

The Book of Second Samuel: 2 Samuel 17 – 18

Sunday, June 2 and Wednesday, June 5

2 Samuel 17: Sunday, June 2

(1 – 6) Describe the plan that Ahithophel proposed to Absalom. What was the objective and strategic value of the plan, and how did Absalom initially respond? Subsequently, what question did Absalom ask to Hushai?

(7 – 13) Describe Hushai's critique of Ahithophel's proposed plan. What criticisms did Hushai offer, and what alternate plan did he present? Consider how Hushai's counterproposal would benefit David.

(14 – 16) Whose advice did Absalom favor, and how did the Lord influence Absalom's decision? What message did Hushai ask Zadok and Abiathar to deliver to David? (*2 Samuel 15: 32 – 35*)

(17 – 22) Describe the experience of Jonathan and Ahimaaz as they traveled to deliver the warning to David. What message did they deliver, and how did David respond?

(23) What actions did Ahithophel take when he realized that Absalom favored Hushai's advice over his?

(24 – 26) Where did David go, and what actions did Absalom take as he pursued David? Who did Absalom appoint to replace Joab as captain of the army? (*2 Samuel 2: 8 – 9*)

(27 – 29) What support did David and his people receive from the people in the region surrounding Mahanaim? (*2 Samuel 12: 29*)

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2 Samuel 18: Wednesday, June 5

(1 – 4) How did David organize his army, and who did he appoint as leaders within the army? How did the people react when David informed them of his intention to go out to battle with the army, and how did David respond?

(2 Samuel 11: 1)

(5 – 8) What command did David issue regarding the treatment of Absalom, and who heard the command that David gave? What was the result of the ensuing battle?

(9 – 15) What happened to Absalom during the battle? What criticism did Joab direct toward the man who gave him the report of Absalom hanging in a tree, and what explanation did the man provide as to why he didn't kill Absalom? Subsequently, what action did Joab take against Absalom?

(2 Samuel 14: 25 – 26)

(16 – 18) How did Joab's troops dispose of Absalom's body?

(19 – 23) Which two men ran to deliver the news of the outcome of the battle to David? Why did Joab initially deny Ahimaaz's request to deliver the news?

(24 – 27) Describe David's reaction when the watchman informed him that two runners were approaching the city. How did the watchman recognize Ahimaaz as one of the messengers?

(28 – 30) How did Ahimaaz describe the outcome of the battle to David? What question did David ask, and how did Ahimaaz answer?

(31 – 33) Describe the Cushite's report to David. How did the Cushite respond when David asked about Absalom, and how did David react to the news?