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2 Samuel

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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 striking the Amalekites. And David remained in Ziklag {for} 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 Amalakites and remained in Ziklag for two days.

2 Samuel 1:2

ULT

² And it happened on the third day—and look, 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, and he fell to the ground, and he 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 from this are you coming?" And he said to him, "From the camp of Israel I escaped."

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, "How was the matter? Inform me, please." And he said that the people fled from the war, and also many fell from the people and died, and even Saul and Jonathan his son died.

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 informed him, "How do you know that Saul and Jonathan his son died?"

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 informed him, said, "I surely happened to be on the mountain of Gilboa, and look, Saul was leaning on his spear. And look, the chariots and the masters of the chariot horses overtook 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 he turned behind him, and he saw me. And he called 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, 'Please, stand over me and kill me, for agony has grabbed me, although all my life {is} still 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 And I stood over him and I killed him, because I knew that he would not live after his having fallen. And I took the crown that {was} on his head and the band that {was} on his arm and I brought them to my lord here."

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 they wept and they fasted until the evening for Saul and for Jonathan his son and for the people 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 informed him, "Where from this {are} you?" And he said, "A son of a man, a foreigner, an Amalekite, {am} I."

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 to one of the young men, and he said, "Come near. Confront 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 answered 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.' Look, {it is} written on the Scroll of the Upright:

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 splendor of Israel on your high places—slain! 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 “Let them not declare {it} in Gath; let them not bear news in the streets of Ashkelon, lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph.

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— no dew and no rain on you, nor fields of offerings, for there, the shield of the mighty was defiled; the shield of Saul, 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 beloved ones 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 {with} scarlet, with jewelry, the one who put an ornament 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 war! Jonathan on your high places {is} slain.

UST

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

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 1:26**ULT**

²⁶ Distress {belongs} to me concerning you, my brother Jonathan. You were very pleasant to me. Your love was more wonderful to me 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 perished the weapons of war!"

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, and David inquired of Yahweh, saying, "Should I go up into one of the cities of Judah?" And Yahweh said to him, "Go up." And David said, "Where should I go up?" 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 And David went up there and also two of his 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 his men who {were} with him, David brought up, each man and his house. And they dwelt 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 informed David, saying, "The men of Jabesh-Gilead {are} those 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 And David sent messengers to the men of Jabesh-Gilead, and he said to them, "Blessed are you by Yahweh, because you did this kindness with your lord, 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 with you kindness and faithfulness. And also I myself will do with you this good {thing} 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 But now, let your hands be strong, and become sons of valor, for Saul your lord died, and also the house of Judah has anointed me as 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 the son of Ner, {the} captain of {the} troop which {belonged} to Saul, took Ishbosheth the son of Saul, and he 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 Israel—all of it.

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 A son of 40 years {was} Ishbosheth the son of Saul when he became king over Israel, and he was king two years. Nevertheless, 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 it happened, 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 the son of Ner and the servants of Ishbosheth the 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 But Joab the son of Zeruiah and the servants of David went out and confronted them by the pool of Gibeon together. And they sat down—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 get up and fight to our faces." And Joab said, "Let them get up."

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 And they got up, and they crossed over by number—12 for Benjamin and for Ishbosheth the son of Saul and 12 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 they seized, each one, his neighbor by the head, and his sword in the side of his neighbor, and they fell together. And he called that place, "Helkath Hazzurim," 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 war was extremely severe on that day. And Abner and the men of Israel were struck to the face of 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 And the three sons of Zeruiah were there: Joab and Abishai and Asahel. And Asahel {was} light 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 did not turn aside to go 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 Zeruah pursued Abner?

Asahel closely pursued Abner and followed him.

2 Samuel 2:20**ULT**

²⁰ And Abner turned behind him, and he said, “{Is} this 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, you, to your right or to your left and grab, you, one from the young men and take, you, his spoil.” But Asahel was not willing to turn 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 still continued, saying to Asahel, “Turn aside, you, from behind me. Why should I strike you to the ground? And how could I lift my face to 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 Abner struck him with the back of the spear in the stomach, and the spear went out from his back. And he fell there, and he died under him. And it happened, all the people who came to the place where Asahel fell there and died—and 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 the sun was going), and they themselves came to the hill of Ammah, which is on the face of Giah, the way of 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 became one troop. And they stood on the top of one hill.

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 And Abner called to Joab, and he said, "Will the sword eat forever? Do you not know that bitterness will be in the end? And how long will you not say 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, "{By} the life of God, that if you had not spoken, surely then from the morning the people would have pulled back, each from after his brother."

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 And Joab blasted on the trumpet, and all the people stood, and they did not again pursue after Israel. And they did not continue to fight again.

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 walked all that night through the Arabah. And they crossed the Jordan, and they walked all the morning, and they entered 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 19 men and Asahel were missing 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 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 they buried him in the tomb of his father, which {was in} Bethlehem. And Joab and his men walked all of the night, and it became light for 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 went strongly, but the house of Saul went poorly.

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 it happened, his firstborn {was} Amnon, by Ahinoam the Jezreelite.

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 {was} Kileab, by Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite. And the third {was} Absalom the son of Maacah the daughter of Talmai the 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 the son of Haggith. And the fifth {was} Shephatiah the 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 {was} Ithream by Eglah the wife of David. 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, when the war was between the house of Saul and between the house of David, and 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 a concubine {belonged} to Saul, and her name {was} Rizpah the daughter of Aiah. And he said to Abner, "Why have you gone in to the concubine of my father?"

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 it was very hot to Abner concerning the words of Ishbosheth, and he said, “{Am} I the head of a dog who {belongs} to Judah? Today I am doing kindness with the house of Saul, your father, to his brothers, and to his friends, and I will not let you fall into the hand of David. And today you charge against me the iniquity of the 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 Thus may God do to Abner, and thus may he add to him, if, as Yahweh has sworn to David, that thus I will 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 take away the kingdom from the house of Saul and to establish the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan and 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 still not able to return {to} Abner a word, because of his fearing 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, "To whom {belongs} the land?" saying, "Cut your covenant with me, and look, my hand {is} with you, to make all of Israel turn 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 Ishbosheth. 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 myself will cut a covenant with you. Only one thing I am asking from you, saying, 'You will not see my face unless to my face you bring Michal the daughter of Saul 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 And David sent messengers to Ishbosheth the son of Saul, saying, "Give {me} my wife Michal, whom I betrothed to myself with 100 foreskins of Philistines."

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 the 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, until Bahurim. And Abner said to him, "Go, return." And he returned.

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 But the word of Abner was with the elders of Israel saying, "Both yesterday and the day before, you were seeking David {to be} 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 David my servant, {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 which {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 20 men. And David 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 get up, 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 that you may be king over everything that your soul desires." And David sent Abner, and he went 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 look, the servants of David and Joab came from a raid, and they brought with them much plunder. But Abner, he was not with David in Hebron because he had sent him, 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 informed Joab, saying, "Abner the son of Ner came to the king, and he sent him, 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 he said, "What have you done? Look, Abner came to you! Why {is} this you have let him go, and he is certainly 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 Abner the son of Ner, that he came to persuade you and to know your going out and your coming in and to know everything that 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 turned him aside to the middle of the gate to speak with him in the quiet. And there he struck him {in} the stomach, and he died in exchange 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 David heard after this, and he said, "I and my kingdom {are} innocent with Yahweh forever from the blood of Abner the 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 May it turn on the head of Joab and to the whole house of his father, and may not a person who is discharging or a leprous person or a person who is strong with the spindle or a person who falls by the sword or a person who lacks bread be excluded from the house of Joab.”

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 And Joab and Abishai his brother killed Abner on account that he had murdered Asahel their brother in Gibeon during the war.

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 And David said to Joab and to all the people who {were} with him, “Tear your clothes and put on sackcloth and mourn to the face of Abner.” And King David was walking behind the funeral bed.

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 And they buried Abner in Hebron. And the king raised his voice, and he wept at the tomb of Abner, and all the people 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 he said, "Just as a fool dies, should Abner die?"

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, and your feet were not put into shackles. Like falling to the face of sons of injustice, you have fallen." And all the people continued to weep for 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 And all the people came to provide David {with} bread while {it was} still day, but David swore, saying, "Thus may God do to me, and thus may he continue, if, to the face of the going of the sun, I taste bread or any anything."

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 And all the people recognized, and it was good in their eyes, just as everything that the king did {was} good in the eyes of all the people.

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 And all the people and all Israel knew on that day that it was not from the king to murder Abner the 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 And the king said to his servants, "Do you not know that a captain and a great {person} fell 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 But I {am} tender today, though anointed king. But these men, the sons of Zeruiah, {are} more severe than I. May Yahweh repay the person who does evil according to his evil."

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 And the son of Saul heard that Abner died in Hebron, and his hands failed, and all Israel was horrified.

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 And two men, captains of troops, were a son of Saul. The name of the one {was} Baanah and the name of the second {was} Recab—sons of Rimmon the Beerothite from the sons of Benjamin (because Beeroth is also accounted to 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 they have been sojourning there until this day).

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 And to Jonathan the son of Saul {belonged} a son who was crippled {in his} feet. He was a son of five years when the report about Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel. His nurse carried him and fled. And it happened, when she hurried to flee, that he fell and became lame. And 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 And the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, Recab and Baanah, walked, and at about the heat of the day they went to the house of Ishbosheth, as he was lying down {on} the noontime bed.

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 And look, they came up to the midst of the house to take wheat, and they struck him in the stomach. And Recab and Baanah his brother 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 And they entered the house, and he was laying on his bed in the inner room of his bed, and they struck him, and they murdered him, and they removed his head. And they took his head, and they walked the way of the Arabah all night.

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 And they brought the head of Ishbosheth to David {at} Hebron, and they said to the king, "Look, the head of Ishbosheth the son of Saul your enemy, who sought your life. And Yahweh has given to my lord the king vengeance this day against Saul and against his seed."

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 And David answered Recab and Baanah his brother, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, and he said to them, "{By} the life of Yahweh, who delivered my life from every distress,

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 the person who informed me, saying, 'Look, Saul is dead'—and he was like a person bringing {good} news in his eyes—and I grabbed him, and I killed him at Ziklag, which {was} me giving good news to him.

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 men of wickedness have killed a man of righteousness in his house on his bed! And now, should I not seek his blood from your hand and purge 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 And David commanded the young men, and they killed them, and they cut off their hands and their feet, and they hung {them} beside the pool in Hebron. But the head of Ishbosheth they took, and they buried 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 And all the tribes of Israel came to David, to Hebron. And they said, saying, "Look at us, we {are} your bone and your flesh.

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 Both yesterday and the day before, when Saul was king over us, you yourself were the person who brought out and the person who brought in Israel. And Yahweh said to you, "You yourself will shepherd my people, Israel, and you yourself will become leader 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 And all the elders of Israel came to the king, to Hebron, and King David cut for them a covenant in Hebron to the face of Yahweh. And they anointed David as 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 A son of 30 years {was} David when he became king. He was king 40 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 was king over Judah seven years and six months. And in Jerusalem, he was king 33 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 And the king and his men went {to} Jerusalem, to the Jebusites, the people who lived {in} the land. And he said to David, saying, "You will not come here unless the blind people and the lame people remove you," saying, "David will not 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 And David captured the mountain stronghold of Zion—it {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 And David said on that day, "Anyone striking the Jebusites (and let him touch the water shaft) and the lame people and the blind people, the people who are hated by the life of David." Therefore, they say, "The blind person and the lame person will not come into the house."

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 And David lived in the mountain stronghold, and he called it 'the City of David.' And David built on all sides from the terrace and to the house.

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 And David went, going and becoming great. And 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 And Hiram the king of Tyre sent messengers to David and trees of cedar and craftsmen of wood and craftsmen of wall stone. And 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 And David knew that Yahweh had established him as king over Israel and that he had raised his kingdom high 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 And David again took concubines and wives from Jerusalem after his coming from Hebron. And again sons and daughters were born to David.

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 And these {are} the names of those who were born to him in Jerusalem: Shammua and Shobab and Nathan and 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 and Ibhar and Elishua and Nepheg and Japhia

UST

¹⁵ Ibhar, Elishua, Nepheg, Japhia,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 5:16**ULT**

¹⁶ and Elishama and Eliada and Eliphelet.

UST

¹⁶ Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphelet.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 5:17**ULT**

¹⁷ And the Philistines heard that they anointed David as king over Israel, and all the Philistines went up to seek David. And David heard, and he went down to the mountain 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 (And the Philistines came, and they overtook 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 And David inquired of Yahweh, saying, "Should I go up to the Philistines? Will you give them into my hand?" And Yahweh said to David, "Go up, for I will certainly give the Philistines into your hand."

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 And David came to Baal-Perazim, and David struck them there, and he said, "Yahweh broke through my enemies to my face like the breach of waters." Therefore, he called the name of that place 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 And they abandoned there their idols, and David and his men carried them.

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 And the Philistines still continued to go up, and they overtook 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 And David inquired of Yahweh, and he said, "You will not go up. Wheel around to behind them, and you will come to them from opposite the balsam trees.

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 And it will be, when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, then you will pay attention, for then Yahweh will go out to your faces to strike the camp 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 And David did thus, just as Yahweh commanded him. And he struck the Philistines from Geba until your coming {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 And David again gathered all {the} chosen {men} in Israel—30,000.

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 And he got up, and David and all the people who {were} with him went from Baalah of Judah to bring up from there the Box of God whose name is called the name of Yahweh of Hosts, who dwells {between} the cherubim on it.

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 And they mounted the Box of God on a new cart, and they carried it from the house of Abinadab which {was} on the hill. And Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were leading 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 And they carried it from the house of Abinadab, which {was} on the hill, with the Box of God. And Ahio was walking to the face of the Box,

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 and David and all the house of Israel were celebrating to the face of Yahweh with all {the} trees of juniper and with harps and with lyres and with tambourines and with rattles and with 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 And they came up to the threshing floor of Nakon. And Uzzah reached out to the Box of God, and he grabbed it because the oxen let {it} fall.

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 Nakon?

When they came to the threshing floor of Nakon, 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 And the nose of Yahweh grew hot against Uzzah, and God struck him there on account of the error. And he died there by the Box 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 And it grew hot for David because Yahweh broke out {with} an outburst against Uzzah. And he called that place Perez-Uzzah, up 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 And David feared Yahweh that day. And he said, "How will the Box 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 And David was not willing to remove to himself the Box of Yahweh to the City of David. And David guided it {to} 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 And the Box of Yahweh sat {in} the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite, {for} three months. And Yahweh blessed Obed-Edom and all his house.

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 And it was declared to King David, saying, "Yahweh has blessed the house of Obed-Edom and everyone who {belongs} to him for the sake of the Box of God." And David went, and he brought up the Box of God from the house of Obed-Edom {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 everthing that belonged to him because of the ark of God.

2 Samuel 6:13**ULT**

¹³ And it happened that the people who carried the Box of Yahweh marched six steps, and he sacrificed an ox and a fattened animal.

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 And David danced to the face of Yahweh with all {his} strength. And David was wearing an ephod of linen.

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 And David and all the house of Israel were bringing up the Box of Yahweh with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet.

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 And the Box of Yahweh was entering the City of David. But Michal the daughter of Saul looked down through the window, and she saw King David leaping and dancing to the face of Yahweh, and 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 And they brought the Box of Yahweh, and they placed it in its place in the midst of the tent that David pitched for it. And David lifted up burnt offerings to the face of Yahweh and peace offerings

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 And David ceased from lifting up the burnt offerings and the peace offerings. And 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 And he distributed to all the people, to all the multitude of Israel, to both a man and to a woman, to each one cake of bread and one date cake and one raisin cake. And all the people went, each to his 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 And David returned to bless his house. And Michal the daughter of Saul went out to meet David, and she said, "How honored today {was} the king of Israel, who exposed himself today to the eyes of the female servants of his servants, like the uncovered exposing of one of the empty people!"

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 And David said to Michal, "To the face of Yahweh who chose me (rather than your father and rather than all his family) by commanding me {as} leader over the people of Yahweh, over Israel—and I celebrated to the face of Yahweh!

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 And I demeaned myself more than that, and I was low in my eyes. But with the female servants about whom you have spoken—with them, 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 And to Michal the daughter of Saul there did not belong to her a child 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 And it happened that the king lived in his house. And Yahweh gave rest to him all around from all his 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 And the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See, now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the Box of God is living in the midst of the curtain."

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 And Nathan said to the king, "Everything that {is} in your heart, go, do, because 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 And it happened, during that night, and the word of Yahweh was 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 you will say to my servant, to David, 'Thus says Yahweh, "Will you build for me a house for my living?"

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 of my bringing up the sons of Israel from Egypt and up to this day. And I was going about in tent and in 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 every {place} that I went about with all the sons of Israel, did I say a word with one of the rods of Israel whom I commanded to shepherd my people, Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built for 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 “But now, thus you will say to my servant, to David, ‘Thus says Yahweh of hosts, “I myself took you from the grazing place, from {following} after the flock, to become leader over my people, over 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 And I have been with you in every {place} that you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from your face. And I will make for you a great name like the name of the great people who {are} in the land.

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 And I will put a place for my people, for Israel, and I will plant him that he may live in his place, and he will not tremble anymore, and the sons of iniquity will not continue to afflict him, as formerly,

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 the were before.

2 Samuel 7:11**ULT**

¹¹ and from the day when I commanded judges over my people, Israel. And I will give rest to you from all your enemies. "And Yahweh declares to you that a house Yahweh will make for you.

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 filled, and you lie down with your fathers, and I will raise up your seed after you who will come out from your belly. 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 himself will build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom until 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 myself will become a father to him, and he himself will become a son to me that, when he sins, and I will reproach him with a rod of men and with the blows of the sons of man.

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 kindness will not turn aside from you as I turned aside from with Saul, whom I turned aside from before your faces.

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 And your house and your kingdom will endure until forever to your face. Your throne will be established until 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 According to all of these words and according to all of this vision, thus Nathan spoke to David.

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 And King David went, and he sat to the face of Yahweh, and he said, "Who {am} I, my Lord Yahweh, and who {is} my house that you have brought me to here?"

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 And still this was small in your eyes, my Lord Yahweh. And you spoke even about the house of your servant from long ago. And this {is} the law of humanity, my 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 will David continue to say to you? But you yourself know your servant, my 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 the sake of your word and according to your heart you have done all this greatness, by making your servant know {it}.

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, my Lord Yahweh, because there is no one like you and there is no God except you, in everything that we have heard with our 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 And who {is} like your people, like Israel—one nation on the earth whom God went to redeem for himself as a people and to set for himself a name and to do for them the greatness and the fearful things for your land, from before the face of your people who you redeemed for yourself from Egypt, a nation and its gods?

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 And you established for yourself your people Israel, for yourself, as a people until forever. And you yourself, Yahweh, became God for them.

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 "And now, Yahweh God, the word which you have spoken concerning your servant and concerning his house, confirm until forever and do just 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 And may your name be great until forever, saying, 'Yahweh of Hosts {is} God over Israel,' and the house of your servant David will be established to your face.

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 {are} the God of Israel. You have uncovered the ear of your servant, saying, 'I will build a house for you.' Therefore, your servant has found his heart to pray to you this prayer.

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 "And now, my Lord Yahweh, you {are} he, the God, and your words are true. And you have spoken concerning your servant this good thing.

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 And now, be resolved and bless the house of your servant to be to your face forever. For you yourself, my Lord Yahweh, have spoken and from your blessing the house of your servant 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 And it happened after thus, and David struck the Philistines, and he subdued them. And David took Metheg-Ammah from the hand 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 And he struck Moab, and he measured them with the rope, making them lie down to the ground. And he measured two ropes to be killed and the fullness of the rope to let live. And Moab became servants to David, people who lift offering.

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 And David struck Hadadezer the son of Rehob the king of Zobah when he went to restore his hand at the 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 And David took from him 1,700 horsemen and 20,000 men on foot. And David hamstringed all the chariots, but he retained from them 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 And Aram of Damascus came to help Hadadezer, the king of Zobah. And David struck 22,000 men among Aram.

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 And David put garrisons in Aram of Damascus, and Aram became servants for David, people who lift offering. And Yahweh saved David in every {place} that 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 And David took the bow-cases of gold that were on the servants of Hadadezer, and he 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 And from Betah and from Berothai, the 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 And Toi the king of Hamath heard that David had struck {the} whole 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 and Toi sent Joram his son to King David to ask for himself for peace and to bless him on account that he had fought against Hadadezer and had struck him, because Hadadezer was a man of war {with} Toi. And in his hand were vessels of silver and vessels of gold and vessels of 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 even consecrated them to Yahweh, with the silver and the gold which he consecrated from all the nations which he subdued

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 and from Moab and from the sons of Ammon and from the Philistines and from Amalek and from the plunder of Hadadezer the 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 And David made a name when he returned from his striking Aram in the Valley of Salt—18,000.

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 And he put in Edom garrisons; in all Edom there {were} garrisons. And it happened, all Edom {were} servants for David. And Yahweh saved David in every {place} that 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 And David was king over all Israel. And it happened, David did justice and righteousness for 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 And Joab the son of Zeruiah {was} over the army, and Jehoshapat the son of Ahilud {was} the secretary.

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 And Zadok the son of Ahitub and Ahimelech the 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 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada {was over} the Kerethites and the Pelethites, and the sons of David were priests.

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 And David said, “{Is it} that there is yet anyone remaining to the house of Saul that I may do with him kindness for the sake of Jonathan?”

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 And to the house of Saul a servant {belonged}, and his name {was} Ziba, and they called him to David. And the king said to him, “{Are} you Ziba?” And he said, “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 And the king said, “{Is there} no longer anyone of the house of Saul that I may do with him the kindness of God?” And Ziba said to the king, “Still a son {belongs} to Jonathan, a cripple of 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 And the king said to him, "Where {is} he?" And Ziba said to the king, "Look, he {is at} the house of Machir the 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 And King David sent, and he brought him from the house of Machir the 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 And Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan the son of Saul came to David, and he fell on his face, and he prostrated himself. And David said, "Mephibosheth." And he said, "Look, 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 And David said to him, "Do not fear, for I will certainly do with you kindness for the sake of Jonathan your father, and I will restore to you the entire pasture of Saul your father. And you yourself will eat bread on my table continually."

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 And he prostrated himself, and he said, "What {is} your servant that you turn to the dead dog, who {is} like me?"

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 And the king called to Ziba, the young man of Saul, and he said to him, "Everything that belonged to Saul and to all his house, I have given to the son of your lord.

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 And you will work the ground for him, you and your sons and your servants, and you will bring in {the produce}, so that there will be bread for the son of your lord, so that he may eat it. But Mephibosheth the son of your lord will eat bread continually on my table." (And to Ziba {belonged} 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 And Ziba said to the king, "According to everything that my lord the king,] has commanded his servant, thus your servant will do. And Mephibosheth is eating on my table like one from the sons of the king."

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 And to Mephibosheth {was} a young son, and his name {was} Mica. And all the people who lived {in} the house of Ziba {were} servants to Mephibosheth.

UST

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

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 9:13

ULT

¹³ And Mephibosheth was living in Jerusalem, because he was continually eating on the table of the king, but he {was} lame, the two of 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 And it happened after thus, and the king of the sons of Ammon died. And Hanun his son was 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 And David said, "I will do kindness with Hanun the son of Nahash, just as his father did kindness with me." And David sent in order to comfort him by the hand of his servants concerning his father. And the servants of David came {to} the land of the sons 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 And the captains of the sons of Ammon said to Hanun their lord, “{Is} David honoring your father in your eyes because he sent comforters to you? Is it not for the sake of exploring the city and to spy it out and to overthrow it {that} David has sent his servants to you?”

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 And Hanun took the servants of David, and he shaved half of their beards, and he cut their robes in half up to their buttocks. And he 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 And they informed David, and he sent to call them, because the men were greatly humiliated. And the king said, “Live in Jericho until your beard grows, and you will 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 And the sons of Ammon saw that they were made to stink to David. And the sons of Ammon sent, and they hired Aram of Beth-Rehob, and Aram of Zoba {with} 20,000 footmen, and the king of Maacah {with} 1,000 men, and the men of Tob {with} 12,000 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 And David heard, and he sent Joab and the entire army, the mighty people.

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 And the sons of Ammon went out and they arranged {for} war {at} the opening of the gate. And Aram of Zoba and Rehob and the men of Tob and Maacah {were} alone in the field.

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 And Joab saw that the face of the war was against him, from before the faces and from behind, and he chose from the entire chosen ones of Israel, and he arranged {them} to meet Aram.

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 And the remainder of the people he gave into the hand of Abishai his brother. And he arranged {them} to meet 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 And he said, "If Aram is too strong for me, then you will become deliverance for me, but if the sons of Ammon are too strong for you, then I will go to provide deliverance for 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 be strong for the benefit of our people and for the benefit of the cities of our God. And Yahweh will do what is good in his eyes.”

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 And Joab and the people who {were} with him approached the war against Aram, and they fled from before his face.

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 And the sons of Ammon saw that Aram fled, and they fled from before the face of Abishai, and they entered the city. And Joab returned away from the sons of Ammon, and he entered 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 And Aram saw that he was struck to the face of Israel, and they assembled together.

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 Hadadzezer sent for Aramean troops from beyond the Euphrates River.

2 Samuel 10:16**ULT**

¹⁶ And Hadadzezer sent, and he brought out Aram, who {was} from beyond the River, and they came {to} Helam. And Shobak the captain of the army of Hadadzezer {was} to their faces.

UST

¹⁶ Their king, Hadadzezer, 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 And it was declared to David, and he assembled all Israel, and he crossed the Jordan, and he came to Helam. And Aram arranged to meet David, and they fought with 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 And Aram fled from the face of Israel, and David killed from Aram 700 chariots and 40,000 horsemen, and he struck Shobak the captain of his army, and he 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 And all the kings, the servants of Hadadezer, saw that they were struck to the face of Israel, and they made peace with Israel, and they served them. And Aram was afraid to deliver the sons 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 And it happened, at the return of the year, at the time of the going out of kings, and David sent Joab and his servants with him and all Israel, and they destroyed the sons of Ammon, and they laid siege against Rabbah. But David lived 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 And it happened, at the time of the evening, and David got up from his bed, and he walked about on the roof of the house of the king, and he saw from the roof a woman bathing. And the woman {was} very good of appearance.

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 And David sent, and he inquired about the woman. And he said, "Is that not Bathsheba the daughter of Eliam, 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 And David sent messengers, and he took her. And she came to him, and he laid with her. (And she was keeping herself sanctified from her uncleanness.) And 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 And the woman became pregnant, and she sent, and she informed David, and 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 And David sent to Joab, "Send Uriah the Hittite to me." And 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 And Uriah came to him. And David asked for the welfare of Joab and for the welfare of the people and for the welfare of the war.

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 And David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house, and wash your feet." And Uriah went out from the house of the king, and a present {from} the king went out after him.

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 And Uriah lay down {at} the opening of the house of the king with all the servants of his lord. 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 And they informed David, saying, "Uriah did not go down to his house." And David said to Uriah, "Are you not coming from a road? 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 And Uriah said to David, "The Box and Israel and Judah are living in tents, and my lord, Joab, and the servants of my lord {are} encamped on the face of the field. But I, will I go to my house to eat and to drink and to lay with my wife? {By} your life and {by} the life of your spirit, I will not do this thing!"

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 And David said to Uriah, "Stay here today also, and tomorrow I will send you." And Uriah stayed in Jerusalem on that day and from the following 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 And David called to him, and he ate to his face, and he drank, and he made him drunk. And he went out in the evening to lie down in his bed with the servants of his lord, but to his house, he did not go down.

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 And it happened in the morning, and David wrote a scroll to Joab. And he 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 And he wrote in the scroll, saying, "Give Uriah to the front of the face of the strongest battle, and turn them back from behind him so that he will be struck and die."

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 And it happened, when Joab kept watch over the city, and he gave Uriah to the place where he knew that men of military prowess {were} there.

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 And the men of the city went out, and they fought Joab, and some of the people from the servants of David fell. And also Uriah the Hittite died.

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 And Joab sent, and he informed David every word of 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 And he commanded the messenger, saying, "As you are finishing every word of the war by speaking 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 will be, if the heat of the king rises, and he says to you, 'Why did you draw 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 struck Abimelech the son of Jerub-Besheth? Did not a woman throw down on him an upper millstone from the wall, and he died in Thebez? Why did you draw near to the wall?' And you will say, 'Your servant Uriah the Hittite is also dead.'"

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 And the messenger went, and he came, and he told David 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 And the messenger said to David that the men prevailed against us, and they came out against us {to} the field. But we were against them up to the opening 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 And the people who were shooting shot to your servants from the wall and {some} from the servants of the king died—and also your servant Uriah the Hittite died."

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 And David said to the messenger, "Thus, you will say to Joab, 'Do not let this matter be grievous in your eyes, for like that one and like this one the sword devours. Strengthen your war against the city and tear it down.' And strengthen 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 And the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband died. And she lamented 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 And the mourning period passed, and David sent, and he gathered her to his house, and she became a wife to him, and she bore a son for him. But the thing that David had done was grievous in the eyes of 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 And Yahweh sent Nathan to David. And he came to him, and he said to him, "Two men were in one city—one {was} rich and one {was} 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 To the rich man belonged very many sheep and cattle,

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 to the poor man, there was not anything except one little ewe lamb which he had bought. And he kept it alive, and it grew with him and with his sons together. From his scrap it would eat; from his cup it would drink, and in his lap, it would lay down. And it was to him like a daughter.

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 And a traveler came to the rich man, and he spared taking from his flock or from his cattle to prepare for the wanderer who had come to him. And he took the ewe lamb of the poor man, and he prepared it for the man who had come to him."

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 And the nose of David grew very hot against the man. And he said to Nathan, "{By} the life of Yahweh, surely the man who has done that {is} a son of 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 will restore the ewe lamb fourfold on account that he has done this thing and on account that he did not spare."

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 And Nathan said to David, “You {are} the man! Thus says Yahweh, the God of Israel: ‘I myself anointed you as king over Israel, and I myself delivered you from 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 And I gave to you the house of your lord and the wives of your lord in your lap, and I gave to you the house of Israel and Judah. But if {this is} little, let me add to you like them and like them.

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 Why have you despised the Word of Yahweh by doing that which is evil in my eyes? You struck Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and his wife you took for yourself as a wife. But him you have killed with the sword of the sons 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 And now, the sword will not turn away from your house until forever on account that you despised me, and you have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to become a wife for you.'

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 Thus says Yahweh: 'Look at me raising up against you a disaster from your house. And I will take your wives to your eyes, and I will give {them} to your companions. And he will lay down with your wives to the eyes of this sun.

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 yourself have done in secret, but I myself will do this thing before all Israel and before the sun.'"

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 And David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against Yahweh." And Nathan said to David, "Yahweh has even allowed your sin to pass; you will not die.

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 Nevertheless, because you have utterly disrespected the enemies of Yahweh with this thing, the son who was born to you will also 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 And Nathan went to his home. And Yahweh afflicted the child whom the wife of Uriah had born to David, and he became 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 And David sought God for the sake of the boy. And David fasted a fast, and he came, and he spent the night, and he laid down on the ground.

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 And the elders of his house got up beside him to get him up from the ground, but he was not willing, nor would he eat bread 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 And it happened on the seventh day, and the child died, and the servants of David were afraid to inform him that the child died, for they said, 'Look, while the child was living, we spoke to him, but he did not listen to our voice. And how will we say to him, 'The child died?' And he will do harm.'

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 And David saw that his servants were whispering together, and David discerned that the child died. And David said to his servants, "Did the child die?" And they said, "He died."

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 And David got up from the ground, and he washed, and he anointed, and he changed his clothes, and he entered the house of Yahweh, and he prostrated himself. And he came to his house, and he asked, and they put out bread for 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 And his servants said to him, "What {is} this thing that you have done? For the sake of the living child you fasted, and you wept, but just as the child dies, you get up, and you eat bread."

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 And he said, "When yet the child {was} alive, I fasted, and I wept, because I said, 'Who knows? Yahweh may be gracious to me, so that the child lives.'

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. Why {is} this {that} I should fast? Am I able to bring him back again? I am going to him, but he—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 And David comforted Bathsheba his wife, and he came to her, and he laid down with her. And she bore a son, and he called his name Solomon. And 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 by the hand of Nathan the prophet, and he called his name Jedidiah for the sake of Yahweh.

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 And Joab fought against Rabbah of the sons of Ammon. And he overthrew the city of the kingdom.

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 And Joab sent messengers to David, and he said, "I have fought against Rabbah. Also, I have overthrown the city of the waters.

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 And now, gather the remainder of the people and lay siege to the city and overthrow it, lest I take the city myself and my name is called to it.

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 And David gathered all the people, and he went to Rabbah. And he fought against it, and he overthrew 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 And David took the crown of their king from his head (and its weight {was} a talent of gold and a precious stone), and it was on the head of David. And the plunder of the city he brought out—very much.

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 But the people who {were} in it, he brought out, and he set {them} with the saw and with picks of iron and with axes of iron, and he made them pass through at the brick kiln. And thus he did to all the cities of the sons of Ammon. And David and all the people 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 And it happened after thus, and to Absalom the son of David {belonged} a beautiful sister, and her name {was} Tamar. And Amnon the son of David loved her.

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 And there was distress to Amnon so that he made himself sick for the sake of Tamar his sister, for she {was} a virgin. But it was difficult in the eyes of 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 to Amnon {belonged} a friend, and his name {was} Jonadab the son of Shimeah the brother of David. And Jonadab was a very clever 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 And he said to him, "Why {are} you so poor, son of the king, morning by morning? Will you not inform me?" And Amnon said to him, "Tamar the sister of Absalom my brother I am loving."

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 And Jonadab said to him, "Lie down on your bed and make yourself sick. And your father comes to see you, and you will say to him, 'Please, let Tamar my sister come, and let her provide me {with} bread, and let her make the food to my eyes, so that I may see, and I will eat 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 And Amnon lay down, and he made himself sick. And the king came to see him, and Amnon said to the king, "Please, let Tamar my sister come, and let her make to my eyes a couple of cakes, 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 And David sent to Tamar at the house, saying, "Now, go {to} the house of Amnon your brother and make 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 And Tamar went {to} the house of Amnon her brother, and he was lying down, and she took the dough, and she kneaded {it}, and she made cakes to his eyes, and she boiled the cakes.

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 And she took the tray, and she poured {it} out to his face, but he refused to eat. And Amnon said, "Make every person go away from me." And every person went away 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 And Amnon said to Tamar, "Bring the food {to} the bedroom so that I may eat from your hand." And Tamar took the cakes that she made, and she brought {them} to Amnon her brother, into the bedroom

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 And she brought {them} close to him to eat. And he grabbed her, and he said to her, "Come, lay down 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 And she said to him, "No, my brother, do not humiliate me, for thus it is not done in Israel. Do not do this atrocity!"

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 But I—where will I bring my shame? And you—you would be like one of the godless fools in Israel. But now, please, speak to the king, for he will not withhold 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 But he was not willing to listen to her voice. And he was stronger than she, and he humiliated her, and he laid down 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 And Amnon hated her {with} a very great hatred, so that the hatred with which he hated her {was} greater than the love with which he had loved her. And Amnon said to her, "Get up, 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 And she said to him, "No, because this great evil {is worse} than the other thing that you did with me, to send me away." But he was not willing to 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 And he called his young man who served him, and he said, "Now, send this {woman} away from me outside and lock the door behind 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 And on her {was} a long robe that thus the daughters of the king, the virgins, wore {as} an outer garment. And the person who served him brought her outside, and he locked the door behind her.

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 And Tamar put ashes on her head, and the long robe which {was} on her she tore. And she put her hands on her hand, and she walked, walking, and she cried out.

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 And Absalom her brother said to her, “Has Amnon your brother been with you? But now, my sister, keep silent—he {is} your brother. Do not put your heart to this matter.” And Tamar lived—and was desolate—{in} the house of Absalom her brother.

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 And King David heard all these things, and it grew very hot to him.

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 But Absalom did not speak with Amnon either evil or good, for Absalom hated Amnon for the reason that he humiliated Tamar his sister.

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 And it happened after two years of days, and sheep shearers belonged to Absalom in Baal-Hazor, which {is} near Ephraim. And Absalom called to all the sons of the king.

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 And Absalom went to the king, and he said, "Look, please. Sheep shearers {belong} to your servant. Please, let the king and his servants go with 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 And the king said to Absalom, "No, my son, now, let us not go—all of us, and let us not be heavy to you." And he urged him, but he was not willing to go, and he blessed him.

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 And Absalom said, "But {if} not, please, let Amnon my brother go with us." And the king said to him, "Why should he 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 And Absalom urged him, and he sent Amnon and all the sons of the king 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 And Absalom commanded his young men, saying, "Now, see, when Amnon {is} good of heart with the wine, and I say to you, 'Strike Amnon!' Then you will murder him. Do not be afraid. Is it not that I myself have commanded you? Be courageous and be as sons of military prowess."

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 And the young men of Absalom did to Amnon just as Absalom commanded. And all the sons of the king got up, and they rode, each on his mule, and they 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 And it happened, they {were} on the road, and the news came to David, saying, "Absalom has struck all the sons of the king, and not one from them is 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 And the king got up, and he tore his clothes, and he laid down on the ground, and all his servants who were standing were tearing {their} clothes.

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 And Jonadab the son of Shimeah the brother of David answered, and he said, "Let my lord not say, 'All the young men, the sons of the king, have been murdered,' because Amnon alone is dead. For it was placed on the mouth of Absalom from the day of his humiliating Tamar his sister.

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 And now, let my lord, the king, not put the matter to his heart, saying, 'All the sons of the king are dead,' except only Amnon 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 And Absalom fled. And the young man who was keeping watch raised his eyes, and he saw, and look—many people were coming from the road behind him, from the side of the mountain.

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 And Jonadab said to the king, "Look, the sons of the king are coming. As your servant spoke, thus it is."

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 And it happened, as he finished speaking, and look—the sons of the king came, and they raised their voice, and they wept. And also the king and all his servants wept a very great weeping.

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 he went to Talmai the son of Ammihud the king of Geshur. And 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 And Absalom fled, and he went {to} Geshur. And he was there {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 And David the king longed to go out to Absalom, for he was comforted concerning Amnon, because he died.

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 And Joab the son of Zeruah knew that the heart of the king {was} on 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 And Joab sent {to} Tekoa, and he brought from there a wise woman. And he said to her, "Now, mourn and please put on clothes of mourning. And you will not anoint {yourself with} oil, but you will be like this woman who has been mourning for the dead {for} many days."

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 And you will go to the king, and you will speak to him, according to this word." And Joab set the words in her mouth.

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 And the Tekoite woman spoke to the king, and she fell on her nose to the ground, and she prostrated herself. And she said, "Save, O 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 And the king said to her, "What {is} to you?" And she said, "Alas, I {am} a widow woman, and my husband has died.

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 And to your female servant {belonged} two sons, and they fought, the two of them, in the field, but there was no person who could deliver between them. And the one struck him, the one, and he 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 And, look, the entire clan has risen against your female servant, and they said, 'Give the one who struck his brother, and we will kill him in exchange for the life of his brother who he killed, and let us destroy the heir also.' And they would quench my coal that remains, no putting to my husband a name or remnant on the face of the ground."

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 And the king said to the woman, "Go to your house, and I myself will command concerning 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 And the Tekoite woman said to the king, "On me, my lord the king, {is} the iniquity, and on the house of my father, but the king and his throne {are} innocent."

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 And the king said, "The one who speaks against you, and bring him to me, and he will not continue anymore to touch you."

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 And she said, "Please, let the king remember Yahweh your God, so that the avenger of blood will not increase so as to cause ruin. Then they will not destroy my son." And he said, "{By} the life of Yahweh, the hair of your son will not 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 And the woman said, "Please, let your female servant speak a word to my lord the king." And he said, "Speak."

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 And the woman said, “And why have you planned like this against the people of God? And because the king speaking this word {is} like a guilty person, because the king has not returned the one who he scattered.

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 will certainly die—and like water which is spilled on the ground, which is not gathered. But God will not take away a life, but he plans plans so that the one who was scattered will not be scattered from him.

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 “And now that I have come to speak this thing to the king my lord {is} because the people have frightened me. And your female servant says, ‘I will speak, please, to the king. Perhaps the king will do the word of his maidservant.

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 For the king will listen in order to save his maidservant from the palm of the man destroying me and my son together from the inheritance of God.'

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 "And your female servant said, 'Please, let the word of my lord the king become a resting place, because like the angel of God, so {is} my lord the king to understand good and evil. And 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 And the king answered, and he said to the woman, "Now, you will not hide from me a word that I am asking you." And the woman said, "Please, let my lord the king 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 And the king said, “{Was} the hand of Joab with you in all this?” And the woman answered, and she said, “{By} the life of your spirit, my lord the king, there is not turning to the right or turning to the left from everything that my lord the king spoke, for your servant, Joab—he himself commanded me, and he himself put in the mouth of your female servant all these words.

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 For the sake of turning the face of the matter, your servant Joab did this thing. But my lord {is} wise like the wisdom of an angel of God to know everything that {is} on earth.”

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 And the king said to Joab, “Look, now I will do this thing. And go, bring back the young man Absalom.”

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 And Joab fell on his face to the ground, and he prostrated himself, and he blessed the king. And Joab said, "Today, your servant knows that I have found favor in your eyes, my lord the king, that the king does the word 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 And Joab got up, and he went to Geshur. And he brought Absalom {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 And the king said, "He will go around to his house, but my face he will not see." And Absalom went around to his house, but the face of the king he did not see.

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 And like Absalom there was not a handsome person in all Israel to praise greatly. From the sole of his foot and to the crown of his head, there was no blemish on 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 And when he shaved his head (and it was at the end of years to years that he would shave, because {it was} heavy on him, and he would cut it), and he weighed the hair of his head: 200 shekels by the stone of the king.

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 And to Absalom were born three sons and one daughter, and her name {was} Tamar. She herself was a woman, beautiful of appearance.

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 And Absalom lived in Jerusalem two full years, and the face of the king he did not see.

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 And Absalom sent to Joab to send him to the king, but he was not willing to come to him. And Absalom sent again a second time, but he was not willing to 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 And he said to his servants, "See, the plot of Joab {is} to my hand, and barley {belongs} to him there. Go, and burn it with fire." And the servants of Absalom burned the plot with 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 And Joab got up, and he came to Absalom, to the house. And he said to him, "Why did your servants burn the plot which {belongs} to me with 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 And Absalom said to Joab, "Look, I sent to you, saying, 'Come here that I may send you to the king, saying, 'Why did I come from Geshur? {It would be} good for me {if} I {were} still there.'" And now, let me see the face of the king, and if there is iniquity in me, then 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 And Joab came to the king, and he informed him. And he called to Absalom, and he came to the king, and he prostrated himself to him on his nose to the ground to the face of 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 And it happened after thus, and Absalom made for himself a chariot and horses. And 50 men were running to his face.

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 And Absalom would rise early, and he would stand beside the hand of the way of the gate. And it happened, each person that a dispute belonged to him to come to the king for judgment, and Absalom called to him, and he said, "From which city {are} you?" And he would say, "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 And Absalom would say to him, "See, your word {is} good and straight, but there is not for you someone who will listen from with the king."

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 And Absalom would say, "Who will appoint me {as} judge in the land that every person that a dispute or case belongs to him would come to me, and I could declare him to be righteous."

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 And it was, when a person would draw near to prostrate himself to him that he would send out his hand, and he would take hold of it, and he would kiss it.

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 And Absalom acted according to this word for all Israel who came for judgment to the king. And Absalom stole the heart 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 And it happened at the end of four years, and Absalom said to the king, "Please, let me go, and I will fulfill my vow that I vowed 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 vowed a vow when I lived in Geshur in Aram, saying, 'If Yahweh will certainly bring me {to} Jerusalem, then I will serve 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 And the king said to him, "Go in peace." And he got up, and he 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 And Absalom sent people who would spy on all the tribes of Israel, saying, "When you hear the sound of the trumpet, then you will 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 And with Absalom went 200 men from Jerusalem who were called and who walked in their blamelessness, and they did not know {the} whole matter.

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 And Absalom sent Ahithophel the Gilohite, the person who counseled David, from his city, from Giloh, while he offered the sacrifices. And it happened, the conspiracy {was} strong, and the people were walking and increasingly with Absalom.

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 And the person who declared to David came, saying, "The heart of the man of Israel is behind 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 And David said to all his servants who {were} with him in Jerusalem, "Get up, and let us flee, for there will not be for us an escape from before the face of Absalom. Hurry to leave lest he hurry and overtake us and swing on us a disaster and strike the city to the mouth 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 And the servants of the king said to the king, "According to everything that my lord the king chooses, look —your servants."

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 And the king went out and all his family {were} at his feet. And the king left 10 women, concubines, to guard the house.

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 And the king went out and all the people {were} at his feet. And they stood {at} the furthest 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 And all his servants were crossing over beside his hand, and all the Kerethites and all the Pelethites and all the Gittites (600 men who came on his foot from Gath) were crossing over to the face of the king.

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 And the king said to Ittai the Gittite, "Why are you yourself also coming with us? Return and live with the king, for you {are} a foreigner, and also you {are} an exile to your 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 Yesterday {was} your coming, but today {will} I make you wander about with us by going? But I am going because I am going. Return and make your brothers return with you—kindness and faithfulness."

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 And Ittai answered the king, and he said, “{By} the life of Yahweh and {by} the life of my lord the king, surely in the place where my lord the king will be there, whether to death or to life, that there your servant will be.”

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 And David said to Ittai, “Go and cross over.” And Ittai the Gittite crossed over and all his men and all the little children 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 And the whole land was weeping {with} a great voice, and all the people were crossing, and the king was crossing the river of Kidron, and all the people were crossing the desert by the face of the way.

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 And look—even Zadok and all the Levites with him were lifting the Box of the Covenant of God, and they set down the Box of God, and Abiathar came up until all the people had finished crossing from 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 And the king said to Zadok, “Make the Box of God return {to} the city. If I find favor in the eyes of Yahweh, then he will make me return, and he will make me see it and his dwelling place.

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 thus he says, ‘I am not pleased with you,’ look at me—he will do to me just as {is} good in his eyes.”

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 And the king said to Zadok the priest, “{Are} you a person who sees? Return {to} the city in peace and Ahimaaz your son and Jonathan the son of Abiathar, your two sons, with you.

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 am hesitating at the fords of the wilderness until word comes from with 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 And Zadok and Abiathar returned the Box of God {to} 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 And David was going up on the Mount of Olives, going up and weeping, and a head for him was covered, and he was walking barefoot. And all the people who {were} with him, each one, covered his head, and they went up, going up and weeping.

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 And David declared, saying, "Ahithophel {is} among the people who are conspiring with Absalom." And David prayed, "Please, Yahweh, make the counsel of Ahithophel 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 And it happened, David came up to the top where he would prostrate himself there to God, and look—meeting him {was} Hushai the Archite. His tunic was torn and dirt {was} 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 And David said to him, "If you cross with me, you will become 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 you say to Absalom, 'I {am} your servant, O king. I was the servant of your father, and I, previously. But now, and I {will be} your servant,' then you will foil the counsel of Ahithophel 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 {Are} not Zadok and Abiathar the priests with you there? But it will be, every word that you hear from the house of the king declare to Zadok and to 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 Look, there with them {are} the two of their sons, Ahimaaz {belonging} to Zadok and Jonathan {belonging} to Abiathar. And you will send by their hand to me every word 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 And Hushai the friend of David came {to} the city. And Absalom came {to} 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 And David crossed over a little from the top, and look—meeting him {was} Ziba the young man of Mephibosheth and a pair of saddled donkeys, and on them 200 loaves of bread, 100 bunches of raisins, 100 summer fruits, 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 And the king said to Ziba, "What {are} these to you?" And Ziba said, "The donkeys {are} for the house of the king to ride, and the bread and the summer fruits {are for} the young men to eat, and the wine {is for} the people who are 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 And the king said, “And where {is} the son of your lord?” And Ziba said to the king, “Look, he is staying in Jerusalem, for he said, ‘Today, the house of Israel will return the kingdom of my father 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 And the king said to Ziba, “Look, to you {belongs} everything that {belongs} to Mephibosheth.” And Ziba said, “I prostrate myself—I have found favor in your eyes, my lord the king.”

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 And King David came to Bahurim. And look—from there a man from the family of the house of Saul was going out, and his name {was} Shimei the son of Gera. {He} was going out, going out and cursing.

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 And he threw stones at David and all the servants of King David and all the people and all the mighty men on his right and on his 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 And thus Shimei said when he cursed: "Go out, go out, man of blood, man of worthlessness!

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 returned to you all the blood of the house of Saul who you are king in his place, and Yahweh has given the kingdom into the hand of Absalom your son. And look at you, at your evil, for 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 And Abishai the son of Zeruiah said to the king, "Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? Please, let me cross over and let me remove 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 And the king said, "What {is} to me and to you, sons of Zeruiah? For he curses because Yahweh said to him, 'Curse David,' and who will say, 'Why have you done thus?'"

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 And David said to Abishai and to all his servants, "Look, my son who went out from my belly is seeking my spirit. And how much more that now, {this} Benjaminite. Leave him and let him curse, for Yahweh said to him.

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 my iniquity, and Yahweh will return to me good instead of his cursing this day."

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 And David and his men walked on the road, and Shimei was walking on the side of the mountain opposite him, walking, and he cursed, and he threw stones opposite him, and he flung dust.

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 And the king and all the people who {were} with him came, weary. And he refreshed himself there.

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 And Absalom and all the people, the men of Israel, 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 And it happened when Hushai the Archite, a friend of David, came to Absalom, and Hushai said to Absalom, "May the king live! May the king live!"

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 And Absalom said to Hushai, "This {is} your kindness to your friend? Why did you not go with your friend?"

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 And Hushai said to Absalom, "No, for whom Yahweh and this people have chosen and all the men of Israel—to him I will belong, and with him I will stay.

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 And the second {thing}: to whom will I myself serve? Is it not to the face of his son? Just as I served to the face of your father, thus I will be to your face."

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 And Absalom said to Ahithophel, "Give to us counsel. What will we 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 And Ahithophel said to Absalom, "Go to the concubines of your father who he left to guard the house, and all Israel will hear that you have made your father stink, and the hands of all who {are} with you will be strengthened."

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 And they spread for Absalom the tent on the roof. And Absalom went to the concubines of his father to the eyes 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 And the counsel of Ahithophel that he counseled in those days {was} just as if he inquired of the word of God. Thus {was} all the counsel of Ahithophel both to David and to 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 And Ahithophel said to Absalom, "Let me choose, please, 12,000 men, and let me get up, and let me pursue after 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 And I will come upon him, and he {is} weary and weak of hands, and I will startle him, and all the people who {are} with him will flee. And I will strike the king by himself.

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 And I will return all the people to you, like the returning of all, the man whom you are seeking. All the people will be safe."

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 And the word was upright in the eyes of Absalom and in the eyes of 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 And Absalom said, "Now, call also to Hushai the Archite, and let us hear what {is} in his mouth, even him."

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 And Hushai came to Absalom, and Absalom said to him, saying, "According to this word, Ahithophel has spoken. Will we do his word? If not, you yourself, speak."

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 And Hushai said to Absalom, "Not good {is} the counsel that Ahithophel has counseled at this time."

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 And Hushai said, “You yourself know your father and his men—that they {are} mighty men, and they {are} bitter of spirit, like a bear bereaved in the field. And your father {is} a man of war, and he will not spend the night with the people.”

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, now he has hidden himself in one of the pits or in one of the places. And it will be when {some} among them fall in the beginning, the person who hears will hear and say, ‘A slaughter happened among the people who {are} behind 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 And he—also, a son of military prowess who his heart {is} like a heart of the lion—will utterly melt, because all Israel knows that your father {is} a mighty man and the sons of military prowess who {are} with him.

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 “For I will give counsel: All Israel will certainly be gathered to you, from Dan and up to Beersheba, as the sands which {are} by the sea, to the multitude. And your face will be walking in the battle.

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 And we will come upon him in one of the places where he will be found there, and we {will be} on him just as the dew falls on the ground. And we will not leave him or any of the men who {are} with him, even one.

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 And if he gathers into a city, and all Israel will bring ropes to that city. And we will drag it up to the river until even a pebble will not be 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 And Absalom and all the men of Israel said, "Better {is} the counsel of Hushai the Archite than the counsel of Ahithophel." And Yahweh commanded to foil the good counsel of Ahithophel for the sake of Yahweh bringing the disaster to 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 And Hushai said to Zadok and to Abiathar, the priests, "Like that and like that Ahithophel counsels Absalom and the elders of Israel. And like that and like that I myself have counseled.

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 But now, send quickly and declare to David, saying, 'Do not spend tonight in the fords of the wilderness, and also certainly cross over lest the king and all the people who {are} with him will be swallowed up.'

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 And Jonathan and Ahimaaz were standing in the spring of Rogel, and a female servant would come, and she would inform them, and they themselves would go, and they would inform King David, for they were not able to be seen entering the city.

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 And a young man saw them, and he informed Absalom. And the two of them went quickly, and they came to the house of a man in Bahurim, and a well {belonged} to him in his courtyard, and they went down there.

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 And the woman took and stretched out the cover over the face of the well, and she spread grain over it. And the matter was not known.

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 And the servants of Absalom came to the woman of the house, and they said, "Where {are} Ahimaaz and Jonathan?" And the woman said to them, "They crossed over the brook of water." And they sought, but they did not find, and 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 And it happened after they went, they went up from the well, and they went, and they informed King David. And they said to David, "Get up and quickly cross over the waters, for thus Ahithophel counseled against 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 And David and all the people who {were} with him got up, and they crossed the Jordan until the light of morning, until one was not remaining that had not crossed 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 And Ahithophel saw that his counsel was not done, and he saddled his donkey, and he got up, and he went to his house, to his city, and he gave commands to his house, and he hanged himself. And he died, and he was buried in the grave 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 And David came to Mahanaim. And Absalom 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 And Absalom appointed Amasa in the place of Joab over the army. And Amasa {was} the son of a man, and his name {was} Ithra the Israelite, who came to Abigail the daughter of Nahash the sister of Zeruah 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 Zeruah.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

2 Samuel 17:26**ULT**

²⁶ And 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 And it happened as David came to Mahanaim, and Shobi the son of Nahash from Rabbah of the sons of Ammon and Machir the 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 beds and basins and vessels of {the} potter and wheat and barley and flour and roasted grain and beans and lentils and roasted grain

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 and honey and butter and sheep and cheese of {the} cattle they brought in to David and to the people who {were} with him to eat, for they said, "The people {are} hungry and weary and thirsty in the wilderness."

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 And David counted the people who {were} with him, and he appointed over them captains of thousands and captains of hundreds.

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 And David sent the people—the third in the hand of Joab and the third in the hand of Abishai the son of Zeruiah the brother of Joab and the third in the hand of Ittai the Gittite. And the king said to the people, “I will certainly go out, even I, with you.”

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 people said, “You will not go out, for if we certainly flee, they will not put a heart to us. But if half of us die, they will not put a heart to us, for you {are}, compared to us, 10,000. But now, {it is} better that you become help for 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 And the king said to them, "That which is good in your eyes, I will do." And the king stood to the hand of the gate, and all the people 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 And the king commanded Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, "{Be} gentle for me to the young man, to Absalom." And all the people heard when the king commanded all the captains concerning 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 And the people went out {to} the field to meet with Israel, and the war was in 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 And there the people of Israel were struck before the servants of David. And there the defeat was great on that day—20,000.

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 And there the war was dispersed over the face of the whole land. And the forest consumed more among the people than that which the sword consumed on 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 And Absalom was met to the face of the servants of David. And Absalom was riding on the donkey, and the donkey went under the branches of the large terebinth, and his head was caught on the terebinth, and he was given between the heavens and between the earth, and the donkey that {was} under him passed through.

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 And one person saw, and he informed Joab. And he said, "Look, I saw Absalom hanging on the terebinth."

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 And Joab said to the person who informed him, "And look—you saw, but why did you not strike him there to the ground? {It is} to me to give to you ten silver and one 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 And the man said to Joab, "Even if I was weighing on my palm 1,000 silver, I would not have sent out my hand to the son of the king. For in our ears the king commanded you and Abishai and Ittai, saying, 'Guard for me 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 Or {if} I had done in my spirit a falsehood—and every matter is not hidden from the king—and you yourself would have stood from before {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 And Joab said, “Not thus will I wait to your face.” And he took three spears in his palm, and he thrust them into the heart of Absalom while he {was} living in the heart of the terebinth.

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 And ten young men, those who carried the weapons of Joab, surrounded. And they struck Absalom, and they 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 And Joab blasted on the trumpet, and the people returned from pursuing after Israel, for Joab kept the people back.

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 And they took Absalom, and they threw him in the forest into the large pit, and they stood on him a very large pile of stones. And all Israel fled, each to his tent.

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 And Absalom had taken and set up for himself when he was living a pillar which {was} in the Valley of the King, for he said, "There is no son for me for the sake of causing my name to be remembered." And he called the pillar according to his name, and it is called the Hand of Absalom up to this 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 And Ahimaaz the son of Zadok said, "Please, let me run and let me bring news {to} the king, for Yahweh has judged him against 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 And Joab said to him, "You {are} not a man of news this day, but you will bring news another day. But this day, you will not bring news because the son of the king 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 And Joab said to the Cushite, "Go, declare to the king what you saw." And the Cushite prostrated himself to Joab, and he 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 And Ahimaaz the son of Zadok continued again, and he said to Joab, "But whatever will be, please, let me run also myself after the Cushite." And Joab said, "Why {is} this {that} you will run, my son, and for you there is no news which finds {a reward}?"

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 “But whatever will be, let me run.” And he said to him, “Run.” And Ahimaaz ran the way of the valley, and he passed by 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 And David was sitting between the two gates, and the watchman went to the roof of the gate to the wall, and he raised his eyes, and he saw, and look—a man was running by himself.

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 And the watchman called, and he informed the king, and the king said, “If {he is} by himself, news {is} in his mouth.” And he walked, walking and near.

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 And the watchman looked—another man was running, and the watchman called to the gatekeeper, and he said, “Look, a man is running by himself.” And the king said, “Also this {person} brings 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 And the watchman said, “I am seeing the running of the first {is} like the running of Ahimaaz the son of Zadok.” And the king said, “This {is} a good man, and he comes 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 And Ahimaaz called, and he said to the king, “Peace!” And he prostrated himself to the king with his nose to the ground. And he said, “Blessed be Yahweh your God, who has shut up the men who lifted their hands against my lord 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 And the king said, “{Does} peace {belong} to the young man, to Absalom?” And Ahimaaz said, “I saw a great commotion when Joab sent the servant of the king and your servant, but I do not know what.”

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 And the king said, “Turn, stand thus.” And he turned, and he stood.

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 And look—the Cushite came. And the Cushite said, “May my lord the king receive news, for Yahweh has judged you today against the hand of all those 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 And the king said to the Cushite, “Does peace {belong} to the young man, to Absalom?” And the Cushite said, “May the enemies of my lord the king and all those who rose up against you for evil be like the young man.”

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 And the king trembled, and he went up to the upper room of the gate, and he wept. And thus he said when he went: “My son Absalom! My son, my son Absalom! Who will give my dying—me 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 And it was declared to Joab, "Look, the king is weeping, and he is 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 And the victory on that day became mourning for all the people, for the people heard on that day, saying, "The king grieves 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 And the people stole away on that day to enter the city, like people who are ashamed steal away when they flee in war.

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 And the king covered his face, and the king cried out {with} 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 And Joab came to the king, {to} the house, and he said, "You have shamed today the faces of all your servants, the ones who have saved your spirit today and the spirit of your sons and your daughters and the spirit of your wives and the spirit 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 by loving those who hate you and by hating those who love you, for you have declared today that {the} captains and servants are nothing to you, for I know today that if only Absalom {were} living and all of us today were dead, that then {it would be} upright in your eyes.

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 But now, get up, go out and speak to the heart of your servants, for I swear by Yahweh that {if} you are not going out, a man will not remain with you tonight, and this {will be} more trouble for you than all the trouble which has come on 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 And the king got up and sat in the gate. And all the people declared, saying, "Look, the king is sitting in the gate." And all the people came to the face of the king. And Israel fled, each to his tent.

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 And it happened, all the people were arguing in all the tribes of Israel, saying, "The king delivered us from the palm of our enemies, and he himself saved us from the palm of the Philistines. But now he has fled from the land away from 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 And Absalom, whom we anointed over us, has died in the war. And now, why are you being silent about returning the king?"

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

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; you {are} my bone and my flesh. And why are you last to return 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 And to Amasa you will say, ‘{Are} you not my bone and my flesh? Thus may God do to me, and thus may he continue if you are not {the} captain of {the} army to the face of all the years 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 And he stretched out the heart of all the men of Judah as one man. And they sent to the king, “Return, you yourself, and all your servants.”

UST

¹⁴ By sending that message to them, David ¹⁴ 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 And the king returned, and he came up to the Jordan. And Judah came to Gilgal to go to meet the king, 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 And Shimei the son of Gera the Benjaminite who {was} from Bahurim hurried. And he went 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 And 1,000 men {were} with him from Benjamin, and Ziba the young man of the house of Saul and 15 of his sons and 20 of his servants {were} with him. And they rushed {into} the Jordan to the face 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 And they crossed the ford to bring over the house of the king and to do what was good in his eyes. And Shimei the son of Gera fell to the face of the king when he crossed in 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 And he said to the king, "May my lord not reckon to me iniquity, and may you not remember that your servant committed iniquity on the day that my lord the king went out from Jerusalem by the king putting {it} to his 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 myself have sinned, and look—I have come today first of all the house of Joseph to come down to meet my lord, 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 And Abishai the son of Zeruiah answered, and he said, "Instead of this, will Shimei not be killed? For he belittled the anointed one of Yahweh."

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 And David said, "What {is} to me and to you, sons of Zeruiah, that you have become to me today an accuser? Will today a person in Israel be killed? Indeed, 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 And the king said to Shimei, "You will not die." And the king swore to him.

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 And Mephibosheth the son of Saul came down to meet the king. And he did not do his feet, nor did he do his moustache, and his clothes he did not wash from the day the king went until the day that he came back 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 And it happened that he went {to} Jerusalem to meet the king. And 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 And he said, "My lord the king, my servant deceived me, for your servant said, 'Let me saddle the donkey for myself, and let me ride on it, and let me 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 And he slandered your servant to my lord the king. And my lord the king {is} like an angel of God. So 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 the house of my father was not except men of death to my lord the king, and you set your servant among those who ate {at} your table. And what more righteousness is there for me still to cry out 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 And the king said to him, "Why do you speak still your words? I have said, 'You and Ziba—you will divide the field.'"

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 And Mephibosheth said to the king, "Also let him take everything, after which my lord the king has come in peace to his house."

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 And Barzillai the Gileadite came down from Rogelim. And he crossed the Jordan with the king to send him {to} 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 And Barzillai was very old—a son of 80 years. And he himself sustained the king in his stay in Mahanaim, for he {was} a very great 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 And the king said to Barzillai, “You, cross over with me, and I will provide for you 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 And Barzillai said to the king, "How many {are} the days of the years of my life, that I may 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 A son of 80 years {am} I today. Do I know between good and evil, or can your servant taste that which he eats and that which I drink, or can I still hear the voice of the singing men and the singing women? And why will your servant further become a burden to my lord 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 Like a little {thing}, your servant will cross the Jordan with the king. And why will the king reward me {with} this 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, and let me die in my city with the grave of my father and my mother. And look, your servant Kimham—let him cross over with my lord the king. And do to him that which {is} good in your eyes.”

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 And the king said, “Kimham will cross over with me, and I myself will do for him that which is good in your eyes. And everything that you choose concerning me, I will do 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 And all the people crossed the Jordan, and the king crossed. And the king kissed Barzillai, and he blessed him, and he returned to his place.

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 And the king crossed over to Gilgal, and Kimham crossed over with him. And all the people of Judah brought the king over and also half the people 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 And look—all the men of Israel were coming to the king. And they said to the king, “Why did our brothers, the men of Judah, steal you away? And they brought the king and his house over the Jordan, and all the men of David 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 And all the men of Judah answered to the men of Israel, “Because the king {is} near to me. And why does this burn to you concerning this matter? Have we surely eaten from the king? Or has he certainly lifted for us?”

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 And the men of Israel answered the men of Judah, and he said, "Ten hands {belong} to me in the king, and also in David—I more than you. And why have you belittled me? Was not my word first to me to bring back my king?" But the word of the men of Judah was harsher than the word 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 And there happened to be a man of worthlessness, and his name {was} Sheba the son of Bikri, a man of Benjamin. And he blasted on the trumpet, and he said, "There is no portion for us in David, and no inheritance {belongs} to us in the son of Jesse. Each one, to his tents, 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 And all the men of Israel went up from after David {to} after Sheba the son of Bikri. But the men of Judah clung to their king from the Jordan and up 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 And David came to his house, {to} Jerusalem, and the king took ten concubine wives whom he had stationed to guard the house, and he gave them a guarded house, and he provided for them, but he did not go to them. And they were locked up until the day of their death—a widowhood of life.

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 And the king said to Amasa, "Summon the men of Judah to me—three days. And you, stand here."

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 And Amasa went to summon Judah, but he delayed beyond the appointed time that he designated {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 And David said to Abishai, "Now Sheba the son of Bikri will do more harm to us than Absalom. You, take the servants of your lord and pursue after him, lest he find for himself unassailable cities and remove our eyes."

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 And the men of Joab and the Kerethites and the Pelethites and all the mighty men went out after him. And they went out from Jerusalem to pursue after Sheba the 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 They {were} near the great stone that {is} in Gibeon, and Amasa came to their faces. And Joab was girded—his robe, his clothing, and on him {was} a belt of a sword strapped on his thigh in its sheath. And he himself went out, but it fell down.

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 And Joab said to Amasa, "Peace, you, my brother?" And the right hand of Joab held on to the beard of Amasa 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 But Amasa was not aware of the sword that {was} in the hand of Joab. And he struck him with it in the stomach, and his intestines poured out to the ground, and he did not do it again to him, and he died. And Joab and Abishai his brother pursued after Sheba the 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 And a man from the young men of Joab stood beside him, and he said, "Whoever favors Joab and whoever {is} for David—after 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 And Amasa was rolling around in blood in the midst of the highway. And the man saw that all the people stood, and he removed Amasa from the highway {to} a field, and he threw a garment on him when he saw everyone who came to him, and he stood.

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 When he was taken from the highway, each man crossed over after Joab to pursue after Sheba the 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 And he crossed through all the tribes of Israel to Abel and Beth-Maacah and all the Berites. And they gathered, and they also came after him.

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 And they came, and they besieged against him in Abel of Beth-Maacah. And they heaped up a siege ramp against the city, and it stood on the wall. And all the people who {were} with Joab were destroying in order to make the wall fall 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 And a wise woman called from the city, "Listen, listen. Please, say to Joab, 'Draw near to here, and let me speak to 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 And he drew near to her, and the woman said, "Are you Joab?" And he said, "I {am}." And she said to him, "Hear the words of your maidservant." And he said, "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 And she said, saying, "They would certainly speak in former {times}, saying, 'They will certainly inquire in Abel,' and thus they would settle {it}.

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 I {am} a peaceable and faithful person of Israel. You are seeking to destroy a city and a mother in Israel. Why will you swallow 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 And Joab answered, and he said, "Far be it, far be it for me if I will swallow or if I will 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 The matter {is} not thus, for a man from the mountain of Ephraim—his name {is} Sheba the son of Bikri—he has lifted his hand against the king, against David. Give him alone and let us go from the city.” And the woman said to Joab, “Look, 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 And the woman went to all the people in her wisdom, and they cut off the head of Sheba the son of Bikri, and they threw {it} to Joab. And he blasted on the trumpet, and they dispersed from the city, each to his tent. And 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 And Joab {was} over all the army of Israel. And Benaiah the 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 And Adoniram {was} over the forced labor, and Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud {was} the secretary.

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 And 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 And also, Ira the Jairite was priest 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 And there was a famine in the days of David {for} three years, year after year. And David sought the face of Yahweh, and Yahweh said, "To Saul and to the house {belongs} blood, because he killed the Gibeonites."

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 And the king called to the Gibeonites, and he spoke to them. And the Gibeonites {were} not from the sons of Israel; they {were} rather from the remnant of the Amorites. But the sons of Israel had sworn to them, and Saul sought to strike them in his zeal for the sons 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 And David said to the Gibeonites, "What can I do for you? And how can I atone that you would bless the inheritance of Yahweh?"

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 And the Gibeonites said to him, "There is no silver or gold for us with Saul or with his house. And there is not for us a person to kill in Israel." And he said, "What are you saying I can 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 And they said to the king, "The man who finished us and who intended for us—we are destroyed so that {we} do not stand in all 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 sons be given to us, and we will hang them before Yahweh at Gibeah of Saul, chosen of Yahweh." And the king said, "I myself will give."

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 And the king had compassion on Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan the son of Saul on account of the oath of Yahweh which {was} between them, between David and between Jonathan the 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 And the king took two of the sons of Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, whom she bore to Saul, Armoni and Mephibosheth, and five sons of Michal the daughter of Saul, whom she bore to Adriel the 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 And he gave them into the hand of the Gibeonites, and they hung them on the mountain to the face of Yahweh, and they fell, the seven of them together. And they themselves died in the days of the harvest, in the first ones, the beginning of the harvest of barley.

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 And Rizpah the daughter of Aiah took sackcloth and she spread it for herself on the rock from {the} beginning of {the} harvest until {the} waters poured out on them from the heavens. And she did not give a bird of the heavens to stop on them {by} day, or the animals of the field {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 And it was declared to David that which 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 And David went, and he took the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son from the masters of Jabesh-Gilead, who had stolen them from the square of Beth-shan where the Philistines had hung them there on the day the Philistines had struck Saul at 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 And he brought up from there the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son, and they gathered the bones of the people who had been hanged.

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 And they buried the bones of Saul and Jonathan his son in the land of Benjamin in Zela, in the tomb of Kish his father, and they did everything that the king commanded. And God was entreated for the land after that.

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 And the war belonged again to the Philistines with Israel. And David went down and his servants with him, and they fought the Philistines. And David was weary.

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 And Ishbi-Benob, who {was} among the children of the giants, and the weight of his spear {was} 300 weights of bronze, and he was girded anew—and he said {he} would strike 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 And Abishai the son of Zeruiah helped him, and he struck the Philistine, and he killed him. Then, the men of David swore to him, saying, “You will not go out anymore with us to war, that you will not quench 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 And it happened after thus, and the war was again at Gob with {the} Philistines. Then Sibbekai the Hushathite struck Saph, who {was} among the children of the giants.

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 And the war was again at Gob with {the} Philistines. And Elhanan the son of Jaare-oregim, the Bethlehemite, struck Goliath the Gittite and the wood of his spear {was} like the beam of a weaver.

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 And a war was again at Gath, and there was a man of strife, and the fingers of his hand and the toes of his feet {were} six and six—24 {in} number. And he also was born to the giants.

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 And he taunted Israel, and Jonathan the son of Shimeah the brother of David struck 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 born to the giants in Gath. And they fell by the hand of David and by the hand of his servants.

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 And David spoke to Yahweh the words of this song on the day Yahweh rescued him from the palm of all his enemies and from the palm 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 And he said, "Yahweh {is} my rock and my fortress and the one who delivers me, even 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 of my rock—I take refuge in him, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my elevated place and my refuge, my savior—you save 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 "Praiseworthy, I called {to} Yahweh, and from my enemies, I was saved.

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 streams of worthlessness terrified 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 ropes of Sheol surrounded me; the snares of death met 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 the distress {which belonged} to me, I called {to} Yahweh, and to my God I called. And he heard my voice from his temple, and my cry {was} in 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 And the earth reeled, and it shook. The foundations of the heavens trembled, and they shook, because it became hot to him.

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 in his nose, and fire from his mouth consumed. Coals burned from him.

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 And he stretched out the heavens, and he came down, and 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 And he rode on a cherub, and he flew. He was seen on the wings of the wind.

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 And he put darkness all around him {as} a covering, a sieve of waters, clouds of thick clouds.

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 brightness before him coals of fire burned.

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 heaven; The Most High gave his voice.

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 And he sent out arrows, and he scattered them— lightning, and he confused 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 And the channels of the sea were seen; the foundations of the world were uncovered at the rebuke of Yahweh, from the breath of the wind of his nose.

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 sent out from the heights; he took me. He drew me from the great waters.

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 the people who hated me, for they were stronger than 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 met me on the day of my calamity, but Yahweh was support for me.

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 And he brought me out to a broad place. He delivered me because he delighted in 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; according to the cleanness of my hands, he has returned to me,

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 paths of Yahweh, and I have not acted wickedly away 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 judgments {are} before me, and 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 And I have been blameless toward him, and I have kept myself from my iniquity.

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 And Yahweh returned to me according to my righteousness, according to my cleanness in front of his eyes.

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 "With a faithful person, you show yourself faithful; with a blameless mighty man, you prove yourself 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 a purified person, you show yourself pure, but with a crooked person, you show yourself deceptive.

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—you bring 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, and Yahweh lightens 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 {against} a troop of warriors; 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 “This God—his path {is} perfect. The word of Yahweh is refined. 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 apart from Yahweh? And who {is} a rock apart from 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 This God {is} my stronghold of strength, and he sets loose the blameless person, my 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 The one who makes my feet like the deer, and on my high places he makes me stand.

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 The one who trains my hands for war, and my arms pull back 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 And you gave to me the shield of your salvation, and {with} your answering, you 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 made my step wide under me, and my feet did not slip.

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 "Let me pursue my enemies, and let me destroy them, and I will not return until they are finished.

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 And I will consume them, and I will smash them, and they will not rise. And they will fall 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 And you gird me {with} military prowess for the war; you make the people who rise up under me bow down.

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 And my enemies—you give to me {the} back of {their} neck; the people who hate me, and I destroy them.

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 look, but there is no savior; to Yahweh, but he does 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 And I crush them like the dust of {the} earth. Like {the} mud of the streets, I pulverize them; I trample them.

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 "And you deliver me from the disputes of my people. You keep me as the head of nations. People {whom} I did not know—they serve 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 {the} foreigner—they cower in fear to me. At the report of an ear, they obey 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 Sons of {the} foreigner wear out, and they tremble from their prisons.

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 {is} living! And may my rock be blessed, and may the God of the rock of my salvation be exalted.

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 God {is} the one who gives vengeance to me, and 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 and the one who brings me out from my enemies. And from the ones who rise up {against} me, you lift me up; from a man of violence, you deliver me.

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 praise you, Yahweh, among the nations, and to your name I sing praise.

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 The one who magnifies the salvation of his king, and the one who does faithfulness to his anointed one, to David, and to his seed until forever.”

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 And these {are} the words of David, the last ones: "An oracle of David the son of Jesse, and an oracle of the mighty man who was exalted highly, the anointed one of the God of Jacob, and the pleasant songs 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 speech {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 said; to me, the Rock of Israel spoke: 'The one who rules over humanity righteously, who rules {with} 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 and like the light of morning, the sun rises; a morning—no clouds; from brightness, from rain, grass from the earth.'

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 "For {is} not thus my house with God? For he has put a perpetual covenant to me, ordered in everything and guarded. For all my salvation and every desire, surely, does he not make {it} sprout?"

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 are like a thorn, being dissipated—all of them, because not in the hand do they take.

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 And a man touches them; he will be filled {with} iron or the wood of a spear. And in the fire they are completely burned in the seat."

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 the mighty men who {belonged} to David: Josheb-basshebeth the Tahchemonite {was} the head of the Three. He was wielding his spear against 800, slain at one time.

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 And after him {was} Eleazar the son of Dodo, the son of Ahohi. Among the three mighty men with David, when they taunted the Philistines—they were gathered there for war. And the men of Israel went up.

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 He himself got up, and he struck the Philistines until his hand was weary, and his hand clung to the sword. And Yahweh did a great victory on that day, and the people returned after him only to plunder.

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 And after him {was} Shammah the son of Agee, the Hararite. And the Philistines gathered to Lehi, and it happened—there {was} a portion of the field full of lentils, and the people fled from the face of the Philistines.

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 And he stood in the midst of the portion, and he delivered it, and he struck the Philistines. And Yahweh did 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 And the Three of the 30 heads went down, and they came to the harvest, to David, to the cave of Adullam. And the troop of the Philistines was camping in the Valley of the 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 And David {was} then in the stronghold, and the garrison of the Philistines {was} then {in} 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 And David craved, and he said, "Who will give me water to drink from the well of Bethlehem, which {is} at 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 And the three mighty men cleaved the camp of the Philistines, and they drew water from the well of Bethlehem, which {is} at the gate. And they lifted {it}, and they brought {it} to David. But he was not willing to drink it, and 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 And he said, “Far be it for me, Yahweh, from my doing this—the blood of the men who went with their lives.” And he was not willing to drink it. {things} the three mighty men did.

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 And Abishai the brother of Joab the son of Zeruiah—he {was} the head of the Three, and he was swinging his spear against 300, slain. And to him {belonged} a name among 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 More than the Three, {is it} that he was honored? And he became to them a captain. But as far as the Three, he did not come.

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 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada {was} a son of a man of military prowess—many deeds—from Kabzeel. He himself struck the Two of Ariel of Moab, and he himself went down, and he struck the lion in the midst of the pit on a day of snow.

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 And he himself struck a man of Egypt, a man of appearance, and in the hand of the Egyptian {was} a spear, and he went down against him with a staff. And he seized the spear from the hand of the Egyptian, and he killed him with his 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 These {things} Benaiah the son of Jehoiada did. And to him {belonged} a name among 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 More than the Thirty, he was honored, but to the Three, he did not come. And David put him to 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 Asahel the brother of Joab {was} among the Thirty; Elhanan the son of Dodo of 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 the 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, Mebunnai 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 the son of Baanah the Netophathite, Ithai the son of Ribai from Gibeah of Benjamin,

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 streams 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 the 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 the son of Ahasbai the son of the Maacathite, Eliam the 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 the son of Nathan from Zobah, Bani the Gadite,

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, the one who lifted the weapons of Joab the 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—all, 37.

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 And the nose of Yahweh continued to be hot against Israel. And he incited David against them, saying, "Go, number 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 And the king said to Joab, the captain of the army, who {was} with him, "Now, roam about among all the tribes of Israel, from Dan and up to Beersheba, and inspect the people, that I may know the number of the people."

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 And Joab said to the king, "And may Yahweh your God add to the people like them and like them a hundred times, and the eyes of my lord the king are seeing. But my lord the king—why does he delight in this matter?"

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 And the word of the king prevailed against Joab and against the captains of the army. And Joab and the captains of the army went out to the face of the king to inspect the people, 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 And they crossed the Jordan, and they camped in Aroer, south of the city which {is} in the midst of the stream, {to} Gad and 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 And they came to Gilead and to the land of Tahtim-Hodshi. And they came to Dan-Jaan and around to 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 And they came {to} the fortress of Tyre and all the cities of the Hivites and the Canaanites. And they went out to the Negev of Judah, {to} 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 And they roamed about in all the land. And they came, after the end of nine months and 20 days, {to} Jerusalem.

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 And Joab gave the number of the census of the people to the king. And Israel was 800,000 men of military prowess who drew the sword, and the men of Judah {were} 500,000 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 And the heart of David struck him after thus he counted the people. And David said to Yahweh, "I have sinned greatly that I have done. But now, Yahweh, please cause the iniquity of your servant to pass, for I have been very foolish."

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 And David got up in the morning, and the word of Yahweh was to Gad, the prophet, a seer of David, 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, and you will say to David, 'Thus Yahweh says: "Three I am laying on you. Choose for yourself one from them that I will 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 And Gad came to David, and he informed him. And he said to him, "Will seven years of famine come to you in your land or three months of your fleeing to the face of your foes and he is pursuing you or three days of plague being in your land? Now, know and see what word I will return {to} the one who sent me."

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 And David said to Gad, "Distress {belongs} to me, greatly. Please, let us fall into the hand of Yahweh, for his mercies {are} many, but into the hand of man, do not let me fall."

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 And Yahweh gave a plague to Israel from the morning and until {the} appointed time. And from the people, from Dan and up to Beersheba, 70,000 people died.

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 And the angel stretched out his hand {to} Jerusalem to destroy it, and Yahweh relented concerning the disaster. And he said to the angel, the destroyer among the many people, "Now lower your hand." And the angel of Yahweh was near 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 And David said to Yahweh when he saw the angel who was striking the people, and he said, "Look, I myself have sinned, and I myself have done iniquity. But these sheep—what have they done? Please, let your hand be against me and against the house of my father."

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 And Gad came to David on that day, and he said to him, "Go up. Put up an altar for Yahweh on 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 And David went up according to the word of Gad, just as Yahweh 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 And Araunah looked down, and he saw the king and his servants crossing over to him. And Araunah went out, and he prostrated himself to the king, his nose 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 And Araunah said, "Why has my lord the king come to his servant?" And David said, "To acquire from you the threshing floor to build an altar for Yahweh, that the plague may be held back from against 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 And Araunah said to David, "May my lord the king take and cause to arise what is good in his eyes. See, the oxen for the burnt offering and the threshing instruments and the equipment of the oxen for 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 everything Araunah gives, O king, to the king." And Araunah said to the king, "May Yahweh your God be pleased with 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 And the king said to Araunah, "No, for I will certainly acquire {it} from you in exchange for a price. And I will not cause to rise to Yahweh my God burnt offerings for nothing." And David acquired the threshing floor and the oxen in exchange for 50 silver shekels.

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 any thing that cost him nothing.

2 Samuel 24:25**ULT**

²⁵ And David built there an altar for Yahweh, and he caused burnt offerings and peace offerings to go up. And Yahweh was entreated for the land, and the plague was restrained from against Israel.

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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