

# 2 Samuel 20:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he went through all the tribes of Israel unto Abel, and to Beth-maachah, and all the Berites: and they were gathered together, and went also after him.

## Analysis

**And he went through all the tribes of Israel unto Abel, and to Beth-maachah, and all the Berites: and they were gathered together, and went also after him.**

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

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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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

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

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Psalm 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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וְיֻתֵּן אָבֵל לְיִשְׂרָאֵל בְּכָל שָׁבֵט יִשְׂרָאֵל וְיַעֲבֹר ר  
And he went through all the tribes of Israel unto Abel H0  
H5674 H3605 H7626 H3478 H59

אֶת יְבָאֵל וְיַעֲבֹר יְמֵן מִעֵד הַבָּרִים וְיַעֲבֹר יְמֵן וְיַעֲבֹר לְהָרָן  
and to Bethmaachah and all the Berites and went H637 H7035 H1276 H3605 H1038

אַחֲרֵי:

also after

H310

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Kings 15:29** (References Israel): In the days of Pekah king of Israel came Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria, and took Ijon, and Abel-beth-maachah, and Janoah, and Kedesh, and Hazor, and Gilead, and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and carried them captive to Assyria.

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