**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.