

2 Samuel 1

- ¹ Now it came to pass *after* the death of **Saul**, when **David** was returned from the slaughter of the **Amalekites**, and **David** had abode two days in **Ziklag**;
- ² It came even to pass on the third day, that, behold, a man came *out* of the camp from **Saul** with his clothes rent, and earth upon his head: and so it was, when he came to **David**, that he fell to the earth, and did obeisance.
- ³ And **David** said unto him, From whence comest thou? And he said unto him, *Out* of the camp of **Israel** am I escaped.
- ⁴ And **David** said unto him, How went the matter? I pray thee, tell me. And he answered, That the people are fled from the battle, and *many* of the people also are fallen and dead; and **Saul** and **Jonathan** his son are *dead also*.
- ⁵ And **David** said unto the young man that told him, How knowest thou that **Saul** and **Jonathan** his son be dead?
- ⁶ And the young man that told him said, As I happened by chance upon mount Gilboa, behold, **Saul** leaned upon his spear; and, lo, the chariots and horsemen followed *hard after* him.
- ⁷ And when he looked *behind* him, he saw me, and called unto me. And I answered, Here am I.
- ⁸ And he said unto me, Who art thou? And I answered him, I am an **Amalekite**.
- ⁹ He said unto me again, Stand, I pray thee, upon me, and slay me: for anguish is come upon me, because my life is yet *whole* in me.
- ¹⁰ So I stood upon him, and slew him, because I was sure that he could not live *after* that he was fallen: and I took the crown that was upon his head, and the bracelet that was on his arm, and have brought them hither unto my lord.
- ¹¹ Then **David** took hold on his clothes, and rent them; and likewise *all* the men that were with him:
- ¹² And they mourned, and wept, and fasted until even, for **Saul**, and for **Jonathan** his son, and for the people of the **LORD**, and for the house of **Israel**; because they were fallen by the sword.
- ¹³ And **David** said unto the young man that told him, Whence art thou? And he answered, I am the son of a stranger, an **Amalekite**.
- ¹⁴ And **David** said unto him, How wast thou not afraid to stretch forth thine hand to destroy the **LORD's anointed**?

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- ¹⁵ And **David** called one of the young men, and said, Go *near*, and fall upon him. And he smote him that he died.
- ¹⁶ And **David** said unto him, *Thy blood be upon thy head*; for thy mouth hath testified against thee, saying, *I have slain the LORD's anointed*.
- ¹⁷ And **David** lamented with this lamentation over **Saul** and over **Jonathan** his son:
- ¹⁸ (Also he bade them teach the children of **Judah** the use of the bow: behold, it is written in the book of **Jasher**.)
- ¹⁹ The beauty of **Israel** is slain upon thy high places: how are the mighty fallen!
- ²⁰ Tell it not in **Gath**, publish it not in the streets of **Askelon**; lest the daughters of the **Philistines** rejoice, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph.
- ²¹ Ye mountains of **Gilboa**, let there be no dew, neither let there be rain, upon you, nor fields of offerings: for there the shield of the mighty is vilely cast away, the shield of **Saul**, as though he had not been anointed with oil.
- ²² From the blood of the slain, from the fat of the mighty, the bow of **Jonathan** turned not back, and the sword of **Saul** returned not empty.
- ²³ **Saul** and **Jonathan** were lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in their death they were not divided: they were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions.
- ²⁴ Ye daughters of **Israel**, weep over **Saul**, who clothed you in scarlet, with other delights, who put on ornaments of gold upon your apparel.
- ²⁵ How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle! O **Jonathan**, thou wast slain in thine high places.
- ²⁶ I am distressed for thee, my brother **Jonathan**: very pleasant hast thou been unto me: *thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women*.
- ²⁷ How are the mighty fallen, and the weapons of war perished!

2 Samuel 2

- ¹ And it came to pass *after* this, that **David** enquired of the **LORD**, saying, Shall I go *up* into *any* of the cities of **Judah**? And the **LORD** said unto him, Go up. And **David** said, Whither shall I go *up*? And he said, Unto Hebron.
- ² So **David** went *up* thither, and his two wives also, **Ahinoam** the **Jezreelitess**, and **Abigail Nabal's** wife the **Carmelite**.
- ³ And his men that were with him did **David** bring *up*, every man with his household: and they dwelt in the cities of **Hebron**.
- ⁴ **And the men** of **Judah** came, and there they anointed **David** king over the house of **Judah**. And they told **David**, saying, That the men of **Jabeshgilead** were they that buried **Saul**.
- ⁵ And **David** sent messengers unto the men of **Jabeshgilead**, and said unto them, Blessed be ye of the **LORD**, that ye have shewed this kindness unto your lord, even unto **Saul**, and have buried him.
- ⁶ And now the **LORD** shew kindness and truth unto you: and I also will requite you this kindness, because ye have done this thing.
- ⁷ Therefore now let your hands be strengthened, and be ye valiant: for your master **Saul** is dead, and also the house of **Judah** have anointed me king over them.
- ⁸ But **Abner** the son of **Ner**, captain of **Saul's host**, took **Ishbosheth** the son of **Saul**, and brought him over to **Mahanaim**;
- ⁹ **And made him king** over **Gilead**, and over the **Ashurites**, and over **Jezreel**, and over **Ephraim**, and over **Benjamin**, and over *all* **Israel**.
- ¹⁰ **Ishbosheth** **Saul's** son was forty years old when he began to reign over **Israel**, and reigned two years. But the house of **Judah** followed **David**.
- ¹¹ **And the time** that **David** was king in **Hebron** over the house of **Judah** was seven years and six months.
- ¹² And **Abner** the son of **Ner**, and the servants of **Ishbosheth** the son of **Saul**, went *out* from **Mahanaim** to **Gibeon**.
- ¹³ And **Joab** the son of **Zeruiah**, and the servants of **David**, went *out*, and met together by the pool of **Gibeon**: and they sat down, the one on the one side of the pool, and the other on the other side of the pool.

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- ¹⁴ And **Abner** said to **Joab**, Let the young men now arise, and play before us. And **Joab** said, Let them arise.
- ¹⁵ Then there arose and went over by number twelve of **Benjamin**, which pertained to **Ishbosheth** the son of **Saul**, and twelve of the servants of **David**.
- ¹⁶ And they caught every one his fellow by the head, and thrust his sword in his fellow's side; so they fell down together: wherefore that place was called **Helkathazzurim**, which is in **Gibeon**.
- ¹⁷ And there was a very sore battle that day; and **Abner** was beaten, and the men of **Israel**, *before* the servants of **David**.
- ¹⁸ And there were three sons of **Zeruiah** there, **Joab**, and **Abishai**, and **Asahel**: and **Asahel** was as light of foot as a wild roe.
- ¹⁹ And **Asahel** pursued after **Abner**; and in going he turned not to the right hand nor to the left from following Abner.
- ²⁰ Then **Abner** looked *behind* him, and said, Art thou **Asahel**? And he answered, I am.
- ²¹ And **Abner** said to him, Turn thee *aside* to thy right hand or to thy left, and lay thee hold on one of the young men, and take thee his armour. But **Asahel** would not turn *aside* from following of him.
- ²² And **Abner** said again to **Asahel**, Turn thee *aside* from following me: wherefore should I smite thee to the ground? how then should I hold up my face to **Joab** thy brother?
- ²³ *Howbeit* he refused to turn *aside*: wherefore **Abner** with the hinder end of the spear smote him *under* the fifth rib, that the spear came out *behind* him; and he fell down there, and died in the same place: and it came to pass, that as *many* as came to the place where fell *down* and died stood still.
- ²⁴ **Joab** also and **Abishai** pursued after **Abner**: and the sun went *down* when they were come to the hill of **Ammah**, that lieth *before* **Giah** by the way of the wilderness of **Gibeon**.
- ²⁵ And the children of **Benjamin** gathered themselves together *after* **Abner**, and became one troop, and stood on the *top* of an hill.
- ²⁶ Then **Abner** called to **Joab**, and said, Shall the sword devour for ever? knowest thou not that it will be bitterness in the *latter end*? how *long* shall it be then, ere thou bid the people return from following their brethren?

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- ²⁷ And **Joab** said, As **God liveth**, unless thou hadst spoken, *surely* then in the morning the people had gone *up every one* from following his brother.
- ²⁸ **So Joab blew a trumpet**, and *all* the people stood still, and pursued after Israel no more, neither fought they any more.
- ²⁹ And **Abner** and his men walked *all* that night through the plain, and passed over **Jordan**, and went through *all* **Bithron**, and they came to **Mahanaim**.
- ³⁰ And **Joab returned** from following Abner: and when he had gathered *all* the people together, there lacked of **David's servants nineteen men** and **Asahel**.
- ³¹ But the servants of **David** had smitten of **Benjamin**, and of **Abner's men**, so that three hundred and threescore men died.
- ³² **And they took up Asahel**, and buried him in the sepulchre of his father, which was in **Bethlehem**. **And Joab** and his men went *all night*, and they came to **Hebron** at break of day.

2 Samuel 3

- ¹ Now there was *long war* between the house of **Saul** and the house of **David**: but **David** waxed stronger and *stronger*, and the house of **Saul** waxed weaker and *weaker*.
- ² And unto **David** were sons born in **Hebron**: and his firstborn was **Amnon**, of **Ahinoam** the **Jezreelitess**;
- ³ And his second, **Chileab**, of **Abigail** the wife of **Nabal** the **Carmelite**; and the third, **Absalom** the son of **Maacah** the daughter of **Talmai** king of **Geshur**;
- ⁴ And the fourth, **Adonijah** the son of **Haggith**; and the fifth, **Shephatiah** the son of **Abital**;
- ⁵ And the sixth, **Ithream**, by **Eglah** **David's** wife. These were born to **David** in **Hebron**.
- ⁶ And it came to pass, while there was *war* between the house of **Saul** and the house of **David**, that **Abner** made himself strong for the house of **Saul**.
- ⁷ And **Saul** had a concubine, whose name was **Rizpah**, the daughter of **Aiah**: and **Ishbosheth** said to **Abner**, Wherefore hast thou *gone in* unto my father's concubine?
- ⁸ Then was **Abner** very wroth for the words of **Ishbosheth**, and said, Am I a *dog's head*, which against **Judah** do shew kindness this day unto the house of **Saul** thy father, to his brethren, and to his friends, and have not delivered thee into the hand of **David**, that thou chargest me to day with a fault concerning this woman?
- ⁹ So do **God** to **Abner**, and *more also*, except, as the **LORD** hath sworn to **David**, even so I do to him;
- ¹⁰ **To translate** the kingdom from the house of **Saul**, and to set up the throne of **David** over **Israel** and over **Judah**, from **Dan** even to **Beersheba**.
- ¹¹ And he could not answer **Abner** a word again, because he feared him.
- ¹² **And Abner sent messengers** to **David** on his behalf, saying, Whose is the land? saying also, **Make thy league** with me, and, behold, my hand shall be with thee, to bring about *all Israel* unto thee.
- ¹³ **And he said**, Well; I will make a league with thee: but one thing I require of thee, that is, Thou shalt not see my face, except thou first bring **Michal** **Saul's** daughter, when thou comest to see my face.
- ¹⁴ And **David** sent messengers to **Ishbosheth** **Saul's** son, saying, Deliver me my wife **Michal**, which I espoused to me for an hundred foreskins of the **Philistines**.
- ¹⁵ And **Ishbosheth** sent, and took her from her husband, even from **Phaltiel** the son of **Laish**.
- ¹⁶ And *her husband* went with her along weeping behind her to **Bahurim**. Then said **Abner** unto him, Go, return. And he returned.

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- 17 And **Abner** had communication with the elders of **Israel**, saying, Ye sought for **David** in times past to be king over you:
- 18 **Now then do it: for the LORD hath spoken of David, saying, By the hand of my servant David I will save my people Israel out of the hand of the Philistines, and out of the hand of all their enemies.**
- 19 And **Abner** also spake in the ears of **Benjamin**: and **Abner** went also to speak in the ears of **David** in **Hebron** *all that seemed good to Israel, and that seemed good to the whole house of Benjamin.*
- 20 So **Abner** came to **David** to **Hebron**, and twenty men with him. And **David** made **Abner** and the men that were with him a feast.
- 21 And **Abner** said unto **David**, I will arise and go, and will gather all Israel unto my lord the king, that they may make a league with thee, and that thou mayest reign over *all that thine heart desireth*. And **David sent Abner away**; and he went in peace.
- 22 And, behold, the servants of **David** and **Joab** came from pursuing a troop, and brought in a great spoil with them: but **Abner** was not with **David** in **Hebron**; for he had sent him away, and he was gone in peace.
- 23 When **Joab** and *all the host* that was with him were come, they told **Joab**, saying, **Abner** the son of **Ner** came to the king, and he hath sent him away, and he is gone in peace.
- 24 **Then Joab came to the king, and said, What hast thou done? behold, Abner came unto thee; why is it that thou hast sent him away, and he is quite gone?**
- 25 Thou knowest Abner the son of **Ner**, that he came to deceive thee, and to know thy *going out* and thy *coming in*, and to know *all that thou doest*.
- 26 And when **Joab** was come *out* from **David**, he sent messengers *after Abner*, which brought him again from the well of **Sirah**: but **David** knew it not.
- 27 **And when Abner was returned to Hebron, Joab took him aside in the gate to speak with him quietly, and smote him there under the fifth rib, that he died, for the blood of Asahel his brother.**
- 28 **And afterward when David heard it, he said, I and my kingdom are guiltless before the LORD for ever from the blood of Abner the son of Ner.**
- 29 Let it rest on the head of **Joab**, and on *all his father's house*; and let there not fail from the house of **Joab** one that hath an issue, or that is a leper, or that leaneth on a staff, or that falleth on the sword, or that lacketh bread.

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- ³⁰ So **Joab**, and **Abishai** his brother slew Abner, because he had slain their brother **Asahel** at **Gibeon** in the battle.
- ³¹ And **David** said to **Joab**, and to *all* the people that were with him, Rend your clothes, and gird you with sackcloth, and mourn before **Abner**. And king David himself followed the bier.
- ³² And they buried Abner in **Hebron**: and the king lifted up his voice, and wept at the grave of **Abner**; and *all* the people wept.
- ³³ And the king lamented over **Abner**, and said, Died Abner as a fool dieth?
- ³⁴ Thy hands were not bound, nor thy feet put into fetters: as a man falleth before wicked men, so fellest thou. And *all* the people wept again over him.
- ³⁵ And when *all* the people came to cause **David** to eat meat while it was yet day, **David** sware, saying, So do **God** to me, and *more* also, if I taste bread, or ought else, till the sun be *down*.
- ³⁶ And *all* the people took notice of it, and it pleased them: as *whatsoever* the king did pleased *all* the people.
- ³⁷ For *all* the people and *all* **Israel** understood that day that it was not of the king to slay Abner the son of **Ner**.
- ³⁸ And the king said unto his servants, Know ye not that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in **Israel**?
- ³⁹ And I am this day weak, though anointed king; and these men the sons of **Zeruiah** be *too* hard for me: the **LORD** shall reward the doer of evil according to his wickedness.

2 Samuel 4

- ¹ And when **Saul's** son heard that **Abner** was dead in **Hebron**, his hands were feeble, and *all* the **Israelites** were troubled.
- ² And **Saul's** son had two men that were captains of bands: the name of the one was **Baanah**, and the name of the other **Rechab**, the sons of **Rimmon** a **Beerothite**, of the children of **Benjamin**: (for **Beeroth** also was reckoned to **Benjamin**.)
- ³ And the **Beerothites** fled to **Gittaim**, and were sojourners there until this day.)
- ⁴ And **Jonathan**, **Saul's** son, had a son that was lame of his feet. He was five years old when the tidings came of **Saul** and **Jonathan** *out* of **Jezeel**, and his nurse took him *up*, and fled: and it came to pass, as she made haste to flee, that he fell, and became lame. And his name was **Mephibosheth**.
- ⁵ And the sons of **Rimmon** the **Beerothite**, **Rechab** and **Baanah**, went, and came about the heat of the day to the house of **Ishbosheth**, who lay on a bed at noon.
- ⁶ **And they came thither into the midst of the house, as though they would have fetched wheat; and they smote him under the fifth rib: and Rechab and Baanah his brother escaped.**
- ⁷ For when they came into the house, he lay on his bed in his bedchamber, and they smote him, and slew him, and beheaded him, and took his head, and gat them away through the plain *all night*.
- ⁸ **And they brought the head of Ishbosheth unto David to Hebron, and said to the king, Behold the head of Ishbosheth the son of Saul thine enemy, which sought thy life; and the LORD hath avenged my lord the king this day of Saul, and of his seed.**
- ⁹ And **David** answered **Rechab** and **Baanah** his brother, the sons of **Rimmon** the **Beerothite**, and said unto them, As the **LORD** liveth, who hath redeemed my soul out of all adversity,
- ¹⁰ When one told me, saying, Behold, **Saul** is dead, thinking to have brought good tidings, I took hold of him, and slew him in **Ziklag**, *who thought that I would have given him a reward for his tidings*:
- ¹¹ **How much more, when wicked men have slain a righteous person in his own house upon his bed? shall I not therefore now require his blood of your hand, and take you away from the earth?**
- ¹² And **David** commanded his young men, and they slew them, and cut off their hands and their feet, and hanged them *up* over the pool in **Hebron**. But they took the head of **Ishbosheth**, and buried it in the sepulchre of **Abner** in **Hebron**.

2 Samuel 5

- ¹ Then came *all* the tribes of **Israel** to **David** unto **Hebron**, and spake, saying, Behold, we are thy bone and thy flesh.
- ² Also in time past, when **Saul** was king over us, thou wast he that leddest out and broughtest in **Israel**: and the **LORD** said to thee, Thou shalt feed my people **Israel**, and thou shalt be a captain over **Israel**.
- ³ So *all* the elders of **Israel** came to the king to **Hebron**; and king **David** made a league with them in **Hebron** *before* the **LORD**: and they anointed David king over Israel.
- ⁴ **David** was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years.
- ⁵ In **Hebron** he reigned over **Judah** seven years and six months: and in **Jerusalem** he reigned thirty and three years over *all* **Israel** and **Judah**.
- ⁶ And the king and his men went to **Jerusalem** unto the **Jebusites**, the inhabitants of the land: which spake unto **David**, saying, Except thou take away the blind and the lame, thou shalt not come in hither: thinking, **David** cannot come in hither.
- ⁷ Nevertheless **David** took the strong hold of **Zion**: the same is the city of David.
- ⁸ And **David** said on that day, Whosoever getteth *up* to the gutter, and smiteth the **Jebusites**, and the lame and the blind that are hated of **David's soul**, he shall be chief and captain. Wherefore they said, The blind and the lame shall not come into the house.
- ⁹ So **David** dwelt in the fort, and called it the city of David. And **David** built round about from **Millo** and *inward*.
- ¹⁰ And **David** went on, and grew great, and the **LORD** God of hosts was *with* him.
- ¹¹ And **Hiram** king of **Tyre** sent messengers to **David**, and cedar trees, and carpenters, and masons: and they built David an house.
- ¹² And **David** perceived that the **LORD** had established him king over **Israel**, and that he had exalted his kingdom for his people **Israel's** sake.
- ¹³ And **David** took him *more* concubines and wives *out* of **Jerusalem**, *after* he was come from **Hebron**: and there were yet sons and daughters born to **David**.
- ¹⁴ And these be the names of those that were born unto him in **Jerusalem**; **Shammuah**, and **Shobab**, and **Nathan**, and **Solomon**,

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- ¹⁵ **Ibhar** also, and **Elishua**, and **Nepheg**, and **Japhia**,
- ¹⁶ **And Elishama**, and **Eliada**, and **Eliphalet**.
- ¹⁷ But when the **Philistines** heard that they had anointed David king over **Israel**, *all* the **Philistines** came *up* to seek David; and **David** heard of it, and went *down* to the hold.
- ¹⁸ The **Philistines** also came and spread themselves in the valley of **Rephaim**.
- ¹⁹ **And David enquired** of the **LORD**, saying, Shall I go *up* to the **Philistines**? wilt thou deliver them into mine hand? And the **LORD** said unto **David**, **Go up: for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into thine hand**.
- ²⁰ And **David** came to **Baalperazim**, and **David smote** them there, and said, The **LORD** hath broken forth upon mine enemies *before* me, as the breach of waters. Therefore he called the name of that place **Baalperazim**.
- ²¹ And there they left their images, and **David** and his men burned them.
- ²² And the **Philistines** came *up yet again*, and spread themselves in the valley of **Rephaim**.
- ²³ And when **David enquired** of the **LORD**, he said, Thou shalt not go up; but fetch a compass behind them, and come upon them over against the mulberry trees.
- ²⁴ **And let it be, when thou hearest the sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees, that then thou shalt bestir** thyself: for then shall the **LORD go out before thee, to smite the host** of the **Philistines**.
- ²⁵ And **David** did so, as the **LORD** had commanded him; and smote the **Philistines** from **Geba** until thou come to **Gazer**.

2 Samuel 6

- ¹ Again, **David gathered** together *all* the *chosen* men of **Israel**, *thirty thousand*.
- ² And **David arose**, and went with *all* the people that were with him from **Baale of Judah**, to bring *up* from thence the **ark of God**, whose name is called by the name of the **LORD of hosts** that *dwelleth between the cherubims*.
- ³ And they set the **ark of God** upon a *new cart*, and brought it *out* of the *house* of **Abinadab** that was in **Gibeah**: and **Uzzah** and **Ahio**, the *sons* of **Abinadab**, *drave* the new cart.
- ⁴ And they brought it *out* of the *house* of **Abinadab** which was at **Gibeah**, accompanying the **ark of God**: and **Ahio** went *before* the ark.
- ⁵ And **David** and *all* the *house* of **Israel** *played* *before* the **LORD** on *all* *manner* of *instruments* made of *fir wood*, even on *harps*, and on *psalteries*, and on *timbrels*, and on *cornets*, and on *cymbals*.
- ⁶ And when they came to **Nachon's threshingfloor**, **Uzzah** *put forth his hand to the ark of God*, and *took hold of it; for the oxen shook it*.
- ⁷ And the *anger* of the **LORD** was *kindled against* **Uzzah**; and **God smote** him there for his *error*; and there he *died by the ark of God*.
- ⁸ And **David** was *displeased*, because the **LORD** had made a *breach* upon **Uzzah**: and he called the name of the place **Perezuzzah** to this *day*.
- ⁹ And **David** was *afraid* of the **LORD** that *day*, and said, How shall the **ark** of the **LORD** come to me?
- ¹⁰ So **David** would *not remove* the **ark** of the **LORD** unto him into the *city of David*: but **David** *carried it aside into the house of Obededom the Gittite*.
- ¹¹ And the **ark** of the **LORD** *continued* in the house of **Obededom** the **Gittite** *three months*: and the **LORD** *blessed Obededom*, and *all his household*.
- ¹² And it was told *king David*, saying, The **LORD** hath *blessed* the *house* of **Obededom**, and *all that pertaineth* unto him, because of the **ark** of **God**. So **David** went and brought *up* the **ark** of **God** from the *house* of **Obededom** into the *city of David* with *gladness*.
- ¹³ And it was so, that when *they that bare the ark* of the **LORD** had gone *six paces*, he *sacrificed oxen and fatlings*.
- ¹⁴ And **David** *danced before the LORD with all his might*; and **David** was *girded* with a *linen ephod*.

2 Samuel 6

- ¹⁵ So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet.
- ¹⁶ And as the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, Michal Saul's daughter looked through a window, and saw king David leaping and dancing before the LORD; and she despised him in her heart.
- ¹⁷ And they brought in the ark of the LORD, and set it in his place, in the *midst* of the tabernacle that David had pitched for it: and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD.
- ¹⁸ And as soon as David had made an end of offering burnt offerings and peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of hosts.
- ¹⁹ And he dealt among all the people, even among the *whole* multitude of Israel, as well to the women as men, to every one a cake of bread, and a good piece of flesh, and a flagon of wine. So all the people departed every one to his house.
- ²⁰ Then David returned to bless his household. And Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meet David, and said, How glorious was the king of Israel to day, who uncovered himself to day in the eyes of the handmaids of his servants, as one of the vain fellows shamelessly uncovereth himself!
- ²¹ And David said unto Michal, *It was before the LORD, which* chose me before thy father, and before all his house, to appoint me ruler over the people of the LORD, over Israel: therefore will I play before the LORD.
- ²² And I will yet be more vile than thus, and will be base in mine own sight: and of the maidservants which thou hast spoken of, of them shall I be had in honour.
- ²³ Therefore Michal the daughter of Saul had no child unto the day of her death.

2 Samuel 7

- ¹ And it came to pass, when the king sat in his house, and the **LORD** had given him rest round about from *all* his enemies;
- ² **That the king said unto Nathan the prophet, See now, I dwell in an house of cedar, but the ark of God dwelleth within curtains.**
- ³ And **Nathan** said to the king, Go, do *all* that is in thine heart; for the **LORD** is *with thee*.
- ⁴ And it came to pass that night, that the word of the **LORD** came unto **Nathan**, saying,
- ⁵ **Go and tell my servant David, Thus saith the LORD, Shalt thou build me an house for me to dwell in?**
- ⁶ **Whereas I have not dwelt in any house since the time that I brought up the children of Israel out of Egypt, even to this day, but have walked in a tent and in a tabernacle.**
- ⁷ **In all the places wherein I have walked with all the children of Israel spake I a word with any of the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to feed my people Israel, saying, Why build ye not me an house of cedar?**
- ⁸ **Now therefore so shalt thou say unto my servant David, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I took thee from the shepcote, from following the sheep, to be ruler over my people, over Israel:**
- ⁹ **And I was with thee whithersoever thou wentest, and have cut off all thine enemies out of thy sight, and have made thee a great name, like unto the name of the great men that are in the earth.**
- ¹⁰ **Moreover I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more, as beforetime,**
- ¹¹ **And as since the time that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel, and have caused thee to rest from all thine enemies. Also the LORD telleth thee that he will make thee an house.**
- ¹² **And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom.**
- ¹³ **He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever.**
- ¹⁴ **I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men:**
- ¹⁵ **But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee.**

2 Samuel 7

- ¹⁶ **And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.**
- ¹⁷ According to *all* these words, and according to *all* this vision, so did **Nathan** speak unto **David**.
- ¹⁸ Then went **king David** in, and sat before the **LORD**, and he said, *Who am I, O Lord GOD?* and *what* is my house, that thou hast brought me hitherto?
- ¹⁹ **And this was yet a *small thing* in thy sight, O Lord GOD; but thou hast spoken also of thy servant's house for a *great* while to come. And is this the manner of man, O Lord GOD?**
- ²⁰ **And what can David say *more* unto thee? for thou, Lord GOD, knowest thy servant.**
- ²¹ **For thy word's sake, and according to thine own heart, hast thou done *all* these great things, to make thy servant know them.**
- ²² **Wherefore thou art great, O LORD God: for there is none like thee, neither is there *any* God beside thee, according to *all* that we have heard with our ears.**
- ²³ **And what one nation in the earth is like thy people, even like **Israel**, whom **God** went to redeem for a people to himself, and to make him a name, and to do for you great things and *terrible*, for thy land, *before* thy people, which thou redeemedst to thee from **Egypt**, from the nations and their *gods*?**
- ²⁴ **For thou hast confirmed to thyself thy people **Israel** to be a *people unto thee for ever*. and thou, **LORD**, *art become their* God.**
- ²⁵ **And now, O LORD God, the word that thou hast spoken concerning thy servant, and concerning his house, establish it *for ever*, and do as thou hast said.**
- ²⁶ **And let thy name be magnified for ever, saying, The **LORD** of hosts is the **God** over **Israel**: and let the house of thy servant David be established before thee.**
- ²⁷ **For thou, O LORD of hosts, **God** of **Israel**, hast revealed to thy servant, saying, *I will build thee an house: therefore hath thy servant found in his heart to pray this prayer unto thee.***
- ²⁸ **And now, O Lord GOD, thou art that **God**, and thy words be *true*, and thou hast promised this goodness unto thy servant:**
- ²⁹ **Therefore now let it please thee to bless the house of thy servant, that it may *continue for ever before* thee: for thou, O **Lord GOD**, hast spoken it: and with thy blessing let the house of thy servant be blessed for ever.**

2 Samuel 8

- ¹ And *after* this it came to pass that **David** smote the **Philistines**, and subdued them: and **David** took **Methegammah** *out* of the hand of the **Philistines**.
- ² And he smote **Moab**, and measured them with a line, casting them *down* to the ground; even with two lines measured he to put to death, and with one full line to keep alive. And so the **Moabites** became **David's servants**, and brought gifts.
- ³ **David** smote also **Hadadezer**, the son of **Rehob**, king of **Zobah**, as he went to recover his border at the river **Euphrates**.
- ⁴ And **David** took from him a thousand chariots, and seven hundred horsemen, and twenty thousand footmen: and **David** houghed *all* the chariot horses, but reserved of them for an hundred chariots.
- ⁵ And when the **Syrians** of **Damascus** came to succour **Hadadezer** king of **Zobah**, **David** slew of the **Syrians** two and twenty thousand men.
- ⁶ Then **David** put garrisons in **Syria** of **Damascus**: and the **Syrians** became servants to **David**, and brought gifts. And the **LORD** preserved **David** whithersoever he went.
- ⁷ And **David** took the shields of gold that were on the servants of **Hadadezer**, and brought them to **Jerusalem**.
- ⁸ And from **Betah**, and from **Berothai**, cities of **Hadadezer**, king **David** took *exceeding much* brass.
- ⁹ When **Toi** king of **Hamath** heard that **David** had smitten *all* the host of **Hadadezer**,
- ¹⁰ Then **Toi** sent **Joram** his son unto king **David**, to salute him, and to bless him, because he had fought against **Hadadezer**, and smitten him: for **Hadadezer** had wars with **Toi**. And **Joram** brought with him vessels of silver, and vessels of gold, and vessels of brass:
- ¹¹ Which also king **David** did dedicate unto the **LORD**, with the silver and gold that he had dedicated of *all* nations which he subdued;
- ¹² Of **Syria**, and of **Moab**, and of the children of **Ammon**, and of the **Philistines**, and of **Amalek**, and of the spoil of **Hadadezer**, son of **Rehob**, king of **Zobah**.
- ¹³ And **David** gat him a name when he returned from smiting of the **Syrians** in the valley of salt, being eighteen thousand men.

2 Samuel 8

- ¹⁴ And he put garrisons in **Edom**; throughout *all Edom* put he garrisons, and *all* they of **Edom** became **David's servants**. And the **LORD preserved David** whithersoever he went.
- ¹⁵ And **David reigned over all Israel**; and **David executed judgment and justice unto all his people**.
- ¹⁶ And **Joab** the son of **Zeruiah** was over the host; and **Jehoshaphat** the son of **Ahilud** was recorder;
- ¹⁷ And **Zadok** the son of **Ahitub**, and **Ahimelech** the son of **Abiathar**, were the priests; and **Seraiah** was the scribe;
- ¹⁸ And **Benaiah** the son of **Jehoiada** was over both the **Cherethites** and the **Pelethites**; and **David's** sons were chief rulers.

2 Samuel 9

- ¹ And David said, Is there yet *any* that is left of the house of Saul, that I may shew him kindness for Jonathan's sake?
- ² And there was of the house of Saul a servant whose name was Ziba. And when they had called him unto David, the king said unto him, Art thou Ziba? And he said, Thy servant is he.
- ³ And the king said, Is there not yet *any* of the house of Saul, that I may shew the kindness of God unto him? And Ziba said unto the king, Jonathan hath yet a son, which is lame on his feet.
- ⁴ And the king said unto him, Where is he? And Ziba said unto the king, Behold, he is in the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, in Lodebar.
- ⁵ Then king David sent, and fetches him *out* of the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, from Lodebar.
- ⁶ Now when Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, was come unto David, he fell on his face, and did reverence. And David said, Mephibosheth. And he answered, Behold thy servant!
- ⁷ And David said unto him, Fear not: for I will surely shew thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee *all* the land of Saul thy father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually.
- ⁸ And he bowed himself, and said, What is thy servant, that thou shouldst look upon such a dead dog as I am?
- ⁹ Then the king called to Ziba, Saul's servant, and said unto him, I have given unto thy master's son *all* that pertained to Saul and to *all* his house.
- ¹⁰ Thou therefore, and thy sons, and thy servants, shall till the land for him, and thou shalt bring in the fruits, that thy master's son may have food to eat: but Mephibosheth thy master's son shall eat bread always at my table. Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.
- ¹¹ Then said Ziba unto the king, According to *all* that my lord the king hath commanded his servant, so shall thy servant do. As for Mephibosheth, said the king, he shall eat at my table, as one of the king's sons.
- ¹² And Mephibosheth had a young son, whose name was Micha. And *all* that dwelt in the house of Ziba were servants unto Mephibosheth.
- ¹³ So Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem: for he did eat continually at the king's table; and was lame on *both* his feet.

2 Samuel 10

- ¹ And it came to pass *after* this, that the king of the children of **Ammon** died, and **Hanun** his son reigned in his stead.
- ² Then said **David**, I will shew kindness unto **Hanun** the son of **Nahash**, as his father shewed kindness unto me. And **David** sent to comfort him by the hand of his servants for his father. And **David's** servants came into the land of the children of **Ammon**.
- ³ **And the princes** of the children of **Ammon** said unto **Hanun** their lord, Thinkest thou that **David** doth honour thy father, that he hath sent comforters unto thee? hath not David rather sent his servants unto thee, to search the city, and to spy it out, and to overthrow it?
- ⁴ Wherefore **Hanun** took **David's** servants, and shaved off the one half of their beards, and cut off their garments in the middle, even to their buttocks, and sent them away.
- ⁵ When they told it unto **David**, he sent to meet them, because the men were greatly ashamed: and the king said, Tarry at **Jericho** until your beards be grown, and then return.
- ⁶ And when the children of **Ammon** saw that they stank before **David**, the children of **Ammon** sent and hired the **Syrians** of **Bethrehab** and the **Syrians** of **Zoba**, twenty thousand footmen, and of king Maacah a thousand men, and of **Ishtob** twelve thousand men.
- ⁷ And when **David** heard of it, he sent **Joab**, and *all* the host of the mighty men.
- ⁸ And the children of **Ammon** came out, and put the battle in array at the entering in of the gate: and the **Syrians** of **Zoba**, and of **Rehob**, and **Ishtob**, and **Maacah**, were by themselves in the field.
- ⁹ When **Joab** saw that the front of the battle was against him *before* and *behind*, he chose of *all* the choice men of **Israel**, and put them in array against the **Syrians**:
- ¹⁰ And the rest of the people he delivered into the hand of **Abishai** his brother, that he might put them in array against the children of **Ammon**.
- ¹¹ And he said, If the **Syrians** be too strong for me, then thou shalt help me: but if the children of **Ammon** be too strong for thee, then I will come and help thee.
- ¹² **Be of good courage**, and let us play the men for our people, and for the cities of our **God**: and **the LORD** do that which seemeth him good.
- ¹³ And **Joab** drew *nigh*, and the people that were with him, unto the battle against the **Syrians**: and they fled before him.

2 Samuel 10

- ¹⁴ And when the children of **Ammon** saw that the **Syrians** were fled, then fled they *also before* **Abishai**, and entered into the city. So **Joab** returned from the children of **Ammon**, and came to **Jerusalem**.
- ¹⁵ And when the **Syrians** saw that they were smitten *before Israel*, they gathered themselves together.
- ¹⁶ And **Hadarezer** sent, and brought out the **Syrians** that were *beyond* the river: and they came to **Helam**; and **Shobach** the captain of the host of **Hadarezer** went *before* them.
- ¹⁷ And when it was told **David**, he gathered *all Israel* together, and passed over **Jordan**, and came to **Helam**. And the **Syrians** set themselves in array against **David**, and fought with him.
- ¹⁸ And the **Syrians** fled *before Israel*; and **David** slew the men of seven hundred chariots of the **Syrians**, and forty thousand horsemen, and smote **Shobach** the captain of their host, who died there.
- ¹⁹ And when *all* the kings that were servants to **Hadarezer** saw that they were smitten *before Israel*, they made peace with **Israel**, and served them. So the **Syrians** feared to help the children of **Ammon** *any more*.

2 Samuel 11

- ¹ And it came to pass, *after* the year was expired, at the time when kings go forth to battle, that **David sent Joab**, and his servants with him, and *all* **Israel**; and they destroyed the children of **Ammon**, and besieged Rabbah. But **David tarried still** at **Jerusalem**.
- ² And it came to pass in an eveningtide, that **David arose** from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and *from the roof* he saw a woman washing herself; and *the woman* was very beautiful to look upon.
- ³ And **David sent** and enquired *after* the woman. And *one* said, Is not this **Bathsheba**, the daughter of **Eliam**, the wife of **Uriah** the **Hittite**?
- ⁴ And **David sent messengers**, and *took her*; and *she came in unto him*, and he lay with her; for she was purified from her uncleanness: and she returned unto her house.
- ⁵ And the woman conceived, and sent and told **David**, and said, *I am with child*.
- ⁶ And **David sent** to **Joab**, saying, Send me **Uriah** the **Hittite**. And **Joab sent Uriah** to **David**.
- ⁷ And when **Uriah** was come unto him, **David demanded** of him how **Joab** did, and how the people did, and how the war prospered.
- ⁸ And **David** said to **Uriah**, Go *down* to thy house, and wash thy feet. And **Uriah departed** *out* of the king's house, and there followed him a mess of meat from the king.
- ⁹ But **Uriah slept** at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and went not down to his house.
- ¹⁰ And when they had told **David**, saying, **Uriah** went not down unto his house, **David** said unto **Uriah**, Camest thou not from thy journey? why then didst thou not go *down* unto thine house?
- ¹¹ And **Uriah** said unto **David**, The ark, and **Israel**, and **Judah**, abide in tents; and my lord **Joab**, and the servants of my lord, are encamped in the open fields; *shall I then go into mine house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife?* as thou livest, and as thy soul liveth, *I will not do this thing*.
- ¹² And **David** said to **Uriah**, Tarry here to day also, and to morrow I will let thee depart. So **Uriah abode** in **Jerusalem** that day, and the morrow.
- ¹³ And when **David** had called him, he did eat and drink *before* him; and he made him drunk: and at even he went *out* to lie on his bed with the servants of his lord, but went not down to his house.

2 Samuel 11

- 14 And it came to pass in the morning, that **David** wrote a letter to **Joab**, and sent it by the hand of **Uriah**.
- 15 And he wrote in the letter, saying, **Set ye Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retire ye from him, that he may be smitten, and die.**
- 16 And it came to pass, when **Joab** observed the city, that he assigned **Uriah** unto a place where he knew that valiant men were.
- 17 And the men of the city went out, and fought with **Joab**: and there fell some of the people of the servants of **David**; and **Uriah** the Hittite died also.
- 18 Then **Joab** sent and told **David** all the things concerning the war;
- 19 And charged the messenger, saying, When thou hast made an end of telling the matters of the war unto the king,
- 20 And if so be that the king's wrath arise, and he say unto thee, Wherefore approached ye so nigh unto the city when ye did fight? knew ye not that they would shoot from the wall?
- 21 Who smote **Abimelech** the son of **Jerubbesheth**? did not a woman cast a piece of a millstone upon him from the wall, that he died in **Thebez**? why went ye nigh the wall? then say thou, **Thy servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.**
- 22 So the messenger went, and came and shewed **David** all that **Joab** had sent him for.
- 23 And the messenger said unto **David**, **Surely** the men prevailed against us, and came out unto us into the field, and we were upon them even unto the entering of the gate.
- 24 And the shooters shot from off the wall upon thy servants; and some of the king's servants be dead, and **thy servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.**
- 25 Then **David** said unto the messenger, Thus shalt thou say unto **Joab**, **Let not this thing displease thee, for the sword devoureth one as well as another: make thy battle more strong against the city, and overthrow it: and encourage thou him.**
- 26 And when the wife of **Uriah** heard that **Uriah** her husband was dead, she mourned for her husband.
- 27 And when the mourning was past, **David** sent and fetches her to his house, and she became his wife, and bare him a son. **But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.**

2 Samuel 12

- ¹ **And the LORD sent Nathan unto David.** And he came unto him, and said unto him, There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor.
- ² The rich man had exceeding many flocks and herds:
- ³ But the poor man had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter.
- ⁴ And there came a traveller unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; *but took the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him.*
- ⁵ And **David's anger** was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to **Nathan**, As the **LORD liveth**, the man that hath done this thing shall surely die:
- ⁶ And he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.
- ⁷ **And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man.** Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul;
- ⁸ **And I gave thee thy master's house**, and thy master's wives into thy bosom, and gave thee the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would moreover have given unto thee such and such things.
- ⁹ **Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment** of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? *thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon.*
- ¹⁰ **Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house**; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife.
- ¹¹ Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun.
- ¹² For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.
- ¹³ **And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD.** And **Nathan** said unto **David**, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.

2 Samuel 12

- ¹⁴ Howbeit, because by this **deed** thou hast given **great occasion** to the **enemies** of the **LORD** to **blaspheme**, *the child also that is **born** unto thee shall **surely die**.*
- ¹⁵ And **Nathan departed** unto his **house**. And the **LORD struck** the child that **Uriah's wife bare** unto **David**, and it was **very sick**.
- ¹⁶ **David** therefore **besought** **God** for the child; and **David fasted**, and **went in**, and **lay all night upon the earth**.
- ¹⁷ And the **elders** of his **house arose**, and went to him, to **raise** him *up* from the **earth**: but he would **not**, **neither** did he **eat bread** with them.
- ¹⁸ And it came to **pass** on the **seventh day**, that *the child died*. And the **servants** of **David feared** to tell him that the child was **dead**: for they said, Behold, while the child was yet **alive**, we spake unto him, and he would **not** hearken unto our **voice**: how will he then **vex himself**, if we tell him that the child is dead?
- ¹⁹ But when **David** saw that his **servants whispered**, **David perceived** that the child was **dead**: therefore **David** said unto his servants, Is the child dead? And they said, He is dead.
- ²⁰ Then **David arose** from the **earth**, and **washed**, and **anointed** himself, and **changed** his **apparel**, and came into the **house** of the **LORD**, and **worshipped**: then he came to his **own house**; and when he **required**, they **set bread** before him, and he did **eat**.
- ²¹ Then said his **servants** unto him, What **thing** is this that thou hast done? thou didst **fast** and **weep** for the child, while it was **alive**; but when the child was **dead**, thou didst **rise** and **eat bread**.
- ²² And he said, While the child was yet **alive**, I **fasted** and **wept**: for I said, *Who can tell whether **GOD** will be **gracious** to me, that the child may **live**?*
- ²³ But now he is **dead**, wherefore should I **fast**? can I bring him **back again**? *I shall go to him, but he shall **not return** to me.*
- ²⁴ And **David comforted** **Bathsheba** his **wife**, and **went in unto her**, and **lay with her**: and she **bare** a son, and he called his **name** **Solomon**: and the **LORD loved** him.
- ²⁵ And he **sent** by the **hand** of **Nathan** the **prophet**; and he called his **name** **Jedidiah**, because of the **LORD**.
- ²⁶ And **Joab fought** against **Rabbah** of the children of **Ammon**, and took the **royal city**.

2 Samuel 12

- ²⁷ And **Joab** sent messengers to **David**, and said, I have fought against **Rabbah**, and have taken the city of waters.
- ²⁸ Now therefore gather the rest of the people together, and encamp against the city, and take it: *lest I take the city, and it be called after my name.*
- ²⁹ And **David** gathered all the people together, and went to **Rabbah**, and fought against it, and took it.
- ³⁰ And he took their king's crown from off his head, the weight whereof was a talent of gold with *the precious stones*: and it was set on **David's head**. And he brought forth the spoil of the city in *great abundance*.
- ³¹ And he brought forth the people that were therein, and put them *under* saws, and *under* harrows of iron, and *under* axes of iron, and made them pass through the brick-kiln: and thus did he unto *all* the cities of the children of **Ammon**. So **David** and *all* the people returned unto **Jerusalem**.

2 Samuel 13

- ¹ And it came to pass *after* this, that **Absalom** the son of **David** had a fair sister, whose name was **Tamar**; and **Amnon** the son of **David** loved her.
- ² And **Amnon** was so vexed, that he fell sick for his sister **Tamar**; for she was a virgin; and **Amnon** thought it hard for him to do anything to her.
- ³ But **Amnon** had a friend, whose name was **Jonadab**, the son of **Shimeah David's** brother: and **Jonadab** was a very subtil man.
- ⁴ And he said unto him, Why art thou, being the king's son, lean from day to day? wilt thou not tell me? And **Amnon** said unto him, I love Tamar, my brother **Absalom's** sister.
- ⁵ And **Jonadab** said unto him, Lay thee *down* on thy bed, and make thyself sick: and when thy father cometh to see thee, say unto him, I pray thee, let my sister **Tamar** come, and give me meat, and dress the meat in my sight, that I may see it, and eat it at her hand.
- ⁶ So **Amnon** lay down, and made himself sick: and when the king was come to see him, **Amnon** said unto the king, I pray thee, let **Tamar** my sister come, and make me a couple of cakes in my sight, that I may eat at her hand.
- ⁷ Then **David** sent home to **Tamar**, saying, Go now to thy brother **Amnon's** house, and dress him meat.
- ⁸ So **Tamar** went to her brother **Amnon's** house; and he was laid down. And she took flour, and kneaded it, and made cakes in his sight, and did bake the cakes.
- ⁹ And she took a pan, and poured them *out before* him; but he refused to eat. And **Amnon** said, Have *out all* men from me. And they went *out every man* from him.
- ¹⁰ And **Amnon** said unto **Tamar**, Bring the meat into the chamber, that I may eat of thine hand. And **Tamar** took the cakes which she had made, and brought them into the chamber to **Amnon** her brother.
- ¹¹ And when she had brought them unto him to eat, he took hold of her, and said unto her, **Come lie with me, my sister**.
- ¹² And she answered him, **Nay, my brother, do not force me; for no such thing ought to be done in Israel: do not** thou this **folly**.
- ¹³ And I, whither shall I cause my shame to go? and as for thee, thou shalt be as one of the fools in **Israel**. Now therefore, I pray thee, speak unto the king; for he will not withhold me from thee.

2 Samuel 13

- 14 Howbeit he would not hearken unto her voice: but, being stronger than she, forced her, and lay with her.
- 15 Then Amnon hated her exceedingly; so that the hatred wherewith he hated her was greater than the love wherewith he had loved her. And Amnon said unto her, Arise, be gone.
- 16 And she said unto him, There is no cause: this evil in sending me away is greater than the other that thou didst unto me. But he would not hearken unto her.
- 17 Then he called his servant that ministered unto him, and said, Put now this woman out from me, and bolt the door after her.
- 18 And she had a garment of divers colours upon her: for with such robes were the king's daughters that were virgins apparelled. Then his servant brought her out, and bolted the door after her.
- 19 And Tamar put ashes on her head, and rent her garment of divers colours that was on her, and laid her hand on her head, and went on crying.
- 20 And Absalom her brother said unto her, Hath Amnon thy brother been with thee? but hold now thy peace, my sister: he is thy brother; regard not this thing. So Tamar remained desolate in her brother Absalom's house.
- 21 But when king David heard of all these things, he was very wroth.
- 22 And Absalom spake unto his brother Amnon neither good nor bad: for Absalom hated Amnon, because he had forced his sister Tamar.
- 23 And it came to pass after two full years, that Absalom had sheepshearers in Baalhazor, which is beside Ephraim: and Absalom invited all the king's sons.
- 24 And Absalom came to the king, and said, Behold now, thy servant hath sheepshearers; let the king, I beseech thee, and his servants go with thy servant.
- 25 And the king said to Absalom, Nay, my son, let us not all now go, lest we be chargeable unto thee. And he pressed him: howbeit he would not go, but blessed him.
- 26 Then said Absalom, If not, I pray thee, let my brother Amnon go with us. And the king said unto him, Why should he go with thee?
- 27 But Absalom pressed him, that he let Amnon and all the king's sons go with him.

2 Samuel 13

- 28 Now Absalom had commanded his servants, saying, Mark ye now when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, and when I say unto you, Smite Amnon; then kill him, fear not: have not I commanded you? be courageous, and be valiant.
- 29 And the servants of Absalom *did unto Amnon as Absalom had commanded*. Then *all* the king's sons arose, and every man gat him *up* upon his mule, and fled.
- 30 And it came to pass, while they were in the way, that tidings came to David, saying, Absalom hath slain all the king's sons, and there is not one of them left.
- 31 Then the king arose, and tare his garments, and lay on the earth; and *all* his servants stood by with their clothes rent.
- 32 And Jonadab, the son of Shimeah David's brother, answered and said, Let not my lord suppose that they have slain *all* the young men the king's sons; *for Amnon only is dead*: for by the appointment of Absalom this hath been determined from the day that he forced his sister Tamar.
- 33 Now therefore let not my lord the king take the thing to his heart, to think that *all* the king's sons are dead: for *Amnon only is dead*.
- 34 But Absalom fled. And the young man that kept the watch lifted up his eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came *much* people by the way of the hill side *behind* him.
- 35 And Jonadab said unto the king, Behold, the king's sons come: as thy servant said, so it is.
- 36 And it came to pass, as soon as he had made an end of speaking, that, behold, the king's sons came, and lifted up their voice and wept: and the king also and *all* his servants wept very sore.
- 37 But Absalom fled, and went to Talmi, the son of Ammihud, king of Geshur. And David mourned for his son every day.
- 38 So Absalom fled, and went to Geshur, and was there three years.
- 39 And the soul of king David longed to go forth unto Absalom: for he was comforted concerning Amnon, seeing he was dead.

2 Samuel 14

- ¹ Now **Joab** the son of **Zeruiah** perceived that the king's heart was *toward* **Absalom**.
- ² And **Joab** sent to **Tekoah**, and fetched thence a wise woman, and said unto her, I pray thee, feign thyself to be a mourner, and put on now mourning apparel, and anoint not thyself with oil, but be as a woman that had a long time mourned for the dead:
- ³ And come to the king, and speak on this manner unto him. So **Joab** put the words in her mouth.
- ⁴ And when the woman of **Tekoah** spake to the king, she fell on her face to the ground, and did obeisance, and said, Help, O king.
- ⁵ And the king said unto her, What aileth thee? And she answered, I am indeed a widow woman, and mine husband is dead.
- ⁶ And thy handmaid had two sons, and they two strove together in the field, and there was none to part them, but the one smote the other, and slew him.
- ⁷ And, behold, the whole family is risen against thine handmaid, and they said, **Deliver him that smote his brother, that we may kill him, for the life of his brother whom he slew; and we will destroy the heir also:** and so they shall quench my coal which is left, and shall not leave to my husband neither name nor remainder upon the earth.
- ⁸ And the king said unto the woman, Go to thine house, and I will give charge concerning thee.
- ⁹ And the woman of **Tekoah** said unto the king, My lord, O king, the iniquity be on me, and on my father's house: and the king and his throne be guiltless.
- ¹⁰ And the king said, Whoever saith ought unto thee, bring him to me, and he shall not touch thee *any more*.
- ¹¹ Then said she, I pray thee, let the king remember the **LORD** thy **God**, that thou wouldest not suffer the revengers of blood to destroy *any more*, lest they destroy my son. And he said, As the **LORD** liveth, there shall not one hair of thy son fall to the earth.
- ¹² Then the woman said, Let thine handmaid, I pray thee, speak one word unto my lord the king. And he said, Say on.
- ¹³ And the woman said, Wherefore then hast thou thought such a thing against the people of **God**? for the king doth speak this thing as one which is faulty, in that the king doth not fetch home again his banished.

2 Samuel 14

- ¹⁴ For **we must needs die**, and are as water spilt on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again; neither doth **God respect any person**: yet doth he devise means, that his **banished be not expelled from him**.
- ¹⁵ Now therefore that I am come to speak of this thing unto my lord the king, it is because the people have made me afraid: and thy handmaid said, I will now speak unto the king; it may be that the king will perform the request of his handmaid.
- ¹⁶ For the king will hear, to deliver his handmaid out of the hand of the man that would destroy me and my son together out of the inheritance of **God**.
- ¹⁷ Then thine handmaid said, The word of my lord the king shall now be comfortable: for as an angel of **God**, so is my lord the king to discern good and bad: therefore the **LORD** thy **God** will be with thee.
- ¹⁸ Then the king answered and said unto the woman, Hide not from me, I pray thee, the thing that I shall ask thee. And the woman said, Let my lord the king now speak.
- ¹⁹ And the king said, Is not the hand of **Joab** with thee in *all* this? And the woman answered and said, As thy soul liveth, my lord the king, none can turn to the right hand or to the left from ought that my lord the king hath spoken: for thy servant Joab, he bade me, and he put *all* these words in the mouth of thine handmaid:
- ²⁰ To fetch about this form of speech hath thy servant Joab done this thing: and my lord is wise, according to the wisdom of an angel of **God**, to know *all* things that are in the earth.
- ²¹ **And the king said unto Joab, Behold now, I have done this thing: go therefore, bring the young man Absalom again.**
- ²² And **Joab fell** to the ground on his face, and bowed himself, and thanked the king: and **Joab** said, To day thy servant knoweth that I have found grace in thy sight, my lord, O king, in that the king hath fulfilled the request of his servant.
- ²³ **So Joab arose and went to Geshur, and brought Absalom to Jerusalem.**
- ²⁴ And the king said, Let him turn to his own house, and **let him not see my face**. So **Absalom returned** to his *own* house, and **saw not the king's face**.
- ²⁵ **But in all Israel there was none to be so much praised as Absalom for his beauty: from the sole of his foot even to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him.**

2 Samuel 14

- ²⁶ And when he polled his head, (for it was at every year's end that he *polled* it: because the hair was heavy on him, therefore he *polled* it:) he weighed the hair of his head at two hundred shekels *after the king's weight*.
- ²⁷ And unto **Absalom** there were born three sons, and one daughter, whose name was **Tamar**: she was a woman of a fair countenance.
- ²⁸ **So Absalom dwelt two full years in Jerusalem, and saw not the king's face.**
- ²⁹ Therefore **Absalom** sent for **Joab**, to have sent him to the king; but he would not come to him: and when he sent again the second time, he would not come.
- ³⁰ Therefore he said unto his servants, See, Joab's field is *near* mine, and he hath barley there; go and set it on fire. And **Absalom's** servants set the field on fire.
- ³¹ Then **Joab** arose, and came to **Absalom** unto his house, and said unto him, Wherefore have thy servants set my field on fire?
- ³² **And Absalom answered Joab, Behold, I sent unto thee, saying, Come hither, that I may send thee to the king, to say, Wherefore am I come from Geshur? it had been good for me to have been there still: now therefore let me see the king's face; and if there be any iniquity in me, let him kill me.**
- ³³ **So Joab came to the king, and told him: and when he had called for Absalom, he came to the king, and bowed himself on his face to the ground before the king: and the king kissed Absalom.**

2 Samuel 15

- ¹ And it came to pass *after* this, that **Absalom** prepared him chariots and horses, and fifty men to run *before* him.
- ² And **Absalom** rose up *early*, and stood *beside* the way of the gate: and it was so, that when *any man* that had a controversy came to the king for judgment, then **Absalom** called unto him, and said, Of what city art thou? And he said, Thy servant is of one of the tribes of Israel.
- ³ And **Absalom** said unto him, See, thy matters are good and right; but there is no man deputed of the king to hear thee.
- ⁴ **Absalom** said moreover, Oh that **I** were made judge in the land, that every man which hath *any* suit or cause might come unto me, and I would do him justice!
- ⁵ And it was so, that when *any man* came *nigh* to him to do him obeisance, he put forth his hand, and took him, and kissed him.
- ⁶ And on this manner did **Absalom** to *all* Israel that came to the king for judgment: so **Absalom** stole the hearts of the men of Israel.
- ⁷ And it came to pass *after* forty years, that **Absalom** said unto the king, I pray thee, let me go and pay my vow, which I have vowed unto the LORD, in Hebron.
- ⁸ For thy servant vowed a vow while I abode at Geshur in Syria, saying, If the LORD shall bring me again indeed to Jerusalem, then I will serve the LORD.
- ⁹ And the king said unto him, Go in peace. So he arose, and went to Hebron.
- ¹⁰ But **Absalom** sent spies throughout *all* the tribes of Israel, saying, As soon as ye hear the sound of the trumpet, then ye shall say, **Absalom** reigneth in Hebron.
- ¹¹ And with **Absalom** went two hundred men *out* of Jerusalem, that were called; and they went in their simplicity, and they knew not *any thing*.
- ¹² And **Absalom** sent for **Ahithophel** the Gilonite, **David's** counsellor, from his city, even from Giloh, while he offered sacrifices. And the conspiracy was strong; for the people increased *continually* with **Absalom**.
- ¹³ And there came a messenger to **David**, saying, The hearts of the men of Israel are *after* **Absalom**.
- ¹⁴ And **David** said unto *all* his servants that were with him at Jerusalem, Arise, and let us flee; for we shall not else escape from **Absalom**: make speed to depart, lest he overtake us suddenly, and bring evil upon us, and smite the city with the edge of the sword.

2 Samuel 15

- 15 And the king's servants said unto the king, Behold, thy servants are ready to do whatsoever my lord the king shall appoint.
- 16 And the king went forth, and *all* his household *after* him. And the king left ten women, which were concubines, to keep the house.
- 17 And the king went forth, and *all* the people *after* him, and tarried in a place that was *far off*.
- 18 And *all* his servants passed on *beside* him; and *all* the Cherethites, and *all* the Pelethites, and *all* the Gittites, six hundred men which came *after* him from Gath, passed on *before* the king.
- 19 Then said the king to Ittai the Gittite, Wherefore goest thou also with us? return to thy place, and abide with the king: for thou art a stranger, and also an exile.
- 20 Whereas thou camest but yesterday, should I this day make thee go *up* and *down* with us? seeing I go whither I may, return thou, and take *back* thy brethren: mercy and truth be with thee.
- 21 **And Ittai answered the king, and said, As the LORD liveth, and as my lord the king liveth, surely in what place my lord the king shall be, whether in death or life, even there also will thy servant be.**
- 22 And David said to Ittai, Go and pass over. And Ittai the Gittite passed over, and *all* his men, and *all* the little ones that were with him.
- 23 And *all* the country wept with a loud voice, and *all* the people passed over: the king also himself passed over the brook Kidron, and *all* the people passed over, *toward* the way of the wilderness.
- 24 **And lo Zadok also, and all the Levites were with him, bearing the ark of the covenant of God: and they set down the ark of God; and Abiathar went up, until all the people had done passing out of the city.**
- 25 And the king said unto Zadok, Carry *back* the ark of God into the city: if I shall find favour in the eyes of the LORD, he will bring me again, and shew me both it, and his habitation:
- 26 But if he thus say, I have no delight in thee; behold, here am I, let him do to me as seemeth good unto him.
- 27 The king said also unto Zadok the priest, Art not thou a seer? return into the city in peace, and your two sons with you, Ahimaaz thy son, and Jonathan the son of Abiathar.
- 28 See, I will tarry in the plain of the wilderness, until there come word from you to certify me.
- 29 Zadok therefore and Abiathar carried the ark of God again to Jerusalem: and they tarried there.

2 Samuel 15

- ³⁰ And **David** went *up* by the ascent of mount Olivet, and wept as he went *up*, and had his head covered, and he went barefoot: and *all* the people that was with him covered every man his head, and they went *up*, weeping as they went *up*.
- ³¹ And one told **David**, saying, **Ahithophel** is among the conspirators with **Absalom**. And **David** said, *O LORD, I pray thee, turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness.*
- ³² And it came to pass, that when **David** was come to the top of the mount, where he worshipped God, behold, **Hushai** the **Archite** came to meet him with his coat rent, and earth upon his head:
- ³³ Unto whom **David** said, If thou passest on with me, then thou shalt be a burden unto me:
- ³⁴ But if thou return to the city, and say unto **Absalom**, I will be thy servant, O king; as I have been thy father's servant hitherto, so will I now also be thy servant: then *mayest thou for me defeat the counsel of Ahithophel.*
- ³⁵ And hast thou not there with thee **Zadok** and **Abiathar** the priests? therefore it shall be, that what thing soever thou shalt *hear out* of the king's house, thou shalt *tell* it to **Zadok** and **Abiathar** the priests.
- ³⁶ Behold, they have there with them their two sons, **Ahimaaz Zadok's** son, and **Jonathan Abiathar's** son; and by them ye shall send unto me every thing that ye can *hear*.
- ³⁷ So **Hushai David's friend** came into the city, and **Absalom** came into **Jerusalem**.

2 Samuel 16

- ¹ And when **David** was a *little* past the *top* of the hill, behold, **Ziba** the servant of **Mephibosheth** met him, with a couple of asses saddled, and upon them two hundred loaves of bread, and an hundred bunches of raisins, and an hundred of summer fruits, and a bottle of wine.
- ² And the king said unto **Ziba**, What meanest thou by these? And **Ziba** said, The asses be for the king's household to ride on; and the bread and summer fruit for the young men to eat; and the wine, that such as be faint in the wilderness may drink.
- ³ And the king said, And where is thy *master's* son? And **Ziba** said unto the king, Behold, he abideth at **Jerusalem**: for he said, To day shall the house of **Israel** restore me the kingdom of my father.
- ⁴ Then said the king to **Ziba**, Behold, thine are *all* that pertained unto **Mephibosheth**. And **Ziba** said, I humbly beseech thee that I may find grace in thy sight, my lord, O king.
- ⁵ And when king David came to **Bahurim**, behold, thence came *out* a man of the family of the house of **Saul**, whose name was **Shimei**, the son of **Gera**: he came forth, and cursed *still* as he came.
- ⁶ And he cast stones at **David**, and at *all* the servants of king **David**: and *all* the people and *all* the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left.
- ⁷ And thus said **Shimei** when he cursed, Come *out*, come *out*, thou bloody man, and thou man of **Belial**:
- ⁸ The **LORD** hath returned upon thee *all* the blood of the house of **Saul**, in whose stead thou hast reigned; and the **LORD** hath delivered the kingdom into the hand of **Absalom** thy son: and, behold, thou art taken in thy mischief, because *thou art a* bloody man.
- ⁹ Then said **Abishai** the son of **Zeruiah** unto the king, Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? let me go over, I pray thee, and take *off* his head.
- ¹⁰ And the king said, *What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah?* so let him curse, because the **LORD** hath said unto him, *Curse David*. Who shall then say, *Wherefore hast thou done so?*
- ¹¹ And **David** said to **Abishai**, and to *all* his servants, Behold, my son, which came forth of my bowels, seeketh my life: how *much more* now may this **Benjamite** do it? let him *alone*, and let him curse; for the **LORD** hath bidden him.
- ¹² It may be that the **LORD** will look on mine affliction, and that the **LORD** will requite me good for his cursing this day.

2 Samuel 16

- ¹³ And as **David** and his men went by the way, **Shimei** went along on the hill's side over against him, and cursed as he went, and threw stones at him, and cast dust.
- ¹⁴ And the king, and *all* the people that were with him, came weary, and refreshed themselves there.
- ¹⁵ And **Absalom**, and *all* the people the men of **Israel**, came to **Jerusalem**, and **Ahithophel** with him.
- ¹⁶ And it came to pass, when **Hushai** the **Archite**, **David's friend**, was come unto **Absalom**, that **Hushai** said unto **Absalom**, **God save the king, God save the king**.
- ¹⁷ And **Absalom** said to **Hushai**, Is this thy kindness to thy friend? why wentest thou not with thy friend?
- ¹⁸ And **Hushai** said unto **Absalom**, Nay; but whom the **LORD**, and this people, and *all* the men of **Israel**, choose, his will I be, and with him will I abide.
- ¹⁹ And again, whom should I serve? should I not serve in the presence of his son? as I have served in thy father's presence, so will I be in thy presence.
- ²⁰ Then said **Absalom** to **Ahithophel**, Give counsel among you what we shall do.
- ²¹ **And Ahithophel** said unto **Absalom**, Go *in* unto thy father's concubines, which he hath left to keep the house; and *all Israel* shall *hear* that thou art abhorred of thy father: then shall the hands of all that are with thee be strong.
- ²² So they spread Absalom a tent upon the *top* of the house; and **Absalom** went *in* unto his father's concubines in the sight of all Israel.
- ²³ And the counsel of **Ahithophel**, which he counselled in those days, was as if a man had enquired at the oracle of **God**: so was *all* the counsel of **Ahithophel** both with **David** and with **Absalom**.

2 Samuel 17

- ¹ Moreover **Ahithophel** said unto **Absalom**, Let me now choose out twelve thousand men, and I will arise and pursue after **David** this night:
- ² And I will come upon him while he is weary and weak handed, and will make him afraid: and *all* the people that are with him shall flee; and *I will smite the king only*.
- ³ And I will bring back *all* the people unto thee: the man whom thou seekest is as if *all returned*: so *all* the people shall be in peace.
- ⁴ And the saying pleased Absalom well, and *all* the elders of **Israel**.
- ⁵ Then said **Absalom**, Call now **Hushai** the **Archite** also, and let us *hear likewise* what he saith.
- ⁶ And when **Hushai** was come to **Absalom**, **Absalom** spake unto him, saying, **Ahithophel** hath spoken *after this manner*: shall we do *after* his saying? if not; speak thou.
- ⁷ And **Hushai** said unto **Absalom**, The counsel that **Ahithophel** hath given is not good at this time.
- ⁸ **For**, said **Hushai**, thou knowest thy father and his men, that they be mighty men, and they be chafed in their minds, as a bear robbed of her whelps in the field: and *thy father is a man of war*, and will not lodge with the people.
- ⁹ Behold, he is hid now in some pit, or in some other place: and it will come to pass, when some of them be overthrown at the first, that whosoever heareth it will say, There is a slaughter among the people that follow Absalom.
- ¹⁰ And he also that is valiant, whose heart is as the heart of a lion, shall utterly melt: for *all Israel knoweth* that thy father is a mighty man, and they which be with him are valiant men.
- ¹¹ Therefore I counsel that *all Israel* be *generally gathered* unto thee, from **Dan** even to **Beersheba**, as the sand that is by the sea for multitude; and that thou go to battle in thine own person.
- ¹² **So** shall we come upon him in some place where he shall be found, and we will light upon him as the dew falleth on the ground: and of him and of *all* the men that are with him there shall not be left so much as one.
- ¹³ Moreover, if he be *gotten* into a city, then shall *all Israel* bring ropes to that city, and we will draw it into the river, until there be not one *small stone found* there.

2 Samuel 17

- ¹⁴ And **Absalom** and *all* the men of **Israel** said, The counsel of **Hushai** the **Archite** is better than the counsel of **Ahithophel**. For the LORD had appointed to defeat the good counsel of **Ahithophel**, to the intent that the LORD might bring evil upon **Absalom**.
- ¹⁵ Then said **Hushai** unto **Zadok** and to **Abiathar** the priests, Thus and thus did **Ahithophel** counsel **Absalom** and the elders of **Israel**; and thus and thus have I counselled.
- ¹⁶ Now therefore send quickly, and tell **David**, saying, Lodge not this night in the plains of the wilderness, but speedily pass over; lest the king be swallowed up, and *all* the people that are with him.
- ¹⁷ Now **Jonathan** and **Ahimaaz** stayed by **Enrogel**; for they might not be seen to come into the city: and a wench went and told them; and they went and told king **David**.
- ¹⁸ Nevertheless a lad saw them, and told **Absalom**: but they went both of them away quickly, and came to a man's house in **Bahurim**, which had a well in his court; whither they went down.
- ¹⁹ And the woman took and spread a covering over the well's mouth, and spread ground corn thereon; and the thing was not known.
- ²⁰ And when **Absalom's** servants came to the woman to the house, they said, Where is **Ahimaaz** and **Jonathan**? And the woman said unto them, They be gone over the brook of water. And when they had sought and could not find them, they returned to **Jerusalem**.
- ²¹ And it came to pass, after they were departed, that they came up out of the well, and went and told king **David**, and said unto **David**, Arise, and pass quickly over the water: for thus hath **Ahithophel** counselled against you.
- ²² Then **David** arose, and *all* the people that were with him, and they passed over **Jordan**: by the morning light there lacked not one of them that was not gone over **Jordan**.
- ²³ And when **Ahithophel** saw that his counsel was not followed, he saddled his ass, and arose, and gat him home to his house, to his city, and put his household in order, and hanged himself, and died, and was buried in the sepulchre of his father.
- ²⁴ Then **David** came to **Mahanaim**. And **Absalom** passed over **Jordan**, he and *all* the men of **Israel** with him.
- ²⁵ And **Absalom** made **Amasa** captain of the host instead of **Joab**: which **Amasa** was a man's son, whose name was **Ithra** an **Israelite**, that went in to **Abigail** the daughter of **Nahash**, sister to **Zeruiah** **Joab's** mother.

2 Samuel 17

- ²⁶ So **Israel** and **Absalom** pitched in the land of **Gilead**.
- ²⁷ And it came to pass, when **David** was come to **Mahanaim**, that **Shobi** the son of **Nahash** of **Rabbah** of the children of **Ammon**, and **Machir** the son of **Ammiel** of **Lodebar**, and **Barzillai** the **Gileadite** of **Rogelim**,
- ²⁸ Brought beds, and basons, and earthen vessels, and wheat, and barley, and flour, and parched corn, and beans, and lentiles, and parched pulse,
- ²⁹ And honey, and butter, and sheep, and cheese of kine, for **David**, and for the people that were with him, to eat: for they said, The people is hungry, and weary, and thirsty, in the wilderness.

2 Samuel 18

- ¹ And **David** numbered the people that were with him, and set captains of thousands, and captains of hundreds over them.
- ² And **David** sent forth a third part of the people *under* the hand of **Joab**, and a third part *under* the hand of **Abishai** the son of **Zeruiah**, **Joab's** brother, and a third part *under* the hand of **Ittai** the **Gittite**. And the king said unto the people, I will surely go forth with you myself *also*.
- ³ **But** the people answered, Thou shalt not go forth: for if we flee away, they will not care for us; neither if half of us die, will they care for us: but now thou art worth ten thousand of us: therefore now it is better that thou succour us *out* of the city.
- ⁴ And the king said unto them, What seemeth you best I will do. And the king stood by the gate side, and *all* the people came *out* by hundreds and by thousands.
- ⁵ **And** the king commanded **Joab** and **Abishai** and **Ittai**, saying, Deal gently for my sake with the young man, even with **Absalom**. And *all* the people *heard* when the king gave *all* the captains charge concerning **Absalom**.
- ⁶ So the people went *out* into the field against **Israel**: and the battle was in the wood of **Ephraim**;
- ⁷ Where the people of **Israel** were slain *before* the servants of **David**, and there was there a great slaughter that day of twenty thousand men.
- ⁸ For the battle was there scattered over the face of *all* the country: and the wood devoured *more* people that day than the sword devoured.
- ⁹ **And** **Absalom** met the servants of **David**. And **Absalom** rode upon a mule, and the mule went *under* the thick boughs of a great oak, and his head caught hold of the oak, and *he was taken up between the* heaven and the earth; and the mule that was *under* him went away.
- ¹⁰ And a certain man saw it, and told **Joab**, and said, Behold, I saw **Absalom** hanged in an oak.
- ¹¹ And **Joab** said unto the man that told him, And, behold, thou sawest him, and why didst thou not smite him there to the ground? and I would have given thee ten shekels of silver, and a girdle.
- ¹² **And** the man said unto **Joab**, Though I should receive a thousand shekels of silver in mine hand, *yet would I not put forth mine hand against the king's son*: for in our *hearing* the king charged thee and **Abishai** and **Ittai**, saying, Beware that none touch the young man Absalom.

2 Samuel 18

- ¹³ Otherwise I should have wrought falsehood against mine *own* life: for there is no matter hid from the king, and thou thyself wouldest have set thyself against me.
- ¹⁴ Then said **Joab**, I may not tarry thus with thee. And he took three darts in his hand, and thrust them through the heart of **Absalom**, while he was yet alive in the *midst* of the oak.
- ¹⁵ And ten young men that bare Joab's armour compassed about and smote Absalom, and slew him.
- ¹⁶ And **Joab** blew the trumpet, and the people returned from pursuing after **Israel**: for **Joab** held back the people.
- ¹⁷ And they took **Absalom**, and cast him into a great pit in the wood, and laid a very great heap of stones upon him: and all Israel fled every one to his tent.
- ¹⁸ Now **Absalom** in his lifetime had taken and reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's dale: for he said, I have no son to keep my name in remembrance: and he called the pillar *after* his own name: and it is called unto this day, Absalom's place.
- ¹⁹ Then said **Ahimaaz** the son of **Zadok**, Let me now run, and bear the king tidings, how that the **LORD** hath avenged him of his enemies.
- ²⁰ And **Joab** said unto him, Thou shalt not bear tidings this day, but thou shalt bear tidings another day: but this day thou shalt bear no tidings, because the king's son is dead.
- ²¹ Then said **Joab** to **Cushi**, Go tell the king what thou hast seen. And **Cushi** bowed himself unto **Joab**, and ran.
- ²² Then said **Ahimaaz** the son of **Zadok** yet again to **Joab**, But howsoever, let me, I pray thee, *also* run after Cushi. And **Joab** said, Wherefore wilt thou run, my son, seeing that thou hast no tidings ready?
- ²³ **But howsoever**, said he, let me run. And he said unto him, **Run. Then Ahimaaz ran by the way of the plain, and overran Cushi**.
- ²⁴ And **David** sat between the two gates: and the watchman went up to the roof over the gate unto the wall, and lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold a man running alone.
- ²⁵ And the watchman cried, and told the king. And the king said, If he be *alone*, there is tidings in his mouth. And he came apace, and drew near.
- ²⁶ And the watchman saw another man running: and the watchman called unto the porter, and said, Behold another man running *alone*. And the king said, He also bringeth tidings.

2 Samuel 18

- ²⁷ And the watchman said, Me thinketh the running of the foremost is like the running of **Ahimaaz** the son of **Zadok**. And the king said, He is a good man, and cometh with good tidings.
- ²⁸ And **Ahimaaz** called, and said unto the king, *All is well*. And he fell down to the earth upon his face before the king, and said, Blessed be the **LORD** thy **God**, which hath delivered up the men that lifted up their hand against my lord the king.
- ²⁹ And the king said, Is the young man Absalom safe? And **Ahimaaz** answered, When **Joab sent** the king's servant, and me thy servant, I saw a great tumult, but I knew not what it was.
- ³⁰ And the king said unto him, Turn aside, and stand here. And he turned *aside*, and stood still.
- ³¹ And, behold, **Cushi** came; and **Cushi** said, Tidings, my lord the king: for the **LORD** hath avenged thee this day of all them that rose up against thee.
- ³² And the king said unto **Cushi**, Is the young man Absalom safe? And **Cushi** answered, The enemies of my lord the king, and *all* that rise against thee to do thee hurt, *be as that young man is*.
- ³³ And the king was *much moved*, and went *up* to the chamber over the gate, and wept: and as he went, thus he said, *O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!*

2 Samuel 19

- ¹ And it was told **Joab**, Behold, the king weepeth and mourneth for **Absalom**.
- ² And the victory that day was turned into mourning unto *all* the people: for the people heard say that day how the king was grieved for his son.
- ³ And the people gat them by stealth that day into the city, as people being ashamed steal away when they flee in battle.
- ⁴ But the king covered his face, and the king cried with a loud voice, O my son **Absalom**, O **Absalom**, my son, my son!
- ⁵ And **Joab** came into the house to the king, and said, Thou hast shamed this day the faces of *all* thy servants, which this day have saved thy life, and the lives of thy sons and of thy daughters, and the lives of thy wives, and the lives of thy concubines;
- ⁶ In that thou lovest thine enemies, and hatest thy friends. For thou hast declared this day, that thou regardest neither princes nor servants: for this day I perceive, that *if Absalom had lived*, and *all we had died this day*, then it had pleased thee well.
- ⁷ Now therefore arise, go forth, and speak comfortably unto thy servants: for I swear by the **LORD**, if thou go not forth, there will not tarry one with thee this night: and that will be worse unto thee than *all the evil that befell thee from thy youth* until now.
- ⁸ Then the king arose, and sat in the gate. And they told unto *all* the people, saying, Behold, the king doth sit in the gate. And *all* the people came *before* the king: for **Israel** had fled every man to his tent.
- ⁹ And *all* the people were at strife throughout *all* the tribes of **Israel**, saying, The king saved us *out of the hand* of our enemies, and he delivered us *out of the hand* of the **Philistines**; and now he is fled *out of the land* for **Absalom**.
- ¹⁰ And **Absalom**, whom we anointed over us, is dead in battle. Now therefore why speak ye not a word of bringing the king back?
- ¹¹ And king David sent to **Zadok** and to **Abiathar** the priests, saying, Speak unto the elders of **Judah**, saying, Why are ye the last to bring the king *back* to his house? seeing the speech of *all Israel* is come to the king, even to his house.
- ¹² Ye are my brethren, ye are my bones and my flesh: wherefore then are ye the last to bring *back* the king?

2 Samuel 19

- ¹³ And say ye to **Amasa**, Art thou not of my **bone**, and of my **flesh**? **God** do so to me, and *more also*, if thou be not captain of the **host** before me *continually* in the **room** of **Joab**.
- ¹⁴ And he bowed the **heart** of *all* the **men** of **Judah**, even as the heart of one man; so that they sent this **word** unto the **king**, Return thou, and *all* thy **servants**.
- ¹⁵ So the **king** returned, and came to **Jordan**. And **Judah** came to **Gilgal**, to go to meet the king, to conduct the king over **Jordan**.
- ¹⁶ And **Shimei** the son of **Gera**, a **Benjamite**, which was of **Bahurim**, hasted and came *down* with the **men** of **Judah** to meet **king David**.
- ¹⁷ And there were a thousand men of **Benjamin** with him, and **Ziba** the servant of the house of **Saul**, and his fifteen sons and his twenty servants with him; and they went over **Jordan** before the **king**.
- ¹⁸ And there went over a ferry boat to carry over the king's household, and to do what he thought good. And **Shimei** the son of **Gera** fell down before the king, as he was come over **Jordan**;
- ¹⁹ And said unto the **king**, Let not my lord impute iniquity unto me, neither do thou remember that which thy servant did perversely the day that my lord the king went *out* of **Jerusalem**, that the king should take it to his heart.
- ²⁰ For thy servant doth know that I have sinned: therefore, behold, I am come the first this day of *all* the house of **Joseph** to go *down* to meet my lord the king.
- ²¹ But **Abishai** the son of **Zeruiah** answered and said, Shall not Shimei be put to death for this, because he cursed the **LORD's anointed**?
- ²² And **David** said, What have I to do with you, ye sons of **Zeruiah**, that ye should this day be adversaries unto me? shall there *any man* be put to death this day in **Israel**? for do not I know that I am this day king over **Israel**?
- ²³ Therefore the **king** said unto **Shimei**, Thou shalt not die. And the king sware unto him.
- ²⁴ And **Mephibosheth** the son of **Saul** came *down* to meet the **king**, and had neither dressed his feet, nor trimmed his beard, nor washed his clothes, from the day the **king departed** until the day he came again in peace.
- ²⁵ And it came to pass, when he was come to **Jerusalem** to meet the **king**, that the king said unto him, Wherefore wentest not thou with me, **Mephibosheth**?

2 Samuel 19

- ²⁶ And he answered, My lord, O *king*, my servant deceived me: for thy servant said, I will saddle me an ass, that I may ride thereon, and go to the king; because thy servant is lame.
- ²⁷ And he hath slandered thy servant unto my lord the king; but my lord the king is as an **angel** of **God**: do therefore what is good in thine eyes.
- ²⁸ For *all* of my father's house were but dead men before my lord the king: yet didst thou set thy servant among them that did eat at thine own table. What right therefore have I yet to cry *any more* unto the king?
- ²⁹ **And the king said unto him, Why speakest thou any more of thy matters? I have said, Thou and Ziba divide the land.**
- ³⁰ And **Mephibosheth** said unto the king, Yea, let him take *all*, forasmuch as my lord the king is come again in peace unto his own house.
- ³¹ And **Barzillai** the **Gileadite** came *down* from **Rogelim**, and went over **Jordan** with the king, to conduct him over **Jordan**.
- ³² Now **Barzillai** was a very aged man, even fourscore years old: and he had provided the king of sustenance while he lay at **Mahanaim**; for he was a very great man.
- ³³ And the king said unto **Barzillai**, Come thou over with me, and I will feed thee with me in **Jerusalem**.
- ³⁴ And **Barzillai** said unto the king, How *long* have I to live, that I should go *up* with the king unto **Jerusalem**?
- ³⁵ I am this day fourscore years old: and can I discern between good and evil? can thy servant taste what I eat or what I drink? can I hear *any more* the voice of singing men and singing women? wherefore then should thy servant be yet a burden unto my lord the king?
- ³⁶ Thy servant will go a little way over **Jordan** with the king: and why should the king recompense it me with such a reward?
- ³⁷ **Let thy servant, I pray thee, turn back again, that I may die in mine own city, and be buried by the grave of my father and of my mother. But behold thy servant Chimham; let him go over with my lord the king; and do to him what shall seem good unto thee.**
- ³⁸ And the king answered, **Chimham** shall go over with me, and I will do to him that which shall seem good unto thee: and whatsoever thou shalt require of me, that will I do for thee.

2 Samuel 19

- ³⁹ And *all* the people went over **Jordan**. And when the king was come over, the king kissed **Barzillai**, and blessed him; and he returned unto his *own place*.
- ⁴⁰ Then the king went on to **Gilgal**, and **Chimham** went on with him: and *all* the people of **Judah** conducted the king, and also half the people of **Israel**.
- ⁴¹ And, behold, *all* the men of **Israel** came to the king, and said unto the king, Why have our brethren the men of **Judah** stolen thee away, and have brought the king, and his household, and *all* **David's** men with him, over **Jordan**?
- ⁴² And *all* the men of **Judah** answered the men of **Israel**, Because the king is *near* of kin to us: wherefore then be ye angry for this matter? have we eaten at *all* of the king's cost? or hath he given us *any* gift?
- ⁴³ And the men of **Israel** answered the men of **Judah**, and said, We have ten parts in the king, and we have also *more* right in **David** than ye: why then did ye despise us, that our advice should not be first had in bringing *back* our king? And the words of the men of **Judah** were fiercer than the words of the men of **Israel**.

2 Samuel 20

- ¹ And there happened to be there a man of *Belial*, whose name was *Sheba*, the son of *Bichri*, a *Benjamite*: and he blew a trumpet, and said, *We have no part in David, neither have we inheritance in the son of Jesse: every man to his tents, O Israel.*
- ² So every man of *Israel* went *up* from *after David*, and followed *Sheba* the son of *Bichri*: but the men of *Judah* clave unto their king, from *Jordan* even to *Jerusalem*.
- ³ And *David* came to his house at *Jerusalem*; and the king took the ten women his concubines, whom he had left to keep the house, and put them in ward, and fed them, but went not in unto them. So they were shut up unto the day of their death, living in widowhood.
- ⁴ Then said the king to *Amasa*, Assemble me the men of *Judah* within three days, and be thou here present.
- ⁵ So *Amasa* went to assemble the men of *Judah*: but he tarried *longer* than the set time which he had appointed him.
- ⁶ And *David* said to *Abishai*, Now shall *Sheba* the son of *Bichri* do us *more harm* than did *Absalom*: take thou thy lord's servants, and pursue *after* him, lest he get him fenced cities, and escape us.
- ⁷ And there went *out after* him *Joab's men*, and the *Cherethites*, and the *Pelethites*, and *all* the *mighty men*: and they went *out* of *Jerusalem*, to pursue *after Sheba* the son of *Bichri*.
- ⁸ When they were at the great stone which is in *Gibeon*, *Amasa* went *before* them. And *Joab's garment* that he had put on was girded unto him, and upon it a girdle with a sword fastened upon his loins in the sheath thereof; and as he went forth it fell out.
- ⁹ And *Joab* said to *Amasa*, Art thou in health, my brother? And *Joab* took *Amasa* by the beard with the right hand to kiss him.
- ¹⁰ But *Amasa* took no heed to the sword that was in *Joab's hand*: so he smote him therewith in the fifth rib, and shed out his bowels to the ground, and struck him not again; and he died. So *Joab* and *Abishai* his brother pursued *after Sheba* the son of *Bichri*.
- ¹¹ And one of *Joab's men* stood by him, and said, He that favoureth *Joab*, and he that is for *David*, let him go *after Joab*.

2 Samuel 20

- ¹² And **Amasa** wallowed in blood in the midst of the highway. And when the man saw that *all* the people stood still, he removed Amasa out of the highway into the field, and cast a cloth upon him, when he saw that every one that came by him stood still.
- ¹³ When he was removed out of the highway, *all* the people went on *after Joab*, to pursue after Sheba the son of **Bichri**.
- ¹⁴ And he went through *all* the tribes of **Israel** unto **Abel**, and to **Bethmaachah**, and *all* the **Berites**: and they were gathered together, and went also *after* him.
- ¹⁵ And they came and besieged him in **Abel** of **Bethmaachah**, and they cast up a bank against the city, and it stood in the trench: and *all* the people that were with **Joab** battered the wall, to throw it *down*.
- ¹⁶ Then cried a wise woman out of the city, *Hear, hear*, say, I pray you, unto **Joab**, Come *near* hither, that I may speak with thee.
- ¹⁷ And when he was come *near* unto her, the woman said, Art thou **Joab**? And he answered, I am he. Then she said unto him, *Hear* the words of thine handmaid. And he answered, I do hear.
- ¹⁸ Then she spake, saying, They were wont to speak in old time, saying, They shall surely ask counsel at **Abel**: and so they ended the matter.
- ¹⁹ I am one of them that are peaceable and faithful in **Israel**: thou seekest to destroy a city and a mother in **Israel**: why wilt thou swallow up the inheritance of the **LORD**?
- ²⁰ And **Joab** answered and said, Far be it, far be it from me, that I should swallow up or destroy.
- ²¹ The matter is not so: but a man of mount **Ephraim**, **Sheba** the son of **Bichri** by name, hath lifted up his hand against the king, even against David: deliver him only, and I will depart from the city. And the woman said unto **Joab**, Behold, his head shall be thrown to thee over the wall.
- ²² Then the woman went unto *all* the people in her wisdom. And they cut off the head of **Sheba** the son of **Bichri**, and cast it *out* to **Joab**. And he blew a trumpet, and they retired from the city, every man to his tent. And **Joab** returned to **Jerusalem** unto the king.
- ²³ Now **Joab** was over *all* the host of **Israel**: and **Benaiah** the son of **Jehoiada** was over the **Cherethites** and over the **Pelethites**:
- ²⁴ And **Adoram** was over the tribute: and **Jehoshaphat** the son of **Ahilud** was recorder:
- ²⁵ And **Sheva** was scribe: and **Zadok** and **Abiathar** were the priests:
- ²⁶ And **Ira** also the **Jairite** was a chief ruler about **David**.

2 Samuel 21

- ¹ Then there was a **famine** in the **days** of **David** **three** years, year after year; and **David** **enquired** of the **LORD**. And the **LORD** answered, **It is for Saul, and for his bloody house, because he slew the Gibeonites.**
- ² And the **king** called the **Gibeonites**, and said unto them; (now the **Gibeonites** were **not** of the children of **Israel**, but of the **remnant** of the **Amorites**; and the children of **Israel** had **sworn** unto them: and **Saul** sought to **slay** them in his **zeal** to the children of **Israel** and **Judah**.)
- ³ Wherefore **David** said unto the **Gibeonites**, What shall I do for you? and wherewith shall I make the **atonement**, that ye may **bless** the **inheritance** of the **LORD**?
- ⁴ And the **Gibeonites** said unto him, We will have **no silver nor gold** of **Saul**, **nor** of his **house**; **neither** for us shalt thou **kill** **any man** in **Israel**. And he said, What ye shall say, that will I do for you.
- ⁵ And they answered the **king**, The **man** that **consumed** us, and that **devised** against us that we should be **destroyed** from **remaining** in **any** of the **coasts** of **Israel**,
- ⁶ **Let seven men of his sons be delivered** unto us, and we will **hang** them **up** unto the **LORD** in **Gibeah** of **Saul**, whom the **LORD** did **choose**. And the **king** said, I will give them.
- ⁷ But the **king** **spared** **Mephibosheth**, the son of **Jonathan** the son of **Saul**, because of the **LORD's** **oath** that was *between* them, *between* **David** and **Jonathan** the son of **Saul**.
- ⁸ **But the king took the two sons of Rizpah** the daughter of **Aiah**, whom she **bare** unto **Saul**, **Armoni** and **Mephibosheth**; and the **five** sons of **Michal** the daughter of **Saul**, whom she brought **up** for **Adriel** the son of **Barzillai** the **Meholathite**:
- ⁹ And he **delivered** them into the **hands** of the **Gibeonites**, and they **hanged** them in the **hill** **before** the **LORD**: and they **fell** **all seven** together, and were put to **death** in the **days** of **harvest**, in the **first** days, in the **beginning** of **barley** harvest.
- ¹⁰ And **Rizpah** the daughter of **Aiah** took **sackcloth**, and **spread** it for her upon the **rock**, from the **beginning** of **harvest** until **water** **dropped** upon them **out** of **heaven**, and **suffered** **neither** the **birds** of the **air** to **rest** on them by **day**, **nor** the **beasts** of the **field** by **night**.
- ¹¹ And it was told **David** what **Rizpah** the daughter of **Aiah**, the **concubine** of **Saul**, had done.
- ¹² And **David** went and took the **bones** of **Saul** and the bones of **Jonathan** his son from the **men** of **Jabeshgilead**, which had **stolen** them from the **street** of **Bethshan**, where the **Philistines** had **hanged** them, when the **Philistines** had **slain** **Saul** in **Gilboa**:

2 Samuel 21

- ¹³ And he brought *up* from thence the bones of **Saul** and the bones of **Jonathan** his son; and they gathered the bones of them that were hanged.
- ¹⁴ And the bones of **Saul** and **Jonathan** his son buried they in the country of **Benjamin** in **Zelah**, in the sepulchre of **Kish** his father: and they performed *all* that the king commanded. And *after* that **God** was intreated for the land.
- ¹⁵ Moreover the **Philistines** had yet war again with **Israel**; and **David** went *down*, and his servants with him, and fought against the **Philistines**: and **David** waxed faint.
- ¹⁶ And **Ishbibenob**, which was of the sons of the giant, the *weight* of whose spear weighed three hundred shekels of brass in weight, he being girded with a new sword, thought to have slain **David**.
- ¹⁷ But **Abishai** the son of **Zeruiah** succoured him, and smote the **Philistine**, and killed him. Then the men of **David** swore unto him, saying, Thou shalt go no more out with us to battle, that thou quench not the light of **Israel**.
- ¹⁸ And it came to pass *after* this, that there was again a battle with the **Philistines** at **Gob**: then **Sibbechai** the **Hushathite** slew **Saph**, which was of the sons of the giant.
- ¹⁹ And there was again a battle in **Gob** with the **Philistines**, where **Elhanan** the son of **Jaareoregim**, a **Bethlehemite**, slew the brother of **Goliath** the **Gittite**, the staff of whose spear was like a weaver's beam.
- ²⁰ And there was yet a battle in **Gath**, where was a man of great stature, that had on every hand six fingers, and on every foot six toes, four and twenty in number; and he also was born to the giant.
- ²¹ And when he defied **Israel**, **Jonathan** the son of **Shimeah** the brother of **David** slew him.
- ²² These four were born to the giant in **Gath**, and fell by the hand of **David**, and by the hand of his servants.

2 Samuel 22

- ¹ And **David** spake unto the **LORD** the words of this song in the day that the **LORD** had delivered him *out* of the hand of *all* his enemies, and *out* of the hand of **Saul**:
- ² And he said, The **LORD** is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer;
- ³ The **God** of my rock; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence.
- ⁴ I will call on the **LORD**, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies.
- ⁵ When the waves of death compassed me, the floods of ungodly men made me afraid;
- ⁶ The sorrows of hell compassed me about; the snares of death prevented me;
- ⁷ In my distress I called upon the **LORD**, and cried to my **God**: and he did *hear* my voice *out* of his temple, and my cry did enter into his ears.
- ⁸ Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations of heaven moved and shook, because he was wroth.
- ⁹ There went *up* a smoke *out* of his nostrils, and fire *out* of his mouth devoured: coals were kindled by it.
- ¹⁰ He bowed the heavens also, and came *down*; and darkness was *under* his feet.
- ¹¹ And he rode upon a cherub, and did fly: and he was seen upon the wings of the wind.
- ¹² And he made darkness pavilions round about him, dark waters, and thick clouds of the skies.
- ¹³ Through the brightness *before* him were coals of fire kindled.
- ¹⁴ The **LORD** thundered from heaven, and the *most High* uttered his voice.
- ¹⁵ And he sent out arrows, and scattered them; lightning, and discomfited them.
- ¹⁶ And the channels of the sea appeared, the foundations of the world were discovered, at the rebuking of the **LORD**, at the blast of the breath of his nostrils.
- ¹⁷ He sent from *above*, he took me; he drew me *out* of *many waters*;
- ¹⁸ He delivered me from my strong enemy, and from them that hated me: for they were *too strong* for me.
- ¹⁹ They prevented me in the day of my calamity: but the **LORD** was my stay.
- ²⁰ He brought me forth also into a large place: he delivered me, because he delighted in me.

2 Samuel 22

- 21 The **LORD** rewarded me according to my righteousness: according to the cleanness of my hands hath he recompensed me.
- 22 For I have kept the ways of the **LORD**, and have not wickedly departed from my **God**.
- 23 For *all* his judgments were *before* me: and as for his statutes, I did not depart from them.
- 24 I was also upright *before* him, and have kept myself from mine iniquity.
- 25 Therefore the **LORD** hath recompensed me according to my righteousness; according to my cleanness in his eye sight.
- 26 With the merciful thou wilt shew thyself *merciful*, and with the upright man thou wilt shew thyself upright.
- 27 With the pure thou wilt shew thyself *pure*; and with the froward thou wilt shew thyself unsavoury.
- 28 And the afflicted people thou wilt save: but thine eyes are upon the haughty, that thou mayest bring them *down*.
- 29 For thou art my lamp, O **LORD**: and the **LORD** will lighten my darkness.
- 30 For by thee I have run through a troop: by my **God** have I leaped over a wall.
- 31 As for **God**, his way is perfect; the word of the **LORD** is tried: he is a buckler to *all* them that trust in him.
- 32 For who is **God**, save the **LORD**? and who is a rock, save our **God**?
- 33 **God** is my strength and power: and he maketh my way perfect.
- 34 He maketh my feet like *hinds'* feet: and setteth me upon my high places.
- 35 He teacheth my hands to war; so that a bow of steel is broken by mine arms.
- 36 Thou hast also given me the shield of thy salvation: and thy gentleness hath made me great.
- 37 Thou hast enlarged my steps *under* me; so that my feet did not slip.
- 38 I have pursued mine enemies, and destroyed them; and turned not again until I had consumed them.
- 39 And I have consumed them, and wounded them, that they could not arise: yea, they are fallen *under* my feet.

2 Samuel 22

- 40 For thou hast girded me with strength to battle: them that rose up against me hast thou subdued under me.
- 41 Thou hast also given me the necks of mine enemies, that I might destroy them that hate me.
- 42 They looked, but there was none to save; even unto the LORD, but he answered them not.
- 43 Then did I beat them as *small* as the dust of the earth, I did stamp them as the mire of the street, and did spread them *abroad*.
- 44 Thou also hast delivered me from the strivings of my people, thou hast kept me to be head of the heathen: *a people which I knew not shall serve me.*
- 45 Strangers shall submit themselves unto me: as soon as they *hear*, they shall be obedient unto me.
- 46 Strangers shall fade away, and they shall be afraid out of their close places.
- 47 The LORD liveth; and blessed be my rock; and exalted be the God of the rock of my salvation.
- 48 It is God that avengeth me, and that bringeth *down* the people *under* me.
- 49 And that bringeth me forth from mine enemies: thou also hast lifted me *up on high above* them that rose up against me: thou hast delivered me from the violent man.
- 50 Therefore I will give thanks unto thee, O LORD, among the heathen, and I will sing praises unto thy name.
- 51 He is the tower of salvation for his king: and sheweth mercy to his anointed, unto David, and to his seed *for evermore*.

2 Samuel 23

- ¹ Now these be the *last words* of **David**. **David** the son of **Jesse** said, and the man who was raised up on high, the anointed of the **God** of **Jacob**, and the *sweet psalmist* of **Israel**, said,
- ² **The Spirit of the LORD** spake by me, and his word was in my tongue.
- ³ **The God of Israel** said, the **Rock of Israel** spake to me, He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of **God**.
- ⁴ And he shall be as the light of the morning, when the sun riseth, even a morning without clouds; as the tender grass springing out of the earth by clear shining after rain.
- ⁵ Although my house be not so with **God**; yet he hath made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things, and sure: for this is all my salvation, and all my desire, although he make it not to grow.
- ⁶ But the sons of **Belial** shall be *all* of them as thorns thrust away, because they cannot be taken with hands:
- ⁷ But the man that shall touch them must be fenced with iron and the staff of a spear; and they shall be utterly burned with fire in the same place.
- ⁸ These be the names of the mighty men whom **David** had: The **Tachmonite** that sat in the seat, chief among the captains; the same was **Adino** the **Eznite**: he lift up his spear against eight hundred, whom he slew at one time.
- ⁹ And *after* him was **Eleazar** the son of **Dodo** the **Ahohite**, one of the three mighty men with **David**, when they defied the **Philistines** that were there gathered together to battle, and the men of **Israel** were gone away:
- ¹⁰ He arose, and smote the **Philistines** until his hand was weary, and his hand clave unto the sword: and the **LORD** wrought a great victory that day; and the people returned *after* him only to spoil.
- ¹¹ And *after* him was **Shammah** the son of **Agee** the **Hararite**. And the **Philistines** were gathered together into a troop, where was a piece of ground full of lentiles: and the people fled from the **Philistines**.
- ¹² But he stood in the midst of the ground, and defended it, and slew the **Philistines**: and the **LORD** wrought a great victory.
- ¹³ And three of the thirty chief went down, and came to **David** in the harvest time unto the cave of **Adullam**: and the troop of the **Philistines** pitched in the valley of **Rephaim**.
- ¹⁴ And **David** was then in an hold, and the garrison of the **Philistines** was then in **Bethlehem**.

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- ¹⁵ And **David** *longed*, and said, Oh that one would give me drink of the water of the well of **Bethlehem**, which is by the gate!
- ¹⁶ And the three mighty men brake through the host of the **Philistines**, and drew water out of the well of **Bethlehem**, that was by the gate, and took it, and brought it to **David**: *nevertheless* he would not drink thereof, but poured it *out* unto the **LORD**.
- ¹⁷ And he said, Be it far from me, O **LORD**, that I should do this: is not this the blood of the men that went in jeopardy of their lives? therefore he would not drink it. These things did these three mighty men.
- ¹⁸ And **Abishai**, the brother of **Joab**, the son of **Zeruiah**, was chief among three. And he lifted up his spear against three hundred, and slew them, and had the name among three.
- ¹⁹ Was he not most honourable of three? therefore he was their captain: howbeit he attained not unto the first three.
- ²⁰ And **Benaiah** the son of **Jehoiada**, the son of a valiant man, of **Kabzeel**, who had done *many acts*, he slew two lionlike men of **Moab**: he went *down* also and slew a lion in the midst of a pit in time of snow.
- ²¹ And he slew an **Egyptian**, a goodly man: and the **Egyptian** had a spear in his hand; but he went *down* to him with a staff, and plucked the spear *out* of the **Egyptian's** hand, and slew him with his *own* spear.
- ²² These things did **Benaiah** the son of **Jehoiada**, and had the name among three mighty men.
- ²³ He was *more* honourable than the thirty, but he attained not to the first three. And **David** set him over his guard.
- ²⁴ **Asahel** the brother of **Joab** was one of the thirty; **Elhanan** the son of **Dodo** of **Bethlehem**,
- ²⁵ **Shammah** the **Harodite**, **Elika** the **Harodite**,
- ²⁶ **Helez** the **Paltite**, **Ira** the son of **Ikkesh** the **Tekoite**,
- ²⁷ **Abiezer** the **Anethothite**, **Mebunnai** the **Hushathite**,
- ²⁸ **Zalmon** the **Ahohite**, **Maharai** the **Netophathite**,
- ²⁹ **Heleb** the son of **Baanah**, a **Netophathite**, **Ittai** the son of **Ribai** *out* of **Gibeah** of the children of **Benjamin**,
- ³⁰ **Benaiah** the **Pirathonite**, **Hiddai** of the brooks of **Gaash**,
- ³¹ **Abialbon** the **Arbathite**, **Azmaveth** the **Barhumite**,

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- ³² **Eliabba** the **Shaalbonite**, of the sons of **Jashen**, **Jonathan**,
- ³³ **Shammah** the **Hararite**, **Ahiam** the son of **Sharar** the **Hararite**,
- ³⁴ **Eliphelet** the son of **Ahasbai**, the son of the **Maachathite**, **Eliam** the son of **Ahithophel** the **Gilonite**,
- ³⁵ **Hezrai** the **Carmelite**, **Paarai** the **Arbite**,
- ³⁶ **Igal** the son of **Nathan** of **Zobah**, **Bani** the **Gadite**,
- ³⁷ **Zelek** the **Ammonite**, **Nahari** the **Beerothite**, armourbearer to **Joab** the son of **Zeruiah**,
- ³⁸ **Ira** an **Ithrite**, **Gareb** an **Ithrite**,
- ³⁹ **Uriah** the **Hittite**: thirty and seven in *all*.

2 Samuel 24

- ¹ And again the **anger** of the **LORD** was **kindled against Israel**, and he **moved David against** them to say, **Go, number Israel and Judah.**
- ² For the **king** said to **Joab** the **captain** of the **host**, which was with him, Go now through *all* the **tribes** of **Israel**, from **Dan** even to **Beersheba**, and **number** ye the people, that I may **know** the *number* of the *people*.
- ³ And **Joab** said unto the **king**, Now the **LORD** thy **God add** unto the people, how *many* soever they be, an **hundredfold**, and that the **eyes** of my lord the king may see it: but why doth my lord the king **delight in this thing**?
- ⁴ Notwithstanding the **king's word prevailed against Joab**, and **against** the **captains** of the **host**. And **Joab** and the captains of the host went *out* from the **presence** of the king, to **number** the people of **Israel**.
- ⁵ And they **passed over Jordan**, and **pitched** in **Aroer**, on the **right side** of the **city** that **lieth** in the *midst* of the **river** of **Gad**, and *toward Jazer*:
- ⁶ Then they came to **Gilead**, and to the land of **Tahtimhodshi**; and they came to **Danjaan**, and about to **Zidon**,
- ⁷ And came to the **strong hold** of **Tyre**, and to *all* the **cities** of the **Hivites**, and of the **Canaanites**: and they went *out* to the *south* of **Judah**, even to **Beersheba**.
- ⁸ So when they had gone through *all* the land, they came to **Jerusalem** at the **end** of **nine months** and **twenty days**.
- ⁹ And **Joab** gave *up* the **sum** of the **number** of the people unto the **king**: and there were in **Israel** **eight hundred thousand valiant men** that **drew** the **sword**; and the men of **Judah** were **five hundred thousand men**.
- ¹⁰ And **David's heart smote** him *after* that he had **numbered** the people. And **David** said unto the **LORD**, I have **sinned greatly** in that I have done: and now, I **beseech** thee, O **LORD**, take **away** the **iniquity** of thy **servant**; for I have done **very foolishly**.
- ¹¹ For when **David** was *up* in the **morning**, the **word** of the **LORD** came unto the **prophet Gad**, **David's seer**, saying,
- ¹² Go and say unto **David**, Thus saith the **LORD**, I **offer** thee **three things**; **choose** thee **one** of them, that I may do it unto thee.

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- ¹³ So **Gad** came to **David**, and told him, and said unto him, Shall seven years of famine come unto thee in thy land? or wilt thou flee three months before thine enemies, while they pursue thee? or that there be three days' pestilence in thy land? now advise, and see what answer I shall return to him that sent me.
- ¹⁴ And **David** said unto **Gad**, I am in a great strait: let us fall now into the hand of the **LORD**; for his mercies are great: and let me not fall into the hand of man.
- ¹⁵ So the **LORD** sent a pestilence upon Israel from the morning even to the time appointed: and there died of the people from Dan even to Beersheba seventy thousand men.
- ¹⁶ And when the angel stretched out his hand upon **Jerusalem** to destroy it, the **LORD** repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed the people, It is enough: stay now thine hand. And the angel of the **LORD** was by the threshingplace of **Araunah** the **Jebusite**.
- ¹⁷ And **David** spake unto the **LORD** when he saw the angel that smote the people, and said, Lo, I have sinned, and I have done wickedly: but these sheep, what have they done? let thine hand, I pray thee, be against me, and against my father's house.
- ¹⁸ And **Gad** came that day to **David**, and said unto him, Go up, rear an altar unto the **LORD** in the threshingfloor of **Araunah** the **Jebusite**.
- ¹⁹ And **David**, according to the saying of **Gad**, went up as the **LORD** commanded.
- ²⁰ And **Araunah** looked, and saw the king and his servants coming on toward him: and **Araunah** went out, and bowed himself before the king on his face upon the ground.
- ²¹ And **Araunah** said, Wherefore is my lord the king come to his servant? And **David** said, To buy the threshingfloor of thee, to build an altar unto the **LORD**, that the plague may be stayed from the people.
- ²² And **Araunah** said unto **David**, Let my lord the king take and offer up what seemeth good unto him: behold, here be oxen for burnt sacrifice, and threshing instruments and other instruments of the oxen for wood.
- ²³ All these things did **Araunah**, as a king, give unto the king. And **Araunah** said unto the king, The **LORD** thy **God** accept thee.
- ²⁴ And the king said unto **Araunah**, Nay; but I will surely buy it of thee at a price: neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the **LORD** my God of that which doth cost me nothing. So **David** bought the threshingfloor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.
- ²⁵ And **David** built there an altar unto the **LORD**, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. So the **LORD** was intreated for the land, and the plague was stayed from **Israel**.