



Return of the King part 1



- **2 Samuel 15: (NIV)**

- ¹ Absalom provided himself with a chariot and horses and with fifty men to run ahead of him.
- ² He would get up early and stand by the side of the road leading to the city gate. Whenever anyone came with a complaint to be placed before the king for a decision
- ³ Then Absalom would say to him, "Look, your claims are valid and proper, but there is no representative of the king to hear you."
- ⁴ And Absalom would add, "If only I were appointed judge in the land!I would see that he gets justice."
- ⁵ Also, whenever anyone approached him to bow down before him, Absalom would reach out his hand, take hold of him and kiss him.
- ⁶ Absalom behaved in this way toward all the Israelites who came to the king asking for justice, and so he **stole the hearts of the men of Israel.**

- ⁷ At the end of four years, Absalom said to the king, "Let me go to Hebron and fulfill a vow I made to the LORD.. .."
- ⁹ The king said to him, "Go in peace." So he went to Hebron.
- ¹⁰ Absalom sent secret messengers throughout ... Israel to say, "As soon as you hear the sound of the trumpets, then say, 'Absalom is king in Hebron.'"
- ¹¹ Two hundred men from Jerusalem had accompanied Absalom. They had been invited as guests and went quite innocently, knowing nothing about the matter.
- ¹² While Absalom was offering sacrifices, he also sent for **Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counselor, to come from Giloh, his hometown.** And so the conspiracy gained strength, and Absalom's following kept on increasing.

- ¹³ A messenger came and told David, "The hearts of the men of Israel are with Absalom." David said to all his officials who were with him in Jerusalem, "Come! We must flee, or none of us will escape from Absalom."
- ³⁰ But David continued up the Mount of Olives, weeping as he went; his head was covered and he was barefoot. All the people with him covered their heads too and were weeping as they went up. ³¹ David had been told, "**Ahithophel is among the conspirators** with Absalom." So David prayed, "O LORD, turn Ahithophel's counsel into foolishness."
- ³² David arrived at the summit, Hushai the Arkite was there to meet him, his robe torn and dust on his head. ³³ David said to him, "return to the city and say to Absalom, 'I will be your servant, O king; then you can help me by frustrating Ahithophel's advice."

- **2 Samuel 16:(NIV)**

- ¹ When David had gone a short distance beyond the summit, there was Ziba, the steward of Mephibosheth, waiting to meet him. He had a string of donkeys saddled and loaded with two hundred loaves of bread, a hundred cakes of raisins, a hundred cakes of figs and a skin of wine.

² The king asked Ziba, "Why have you brought these?" Ziba answered, "The donkeys are for the king's household to ride on, the bread and fruit are for the men to eat, and the wine is to refresh those who become exhausted in the desert."

- ⁵ As King David approached Bahurim, a man from the same clan as Saul's family came out from there. His name was Shimei son of Gera, and he cursed as he came out.

⁶ He pelted David and all the king's officials with stones, though all the troops and the special guard were on David's right and left.

- ⁹ Then Abishai son of Zeruiah said to the king, "Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? Let me go over and cut off his head."
- ¹¹ David then said to Abishai and all his officials, "My son, who is of my own flesh, is trying to take my life. How much more, then, this Benjamite! Leave him alone; let him curse, for the LORD has told him to.
¹² It may be that the LORD will see my distress and repay me with good for the cursing I am receiving today."
¹³ So David and his men continued along the road while Shimei was going along the hillside opposite him, cursing as he went and throwing stones at him and showering him with dirt.
¹⁴ The king and all the people with him arrived at their destination exhausted. And there he refreshed himself.

- **2 Samuel 17: (NIV)**

- ¹⁻⁴ Ahithophel said to Absalom, "I would choose twelve thousand men and set out tonight in pursuit of David. ... the people with him will flee. I would strike down only the king and bring all the people back to you. This plan seemed good to Absalom and to all the elders of Israel.
- ⁵⁻¹⁴ Absalom said, "Summon also Hushai." Hushai came to him, "Ahithophel has given this advice. Should we do what he says? " Hushai replied, "The advice Ahithophel has given is not good this time. You know your father and his men; they are fighters, ... he will not spend the night with the troops. He is hidden in a cave or some other place. So I advise you: Let all Israel, be gathered to you, with you yourself leading them into battle." Absalom and all the men of Israel said, "The advice of Hushai the Arkite is better than that of Ahithophel." For the LORD had determined to frustrate the good advice of Ahithophel in order to bring disaster on Absalom.

- **2 Samuel 18: (NIV)**
- ¹ David mustered the men who were with him and appointed over them commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds. The king told the troops, "I myself will surely march out with you." But the men said, "You must not go out; Even if half of us die, they won't care; but you are worth ten thousand of us. It would be better now for you to give us support from the city." The king answered, "I will do whatever seems best to you." So the king stood beside the gate while all the men marched out in units of hundreds and of thousands.
- The king commanded Joab, Abishai and Ittai, "Be gentle with the young man Absalom for my sake." And all the troops heard the king giving orders concerning Absalom to each of the commanders.

- The battle spread out over the whole countryside, and the forest claimed more lives that day than the sword.

Absalom happened to meet David's men riding his mule, and as the mule went under the thick branches of a large oak, Absalom's head got caught in the tree. He was left hanging in midair, while the mule he was riding kept on going.

- When one of the men saw this, he told Joab, "I just saw Absalom hanging in an oak tree." Joab said to the man, "What! You saw him? Why didn't you strike him to the ground right there?"
- But the man replied, "I would not lift my hand against the king's son. The king commanded, 'Protect the young man Absalom for my sake.'
Joab said, "I'm not going to wait like this for you." So he took three javelins in his hand and plunged them into Absalom's heart while Absalom was still alive in the oak tree.

- Then Joab sounded the trumpet, and the troops stopped pursuing Israel, for Joab halted them. They took Absalom, threw him into a big pit in the forest and piled up a large heap of rocks over him. Meanwhile, all the Israelites fled to their homes.
- During his lifetime Absalom had taken a pillar and erected it in the King's Valley as a monument to himself, for he thought, "I have no son to carry on the memory of my name." He named the pillar after himself, and it is called Absalom's Monument to this day.

Then Joab said to a Cushite, "Go, tell the king what you have seen." The Cushite bowed down before Joab and ran off.

Absalom – a Deceiver

- **1 Chronicles 21:1 (NKJV) Against the Lord's own people**
¹ Now Satan stood up against Israel, and moved David to number Israel. (He stood against David and his kingdom)
- **Job 1:7, 2:2 (NKJV) Deceiving and Seeking a following**
⁷ And the LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" So Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it."
- **Zechariah 3:1 (NKJV) Opposing the Lord**
¹ Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him. (Setting himself up as king)
- **Zechariah 3:2 (NKJV) Rebuked by the Lord**
² And the LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?" (David failed in correcting his sons)
- **Mark 1:13 (NKJV) Attempting to draw away from the Lord**
¹³ And He was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan, and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered to Him. (He rose early)

- **Mark 4:15 (NKJV) Keeping the truth from some**
¹⁵ And these are the ones by the wayside where the word is sown. When they hear, Satan comes immediately and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts. (He stood by the roadside)
- **Acts 5:3 (NKJV) Fills the heart with lies**
³ But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back *part* of the price of the land for yourself? (If I were judge I would judge justly)
- **2 Corinthians 11:14 (NKJV) Appears as someone very attractive**
¹⁴ And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. (Absalom appears to be who he was not)
2 Samuel 15:12 (NIV) While Absalom was offering sacrifices,
 The principal men of Jerusalem joined Absalom's feast upon his sacrifice. Pious persons are glad to see others appear religious, and this gives occasion for deceptions. (Matthew Henry)
- **2 Thessalonians 2:9 (NKJV) lawless one**
⁹ The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, (acting falsely)
- **Revelation 20:10 (NKJV) Coming to his just end**
¹⁰ The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet *are*. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. (was slain)

David - Christlike

- But David continued up the Mount of Olives, weeping as he went; his head was covered and he was barefoot.
John 19:16-17 (NKJV) Rejected
¹⁶ Then he delivered Him to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus and led *Him* away. And He, bearing His cross, went out to a place called *the Place* of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha,
- "Ahithophel is among the conspirators (he was at his home)
John 6:66-67 (NKJV) turned away from
⁶⁶ From that *time* many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. Then Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also want to go away?"
- At the summit Hushai the Arkite was there to meet him, his robe torn and dust on his head. David said to him, " return to the city and say."
John 20:16-17 (NKJV) Go and say
Jesus said to her, "Mary!"go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.' "

- Beyond the summit, there was Ziba So the king said to Ziba, "Here, all that *belongs* to Mephibosheth *is yours*." And Ziba said, "I humbly bow before you, *that* I may find favor in your sight, my lord, O king!"
Luke 18:11-12 (NKJV) Look at how good I am

¹¹ The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men-- extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.'

- King David approached Bahurim, a man from the same clan as Saul's family named Shimei came out and cursed David. "Leave him alone; let him curse, for the LORD has told him to. It may be that the LORD will see my distress and repay me with good for the cursing I am receiving today."

- **Matthew 26:60-67 (NKJV) cursed and falsely accused**
Even though many false witnesses came forward, they found none. But at last two false witnesses came forward and said, "This *fellow* said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.' "
And the high priest arose and said to Him, "Do You answer nothing? What *is it* these men testify against You?" But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to Him, "I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!"
Jesus said to him, "*It is as* you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven." Then the high priest tore his clothes, saying, "He has spoken blasphemy! What further need do we have of witnesses? Look, now you have heard His blasphemy! What do you think?" They answered and said, "He is deserving of death."
Then they spat in His face and beat Him; and others struck *Him* with the palms of their hands,

- David was bearing the consequences of his sins.
- Christ Jesus bore the consequences of our sins.
- After Absalom's death David was restored as king.
- **Philippians 2:8-11 (KJV) Jesus Highly Exalted**
 - ⁸ And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.
 - ⁹ Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:
 - ¹⁰ That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth;
 - ¹¹ And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.