

# 2 Samuel 21:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it was told David what Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, the concubine of Saul, had done.

## Analysis

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**And it was told David what Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, the concubine of Saul, had done.**

This verse contributes to the narrative of Famine and Giants, emphasizing justice, covenant obligations. The three-year famine traced to Saul's treaty violation demonstrates God's demand for covenant faithfulness and justice. The execution of Saul's descendants and Rizpah's faithful vigil over their bodies presents complex ethical questions. The Philistine giant battles demonstrate ongoing threats. Theological themes include multi-generational covenant obligations, the high cost of treaty violations, God's demand for justice, and His provision of strength for continued battles.

## Historical Context

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The historical setting of 2 Samuel 21 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 justice, covenant obligations 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 justice, covenant obligations?
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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וַיִּגְדַּל	לְדָוִד	אֵת	אֲשֶׁר	עָשָׂה	רִצְפָּה	בֵּת
And it was told	David	H853	H834	had done	what Rizpah	the daughter
H5046	H1732			H6213	H7532	H1323
אֵיהָ	פֶּלֶא גִשָׁ	שָׁאוּל:				
of Aiah	the concubine	of Saul				
H345	H6370	H7586				