

# 2 Samuel 2:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass after this, that David enquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go up into any of the cities of Judah? And the LORD said unto him, Go up. And David said, Whither shall I go up? And he said, Unto Hebron.

## Analysis

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**And it came to pass after this, that David enquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go up into any of the cities of Judah? And the LORD said unto him, Go up. And David said, Whither shall I go up? And he said, Unto Hebron.**

This verse contributes to the narrative of David Becomes King of Judah, emphasizing divine timing, patience in promises. The Hebrew vayyimloch (וַיַּמְלֹךְ, 'and he reigned') marks David's official royal status over Judah at Hebron. The seven-year period before ruling all Israel demonstrates patient trust in God's timing. Theological themes include divine election, the gradual unfolding of God's promises through historical process, and the reality that human resistance to God's plans produces genuine suffering.

## Historical Context

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The historical setting of 2 Samuel 2 occurs during David's reign (circa 1010-970 BCE) over Israel's united monarchy. Archaeological discoveries, including the Tel Dan inscription mentioning the 'House of David,' corroborate biblical historicity. Ancient Near Eastern customs regarding divine timing, patience in promises provide crucial background. The geopolitical situation involved regional powers—Philistines, Ammonites, Arameans, Moabites, Edomites—as David consolidated and

expanded Israel's territory. Cultural practices concerning kingship, warfare, covenant relationships, family dynamics, and religious observance differed significantly from modern Western contexts, requiring careful attention to avoid anachronistic interpretation while extracting timeless theological principles applicable across cultures and eras.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of divine timing, patience in promises?
2. What does this verse reveal about God's character, and how should that shape your worship and obedience?
3. In what specific ways can you apply this truth to your current circumstances and relationships this week?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיְהִי	אַחֲרֵי	כִּי	וַיְשָׁאַל	כִּי	וַיְהִי	וְיַהְיֶה
H1961	<b>And it came to pass after this</b>	H3651	<b>enquired</b>	<b>And David</b>	<b>And the LORD</b>	
	H310		H7592	H1732		H3068
וַיֹּאמֶר	אָעַל	בָּאֶחָת	עָרָי	וְיַהְיֶה	וַיֹּאמֶר	
<b>And he said</b>	<b>Shall I go up</b>	<b>into any</b>	<b>of the cities</b>	<b>of Judah</b>	<b>And he said</b>	
H559	H5927	H259	H5892	H3063	H559	
אָעַל	אָעַל	וַיֹּאמֶר	וְיַהְיֶה	אָעַל	אָעַל	
<b>And the LORD</b>	H413	<b>Shall I go up</b>	<b>And he said</b>	<b>And David</b>	H575	<b>Shall I go up</b>
H3068		H5927	H559	H1732		H5927
וְיַהְיֶה	חֶבְרוֹן:					
<b>And he said</b>	<b>Unto Hebron</b>					
H559	H2275					

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Samuel 23:2** (References Lord): Therefore David enquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go and smite these Philistines? And the LORD said unto David, Go, and smite the Philistines, and save Keilah.

**1 Samuel 30:31** (References David): And to them which were in Hebron, and to all the places where David himself and his men were wont to haunt.

**Genesis 32:2** (Parallel theme): And when Jacob saw them, he said, This is God's host: and he called the name of that place Mahanaim.

**1 Samuel 23:4** (References Lord): Then David enquired of the LORD yet again. And the LORD answered him and said, Arise, go down to Keilah; for I will deliver the Philistines into thine hand.