

## THE LORD THWARTS THE COUNSEL OF AHITHOPHEL

(2 Samuel 17)

- I. DAVID'S MOVE TO HEBRON (2 Samuel 1-4:12)
- II. DAVID'S REIGN OVER ALL ISRAEL AT JERUSALEM (2 Samuel 5-10:19)
- III. DAVID'S MANY TROUBLES (2 Samuel 11-20:26)

- A. Joab ARRANGES to have Absalom brought home (14:1-23)
- B. King David REFUSES to see Absalom (14:24)
- C. David and Absalom are RECONCILED (14:25-33)
- D. Absalom CONSPIRES against his father the king (15:1-12)
- E. David's FLIGHT from Jerusalem (15:13-30)
- F. Ahithophel is among the CONSPIRATORS (15:31-37)
- G. David RECEIVES GIFTS from Mephibosheth's servant Ziba (16:1-4)
- H. The Benjamite Shimei CURSES David to his face (16:5-14)
- I. The APPALLING COUNSEL of Ahithophel (16:15-23)

### J. Absalom seeks the ADVICE of his two wisest COUNSELORS (17:1-14)

1. Ahithophel's bold plan was to take an elite fighting force of 12 thousand men, and utilize the elements of \_\_\_\_\_ and sheer \_\_\_\_\_ to frighten and scatter David's royal entourage.

\* What were Ahithophel's personal intentions for the king (v. 2b)?

2. David's trusted friend Hushai immediately put the seed of \_\_\_\_\_ into Absalom's mind by stating, "*The advice that Ahithophel has given is \_\_\_\_\_ at this time.*"
3. Ahithophel's suggestion that David and his mighty men were \_\_\_\_\_ was masterfully debunked by Hushai; he proposed that they were instead \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for him.
4. Hushai counseled Absalom that the element of surprise could not be used on his father who was a man of war; and he and his valiant men would \_\_\_\_\_ Ahithophel's army \_\_\_\_\_ and all of Israel would hear about it.
5. Hushai's alternative solution was to have Absalom lead the \_\_\_\_\_ army of Israel, and not only kill the king, but \_\_\_\_\_ of his fearless men as well.

\* In v. 14 who is said to have heavily “influenced” Absalom’s decision to reject Ahithophel’s advice?

**K. Messengers are sent to WARN David about the PLANS of Absalom (17:15-23)**

1. Hushai didn’t waste any time \_\_\_\_\_ David’s uncover informants- the Levite priests Zadok and Abiathar of Absalom’s true \_\_\_\_\_.

\* With whom did they have to entrust this valuable information in order for it to be delivered to their sons (v. 17)?

2. After alluding Absalom’s search party the two men were finally able to see King David face to face and describe for him the \_\_\_\_\_ of both Ahithophel and Hushai, and deliver to him \_\_\_\_\_ on what to do.

\* What does v. 23 say about the end result of being consumed with bitterness and hatred?

**L. Absalom PURSUES his father while the Lord MEETS David’s needs at Mahanaim (17:24-29)**

1. While David moved east of the Jordan to the walled city of Mahanaim, Absalom was \_\_\_\_\_ far behind; he too \_\_\_\_\_ the Jordan with the army of Israel.

\* What is particularly disturbing about Absalom’s newly promoted general Amasa (v. 25)?

2. Now that David was set up in a city, \_\_\_\_\_ generous supporters of the king expressed their \_\_\_\_\_ and concern by bringing domestic necessities such as beds, pottery, food and flocks to meet the needs of his people.

\* What can you learn from this chapter?