**2 Samuel 20** (https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+20/)

Peter B. Luh, 7/20, 21, 28, 29, 30, 31/2018

**The Rebellion of Sheba**

20 Now

 there happened to be there a worthless man,

 whose name was Sheba,

 the son of Bichri, a Benjaminite.

(NIV: a troublemaker

中文和合本: 匪徒

Direct translation from Hebrew Bible: 無賴 (01100, Belial 16, wicked 5, ungodly 3, evil 1, naughty 1, ungodly men 1; 27, https://bkbible.fhl.net/NUI/#/bible/2Sa/20/1))

 And

 he blew the trumpet

 and

 said,

 “We have no portion in David,

 and

 we have no inheritance in the son of Jesse;

 every man to his tents, O Israel!”

2 So all the men of Israel withdrew from David

 and

 followed Sheba

 the son of Bichri.

 But

 the men of Judah followed their king steadfastly from the Jordan to Jerusalem.

3 And

 David came to his house at Jerusalem.

 And

 the king took the ten concubines

 whom he had left

 to care for the house

 and

 put them in a house under guard

 and

 provided for them,

 but

 did not go in to them.

 So they were shut up until the day of their death,

 living as if in widowhood.

4 Then the king said to Amasa,

 “Call the men of Judah together to me within three days,

 and

 be here yourself.”

5 So Amasa went to summon Judah,

 but

 he delayed beyond the set time

 that had been appointed him.

6 And

 David said to Abishai,

 “Now

 Sheba the son of Bichri will do us more harm than Absalom.

 Take your lord's servants

 and

 pursue him,

 lest he get himself to fortified cities

 and

 escape from us.”

7 And

 there went out after him Joab's men

 and

 the Cherethites

 and

 the Pelethites,

 and

 all the mighty men.

 They went out from Jerusalem

 to pursue Sheba the son of Bichri.

8 When they were at the great stone

 that is in Gibeon,

 Amasa came to meet them.

 Now

 Joab was wearing a soldier's garment,

 and over it

 was a belt with a sword in its sheath

 fastened on his thigh,

 and

 as he went forward

 it fell out.

9 And

 Joab said to Amasa,

 “Is it well with you, my brother?”

 And

 Joab took Amasa by the beard with his right hand

 to kiss him.

10 But

 Amasa did not observe the sword

 that was in Joab's hand.

 So Joab struck him with it in the stomach

 and

 spilled his entrails to the ground

 without striking a second blow,

 and

 he died.

 Then Joab

 and

 Abishai his brother pursued Sheba the son of Bichri.

11 And

 one of Joab's young men took his stand

 by Amasa

 and

 said,

 “Whoever favors Joab,

 and

 whoever is for David,

 let him follow Joab.”

12 And

 Amasa lay wallowing in his blood in the highway.

 And

 anyone who came by,

 seeing him,

 stopped.

 And

 when the man saw

 that all the people stopped,

 he carried Amasa out of the highway into the field

 and

 threw a garment over him.

13 When he was taken out of the highway,

 all the people went on after Joab

 to pursue Sheba the son of Bichri.

14 And

 Sheba passed through all the tribes of Israel to Abel of Beth-maacah,

 and

 all the Bichrites assembled

 and

 followed him in.

15 And

 all the men

 who were with Joab

 came

 and

 besieged him in Abel of Beth-maacah.

 They cast up a mound against the city,

 and

 it stood against the rampart,

 and

 they were battering the wall

 to throw it down.

16 Then a wise woman called from the city,

 “Listen!

 Listen!

 Tell Joab,

 ‘Come here,

 that I may speak to you.’”

17 And

 he came near her,

 and

 the woman said,

 “Are you Joab?”

 He answered,

 “I am.”

 Then she said to him,

 “Listen to the words of your servant.”

 And

 he answered,

 “I am listening.”

18 Then she said,

 “They used to say in former times,

 ‘Let them but ask counsel at Abel,’

 and

 so they settled a matter.

19 I am one of those

 who are peaceable

 and

 faithful in Israel.

 You seek to destroy a city

 that is a mother in Israel.

 Why will you swallow up the heritage of the Lord?”

(NIV: You are trying to destroy a city that is a mother in Israel.

中文和合本: 你為何要毀壞以色列中的大城，

Direct translation from Hebrew Bible: 你尋索要滅這城，即以色列的母親，https://bkbible.fhl.net/NUI/#/bible/2Sa/20/19))

20 Joab answered,

 “Far be it from me,

 far be it,

 that I should swallow up

 or

 destroy!

21 That is not true.

 But

 a man of the hill country of Ephraim,

 called Sheba the son of Bichri,

 has lifted up his hand against King David.

 Give up him alone,

 and

 I will withdraw from the city.”

 And

 the woman said to Joab,

 “Behold,

 his head shall be thrown to you over the wall.”

22 Then the woman went to all the people in her wisdom.

 And

 they cut off the head of Sheba the son of Bichri

 and

 threw it out to Joab.

 So he blew the trumpet,

 and

 they dispersed from the city,

 every man to his home.

 And

 Joab returned to Jerusalem to the king.

23 Now

 Joab was in command of all the army of Israel;

 and

 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada

 was in command of the Cherethites

 and

 the Pelethites;

24 and

 Adoram was in charge of the forced labor;

 and

 Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud

 was the recorder;

25 and

 Sheva was secretary;

 and

 Zadok

 and

 Abiathar were priests;

26 and

 Ira the Jairite was also David's priest.