### 2 Samuel

## Chapter 4

1Well, when Saul’s son IshBosheth heard that AbNer (son of Ner) had been killed in HebRon, he and all the men in IsraEl just fell weak.  
  
2And at the time, there were two men who were leaders of the confederation of IshBosheth; one was BaAna and the other was RechAb. They were both sons of RimMon the BeerOthite of the tribe of BenJamin (for BeerOth was considered part of the tribe of BenJamin).  
  
3These BeerOthites had fled to GetThaim, where [their families] live to this day.  
  
  
4(Also, Saul’s son JoNathan had a 5-year-old son who was lame. For when the message came from JezreEl about [the death] of Saul and JoNathan, his nurse picked him up and ran away… But then she dropped him, which damaged his legs. His name was MephiBosheth.)  
  
  
5Well, as the sons of RimMon the BeerOthite (RechAb and BaAna) were leaving, they went to the house of [Saul’s son] IshBosheth in the heat of the day during his noontime nap. 6And because the doorman was out sifting wheat, they were able to slip in without being noticed… 7And there was IshBosheth in his bedroom asleep in his bed.  
  
So they struck him, killed him, and cut off his head, then they traveled west all that day and night so as to 8bring IshBosheth’s head to David in HebRon!  
  
Then they said to the king:  
  
 ‘Look, here’s the head of Saul’s son IshBosheth… Your enemy who would’ve killed you!  
  
 ‘Jehovah has given him to our lord the king as punishment to the enemies of his offspring. For Saul and his offspring have been your enemies down to this day.’  
  
9But David told RechAb and his brother BaAna:  
  
 ‘As Jehovah (the One who’s protected my life) lives, 10the man who reported to me that Saul had died thought he was bringing me good news... However, I had him taken away and killed in ZikLag, despite what he thought!  
  
 11‘And now, you wicked people have killed a righteous man while he was in his house asleep in bed! So, I’ll require his blood from you… I’ll wipe you out of this land!’  
  
12Well at that, David gave orders to his servants, and they killed them both… They cut off their hands and feet and hung their bodies near the spring in HebRon, then they took the head of IshBosheth and placed it in the tomb of AbNer (son of Ner) in HebRon.