

# 2 Samuel 20:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Amasa wallowed in blood in the midst of the highway.  
And when the man saw that all the people stood still, he removed Amasa out of the highway into the field, and cast a cloth upon him, when he saw that every one that came by him stood still.

## Analysis

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**And Amasa wallowed in blood in the midst of the highway. And when the man saw that all the people stood still, he removed Amasa out of the highway into the field, and cast a cloth upon him, when he saw that every one that came by him stood still.**

This verse contributes to the narrative of Sheba's Rebellion, emphasizing ongoing challenges to authority. Sheba's rebellion demonstrates that David's troubles continue despite Absalom's defeat. The wise woman's intervention prevents unnecessary bloodshed. Theological themes include ongoing resistance to God's appointed leader, the value of wisdom in crisis resolution, the danger of divisive rhetoric, and God's provision of unexpected solutions through unlikely people.

## Historical Context

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The historical setting of 2 Samuel 20 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 ongoing challenges to authority 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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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of ongoing challenges to authority?
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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כָּאָה הַמַּסֵּלָה הַבֵּית וְכִי בַדָּם מִתְגַּלֵּל לְעַמָּשָׁא א	כָּאָה הַמַּסֵּלָה הַבֵּית וְכִי בַדָּם מִתְגַּלֵּל לְעַמָּשָׁא א	כָּאָה הַמַּסֵּלָה הַבֵּית וְכִי בַדָּם מִתְגַּלֵּל לְעַמָּשָׁא א	כָּאָה הַמַּסֵּלָה הַבֵּית וְכִי בַדָּם מִתְגַּלֵּל לְעַמָּשָׁא א	כָּאָה הַמַּסֵּלָה הַבֵּית וְכִי בַדָּם מִתְגַּלֵּל לְעַמָּשָׁא א	כָּאָה הַמַּסֵּלָה הַבֵּית וְכִי בַדָּם מִתְגַּלֵּל לְעַמָּשָׁא א
Amasa	wallowed	in blood	in the midst	of the highway	saw
H6021	H1556	H1818	H8432	H4546	H7200
וַיִּסָּב הָעָם כָּל יַעֲמֹד: כִּי הָאִישׁ	וַיִּסָּב הָעָם כָּל יַעֲמֹד: כִּי הָאִישׁ	וַיִּסָּב הָעָם כָּל יַעֲמֹד: כִּי הָאִישׁ	וַיִּסָּב הָעָם כָּל יַעֲמֹד: כִּי הָאִישׁ	וַיִּסָּב הָעָם כָּל יַעֲמֹד: כִּי הָאִישׁ	וַיִּסָּב הָעָם כָּל יַעֲמֹד: כִּי הָאִישׁ
And when the man	by him stood still	that all the people	he removed		
H376	H5975	H5971	H5437		
בְּגָד עָלָיו וַשֵּׁל וְהַשְׂדֵּה הַמַּסֵּלָה הַמֵּן עַמָּשָׁא אֶת	בְּגָד עָלָיו וַשֵּׁל וְהַשְׂדֵּה הַמַּסֵּלָה הַמֵּן עַמָּשָׁא אֶת	בְּגָד עָלָיו וַשֵּׁל וְהַשְׂדֵּה הַמַּסֵּלָה הַמֵּן עַמָּשָׁא אֶת	בְּגָד עָלָיו וַשֵּׁל וְהַשְׂדֵּה הַמַּסֵּלָה הַמֵּן עַמָּשָׁא אֶת	בְּגָד עָלָיו וַשֵּׁל וְהַשְׂדֵּה הַמַּסֵּלָה הַמֵּן עַמָּשָׁא אֶת	בְּגָד עָלָיו וַשֵּׁל וְהַשְׂדֵּה הַמַּסֵּלָה הַמֵּן עַמָּשָׁא אֶת
Amasa	of the highway	into the field	and cast		a cloth
H6021	H4546	H7704	H7993		H899
וַיַּעֲמֹד: עַל יוֹ הַבָּא כָּל כָּאָה הַבָּא שׂר	וַיַּעֲמֹד: עַל יוֹ הַבָּא כָּל כָּאָה הַבָּא שׂר	וַיַּעֲמֹד: עַל יוֹ הַבָּא כָּל כָּאָה הַבָּא שׂר	וַיַּעֲמֹד: עַל יוֹ הַבָּא כָּל כָּאָה הַבָּא שׂר	וַיַּעֲמֹד: עַל יוֹ הַבָּא כָּל כָּאָה הַבָּא שׂר	וַיַּעֲמֹד: עַל יוֹ הַבָּא כָּל כָּאָה הַבָּא שׂר
that every one that came	by him stood still				
H935	H5975				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 9:16** (Parallel theme): The LORD is known by the judgment which he executeth: the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands. Higgsion. Selah.