

Life of David

A Man After God's Own Heart

Another Rebellion

- A Benjamite named Sheba led a rebellion against David [2 Sam 20:1-2].
 - Sheba is described as “worthless” (בְּלִיַּא' – bəliya'al = wicked, ungodly, worthless) [v. 1].
 - The people of Israel did not hesitate to abandon David to follow Sheba while the people of Judah remained faithful to David [v. 2].
 - His cry would be repeated later [1 Kgs 12:16].
- Upon David's return to his palace in Jerusalem he took care of his concubines [2 Sam 20:3].
 - These were the concubines he had left behind to guard the palace [2 Sam 15:16] and had been defiled by Absalom [2 Sam 16:21-22].
 - David made sure these women were provided for but no longer had sexual relations with them.
 - This is more consequences of David's earlier sins.
- David ordered Amasa to assemble the armies of Judah [2 Sam 20:4-5].
 - This is evidence of David's intention to replace Joab with Amasa [2 Sam 19:13].
 - Amasa is David's nephew and had been Absalom's general [2 Sam 17:25].
 - David gave Amasa a strict timeline [v. 4] which he did not meet [v. 5].
- When Amasa took too long David directed Abishai to go after Sheba [2 Sam 20:6-7].
 - David told Abishai to take Joab's men [v. 6].
 - David was concerned Sheba would fortify himself and escape his intelligence network [v. 6].
 - Abishai went out and pursued Sheba with Joab's men, some of David's personal guard, and all the mighty men of valor [v. 7].
- Amasa was murdered when he met Abishai and his men in Gibeon [2 Sam 20:8-13].
 - Though demoted from command, Joab was among the men who went with Abishai [v. 8].
 - Joab pretended to greet his cousin Amasa but struck him with the sword instead [vv. 9-10].
 - Joab's disdain for his replacement Amasa was evident when he left him to die in the road [v. 12].
 - One of Joab's men showed Amasa some respect by moving him and covering him [v. 12].
 - Once Amasa was removed the pursuit of Sheba resumed under Joab's command [v. 13].
 - Thus, Nathan's prophecy continued to come to fruition [2 Sam 12:10].
- Joab and his men engaged Sheba at Abel Beth-maacah [2 Sam 20:14-22].
 - Joab and his men were going to topple the city wall [v. 15].
 - A wise woman realized the severity of the situation and came to an agreement with Joab to save her city from destruction [vv. 16-21].
 - Once Sheba was dead, the revolt was over [v. 22].
- With Sheba's rebellion put down, David restored order to his house [2 Sam 20:23-26].
 - Joab was once again allowed to be commander of David's army [v. 23].
 - This was a decision that David regretted until the day of his death [1 Kgs 2:5-6].
 - Ira the Jairite was now David's special minister replacing David's sons [2 Sam 8:18].