

# 2 Samuel 15

Chapter 15 of 24 · 37 Verses · Authorized King James Version

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## Absalom's Conspiracy

<sup>1</sup> And it came to pass after this, that Absalom prepared him chariots and horses, and fifty men to run before him.

<sup>2</sup> And Absalom rose up early, and stood beside the way of the gate: and it was so, that when any man that had a controversy came to the king for judgment, then Absalom called unto him, and said, Of what city art thou? And he said, Thy servant is of one of the tribes of Israel.

<sup>3</sup> And Absalom said unto him, See, thy matters are good and right; but there is no man deputed of the king to hear thee.

<sup>4</sup> Absalom said moreover, Oh that I were made judge in the land, that every man which hath any suit or cause might come unto me, and I would do him justice!

<sup>5</sup> And it was so, that when any man came nigh to him to do him obeisance, he put forth his hand, and took him, and kissed him.

<sup>6</sup> And on this manner did Absalom to all Israel that came to the king for judgment: so Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.

<sup>7</sup> And it came to pass after forty years, that Absalom said unto the king, I pray thee, let me go and pay my vow, which I have vowed unto the LORD, in Hebron.

<sup>8</sup> For thy servant vowed a vow while I abode at Geshur in Syria, saying, If the LORD shall bring me again indeed to Jerusalem, then I will serve the LORD.

<sup>9</sup> And the king said unto him, Go in peace. So he arose, and went to Hebron.

<sup>10</sup> But Absalom sent spies throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, As soon as ye hear the sound of the trumpet, then ye shall say, Absalom reigneth in Hebron.

**11** And with Absalom went two hundred men out of Jerusalem, that were called; and they went in their simplicity, and they knew not any thing.

**12** And Absalom sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counsellor, from his city, even from Giloh, while he offered sacrifices. And the conspiracy was strong; for the people increased continually with Absalom.

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### **David Flees Jerusalem**

**13** And there came a messenger to David, saying, The hearts of the men of Israel are after Absalom.

**14** And David said unto all his servants that were with him at Jerusalem, Arise, and let us flee; for we shall not else escape from Absalom: make speed to depart, lest he overtake us suddenly, and bring evil upon us, and smite the city with the edge of the sword.

**15** And the king's servants said unto the king, Behold, thy servants are ready to do whatsoever my lord the king shall appoint.

**16** And the king went forth, and all his household after him. And the king left ten women, which were concubines, to keep the house.

**17** And the king went forth, and all the people after him, and tarried in a place that was far off.

**18** And all his servants passed on beside him; and all the Cherethites, and all the Pelethites, and all the Gittites, six hundred men which came after him from Gath, passed on before the king.

**19** Then said the king to Ittai the Gittite, Wherefore goest thou also with us? return to thy place, and abide with the king: for thou art a stranger, and also an exile.

**20** Whereas thou camest but yesterday, should I this day make thee go up and down with us? seeing I go whither I may, return thou, and take back thy brethren: mercy and truth be with thee.

**21** And Ittai answered the king, and said, As the LORD liveth, and as my lord the king liveth, surely in what place my lord the king shall be, whether in death or life, even there also will thy servant be.

**22** And David said to Ittai, Go and pass over. And Ittai the Gittite passed over, and all his men, and all the little ones that were with him.

**23** And all the country wept with a loud voice, and all the people passed over: the king also himself passed over the brook Kidron, and all the people passed over, toward the way of the wilderness.

**24** And lo Zadok also, and all the Levites were with him, bearing the ark of the covenant of God: and they set down the ark of God; and Abiathar went up, until all the people had done passing out of the city.

**25** And the king said unto Zadok, Carry back the ark of God into the city: if I shall find favour in the eyes of the LORD, he will bring me again, and shew me both it, and his habitation:

**26** But if he thus say, I have no delight in thee; behold, here am I, let him do to me as seemeth good unto him.

**27** The king said also unto Zadok the priest, Art not thou a seer? return into the city in peace, and your two sons with you, Ahimaaz thy son, and Jonathan the son of Abiathar.

**28** See, I will tarry in the plain of the wilderness, until there come word from you to certify me.

**29** Zadok therefore and Abiathar carried the ark of God again to Jerusalem: and they tarried there.

**30** And David went up by the ascent of mount Olivet, and wept as he went up, and had his head covered, and he went barefoot: and all the people that was with him covered every man his head, and they went up, weeping as they went up.

**31** And one told David, saying, Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom. And David said, O LORD, I pray thee, turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness.

**32** And it came to pass, that when David was come to the top of the mount, where he worshipped God, behold, Hushai the Archite came to meet him with his coat rent, and earth upon his head:

**33** Unto whom David said, If thou passest on with me, then thou shalt be a burden unto me:

**34** But if thou return to the city, and say unto Absalom, I will be thy servant, O king; as I have been thy father's servant hitherto, so will I now also be thy servant: then mayest thou for me defeat the counsel of Ahithophel.

**35** And hast thou not there with thee Zadok and Abiathar the priests? therefore it shall be, that what thing soever thou shalt hear out of the king's house, thou shalt tell it to Zadok and Abiathar the priests.

**36** Behold, they have there with them their two sons, Ahimaaz Zadok's son, and Jonathan Abiathar's son; and by them ye shall send unto me every thing that ye can hear.

**37** So Hushai David's friend came into the city, and Absalom came into Jerusalem.

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## HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

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### **Covenant** — בְּרִית (Berit)

Covenant, treaty

The Hebrew **berit** (בְּרִית) denotes a covenant—a binding agreement, often ratified by blood sacrifice. God's covenants (Abrahamic, Mosaic, Davidic) structure redemptive history, culminating in the New Covenant.

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### **Forgive** — נָשָׂא / סָלַח (Salach / Nasa)

To forgive, pardon, lift up

The Hebrew **salach** (סָלַח) is used exclusively of God's forgiveness—divine pardon that only He can grant. **Nasa** (נָשָׂא) means to lift up or carry away, picturing sin being removed.

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**God** — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

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**Judgment** — מִשְׁפָּט (Mishpat)

Judgment, justice

The Hebrew **mishpat** (מִשְׁפָּט) means judgment or justice—God's righteous decisions and ordinances. God is the Judge of all the earth who 'shall do right' (Genesis 18:25), executing perfect justice.

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**Lord** — אֲדֹנָי / יְהוָה (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יְהוָה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

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**Mercy** — רַחֲמִים (Rachamim)

Compassion, mercy

The Hebrew **rachamim** (רַחֲמִים) derives from 'womb' (rechem), suggesting tender, maternal compassion. God's mercies are 'new every morning' (Lamentations 3:23), showing His compassionate nature.

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**Priest** — כֹּהֵן (Kohen)

Priest

The Hebrew **kohen** (כֹּהֵן) denotes a priest—one who mediates between God and people through sacrifices and intercession. Aaron and his descendants served as Israel's priests, foreshadowing Christ the Great High Priest.

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**Sacrifice** — זֶבַח (Zevach)

Sacrifice, offering

The Hebrew **zevach** (זֶבַח) denotes a sacrifice or offering—an animal slaughtered for worship. Old Testament sacrifices foreshadowed Christ, 'the Lamb of God' (John 1:29).

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**Truth** — אֱמֶת (Emet)

Truth, faithfulness

The Hebrew **emet** (אֱמֶת) means truth or faithfulness—reliability and conformity to reality. God is true (emet), utterly faithful to His word and character.

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**Word** — דָּבָר (Davar)

Word, thing, matter

The Hebrew **davar** (דָּבָר) means word, thing, or matter—God's creative and authoritative speech. 'By the word of the LORD were the heavens made' (Psalm 33:6).

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**CROSS REFERENCES**


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**2 Samuel 15:1**    **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 12:11; 1 Samuel 8:11; 1 Kings 1:5; Psalms 20:7

**2 Samuel 15:4**    **Parallel theme:** Judges 9:29; Proverbs 25:6; 27:2; 2 Peter 2:19

**2 Samuel 15:5**    **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 14:33; Psalms 55:21; Proverbs 26:25

**2 Samuel 15:6** **Parallel theme:** Romans 16:18. **Judgment:** 2 Peter 2:3

**2 Samuel 15:7** **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 58:4

**2 Samuel 15:8** **References Lord:** 1 Samuel 1:11

**2 Samuel 15:11** **Parallel theme:** 1 Samuel 9:13; 22:15

**2 Samuel 15:12** **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 17:14; 17:23; Joshua 15:51; Psalms 41:9.

**References David:** 2 Samuel 15:31

**2 Samuel 15:13** **Parallel theme:** Judges 9:3; Matthew 27:22. **References Israel:** 2 Samuel 15:6

**2 Samuel 15:14** **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 19:9

**2 Samuel 15:15** **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 18:24

**2 Samuel 15:16** **Parallel theme:** Psalms 3:1; Romans 12:2. **Kingdom:** 2 Samuel 20:3

**2 Samuel 15:18** **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 8:18; 20:7; 20:23; 1 Samuel 30:14. **Kingdom:** 1 Kings 1:38; 1 Chronicles 18:17

**2 Samuel 15:19** **Kingdom:** 2 Samuel 18:2

**2 Samuel 15:20** **Parallel theme:** 1 Samuel 23:13. **Truth:** 2 Samuel 2:6. **Grace:** John 1:17

**2 Samuel 15:21**

**Parallel theme:** Proverbs 17:17; 18:24; 2 Corinthians 7:3. **References Lord:** 2 Kings 2:2; 2:4; 2:6; 4:30; Acts 11:23; 21:13

**2 Samuel 15:23** **Kingdom:** 2 Samuel 16:2. **Parallel theme:** 1 Kings 2:37; John 18:1

**2 Samuel 15:24** **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 8:17; 20:25; Numbers 4:15; 1 Samuel 22:20

**2 Samuel 15:25** **References Lord:** Psalms 26:8; Jeremiah 25:30. **References God:** Psalms 84:10. **Parallel theme:** Exodus 15:13

**2 Samuel 15:26**

**Good:** 1 Samuel 3:18. **Light:** 2 Samuel 22:20; Numbers 14:8; 1 Kings 10:9; 2 Chronicles 9:8; Isaiah 62:4

**2 Samuel 15:27** **Parallel theme:** 1 Samuel 9:9. **Kingdom:** 2 Samuel 17:17

**2 Samuel 15:28**    **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 15:23; 17:16

**2 Samuel 15:30**    **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 19:4; Esther 6:12; Ezekiel 24:17; 24:23

**2 Samuel 15:31**    **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 17:23; Job 5:12; Psalms 41:9; Isaiah 19:3; 1 Corinthians 1:20; James 3:15. **References Lord:** 2 Samuel 17:14; Psalms 3:1. **References David:** 2 Samuel 15:12; 16:23

**2 Samuel 15:32**    **Parallel theme:** Joshua 16:2. **References David:** 2 Samuel 1:2

**2 Samuel 15:33**    **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 19:35

**2 Samuel 15:36**    **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 15:27; 17:17

**2 Samuel 15:37**    **Parallel theme:** 1 Chronicles 27:33

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