

David Anointed King Over Judah

Notes for 28 Sep

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Read: [2 Samuel 2:1 to 3:1](#)

...Transitions

Setting the Context

1. David is still grieving.
2. His first acts are to "ask of the Lord".
3. He moves his base to Hebron
In case you are interested Hebron is about 19 miles south of Jerusalem and lies at a level of 3050 feet above sea level. It contains the location Machpelah and is therefore known as the home and burial place of (some) of David's ancestors.
4. David, in a very unusual way, recruits more soldiers.

Some Characters

1. Abner – (father of light, or, my father is a lamp) son of Ner, Saul's uncle. He appears in 1 Samuel 14:50, 1 Samuel 17, 1 Samuel 20: 25, 1 Samuel 26, 2 Samuel 2 and 2 Samuel 3. I think reading over his appearance in these texts will give you a sense of who he is in the story.
2. Joab (Praise Jehovah) is complicated; both loyal and a danger. He was eventually a threat. His story could be one of Shakespeare's characters.
 - a. Son of David's mother – his uncle.
 - b. He first appears in 2 Samuel 2:13 . Joab continues to appear throughout this story. You can take a quick gander and 2 Samuel chapters 2, 11, 14, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24 and well as 1 Kings 1,2, and 11. His is a complicated story of family, loyalty, power, and ...well, betrayal
3. Ish Bosheth (man of shame)

Questions

Chapter 2:1-7

1. How do you think grieving may have affected David's decisions or actions?
2. Why do you think he moved his army and his family to Hebron? (I have given you a clue somewhere above)
3. When the text says they settled in Hebron, what's the meaning for you in terms of length of planned stay?
4. What do you think that may have indicated about an interest in further battles for the throne. It seems like 7.5 years is a long time in this situation. What do you make of this interlude?
5. What do you think of David's recruitment style (vs. 4-7)
6. What are the gifts and challenges of having family members as your leadership team?
7. This sounds very similar to Scottish clan warrior structure. Comments?

Chapter 2:8-16 (A pacifist's nightmare)(Where is the emergency center when you need it?)

8. What do you think might have led to Abner's decision to appoint Ish Bosheth king? What do you make of the timing? Vs. 8 and 9
9. It looks to me like the confrontation at the Pool of Gibeon was planned. What do you make of this strategy?
10. It looks to me like that outcome was a complete and stupid loss. Do you have any other ideas?

Chapter 2: 17-3:2 (I don't really like this one either).

11. It looks like Abner and Joab's family knew each other. What do you make of their interactions in vs. 20-23?
12. What do you think about the interactions reported in vs. 26-28
13. The rest of this section is about the larger battle. If you were reading this in a newspaper or on the BBC what would you make of it?
14. What about the reading and discussion this week did you find particularly interesting, helpful or touched you in some way?

Previews of coming attractions: 2 Samuel 3

Births, defections, betrayal, death, and more grieving.