

# 2 Samuel 20:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Ira also the Jairite was a chief ruler about David.

## Analysis

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**And Ira also the Jairite was a chief ruler about David.**

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

**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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|-------|---------|------------------|--------|-------------------|-------------|
| וְגַם | עִירָא  | הַיָּאֲרִי       | הָהוּא | כֹּהֵן            | לְדָוִד:    |
| H1571 | And Ira | also the Jairite | H1961  | was a chief ruler | about David |
|       | H5896   | H2972            |        | H3548             | H1732       |

## Additional Cross-References

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**Exodus 2:14** (Parallel theme): And he said, Who made thee a prince and a judge over us? intendest thou to kill me, as thou killedst the Egyptian? And Moses feared, and said, Surely this thing is known.

**2 Samuel 23:38** (Parallel theme): Ira an Ithrite, Gareb an Ithrite,