

David's Comeback 2Sam 18-19

David returns from the insurrection of his kingdom by his own son.
Four character studies are in order Joab, Shimei, Ziba, and Barzillai

Joab the son of Zeruiah

2Sam 19:1-8 Joab, David's aggressive and decisive Captain of Hosts, talks warrior sense into David.
(vr 9-11 Absalom, Zadok and Abiathar deserve their own character study here vr 9-10)

19:12-13-14 Joab is fired. David , striving for unity in Israel, made Amasa his new Captain of Hosts, even though Amasa was just now Captain of Hosts for Absalom! Is that wise? ... Joab thought not.

Joab was one of David's mighty men, with him from the beginning, and when David came to Jerusalem, ... "*1Ch 11:6 And David said, Whosoever smiteth the Jebusites first shall be chief and captain. So Joab the son of Zeruiah went first up, and was chief.*" Joab was chief throughout the reign of David.

But David always had it in for Joab, "*2Sa 2:18 And there were three sons of Zeruiah there, Joab, and Abishai, and Asahel: and Asahel was as light of foot as a wild roe. 2Sa 3:39 And I am this day weak, though anointed king; and these men the sons of Zeruiah be too hard for me: the LORD shall reward the doer of evil according to his wickedness.*"

Amasa Selected 19:13, ... Amasa Stalled 20:4-5, ... Amasa Slain 20:9-12

(Recall that Joab had slain Abner Captain of Host for Israel under Saul and then Ishbosheth, after David made a league with him.)

David Advises Solomon "*1Kings 2:5 Moreover thou knowest also what Joab the son of Zeruiah did to me, and what he did to the two captains of the hosts of Israel, unto Abner the son of Ner, and unto Amasa the son of Jether, whom he slew, and shed the blood of war in peace, and put the blood of war upon his girdle that was about his loins, and in his shoes that were on his feet.*

6 Do therefore according to thy wisdom, and let not his hoar head go down to the grave in peace."

Joab's retribution "*1Kings 2:28 Then tidings came to Joab: for Joab had turned after Adonijah, though he turned not after Absalom. And Joab fled unto the tabernacle of the LORD, and caught hold on the horns of the altar.*" Solomon had him slain at the brazen altar. Joab was however, very old.

(Abiathar, the priest that escaped to David in the wilderness after Saul slew all the priests, got caught up in the same 2nd insurrection of Adonijah... "*1Kings 2:26 ¶ And unto Abiathar the priest said the king, Get thee to Anathoth, unto thine own fields; for thou art worthy of death: but I will not at this time put thee to death, because thou barest the ark of the Lord GOD before David my father, and because thou hast been afflicted in all wherein my father was afflicted. 27 So Solomon thrust out Abiathar from being priest unto the LORD; that he might fulfil the word of the LORD, which he spake concerning the house of Eli in Shiloh.*") We almost need a playbook to keep track of this role of characters.

Shimei son of Gera

2Sam 19:16-17 "hasted and came" with 1,000 men of Benjamin

(And Ziba the servant of the house of Saul, and his fifteen sons, and his twenty servants with him
19:17) For the next character of this study.

19:18-20 Shimei's change of heart

19:21 Response of David's men.

19:22-23 David's response.

Remember what Shimei did while David fled into exile. 2Sam 16:5-8

5 ¶ And when king David came to Bahurim, behold, thence came out a man of the family of the house of Saul, whose name was Shimei, the son of Gera: he came forth, and cursed still as he came.

6 And he cast stones at David, and at all the servants of king David: and all the people and all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left.

7 And thus said Shimei when he cursed, Come out, come out, thou bloody man, and thou man of Belial:

8 The LORD hath returned upon thee all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose stead thou hast reigned; and the LORD hath delivered the kingdom into the hand of Absalom thy son: and, behold, thou art taken in thy mischief, because thou art a bloody man.

Learn from David's response to Shimei's cursing: 16:9-12

9 Then said Abishai the son of Zeruiah unto the king, Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? let me go over, I pray thee, and take off his head.

10 And the king said, What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah? so let him curse, because the LORD hath said unto him, Curse David. Who shall then say, Wherefore hast thou done so?

11 And David said to Abishai, and to all his servants, Behold, my son, which came forth of my bowels, seeketh my life: how much more now may this Benjamite do it? let him alone, and let him curse; for the LORD hath bidden him.

12 It may be that the LORD will look on mine affliction, and that the LORD will requite me good for his cursing this day.

18 -23 Note the King's future dealings with Shimei.

David Advises Solomon "1Kings2:8 And, behold, thou hast with thee Shimei the son of Gera, a Benjaminite of Bahurim, which cursed me with a grievous curse in the day when I went to Mahanaim: but he came down to meet me at Jordan, and I sware to him by the LORD, saying, I will not put thee to death with the sword.

9 Now therefore hold him not guiltless: for thou art a wise man, and knowest what thou oughtest to do unto him; but his hoar head bring thou down to the grave with blood."

And Solomon's slaying of Shimei...

1Ki 2:36 And the king sent and called for Shimei, and said unto him, Build thee an house in Jerusalem, and dwell there, and go not forth thence any whither.

1Ki 2:38 And Shimei said unto the king, The saying is good: as my lord the king hath said, so will thy servant do. And Shimei dwelt in Jerusalem many days.

1Ki 2:39 And it came to pass at the end of three years, that two of the servants of Shimei ran away unto Achish son of Maachah king of Gath. And they told Shimei, saying, Behold, thy servants be in Gath.

1Ki 2:40 And Shimei arose, and saddled his ass, and went to Gath to Achish to seek his servants: and Shimei went, and brought his servants from Gath.

1Ki 2:41 And it was told Solomon that Shimei had gone from Jerusalem to Gath, and was come again.

1Ki 2:42 And the king sent and called for Shimei, and said unto him, Did I not make thee to swear by the LORD, and protested unto thee, saying, Know for a certain, on the day thou goest out, and walkest abroad any whither, that thou shalt surely die? and thou saidst unto me, The word that I have heard is

good.

1Ki 2:44 *The king said moreover to Shimei, Thou knowest all the wickedness which thine heart is privy to, that thou didst to David my father: therefore the LORD shall return thy wickedness upon thine own head;*

Ziba servant of Saul's household

In David's exile, Ziba slanders Mephibosheth. 2Sam 16:1-4,

1 ¶ *And when David was a little past the top of the hill, behold, Ziba the servant of Mephibosheth met him, with a couple of asses saddled, and upon them two hundred loaves of bread, and an hundred bunches of raisins, and an hundred of summer fruits, and a bottle of wine.*

2 *And the king said unto Ziba, What meanest thou by these? And Ziba said, The asses be for the king's household to ride on; and the bread and summer fruit for the young men to eat; and the wine, that such as be faint in the wilderness may drink.*

3 *And the king said, And where is thy master's son? And Ziba said unto the king, Behold, he abideth at Jerusalem: for he said, To day shall the house of Israel restore me the kingdom of my father.*

4 *Then said the king to Ziba, Behold, thine are all that pertained unto Mephibosheth. And Ziba said, I humbly beseech thee that I may find grace in thy sight, my lord, O king.*

In David's return Ziba meets David. 2Sam 19:17

17 *And there were a thousand men of Benjamin with him, and Ziba the servant of the house of Saul, and his fifteen sons and his twenty servants with him; and they went over Jordan before the king.*

Mephibosheth comes to meet David: 19:24 ¶ *And Mephibosheth the son of Saul came down to meet the king, and had neither dressed his feet, nor trimmed his beard, nor washed his clothes, from the day the king departed until the day he came again in peace. 25-28*

David's "conflict avoidance" 19:29-30

Barzillai the Gileadite

Meets David 2Sam19:32-33

What Barzillai did at David's flight into exile...17:27 *And it came to pass, when David was come to Mahanaim, that Shobi the son of Nahash of Rabbah of the children of Ammon, and Machir the son of Ammiel of Lodebar, and Barzillai the Gileadite of Rogelim,*

28 *Brought beds, and basons, and earthen vessels, and wheat, and barley, and flour, and parched corn, and beans, and lentiles, and parched pulse,*

29 *And honey, and butter, and sheep, and cheese of kine, for David, and for the people that were with him, to eat: for they said, The people is hungry, and weary, and thirsty, in the wilderness.*

***The Worth of an old man 19:34-38

David Advises Solomon "1Kings2:7 *But shew kindness unto the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite, and let them be of those that eat at thy table: for so they came to me when I fled because of Absalom thy brother.*"

Barzillai's Servant Chimham's habitation is used for a refuge to Johanan after he slew vile Ishmael who slew Gadaliah. Jer 41:17

Barzillai's Sons mentioned in Ezra 2:61, and Neh 7:63, still serving after the Babylonian exile!