

**2026
Bible Reading Plan
Review
Week 8 From
2 Samuel**



Our readings covered events of Absalom's rebellion. We read of the deep conflict that unfolded as King David fled Jerusalem, faced betrayal from some and curses from others. David had those loyal to him, Jonathan and Ahimaaz. These 2 risked their lives to relay critical intelligence. Absalom's strategic decisions, influenced by the cunning counsel of Hushai (divinely intended to thwart Ahithophel's plan), ultimately led to a decisive battle. In this conflict, David's forces overcame Absalom's army, resulting in Absalom's death, despite David's sorrowful command to spare his son, marking the violent end of the rebellion.

2 Samuel 16

1. What did Ziba, Mephibosheth's servant, bring to David as he fled Jerusalem, and what story did he tell David about Mephibosheth? (2 Samuel 16:1-4) What was Ziba's intent?
2. Who was Shimei, and what did he do and say to David as David was leaving Bahurim? (2 Samuel 16:5-8) How did David react?
3. What counsel did Hushai give Absalom regarding how he should proceed upon entering Jerusalem? (2 Samuel 16:15-19) Recall, David had prayed in 2 Samuel 15:31 for this to occur.
4. **Reflective Question:** How does David's response to Shimei's curses (2 Samuel 16:10-12) demonstrate reliance on God's sovereignty and a humble acceptance of suffering, even when unjustly accused?

2 Samuel 17

1. What was Ahithophel's initial counsel to Absalom regarding how to defeat David, and why was it considered strategically sound? (2 Samuel 17:1-3)
2. How did Hushai counter Ahithophel's advice, and what alternative strategy did he propose to Absalom and his elders? (2 Samuel 17:7-13)
3. Who were the messengers who carried the vital intelligence from Hushai to David, and how did they manage to evade Absalom's men? (2 Samuel 17:15-22)
4. **Reflective Question:** In what ways can we see God's providential hand at work in redirecting Absalom's plans through Hushai's deceptive counsel, ultimately protecting David? (2 Samuel 17:14)

2 Samuel 18:1-18

1. How did David organize his army before the battle against Absalom, and what command did he give to his commanders concerning Absalom? (2 Samuel 18:1-5)
2. In what location did the battle between David's forces and Absalom's army take place, and what made this area particularly hazardous for Absalom's forces? (2 Samuel 18:6-8)
3. How did Absalom meet his end, and who was ultimately responsible for his death despite David's command? (2 Samuel 18:9-15)
4. **Reflective Question:** Considering David's repeated command to spare Absalom's life (2 Samuel 18:5), what does this reveal about the complexities of leadership, personal sorrow, and the consequences of rebellion against God-ordained authority?