

2 Samuel 3:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the sixth, Ithream, by Eglah David's wife. These were born to David in Hebron.

Analysis

And the sixth, Ithream, by Eglah David's wife. These were born to David in Hebron.

This verse contributes to the narrative of Abner Defects and Dies, emphasizing political maneuvering, revenge consequences. This chapter illustrates the complexity of political transition and personal revenge. Abner's defection using covenant language (*brit, ברית*) contrasts with Joab's treacherous murder, demonstrating how personal vengeance undermines national purposes. The text develops themes of legitimate vs illegitimate authority, the corrupting power of revenge, and maintaining integrity when others act unethically.

Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 3 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 political maneuvering, revenge consequences 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

James 2:17 – Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of political maneuvering, revenge consequences?
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

וְיַלְדֵי	אֶלְהָה	לְדוֹד	אֶשְׁתּוֹ	לְעֵגֶל הַיְתְּרָעֵם	וְיַבְשֵׁשָׁה
And the sixth	Ithream	by Eglah	wife	David's	H428

לְדִין דְּבָרָרְיוֹן: in Hebron
David's H1732 H2275

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