

VV STUDY NOTES: 12th October 2024

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2 Samuel 2: 6-21 (Abner goes over to David)

This passage raises some significant questions about how much was known by Abner, and indeed Saul's family about what Saul knew concerning the future of his family in relationship to their right to be kings.

Each of the questions (##) is for open discussion about the outworking of these events which lasted for about 7yrs.

1 Sam 24: 16-22 Saul acknowledged that David would be the next king, and specifically asked David not to kill the members of his family. David made an oath not to.

Can you think of a reason why David willingly gave the oath at that point in time?

1 Sam 26: 23-25 Once again Saul recognizes that David is in the right and he is not. "May you be blessed, David my Son; you will do great things and surely triumph"

These incidents happened in the sight of Saul & David's own armies. How much information existed to make it '*an open secret*'.

Would David's move to live among the Philistines create uncertainty in the minds of all those who had witnessed these events?

The beginning of Chapter 3 has already told us 3 critical pieces of information:

- The war between the two houses of Saul and David lasted a long time.
- David's house grew stronger, Saul's house grew weaker.
- It defines the time by reference to the 6 sons born to David.

Why would Abner's position become stronger in these circumstances of growing weakness?

Why would Ish-Bosheth criticize Abner over the issue of Saul's concubine?

Verses 8-11 In anger Abner confronts Ish-Bosheth with the 'open secret'

What does this episode tell us about Abner and Ish-Bosheth?

Verses 12-16 Abner offers to make an agreement with David to make him King over all the Tribes.

What does this passage tell us about the character of the 3 key individuals?

Verses 17-19 There were other OPEN SECRETS that had surfaced during this period.

- For some time to The Elders of Israel had wanted to make David King.
- Abner also realized that the Benjaminites, were of the same mind. He personally visited them to confirm his this.

Verses 20-21

What does this final reconciliation tell us about Abner and David?

Was there any sign of double dealing, or hesitation?

Was this transition period a curse or a blessing?