



THE LIFE OF DAVID

AFTER
GOD'S
HEART

“A Heart of Wisdom”
2 Samuel 17



2 Samuel 16:15-19

Meanwhile, Absalom and all the men of Israel came to Jerusalem, and Ahithophel was with him. Then Hushai the Arkite, David's confidant, went to Absalom and said to him, "Long live the king! Long live the king!"

Absalom said to Hushai, "So this is the love you show your friend? If he's your friend, why didn't you go with him?"



2 Samuel 16:15-19

Hushai said to Absalom, "No, the one chosen by the LORD, by these people, and by all the men of Israel—his I will be, and I will remain with him. Furthermore, whom should I serve? Should I not serve the son? Just as I served your father, so I will serve you."



2 Samuel 23:34

Eliphelet son of Ahasbai the Maakathite,
Eliam son of Ahithophel the Gilonite

2 Samuel 11:2-3

The woman was very beautiful, and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "She is Bathsheba, the **daughter of Eliam** and the wife of Uriah the Hittite."



2 Samuel 16:20-23

Absalom said to Ahithophel, "Give us your advice. What should we do?"

Ahithophel answered, "Sleep with your father's concubines whom he left to take care of the palace. Then all Israel will hear that you have made yourself obnoxious to your father, and the hands of everyone with you will be more resolute."



2 Samuel 16:20-23

So they pitched a tent for Absalom on the roof, and he slept with his father's concubines in the sight of all Israel.

Now in those days the advice Ahithophel gave was like that of one who inquires of God. That was how both David and Absalom regarded all of Ahithophel's advice.



2 Samuel 17:1-4

Ahithophel said to Absalom, "I would choose twelve thousand men and set out tonight in pursuit of David. I would attack him while he is weary and weak. I would strike him with terror, and then all the people with him will flee. I would strike down only the king and bring all the people back to you. The death of the man you seek will mean the return of all; all the people will be unharmed."

This plan seemed good to Absalom and to all the elders of Israel.



2 Samuel 17:5-13

But Absalom said, "Summon also Hushai the Arkite, so we can hear what he has to say as well."

When Hushai came to him, Absalom said, "Ahithophel has given this advice. Should we do what he says? If not, give us your opinion."

Hushai replied to Absalom, "The advice Ahithophel has given is not good this time. You know your father and his men; they are fighters, and as fierce as a wild bear robbed of her cubs. Besides, your father is an



2 Samuel 17:5-13

experienced fighter; he will not spend the night with the troops. Even now, he is hidden in a cave or some other place. If he should attack your troops first, whoever hears about it will say, 'There has been a slaughter among the troops who follow Absalom.' Then even the bravest soldier, whose heart is like the heart of a lion, will melt with fear, for all Israel knows that your father is a fighter and that those with him are brave.



2 Samuel 17:5-13

“So I advise you: Let all Israel, from Dan to Beersheba –as numerous as the sand on the seashore–be gathered to you, with you yourself leading them into battle. Then we will attack him wherever he may be found, and we will fall on him as dew settles on the ground. Neither he nor any of his men will be left alive. If he withdraws into a city, then all Israel will bring ropes to that city, and we will drag it down to the valley until not so much as a pebble is left.”



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2 Samuel 17:14

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.

Wisdom is more a
matter of the heart
than the head.





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It is difficult to be wise. As we make decisions, big and small, how can we find *wisdom*? Those of us who have made foolish decisions and suffered the consequences (and who hasn't?) may ask, "How can I learn to be more wise?" ... Living life well has a lot to do with wisdom. The difficult thing for all of us is that what is wise and what is foolish often only become clear when it is too late. We call this the wisdom of hindsight. The wisdom of hindsight is usually the realization that something that seemed wise at the



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time has turned out to be disastrous. The wisdom of hindsight is of little practical value. We need the wisdom of foresight, which is a bit more difficult. This is the problem. Wisdom is a kind of foresight. It involves seeing the consequences of a decision, a choice, or an action. Since none of us can see very far into the future with much accuracy, it is difficult to be wise. This is a major theme in the Bible. "Where shall wisdom be found?"



Wisdom flows from a
well-ordered heart
rooted in the fear of
the Lord.





Proverbs 9:10

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.



2 Samuel 15:31

Now David had been told, "Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom."
So David prayed, "LORD, turn Ahithophel's counsel into foolishness."



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2 Samuel 17:17-20

Jonathan and Ahimaaz were staying at En Rogel. A female servant was to go and inform them, and they were to go and tell King David, for they could not risk being seen entering the city. But a young man saw them and told Absalom. So the two of them left at once and went to the house of a man in Bahurim. He had a well in his courtyard, and they climbed down into it. His wife took a covering and spread it



2 Samuel 17:17-20

out over the opening of the well and scattered grain over it. No one knew anything about it. When Absalom's men came to the woman at the house, they asked, "Where are Ahimaaz and Jonathan?" The woman answered them, "They crossed over the brook." The men searched but found no one, so they returned to Jerusalem.



Romans 8:31-32

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all –how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

Stranger than Fiction.



