**2 Samuel 3** (https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+3/)

Peter B. Luh, 4/28, 29, 30, 5/1, 2/2018

**Abner Joins David**

3 There was a long war between the house of Saul

and

the house of David.

And

David grew stronger

and

stronger,

while the house of Saul became weaker

and

weaker.

2 And

sons were born to David at Hebron:

his firstborn was Amnon, of Ahinoam of Jezreel;

3 and

his second, Chileab, of Abigail the widow of Nabal of Carmel;

and

the third, Absalom the son of Maacah the daughter of Talmai king of Geshur;

4 and

the fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith;

and

the fifth, Shephatiah the son of Abital;

5 and

the sixth, Ithream, of Eglah, David's wife.

These were born to David in Hebron.

6 While there was war between the house of Saul

and

the house of David,

Abner was making himself strong in the house of Saul.

7 Now

Saul had a concubine

whose name was Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah.

And

Ish-bosheth said to Abner,

“Why have you gone in to my father's concubine?”

(NIV: Why did you sleep with my father’s concubine?

KJV: Wherefore hast thou gone in unto my father's concubine?

中文和合本: 你為甚麼與我父的妃嬪同房呢？

Direct translation from Hebrew Bible: 你為甚麼親近我父的妃嬪呢？00935; come 1435, bring 487, ... in 233, enter 125, go 123, carry 17, ...down 23, pass 13, ...out 12, misc 109; 2577。進入女子的帳篷或住處, 表示與女子同房; 進入特殊的關係 (撒上 25:26) (https://bkbible.fhl.net/NUI/#/bible/2Sa/3/7))

8 Then Abner was very angry over the words of Ish-bosheth

and

said,

“Am I a dog's head of Judah?

To this day

I keep showing steadfast love to the house of Saul your father,

to his brothers,

and

to his friends,

and

have not given you into the hand of David.

And yet

you charge me today with a fault concerning a woman.

9 God do so to Abner

and

more also,

if I do not accomplish for David

what the Lord has sworn to him,

10 to transfer the kingdom from the house of Saul

and

set up the throne of David over Israel

and

over Judah,

from Dan to Beersheba.”

11 And

Ish-bosheth could not answer Abner another word,

because he feared him.

12 And

Abner sent messengers to David on his behalf,

saying,

“To whom does the land belong?

Make your covenant with me,

and

behold,

my hand shall be with you

to bring over all Israel to you.”

13 And

he said (David said, PBL),

“Good;

I will make a covenant with you.

But

one thing I require of you;

that is,

you shall not see my face

unless you first bring Michal, Saul's daughter,

when you come to see my face.”

14 Then David sent messengers to Ish-bosheth, Saul's son,

saying,

“Give me my wife Michal,

for whom I paid the bridal price of a hundred foreskins of the Philistines.”

15 And

Ish-bosheth sent

and

took her from her husband Paltiel the son of Laish.

16 But

her husband went with her,

weeping after her all the way to Bahurim.

Then Abner said to him,

“Go,

return.”

And

he returned.

17 And

Abner conferred with the elders of Israel,

saying,

“ For some time past

you have been seeking David as king over you.

18 Now then

bring it about,

for the Lord has promised David,

saying,

‘ By the hand of my servant David

I will save my people Israel from the hand of the Philistines,

and

from the hand of all their enemies.’”

19 Abner also spoke to Benjamin.

And then

Abner went to tell David at Hebron

all that Israel

and

the whole house of Benjamin thought good to do.

20 When Abner came with twenty men to David at Hebron,

David made a feast for Abner

and

the men

who were with him.

21 And

Abner said to David,

“I will arise

and

go

and

will gather all Israel to my lord the king,

that they may make a covenant with you,

and

that you may reign over

all that your heart desires.”

So David sent Abner away,

and

he went in peace.

22 Just then

the servants of David arrived with Joab from a raid,

bringing much spoil with them.

But

Abner was not with David at Hebron,

for he had sent him away,

and

he had gone in peace.

23 When Joab

and

all the army

that was with him

came,

it was told Joab,

“Abner the son of Ner came to the king,

and

he has let him go,

and

he has gone in peace.”

24 Then Joab went to the king

and

said,

“What have you done?

Behold,

Abner came to you.

Why is it

that you have sent him away,

so that he is gone?

25 You know that

Abner the son of Ner came to deceive you

and

to know your going out

and

your coming in,

and

to know all

that you are doing.”

**Joab Murders Abner**

26 When Joab came out from David's presence,

he sent messengers after Abner,

and

they brought him back from the cistern of Sirah.

But

David did not know about it.

27 And when Abner returned to Hebron,

Joab took him aside into the midst of the gate

to speak with him privately,

and there

he struck him in the stomach,

so that he died,

for the blood of Asahel his brother.

28 Afterward, when David heard of it,

he said,

“I

and

my kingdom are forever guiltless before the Lord

for the blood of Abner the son of Ner.

29 May it fall upon the head of Joab

and

upon all his father's house,

and

may the house of Joab never be without one

who has a discharge

or

who is leprous

or

who holds a spindle

(NIV: who leans on a crutch; KJV: that leaneth on a staff

中文和合本: 架柺而行的; Direct translation: 架枴而行的

(https://bkbible.fhl.net/NUI/#/bible/2Sa/3/29))

or

who falls by the sword

or

who lacks bread!”

30 So Joab

and

Abishai his brother killed Abner,

because he had put their brother Asahel to death in the battle at Gibeon.

**David Mourns Abner**

31 Then David said to Joab

and

to all the people

who were with him,

“Tear your clothes

and

put on sackcloth

and

mourn before Abner.”

And

King David followed the bier.

32 They buried Abner at Hebron.

And

the king lifted up his voice

and

wept at the grave of Abner,

and

all the people wept.

33 And

the king lamented for Abner,

saying,

“Should Abner die

as a fool dies?

34 Your hands were not bound;

your feet were not fettered;

as one falls before the wicked

you have fallen.”

And

all the people wept again over him.

35 Then all the people came

to persuade David

to eat bread

while it was yet day.

But

David swore,

saying,

“God do so to me

and

more also,

if I taste bread

or

anything else till the sun goes down!”

(NIV: if I taste bread or anything else before the sun sets!

KJV: if I taste bread, or ought else, till the sun be down.

中文和合本: 我若在日頭未落以前吃飯，或吃別物

Direct translation from Hebrew Bible: 若在日頭落下以前, 我吃糧食，或任何東西; 03942, 在...之前, 在...的前面 (https://bkbible.fhl.net/NUI/#/bible/2Sa/3/35))

36 And

all the people took notice of it,

and

it pleased them,

as everything

that the king did

pleased all the people.

37 So all the people

and

all Israel understood that day

that it had not been the king's will

to put to death Abner the son of Ner.

38 And

the king said to his servants,

“Do you not know that

a prince

and

a great man has fallen this day in Israel?

39 And

I was gentle today,

though anointed king.

These men,

the sons of Zeruiah,

are more severe than I.

The Lord repay the evildoer according to his wickedness!”