

# Wycliffe Associates

## Bible Translation Reviewers' Guide

### *2 Samuel*

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# 1:1-10

**Background:** The book of 2 Samuel begins where 1 Samuel ended. This book focuses on David ruling as king over Israel after King Saul was killed in battle.

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ After Saul died, David returned to Ziklag. [1:1]
- ☐ A man came to see David and told David about all the things that happened at the camp of Israel. [1:2-3]
- ☐ He reported that Saul and his son Jonathan were dead. [1:4]
- ☐ The young man explained the conversation between him and Saul and how Saul died. [1:6-9]
- ☐ The man brought the crown and the band that Saul had on before his death and brought them to David. [1:10]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did David do after the death of Saul? [1:1]  
David returned from attacking the Amalekites and remained in Ziklag for two days.
2. On the third day, who came to David from Saul's camp? [1:2]  
On the third day a man with his clothes torn and with dirt on his head came to David.
3. What did the man do when he saw David? [1:2]  
The man fell to the ground and bowed down before David.
4. What did David ask of the man and what was his response? [1:4]  
He asked how things went at the camp, and the man responded that the people had fled from the battle and that many had died.
5. What did the young man say about Saul and Jonathan? [1:4]  
The young man said Saul and Jonathan, his son, were dead.
6. What did David ask the man in 1:5?  
He asked how the man knew that Saul and his son were dead.
7. Where did the young man say he found Saul? [1:6]  
The young man said he was on Mount Gilboa, and there Saul was leaning on his spear.
8. What did Saul ask him and how did he respond? [1:8]  
The man said that Saul asked who he was, and the man responded that he was an Amalekite.
9. What did the young man say Saul asked him to do? [1:9-10]  
The young man said Saul asked him to stand over him and kill him because he was ready to die from his wounds.

**2 Samuel 1:1-10 continued**

10. What did the man say he did to Saul, and what did he take from Saul? [1:10]

The man said he killed Saul and took the crown that was on Saul's head and the band that was on his arm.

11. What did the man do with the crown and the band he took from Saul? [1:10]

He gave them to David and called him master.

12. Why do you think the man brought the crown and the band to David? [1:10]

Perhaps he knew David would be the next king. Perhaps he thought David would reward him for bringing them to him.

13. In 1 Samuel 31:4, it says Saul fell on his own sword and killed himself. Why do you think the man said he killed Saul? [1:10]

Perhaps he thought David would be glad to hear that Saul was dead, so perhaps David would honor the man for killing him.

**Comment Section:**

## 2:1-7

**Background:** After hearing about Saul and Jonathan, David mourned for both of them.

### Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ David asked Yahweh where he should go, and Yahweh told him to go to Hebron [2:1-3]
- ☐ David was anointed king over the house of Judah. [2:4]
- ☐ David blessed the men of Jabesh Gilead because of the loyalty they had shown to Saul. [2:5-6]
- ☐ David encouraged the people of Jabesh Gilead to be strong because their master was dead, and he was anointed to be king over Judah. [2:7]

### Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. How did Yahweh reply to David when David asked him what city of Judah he should go to? [2:1]  
Yahweh told him to go to Hebron.
2. Who went up with David to Hebron? [2:2-3]  
David went up to Hebron with his two wives, Ahinoam and Abigail, and the men who were with him, who each brought his family.
3. Who anointed David as king, and what did they say? [2:4]  
The men of Judah came and anointed David king over the house of Judah. They told David that the men of Jabesh Gilead had buried Saul.
4. What message did David send to the men of Jabesh Gilead? [2:5]  
David told them they were blessed by Yahweh because they had shown loyalty to Saul and had buried him.
5. How did David bless the men of Jabesh Gilead? [2:6]  
He asked that Yahweh show them love and faithfulness because of what they did for Saul. David said he would also be good to them.
6. What did David tell the men of Jabesh Gilead? [2:7]  
He told them to be strong and courageous because Saul was dead, and David was their new king.

**Comment Section:**

## 3:17-21

**Background:** Abner, commander of Saul's army, took Ish-Bosheth, son of Saul, and made him king over Gilead. The army of Ish-Bosheth fought against David's army. Eventually Abner became very angry with Ish-Bosheth, and he swore he would help David become king over all of Israel.

### Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Abner told the elders of Israel that they should make David king over them. [3:17]
- ☐ He told the people of Israel that Yahweh had spoken saying David should be king and he would save the people of Israel from their enemies. [3:18]
- ☐ Abner also spoke to the people of Benjamin and to David. [3:18-19]
- ☐ Abner told David that he would gather all of Israel to David and make a covenant with him. [3:21]
- ☐ David sent Abner away and he left in peace. [3:21]

### Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did Abner say to the elders of Israel? [3:17]  
Abner told the elders of Israel they should make David king over them as they had wanted to do in the past.
2. What had Yahweh said of David? [3:18]  
Yahweh had said that David would save the people of Israel from the Philistines and from all their enemies.
3. Who did Abner speak to in verse 3:19?  
He spoke to the people of Benjamin and with David while he was in Hebron.
4. What did David do for Abner when Abner arrived in Hebron with twenty of his men? [3:20]  
David had a feast prepared for Abner and his men.
5. What did Abner tell David he planned to do? [3:21]  
Abner told David that he would gather all Israel to David to make a covenant with him so he could reign as king over all that he desired.
6. What happened to Abner? [3:21]  
David sent Abner away in peace.

**Comment Section:**

## 5:1-5

**Background:** Joab, the commander of David's army, killed Abner. Ish-Bosheth and all the people of Israel were troubled by this. Two captains of Ish-Bosheth's army went and killed Ish-Bosheth and took his head to David. David had those two men killed for what they did.

### Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ The tribes of Israel told David they were flesh of his flesh and bone. [5:1]
- ☐ They reminded David that when Saul was their king it was David who led the Israelite army. [5:2]
- ☐ They anointed David king over all the tribes of Israel. [5:3]
- ☐ David reigned forty years, seven years in Hebron as king of Judah, and thirty-three years in Jerusalem as king over all Israel. [5:4]

### Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did all the tribes of Israel say to David? [5:1]  
They said that they were all David's flesh and bone. This means they were all part of the same family.
2. What did all the tribes of Israel acknowledge Yahweh had said to David? [5:2]  
All the tribes of Israel acknowledged Yahweh had told David, "You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become ruler over Israel."
3. Who came to Hebron, made a covenant with David, and anointed him king over Israel? [5:3]  
All the elders of Israel came.
4. How old was David when he began his reign, and how many years did he reign? [5:4]  
David was thirty years old when he began his reign, and he reigned forty years.
5. How many years did David reign over Judah and then all of Israel and Judah? [5:5]  
David reigned seven years and six months over Judah and thirty-three years in Jerusalem over all Israel and Judah.

**Comment Section:**

# 5:17-25

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ The Philistines went looking for David when they heard that he was anointed to be king over Israel. [5:17]
- ☐ David asked Yahweh for help, and Yahweh told David he would give him victory over the Philistines. [5:19]
- ☐ David attacked the Philistines and defeated them. [5:20-21]
- ☐ When the Philistines returned, David again asked for help from Yahweh. [5:22-23]
- ☐ Yahweh gave specific instructions to David, and David did as Yahweh commanded, and once again the Philistines were defeated. [5:24-25]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did the Philistines do when they heard that David had been anointed as king over Israel? [5:17]  
The Philistines went out looking for David.
2. Where were the Philistines? [5:18]  
The Philistines were all spread out over the Valley of Rephaim.
3. What did Yahweh tell David when he asked if he should attack the Philistines? [5:19]  
Yahweh said to David he should attack the Philistines for he would give him victory.
4. Where did David attack the Philistines, and what was the outcome? [5:20]  
David attacked at Baal Perazim, and he defeated the Philistines.
5. What did David compare his victory over the Philistines to? [5:20]  
He said Yahweh had burst through his enemies like a bursting flood of water.
6. What did the Philistines leave and what happened to them? [5:21]  
The Philistines left behind their idols and David and his men carried them away.
7. What did the Philistines do then? [5:22]  
They came up again and spread out once more in the Valley of Rephaim.
8. When the Philistines came up a second time, how did Yahweh tell David to attack them? [5:23]  
Yahweh told David not to attack the Philistine's front, but to circle behind them and come at them from behind through the balsam woods.
9. What sound did Yahweh tell David to listen for before attacking the Philistines? [5:24]  
Yahweh told David to attack the Philistines when he heard the sound of marching in the wind blowing through the balsam treetops.

**2 Samuel 5:17-25 continued**

10. What happened when David obeyed Yahweh's command? [5:25]  
David and his army killed the Philistines from Geba to Gezer.

**Comment Section:**



# 7:1-17

**Background:** David brought the ark of the covenant from Baalah in Judah to Jerusalem and put it in a tent that David had set up.

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ King David had a conversation with Nathan describing the house he lived in but the ark was in a tent. [7:1-3]
- ☐ Yahweh told Nathan to tell David a message. [7:4-17]
- ☐ Yahweh said he had never asked that a house of cedar be built for him. [7:6-7]
- ☐ Yahweh promised David that he would give peace to Israel, and he would raise up a descendant after David who would build a house for his name. [7:8-16]
- ☐ Nathan told David about his entire vision he had received from Yahweh. [7:17]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did Yahweh give David? [7:1]  
Yahweh gave David rest from all his surrounding enemies.
2. What did the king say to Nathan the prophet? [7:2]  
He said that he lived in a house of cedar, but the ark of God was in a tent.
3. What did Nathan tell David before the word of Yahweh came to Nathan? [7:3]  
Nathan told David to do what was in his heart for Yahweh was with him.
4. What happened that same night? [7:4]  
That same night the word of Yahweh came to Nathan.
5. What did Yahweh say about not living in a house? [7:6]  
He said he had not lived in a house from the day that he brought the people of Israel out of Egypt but had been moved about in a tent, a tabernacle.
6. What question did Yahweh ask David about any of Israel's leaders up until that time? [7:7]  
Yahweh asked David if Yahweh had ever asked anyone to build him a house of cedar.
7. What did Yahweh say he had done for David? [7:8]  
Yahweh said he had taken David from the sheep pasture so that David would be ruler over the people of Israel.
8. What did Yahweh say he would do for David? [7:9]  
He said he would make David's name great.

**2 Samuel 7:1-17 continued**

9. What did Yahweh say he was going to do for Israel? [7:10]  
Yahweh said he would give them their own place to live so they would not be troubled and wicked people would not oppress them anymore.
10. What did Yahweh declare he would do for David? [7:11]  
He said he would give David rest from all his enemies and make a house for David. Here, to “make a house” means Yahweh will cause David’s family to grow and prosper.
11. What did Yahweh say he would do for David’s descendant? [7:12]  
Yahweh said he would establish the kingdom of David’s descendant.
12. What did Yahweh say that the descendant would do? [7:13]  
He said the descendant would build a house for Yahweh’s name.
13. What did Yahweh say about being a father? [7:14]  
Yahweh said he would be father to David’s descendant, and he would be Yahweh’s son.
14. What did Yahweh say he would do when David’s descendant sinned? [7:14]  
Yahweh said he would discipline him with the rod and whips.
15. What did Yahweh say would not leave him? [7:15]  
Yahweh said his covenant faithfulness would not leave him, like he took from Saul.
16. What did Yahweh say would be confirmed and established forever? [7:16]  
Yahweh said David’s house and kingdom would be confirmed, and his throne would be established forever.
17. What did Nathan do with this information? [7:17]  
Nathan reported to David all these words and told him about the entire vision.

**Comment Section:**

# 7:18-29

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ King David went before Yahweh and asked him why Yahweh has been so good to him and his family. [7:18-19]
- ☐ David said Yahweh has done these things for his own purposes. [7:20-21]
- ☐ David spoke to Yahweh telling Yahweh how great he was and about all the great things he had done. [7:22-24]
- ☐ David asked Yahweh to do all that he promised for David's family. [7:25-26, 28-29]
- ☐ David told Yahweh that he had courage to pray for these things because they had been revealed to David by the prophet Nathan. [7:27]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. After Nathan spoke to David all the words Yahweh had said and told David about the entire vision, what did David do? [7:18]  
David went in and sat before Yahweh and prayed to him.
2. What did David ask Yahweh? [7:18]  
David asked who he was that Yahweh would have brought him to this point.
3. What did David say about his family? [7:19]  
David said that Yahweh had spoken about David's family for generations to come.
4. Why did David say that these things were done and revealed to David? [7:21]  
David said for the sake of Yahweh's word to fulfill his purpose.
5. What did David say about Yahweh in 7:22?  
He said Yahweh was great, there was no one like him and that there was no God other than him.
6. What question did David ask about the nation of Israel? [7:23]  
David asked what nation is like your people Israel whom God rescued for himself?
7. How did David answer this question he asked in 7:23?  
He said God did this so they would become a people for Yahweh and make a name for him by doing great deeds for Yahweh's land.
8. What did David pray about the promise Yahweh had made? [7:25]  
He prayed for Yahweh to do as he had promised.
9. Why did David want Yahweh's name to be great forever? [7:26]  
He wanted this so people would say Yahweh is the God of Israel while David's house was established before him.

**2 Samuel 7:18-29 continued**

10. How did David say he had found courage to pray to Yahweh of hosts? [7:27]

David said he had courage because Yahweh of hosts had revealed to David that he would build David a house.

11. What did David consider Yahweh's word to be? [7:28]

David considered Yahweh's word to be trustworthy.

**Comment Section:**

# 11:1-5

**Background:** The king of Ammon died, so David sent men to comfort his son, who became the new king. People in Ammon convinced the king that David sent these men to spy on his land, so the king had the men shamed and sent away. The people of Ammon went to war against the Israelites.

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ David sent out all the army of Israel during the war and they destroyed Ammon and Rabbah. [11:1]
- ☐ David stayed in Jerusalem and one evening he noticed a lovely woman bathing on her roof top, and David asked about her. [11:2-3]
- ☐ The woman's name was Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah the Hittite. [11:3]
- ☐ David sent for her, and she lay with him and she became pregnant. [11:4-5]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. When did kings normally go off to war? [11:1]  
Kings normally went off to war in the springtime.
2. Where was King David on this particular spring? [11:1]  
King David had stayed in Jerusalem.
3. Who did David see one evening when he got up from his bed and walked on the roof of his palace? [11:2]  
David saw a very beautiful woman bathing.
4. What did David ask when he saw the woman? [11:3]  
He asked who the woman was.
5. Who was the woman? [11:3]  
She was Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the husband of Uriah the Hittite.
6. What did David do with Bathsheba? [11:4]  
David sent for Bathsheba, and he lay with her.
7. What did Bathsheba later tell David? [11:5]  
She told David that she was pregnant.

**Comment Section:**

# 12:1-14

**Background:** After Bathsheba told David she was pregnant, David tried to trick Uriah, Bathsheba's husband, into sleeping with her, so he would think the child was his. When the plan failed, David arranged it so that Uriah would die in battle. David married Bathsheba after Uriah was killed.

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Yahweh sent the prophet Nathan to David to give him an important message. [12:1]
- ☐ Nathan told David about a rich man who owned many sheep but took the only lamb from a poor man. [12:1-4]
- ☐ David became angry at the rich man and said he deserved to die. [12:5-6]
- ☐ Nathan explained the meaning of the story and told David he had acted like the rich man when he killed Uriah and took his wife. [12:7-9]
- ☐ Yahweh said as a result of David's actions, there would always be fighting in his house, and Yahweh would take David's wives and give them to other people. [12:10-12]
- ☐ David admitted his sin and Nathan told him that Yahweh had passed over his sin and David would not be killed, but his child with Bathsheba would die. [12:13-14]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. Why did Nathan go to David? [12:1]  
Yahweh sent Nathan to him with a message.
2. Who were the two people in the story that Nathan told to David? [12:1]  
The story was about a rich man and a poor man.
3. What did the rich man have? [12:2]  
The rich man had a great number of sheep and cattle.
4. What did the poor man have? [12:3]  
The poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb.
5. What did the poor man do with the little lamb? [12:3]  
He cared for the lamb and laid it on his chest like it was a daughter to him.
6. What happened when a visitor came to see the rich man? [12:4]  
The rich man was unwilling to take one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the visitor. Instead, he took the poor man's lamb and slaughtered it.
7. What was David's reaction and what did he say when he heard the story? [12:5]  
David was very angry with the rich man. He told Nathan that as Yahweh lives, the man who did wrong deserved to be put to death.

**2 Samuel 12:1-14 continued**

8. What did David say the cost should be for the rich man? [12:6]  
David said that he should pay back the lamb four times over.
9. What did Nathan tell David that Yahweh said? [12:7]  
Yahweh said that David was the rich man in the parable.
10. What else did Yahweh say to David? [12:8]  
Yahweh had given him Israel and Judah, and if he had given him too little, Yahweh would have given him many more things.
11. What did Yahweh say about the evil David had done? [12:9]  
Yahweh said David despised the command of Yahweh.
12. What did Yahweh say he was going to do because David had despised Yahweh and taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite as his wife? [12:10]  
Yahweh told David the sword would never leave his house. This means that his family members would fight with one another.
13. What did Yahweh say would happen to David's wives? [12:11]  
Yahweh said that his neighbor would sleep with David's wives in broad daylight.
14. What did Yahweh tell David? [12:12]  
He told David that he committed his sin secretly, but Yahweh would do this before all of Israel in the sunlight.
15. What did David confess to Nathan, and how did Nathan respond? [12:13]  
David confessed to Nathan that he had sinned against Yahweh. Nathan told David that Yahweh had forgiven his sin and he would not die.
16. What did Nathan tell David would be the consequences of his act against Yahweh? [12:14]  
Nathan told David because his act despised Yahweh, the child would die.

**Comment Section:**

## 15:13-25

**Background:** David had two sons, Absalom and Amnon. Amnon fell in love with Absalom's sister, Tamar, and he forced her to sleep with him. Two years later, Absalom killed Amnon then ran away. David had Absalom brought back home. Later, Absalom gathered 200 men from Jerusalem and planned to replace David as king.

### Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ David heard many people were following Absalom, so he, all of his family, and 600 men fled from Jerusalem. [15:13-18]
- ☐ David encouraged Ittai the Gittite to stay with the king Absalom, but Ittai insisted on staying with David. [15:19-23]
- ☐ All the country cried loudly as David left. [15:23]
- ☐ Zadok and the Levites carried the ark of the covenant out of the city, but David told them to go back, and if Yahweh favored him, then he would bring David back to the city. [15:24-25]

### Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did the messenger say to David? [15:13]  
The messenger told David that the men of Israel were following Absalom.
2. What did David tell his servants after hearing the messenger? [15:14]  
David told his servants that they all must flee or none of them would escape from Absalom.
3. How soon did David want his servants to be ready to leave? [15:14]  
He told them to be ready to leave immediately before Absalom attacked the city.
4. How did the king's servants respond? [15:15]  
They said they were ready to do whatever their master the king decided.
5. Who did the king take with him and who did he leave behind in Jerusalem to keep the palace? [15:16]  
The king took with him all his family and left behind ten women, who were concubines, to keep the palace.
6. Who marched with the king as he left Jerusalem? [25:18]  
All the king's army marched with him as well as all the Kerethites, Pelethites, and Gittites—six hundred men who had followed him from Gath.
7. Why did David say Ittai the Gittite should stay in Jerusalem? [15:19-20]  
He said Ittai was a foreigner and an exile, and he had not been in Jerusalem long. David did not know where he was going and there was no reason for Ittai to wander with him.
8. What did Ittai the Gittite tell the king after the king told him to return and stay with King Absalom? [15:21]  
Ittai told the king he would go wherever the king went, whether it meant living or dying.



**2 Samuel 15:13-25 continued**

9. How did David respond to Ittai's decision to stay with him? [15:22]  
David agreed to have Ittai, his family and all his men continue with them.
10. What did all the people do and which way did David and all those with him go as they left Jerusalem? [15:24]  
All the country wept loudly as David and the people went toward the wilderness.
11. What did the king tell Zadok the priest concerning the ark of the covenant of God? [15:25]  
The king told Zadok the priest to carry the ark of God back into the city.
12. What did David say about finding favor in the eyes of Yahweh? [15:25]  
He said if he found favor in the eyes of Yahweh, he would bring him back to Jerusalem.

**Comment Section:**

# 17:1-14

**Background:** Ahithophel the priest was one of Absalom's advisors. David sent Hushai the Arkite back to Jerusalem to serve Absalom so Hushai could give him bad advice.

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Ahithophel advised Absalom to hurry and attack David and his plan pleased Absalom. [17:1-4]
- ☐ However, Hushai the Arkite said that Ahithophel's advice was not good. [17:5-7]
- ☐ Hushai the Arkite advised Absalom to wait until he could gather all of Israel to attack David. [17:8-13]
- ☐ Absalom and the men of Israel liked Hushai's plan. [17:14]
- ☐ Yahweh's plan was that Absalom would follow the advice of Hushai the Arkite and be destroyed. [17:14]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What was Ahithophel's advice to Absalom and all the elders of Israel about how he should attack David? [17:1]  
Ahithophel's advice was to have twelve thousand men make a surprise attack on David at night.
2. What did Ahithophel say about how and when he would attack David? [17:2]  
Ahithophel said he would attack when David was weary and weak and would surprise him with fear. He said the people with David would leave and only the king would be attacked.
3. What did Ahithophel say would happen after the attack? [17:3]  
He said he would bring back all the people, like a bride coming to her husband and that the people would be at peace under him.
4. What did Absalom think of this plan? [17:4]  
Absalom and all the elders of Israel were pleased with this plan.
5. Who else did Absalom call for? [17:5]  
Absalom called Hushai the Arkite to see what he had to say about the plan.
6. What happened when Hushai went to Absalom? [17:6]  
Absalom explained Ahithophel's plan to Hushai the Arkite and asked his opinion on this advice.
7. What reason did Hushai say that Ahithophel's plan was not good? [17:8]  
He said that his father was a man of war, and his men are strong warriors.
8. What did he think the men of Absalom would feel and do? [17:10]  
He said that even the bravest soldiers would be afraid because all of Israel knew that David was a mighty man and his men were very strong.

**2 Samuel 17:1-14 continued**

9. What advice did he give to Absalom? [17:11]

He advised that all of Israel be gathered together from Dan to Beersheba, and that they all go to battle in person.

10. What did Hushai the Arkite say would happen after Absalom gathered the army of Israel? [17:12]

He said they would come on David wherever he would be found and not leave David or one of his men alive.

11. How did Absalom and the men of Israel respond to Hushai's advice? [17:14]

They said it was better advice than what Ahithophel had given them.

12. Why had Yahweh ordained for Absalom to reject Ahithophel's good advice? [17:14]

Yahweh did this to bring about Absalom's destruction.

**Comment Section:**

# 19:1-8

**Background:** David's army fought Absalom's army. David's army won, and Joab, an army commander for David, killed Absalom. David wept and grieved when he heard that Absalom was dead.

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Joab and all of David's army heard that David was mourning for his son, so the men sneaked back to the city in shame. [19:1-4]
- ☐ Joab told David he had shamed his soldiers who saved his life, and he thinks David would have been happy if they had died and Absalom had lived. [19:5-6]
- ☐ Joab told David that if he did not speak kindly to his servants, they would all leave him. [19:7]
- ☐ David listened to Joab and went out and sat at the city gate, and all the people came before him. [19:8]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What was Joab told? [19:1]  
He was told that David was weeping because he heard that Absalom had died.
2. Why was the victory that day turned to mourning for all the army? [19:2]  
This happened because the army heard that the king was mourning for his son.
3. What did the soldiers do? [19:3]  
They had to sneak quietly into the city like people who were ashamed when they ran from battle.
4. What was the cry of the king? [19:4]  
The king cried, "My son Absalom, Absalom, my son, my son!"
5. What did Joab say when he entered the house of the king? [19:5]  
He told David that he (David) had shamed all the servants who saved his life and the lives of his sons and daughters and their wives.
6. How had David shamed his soldiers? [19:6]  
Absalom said David did this by loving those who hate him and hating those who love him. David had shown his commanders and servants that they meant nothing to him.
7. What did Joab say he believed would have pleased the king? [19:6]  
Joab said he believed the king would have been pleased if Absalom had lived and they, the king's army, would have died.

**2 Samuel 19:1-8 continued**

8. What did Joab tell the king would happen if the king did not get up, go out, and speak kindly to the king's soldiers?  
[19:7]

Joab said if the king did not go, not one man would remain with him that night.

9. When did all the people come before the king? [19:8]

All the people came before the king after they were told the king was sitting in the gate.

**Comment Section:**

## 21:1-9

**Background:** In the book of Joshua, Joshua made a promise to the Gibeonites that the Israelites would not destroy them. Many years later, Saul had tried to destroy the Gibeonites.

### Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ There was a famine in Israel for three years in a row. [21:1]
- ☐ David asked Yahweh why the famine was happening, and Yahweh answered it was because Saul and his murderous family had killed Gibeonites. [21:1]
- ☐ David called the Gibeonites together to ask what he could do to make things right between them. [21:3-4]
- ☐ They responded it was not the silver or gold they wanted. They asked for seven descendants of Saul to be handed over to them. [21:4-6]
- ☐ The king agreed and handed over seven sons. [21:7-9]

### Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. Why was there a famine in David's time for three years in a row? [21:1]  
This happened because Saul and his murderous family put the Gibeonites to death.
2. Where were the Gibeonites from? [21:2]  
They were from what remained of the Amorites.
3. Why did King David want to make atonement to the Gibeonites? [21:2]  
The people of Israel had sworn not to kill them, yet Saul tried to kill them anyway.
4. What did David ask the Gibeonites? [21:3]  
King David asked what he could do for them and how he could make an atonement so that they could bless the people of Yahweh.
5. What did the Gibeonites say to David? [21:4]  
They said it was not the silver or gold between them and Saul of his family that they wanted.
6. What did the Gibeonites request from David to atone for Saul's actions? [21:6]  
The Gibeonites requested that seven men who were descendants of Saul be handed over to them to be hanged before Yahweh.
7. How did the king respond? [21:6]  
The king said he would give the seven men to them.
8. Why was Mephibosheth, son of Jonathan, son of Saul spared? [21:7]  
David had made an oath to Jonathan, son of Saul.

**2 Samuel 21:1-9 continued**

9. How did David respond to the request of the Gibeonites? [21:8-9]

David handed over the two sons of Rizpah and the five sons of Merab who were hanged on the mountain before Yahweh by the Gibeonites.

**Comment Section:**

# 21:15-22

**Background:** This passage mentions the descendants of the Rapha. The Rapha were giants.

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ The Philistines went to battle with Israel and David. [21:15]
- ☐ Ishbi-Benob intended to kill David, but Abishai saved David's life. [21:16-17]
- ☐ The men of David swore to him that he should not go out to battle any more. [21:17]
- ☐ David's men fought battles with the descendants of the Rapha and won victory over them. [21:18-22]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What happened when the Philistines went to war with Israel? [21:15]  
David went with his servants to fight against the Philistines, and he was overcome with fatigue.
2. What was recorded about Ishbi-Benob and his weapon? [21:16]  
He was a descendant of the Rapha, his spear weighed three hundred shekels, and he intended to kill David.
3. Who rescued David and what happened to the Philistine? [21:17]  
Abishai rescued David and killed the Philistine.
4. What did the men say to David? [21:17]  
They said David must not go into battle anymore, so that he would not put out the lamp of Israel. This may mean that Israel's success was because of David, and if he died, all of Israel would suffer.
5. What happened when Israel fought the Philistines at Gob? [21:18]  
Sibbekai killed Saph who was a descendant of the Rapha.
6. What happened when they fought at Gob again? [21:19]  
Elhanan son of Jair the Bethlehemite killed Goliath the Gittite, who had a spear like a weaver's beam.
7. What was unusual about the next battle at Gath? [21:20]  
There was a man who was very tall and had six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot. He was also a descendant of the Rapha.
8. What happened when this tall man taunted Israel? [21:21]  
Jonathan, David's brother, killed him.

**Comment Section:**



# 23:1-7

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ These were David's last words. [23:1]
- ☐ Yahweh told David that the one who rules righteously over people would be like morning light. [23:3-4]
- ☐ There was an everlasting covenant between God and David's family. [23:5]
- ☐ Yahweh said that the worthless will be like thorns that will be burned up where they lie. [23:6-7]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. How was David described?  
He was described as the son of Jesse, highly honored, anointed by God, and the sweet psalmist of Israel.
2. What did David say about Yahweh? [23:2]  
He said the spirit of Yahweh spoke to him and his word was on his tongue.
3. What did the God of Israel say to David? [23:3-4]  
The God of Israel said that the one who rules righteously and in the fear of God will be like the morning light when the sun rises, a morning without clouds, through sunshine after the rain.
4. What had God made between David and his family? [23:5]  
God had made an everlasting covenant with them.
5. What will happen to the worthless people? [23:6-7]  
They will be like thorns that are thrown away and burned.

**Comment Section:**

# 24:10-17

**Background:** David commanded Joab to count the fighting men of Israel.

## Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ David realized he had sinned and asked Yahweh to take away his guilt. [24:10]
- ☐ A prophet told David a message from Yahweh. David had three choices to choose from. [24:11-12]
- ☐ David chose three days of plague. [24:13-15]
- ☐ Yahweh brought about the plague but relented after seventy thousand people died. [24:15-17]

## Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. Why was David's heart afflicted after he had Joab count the men? [24:10]  
David's heart was afflicted because he realized he had acted very foolishly and committed a great sin.
2. What happened when David awoke in the morning? [24:11]  
The word of Yahweh came to the prophet Gad.
3. What message did Yahweh give to David through his prophet? [24:12]  
Yahweh told David he was to pick one of three choices.
4. What three choices did Yahweh give to David through his prophet Gad? [24:13]  
Yahweh asked David if he wanted three years of famine, three months of fleeing from his enemies, or three days of plagues in the land.
5. What was David's response to these three choices? [24:14]  
David said he would rather fall into the hands of Yahweh than the hands of men because Yahweh is merciful.
6. How many people died in the plague? [24:15]  
Seventy thousand people died in the plague.
7. Why did not more than seventy thousand people die in the plague? [24:16]  
Only seventy thousand people died in the plague because Yahweh changed his mind and drew back his hand.
8. What did David request of Yahweh when he realized his great sin? [24:17]  
David asked Yahweh to punish him and his father's family instead of the people of Israel for the great sin.

**Comment Section:**