

9/27/09

2Sam. 3-5

David has been made king by Judah, Abner, the commander of Saul has set up the son of Saul, Ishbosheth as king in trans-Jordan, at Mahanaim.

The nation and kingdom is divided, into the north and south, much like it will be again after Solomon's reign, through his son Rehoboam.

3:1-39 **The divided kingdom united as one.**

3:1-5 The sons born to David at Hebron, during war against the house of Saul.

* Some divide the chapter, ascribing these five to the previous chapter.

- 1) The duration of war between the house of Saul and the house of David was long. vs. 1a
- 2) David grew stronger and stronger, and the house of Saul grew weaker and weaker. vs. 1b

3:2-5 The list of the sons of David, born to him at Hebron.

- 1) The first born to David in Hebron was Amnon by Ahinoam the Jezreelitess. vs. 2

a) Amnon means "faithful", he was contrary to his name, he was a very lustful man and will rape his sister Tamar, through the advice of his cousin, Jonadab, the son of Shimeah, who was David's brother. 2Sam. 13:3

b) Absalom will have him killed for his horrible sin.

2) The second was Chileab, means "like his father", by Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite. vs. 3a-c

3) The third was Absalom "my father is peace", the son of Maacah, the daughter of Talmai, king of Geshur. vs. 3d-g

a) Absalom was spoiled and treacherous son to David, poisoning Ahithophel against David. 1Kings 16:20-21

b) The marriage to the daughter to the king of Geshur was without doubt for political benefit, a small state north-east of the sea of Galilee

4) The fourth was Adonijah, "my lord is Yahweh", the son of Haggith." vs. 4a-b

* Adonijah will try to take the kingdom by force at David's death, Solomon is merciful to him but ultimately he is put to death for another attempt, asking for Abishai to be his wife, the young virgin that cared for David in old age. 1Kings 2:23-25

- 5) The fifth was Shephatiah the son of Abital.” vs. 4c-d
- 6) The sixth was Ithream, by David’s wife Eglah. These were born to David in Hebron. vs. 5
 - a) The complete list of David’s family, listing 13 sons. 1Chron. 3:1-9
 - b) The Law commanded for the king not to multiply wives to himself. so David was disobedience. Deut. 17:17
 - c) Often the marriages were politically motivated for treaties to insure peace with other kings and kingdoms.

3:6-21 Abner promised to united Saul’s kingdom to David.

3:6-11 *The abusive power of Abner towards Ishbosheth.*

- 1) During this civil war, Abner was strengthening his hold on the house of Saul. vs. 6
- 2) Abner took the concubine of Saul, Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah, sexually and was confronted by Ishbosheth. vs. 7
 - * This was an act claiming the throne. 2Sam. 16:22, 1Kiings 2:22-23
- 3) Abner did not take the confrontation very well. vs. 8

- a) He became very angry and said, “Am I a dog’s head that belongs to Judah?” vs. 8a-c
- b) He stated his faithfulness to Saul and his house and was outraged that Ishbosheth had to nerve to charge him with a fault concerning this woman? vs. 8d-h
- 4) Abner threatened to turn over the kingdom of Saul to David. vs. 9-10
 - * Dan to Beersheba were the two extreme borders of the land, encompassing all the twelve tribes.
- 5) Ishbosheth was a weak leader, not bring able to answer Abner another word, because he feared him. vs. 11
 - * Abner was a treacherous man, looking out for himself.

3:12-16 *The negotiation, terms and conditions of Abner and David.*

- 1) Abner sent messengers to David to make a covenant with him to united the kingdom, indicated by, “indeed my hand shall be with you to bring all Israel to you.” vs. 12
- 2) David agreed with the condition returning his wife Michal to him. vs. 13
 - a) David’s interest was to have some legitimate evidence to the throne of

Saul's, Michal was his wife at one time. 1Sam. 18:20-27

b) Saul had given her to another man.
1Sam. 25:44

4) David directed himself by messengers to Ishbosheth, to send his wife Michal, whom he betrothed for a hundred foreskins of the Philistines. vs. 14

a) David was not concern with Michal, as his wife but only as the daughter of Saul, who now he was succeeding.

b) David was thinking only of himself.

5) The scene was tragic and sad, as Ishbosheth took her from her husband, Paltiel the son of Laish, as he wept behind her till Bhurim, where Abner told him to return. vs. 15-16

a) This action by Ishbosheth was his personal submission to David as king of Israel.

b) This is a one of many bad things in the life of David, again, only because the motive was not love but politics.

3:17-21 *The encouragement by Abner to all Israel to except David as King.*

1) Abner met with elders of Israel, reminding them of their desire for David in the past. vs. 17

2) Abner pointed to the declaration of David as king and deliver from the Philistines. vs. 18

3) Abner, then went to the tribe of Saul, Benjamin and then met with David. vs. 19

4) Abner and twenty men went to David at Hebron, to seal the agreement with a feast. vs. 20

5) After Abner told David, he would gather all Israel to make the covenant with him, that he might reign as king and David dismissed him in peace. vs. 21

3:22-39 The murder of Abner by Joab.

3:22-25 *The discontent of Joab over David's agreement with Joab.*

1) Joab returned from a raid mission, right after Abner had departed in peace. vs. 22

2) Joab was informed about Abner's meeting with David and dismissal in peace. vs. 23

3) Joab was outraged that David had met with Abner and had let him depart. vs. 24

4) Joab said to David that Abner had come to deceive and spy out David. vs. 25

3:26-27 *The deception of Joab to kill Abner.*

1) Abner left David and sent out messengers to ask Abner to return, without David knowing about it. vs. 26

- 2) Abner returned to Hebron, Joab took him aside in the gate to speak with him privately, and there stabbed him in the stomach. vs. 27a-c
- 3) Abner died for the blood of Asahel his brother, revenge. vs. 27d
 - a) The death of Ahahel took place in the first recorded civil battle, this was not murder but a casualty of war. 1Sam. 18:28
 - b) Hebron was a city of refuge. Josh. 20:7

3:28-30 *The proclamation of David of his innocence of the murder of Abner.*

- 1) David distance himself as far as he could from the murderous deed of Joab. vs. 28
 - a) He did it under oath to Yahweh.
 - b) He did not want mare his character or allow anything to hinder what God was about to do.
- 2) David pronounces a curse on the house of Joab. vs. 29
 - a) That there never fail to be in the house of Joab one who has a discharge or is a leper. vs. 29a-b
 - b) One who leans on a staff or falls by the sword, or who lacks bread.” vs. 29c-d

* At this point Joab is demoted from being commander, for all practical purposes.

- 3) The reason for the treacherous murder of Abner is repeated, clearing David of any guilt. vs. 30

3:31-39 *The lamentation of David over Abner.*

- 1) The funeral procession. vs. 31
 - a) Joab and to all the people were commanded by David to lead the procession and display the signs of mourning. vs. 31a-c

* The tear of clothes, girded with sackcloth, and mourning for Abner.
 - b) David followed the coffin, expressing his personal sorrow. vs. 31b-e
- 2) The burial and song of lament. vs. 32-34
 - a) They buried Abner in Hebron, the king lifted up his voice and wept at Abner’s gravesite and all the people wept. vs. 32
 - b) King David sang a lament over Abner and said: “Should Abner die as a fool dies?”, meaning unawares. vs. 33

* The word fool “nabal” is the same for the name of Abigail’s husband, senseless!
 - c) David expressed Abner’s lack of discernment and nieveness, “Your

- hands were not bound Nor your feet put into fetters; As a man falls before wicked men, so you fell.” vs. 34a-c
- d) Then all the people wept over him again. vs. 34d
- 3) The long sorrow of king David, even after the funeral. vs. 35-37
- a) David took an oath to not eat till sundown, despite of the people insisting. vs. 35
- b) All the people took notice and were pleased, as usual with David. vs. 36
- c) All the people and all Israel were assured David not behind the murder of Abner, it was not political. vs. 37
- 4) The proclamation of David. vs. 38-39
- a) David the king praise Abner before his servant, as a great loss. vs. 38
- b) David expressed his utter frustration. vs. 39
- 1)) He felt impotent to do anything, “And I am weak today, though anointed king.” vs. 39a-b
- * David should of executed Joab by law, he would of never joined Absalom in his rebellion against David!
- 2)) He could not control his nephews, “And these men, the sons of Zeruah, are too harsh for me.” vs. 39c-e

* They were always a power struggle to David!

- 3)) He could only rest in the justice of God, “The LORD shall repay the evildoer according to his wickedness.” vs. 39f

* David told Solomon before his death to execute Joab. 1Kings 2:5-6

4:1-12 The assassination of Ishbosheth.

4:1-3 The turmoil in Israel over Abner’s death.

- 1) The news of Abner’s death demoralized Ishbosheth and terrified all Israel. vs. 1
- 2) Ishbosheth had two captains of troops, brothers, named Baanah and Rechab, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite. vs. 2
- * Beeriothite was a Canaanite town absorbed into the tribe of Benjamin. Josh. 9:17
- 3) They were aliens allowed to be part of the children of Benjamin, sojourners. vs. 3

4:4-7 The two men who assassinated Ishbosheth.

- 1) Jonathan’s son is introduced at this point. vs. 4
- a) He was lame in his feet. vs. 4a-c

- b) He was five years old when the news about Saul and Jonathan and the nurse fled to protect him but she dropped him and he became a cripple. vs. 4d-g
- c) His name was Mephibosheth. vs. 4h
 - 1) The name means “exterminating the idol”.
 - 2) In Chronicles his name is Meribaal. “Baal is my advocate”. 1Chron. 8:34, 9:40
- 2) The two brothers Rechab “rider” and Baanah “in affliction”, in the middle of the day made their way into the house, pretending to get wheat and stabbed Ishbosheth in the stomach, decapitated him and fled. vs. 5-7

4:8-12 The assassins of Ishbosheth fled to David at Hebron.

- 1) The two brothers presented the head of Ishbosheth to David, declaring God had avenged David from the house of Saul, his enemy. vs. 8
- 2) David responded to the two brothers with an oath by Yahweh, recounting the Amalekite who thought David would reward him for killing Saul, instead he executed him at Ziklag vs. 9-10
 - * The Amalekite had lied but David did not know it at the time. 2Sam. 1:2-16

- 3) David told them, much more would he execute them for their wickedness of having killed a righteous person in his own house on his bed, removing them from the earth. vs. 11
- 4) David commanded the execution and cut off their hands and feet, and hanged them by the pool in Hebron, burying the head of Ishbosheth in the tomb of Abner in Hebron. vs. 12

5:1-25 **The uniting of the kingdom under David.**

- 5:1-5** The establishing of David as King by Israel.
- 1) All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron saying, “Indeed we are your bone and your flesh. vs. 1
 - 2) Israel acknowledged with hindsight certain things. vs. 2
 - a) In time past Saul was king over them but David was the real warrior and leader. vs. 2a-d
 - b) The LORD had said to David, ‘You shall shepherd My people Israel, and be ruler over Israel.’ vs. 2e-f
 - * This is the first time the shepherd image is used for David’s calling.
 - 3) All the elders of Israel came to Hebron, to King David, made a covenant before the

LORD, anointing David king over Israel.
vs. 3

* This was 7 1/2 years after Saul's death!

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

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

* This is also found in Chronicles.

1Chronicles 11:1-3

5:6-10 The conquering of Jerusalem by David and made it his capital.

1) David went out against the Jebusites and was insulted for his attempt to take the city. vs. 6

a) The statement was an insult that they could not take the city, against the blind and the lame.

b) The Valley of Hinnom and the Kidron Valley give to Jerusalem a great defense, the weakness of the city is in the north and all her enemies always overtook her from the north.

c) Jerusalem was one of the Canaanite dwellings, which Israel was unable to conquer, when they came into the land. Josh. 15:63, Judges 1:21

2) David took the stronghold of Zion, calling it the City of David. vs. 7

a) Zion is the entire mountain, the citadel, appearing 154 times in the Old Testament, seven in the New Testament.

* Six time in the historical books only. 2Sam. 5:7, 1Kings 8:1, 2Kings 19:21, 19:31, 1Chron 5:2

b) The stronghold of Zion is the city of Jerusalem. that would be David's capital, not Hebron.

3) David offered the office of chief captain to the one who climbed up by way of the water shaft and defeats the Jebusites. vs. 8

a) This was a vertical shaft leading into the city from the outside the walls. 1Chron. 11:4-9

b) You can see the shaft today on the Israel tips.

c) Joab climbed up the Spring of Gihon, up the shaft and regained his position of General. 1Chron. 11:6

d) In the days of Hezekiah, he built a tunnel of 1700 feet of solid rock from the Spring of Gihon to the Pool of Siloam, from two opposite ends and they met in the middle, just a few feet off.

4) David made the stronghold his capital and called it the City of David and built all around from the Millo and inward. vs. 9

- a) Millo “millow” means rampart or mound, some kind of fortress, in Jerusalem, David, Solomon, Hezekiah all fortified it, Joash was slain there. 2Kings 12:20, 1Chron. 11:4-9
 - b) This was Ophal, the original city of David, lower than the present city of Jerusalem.
- 5) David went on and became great, and the LORD God of hosts was with him. vs. 10
* The Captain of the armies of heaven!

5:11-12 The alliance of David with Hiram.

- 1) Hiram king of Tyre allied with David giving him materials and craftsmen to build him a house. vs. 11
 - a) A city in Syria, 50 miles north of Jerusalem.
 - b) A well fortified Island in the Mediterranean Sea, the Island is now joined to the mainland, due to Alexander the Great fulfilling the prophecy of Ezekiel. Ezk. 26:1-6
- 2) The clear recognition of David that all was due to God, for the sake of the people. vs.12
* This long relation continued with Solomon. 1Kings 5, 9:27-28, 1Chron. 14:1-2

5:13-16 The sons born to David at Jerusalem.

- 1) David took more concubines and wives from Jerusalem, after leaving Hebron, as well as more sons and daughters were born to David. vs. 13
 - 1) The term concubines is emphatic in Hebrew, perhaps looking down on David’s bent to add to his harm.
 - 2) This is the only time the order is concubines and wives, all other are reversed, wives and concubines.
- 2) The names of those who were born to him in Jerusalem are eleven. vs. 14-16
 - a) Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon, Ibhara, Elishua, Nepheg, Japhia, Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphelet.
 - b) Thirteen are listed in Chronicles, two must of died, at total of nineteen at Hebron and Jerusalem, not including his children with concubines. 1Chron. 3:1-9
 - c) The two important names for the genealogy of Jesus is Solomon and Nathan. Matt. 1:6, Lk. 3:31

5:17-21 The Philistines attacked David.

- 1) The Philistines attacked David, hearing he was made king by Israel. vs. 17
 - a) They went up to search for him.
 - b) David hearing of the approaching army went down to the stronghold.

- 1)) Some believe the stronghold refers to Jerusalem but David was there, at his capital.
 - 2)) One never goes “down” to Jerusalem, from every location of Israel, one goes “up” to Jerusalem.
 - 3)) The word stronghold “matsuwd” means fortified defense sight.
- c) Remember David had been with Achish for 16 month as his body-guard and almost went into battle against Israel but the Philistine lords rejected David. 1Sam. 29:1-5
- 2) The location the Philistines deployed to, was the Valley of Rephaim. vs. 18
 - a) West-southwest of Jerusalem on the border between the tribal territories of Judah and Benjamin. Josh. 15:1, 8, 18:11, 16
 - b) A fertile and productive grain area, that also attracted raiding parties.
 - 3) David inquired of the LORD, if he is to go up against the Philistines and God told David, He would delivered them to his hand. vs. 19
 - a) David continued to be dependent on God.
 - b) David knew to lead, he must be led by God.
 - 4) David proceeded to Baal Perazim and defeated the Philistines. vs. 20-21

- a) David acknowledged God as the source, “The LORD has broken through my enemies before me, like a breakthrough of water.”
 - b) David therefore he called the name of that place Baal Perazim, which means “lord of breaks”.
 - c) David carried away the idols of their gods they left behind. vs. 21
 - * They were burnt with fire, as commanded in the Law. Deut. 7:5, 25, 1Chron. 14:12
- 5:22-25** The Philistines attacked David again.
- 1) The Philistines again deployed to the Valley of Rephaim. vs. 22
 - 2) David again inquired of the LORD, if he should go up and God gave him the specific battle plan. vs. 23-24
 - a) It was the same enemy, the same location but David was wise enough to know that He must get fresh order from his Commanding General.
 - b) We can not depend on what has worked in the past or on what is familiar, it is sure failure!
 - * Prov. 3:3-5
 - 3) David obeyed God and drove back the Philistines from Geba as far as Gezer. vs. 25

- a) Both of these battles are recorded in Chronicles. 1Chron. 14:8-17
* Verse seventeen says, “the fame of David went out into all lands; and the Lord brought the fear of him upon all nations.” 1Chron.14:17
- b) The parallel to 2Sam. 1-10, is, 1Chron. 11-19 and the parallel to 2Sam. 11-24, is, 1Chron. 20-28.