

1 Samuel 14:50

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the name of Saul's wife was Ahinoam, the daughter of Ahimaaz: and the name of the captain of his host was Abner, the son of Ner, Saul's uncle.

Analysis

And the name of Saul's wife was Ahinoam, the daughter of Ahimaaz: and the name of the captain of his host was Abner, the son of Ner, Saul's uncle.

Saul's wife Ahinoam and his military commander Abner are introduced. Abner, 'the son of Ner, Saul's uncle,' held the crucial position of army commander. This family appointment kept military power within Saul's clan but would create future conflict when Abner supported Ishbosheth against David (2 Samuel 2-3). The brief domestic information humanizes Saul while establishing relationships that will prove significant in the transition to David's reign.

Historical Context

Ahinoam's name means 'my brother is delight.' Military command by kinsmen was common practice, ensuring loyalty in this crucial position. Abner's role as king-maker for Ishbosheth and eventual defection to David demonstrates the importance of this relationship.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does family appointment to key positions create both loyalty and future problems?
2. What does this domestic information contribute to our understanding of Saul?

Interlinear Text

וְשֵׁם ׀	אֵת נִשְׂתִּי	שָׁאוּל:	אֶחָיוֹ עִם	בֵּת	אֶחָיוֹ עַץ
And the name	wife	Saul's	was Ahinoam	the daughter	of Ahimaaz
H8034	H802	H7586	H293	H1323	H290
וְשֵׁם ׀	שָׂר	צָבָאוֹ	אֶבְיָר	בֶּן	נֵר ׀ דָּוִד
And the name	of the captain	of his host	was Abner	the son	of Ner uncle
H8034	H8269	H6635	H74	H1121	H5369 H1730
שָׁאוּל:					
Saul's					
H7586					

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 2:8 (Parallel theme): But Abner the son of Ner, captain of Saul's host, took Ish-bosheth the son of Saul, and brought him over to Mahanaim;