

# 1 Samuel 25:43

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

David also took Ahinoam of Jezreel; and they were also both of them his wives.

## Analysis

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**David also took Ahinoam of Jezreel; and they were also both of them his wives.**

The narrative notes David's polygamy without explicit moral comment. Ahinoam of Jezreel (a town in Judah, not the northern valley) became David's wife apparently during this same period. The phrase 'both of them his wives' acknowledges the reality that ancient Near Eastern rulers commonly had multiple wives. This practice, while tolerated in the Old Testament, consistently produced family conflict—David's household would later suffer severely from the complications of polygamy. The narrative records without endorsing, demonstrating Scripture's honest portrayal of figures it otherwise commends. David's acquisition of multiple wives foreshadows troubles his household would endure.

## Historical Context

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Multiple wives indicated status and provided political alliances in ancient Near Eastern culture. The Mosaic law regulated but did not prohibit polygamy (Deuteronomy 21:15-17). David eventually had at least eight wives, contributing to family dysfunction.

## Related Passages

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[John 3:16](#) — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does Scripture's honest recording of David's polygamy differ from endorsement?
2. What complications did multiple marriages create for David's household and succession?

## Interlinear Text

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בְּם תִּתְהִלֵּי יְלִקְחֶנָּה אֲחִינָה עַמּוֹ אֶת  
H853 Ahinoam also took David of Jezreel H1961 H1571  
H293 H3947 H1732 H3157

שְׁתִיָּה | לְנֶשֶׁים:  
and they were also both of them his wives

H8147 H802

## Additional Cross-References

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**Joshua 15:56** (Parallel theme): And Jezreel, and Jokdeam, and Zanoah,

**1 Samuel 27:3** (References David): And David dwelt with Achish at Gath, he and his men, every man with his household, even David with his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelite, and Abigail the Carmelite, Nabal's wife.

**1 Samuel 30:5** (References David): And David's two wives were taken captives, Ahinoam the Jezreelite, and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite.

**2 Samuel 3:2** (References David): And unto David were sons born in Hebron: and his firstborn was Amnon, of Ahinoam the Jezreelite;