

# 2 Samuel 20:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I am one of them that are peaceable and faithful in Israel:  
thou seekest to destroy a city and a mother in Israel: why wilt  
thou swallow up the inheritance of the LORD?

## Analysis

**I am one of them that are peaceable and faithful in Israel: thou seekest to destroy a city and a mother in Israel: why wilt thou swallow up the inheritance of the LORD?**

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

---

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

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

## Study Questions

---

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

---

אַנְכִּי	שָׁלָמִים	אָמֹן	בִּשְׁרָאֵל	אַתָּה
H595	I am one of them that are peaceable	H7999	and faithful	in Israel
H1245	thou seekest	H4191	to destroy	H5892
H517	a city	H3478	and a mother	H4100
H3068	in Israel			
תְּבֻלָּה	תְּבֻלָּה	יְהִי:		
why wilt thou swallow up	the inheritance	of the LORD		
H1104	H5159	H3068		

## Additional Cross-References

---

**1 Samuel 26:19** (References Lord): Now therefore, I pray thee, let my lord the king hear the words of his servant. If the LORD have stirred thee up against me, let him accept an offering: but if they be the children of men, cursed be they before the LORD; for they have driven me out this day from abiding in the inheritance of the LORD, saying, Go, serve other gods.

**2 Samuel 21:3** (References Lord): Wherefore David said unto the Gibeonites, What shall I do for you? and wherewith shall I make the atonement, that ye may bless the inheritance of the LORD?

**1 Timothy 2:2** (Peace): For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

**2 Samuel 17:16** (Parallel theme): Now therefore send quickly, and tell David, saying, Lodge not this night in the plains of the wilderness, but speedily pass over; lest the king be swallowed up, and all the people that are with him.

---

From KJV Study • [kjvstudy.org](http://kjvstudy.org)