### 2 Samuel

## Chapter 10

1Then the king of the sons of AmMon died, and his son became the new king.  
  
2So David said:  
  
 ‘I’ll do something nice for HanNon, son of NaHash, because his father was so kind to me.’  
  
Therefore, David sent his servants to the land of the sons of AmMon to comfort him over his father.  
  
3However, the governors of the sons of AmMon went to their lord and asked:  
  
 ‘Is David really sending you comforters to glorify your father, or hasn’t he in fact sent them as spies to look at [our fortifications]?’  
  
4As a result, HanNon grabbed David’s servants, shaved their beards, cut off their uniforms to their hips, and then he sent them away.  
  
5Well, when this was reported to David, he sent men to meet those servants, because they’d been so extremely dishonored! And the king told them to stay in JeriCho until their beards grew back.  
  
  
6Meanwhile, when the sons of AmMon saw how David had been disgraced, they hired 20,000 Syrians from BaithRaAm, Soba, and RoOb, as well as 1,000 infantrymen from the king of AmaLech, and 12,000 men from IshTob.  
  
7And when David heard about this, he sent JoAb and all his best soldiers [to confront them]; 8for the sons of AmMon had gathered for war at their city gates… They’d sent the Syrians from Soba, RoOb, and [men of] IshTob and MaAcha into the field to fight with them.  
  
9And when JoAb saw what he was facing, with armies on both sides, he took the younger men of IsraEl and deployed them opposite the Syrians, 10then he put the rest of his army into the hands of his brother AbiShai, who [set up battle lines] facing the sons of AmMon.  
  
11And he [told his brother]:  
  
 ‘If Syria starts to beat me, you come to help me; and if the sons of AmMon start to beat you, I’ll come to help you.  
  
 12‘However, we must act like men! For if we’re strong for our people and the cities of our God, [we can trust that] Jehovah will do whatever He sees is best!’  
  
13Well, when JoAb and his men attacked the Syrians, they fled from before him. 14And when the sons of AmMon saw the Syrians running, they turned and ran from AbiShai, back into their cities.  
  
So thereafter, JoAb left the land of AmMon and he returned to JeruSalem.  
  
  
15However, after the Syrians had lost before IsraEl, they returned and gathered at the same place again. 16But this time, HadraAzar sent for more Syrians from the other side of the river, stationing them in AiLam, and he put Sobak the general of his army to be over them.  
  
17And when this was reported to David, he gathered the whole army of IsraEl and they crossed the JorDan to march against AiLam. There the Syrians set up battle lines against David, and the battle began… 18And again, the Syrians fled from the IsraElites!  
  
This time, David destroyed 700 of their chariots and 40,000 of their cavalry! He also killed the general over their army, Sobak.  
  
19Then, when the servants of HadraAzar saw that they’d lost to IsraEl, they surrendered and became their servants… And the Syrians were afraid to come to the aid of the sons of AmMon after that.