**2 Samuel 10. Victory over Ammonites and Arameans, 6/8/2018**

**Opening**

* Divorce rates are relatively high in the US, China and many other places. Some people divorce for justifiable reasons. Many divorces, however, were triggered by trivial issues. Right? Why?
	+ How about your recent fights with your spouse and girlfriend/boyfriend?
	+ How about relationships between countries? Good hearts and thoughts be misinterpreted? Can a war get started via trivial issues?
	+ How to fight a war and win?
	+ From the above, what can we learn to better manage our daily lives?
* How to humiliate someone?
	+ How to handle humiliation?
* Do you remember what we discussed last Friday? David's Victories. David's Officials. David's Kindness to Mephibosheth.

**Outline** (ESV Study Bible)

1. Story of King David ([1:1–20:26](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B1-20/))
	1. David and the death of Saul ([1:1–27](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B1/))
	2. David becomes king ([2:1–5:5](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B2-5.5/))
	3. Jerusalem, the city of David ([5:6–25](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B5.6-25/))
	4. Zion, the place of worship ([6:1–23](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B6/))
	5. Davidic covenant: eternal throne ([7:1–29](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B7/))
	6. Catalog of David’s military activities ([8:1–18](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B8/))
	7. Mephibosheth ([9:1–13](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B9/))
	8. Israel-Ammon war ([10:1–12:31](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B10-12/))
		1. Beginning of Israel-Ammon war ([10:1–19](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B10/))
		2. David and Bathsheba ([11:1–12:25](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B11-12.25/))
		3. End of Israel-Ammon war ([12:26–31](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B12.26-31/))
	9. Absalom’s banishment and reinstatement ([13:1–14:33](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B13-14/))
	10. Absalom’s rebellion ([15:1–19:43](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B15-19/))
		1. Absalom’s conspiracy ([15:1–12](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B15.1-12/))
		2. David’s escape from Absalom ([15:13–16:14](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B15.13-16.14/))
		3. Ahithophel and Hushai ([16:15–17:23](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B16.15-17.23/))
		4. David arrives at Mahanaim ([17:24–29](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B17.24-29/))
		5. Death of Absalom ([18:1–19:8a](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B18-19.8/))
		6. David’s return to Jerusalem ([19:8b–43](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B19.8-43/))
	11. Sheba’s rebellion ([20:1–26](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B20/))
2. Epilogue ([21:1–24:25](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B21-24/))
	1. Famine and the death of Saul’s sons ([21:1–14](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B21.1-14/))
	2. Philistine wars ([21:15–22](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B21.15-22/))
	3. Song of David ([22:1–51](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B22/))
	4. Last words of David ([23:1–7](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B23.1-7/))
	5. David’s heroes ([23:8–39](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B23.8-39/))
	6. The census and the threshing floor ([24:1–25](https://www.esv.org/2%2BSamuel%2B24/))



 Geographical setting of 2 Samuel. ESV Study Bible

**David Defeats Ammon and Syria (10:1-19)**

* 2 Sam. 10:1–12:31 Israel-Ammon War. The Ammonite war is the background of the next three chapters. As far as David’s empire went, it led to his domination of the Syrian kingdoms (see 8:3–12; 10:15–19). More importantly to the biblical writer, however, it was the setting for David’s great sin (11:1–12:25). ESV Study Bible.
* 2 Sam. 10:1–19 Beginning of Israel-Ammon War. The war began because the Ammonites disgraced David’s ambassadors; it did not result from any wrongdoing by David. ESV Study Bible.
	+ How could a war be triggered by such an issue?
	+ What was David’s role in the starting of the war?
* 2 Sam. 5 Why did David tell his servants “Remain at Jericho until your beards have grown and then return”? Was that a wise decision?
* 2 Sam. 10:6–8 Beth-rehob, Zobah, Maacah, and Tob were Syrian kingdoms in the northern Transjordan and Lebanon Valley. Hiring armies was not uncommon (2 Kings 7:6). Syrians can also be translated “Aram” or “Arameans,” the normal term for Syria or the Syrians. “Aramaic,” the later common language, was the language of Syria. ESV Study Bible.
	+ The gate (2 Sam. 10:8) is that of the city of Rabbah (11:1), the capital of Ammon, near present-day Amman, Jordan. ESV Study Bible.
* 2 Sam. 10:9–19 David’s army under Joab is trapped between the Syrians and the Ammonites, but they defeat the Syrians and force them to leave. Hadadezer of Zobah attacks again at Helam, apparently a city in northern Transjordan, but is again defeated. ESV Study Bible.
* 2 Sam. 10:9-14 How did Joab fight the war? Can you please summarize that? What can be learned?
	+ Worked with his brother Abishai in mutually supportive roles.
	+ Treated Syrians and Ammonites separately.
	+ Had a great prioritization with a concentrated force at the very beginning – fully understanding the domino effects.
	+ Had a nice pep talk.
	+ Trusted in God.
* 2 Sam. 10:12 Let us be courageous … and may the Lord do what seems good to him. Joab expresses both faith in God and a resolve to fight with all his strength. Faith and human effort are not incompatible with each other. ESV Study Bible.
	+ Joab is a complicated figure: as here, he can express sturdy piety (e.g., 24:3), and he can also display a chilling ruthlessness in preserving David’s and his own position (e.g., 18:14–15; 20:9–10, 20–22). It is not surprising that David does not trust him to treat Solomon well after Joab supported Adonijah (1 Kings 1:7, 19; 2:5–6). ESV Study Bible.
* Discussion

**Wrapping up**

* How should we deal with trivial as well as complicated issues? How to be wise?
* What are your favorite verses?

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