

The Book of Second Samuel: 2 Samuel 3 - 4

Sunday, April 14 and Wednesday, April 17

2 Samuel 3: Sunday, April 14

(1 – 5) Describe the situation between David's and Ishbosheth's kingdoms. By this time, how many wives did David have, and how did this violate God's commandments regarding marriage?

(Genesis 2: 24; Deuteronomy 17: 14 – 17)

(6 – 12) Describe the conflict between Abner and Ishbosheth. What charge did Ishbosheth bring against Abner, and how did Abner respond? What prevented Ishbosheth from taking action against Abner, and what offer did Abner send to David?

(13 – 16) What demand did David make in his response to Abner's offer? Why did David communicate his demand to Ishbosheth as well? What were the likely motivations behind his demand, and how did Ishbosheth respond?

(1 Samuel 18: 26 – 28; 1 Samuel 25: 44)

(17 – 21) What did Abner do before he came to speak with David? What pledge did Abner make to David when they met, and how did David respond?

(22 – 25) How did Joab respond to the news that David and Abner had met, and that David had allowed Abner to depart in peace? What allegation did Joab make against Abner?

(26 – 27) What action did Joab take against Abner? What was Joab's motivation for this action? *(2 Samuel 2: 19 – 23)*

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(28 – 34) How did David respond to Joab's action? Describe the curse that David pronounces against Joab. What point did David make in the lament that he sang at Abner's burial?

(35 – 39) What effect did David's fasting have on the people of his kingdom, and the people of the kingdom of Israel? Describe the meaning of the statement that David made to his servants.

2 Samuel 4: Wednesday, April 17

(1 – 3) What effect did the death of Abner have on Ishbosheth and the people of Israel? Which two men are introduced in this passage?

(4) Who is introduced in this verse, and why were he and his nurse fleeing? What is his significance to the narrative of King David's reign?
(1 Samuel 31: 7)

(5 – 8) What action did Rechab and Baanah take against Ishbosheth? What was their likely motivation for that action and for bringing Ishbosheth's head to David?

(9 – 11) What event did David refer to in his response to Rechab and Baanah, and what point did he make in referring to that situation?
(2 Samuel 1: 14 – 16)

(12) What punishment was carried out against Ishbosheth's murderers? Why did David command that their hands and feet be cut off?