force her and not to do that appalling thing?

Amnon did not listen to Tamar, and he raped her.

2 Samuel 13:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Then Amnon hated Tamar with extreme hatred. He hated her even more than he had desired her. Amnon said to her, "Get up and go."

UST

¹⁵ Then Amnon hated her very much. He hated her much more than he had desired her. He said to her, "Get up and get out of here!"

How did Amnon feel toward Tamar after he raped her?

Then Amnon hated Tamar even more than he had desired her.

What did Amnon command and force Tamar to do?

Amnon commanded Tamar to "Get up and go." and ordered his personal servant to take Tamar away from him and bolt the door after her.

2 Samuel 13:16**ULT**

¹⁶ But she responded to him, "No! Because this great evil of making me leave is even worse than what you did to me!" But Amnon did not listen to her.

UST

¹⁶ But she said to him, "No! It would be very wrong for you to send me away. It would be worse than what you just did to me!" But again he paid no attention to her.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 13:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Instead, he called his personal servant and said, "Take this woman away from me, and bolt the door after her."

UST

¹⁷ He summoned his personal servant and said to him, "Take this woman outside, away from me, and lock the door so that she cannot come in again!"

What did Amnon command and force Tamar to do?

Amnon commanded Tamar to "Get up and go." and ordered his personal servant to take Tamar away from him and bolt the door after her.

2 Samuel 13:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Then his servant brought her out and bolted the door after her. Tamar was wearing a very decorated robe because the king's daughters who were virgins dressed that way.

UST

¹⁸ So the servant put her outside and locked the door. Now Tamar was wearing a decorated long robe, which was the clothing that was usually worn by the unmarried daughters of the king at that time.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 13:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Tamar put ashes on her head and tore her robe. She put her hands on her head and walked away, crying aloud as she went.

UST

¹⁹ But Tamar tore the long robe that she was wearing, and put ashes on her head to show that she was very sad. Then she put her hands on her head to show that she was grieving, and she went away crying.

What did Tamar do after she was put out of Amnon's room?

After Tamar was put out of Amnon's room, she put ashes on her head, tore her robe, put her hands on her head and walked away, crying aloud as she went.

2 Samuel 13:20**ULT**

²⁰ Absalom her brother said to her, "Has Amnon your brother been with you? But now keep quiet, my sister. He is your brother. Do not take this thing to heart." So Tamar remained alone in her brother Absalom's house.

UST

²⁰ Her brother Absalom saw her and said to her, "Has your half-brother Amnon forced you to sleep with him? Please, my sister, do not tell anyone, and do not become depressed." So Tamar went to live in Absalom's house, and she was very sad and lonely.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 13:21**ULT**

²¹ But when King David heard of all these things, he was very angry.

UST

²¹ When King David heard about all this, he became very angry.

What was king David's response when he heard about all these things?

When king David heard all these things, he was very angry.

2 Samuel 13:22**ULT**

²² Absalom spoke neither evil nor good to Amnon, for Absalom hated him for what he had done to her and how he had disgraced his sister Tamar.

UST

²² And Absalom hated Amnon, because he had forced his sister to sleep with him, so he would not speak to Amnon about anything.

After Absalom, Tamar's brother, found out that Amnon had raped his sister, how did he feel toward Amnon?

Absalom hated Amnon because he had raped his sister Tamar.

2 Samuel 13:23**ULT**

²³ It came about after two full years that Absalom had sheep shearers working at Baal Hazor, which is near Ephraim, and Absalom invited all the king's sons to visit there.

UST

²³ However, two years later, Absalom hired men to shear his sheep at Baal Hazor, which is near the tribal land of Ephraim. They were going to celebrate when they finished shearing the sheep, so Absalom invited all the king's sons to come and celebrate with him.

Who did Absalom invite to visit him at Baal Hazor? (vv23-24)

Absalom invited the king and his servants and all the king's sons to visit him at Baal Hazor.

2 Samuel 13:24**ULT**

²⁴ Absalom went to the king and said, "Look now, your servant has sheep shearers. Please, may the king and his servants go with me, your servant."

UST

²⁴ Absalom went to the king and said to him, "Sir, my workers have been shearing my sheep. Please come with your officials to celebrate with us!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 13:25**ULT**

²⁵ The king answered Absalom, "No, my son, all of us should not go because we would be a burden to you." Absalom begged the king, but he would not go, but he gave him his blessing.

UST

²⁵ But the king replied, "No, my son, it would not be good for all of us to go, because we are so many people; we would cost you too much." Absalom continued urging him, but the king would not go. Instead, he said that he hoped that God would bless them while they celebrated.

What did the king say in response to Absalom's invitation to visit him at Baal Hazor?

The king said they should not all go because they would be a burden to Absalom.

2 Samuel 13:26**ULT**

²⁶ Then Absalom said, "If not, please let my brother Amnon go with us." So the king said to him, "Why should Amnon go with you?"

UST

²⁶ Then Absalom said, "If you will not go, please allow my half-brother Amnon to go with us." But the king replied, "Why do you want him to go with you?"

What did David say when Absalom asked David to let Amnon go with them?

When Absalom asked David to let Amnon go with them, David asked, "Why should Amnon go with you?"

2 Samuel 13:27**ULT**

²⁷ Absalom pressed David, and so he let Amnon and all the king's sons go with him.

UST

²⁷ But Absalom continued to insist, so finally the king permitted Amnon and all David's other sons to go with Absalom.

Who went with Absalom?

Amnon and all the king's sons went with Absalom.

2 Samuel 13:28

ULT

²⁸ Absalom commanded his servants saying, "Pay attention. When Amnon begins to be affected by the wine, and when I say to you, 'Attack Amnon,' then kill him. Do not be afraid. Have I not commanded you? Be courageous and brave."

UST

²⁸ So they all went. At the celebration, Absalom commanded his servants, "Notice when Amnon has become a bit drunk from the wine. Then when I signal to you, kill him. Do not be afraid. You will be doing this only because I told you to do it. So be courageous and do it!"

What did Absalom command his servants concerning Amnon?

Absalom commanded his servants that after Amnon began to be drunk with wine and when Absalom said to them "Attack Amnon," then they were to kill Amnon.

2 Samuel 13:29

ULT

²⁹ So Absalom's servants did to Amnon as he had commanded them. Then all the king's sons arose, and every man mounted his mule and fled.

UST

²⁹ So Absalom's servants did what Absalom told them to do. They killed Amnon. All the rest of David's sons saw what happened and fled, riding on their mules.

What did the king's sons do after Absalom's servants killed Amnon?

After Absalom's servants killed Amnon all the king's sons arose, and every man mounted his mule and fled.

2 Samuel 13:30

ULT

³⁰ So it came about, while they were on the road, that the news came to David saying, "Absalom has killed all the king's sons, and there is not one of them left."

UST

³⁰ While they were on their way home, someone quickly went and reported to David, "Absalom has killed all of your other sons. None of them is alive!"

What was the first news David heard about the incident?

While the king's sons were still on the road, news came to David saying that Absalom had killed all the king's sons.

2 Samuel 13:31**ULT**

³¹ Then the king arose and tore his clothes, and lay on the floor; all his servants stood by with their clothes torn.

UST

³¹ The king stood up, tore his clothes because he was extremely sad, and then he threw himself down on the ground. All the servants who were there also tore their clothes.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 13:32**ULT**

³² Jonadab son of Shimeah, David's brother, answered and said, "Let not my master believe that they have killed all the young men who are the king's sons, for Amnon only is dead. Absalom has planned this from the day that Amnon violated his sister Tamar.

UST

³² But Jehonadab son of Shimeah, David's brother, said, "Your Majesty, I am sure that they have not killed all your sons. I am sure that only Amnon is dead, because Absalom has been determined to do this ever since the day that Amnon raped Tamar.

What did Jehonadab say had happened and why?

Jehonadab told David that only Amnon was dead, and that Absalom had planned it from the day that Amnon had raped his sister Tamar.

2 Samuel 13:33**ULT**

³³ So therefore let not my master the king take this report to heart, so as to believe that all the king's sons are dead, for Amnon only is dead."

UST

³³ So, your Majesty, do not believe the report that all your sons are dead. I am sure that only Amnon is dead."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 13:34**ULT**

³⁴ Absalom fled away. A servant keeping watch raised his eyes and saw many people coming on the road on the hillside west of him.

UST

³⁴ In the meantime, Absalom ran away. Just then, a soldier keeping guard on the city wall saw a large crowd of people coming down the hill along the road to the west. He ran and told the king what he had seen.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 13:35**ULT**

³⁵ Then Jonadab said to the king, "Look, the king's sons are coming. It is just as your servant said."

UST

³⁵ Jonadab said to the king, "Look there! What I told you is true. Your other sons are alive and have come!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 13:36**ULT**

³⁶ So it came about when he finished speaking, the king's sons arrived and raised their voices and wept. The king and all his servants also wept bitterly.

UST

³⁶ And as soon as he said that, David's sons came in. They all started crying, and David and all his officials also cried very much.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 13:37**ULT**

³⁷ But Absalom fled and went to Talmai son of Ammihud, the king of Geshur. David mourned for his son every day.

UST

³⁷⁻³⁸ But Absalom had fled. He went to stay with the king of the region of Geshur. His name was Talmai son of Ammihud. Absalom stayed there for three years. But King David mourned for his son Amnon for a long time,

Where did Absalom go after having Amnon killed?

Absalom fled to Talmai, the son of Ammihur, king of Geshur.

2 Samuel 13:38**ULT**

³⁸ So Absalom fled and went to Geshur, where he was for three years.

UST

³⁷⁻³⁸ But Absalom had fled. He went to stay with the king of the region of Geshur. His name was Talmai son of Ammihud. Absalom stayed there for three years. But King David mourned for his son Amnon for a long time,

How long was Absalom in Geshur?

Absalom was in Geshur for three years.

2 Samuel 13:39**ULT**

³⁹ The mind of King David longed to go out to see Absalom, for he was comforted concerning Amnon and his death.

UST

³⁹ but after that, he desired very much to see Absalom, because he was no longer grieving about Amnon being dead.

What did David long to do?

David longed to go out and see Absalom.

2 Samuel 14

2 Samuel 14:1

ULT

¹ Now Joab son of Zeruah perceived that the king's heart desired to see Absalom.

UST

¹ Joab realized that the king was longing to see Absalom.

What did Joab do after he perceived the king desired to see Absalom? (vv1-2)

After Joab perceived the king desired to see Absalom, Joab sent word to Tekoa and had a wise woman brought to him.

2 Samuel 14:2

ULT

² So Joab sent word to Tekoa and had from there a wise woman brought to him. He said to her, "Please pretend you are a mourner and put on mourning clothes. Please do not anoint yourself with oil, but be like a woman who has mourned a long time for the dead.

UST

² So Joab sent someone to the city of Tekoa to bring to him a woman who was very clever. When she arrived, Joab said to her, "Pretend that you are grieving because someone has died. Put on clothes that show that you are mourning. Do not put any lotion on your body. Act as if you were a woman who has been mourning for a long time.

Briefly what did Joab want the wise woman to do? (vv2-3)

Joab wanted the wise woman to pretend to be a mourner and to go speak to the king the words Joab told her.

2 Samuel 14:3

ULT

³ Then go to the king and speak to him about what I will describe." So Joab told her the words she was to say.

UST

³ And go to the king, and tell him what I tell you to say." Then Joab told her what to say to the king.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 14:4**ULT**

⁴ When the woman from Tekoa spoke to the king, she lay facedown on the ground and said, "Help me, king."

UST

⁴ So the woman from Tekoa went to the king. She prostrated herself in front of him to show honor and then said, "Your Majesty, help me!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 14:5**ULT**

⁵ The king said to her, "What is wrong?" She answered, "The truth is that I am a widow, and my husband is dead.

UST

⁵ The king replied, "What is your problem?" She replied, "Please, sir, I am a widow. My husband died some time ago.

When the wise woman went to the king, who did she tell the king she was?

The wise woman told the king she was a widow.

2 Samuel 14:6**ULT**

⁶ I, your servant, had two sons, and they fought together in the field, and there was no one to separate them. One struck the other and killed him.

UST

⁶ I had two sons. But one day they quarreled with each other out in the fields. There was no one to separate them, and one of them struck the other one and killed him.

What did the wise woman tell the king her two sons had done?

The wise woman told the king her two sons had fought together in the field and one struck the other and killed him.

2 Samuel 14:7**ULT**

⁷ Now the whole clan has risen against your servant, and they say, 'Give into our hand the man who struck his brother, so that we may put him to death, to pay for the life of his brother whom he killed.' So they would also destroy the heir. Thus they will put out the burning coal that I have left, and they will leave for my husband neither name nor descendant on the surface of the earth."

UST

⁷ Now, all my family oppose me. They are insisting that I allow them to kill my son who is still alive, in order that they may get revenge for his killing his brother. But if they do that, I will not have any son to inherit my possessions. I will be without any son at all, and my husband will have no son to preserve our family's name."

What did the wise woman tell the king she was afraid would happen to the remaining son?

The wise woman told the king she was afraid the whole clan would put to death the remaining son, destroying the heir and leaving for her husband neither name nor descendant.

2 Samuel 14:8**ULT**

⁸ So the king said to the woman, "Go to your house, and I will command something to be done for you."

UST

⁸ Then the king said to the woman, "Go back home. I will take care of this matter for you."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 14:9**ULT**

⁹ The woman of Tekoa replied to the king, "My master, king, may the guilt be on me and on my father's family. The king and his throne are guiltless."

UST

⁹ The woman from Tekoa replied to the king, "Your Majesty, if any criticizes you for helping me, my family and I will accept the blame. You and the royal family will be innocent."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 14:10**ULT**

¹⁰ The king replied, "Whoever says anything to you, bring him to me, and he will not touch you anymore."

UST

¹⁰ The king said to her, "If anyone says anything to threaten you, bring that person to me, and I will make sure that he will never cause you trouble again."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 14:11**ULT**

¹¹ Then she said, "Please, may the king remember Yahweh your God, so that the avenger of blood will not destroy anyone further, so that they will not destroy my son." The king replied, "As Yahweh lives, not one hair of your son will fall to the ground."

UST

¹¹ Then the woman said, "Your Majesty, please pray that Yahweh your God will not allow my relative, who wants to get revenge on my son for killing his brother, to be able to do that." David replied, "As surely as Yahweh lives, your son will not be harmed at all."

Why did the wise woman ask the king to call to mind Yahweh his God?

The wise woman asked the king this so that the avenger of blood would not destroy anyone further, so that they would not destroy her son.

Who did the king swear by when he told the woman that not one hair of her son would fall to the ground?

The king swore by Yahweh by saying, "As Yahweh lives, not one hair of your son will fall to the ground."

2 Samuel 14:12**ULT**

¹² Then the woman said, "Please let your servant speak a further word to my master the king." He said, "Speak on."

UST

¹² Then the woman said, "Your Majesty, please allow me to say one more thing to you." He replied, "Speak!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 14:13**ULT**

¹³ So the woman said, “Why then have you devised such a thing against the people of God? For in saying this thing, the king is like someone who is guilty, because the king has not brought back home again his banished son.

UST

¹³ The woman said, “Why have you done this bad thing to God’s people? You have not allowed your son Absalom to return home. By saying what you have just said, you have certainly declared that what you have done is wrong.

Why did the woman say the king was like someone who was guilty?

The woman said the king was like someone guilty because the king had not brought home his banished son.

2 Samuel 14:14**ULT**

¹⁴ For we all must die, and we are like water spilled on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again. But God will not take away life; instead, he finds a way for those who were driven away to be restored.

UST

¹⁴ All of us will die. We are like water that cannot be picked up after it is spilled on the ground. God does not take life away, but instead, God creates ways for those who have been exiled to return and be restored to their people and to their homes.

What did the woman say God did instead of taking away life?

The woman said instead of taking away life, God finds a way to bring back one whom he has driven away from himself.

2 Samuel 14:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Now then, seeing that I have come to speak this thing to my master the king, it is because the people have made me afraid. So your servant said to herself, ‘I will now speak to the king. It may be that the king will perform the request of his servant.

UST

¹⁵ Now, Your Majesty, I have come to you because others have threatened me. So I said to myself, ‘I will go and talk to the king, and perhaps he will do what I request him to do.

Why did the woman say she came and spoke to the king? (vv15-16)

The woman said she came and spoke to the king because people had made her afraid, and because she believed the king would listen to her.

2 Samuel 14:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Perhaps the king will listen to me and deliver his servant from the hand of the man who would destroy me and my son together, out of the inheritance God gave us.'

UST

¹⁶ Perhaps he will listen to me, and save me from the man who is trying to kill my son. If my son is killed, it would result in us disappearing from the land that God gave to us.'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 14:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Then your servant prayed, 'Please, may the word of my master the king give me relief, for as an angel of God, so is my master the king in telling good from evil.' May Yahweh your God be with you."

UST

¹⁷ And I thought, 'What the king says will comfort me, because the king is like an angel of God. He knows what is good and what is evil.' I pray that Yahweh our God will be with you."

What did the woman say she asked of Yahweh in her prayer?

The woman said she asked Yahweh to let the word of her master, the king, give her relief.

2 Samuel 14:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Then the king answered and said to the woman, "Please do not hide from me anything that I will ask you." The woman replied, "Let my master the king now speak."

UST

¹⁸ Then the king said to the woman, "I will now ask you a question. Answer it; tell me the truth." The woman replied, "Your Majesty, ask your question."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 14:19**ULT**

¹⁹ The king said, "Is not the hand of Joab with you in all this?" The woman answered and said, "As you live, my master the king, no one can escape to the right hand or to the left from anything that my master the king has spoken. It was your servant Joab who commanded me and told me to say these things that your servant has spoken."

UST

¹⁹ The king said, "Was Joab the one who told you to do this?" She replied, "Yes, Your Majesty, as surely as you live, I cannot say anything to avoid telling you what is true. Yes, indeed, it was Joab who told me to come here, and who told me what to say."

What did the king ask the woman after he told her not to hide from him anything that he would ask her?

The king asked the woman, "Is not the hand of Joab with you in all this?"

2 Samuel 14:20**ULT**

²⁰ Your servant Joab has done this to change the course of what is happening. My master is wise, like the wisdom of an angel of God, and he knows everything that is happening in the land."

UST

²⁰ He did it in order to cause you to think differently about this matter. Your Majesty, you are as wise as God's angels, and it seems that you know everything that happens on the earth, so you know why Joab sent me here."

Why did Joab command the woman to go to the king and tell her to say the things she said to the king?

Joab commanded the woman to do and say those things to change the course of what was happening.

2 Samuel 14:21**ULT**

²¹ So the king said to Joab, "Look now, I will do this thing. Go then, and bring the young man Absalom back."

UST

²¹ Then the king summoned Joab and said to him, "Listen! I have decided to do what you want. So go and get that young man Absalom and bring him back to Jerusalem."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 14:22**ULT**

²² So Joab lay facedown on the ground in honor and gratitude to the king. Joab said, "Today your servant knows that I have found favor in your eyes, my master, king, in that the king has performed the request of his servant."

UST

²² Joab prostrated himself on the ground, and then he bowed down before the king, and asked God to bless him. Then Joab said, "Your Majesty, today I know that you are pleased with me, because you have agreed to do what I requested."

What did Joab do when the king told Joab to go and bring Absalom back?

Joab lay facedown on the ground in honor and gratitude to the king.

2 Samuel 14:23**ULT**

²³ So Joab arose, went to Geshur, and brought Absalom back to Jerusalem.

UST

²³ Then Joab got up and went to Geshur, and got Absalom and brought him back to Jerusalem.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 14:24**ULT**

²⁴ The king said, "He may return to his own house, but he may not see my face." So Absalom returned to his own house, but did not see the king's face.

UST

²⁴ But the king said that he would not allow Absalom to come to him. He said, "I do not want him to come to see me." So Absalom lived in his own house, and did not go to talk to the king.

What instructions did the king give Joab about Absalom?

The king said that Absalom could return to his own house but could not see the king's face.

2 Samuel 14:25**ULT**

²⁵ Now in all Israel there was no one praised for his handsomeness more than Absalom. From the sole of his foot to the top of his head there was no blemish in him.

UST

²⁵ Now Absalom was very handsome. There were no imperfections on his body, from the bottom of his feet to the top of his head. In all of Israel there was no one whom people admired more than Absalom.

What was notable about Absalom's appearance? (vv25-26)

Absalom was handsome with no blemish in him and his hair, which he cut at the end of every year, would weigh about two hundred shekels.

2 Samuel 14:26**ULT**

²⁶ When he cut the hair of his head at the end of every year, because it was heavy on him, he weighed his hair; it would weigh about 200 shekels, which is measured by the weight of the king's standard.

UST

²⁶ His hair was very thick, and he cut it only once each year, when it became very heavy on him. Using the standard weights, he would weigh the hair that he cut off, and it always weighed about two and one-half kilograms.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 14:27**ULT**

²⁷ To Absalom were born three sons and one daughter, whose name was Tamar. She was a beautiful woman.

UST

²⁷ Absalom had three sons and one daughter named Tamar. She was a very beautiful woman.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 14:28**ULT**

²⁸ Absalom lived two full years in Jerusalem, without seeing the king's face.

UST

²⁸ After Absalom returned to Jerusalem, he lived there two years, and during that time he never was allowed to see the king.

How long did Absalom live in Jerusalem without seeing the king's face?

Absalom lived in Jerusalem two years without seeing the king's face.

2 Samuel 14:29**ULT**

²⁹ Then Absalom sent word for Joab to send him to the king, but Joab would not come to him. So Absalom sent word a second time, but Joab still did not come.

UST

²⁹ So he sent a messenger to go to Joab to request him to come and talk to him, but Joab refused to come. So Absalom sent a messenger to him a second time, but he still would not come.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 14:30**ULT**

³⁰ So Absalom said to his servants, "See, Joab's field is near mine, and he has barley there. Go and set it on fire." So Absalom's servants set the field on fire.

UST

³⁰ Then Absalom said to his servants, "You know that Joab's field is next to mine, and that he has barley growing there. Go and light a fire there to burn the barley." So Absalom's servants went there and lit a fire, and all the barley burned.

What did Absalom say to his servants after Absalom asked Joab twice to come to him and Joab would not come?

Absalom told his servants to set Joab's barley field on fire.

2 Samuel 14:31**ULT**

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

UST

³¹ Joab knew who had done it, so he went to Absalom's house and said to him, "Why have your servants burned the barley in my field?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 14:32**ULT**

³² Absalom answered Joab, "Look, I sent word to you saying, 'Come here so I may send you to the king to say, 'Why did I come from Geshur? It would be better for me to still be there. Now therefore let me see the king's face, and if I am guilty, let him kill me.'"

UST

³² Absalom replied, "Because you did not come to me when I sent messengers to you requesting that you come. I wanted to request that you go to the king to say to him, 'Absalom wants to know what good it did for him to leave Geshur and come here. He thinks that it would have been better for him to stay there. He wants you to allow him to talk to you. And if you think that he has done something that is wrong, you can command that he be executed.'"

What did Absalom want Joab to do?

Absalom wanted Joab to go to the king and tell the king that Absalom wanted to see the king's face.

2 Samuel 14:33**ULT**

³³ So Joab went to the king and told him. When the king called for Absalom, he came to the king and bowed low to the ground before the king, and the king kissed Absalom.

UST

³³ So Joab went to the king and told him what Absalom had said. Then the king summoned Absalom, and he came to the king and knelt down in front of him with his face touching the ground. Then the king kissed Absalom to show that he was pleased to see him.

What did the king do when Absalom bowed low to the ground before the king?

The king kissed Absalom.

2 Samuel 15

2 Samuel 15:1

ULT

¹ It came about after this that Absalom prepared a chariot and horses for himself, with 50 men to run before him.

UST

¹ Some time later, Absalom acquired a chariot and horses to pull it. He hired fifty men to run in front of him to honor him while he was riding around Jerusalem in the chariot.

What did Absalom prepare for himself?

Absalom prepared a chariot and horses for himself.

Who ran before Absalom and his chariot?

Fifty men ran before Absalom and his chariot.

2 Samuel 15:2

ULT

² Absalom would get up early and stand beside the road leading to the city gate. When any man had a dispute to come to the king for judgment, Absalom called to him and said, "From what city have you come?" Then the man would answer, "Your servant is from one of the tribes of Israel."

UST

² Furthermore, he always rose early each morning and stood by the city gate. Whenever someone came there with a dispute with someone that he wanted the king to decide, Absalom would call out to him, asking, "What city are you from?" The person would tell him what city and tribe he was from.

Who would Absalom call to as he stood beside the road leading to the city gate?

If any man had a dispute for which he was coming to the king for judgment, Absalom would call to him.

2 Samuel 15:3**ULT**

³ So Absalom would say to him, "Look, your case is good and right, but there is no one empowered by the king to hear your case."

UST

³ Then Absalom would say to him, "Listen, I am sure that what you are saying is right. But there is no one whom the king has appointed to listen to people like you."

What would Absalom say concerning the cases of the men who had come to the king for judgment?

Absalom would tell these men that their cases were good and right, but that there was no one empowered by the king to hear their cases.

2 Samuel 15:4**ULT**

⁴ Absalom added, "I wish that I were made judge in the land, so that every man who had any dispute or cause might come to me, and I would bring him justice!"

UST

⁴ Absalom would then add, "I wish that I were a judge in this land. If I were a judge, anyone who had a dispute could come to me, and I would decide it fairly."

What reason did Absalom give for saying he wished he were made judge in the land?

Absalom said he wished he were made judge in the land so every man who had a dispute or cause might come and receive justice from Absalom.

2 Samuel 15:5**ULT**

⁵ So it came about that when any man came to Absalom to honor him, Absalom would put out his hand and take hold of him and kiss him.

UST

⁵ And whenever anyone came near to Absalom to bow respectfully in front of him, Absalom would reach out and embrace him and kiss him.

What did Absalom do to any man that came to honor him?

Absalom would put out his hand and take hold of and kiss any man that came to honor him.

2 Samuel 15:6**ULT**

⁶ Absalom acted in this way to all Israel who came to the king for judgment. So Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.

UST

⁶ Absalom did this to everyone in Israel who came to the king with a dispute to be decided. In that way, Absalom persuaded all the Israelite people to be more pleased with him than they were pleased with his father David.

What did Absalom steal from the men of Israel?

Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.

2 Samuel 15:7**ULT**

⁷ It came about at the end of four years that Absalom said to the king, "Please let me go and pay a vow that I have made to Yahweh in Hebron.

UST

⁷ Four years later, Absalom went to the king and said, "Please allow me to go to the city of Hebron, in order that I can do what I promised Yahweh that I would do.

What reason did Absalom give to the king for having to go to Hebron?

Absalom said he had to go to Hebron to pay a vow he had made to Yahweh.

2 Samuel 15:8**ULT**

⁸ For your servant made a vow while I was living at Geshur in Aram, saying, 'If Yahweh will indeed bring me again to Jerusalem, then I will worship Yahweh.'

UST

⁸ When I was living in Geshur, in Aram, I promised Yahweh that if he brought me back to Jerusalem, I would worship him in Hebron."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 15:9**ULT**

⁹ So the king said to him, "Go in peace." So Absalom arose and went to Hebron.

UST

⁹ The king replied, "I will permit you to go safely." So Absalom went to Hebron.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 15:10**ULT**

¹⁰ But then Absalom sent spies throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, "As soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then you must say, 'Absalom is king in Hebron.'"

UST

¹⁰ But while he was there, he secretly sent messengers to all the tribes in Israel to tell them, "When you hear the sound of the trumpets being blown, shout, 'Absalom has become the king at Hebron!'"

What did the spies that Absalom sent throughout all the tribes of Israel say?

The spies said, "As soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then you must say, 'Absalom is king in Hebron.'"

2 Samuel 15:11**ULT**

¹¹ With Absalom went 200 men from Jerusalem, who were invited. They went in their innocence, not knowing anything that Absalom had planned.

UST

¹¹ Absalom had taken with him to Hebron two hundred men from Jerusalem, but they did not know what Absalom was planning to do.

Did the two hundred men that went with Absalom to Hebron know of Absalom's plans?

No, the two hundred men went in their innocence, not knowing anything that Absalom had planned.

2 Samuel 15:12**ULT**

¹² While Absalom offered sacrifices, he sent for Ahithophel the Gilohite from his hometown of Giloh. He was David's counselor. Absalom's conspiracy was strong, for the people following Absalom were constantly increasing.

UST

¹² While Absalom was offering sacrifices at Hebron, he sent a message to Ahithophel from the town of Giloh, requesting him to come. Ahithophel was one of the king's advisors. So the number of people who joined Absalom and who were ready to rebel against David became larger.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 15:13**ULT**

¹³ A messenger came to David saying, "The hearts of the men of Israel are following after Absalom."

UST

¹³ Soon a messenger came to David and said to him, "All the Israelite people are joining Absalom to rebel against you!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 15:14**ULT**

¹⁴ So David said to all his servants who were with him in Jerusalem, "Arise and let us flee, or none of us will escape from Absalom. Prepare to leave immediately, or he will quickly overtake us, and he will bring down disaster on us and attack the city with the edge of the sword."

UST

¹⁴ So David said to all his officials, "We must leave immediately if we want to escape from Absalom! We must go quickly, before he and his men arrive. If we do not do that, they will kill us and everyone else in the city!"

Briefly, what did David tell his servants after a messenger told him, "The hearts of the men of Israel are following after Absalom"?

David told his servants who were at Jerusalem, "Arise and let us flee, or none of us will escape from Absalom."

2 Samuel 15:15**ULT**

¹⁵ The king's servants said to the king, "Look, your servants are ready to do whatever our master the king decides."

UST

¹⁵ The king's officials said, "Very well, your Majesty, we are ready to do whatever you wish."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 15:16**ULT**

¹⁶ The king left and all his family after him, but the king left ten women, who were his slave wives, to keep the palace.

UST

¹⁶ So the king left ten of his slave wives there to take care of the palace, but all the other people in his palace went with him.

Who did the king leave behind in Jerusalem to keep the palace?

The king left behind ten women, who were concubines, to keep the palace.

2 Samuel 15:17**ULT**

¹⁷ After the king went out and all the people after him, they stopped at the last house.

UST

¹⁷ When they all were leaving the city, they stopped at the last house.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 15:18**ULT**

¹⁸ All his army marched with him, and before him went all the Kerethites, and all the Pelethites, and all the Gittites—600 men who had followed him from Gath.

UST

¹⁸ The king and his officials stood there while his bodyguards went by in front of him. Six hundred soldiers from the city of Gath also walked by in front of him.

Who marched with the king as he left Jerusalem?

All the king's army marched with him as well as all the Cherethites, Pelethites, and Gittites – six hundred men who had followed him from Gath.

2 Samuel 15:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Then the king said to Ittai the Gittite, "Why will you come with us? Return and stay with the king, for you are a foreigner and an exile. Return to your own place.

UST

¹⁹ Then David said to Ittai, the leader of the soldiers from Gath, "Why are you going with us? Go back and stay with Absalom the new king. You are not an Israelite; you are living away from your own land.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 15:20**ULT**

²⁰ Since you just left yesterday, why should I make you wander all over with us? I do not even know where I am going. So return and take your fellow countrymen back. May loyalty and faithfulness go with you."

UST

²⁰ You have lived here in Israel for only a short time. And we do not even know where we will be going. So it is not right for me to force you to wander around with us. And take your troops with you. And I hope that Yahweh will faithfully love and be loyal to you."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 15:21**ULT**

²¹ But Ittai answered the king and said, "As Yahweh lives, and as my master the king lives, surely in whatever place where my master the king goes, there also will your servant go, whether that means living or dying."

UST

²¹ But Ittai replied, "Your Majesty, as surely as you live, wherever you go, I will go. I will stay with you whether they kill me or allow me to live."

What did Ittai the Gittite tell the king after the king told him to return and stay with King Absalom?

Ittai told the king he would go wherever the king went, whether it meant living or dying.

2 Samuel 15:22**ULT**

²² So David said to Ittai, "Go ahead and continue with us." So Ittai the Gittite marched with the king, along with all his men and all the families who were with him.

UST

²² David replied to Ittai, "Very well, march with us!" So Ittai and all his troops and their families went with David.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 15:23**ULT**

²³ All the country wept with a loud voice as all the people passed by over the Kidron Valley, and as the king also himself crossed over. All the people traveled on the road toward the wilderness.

UST

²³ All the people along the road cried when they saw them walking by. The king and all the others crossed the Kidron Valley and went up the hill toward the wilderness.

Which way did David and all those with him go as they left Jerusalem?

David and all those with him passed over the Kidron Valley and traveled on the road toward the wilderness.

2 Samuel 15:24**ULT**

²⁴ Even Zadok was present, along with all the Levites carrying the Box of the Covenant of God. They set the Box of God down, and then Abiathar joined them. They waited until all the people had passed by out of the city.

UST

²⁴ Abiathar and Zadok, the priests, were also walking with them. The descendants of Levi who helped the priests also went with them, carrying the sacred chest that contained the Ten Commandments. But they set it on the ground until all the others had left the city.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 15:25**ULT**

²⁵ The king said to Zadok, "Carry the Box of God back into the city. If I find favor in the eyes of Yahweh, he will bring me back here and show me again the Box and the place where he lives.

UST

²⁵ But then the king said to Zadok, "You two must take the sacred chest back into the city. If Yahweh is pleased with me, he will some day allow me to return to see it and the place where it is kept.

What did the king tell Zadok the priest concerning the ark of the covenant of God?

The king told Zadok the priest to carry the ark of God back into the city.

2 Samuel 15:26**ULT**

²⁶ But if he says, 'I am not pleased with you,' look, here am I, let him do to me whatever seems good to him."

UST

²⁶ But if he says that he is not pleased with me, then I am willing for him to do to me whatever he thinks is good."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 15:27**ULT**

²⁷ The king also said to Zadok the priest, "Are you not a seer? Return into the city in peace, and your two sons with you, Ahimaaz your son, and Jonathan son of Abiathar.

UST

²⁷ He also said to Zadok, "Listen to what I suggest! Return to the city peacefully, and take your son Ahimaaz and Abiathar's son Jonathan with you.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 15:28**ULT**

²⁸ See, I will wait at the fords of the Arabah until word comes from you to inform me."

UST

²⁸ I will wait in the wilderness at the place where people can walk across the river, until you send a message to me."

Why was David going to wait at the fords of Arabah?

David was going to wait at the fords of Arabah to hear word from Zadok the priest to inform David.

2 Samuel 15:29**ULT**

²⁹ So Zadok and Abiathar carried the Box of God back into Jerusalem, and they stayed there.

UST

²⁹ So Zadok and Abiathar carried the sacred chest back to Jerusalem, and they stayed there.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 15:30**ULT**

³⁰ But David ascended barefoot and weeping up the Mount of Olives, and he had his head covered. Every man of the people who were with him covered his head, and they went up weeping as they walked.

UST

³⁰ David and those with him went up the Mount of Olives. David was crying while he walked. He was walking barefoot and had something covering his head to show that he was sorrowful. All those who were going with him also covered their heads and were crying while they walked.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 15:31**ULT**

³¹ Someone told David saying, "Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom." So David prayed, "O Yahweh, please turn Ahithophel's advice into foolishness."

UST

³¹ Someone told David that Ahithophel had joined with those who were rebelling against David. So David prayed, "Yahweh, cause whatever Ahithophel suggests to Absalom that he should do be considered to be foolish!"

What did David pray when someone told him that Ahithophel was among the conspirators with Absalom?

David prayed, "O Yahweh, please turn Ahithophel's advice into foolishness."

2 Samuel 15:32**ULT**

³² It came about that when David arrived at the top of the road, where God used to be worshiped, Hushai the Arkite came to meet him with his coat torn and earth on his head.

UST

³² When they arrived at the top of the hill, where there was a place where the people had previously been accustomed to worship God, suddenly Hushai, from the Arki people group, met David. He had torn his clothes and put dirt on his head to show that he was very sad.

Who came to meet David as he arrived at the top of the road, where God used to be worshiped?

Hushai the Archite came to meet David.

2 Samuel 15:33**ULT**

³³ David said to him, "If you travel with me, then you will be a burden to me.

UST

³³ David said to him, "If you go with me, you will not be able to help me.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 15:34**ULT**

³⁴ But if you return to the city and say to Absalom, 'I will be your servant, king, as I have been your father's servant in time past, so will I now be your servant,' then you will confuse Ahithophel's advice for me.

UST

³⁴ But if you return to the city, you can help me by saying to Absalom, 'Your Majesty, I will serve you as faithfully as I served your father.' If you do that and stay near Absalom, you will be able to oppose any advice that Ahithophel gives to Absalom.

What did David want Hushai the Archite to do for him?

David wanted Hushai the Archite to return to the city and tell Absalom he would be Absalom's servant so that Hushai would confuse Ahithophel's advice for David.

2 Samuel 15:35**ULT**

³⁵ Will you not have the priests Zadok and Abiathar with you? So whatever you hear in the king's palace, you must tell it to Zadok and Abiathar the priests.

UST

³⁵ Zadok and Abiathar the priests are already there. Whatever you hear people say in the king's palace, tell it to Zadok and Abiathar.

Which people did David want Hushai to tell everything that he heard in the king's palace?

David wanted Hushai to tell Zadok and Abiathar the priests everything he heard in the king's palace.

2 Samuel 15:36**ULT**

³⁶ See that they have there with them their two sons, Ahimaaz, Zadok's son, and Jonathan, Abiathar's son. You must send to me by their hand everything that you hear."

UST

³⁶ Keep in mind that Zadok's son Ahimaaz and Abiathar's son Jonathan are also there. You can tell them whatever you find out, and send them to report it to me."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 15:37**ULT**

³⁷ So Hushai, David's friend, came into the city as Absalom arrived and entered into Jerusalem.

UST

³⁷ So David's friend Hushai returned to the city, at the same time that Absalom was entering Jerusalem.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 16

2 Samuel 16:1

ULT

¹ When David had gone a short distance over the summit of the hill, Ziba the servant of Mephibosheth met him with a couple of saddled donkeys; on them were 200 loaves of bread, 100 clusters of raisins, and 100 bunches of figs, and a skin of wine.

UST

¹ When David and the others had gone a little way past the top of the hill, Mephibosheth's servant Ziba met him. He had with him two donkeys that were carrying two hundred loaves of bread, one hundred bunches of raisins, one hundred bunches of fresh figs, and a leather bag full of wine.

What did Ziba the servant of Mephibosheth bring to David?

Ziba brought a couple of saddled donkeys, two hundred loaves of bread, one hundred clusters of raisins, one hundred bunches of figs, and a skin of wine to David.

2 Samuel 16:2

ULT

² The king said to Ziba, "Why did you bring these things?" Ziba replied, "The donkeys are for the king's household to ride on, the bread and figs are for your men to eat, and the wine is for anyone who is faint in the wilderness to drink."

UST

² The king said to Ziba, "What are these for?" Ziba replied, "The donkeys are for your family to ride on, the bread and the fruit are for your soldiers to eat, and the wine is for them to drink when they become exhausted in the wilderness."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 16:3**ULT**

³ The king said, "Then where is your master's grandson?" Ziba replied to the king, "Look, he has stayed behind in Jerusalem, for he said, 'Today the house of Israel will restore my father's kingdom to me.'"

UST

³ The king said, "Where is Mephibosheth, the grandson of your former master Saul?" Ziba answered, "He stayed in Jerusalem, because he thinks that now the people will allow him to rule the kingdom that his grandfather Saul ruled."

According to Ziba, what was the reason Mephibosheth had stayed behind in Jerusalem?

Ziba said the reason Mephibosheth had stayed behind in Jerusalem was because Mephibosheth believed that the house of Israel would that day restore his father Saul's kingdom to him.

2 Samuel 16:4**ULT**

⁴ Then the king said to Ziba, "Look, all that belonged to Mephibosheth now belongs to you." Ziba answered, "I bow in humility to you, my master, king. Let me find favor in your eyes."

UST

⁴ The king said to Ziba, "Very well, everything that belonged to Mephibosheth is now yours." Ziba replied, "Your Majesty, I will humbly serve you, and I desire that you will always be pleased with me."

What did the king say now belonged to Ziba?

The king told Ziba that all that belonged to Mephibosheth now belonged to Ziba.

2 Samuel 16:5**ULT**

⁵ When King David approached Bahurim, there came out from there a man from the clan of Saul, whose name was Shimei son of Gera. He came out cursing as he walked.

UST

⁵ When King David and those with him arrived at the city of Bahurim, a man named Shimei met him. Shimei, whose father was Gera, was a member of the same clan that Saul's family belong to. Shimei was cursing David as he approached.

What did Shimei do to David and all the king's officials? (vv5-6)

Shimei cursed David and all the king's officials and also threw dust and stones at them.

2 Samuel 16:6**ULT**

⁶ He threw stones at David and at all of the king's officials, in spite of the army and bodyguards who were on the king's right and left.

UST

⁶ Then he threw stones at David and his officials, even though the officials and David's bodyguards surrounded David.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 16:7**ULT**

⁷ Shimei called out in cursing, "Go away, get out of here, you villain, you man of blood!"

UST

⁷ Shimei cursed David and said to him, "Get out of here, you murderer, you scoundrel!"

What did Shimei call David? (vv7-8)

Shimei called David a villain and a man of blood.

2 Samuel 16:8**ULT**

⁸ Yahweh has repaid all of you for the blood you shed within the family of Saul, in whose place you have reigned. Yahweh has given the kingdom into the hand of Absalom your son. You have come to ruin because you are a man of blood."

UST

⁸ Yahweh is getting revenge on you all for murdering many people in Saul's family. And now he is giving Saul's kingdom to your son Absalom. You murderer, you are being paid back for the many people that you have killed!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 16:9**ULT**

⁹ Then Abishai son of Zeruiah, said to the king, "Why should this dead dog curse my master the king? Please let me go over and take off his head."

UST

⁹ Then Abishai said to the king, "Your Majesty, this man is as worthless as a dead dog! Why should he be allowed to curse you? Allow me to go over there and cut off his head!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 16:10**ULT**

¹⁰ But the king said, "What have I to do with you, sons of Zeruiah? Perhaps he is cursing me because Yahweh has said to him, 'Curse David.' Who then could say to him, 'Why are you cursing the king?'"

UST

¹⁰ But the king replied, "You two sons of Zeruiah, I want nothing to do with you. If he is cursing me because Yahweh told him to do so, then no one should ask him, 'Why are you cursing the king?'"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 16:11**ULT**

¹¹ So David said to Abishai and to all his servants, "Look, my son, who was born from my body, wants to take my life. How much more may this Benjamite now desire my ruin? Leave him alone and let him curse, for Yahweh has commanded him to do it.

UST

¹¹ Then David said to Abishai and to all his officials, "You know that my own son is trying to kill me. So it is not surprising that this man from the tribe of Benjamin is also trying to kill me. Just ignore him, and allow him to curse me. Yahweh has told him to do that.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 16:12**ULT**

¹² Perhaps Yahweh will look at the misery unleashed on me, and repay me with good for his cursing me today."

UST

¹² Perhaps Yahweh will see that I am having all this trouble, and some day he will repay me by blessing me in return for this man cursing me today."

What did David hope Yahweh would do because of the misery unleashed on David by the cursing he received that day?

David hoped that Yahweh would repay David with good for the cursing he received that day

2 Samuel 16:13**ULT**

¹³ So David and his men traveled on the road, while Shimei went beside him up on the hillside, cursing and throwing dust and stones at him as he went.

UST

¹³ Then David and those who were with him walked along the road, and Shimei continued walking along the hillside near him. While he walked along, he cursed David and threw stones and dirt at him.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 16:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Then the king and all the people who were with him became weary, and he rested when they stopped for the night.

UST

¹⁴ When David and those stopped traveling that evening, they were very tired. So they rested.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 16:15**ULT**

¹⁵ As for Absalom and all the men of Israel who were with him, they came to Jerusalem, and Ahithophel was with him.

UST

¹⁵ While that was happening, Absalom and all the Israelites who were with him had arrived in Jerusalem. Ahithophel had also arrived there.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 16:16**ULT**

¹⁶ It came about when Hushai the Arkite, David's friend, had come to Absalom, that Hushai said to Absalom, "Long live the king! Long live the king!"

UST

¹⁶ When David's friend Hushai came to Absalom, he said to Absalom, "I desire that the king will live a long time! May you live for many years!"

When Absalom, Ahithophel, and all the men of Israel came to Jerusalem what did Hushai say to Absalom?

Hushai said to Absalom, "Long live the king! Long live the king!"

2 Samuel 16:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Absalom said to Hushai, "Is this your loyalty to your friend? Why did you not go with him?"

UST

¹⁷ Absalom said to Hushai, "You have been loyal to your friend David for a long time. So why did you not go with him instead of coming to me?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 16:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Hushai said to Absalom, "No! Instead, the one whom Yahweh and this people and all the men of Israel have chosen, that is the man to whom I will belong, and I will stay with him."

UST

¹⁸ Hushai replied, "It is right for me to serve the one whom Yahweh and these people and all the other people of Israel have chosen to be their king. So I will stay with you."

Hushai told Absalom he, Hushai, would belong to whom?

Hushai told Absalom that he, Hushai, would belong to the one whom Yahweh and this people and all the men of Israel had chosen.

2 Samuel 16:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Also, what man should I serve? Should I not serve in the presence of his son? As I have served in your father's presence, I will serve in your presence."

UST

¹⁹ Besides, whom should I serve? Why should I not serve my master's son? Just as I have served your father, even so, I will serve you."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 16:20**ULT**

²⁰ Then Absalom said to Ahithophel, "Give us your advice about what we should do."

UST

²⁰ Then Absalom said to Ahithophel, "What do you advise that we should do?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 16:21**ULT**

²¹ Ahithophel answered Absalom, "Go into your father's slave wives whom he has left to keep the palace, and all Israel will hear that you have become a stench to your father. Then the hands of all who are with you will be strong."

UST

²¹ Ahithophel replied, "Your father left some of his slave wives in the palace to take care of it. You should sleep with them. When everyone in Israel hears that you have done that, they will realize that you hold your father in contempt. Then all those who are with you will be very encouraged."

What was Ahithophel's advice to Absalom about what Absalom should do?

Ahithophel advised Absalom to go sleep with his father's slave wives whom David had left to keep the palace.

2 Samuel 16:22**ULT**

²² So they spread for Absalom a tent on the top of the palace, and Absalom went in to his father's slave wives in the sight of all Israel.

UST

²² So they set up a tent for Absalom on the roof of the palace. And Absalom went into the tent and slept with his father's slave wives, one by one, and everyone could see them going into the tent.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 16:23**ULT**

²³ Now the advice of Ahithophel that he gave in those days was as if a man heard from the mouth of God himself. That was how all of Ahithophel's advice was viewed by both David and Absalom.

UST

²³ In those days, people accepted what Ahithophel recommended as though he was speaking the words of God. So just as David had always accepted what Ahithophel said, now Absalom did also.

How was Ahithophel's advice viewed by David and Absalom?

Ahithophel's advice was viewed as if a man had heard from the mouth of God himself.

2 Samuel 17

2 Samuel 17:1

ULT

¹ Then Ahithophel said to Absalom, "Now let me choose 12000 men, and I will arise and pursue David tonight.

UST

¹ Then Ahithophel said to Absalom, "Allow me to choose twelve thousand men, and I will take them tonight to go after David.

What did Ahithophel advise Absalom and all the elders of Israel about how he should attack David? (vv1-4)

Ahithophel's advice was to have a large army carry out a surprise attack on David at night when he was weary and weak, and bring back all the people for them to rule.

2 Samuel 17:2

ULT

² I will come on him while he is weary and weak and will surprise him with fear. The people who are with him will flee, and I will attack only the king.

UST

² We will attack him while he is tired and discouraged, and make him very afraid. Everyone with him will run away. We only need to kill the king.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 17:3

ULT

³ I will bring back all the people to you, like a bride coming to her husband, and all the people will be at peace under you."

UST

³ Then we will bring back all his soldiers to you, and they will come happily. You need to kill only one man—David, and then all trouble will be over."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 17:4**ULT**

⁴ What Ahithophel said pleased Absalom and all the elders of Israel.

UST

⁴ Absalom and all the Israelite leaders who were with him thought that what Ahithophel said would be good to do.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 17:5**ULT**

⁵ Then Absalom said, "Now call Hushai the Arkite, too, and let us hear what he says."

UST

⁵ But Absalom said, "Summon Hushai also, and we will hear what he suggests."

**Absalom asked Hushai for his advice about Ahithophel's plan. What was Hushai's advice?
(vv5-7)**

Hushai said the plan was not good.

2 Samuel 17:6**ULT**

⁶ When Hushai had come to Absalom, Absalom explained to him what Ahithophel had said and then asked Hushai, "Should we do what Ahithophel has said? If not, tell us what you advise."

UST

⁶ So when Hushai arrived, Absalom told him what Ahithophel had suggested. Then he asked Hushai, "What do you think we should do? If you do not think that we should do what Ahithophel advises, tell us what you think that we should do."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 17:7**ULT**

⁷ So Hushai said to Absalom, "The advice that Ahithophel has given this time is not good."

UST

⁷ Hushai replied, "This time what Ahithophel has suggested is not good advice."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 17:8**ULT**

⁸ Hushai added, "You know your father and his men are strong warriors, and that they are bitter, and they are like a bear robbed of her cubs in a field. Your father is a man of war; he will not sleep with the army tonight."

UST

⁸ You know that your father and the men who are with him are strong soldiers, and that now they are very angry, like a mother bear whose cubs have been stolen from her. Furthermore, your father knows how to wage war because he has fought in many battles. He will not stay with his troops during the night."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 17:9**ULT**

⁹ Look, right now he is probably hidden in some pit or in some other place. It will happen that when some of your men have been killed at the beginning of an attack, that whoever hears it will say, 'A slaughter has taken place among the soldiers who follow Absalom.'

UST

⁹ Right now he is probably already hiding in one of the pits, or in some other place. If his soldiers start to attack your soldiers, and if they kill some of them, whoever hears about that will say, 'Many of the soldiers with Absalom have been killed!'

What reason did Hushai say that the plan was not good? (vv9-10)

Because at the first attack and killing of Absalom's men, even the bravest soldiers would become afraid as the killing would be proclaimed a slaughter of Absalom's soldiers.

2 Samuel 17:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Then even the bravest soldiers, whose hearts are like the heart of a lion, will be afraid because all Israel knows that your father is a mighty man, and that the men who are with him are very strong.

UST

¹⁰ Then your other soldiers, even if they are as fearless as lions, they will become very afraid. Do not forget that everyone in Israel knows that your father is a great soldier, and that the soldiers who are with him are also very brave.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 17:11**ULT**

¹¹ So I advise you that all Israel should be gathered together to you, from Dan to Beersheba, as numerous as the sands that are by the sea, and that you go to battle in person.

UST

¹¹ So what I suggest is that you call all the Israelite soldiers, from Dan in the far north to Beersheba in the far south. They will be as many as the grains of sand on the seashore. Wait until they come, and then you yourself should lead us into the battle.

What did Hushai advise Absalom to do? (vv11-12)

Hushai advised Absalom to gather all of Israel together and go to battle in person so they could find David and kill him and all his men.

2 Samuel 17:12**ULT**

¹² Then we will come on him wherever he may be found, and we will cover him as the dew falls on the ground. We will not leave even one of his men, or him himself, alive.

UST

¹² We will find your father, wherever he is, and we will attack him from all sides, as dew covers all the ground. And neither he nor any of the soldiers who are with him will survive.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 17:13**ULT**

¹³ If he retreats into a city, then all Israel will bring ropes to that city and we will drag it into the river, until there is no longer even a small stone found there."

UST

¹³ If he escapes into some city, all our soldiers will bring ropes and pull that city down into the valley. As a result, not one stone will be left there on top of the hill where that city was!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 17:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Then Absalom and the men of Israel said, "Hushai the Arkite's advice is better than Ahithophel's." Yahweh had ordained the rejection of Ahithophel's good advice in order to bring destruction on Absalom.

UST

¹⁴ Absalom and all the other Israelite men who were with him said, "What Hushai suggests is better than what Ahithophel suggested." The reason that happened was that Yahweh had determined that if they would accept the good advice that Ahithophel had given them, they would have been able to defeat David. But as a result of their doing what Hushai suggested, Yahweh would cause a disaster to happen to Absalom.

How did Absalom and the men of Israel respond to Hushai's advice?

They said it was better advice than what Ahithophel had given them.

2 Samuel 17:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Then Hushai said to Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, "Ahithophel advised Absalom and the elders of Israel in such and such a way, but I have advised something else.

UST

¹⁵ Then Hushai told the two priests, Zadok and Abiathar, what both he and Ahithophel had suggested to Absalom and the Israelite leaders.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 17:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Now then, go quickly and report to David; say to him, 'Do not camp tonight at the fords of the Arabah, but by all means cross over, or the king will be swallowed up along with all the people who are with him.'

UST

¹⁶ Then he said to them, "Send a message quickly to David. Tell him to not stay at the place where people walk across the river, near the wilderness. Instead, he and his soldiers must cross the Jordan River immediately, in order that they will not be killed."

What message did Hushai want the priests to go and report to David?

The message was that David should not camp at the fords of the Arabah, but cross over so that he and his people would not be killed that night.

2 Samuel 17:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Now Jonathan and Ahimaaz were staying at the spring of Rogel. A female servant used to go and inform them what they needed to know, for they could not risk being seen going into the city. When the message came, then they were to go and tell King David.

UST

¹⁷ The priest's two sons, Jonathan and Ahimaaz, were waiting at the spring at En Rogel, outside Jerusalem. They did not dare to enter the city, because if someone saw them, he would report it to Absalom. While they were at En Rogel, a female servant of the two priests would frequently go to them and report to them what was happening, and then they would go and report it to King David.

How were messages relayed to King David about Absalom's plans to attack him?

A female servant would go tell two men who would then go tell King David of Absalom's plans.

2 Samuel 17:18**ULT**

¹⁸ But a young man saw them this time and told Absalom. So Jonathan and Ahimaaz went away quickly and came to the house of a man in Bahurim, who had a well in his courtyard, into which they descended.

UST

¹⁸ But a young man saw them, and went and reported it to Absalom. They found out what the young man had done, so both of them left quickly and went to stay in the house of a man in the city of Bahurim. That man had a well in his courtyard, so the two men went down into the well to hide.

What did the two men do when these three were observed and Absalom was told?

The two men went away and descended into a well in a man's courtyard.

2 Samuel 17:19**ULT**

¹⁹ The man's wife took the covering for the well and spread it over the well's opening, and tossed grain over it, so no one knew Jonathan and Ahimaaz were in the well.

UST

¹⁹ The man's wife took a cloth and covered the mouth of the well, and then scattered grain on top of it order than no one would even suspect that a well was there.

How were the two men helped? (vv19-20)

The man's wife covered the well to hide the two men and when Absalom's men came hunting for them, she told the soldiers that the two men had crossed over the river.

2 Samuel 17:20**ULT**

²⁰ Absalom's men came to the woman of the house and said, "Where are Ahimaaz and Jonathan?" The woman told them, "They have crossed over the river." So after they had looked around and could not find them, they returned to Jerusalem.

UST

²⁰ Some of Absalom's soldiers found out where the two men had gone. So they went to the house, and asked the woman, "Where are Ahimaaz and Jonathan?" She replied, "They went across the Jordan River." So the soldiers crossed the river and searched for them. But after they could not find them, they returned to Jerusalem.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 17:21**ULT**

²¹ It came about after they had left that Jonathan and Ahimaaz came up out of the well. They went to report to King David; they said to him, "Get up and cross quickly over the water because Ahithophel has given such and such advice about you."

UST

²¹ After they had gone, the two men came out of the well and went and reported to King David what had happened and what Ahithophel had suggested. Then they said to him, "Cross the Jordan River quickly!"

After Absalom's men left, what did the two men do? (vv21-22)

The men came up out of the well and went to tell King David to cross over the Jordan so he and his people would be safe.

2 Samuel 17:22**ULT**

²² Then David arose and all the people who were with him, and they crossed over the Jordan. By morning daylight not one of them had failed to cross over the Jordan.

UST

²² So David and all his soldiers quickly started to cross the river, and by dawn they had all crossed to the other side.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 17:23**ULT**

²³ When Ahithophel saw that his advice had not been followed, he saddled his donkey and left. He went home to his own city, set his affairs in order, and hanged himself. In this way he died and was buried in the tomb of his father.

UST

²³ When Ahithophel realized that Absalom was not going to do what he suggested, he put a saddle on his donkey and returned to his own city. He gave to his family instructions about his possessions, and then he hanged himself because he knew that Absalom would be defeated and that he would be considered a traitor and be killed. His body was buried in the tomb where his ancestors had been buried.

What did Ahithophel do when he saw that his advice was not used to attack David?

Ahithophel went home to his own city, got his affairs in order, and hanged himself.

2 Samuel 17:24**ULT**

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

UST

²⁴ David and his soldiers arrived at Mahanaim. At the same time, Absalom and all his soldiers also crossed the Jordan River.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 17:25**ULT**

²⁵ Absalom had set Amasa over the army instead of Joab. Amasa was the son of a man called Jether the Ishmaelite ^[1], who went in to Abigail, who was the daughter of Nahash and sister of Zeruiah, the mother of Joab.

UST

²⁵ Now Absalom had appointed his cousin Amasa to be the commander of his army, instead of Joab. Amasa was the son of Jether, an Ishmaelite. Amasa's mother was Abigail, the daughter of Nahash and the sister of Joab's mother Zeruiah.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 17:26**ULT**

²⁶ Then Israel and Absalom camped in the land of Gilead.

UST

²⁶ Absalom and his Israelite soldiers set up their tents in the region of Gilead.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 17:27**ULT**

²⁷ It came about when David had come to Mahanaim, that Shobi son of Nahash from Rabbah of the Ammonites, and Machir son of Ammiel from Lo Debar, and Barzillai the Gileadite from Rogelim,

UST

²⁷ When David and his soldiers arrived at Mahanaim, Shobi son of Nahash from the Ammonite city of Rabbah, and Machir son of Ammiel from the city of Lo Debar, and Barzillai from the city of Rogelim in Gilead came to them.

How were David and his people cared for in the wilderness? (vv27-29)

Three men came with supplies and food for David and his people to use for sleeping, cooking, and eating.

2 Samuel 17:28**ULT**

²⁸ brought sleeping mats and blankets, bowls and pots, and wheat, barley flour, roasted grain, beans, lentils,

UST

²⁸ They brought sleeping mats, bowls, clay pots, barley, wheat flour, parched grain, beans, and lentils.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 17:29**ULT**

²⁹ honey, butter, sheep, and milk curds, so that David and the people with him could eat. These men had said, "The people are hungry, weary, and thirsty in the wilderness."

17:25 ^[1]

UST

²⁹ They brought honey and curds, sheep, and some cream for David and his soldiers to eat. They knew that David and his soldiers would be hungry and tired and thirsty from marching in the wilderness.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 18

2 Samuel 18:1

ULT

¹ David counted the soldiers who were with him and appointed captains of thousands and captains of hundreds over them.

UST

¹ David arranged his soldiers for the battle. He divided them into groups, and he appointed a commander for each one hundred soldiers and a commander for each one thousand soldiers.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 18:2

ULT

² Then David sent out the army, one-third under the command of Joab, another third under the command of Abishai son of Zeruah, Joab's brother, and still another third under the command of Ittai the Gittite. The king said to the army, "I will certainly go out with you myself, too."

UST

² He sent them out in three groups. Joab commanded one group, Joab's brother Abishai commanded a second group, and Ittai from Gath commanded the third group. David said to them, "I myself will go with you to battle."

What was the message King David spoke to the army?

King David told the army that he would certainly go into battle with them.

2 Samuel 18:3**ULT**

³ But the men said, "You must not go to battle, for if we flee away they will not care about us, or if half of us die they will not care. But you are worth 10000 of us! Therefore it is better that you be ready to help us from the city."

UST

³ But his soldiers said, "No, we will not allow you to go with us. If they force us to all run away, they will not be concerned about us. Or if they kill half of us, they will not care about that, either. To them, capturing you is more important than capturing ten thousand of us. So it would be better that you stay here in the city and send help to us."

What was the response from the men in the army to the message from King David? (vv3-4)

The men in the army told King David he was worth ten thousand of them, so he should stay in the city instead of going into battle.

2 Samuel 18:4**ULT**

⁴ So the king answered them, "I will do whatever seems best to you." The king stood by the city gate while all the army went out by hundreds and by thousands.

UST

⁴ The king replied to them, "Very well, I will do whatever seems best to you." So he stood at the city gate and watched while his soldiers marched out, group by group.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 18:5**ULT**

⁵ The king commanded Joab, Abishai, and Ittai saying, "Deal gently for my sake with the young man, with Absalom." All the people heard that the king had given the captains this command about Absalom.

UST

⁵ While they were leaving, the king commanded Joab, Abishai, and Ittai, "For my sake, do not harm my son Absalom!" And all the troops heard about this, that David had given this order to the three commanders.

What were the instructions which the king gave to his commanders concerning Absalom?

The king told the commanders to "deal gently for my sake with Absalom."

2 Samuel 18:6**ULT**

⁶ So the army went out into the countryside against Israel; the battle spread into the forest of Ephraim.

UST

⁶ So the army went out to fight against the Israelite soldiers who were with Absalom. They fought the battle in the forest where people from the tribe of Ephraim lived.

What was the outcome of the battle in the forest of Ephraim? (vv6-8)

The army of Israel was defeated before the soldiers of David.

2 Samuel 18:7**ULT**

⁷ The army of Israel was defeated there before the soldiers of David; there was a great slaughter there that day of 20000 men.

UST

⁷ David's soldiers defeated Absalom's soldiers. They killed twenty thousand of them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 18:8**ULT**

⁸ The battle spread throughout the whole countryside, and more men were consumed by the forest than by the sword that day.

UST

⁸ The battle was fought all over that area, and the number of men who died because of dangerous things in the forest was greater than the number of men who were killed in the battle.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 18:9**ULT**

⁹ Absalom happened to meet some of David's soldiers. Absalom was riding his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a large oak tree, and his head was caught up in the tree branches. He was left dangling between the ground and the sky while the mule he was riding kept going.

UST

⁹ During the battle, Absalom suddenly came near some of David's soldiers. Absalom was riding on his mule, and when the mule went under the thick branches of a large oak tree, Absalom's head was caught in the branches. The mule kept going, but Absalom was left dangling in the air.

What happened to Absalom when the mule he was riding went under the thick branches of an oak tree?

Absalom was left dangling by his head from the branches of the tree.

2 Samuel 18:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Someone saw this and told Joab, "Look, I saw Absalom hanging in an oak tree!"

UST

¹⁰ One of David's soldiers saw what happened, and went and told Joab, "I saw Absalom hanging in an oak tree!"

Why was Joab upset when he was told about Absalom? (vv10-11)

Joab was upset because the soldier who reported about Absalom did not strike him down to the ground.

2 Samuel 18:11**ULT**

¹¹ Joab said to the man who told him about Absalom, "Look! You saw him! Why did you not strike him down to the ground? I would have given you ten silver shekels and a belt."

UST

¹¹ Joab said to the man, "What? You say that you saw him hanging there, so why did you not kill him immediately? If you had killed him, I would have given you ten pieces of silver and a soldier's belt!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 18:12**ULT**

¹² The man replied to Joab, "Even if I received 1000 silver shekels, still I would not have reached out my hand against the king's son, because we all heard the king command you, Abishai, and Ittai, saying, 'No one must touch the young man Absalom.'

UST

¹² The man replied to Joab, "Even if you gave me a thousand pieces of silver, I would not have done anything to harm the king's son. We all heard the king command you and Abishai and Ittai: 'For my sake, do not harm my son Absalom!'

Why did the man not kill Absalom? (vv12-13)

He did not kill Absalom even for money, because he had heard the king say that no one must touch the young man Absalom

2 Samuel 18:13**ULT**

¹³ If I had risked my life by a falsehood (and there is nothing hidden from the king), you would have abandoned me."

UST

¹³ If I had disobeyed the king and killed Absalom, the king would have heard about it, because the king hears about everything, and even you would not have defended me!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 18:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Then Joab said, "I will not wait for you." So Joab took three javelins in his hand and thrust them through the heart of Absalom, while he was still alive and hanging from the oak.

UST

¹⁴ Joab said, "I am not going to waste time talking to you!" Then he took three spears, went to where Absalom was, and thrust them into Absalom's chest while he was still alive, dangling from the oak tree.

What did Joab do with Absalom?

Joab thrust three javelins through the heart of Absalom while he was still alive and hanging from the oak tree.

2 Samuel 18:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Then ten young men who carried Joab's armor surrounded Absalom, attacked him, and killed him.

UST

¹⁵ Then ten young men who carried weapons for Joab surrounded Absalom and finished killing him.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 18:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Then Joab blew the trumpet, and the army returned from pursuing Israel, for Joab held back the army.

UST

¹⁶ Then Joab blew his trumpet to signal that they should not fight anymore, and his soldiers returned from pursuing Absalom's men.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 18:17**ULT**

¹⁷ They took Absalom and threw him into a large pit in the forest; they buried his body under a very large pile of stones, while all Israel fled, every man to his own home.

UST

¹⁷ They took Absalom's body and threw it into a huge pit in the forest, and covered it with a huge pile of stones. Then all the remaining Israelite soldiers who had been with Absalom fled to their own homes.

What was done with the body of Absalom?

The body of Absalom was thrown into a large pit in the forest and later buried under a very large pile of stones.

2 Samuel 18:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Now Absalom, while still alive, had built for himself a large stone pillar in the King's Valley, for he said, "I have no son to carry along the memory of my name." He named the pillar after his own name, so it is called Absalom's Monument to this very day.

UST

¹⁸ Absalom had no sons to preserve his family name because his sons had died while they were still young. So while Absalom was alive, he had built a monument to himself in the Valley of Kings near Jerusalem, in order that people would remember him. He put his name on the monument, and people still call it Absalom's Monument.

Why did Absalom build a large stone pillar for himself while he was still alive?

Absalom built a large stone pillar, called Absalom's monument, to carry along the memory of his name since he had no son.

2 Samuel 18:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Then Ahimaaz son of Zadok said, "Let me now run to the king with the good news, how Yahweh has rescued him from the hand of his enemies."

UST

¹⁹ After Absalom had been killed, Zadok's son Ahimaaz said to Joab, "Allow me to run to the king to tell him the good news that Yahweh has rescued him from the power of his enemies!"

Why was Ahimaaz cautioned not to run to the king with the good news that Yahweh had rescued the king from his enemy? (vv19-20)

Ahimaaz was cautioned not to bring the good news to the king on that day because the king's son was dead.

2 Samuel 18:20**ULT**

²⁰ Joab answered him, "You will not be the bearer of news today; you must do it another day. Today you will bear no news because the king's son is dead."

UST

²⁰ But Joab said to him, "No, I will not allow you to take news to the king today. Some other day I will allow you to take some news, but not today. If you took news today it would not be good news for the king, because his son is dead."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 18:21**ULT**

²¹ Then Joab said to a Cushite, "Go, tell the king what you have seen." The Cushite bowed down to Joab, and ran.

UST

²¹ Then Joab said to David's servant who was from Ethiopia, "You go and tell the king what you have seen." So the man from Ethiopia bowed in respect to Joab, and started to run.

Why did Ahimaaz still want to run and tell David the good news? (vv21-23)

Ahimaaz knew that Joab had given the message to a Cushite, but Ahimaaz wanted to be the first one to tell the good news to David.

2 Samuel 18:22**ULT**

²² Then Ahimaaz son of Zadok said again to Joab, "Regardless of what may happen, please let me also run and follow the Cushite." Joab replied, "Why do you want to run, my son, seeing that you will have no reward for the news?"

UST

²² Then Ahimaaz said again to Joab, "Even though that man from Ethiopia is running, allow me to run behind him." Joab replied, "My boy, why do you want to do that? You will not receive any reward for your news!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 18:23**ULT**

²³ "Whatever happens," said Ahimaaz, "I will run." So Joab answered him, "Run." Then Ahimaaz ran by the way of the plain, and outran the Cushite.

UST

²³ But Ahimaaz replied, "That does not matter, I want to go." So Joab said, "Very well, then, go." So Ahimaaz ran along another road through the Valley of the Jordan and arrived where David was, before the man from Ethiopia arrived.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 18:24**ULT**

²⁴ Now David was sitting between the inner and outer gates. The watchman had gone up to the roof of the gate to the wall and raised his eyes. As he looked, he saw a man approaching, running alone.

UST

²⁴ David was sitting between the outer gate and the inner gate of the city. The watchman went up on top of the city wall and stood on the roof over the gates. He looked out and saw one man running alone.

What did the king think when he heard there was a lone runner approaching the city? (vv24-25)

The king thought the runner was bringing news if he was alone.

2 Samuel 18:25**ULT**

²⁵ The watchman shouted out and told the king. Then the king said, "If he is alone, there is news in his mouth." The runner came closer and neared the city.

UST

²⁵ The watchman called down and reported it to the king. The king said, "If he is alone, that indicates that he is bringing news." The man who was running continued to come closer.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 18:26**ULT**

²⁶ Then the watchman noticed another man running, and the watchman called to the gatekeeper; he said, "Look, there is another man running alone." The king said, "He is also bringing news."

UST

²⁶ Then the watchman saw another man running. So he called down to the gatekeeper, "Look! There is another man running!" And the king said, "He also is bringing some good news."

What did the king think when he heard there was another man running alone?

The king thought that he was also bringing news.

2 Samuel 18:27**ULT**

²⁷ So the watchman said, "I think the running of the man in front is like the running of Ahimaaz son of Zadok." The king said, "He is a good man and is coming with good news."

UST

²⁷ The watchman said, "I think the first man must be Ahimaaz, because he is running as Ahimaaz runs." The king said, "Ahimaaz is a good man, and I am sure he is coming with good news."

What did the king think when he heard that the runner in front was Ahimaaz?

The king said that Ahimaaz was coming with good news since he was a good man.

2 Samuel 18:28**ULT**

²⁸ Then Ahimaaz called out and said to the king, "All is well." He bowed himself before the king with his face to the ground and said, "Blessed be Yahweh your God! He has delivered the men who lifted up their hand against my master the king."

UST

²⁸ When Ahimaaz reached the king, he called out, "I hope that things will go well with you!" Then he prostrated himself on the ground in front of the king and said, "Your Majesty, praise Yahweh our God, who has rescued you from the men who were rebelling against you!"

What was the news that Ahimaaz brought to the king?

Ahimaaz told the king that Yahweh had handed over the men who were against the king.

2 Samuel 18:29**ULT**

²⁹ So the king replied, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?" Ahimaaz answered, "When Joab sent me, the king's servant, to you, king, I saw a great disturbance, but I did not know what it was."

UST

²⁹ The king said, "Is the young man Absalom safe?" Ahimaaz did not want to answer that question, so he replied, "When Joab sent me, I saw that there was a lot of confusion, but I do not know what it was about."

How did Ahimaaz answer the king when he was asked about the welfare of Absalom?

Ahimaaz said he saw a great disturbance, but did not know what it was.

2 Samuel 18:30**ULT**

³⁰ Then the king said, "Turn aside and stand here." So Ahimaaz turned aside, and stood still.

UST

³⁰ Then the king said, "Stand aside." So Ahimaaz stepped aside and stood there.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 18:31**ULT**

³¹ Immediately then the Cushite arrived and said, "There is good news for my master the king, for Yahweh has avenged you today from all who rose up against you."

UST

³¹ Suddenly the man from Ethiopia arrived, and said, "Your Majesty, I have good news for you! Yahweh has enabled your soldiers to defeat all those who rebelled against you!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 18:32**ULT**

³² Then the king said to the Cushite, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?" The Cushite answered, "The enemies of my master the king, and all who rise up against you to do harm to you, should be as that young man is."

UST

³² The king said to him, "Is the young man Absalom safe?" The man from Ethiopia replied, "Sir, I wish that what happened to him would happen to all of your enemies and to all those who rebel against you!"

What was the Cushite's answer when the king asked him about the welfare of Absalom?

The Cushite told the king that the enemies of the king should be as that young man is.

2 Samuel 18:33**ULT**

³³ Then the king was deeply unnerved, and he went up to the room over the gate and wept. As he went he grieved, "My son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! I wish I had died instead of you, Absalom, my son, my son!"

UST

³³ The king realized that he meant that Absalom was dead, so he became extremely distressed, and he went up to the room above the gateway and cried. While he was going up, he kept crying out, "O, my son Absalom! My son! O, my son Absalom, I desire that I had died instead of you!"

How did the king respond when he heard the news of the death of his son?

The king was deeply grieved when he heard the news and wished he had died instead of his son.

2 Samuel 19

2 Samuel 19:1

ULT

¹ Joab was told, "Look, the king is weeping and mourning for Absalom."

UST

¹ Someone told Joab that the king was crying and mourning because Absalom had died.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:2

ULT

² So the victory that day was turned into mourning for all the army, for the army heard it said that day, "The king is mourning for his son."

UST

² All of David's soldiers heard that the king was mourning because Absalom was dead. So they became sad that they had defeated Absalom's men.

Why was the victory that day turned to mourning for all the army?

The victory that day was turned to mourning for all the army because the army heard that the king was mourning for his son.

2 Samuel 19:3

ULT

³ The soldiers had to sneak quietly into the city that day, like people who are ashamed sneak away when they run from battle.

UST

³ The soldiers returned to the city quietly and ashamed, as if they had lost the battle instead of winning it.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:4**ULT**

⁴ The king covered his face and cried in a loud voice, "My son Absalom, Absalom, my son, my son!"

UST

⁴ The king covered his face with his hands and kept crying loudly, "O, my son Absalom! O, Absalom, my son! My son!"

What was the cry of the king?

The king cried, "My son Absalom, Absalom, my son, my son!"

2 Samuel 19:5**ULT**

⁵ Then Joab entered into the house to the king and said to him, "You have shamed the faces of all your soldiers today, who have saved your life today, and the lives of your sons and of your daughters, and the lives of your wives, and the lives of your concubines,

UST

⁵ Joab entered the room where the king was, and said to the king, "Today you have caused your soldiers to be ashamed! You have humiliated the men who saved your life and the lives of your sons and daughters and your ordinary wives and your slave wives!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:6**ULT**

⁶ because you love those who hate you, and you hate those who love you. For today you have shown that commanders and soldiers are nothing to you. Today I believe that if Absalom had lived, and we all had died, then that would have pleased you.

UST

⁶ It seems that you love those who hate you and that you hate those who love you. Everyone realizes now that your commanders and your officers are not at all important to you. If Absalom were still alive and we were all dead today, you would actually be happy.

What did Joab say he believed would have pleased the king?

Joab said he believed the king would have been pleased if Absalom had lived and they, the king's army, would have died.

2 Samuel 19:7**ULT**

⁷ Now therefore get up and go out and speak kindly to your soldiers, for I swear by Yahweh, if you do not go, not one man will remain with you tonight. That would be worse for you than all the disasters that have ever happened to you from your youth until now."

UST

⁷ So now go and thank your soldiers for what they did. Because I solemnly declare that if you do not do that, none of them will still be with you by tomorrow morning. That would be worse for you than all the disasters that you have experienced since you were a boy."

What did Joab tell the king would happen if the king did not get up, go out, and speak kindly to the king's soldiers?

Joab said if the king did not go, not one man would remain with him that night.

2 Samuel 19:8**ULT**

⁸ So the king got up and sat in the city gate, and all the people were told, "Look, the king is sitting in the gate," and all the people came before the king. So Israel fled, every man to his home.

UST

⁸ So the king got up and went and sat at the city gate. And all the people were told, "The king is sitting at the gate!" So they all came and gathered around him. Meanwhile, all of Absalom's men had gone home.

When did all the people come before the king?

All the people came before the king after they were told the king was sitting in the gate.

2 Samuel 19:9**ULT**

⁹ It happened that all the people were arguing with each other throughout all the tribes of Israel saying, "The king rescued us out of the hand of our enemies, and he saved us out of the hand of the Philistines, but now he has run out of the land because of Absalom.

UST

⁹ Then all the people throughout the tribes of Israel started to quarrel among themselves. They said to each other, "The king rescued us from the people of Philistia and from our other enemies. But now he has fled from Absalom and left Israel!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Absalom, whom we anointed over us, has died in battle. So why do you say nothing about bringing the king back?"

UST

¹⁰ We appointed Absalom to be our king, but he died in the battle against David's soldiers. So why does someone not try to bring King David back?"

What were all the people of all the tribes of Israel arguing about with each other?

All the people of all the tribes of Israel were arguing about whether or not to bring the king back.

2 Samuel 19:11**ULT**

¹¹ 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 the king back to his palace, since the talk of all Israel favors the king, to bring him back to his palace?"

UST

¹¹ King David found out what the people were saying. So he sent the two priests, Zadok and Abiathar, to say to the leaders of Judah, "The king says that he has heard that all the Israelite people want him to be king again. And he says, 'Why should you be the last ones to bring me back to my palace?"

Who did King David send to speak to the elders of Judah about bringing the king back?

David sent to Zadok and to Abiathar the priests to speak to the elders of Judah.

2 Samuel 19:12**ULT**

¹² You are my brothers, my flesh and bone. Why then are you the last to bring back the king?"

UST

¹² You are my relatives. We have the same ancestor. So why should you be the last ones to bring me back?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:13**ULT**

¹³ Then say to Amasa, 'Are you not my flesh and my bone? God do so to me, and more also, if you are not captain of my army from now on in the place of Joab.'

UST

¹³ And say to Amasa, "You are one of my relatives. I hope that God will kill me if I do not appoint you to be, from now on, the commander of my army instead of Joab."

Who did David say would be the captain of his army in place of Joab?

David said Amasa would be captain of the army in place of Joab.

2 Samuel 19:14**ULT**

¹⁴ So he won the hearts of all the men of Judah as one man. They sent to the king saying, "Return, you and all your men."

UST

¹⁴ By sending that message to them, David convinced all the people of Judah that they should be loyal to him. So they sent a message to the king, saying, "We want you and all your officials to return here."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:15**ULT**

¹⁵ So the king returned and came to the Jordan. Now the men of Judah came to Gilgal to go to meet the king and then to bring the king across the Jordan.

UST

¹⁵ So the king and his officials started back toward Jerusalem. When they reached the Jordan River, the people of Judah came there to Gilgal to meet the king, and to escort him across the river.

Why did the men of Judah come to Gilgal?

The men of Judah came to Gilgal to meet the king and to escort him over the Jordan.

2 Samuel 19:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Shimei son of Gera, the Benjamite, who was from Bahurim, hurried down with the men of Judah to meet King David.

UST

¹⁶ Shimei, the man from the tribe of Benjamin, also came down quickly to the river with the people of Judah to meet King David.

Who crossed through the Jordan in the presence of the king? (vv16-17)

Shimei, one thousand men from Benjamin with him, and Ziba, Saul's servant, and his fifteen sons and twenty servants with him, crossed through the Jordan in the presence of the king.

2 Samuel 19:17**ULT**

¹⁷ There were 1000 men from Benjamin with him, and Ziba the servant of Saul, and his 15 sons and 20 servants with him. They crossed through the Jordan in the presence of the king.

UST

¹⁷ There were a thousand men from the tribe of Benjamin who came with him. Ziba, who had been the servant of Saul, also hurried down to the Jordan River, bringing twenty of his servants with him. They all came to the king.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:18**ULT**

¹⁸ They crossed to bring over the king's family and to do whatever he thought good. Shimei son of Gera bowed down before the king just before he began to cross the Jordan.

UST

¹⁸ They all prepared to take the king and all his family across the river, at the place where they could walk across it. They wanted to do whatever the king wanted. As the king was about to cross the river, Shimei came to him and prostrated himself in front of the king.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Shimei said to the king, "Do not, my master, find me guilty or remember the wrong your servant did the day my master the king left Jerusalem. Please, may the king not take it to heart.

UST

¹⁹ He said to the king, "Your Majesty, please forgive me. Please do not keep thinking about the terrible thing that I did on the day that you left Jerusalem. Do not think about it anymore.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:20**ULT**

²⁰ For your servant knows that I have sinned. See, that is why I have come today as the first from all the family of Joseph to come down to meet my master the king."

UST

²⁰ I know that I have sinned. Look, I have come today, the first one from the northern tribes to come here to greet you today, Your Majesty."

Why did Shimei come as the first from all the family of Joseph to meet the king?

Shimei came down to meet the king because Shimei knew that he had sinned against the king.

2 Samuel 19:21**ULT**

²¹ But Abishai son of Zeruiah answered and said, "Should not Shimei be put to death for this, because he cursed Yahweh's anointed?"

UST

²¹ But Abishai son of Zeruiah, said to David, "He cursed the one whom Yahweh appointed to be the king! So should he not be executed for doing that?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:22**ULT**

²² Then David said, "What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah, that you should today be adversaries to me? Will any man be put to death today in Israel? For do I not know that today I am king over Israel?"

UST

²² But David said, "You sons of Zeruiah, what am I going to do with you? It is as though you had become my enemies today. I know that I am still king of Israel, so I say that certainly no one in Israel should be executed today."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:23**ULT**

²³ So the king said to Shimei, "You will not die." So the king promised him with an oath.

UST

²³ Then the king said to Shimei, "I solemnly promise that I will not execute you."

What did the king say to Shimei after Abishai said Shimei should be put to death?

The king told Shimei he would not die and he promised him with an oath.

2 Samuel 19:24**ULT**

²⁴ Then Mephibosheth son of Saul came down to meet the king. He had not dressed his feet, or trimmed his beard, or washed his clothes from the day the king left until the day he came home in peace.

UST

²⁴ Then Miphibosheth, Saul's grandson, came down to the river to greet the king. He had not washed his feet or trimmed his beard or washed his clothes from the time that the king left Jerusalem until the day that he returned.

How did Mephibosheth look when he came down to meet the king?

Mephibosheth had not dressed his feet, or trimmed his beard, or washed his clothes since the day the king left.

2 Samuel 19:25**ULT**

²⁵ So when he came from Jerusalem to meet the king, the king said to him, “Why did you not go with me, Mephibosheth?”

UST

²⁵ When he arrived from Jerusalem to greet the king, the king said to him, “Mephibosheth, why did you not go with me?”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:26**ULT**

²⁶ He answered, “My master the king, my servant deceived me, for I said, ‘I will saddle a donkey so I may ride on it and go with the king.’ For your servant is lame.

UST

²⁶ He replied, “Your Majesty, you know that I am crippled. When I heard that you were leaving Jerusalem, I said to my servant Ziba, ‘Put a saddle on my donkey in order that I can ride on it and go with the king.’ But he deceived me and left without me.

What reason did Mephibosheth give when the king asked him, “Why did you not go with me, Mephibosheth?”

Mephibosheth told the king that his servant, Ziba, had deceived him.

2 Samuel 19:27**ULT**

²⁷ My servant Ziba has slandered me, your servant, to my master the king. But my master the king is like an angel of God. Therefore, do what is good in your eyes.

UST

²⁷ He lied to you about me. But your Majesty, you are as wise as God’s angel. So do whatever seems right to you.

What else did Mephibosheth say Ziba had done to him?

Mephibosheth said Ziba had slandered Mephibosheth to the king.

2 Samuel 19:28**ULT**

28 For all my father's house were dead men before my master the king, but you set your servant among those who ate at your own table. What right therefore have I that I should still cry any more to the king?"

UST

28 All of my grandfather's family expected that we would be executed. But you did not execute me. You allowed me to eat food with you at your table! So I certainly do not have the right to request from you anything more."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:29**ULT**

29 Then the king said to him, "Why explain anything further? I have decided that you and Ziba will divide the fields."

UST

29 The king replied, "You certainly do not need to say any more. I have decided that you and Ziba will divide equally the land that belonged to your grandfather Saul."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:30**ULT**

30 So Mephibosheth replied to the king, "Yes, let him take it all, since my master the king has come safely to his own home."

UST

30 Mephibosheth replied to the king, "Your Majesty, I am content that you have returned safely. So allow him to take all the land."

How did Mephibosheth reply to the king when the king said he had decided that Ziba and Mephibosheth were to divide the fields?

Mephibosheth told the king to let Ziba take it all since the king had come safely to his own home.

2 Samuel 19:31**ULT**

³¹ Then Barzillai the Gileadite came down from Rogelim to cross over the Jordan with the king, and he accompanied the king over the Jordan.

UST

³¹ Barzillai, the man from the region of Gilead, had come down to the Jordan River from his town of Rogelim to escort the king across the river.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:32**ULT**

³² Now Barzillai was a very old man, 80 years old. He had provided the king with provisions while he stayed at Mahanaim, for he was a very wealthy man.

UST

³² Barzillai was a very old man, eighty years old. He was a very wealthy man, and he had provided food for the king and his soldiers while they were at Mahanaim.

What had Barzillai done for the king?

Barzillai had furnished the king with provisions while he stayed at Mahanaim.

2 Samuel 19:33**ULT**

³³ The king said to Barzillai, "Come over with me, and I will provide for you to stay with me in Jerusalem."

UST

³³ The king said to Barzillai, "Come with me to Jerusalem, and I will take care of you."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:34**ULT**

³⁴ Barzillai replied to the king, "How many days are left in the years of my life, that I should go up with the king to Jerusalem?"

UST

³⁴ But Barzillai replied, "I certainly do not have many more years to live. So why should I go with you to Jerusalem?"

Briefly, why did Barzillai say he should not come to Jerusalem with the king? (vv34-35)

Barzillai said he should not go with the king because he was too old and did not have long to live, he could not taste what he ate or drank, he could not hear well, and he did not want to be a burden to the king.

2 Samuel 19:35**ULT**

³⁵ I am eighty years old. Can I distinguish between good and bad? Can your servant taste what I eat or what I drink? Can I hear any more the voice of singing men and singing women? Why then should your servant be a burden to my master the king?

UST

³⁵ I am eighty years old. I do not know what is enjoyable and what is not enjoyable. I cannot enjoy what I eat and what I drink. I cannot hear the voices of men and women as they sing. So why should I be another burden to you?

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:36**ULT**

³⁶ Your servant would like to just go over the Jordan with the king. Why should the king repay me with such a reward?

UST

³⁶ I will cross the Jordan River with you and go a little further, and that will be all the reward that I need for helping you.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:37**ULT**

³⁷ Please let your servant return back home, so I may die in my own city by the grave of my father and my mother. But see, here is your servant Kimham. Let him cross over with my master the king, and do for him what seems good to you."

UST

³⁷ Then please allow me to return to my home, because that is where I want to die, near my parents' grave. But here is my son Kimham. Your Majesty, allow him to go with you and serve you, and do for him whatever seems good to you!"

What did Barzillai request of the king?

Barzillai asked the king to let him return back home so he could die in his own city, and to let Kimham cross over with the king and to do for Kimham what seemed good to the king.

2 Samuel 19:38**ULT**

³⁸ The king answered, "Kimham will go over with me, and I will do for him what seems good to you, and whatever you desire from me, I will do that for you."

UST

³⁸ The king replied, "Very well, he will cross the river with me, and I will do for him whatever seems good to you. And I will do for you whatever you want me to do."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:39**ULT**

³⁹ Then all the people crossed the Jordan, and the king crossed over, and the king kissed Barzillai and blessed him. Then Barzillai returned to his own home.

UST

³⁹ Then King David and all the others crossed the Jordan River. He kissed Barzillai and asked God to bless him. Then Barzillai returned to his home.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:40**ULT**

⁴⁰ So the king crossed over to Gilgal, and Kimham crossed over with him. All the army of Judah brought the king over, and also half the army of Israel.

UST

⁴⁰ After they crossed the river, Kimham went with the king, and all the army of Judah and half the army of the other Israelite tribes escorted the king to Gilgal.

Who crossed over to Gilgal with the king?

Kimham, all the army of Judah and half the army of Israel crossed over to Gilgal with the king.

2 Samuel 19:41**ULT**

⁴¹ Soon all the men of Israel began to come to the king and say to the king, "Why have our brothers, the men of Judah, stolen you away and brought the king and his family over the Jordan, and all David's men with him?"

UST

⁴¹ Then all the Israelite soldiers from the other Israelite tribes came to the king and said, "Why is it that our relatives, the men from Judah, took you away from us and wanted to be the only ones to escort you and your family across the river, along with all your men? Why did you not request us to do that?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:42**ULT**

⁴² So the men of Judah answered the men of Israel, "It is because the king is more closely related to us. Why then are you angry about this? Have we eaten anything that the king had to pay for? Has he given us any gifts?"

UST

⁴² The soldiers from Judah replied, "We did it because the king is from Judah. Why are you angry about this? The king has never paid for our food, and he has never given us any gifts."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 19:43**ULT**

⁴³ The men of Israel answered the men of Judah, "We have ten tribes related to the king, so we have even more right to David than you. Why then did you despise us? Was not our proposal to bring back our king the first to be heard?" But the words of the men of Judah were even more harsh than the words of the men of Israel.

UST

⁴³ The men of the other Israelite tribes replied, "There are ten tribes in Israel, and only one in Judah. So it is ten times more right for us to say that David is our king than it is for you to say that. So why are you despising us? We were certainly the first ones to talk about bringing David back to Jerusalem to be our king again." But the men of Judah spoke more harshly than the men from the other tribes of Israel did.

Why did the men of Israel say they had more right to David than the men of Judah?

The men of Israel said they had more right to David because they had ten tribes related to the king.

Whose words were more harsh, the men of Judah or the men of Israel?

The words of the men of Judah were more harsh than the words of the men of Israel.

2 Samuel 20

2 Samuel 20:1

ULT

¹ There also happened to be at the same place a troublemaker whose name was Sheba son of Bikri, a Benjamite. He blew the trumpet and said, "We have no part in David, neither have we any inheritance in the son of Jesse. Let every man go back to his home, Israel."

UST

¹ There was also a man there at Gilgal named Sheba. He was a man who always caused trouble. He was from the tribe of Benjamin son of Bikri. He blew a trumpet and called out, "We have nothing to do with David, that son of Jesse! So, men of Israel, let us go to our homes!"

Why was Sheba considered to be a troublemaker?

Sheba was considered to be a troublemaker because he encouraged the people of Israel to have no part in David.

2 Samuel 20:2

ULT

² So all the men of Israel deserted David and followed Sheba son of Bikri. But the men of Judah followed closely their king, from the Jordan all the way to Jerusalem.

UST

² So all the men from the Israelite tribes deserted David and went with Sheba, but the men of Judah stayed with David. They wanted him to be their king, and went with him from near the Jordan River up to Jerusalem.

How was the response of the men of Judah to Sheba different from the response of the men of Israel?

The men of Judah closely followed their king, but the men of Israel deserted David and followed Sheba.

2 Samuel 20:3**ULT**

³ When David came to his palace in Jerusalem, he took the ten concubines whom he had left to keep the palace, and he put them in a house under guard. He provided for their needs, but he did not lie with them any longer. So they were shut up to the day of their death, living as if they were widows.

UST

³ When David arrived at the palace in Jerusalem, he took the ten slave wives whom he had left there to take care of the palace and put them in another house. He put a guard at that house, and he provided for them what they needed, but he never had slept with them again. So they remained shut up in their house until they died. It was as though they were widows.

How did David's relationship with the ten slave wives change when he put them in a house under guard?

David provided for their needs, but he did not sleep with them any longer, so they lived as widows.

2 Samuel 20:4**ULT**

⁴ Then the king said to Amasa, "Call the men of Judah together within three days; you must be here, too."

UST

⁴ One day the king said to Amasa, "Summon the soldiers of Judah to come here within three days, and you must be here also."

What did the king tell Amasa to do? (vv4-5)

The king told Amasa to call the men of Judah together within three days and that he must be there as well.

2 Samuel 20:5**ULT**

⁵ So Amasa went to call Judah, but he was delayed beyond the time that the king had allotted for him.

UST

⁵ So Amasa went to summon them, but he did not return within the time that David told him to.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 20:6**ULT**

⁶ So David said to Abishai, "Now Sheba son of Bikri will do us more harm than Absalom did. Take your master's servants, my soldiers, and pursue after him, or he will find fortified cities and escape out of our sight."

UST

⁶ So David said to Abishai, "Now Sheba will harm us more than Absalom did. So you take my soldiers and pursue him. If you do not do that, he and his soldiers may occupy some of the fortified cities and escape from us."

How did David respond to the report that the men of Israel had deserted him to follow Sheba? (vv6-7)

David responded by giving instructions to Abishai to take David's soldiers and pursue after Sheba before he could find fortified cities.

2 Samuel 20:7**ULT**

⁷ Then Joab's men went out after him, along with the Kerethites and the Pelethites and all the mighty warriors. They left Jerusalem to pursue Sheba son of Bikri.

UST

⁷ So Abishai and Joab and the king's bodyguards and the other soldiers left Jerusalem to pursue Sheba.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 20:8**ULT**

⁸ When they were at the great stone which is at Gibeon, Amasa came to meet them. Joab was wearing the battle armor that he had put on, which included a belt around his waist with a sheathed sword fastened to it. As he walked forward, the sword fell out.

UST

⁸ When they arrived at the huge rock in the region of Gibeah, Amasa met them. Joab was wearing armor for battle and had a sword fastened to his belt. When he came close to Amasa, he allowed the sword to fall on the ground.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 20:9**ULT**

⁹ So Joab said to Amasa, "Is it well with you, my cousin?" Joab took Amasa by the beard with his right hand to kiss him.

UST

⁹ Joab said to Amasa, "Are things going well with you, my friend?" Then Joab grabbed Amasa's beard with his right hand, in order to kiss him.

What did Joab do to Amasa when Joab took Amasa by the beard with his right hand to kiss him? (vv9-10)

Joab stabbed Amasa with a dagger in his left hand.

2 Samuel 20:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Amasa did not notice the dagger that was in Joab's left hand. Joab stabbed Amasa in the stomach and his bowels spilled out to the ground. Joab did not strike him again, and Amasa died. So Joab and Abishai his brother pursued Sheba son of Bikri.

UST

¹⁰ But Amasa did not see that Joab was holding another dagger in his other hand. Joab thrust it into Amasa's belly, and his insides spilled out onto the ground. Amasa died immediately. Joab did not need to stab him again. Then Joab and his brother Abishai continued to pursue Sheba.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 20:11**ULT**

¹¹ Then one of Joab's men stood by Amasa, and the man said, "He who favors Joab, and he who is for David, let him follow Joab."

UST

¹¹ One of Joab's soldiers stood alongside Amasa's body and called out, "Everyone who wants Joab to be our commander and who wants David to be our king, go with Joab!"

How did one of Joab's men react to the stabbing of Amasa? (vv11-13)

One of Joab's men carried Amasa off the road to a field and threw a garment over him and then challenged everyone who favored Joab and David to follow Joab.

2 Samuel 20:12**ULT**

¹² Amasa lay wallowing in his blood in the middle of the road. When the man saw that all the people stood still, he carried Amasa off of the road and into a field. He threw a garment over him because he saw that everyone who came by him stood still.

UST

¹² Amasa's body was lying on the road. It was covered with blood. The soldier of Joab who had called out saw that many other of Joab's soldiers were stopping to look at it, so he dragged Amasa's body off the road into a field and threw a cloth over the body.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 20:13**ULT**

¹³ After Amasa was taken off the road, all the men followed on after Joab in pursuit of Sheba son of Bikri.

UST

¹³ After the body had been taken off the road, all the soldiers went with Joab to pursue Sheba.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 20:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Sheba passed through all the tribes of Israel to Abel Beth Maacah, and through all the land of the Bikrites, who gathered together and also pursued Sheba.

UST

¹⁴ Sheba went through all the tribes of Israel, and arrived at the city that is called Abel of Beth Maacah in the northern part of Israel. All the members of his father Bikri's clan gathered there and went with Sheba into the city.

What did Joab and the men of Judah do when they caught up with Sheba and the men of Israel at Abel of Beth Maacah? (vv14-15)

Joab and the men of Judah built a siege ramp against the city wall and tried to knock it down.

2 Samuel 20:15**ULT**

¹⁵ They caught up with him and besieged him in Abel Beth Maacah. They built up a siege ramp against the city against the wall. All the army who were with Joab battered the wall to knock it down.

UST

¹⁵ The soldiers who were with Joab found out that Sheba had gone there, so they went there and surrounded the city. They built a dirt ramp up against the city wall. They also pounded against the wall to cause it to collapse.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 20:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Then a wise woman cried out of the city, "Listen, please listen, Joab! Come near me so I may speak with you."

UST

¹⁶ Then a wise woman who was in that town stood on the top of the wall and shouted down, "Listen to me! Tell Joab to come here, because I want to talk to him!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 20:17**ULT**

¹⁷ So Joab came near to her, and the woman said, "Are you Joab?" He answered, "I am." Then she said to him, "Listen to the words of your servant." He answered, "I am listening."

UST

¹⁷ So after they told Joab, he came there, and the woman said, "Are you Joab?" He replied, "Yes, I am." She said to him, "Listen to what I say." He replied, "I am listening."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 20:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Then she spoke, "They used to say in old times, 'Surely seek advice at Abel,' and that advice would end the matter.

UST

¹⁸ She said, "Long ago people used to say, 'Go to Abel town to get good advice about your problems.' And that is what people did.

How did the woman describe her city of Abel to Joab? (vv18-19)

The woman described Abel as a city that was one of the most peaceful and faithful in Israel and also as a city that was a mother in Israel.

2 Samuel 20:19**ULT**

¹⁹ We are a city that is one of the most peaceful and faithful in Israel. You are trying to destroy a city that is a mother in Israel. Why do you want to swallow up the inheritance of Yahweh?"

UST

¹⁹ We are peaceful and loyal Israelites. Our people here are important and respected. So why are you trying to destroy a city that belongs to Yahweh?"

Briefly what did the woman ask Joab?

The woman asked Joab why he was trying to destroy the city of Abel.

2 Samuel 20:20**ULT**

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

UST

²⁰ Joab replied, "I would certainly never want to ruin or destroy your city!

What was the condition which Joab set forth to the woman whereby he and the men of Judah would withdraw from the city? (vv20-21)

The condition which Joab set forth to the woman was that if the city would give Sheba up to them, they would withdraw from the city.

2 Samuel 20:21**ULT**

²¹ That is not true. But a man from the hill country of Ephraim, named Sheba son of Bikri, has lifted up his hand against the king, against David. Give up him alone, and I will withdraw from the city." The woman said to Joab, "His head will be thrown to you over the wall."

UST

²¹ That is not what we want to do. But Bikri's son Sheba, a man from the hill area in the tribe of Ephraim, is rebelling against King David. Put this man into our hands, and then we will go away from this town." The woman replied to Joab, "Very well; we will cut off his head and throw it over the wall to you."

How did the people of the city and the woman respond to Joab's condition? (vv21-22)

The people of the city cut off the head of Sheba and threw it over the wall to Joab just as the woman had declared they would do.

2 Samuel 20:22**ULT**

²² Then the woman went to all the people in her wisdom. They cut off the head of Sheba son of Bikri, and threw it out to Joab. Then he blew the trumpet and Joab's men left the city, every man to his home. Then Joab returned to Jerusalem to the king.

UST

²² Then this woman went to the elders of the town and told them what she had said to Joab. So they cut off Sheba's head and threw it over the wall to Joab. Then Joab blew his trumpet to signal that the battle was ended, and all his soldiers left the town and returned to their homes. Joab returned to Jerusalem and told the king what had happened.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 20:23**ULT**

²³ Now Joab was over all the army of Israel, and Benaiah son of Jehoiada was over the Kerethites and over the Pelethites.

UST

²³ Joab was the commander of the entire Israelite army. Jehoiada's son Benaiah was the commander of David's bodyguards.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 20:24**ULT**

²⁴ Adoniram was over the men who did forced labor, and Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was the recorder.

UST

²⁴ Adoniram supervised the men who were forced to work for the king. Ahilud's son Jehoshaphat was the man who reported to the people everything that David decided.

What was the responsibility of Adoram?

Adoram's responsibility was to be over the men who did forced labor.

2 Samuel 20:25**ULT**

²⁵ Sheva was scribe and Zadok and Abiathar were priests.

UST

²⁵ Sheva was the official secretary. Zadok and Abiathar were the priests,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 20:26**ULT**

²⁶ Ira the Jairite was chief minister to David.

UST

²⁶ and Ira from Jair town was also one of David's priests.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 21

2 Samuel 21:1

ULT

¹ There was a famine in David's time for three years in a row, and David sought the face of Yahweh. So Yahweh said, "This famine is on you because of Saul and his murderous family, because he put the Gibeonites to death."

UST

¹ There was a famine in Israel for three years that occurred in the time that David ruled. David prayed to Yahweh about it. And Yahweh said, "In order for the famine to end, Saul's family need to be punished because Saul killed many people from the city of Gibeon."

Why was there a famine in David's time for three years in a row?

There was a famine for three years in a row because Saul and his murderous family put the Gibeonites to death.

2 Samuel 21:2

ULT

² So the king called together the Gibeonites and spoke to them. Now the Gibeonites were not from the people of Israel; they were from what remained of the Amorites. The people of Israel had sworn not to kill them, but Saul tried to kill them all anyway in his zeal for the people of Israel and Judah.

UST

² The people of Gibeon were not native born Israelites. They were a small group of the Amor people group whom the Israelites had solemnly promised to protect when they invaded the land of Canaan. But Saul had tried to kill all of them because he was very eager to enable the people of Judah and Israel to be the only ones living in that land. So the king summoned the leaders of Gibeon

Why did King David want to make atonement to the Gibeonites? (vv2-3)

King David wanted to make atonement to the Gibeonites because the people of Israel had sworn not to kill them, yet Saul tried to kill them anyway in his zeal for the people of Israel and Judah.

2 Samuel 21:3**ULT**

³ So David said to the Gibeonites, "What should I do for you? How can I make atonement, so that you may bless the people of Yahweh, who are his inheritance?"

UST

³ and said to them, "What should I do for you? How can I make up for what Saul did to your people, in order that you will bless us who belong to Yahweh and have so many good things from him?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 21:4**ULT**

⁴ The Gibeonites responded to him, "It is not a matter of silver or gold between us and Saul or his family. In the same way it is not for us to put to death any man in Israel." David replied, "What are you saying that I should do for you?"

UST

⁴ They replied, "You cannot settle our quarrel with Saul and his family by giving us silver or gold. And we do not have the right to kill any Israelites." So David asked, "Then what do you say that I should do for you?"

What did David agree to do to atone for this injustice done to the Gibeonites?

David agreed to do whatever the Gibeonites would ask of him.

2 Samuel 21:5**ULT**

⁵ They answered the king, "The man who tried to kill us all, who schemed against us, so that we are now destroyed and have no place within the borders of Israel—

UST

⁵ They replied, "Saul wanted to get rid of us. He wanted to annihilate all of us, in order that none of us would live anywhere in Israel.

What did the Gibeonites request from David to atone for Saul's actions? (vv5-6)

The Gibeonites requested that seven men who were descendants of Saul be handed over to them to be hanged before Yahweh.

2 Samuel 21:6**ULT**

⁶ let seven men from his descendants be handed over to us, and we will hang them before Yahweh in Gibeah of Saul, the one chosen by Yahweh." So the king said, "I will give them to you."

UST

⁶ Put seven of Saul's descendants into our hands. We will hang them where Yahweh is worshiped in Gibeon, our city, the city where Saul, whom Yahweh chose to be king, lived." The king replied, "Very well, I will hand them over to you."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 21:7**ULT**

⁷ But the king spared Mephibosheth son of Jonathan son of Saul, because of Yahweh's oath between them, between David and Jonathan son of Saul.

UST

⁷ The king did not hand over Saul's grandson Mephibosheth to them, because of what he and Mephibosheth's father Jonathan had solemnly promised to each other.

How did David respond to the request of the Gibeonites? (vv7-9)

David responded to the request of the Gibeonites by sparing Mephibosheth while handing over the two sons of Rizpah and the five sons of Michal who were hanged on the mountain before Yahweh by the Gibeonites.

2 Samuel 21:8**ULT**

⁸ But the king took the two sons of Rizpah daughter of Aiah, sons whom she bore to Saul—the two sons were named Armoni and Mephibosheth; and David also took the five sons of Merab ^[1] daughter of Saul, whom she bore to Adriel son of Barzillai the Meholathite.

UST

⁸ Instead, he took the two sons of Rizpah and Saul, named Armoni and Mephibosheth—Rizpah was the daughter of Aiah and had been Saul's slave wife; David also the five sons of Merab, Saul's daughter. Merab's husband was Adriel son of Barzillai, was from the city of Meholah.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 21:9**ULT**

⁹ He handed them over into the hands of the Gibeonites. They hanged them on the mountain before Yahweh, and they died all seven together. They were put to death during the time of harvest, during the first days at the beginning of barley harvest.

UST

⁹ David handed these men over to the people of Gibeon. They took those seven men to Gibeon and hanged them on a hill where they worshiped Yahweh. They died during the time of the year that the people started to harvest the barley.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 21:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Then Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah, took sackcloth and spread it for herself on the mountain beside the dead bodies, from the beginning of harvest until the rain poured down on them from the sky. She did not allow the birds of the sky to disturb the bodies by day or the wild animals by night.

UST

¹⁰ Then Rizpah took coarse cloth made from goats' hair, and spread it on the rock where the corpses lay. She stayed there from the time that people started to harvest the barley until the rains started. She did not allow any birds to come near the corpses during the day, and she did not allow any animals to come near during the night.

What did Rizpah do to express her grief for the death of her sons? (vv10-11)

Rizpah spread out sackcloth for herself beside the dead bodies on the mountain and did not allow the birds of the sky or the wild animals to disturb the bodies.

2 Samuel 21:11**ULT**

¹¹ It was told to David what Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah, the concubine of Saul, had done.

UST

¹¹ Someone told David what Rizpah had done.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 21:12**ULT**

¹² So David went 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 public square of Beth Shan, where the Philistines had hanged them, after the Philistines had killed Saul in Gilboa.

UST

¹² So he went with some of his servants to Jabesh in the region of Gilead and got the bones of Saul and his son Jonathan. The people of Jabesh had stolen their bones from the plaza in the city of Beth Shan, where the men from Philistia had hanged them on the day that they had killed Saul and Jonathan on Mount Gilboa.

Who did David take the bones of Saul and Jonathan from?

David took the bones of Saul and Jonathan from the men of Jabesh Gilead.

2 Samuel 21:13**ULT**

¹³ David took away from there the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son, and they gathered the bones of the seven men who had been hanged, as well.

UST

¹³ David and his men took the bones of Saul and Jonathan, and they also took the bones of the seven men from Gibeon who had been hanged.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 21:14**ULT**

¹⁴ They buried the bones of Saul and Jonathan his son in the country of Benjamin in Zela, in the tomb of Kish his father. They performed all that the king commanded. After that God answered their prayers for the land.

UST

¹⁴ David's servants went to the tomb of Saul's father Kish, in the city of Zela in the land of the tribe of Benjamin. There they buried the bones of Saul and Jonathan also. In this way, they did all that the king had commanded them to do. After that, because God saw that Saul's family had been punished to pay for Saul's murder of many people from Gibeon, he answered the Israelites' prayers for their land, and caused the famine to end.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 21:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Then the Philistines went to war again with Israel. So David went down with his army and fought against the Philistines. David was overcome with battle fatigue.

UST

¹⁵ The army of Philistia again started to fight against the army of Israel. And David and his soldiers went to fight them. During the battle, David became tired.

How did Abishai rescue David when he was overcome with battle fatigue? (vv15-17)

When David was overcome with battle fatigue, Abishai rescued him by killing Ishbibenob the Philistine who had intended to kill David.

2 Samuel 21:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Ishbi-Benob, a descendant of the giants, whose bronze spear weighed 300 shekels, and who was armed with a new sword, intended to kill David.

UST

¹⁶ One of the Philistine men thought that he could kill David. His name was Ishbi-Benob. He was a descendant of a group of giants. He carried a bronze spear that weighed almost three and one-half kilograms, and he also had a new sword.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 21:17**ULT**

¹⁷ But Abishai son of Zeruiah rescued David, attacked the Philistine, and killed him. Then the men of David swore to him, saying, "You must not go to battle anymore with us, so that you do not put out the lamp of Israel."

UST

¹⁷ But Abishai came to help David, and attacked the giant and killed him. Then David's soldiers forced David to promise that he would not go with them into a battle again. They said to him, "If you die, and none of your descendants become king, that would be like extinguishing the last light in Israel."

Why did the men of David insist that he not go into battle with them anymore?

The men of David insisted that David not go into battle with them anymore because they were afraid that the lamp of Israel might be put out.

2 Samuel 21:18**ULT**

¹⁸ It came about after this that there was again a battle with the Philistines at Gob, when Sibbekai the Hushathite killed Saph, who was one of the descendants of the Rephaim. ^[2]

UST

¹⁸ Some time after that, there was a battle with the army of Philistia near the village of Gob. During the battle, Sibbekai, from the clan of Hushah, killed Saph, one of the descendants of the Rapha giants.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 21:19**ULT**

¹⁹ It came about again in a battle with the Philistines at Gob, that Elhanan son of Jair the Bethlehemite killed Goliath the Gittite, the staff of whose spear was like a weaver's beam.

UST

¹⁹ Later there was another battle with the army of Philistia at Gob. During that battle, Elhanan son of Jair from Bethlehem, killed the brother of Goliath from Gath, whose spear shaft was very thick, like the bar on a weaver's loom.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 21:20**ULT**

²⁰ It came about in another battle at Gath that there was a man of great height who had six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot, 24 in number. He also was descended from the Rephaim.

UST

²⁰ Later there was another battle near Gath. There was a huge man there who liked to fight in battles. He had six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot. He was descended from the Rapha giants.

**Who did some of the people that David and his soldiers killed in Gath descend from?
(vv20-22)**

David and his soldiers killed several of the descendants of the Rephaim of Gath.

2 Samuel 21:21**ULT**

²¹ When he taunted Israel, Jonathan son of Shimeah, David's brother, killed him.

UST

²¹ But when he insulted the men in the Israelite army, Jonathan son of Shimeah, David's older brother, killed him.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 21:22**ULT**

²² These four were descendants of the Rephaim of Gath, and they were killed by the hand of David and by the hand of his soldiers.

21:8 ^[1] but 2SA 6:23 says she had no children; or Michal may have been another name for Merab.

21:18 ^[2] in the Hebrew text, some versions have or .

UST

²² Those four men were some of the descendants of the Rapha giants who had lived in Gath, who were killed by David and his soldiers.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22

2 Samuel 22:1

ULT

¹ David sang to Yahweh the words of this song on the day that Yahweh rescued him out of the hand of all his enemies, and out of the hand of Saul.

UST

¹ After Yahweh had rescued David from Saul and his other enemies, David sang a song to Yahweh.

When did David sing the song that Yahweh was the rock who rescued him? (vv1-2)

David sang the song that Yahweh was his rock on the day that Yahweh rescued him out of the hand of Saul and all his enemies.

2 Samuel 22:2

ULT

² He said, "Yahweh is my rock, my fortress, the one who rescues me.

UST

² This is what he sang: "Yahweh, you are like a huge rock on top of which I can hide. You are like a fortress, and you rescue me.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:3

ULT

³ God is my rock. I take refuge in him. He is my shield, the horn of my salvation, my stronghold, and my refuge, the one who saves me from violence.

UST

³ Yahweh, you protect me. You are like a shield, and you are the powerful one who saves me. You are like a place where I find refuge. You save me from those who act violently toward me.

What did David say was the reason for why he would call on Yahweh who was his rock? (vv3-4)

David said that the reason he would call on Yahweh his rock was because Yahweh was worthy to be praised.

2 Samuel 22:4**ULT**

⁴ I will call on Yahweh, who is worthy to be praised, and I will be saved from my enemies.

UST

⁴ I call out to you, Yahweh. You deserve to be praised, and you rescue me from my enemies.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:5**ULT**

⁵ For the waves of death surrounded me, the rushing waters of destruction overwhelmed me.

UST

⁵ I almost died. It was as if a huge wave had crashed over me, and almost destroyed me like a flood.

What did David feel like when he was in the hand of his enemies? (vv5-6)

David felt like he was surrounded by the waves of death and the cords of Sheol.

2 Samuel 22:6**ULT**

⁶ The cords of Sheol surrounded me; the snares of death trapped me.

UST

⁶ I thought that I would die. It was as though death had wrapped ropes around me, and it was as though I were in a trap where I would surely die.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:7**ULT**

⁷ In my distress I called to Yahweh; I called to my God; he heard my voice from his temple, and my call for help went into his ears.

UST

⁷ But when I was very distressed, I called out to you, Yahweh. I cried out to you, my God. You heard me from your temple. You listened when I called to you to help me.

How did David respond to his distressing circumstances?

In his distress, David called to Yahweh who heard his call for help from his temple.

2 Samuel 22:8**ULT**

⁸ Then the earth shook and trembled. The foundations of the heavens were shaken and trembled, because God was angry.

UST

⁸ Then it was as though the earth quaked and shook. It was as though the foundations that held up the sky trembled, because you were angry.

What happened because God was angry? (vv8-9)

The earth and the foundations of the heavens trembled because God was angry, and smoke came out of his nostrils and blazing fire came out of his mouth.

2 Samuel 22:9**ULT**

⁹ Smoke went up from out of his nostrils, and blazing fire came out of his mouth. Coals were ignited by it.

UST

⁹ It was as though smoke poured out of your nostrils and burning coals and fire that burns everything came out of your mouth.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:10**ULT**

¹⁰ He opened the heavens and came down, and thick darkness was under his feet.

UST

¹⁰ You tore open the skies and came down. There was a thick dark cloud under your feet.

How did Yahweh come down from the heavens? (vv10-12)

Yahweh rode on a cherub and was flying in the wings of the wind.

2 Samuel 22:11**ULT**

¹¹ He rode on a cherub and flew. He was seen on the wings of the wind. ^[1]

UST

¹¹ You rode through the sky on a winged creature. The wind enabled you to travel swiftly, like a bird.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:12**ULT**

¹² He made darkness a tent around him, gathering heavy rain clouds in the skies.

UST

¹² The darkness was around you, like a blanket thick clouds that were full of water surrounded you.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:13**ULT**

¹³ From the lightning before him coals of fire fell.

UST

¹³ Out of the lightning in front of you fire from burning coals flamed.

How did Yahweh scatter his enemies? (vv13-15)

Yahweh scattered his enemies by dispersing them with arrows and lightning bolts.

2 Samuel 22:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Yahweh thundered from the heavens. The Most High shouted.

UST

¹⁴ Then, Yahweh, you spoke like thunder from the sky. It was your voice, God, you who are greater than all other gods, that was heard.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:15**ULT**

¹⁵ He shot arrows and scattered them— lightning bolts and dispersed them.

UST

¹⁵ When you sent flashes of lightning, it was as though you shot your arrows and scattered your enemies.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Then the channels of the sea were seen; the foundations of the world were laid bare at the rebuke of Yahweh, at the blast of the breath of his nostrils.

UST

¹⁶ Then the bottom of the ocean was uncovered. The foundations of the world could be seen when you shouted, going into battle against our enemies and angry at them.

How were the foundations of the world exposed?

The foundations of the world were exposed at Yahweh's battle cry and at the blast of the breath of his nostrils.

2 Samuel 22:17**ULT**

¹⁷ He reached down from above; he took hold of me! He pulled me out of the surging water.

UST

¹⁷ Yahweh, you reached down from heaven and lifted me up. You pulled me up from the deep water.

How did Yahweh rescue David from those who hated him? (vv17-18)

Yahweh reached down from above and pulled him out of the surging water.

2 Samuel 22:18**ULT**

¹⁸ He rescued me from my strong enemy, from those who hated me, for they were too strong for me.

UST

¹⁸ You rescued me from my strong enemies, from those who hated me. I could not defeat them because they were very strong.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:19**ULT**

¹⁹ They came against me on the day of my distress, but Yahweh was my support.

UST

¹⁹ They attacked me when I was experiencing troubles, but Yahweh, you protected me.

Why did Yahweh save David? (vv19-21)

Yahweh saved David because he was pleased with him.

2 Samuel 22:20**ULT**

²⁰ He also brought me out to a wide open place. He saved me because he was pleased with me.

UST

²⁰ You brought me into a place where I was safe. You rescued me because you were pleased with me.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:21**ULT**

²¹ Yahweh has rewarded me according to my righteousness; he has restored me according to the cleanness of my hands.

UST

²¹ Yahweh, you rewarded me because I do what is right. You did good things for me because I was innocent.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:22**ULT**

²² For I have kept the ways of Yahweh and have not acted wickedly by turning from my God.

UST

²² Yahweh, I have obeyed your laws. I have not stopped worshiping you, my God.

How did David keep the ways of Yahweh? (vv22-23)

David kept the ways of Yahweh by keeping Yahweh's statutes instead of acting wickedly and turning from God.

2 Samuel 22:23**ULT**

²³ For all his righteous decrees have been before me; as for his statutes, I have not turned away from them.

UST

²³ All of your decrees were in my mind, and I did not stop obeying all your decrees.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:24**ULT**

²⁴ I have also been innocent before him, and I have kept myself from sin.

UST

²⁴ You know that I have not done anything that is evil. I have kept myself from doing things for which you would punish me.

What happened because David kept himself from sin? (vv24-25)

Yahweh restored David to the measure of his righteousness because he kept himself from sin.

2 Samuel 22:25**ULT**

²⁵ Therefore Yahweh has restored me according to my righteousness, according to my cleanness in his sight.

UST

²⁵ So you have rewarded me in return for my doing what is right, because you know that I am innocent of doing wrong things.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:26**ULT**

²⁶ To the faithful one, you show yourself to be faithful; to a man who is blameless, you show yourself to be blameless.

UST

²⁶ Yahweh, you are faithful to those who always trust in you, and you always do what is good to those whose behavior is always good.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:27**ULT**

²⁷ With the pure you show yourself pure, but you are perverse to the twisted.

UST

²⁷ You act sincerely toward those whose inner beings are pure, but you are hostile to those who are perverse.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:28**ULT**

²⁸ You save afflicted people, but your eyes are against the proud, and you bring them down.

UST

²⁸ You rescue those who are humble, but you watch those who are proud and humiliate them.

What does Yahweh do to the proud? (vv28-29)

Yahweh brings the proud down.

2 Samuel 22:29**ULT**

²⁹ For you are my lamp, Yahweh. Yahweh lights up my darkness.

UST

²⁹ Yahweh, you are like a lamp that causes it to become light when I am in the darkness.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:30**ULT**

³⁰ For by you I can run over a troop of men; by my God I can leap over a wall.

UST

³⁰ With your strength I can break through a line of soldiers blocking my way; I can climb over the wall that surrounds their city.

What is Yahweh to everyone who takes refuge in him? (vv30-31)

Yahweh is a shield to everyone who takes refuge in him.

2 Samuel 22:31**ULT**

³¹ As for God, his way is perfect. The word of Yahweh is pure. He is a shield to everyone who takes refuge in him.

UST

³¹ My God whom I worship, everything that you do is perfect. You always do what you promise that you will do. You are like a shield to all those who request you to protect them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:32**ULT**

³² For who is God except Yahweh, and who is a rock except our God?

UST

³² Yahweh, you are the only one who is God. Only you are like a huge rock on top of which which we are protected.

Why did David consider Yahweh as his refuge? (vv32-33)

David considered Yahweh as his refuge because he was his rock and led blameless people on his path.

2 Samuel 22:33**ULT**

³³ God is my refuge, and he leads the blameless person on his path.

UST

³³ God, you whom I worship are a strong refuge for me. You lead anyone who is pure in the way he should go.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:34**ULT**

³⁴ He makes my feet swift like a deer and places me on the high hills.

UST

³⁴ When I walk in the mountains, you enable me to walk safely as a deer runs, without stumbling.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:35**ULT**

³⁵ He trains my hands for war, and my arms to bend a bow of bronze.

UST

³⁵ You teach me how to fight in a battle in order that I can shoot arrows well from a very strong bow.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:36**ULT**

³⁶ You have given me the shield of your salvation, and your favor has made me great.

UST

³⁶ It is as though you have given me a shield by which you have saved me, and you have answered my prayers and caused me to become famous.

Why had the feet of David not slipped? (vv36-37)

The feet of David had not slipped because Yahweh was the shield of his salvation and had made a wide place for his feet.

2 Samuel 22:37**ULT**

³⁷ You have made a wide place for my feet beneath me, so my feet have not slipped.

UST

³⁷ You have not allowed my enemies to capture me, and I have not fallen down during battle.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:38**ULT**

³⁸ I pursued my enemies and destroyed them. I did not turn back until they were destroyed.

UST

³⁸ I pursued my enemies and defeated them. I did not stop fighting them until they were all killed.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:39**ULT**

³⁹ I devoured them and smashed them; they cannot rise. They have fallen under my feet.

UST

³⁹ I struck them down. I stabbed them with my sword, and they fell down at my feet and did not stand up again.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:40**ULT**

⁴⁰ You put strength on me like a belt for battle; you put under me those who rise up against me.

UST

⁴⁰ You have given me strength for fighting battles and caused those who were attacking me to fall down; I trampled on them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:41**ULT**

⁴¹ You gave me the back of my enemies' necks; I annihilated those who hated me.

UST

⁴¹ You caused my enemies to turn and run away from me. I destroyed those who hated me.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:42**ULT**

⁴² They cried for help, but no one saved them; they cried out to Yahweh, but he did not answer them.

UST

⁴² They looked for someone to rescue them, but no one did. They cried out to you, Yahweh, for help, but you did not answer them.

What did David do to his enemies when they cried out to Yahweh for help? (vv42-43)

After David's enemies cried out to Yahweh for help David beat them into fine pieces like dust on the ground and pulverized them like mud in the streets.

2 Samuel 22:43**ULT**

⁴³ I beat them into fine pieces like dust on the ground, I pulverized them and stamped on them like mud in the streets.

UST

⁴³ I crushed them, and they became like tiny particles of dust. I trampled them, and they became like mud in the streets.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:44**ULT**

⁴⁴ You also have rescued me from the disputes of my own people. You have kept me as the head of nations. A people that I have not known serves me.

UST

⁴⁴ You rescued me from those who tried to rebel against me, and you appointed me to rule many nations. People whom I did not know previously are now under my authority.

What did Yahweh do for David? (vv44-46)

Yahweh rescued David from the disputes of his own people and kept him as the head of nations.

2 Samuel 22:45**ULT**

⁴⁵ Sons of foreigners were forced to bow to me. As soon as they heard of me, they obeyed me.

UST

⁴⁵ Foreigners humbly bowed down in front of me. As soon as they heard about me, they obeyed me.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:46**ULT**

⁴⁶ The sons of foreigners faded away; they came trembling out of their strongholds.

UST

⁴⁶ They became afraid, and they came to me, trembling, from the places where they were hiding.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:47**ULT**

⁴⁷ Yahweh lives! May my rock be praised. May God be exalted, the rock of my salvation.

UST

⁴⁷ Yahweh, you are alive! I praise you! You are like a huge rock on top of which I am safe! You are the one who rescues me. Everyone should exalt you.

What did Yahweh do on behalf of David? (vv47-49)

Yahweh executed vengeance for David and set him free from his enemies.

2 Samuel 22:48**ULT**

⁴⁸ This is the God who executes vengeance for me, the one who brings down peoples under me.

UST

⁴⁸ You enable me to conquer my enemies, and you cause people of other nations to be under my authority.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:49**ULT**

⁴⁹ He sets me free from my enemies. Indeed, you lifted me up above those who rose up against me. You rescue me from violent men.

UST

⁴⁹ You delivered me from my enemies, and you caused me to be honored more than they were. You rescued me from men who always acted violently.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 22:50**ULT**

⁵⁰ Therefore I will worship you, Yahweh, among the nations; I will sing praises to your name.

UST

⁵⁰ Because of all this, I praise you among many people groups, and I sing to praise you.

Why did David sing praises to the name of Yahweh? (vv50-51)

David sang praises to the name of Yahweh because he gave him great victory and showed his covenant loyalty to him.

2 Samuel 22:51**ULT**

⁵¹ God gives great victory to his king, and he shows his covenant faithfulness to his anointed one, to David and to his descendants forever."
22:11 ^[1].

UST

⁵¹ You enable me, whom you appointed to be king, to conquer my enemies. You faithfully love me, David, and you will love my descendants forever."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23

2 Samuel 23:1

ULT

¹ Now these are the last words of David, a declaration by David son of Jesse, a declaration by the man who was highly honored, the one anointed by the God of Jacob, the sweet psalmist of Israel.

UST

¹ David son of Jesse, was a man whom God caused to become great. The God whom Jacob worshiped made him king of Israel. David wrote beautiful songs for the people of Israel. This is the last song that he wrote:

For what was David known? (vv1-2)

David was the man who was highly honored and anointed by the God of Jacob.

2 Samuel 23:2

ULT

² "The Spirit of Yahweh spoke by me, and his word was on my tongue.

UST

² "The Spirit of Yahweh tells me what to say. The message that I speak comes from him.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:3

ULT

³ The God of Israel spoke, the Rock of Israel said to me, 'The one who rules righteously over men, who rules in the fear of God.

UST

³ God, the one whom we Israelite people worship, has spoken. The one who protects us people of Israel said to me, 'Kings who rule fairly over people have an awesome respect for me, God.

What did the God of Israel say to David? (vv3-4)

The God Israel said that the one who rules in the fear of God will be like the morning light when the sun rises.

2 Samuel 23:4**ULT**

⁴ He will be like the morning light when the sun rises, a morning without clouds, when the tender grass springs up from the earth through bright sunshine after rain.

UST

⁴ They are like the sun that shines at dawn and causes the grass to sprout after the rain ends.'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:5**ULT**

⁵ Indeed, is my family not like this before God? Has he not made an everlasting covenant with me, ordered and sure in every way? Does he not increase my salvation and fulfill my every desire?

UST

⁵ And truly, that is how God will surely bless my family because he made a covenant with me that will last forever, a covenant in which he promises that no part of it will ever be changed. He will surely cause me to prosper, and he will always help me, and that is all that I desire.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:6**ULT**

⁶ But the worthless will all be like thorns to be thrown away, because they cannot be gathered by one's hands.

UST

⁶ But he will get rid of people who do not honor him, just as people throw away thorns that injure people if they try to pick them up with their hands.

Why will the worthless be like thorns to be thrown away? (vv6-7)

The worthless will be like thorns to be thrown away because they cannot be gathered by one's hands.

2 Samuel 23:7**ULT**

⁷ The man who touches them must use an iron tool or the shaft of a spear. They must be burned up where they lie.”

UST

⁷ Someone who wants to get rid of thornbushes does not grab them, but he uses an iron shovel or a spear to dig them out and then he burns them completely.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:8**ULT**

⁸ These are the names of David’s mighty men: Jeshbaal the Hachmonite was the leader of the mighty men. He wielded his spear and killed 800 men on one occasion. ^[1]

UST

⁸ These are the names of David’s greatest soldiers. The first was Jeshbaal, from the Hachmon clan. He was the leader of the greatest soldiers. Once he fought against eight hundred enemies and killed them all with his spear.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:9**ULT**

⁹ After him was Eleazar son of Dodai the Ahohite, one of the three mighty men. He was with David when they taunted the Philistines who had gathered together to do battle, and when the men of Israel had retreated.

UST

⁹ The second of the greatest warriors was Eleazar son of Dodo, who was from the clan of Ahoh. One day he was with David when they defied the soldiers of Philistia who had gathered there for the battle. The other Israelite soldiers retreated,

How did Eleazar defy the Philistines when they gathered together to do battle? (vv9-10)

Eleazar fought the Philistines until his hand became weary and he struggled to grip the sword.

2 Samuel 23:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Eleazar stood and fought the Philistines until his hand became weary and his hand stiffened to the grip of his sword. Yahweh brought about a great victory that day. The army returned after Eleazar, only to strip the bodies.

UST

¹⁰ but Eleazar stood there and fought the soldiers of Philistia until his arm became very tired, with the result that his hand cramped and he could not stop gripping his sword. Yahweh won a great victory on that day. And afterwards the other Israelite soldiers returned to where Eleazar was, and stripped off the armor from the men whom he had killed.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:11**ULT**

¹¹ After him was Shammah son of Agee, a Hararite. The Philistines gathered together where there was an area of a field full of lentils, and the army fled from them.

UST

¹¹ The third of the greatest warriors was Shammah son of Agee from the clan of Harar. One time the Philistine soldiers gathered at the city of Lehi, where there was a field full of lentils that they wanted to steal. The other Israelite soldiers ran away from the Philistine troops,

What did Shammah defend against the Philistines? (vv11-12)

Shammah stood in the middle of a field of lentils and defended it.

2 Samuel 23:12**ULT**

¹² But Shammah stood in the middle of the field and defended it. He killed the Philistines, and Yahweh brought about a great victory.

UST

¹² but Shammah stood there in the field and did not let the Philistine soldiers steal the peas, and killed them. Yahweh won a great victory on that day.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:13**ULT**

¹³ Three of the thirty soldiers went down to David at harvest time, to the cave of Adullam. The army of the Philistines was camped in the Valley of Rephaim.

UST

¹³ At one time, when it was almost time to harvest the crops, three of those thirty men went down to the Cave of Adullam, where David was staying. A group of men from the Philistine army had set up their tents in the Valley of Rephaim near Jerusalem.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:14**ULT**

¹⁴ At that time David was in his stronghold, while the Philistines had established a garrison at Bethlehem.

UST

¹⁴ David and his soldiers were in the cave because it was safe there, and another group of Philistine soldiers was occupying Bethlehem.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:15**ULT**

¹⁵ David was longing for water and said, "If only someone would give me water to drink from the well at Bethlehem, the well that is by the gate!"

UST

¹⁵ One day David very much wanted some water to drink, and said, "I wish that someone would bring me some water from the well near the gate at Bethlehem!"

What did the three mighty men do when they heard that David was longing for water from the well at Bethlehem? (vv15-16)

The three mighty men broke through the army of the Philistines and brought back water from the well of Bethlehem to David.

2 Samuel 23:16**ULT**

¹⁶ So these three mighty men broke through the army of the Philistines and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem, the well at the gate. They took the water and brought it to David, but he refused to drink it. Instead, he poured it out to Yahweh.

UST

¹⁶ So his three greatest warriors forced through the camp of Philistine soldiers and drew some water from the well, and brought it to David. But he would not drink it. Instead, he poured it out on the ground to be an offering to Yahweh.

Why did David refuse to drink the water from the well at Bethlehem? (vv16-17)

David refused to drink the water from the well at Bethlehem because the men had risked their lives for it, so instead he poured it out as an offering to Yahweh.

2 Samuel 23:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Then he said, "Yahweh, far be it from me, that I should do this. Should I drink the blood of men who have risked their lives?" So he refused to drink it. These things were done by the three mighty men.

UST

¹⁷ He said, "Yahweh, it would certainly not be right for me to drink this water! That would be like drinking the blood of these men who were willing to die for me!" So he refused to drink it. That was one of the things that those three great warriors did.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Abishai, brother of Joab and son of Zeruiah, was captain over the three. He once fought with his spear against 300 men and killed them. He was often mentioned along with the three.

UST

¹⁸ Abishai, Joab's younger brother, was the leader of David's greatest soldiers. One day he fought against three hundred men and killed them all with his spear. As a result, he also became famous.

For what was Abishai known? (vv18-19)

Abishai was made captain over the three soldiers and once killed three hundred men with his spear.

2 Samuel 23:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Was he not even more famous than the three? He was made their captain. However, his fame did not equal the fame of the three most famous soldiers.

UST

¹⁹ He was the most famous of the greatest soldiers, and he became their leader, but even he was not one of the three greatest warriors.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:20**ULT**

²⁰ Benaiah from Kabzeel was the son of Jehoiada; he was a strong man who did mighty feats. He killed the two sons of Ariel of Moab. He also went down into a pit and killed a lion while it was snowing.

UST

²⁰ Jehoiada's son Benaiah, from the city of Kabzeel, also did great deeds. He killed two of the best warriors from the Moab people group. Also, he went down into a pit on a day when snow was falling on the ground, and killed a lion there.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:21**ULT**

²¹ Then he killed a very large Egyptian man. The Egyptian had a spear in his hand, but Benaiah fought against him with only a staff. He seized the spear out of the Egyptian's hand and then killed him with his own spear.

UST

²¹ He also killed a huge soldier from Egypt who carried a spear. Benaiah had only his club, but he attacked the giant with it. Then he snatched the spear from the man's hand and killed him with his own spear.

How did Benaiah kill a very large Egyptian man?

Benaiah, who only had a staff, fought against the very large Egyptian man who had a spear in his hand. Benaiah seized the spear from the Egyptian's hand and killed him with it.

2 Samuel 23:22**ULT**

²² Benaiah son of Jehoiada did these feats, and he was named alongside the three mighty men.

UST

²² Those are some of the things that Benaiah did. As a result, he became famous, like the three greatest warriors were.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:23**ULT**

²³ He was more highly regarded than the thirty soldiers in general, but he was not regarded quite as highly as the three mighty men. Yet David put him in charge of his bodyguard.

UST

²³ He was more honored than the other greatest soldiers, but not as famous as the three greatest. David appointed him to be the commander of his bodyguards.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:24**ULT**

²⁴ The thirty included the following men: Asahel brother of Joab, Elhanan son of Dodo from Bethlehem,

UST

²⁴ These are the names of the great warriors:

Asahel, the younger brother of Joab,

Elhanan son of Dodo, from Bethlehem,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:25**ULT**

²⁵ Shammah the Harodite, Elikah the Harodite,

UST

²⁵ Shammah and Elikah, from the clan of Harod,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:26**ULT**

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

UST

²⁶ Helez, from the city of Pelet,

Ira son of Ikkesh, from the city of Tekoa,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:27**ULT**

²⁷ Abiezer the Anathothite, Sibbekai ^[2] the Hushathite,

UST

²⁷ Abiezer, from the city of Anathoth,

Mebunnai whose other name was Sibbekai, from Hushah's clan,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:28**ULT**

²⁸ Zalmon the Ahohite, Maharai the Netophathite;

UST

²⁸ Zalmon whose other name was Ilai, from Ahoh's clan,
Maharai, from the city of Netophah,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:29**ULT**

²⁹ Heleb son of Baanah, the Netophathite, Ithai son of Ribai from Gibeah of the Benjamites,

UST

²⁹ Heleb son of Baanah, also from Netophah,
Ithai son of Ribai, from the city of Gibeah in the land that belonged to the tribe of Benjamin,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:30**ULT**

³⁰ Benaiah the Pirathonite, Hiddai of the valleys of Gaash.

UST

³⁰ Benaiah, from the city of Pirathon,
Hiddai, from the valleys near the valleys of Gaash,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:31**ULT**

³¹ Abi-Albon the Arbathite, Azmaveth the Barhumite,

UST

³¹ Abi-Albon, from the clan of Arabah,
Azmaveth, from the city of Bahurim,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:32**ULT**

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

UST

³² Eliahba, from the city of Shaalbon—
The sons of Jashen,
Jonathan son of Shammah from the city of Harar,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:33**ULT**

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

UST

³³ Ahiam the son of Sharar, from Harar,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:34**ULT**

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

UST

³⁴ Eliphelet son of Ahasbai, from the city of Maacah,

Eliam son of Ahithophel, from the city of Gilo,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:35**ULT**

³⁵ Hezro the Carmelite, Paarai the Arbite,

UST

³⁵ Hezro, from the city of Carmel,

Paarai, from the city of Arba,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:36**ULT**

³⁶ Igal son of Nathan from Zobah, Bani from the tribe of Gad,

UST

³⁶ Igal son of Nathan, from the city of Zobah,

Bani, from the tribe of Gad;

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:37**ULT**

³⁷ Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai the Beerothite, armor bearer to Joab son of Zeruiah,

UST

³⁷ Zelek, from the Ammon people group,

Naharai, the man who carried Joab's weapons, from the city of Beeroth,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:38**ULT**

³⁸ Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite,

UST

³⁸ Ira and Gareb, from the city of Jattir,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 23:39**ULT**

³⁹ Uriah the Hittite—37 in all.

23:8 ^[1], some versions have , , , or . These all are probably forms of the same name.

23:27 ^[2]. See also 2 Samuel 21:18 and 1 Chronicles 11:29. The Hebrew text has, .

UST

³⁹ Uriah, Bathsheba's husband, from the Heth people group. Altogether, there were thirty-seven famous soldiers.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 24

2 Samuel 24:1

ULT

¹ Again the anger of Yahweh was ignited against Israel, and he moved David against them saying, "Go, count Israel and Judah."

UST

¹ Yahweh was angry with the Israelite people again, so he incited David to cause trouble for them. He said to David, "Send some men to count the people of Israel and Judah."

What did David ask Joab to do? (vv1-2)

David asked Joab to count the people in all the tribes of Israel to determine the total number of men fit for battle.

2 Samuel 24:2

ULT

² The king said to Joab the commander of the army, who was with him, "Go, now, throughout all the tribes of Israel, from Dan to Beersheba, and count all the people, so that I may know the total number of men fit for battle."

UST

² So the king said to Joab, the commander of his army, "Go with your officers through all the tribes of Israel, from Dan in the far north to Beersheba in the far south, and count the people, in order that I may know how many people there are who are able to be soldiers in the army."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 24:3

ULT

³ Joab said to the king, "May Yahweh your God multiply the number of people a hundred times, and may the eyes of my master the king see it take place. But why does my master the king want this?"

UST

³ But Joab replied to the king, "Your Majesty, I wish that Yahweh our God will cause there to be a hundred times as many people in Israel as there are now, and I wish that you would see that happen before you die. But why do you want us to do this?"

Why was Joab reluctant to do as David asked? (vv3-4)

Joab was reluctant to obey David because he did not understand why his master the king wanted this done.

2 Samuel 24:4**ULT**

⁴ Nevertheless, the king's word was final against Joab and against the commanders of the army. So Joab and the commanders went out from the king's presence to count the people of Israel.

UST

⁴ But the king commanded Joab and his officers to do it. So they left the king and went out to count the people of Israel.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 24:5**ULT**

⁵ They crossed over the Jordan and encamped near Aroer, south of the city in the valley. Then they traveled on through Gad to Jazer.

UST

⁵ They crossed the Jordan River and set up their tents south of Aroer, in the middle of the valley, in the territory that was given to the tribe of Gad. From there they went north to Jazer.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 24:6**ULT**

⁶ They came to Gilead and to the land of Tahtim Hodshi, then on to Dan Jaan and around toward Sidon.

UST

⁶ Then they went north to Gilead and to Kadesh, in the land where the Heth people group lived. Then they went to Dan in the far north of Israel, and then further west, to Sidon near the Mediterranean Sea.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 24:7**ULT**

⁷ They reached the stronghold of Tyre and all the cities of the Hivites and the Canaanites. Then they went out to the Negev in Judah at Beersheba.

UST

⁷ Then they went south to Tyre, a city with high walls around it, and to all the cities where the Hiv and Canaan people groups lived. Then they went east to Beersheba, in the southern wilderness of Judah.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 24:8**ULT**

⁸ When they had gone throughout all the land, they came back to Jerusalem at the end of nine months and 20 days.

UST

⁸ After nine months and twenty days, when they had finished going throughout the land and counting the people, they returned to Jerusalem.

How long did it take for Joab to go throughout all the land and come back to Jerusalem?

It took Joab nine months and twenty days to go throughout all the land and return to Jerusalem.

2 Samuel 24:9**ULT**

⁹ Then Joab reported the total of the count of the fighting men to the king. There were in Israel 800000 brave men who drew the sword, and the men of Judah were 500000 men.

UST

⁹ They reported to the king the number of people that they had counted. There were 800,000 men in Israel and 500,000 men in Judah who were able to become soldiers in the army.

How many fighting men were counted by Joab?

Joab counted eight hundred thousand brave men in Israel and five hundred thousand men in Judah.

2 Samuel 24:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Then David's heart afflicted him after he had counted the men. So he said to Yahweh, "I have greatly sinned by doing this. Now, please, Yahweh, take away your servant's guilt, for I have acted very foolishly."

UST

¹⁰ But after David's men had counted the people, David regretted that he had told them to do that. One night he said to Yahweh, "I have committed a very great sin. Please forgive me, because what I have done is very foolish."

Why was David's heart afflicted after he had Joab count the men?

David's heart was afflicted because he realized he had acted very foolishly and committed a great sin.

2 Samuel 24:11**ULT**

¹¹ When David rose up in the morning, the word of Yahweh came to the prophet Gad, David's seer, saying,

UST

¹¹ When David got up the next morning, Yahweh gave a message to the prophet Gad. He said to him,

What message did Yahweh give to David through his prophet? (vv11-12)

Yahweh told David he was to pick one of three choices.

2 Samuel 24:12**ULT**

¹² "Go say to David: 'This is what Yahweh says: "I am giving you three choices. Choose one of them for me to do to you.'"

UST

¹² "Go and tell this to David, 'I am allowing you to choose one of three things to punish you. I will do whichever one you choose.'"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 24:13**ULT**

¹³ So Gad went to David and said to him, "Will three years of famine come to you in your land? Or will you flee three months from your enemies while they pursue you? Or will there be three days of plague in your land? Now decide what answer I should return to him who sent me this message."

UST

¹³ So Gad went to David and told him what Yahweh had said. He said to David, "You can choose whether there will be three years of famine in your land, or three months of your army running away from your enemies, or three days when there will be a plague in your land. You must think about it and choose which one you want, and tell me, and I will return to Yahweh and tell him what your answer is."

What three choices did Yahweh give to David through his prophet Gad?

Yahweh asked David if he wanted three years of famine, or fleeing three months from his enemies, or three days of plagues in the land.

2 Samuel 24:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Then David said to Gad, "I am in deep trouble. Let us fall into Yahweh's hands rather than into the hand of man, for his merciful actions are very great."

UST

¹⁴ David said to Gad, "All those are very terrible things for me to choose between! But allow Yahweh to punish me, because he is very merciful. Do not allow humans to punish me, because they will not be merciful."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 24:15**ULT**

¹⁵ So Yahweh sent a plague on Israel from the morning to a fixed time, and 70000 people died from Dan to Beersheba.

UST

¹⁵ So Yahweh sent a plague on the Israelite people. It started that morning and did not stop until the time that he had chosen. All over the land, from Dan to Beersheba, there were seventy thousand Israelites who died because of the plague.

Why did not more than seventy thousand people die in the plague? (vv15-16)

Only seventy thousand people died in the plague because Yahweh changed his mind and drew back his hand.

2 Samuel 24:16**ULT**

¹⁶ When the angel reached out with his hand toward Jerusalem to destroy it, Yahweh changed his mind because of the harm it would cause, and he said to the angel who was destroying people, "Enough! Now draw back your hand." At that time the angel of Yahweh was standing at the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.

UST

¹⁶ When Yahweh's angel stretched out his hand toward Jerusalem to destroy the people by this plague, Yahweh grieved about punishing any more people. He said to the angel who was killing them with the plague, "Stop what you are doing! That is enough!" When he said that, the angel was standing at the ground where Araunah, from the Jebus people group, threshed grain.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 24:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Then David spoke to Yahweh when he saw the angel who had attacked the people, and said, "Behold, I have sinned, and I have acted perversely. But these sheep, what have they done? Please let your hand punish me and my father's family!"

UST

¹⁷ When David saw the angel who was causing the people to become sick and die, he said to Yahweh, "Truly, I am the one who has committed the sin. I have done a very wicked thing, but these people are as innocent as sheep. They have certainly not done anything that is wrong. So you should punish me and my family, not these people!"

What did David request of Yahweh when he realized his great sin?

David asked Yahweh to punish him and his father's family instead of the people of Israel for the great sin.

2 Samuel 24:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Then Gad came that day to David and said to him, "Go up and build an altar for Yahweh at the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite."

UST

¹⁸ That day Gad came to David and said to him, "Go up to the place where Araunah threshes grain, and build an altar to worship Yahweh there."

What did Gad the prophet tell David to do? (vv18-20)

Gad told David to go up and build an altar to Yahweh at the threshing floor of Araunah.

2 Samuel 24:19**ULT**

¹⁹ So David went up as Gad instructed him to do, as Yahweh had commanded.

UST

¹⁹ So David did what Gad told him to do, which was what Yahweh had commanded, and he went up there.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 24:20**ULT**

²⁰ Araunah looked out and saw the king and his servants approaching. So Araunah went out and bowed to the king with his face to the ground.

UST

²⁰ When Araunah looked down and saw the king and his officials coming toward him, he prostrated himself on the ground in front of the king, with his face touching the ground.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 24:21**ULT**

²¹ Then Araunah said, "Why has my master the king come to me, his servant?" David replied, "To buy your threshing floor, so I can build an altar for Yahweh, so that the plague may be removed from the people."

UST

²¹ Araunah said, "Your Majesty, why have you come to me?" David replied, "I have come to buy this ground where you thresh grain, in order to build an altar to Yahweh and offer sacrifices on it, so that he will stop the plague."

What was David's purpose for going to Araunah?

David wanted to buy the threshing floor of Araunah so he could build an altar for Yahweh to remove the plague from his people.

2 Samuel 24:22**ULT**

²² Araunah said to David, "Take it and offer it, my master the king. Do with it what is good in your sight. Look, here are oxen for the burnt offering and threshing sledges and ox yokes for the wood."

UST

²² Araunah replied to David, "Your Majesty, offer to Yahweh whatever you wish. Here, take my oxen to use for the offering that will be completely burned on the altar. And here, take their yokes and the boards that I use for the threshing, and use them for the wood that you will burn."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 24:23**ULT**

²³ All this, my king, I, Araunah, will give to you." Then he said to the king, "May Yahweh your God accept you."

UST

²³ I, Araunah, am giving all this to you, my king." Then he said, "I desire that Yahweh our God will accept your offering."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 24:24**ULT**

²⁴ The king said to Araunah, "No, I insist on buying it at a price. I will not offer as a burnt offering to Yahweh, my God, anything that costs me nothing." So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.

UST

²⁴ But the king said to Araunah, "No, I will not take these things as a gift. I will pay you for it. I will not offer sacrifices that have cost me nothing, and offer them to Yahweh to be completely burned on the altar." So he paid fifty pieces of silver to Araunah for the oxen and the ground.

Why did David insist on buying Araunah's threshing floor at a price?

David told Araunah that he insisted on buying it at a price because he would not offer to Yahweh as a burnt offering anything that cost him nothing.

2 Samuel 24:25**ULT**

²⁵ David built an altar for Yahweh there and offered on it burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. So Yahweh answered the prayer on behalf of the land, and the plague on Israel was confined.

UST

²⁵ Then David built an altar to Yahweh, and he offered the oxen to be completely burned on the altar, and he also offered sacrifices to restore fellowship with Yahweh. Then, Yahweh answered David's prayers, and he caused the plague in Israel to end.

How did David stop the plague in Israel?

David stopped the plague in Israel by building an altar for Yahweh and sacrificing burnt offerings and fellowship offerings on it.

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