



DAVID

“Heartly Perfect”

David and Abner

2 Samuel 1-4

Two Bald Men Fighting Over a Comb



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Verses 1-6

*I love you, Lord, my source of strength!
The Lord is my high ridge my stronghold, my
deliverer.*

*My God is my rocky summit where I take shelter,
my shield, the horn that saves me, and my refuge.
I called to the Lord, who is worthy of praise,
and I was delivered from my enemies.*

*The waves of death engulfed me,
the currents of chaos overwhelmed me.
The ropes of Sheol tightened around me,
the snares of death trapped me.*

*In my distress I called to the Lord;
I cried out to my God.*

*From his heavenly temple he heard my voice;
he listened to my cry for help.*

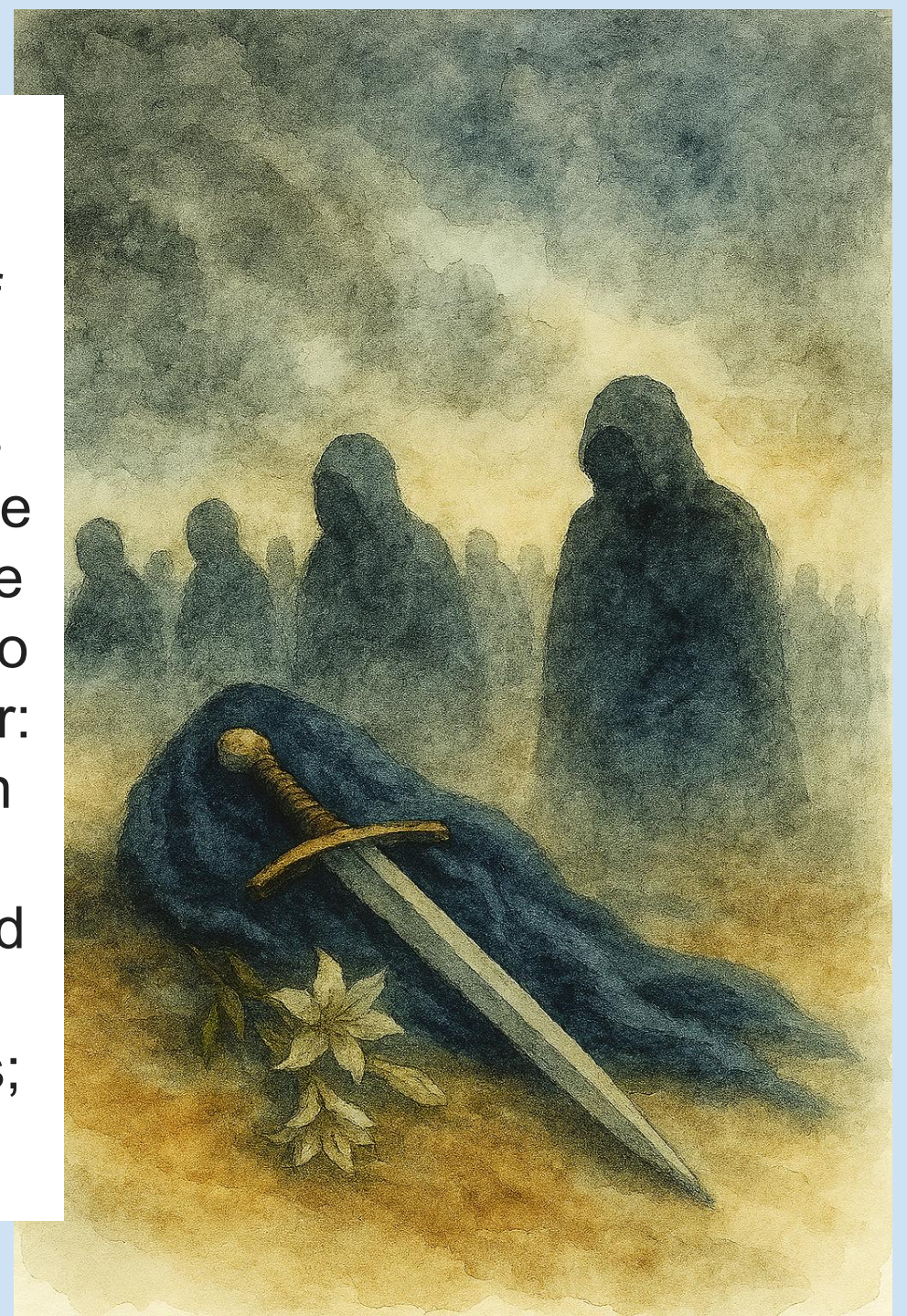
After the death of Saul, when David had returned from defeating the Amalekites, he stayed at Ziklag for two days. On the third day a man arrived from the camp of Saul with his clothes torn and dirt on his head. When he approached David, the man threw himself to the ground. David asked him, "Where are you coming from?" He replied, "I have escaped from the camp of Israel." David inquired, "How were things going? Tell me!" He replied, "The people fled from the battle and many of them fell dead. Even Saul and his son Jonathan are dead!" 2 Samuel 1:1-4



Now Abner son of Ner, the general in command of Saul's army, had taken Saul's son Ish Bosheth and had brought him to Mahanaim. He appointed him king over Gilead, the Geshurites, Jezreel, Ephraim, Benjamin, and all Israel. Ish Bosheth son of Saul was forty years old when he began to rule over Israel. He ruled two years. However, the people of Judah followed David. David was king in Hebron over the people of Judah for seven-and-a-half years. 2 Samuel 2:8-11



Then Abner son of Ner and the servants of Ish Bosheth son of Saul went out from Mahanaim to Gibeon. Joab son of Zeruiah and the servants of David also went out and confronted them at the pool of Gibeon. One group stationed themselves on one side of the pool, and the other group on the other side of the pool. Abner said to Joab, “Let the soldiers get up and fight before us.” Joab said, “So be it!” So they got up and crossed over by number: 12 belonging to Benjamin and to Ish Bosheth son of Saul, and 12 from the servants of David. As they grappled with one another, each one stabbed his opponent with his sword and they fell dead together. So that place is called the Field of Flints; it is in Gibeon. 2 Samuel 2:12-16





Then Abner turned and asked, “Is that you, Asahel?” He replied, “Yes it is!” Abner said to him, “Turn aside to your right or to your left. Capture one of the soldiers and take his equipment for yourself!” But Asahel was not willing to turn aside from following him. So Abner spoke again to Asahel, “Turn aside from following me! I do not want to strike you to the ground. How then could I show my face in the presence of Joab your brother?” But Asahel refused to turn aside. So Abner struck him in the abdomen with the back end of his spear. The spear came out his back; Asahel collapsed on the spot and died there right before Abner. Everyone who came to the place where Asahel fell dead paused in respect. So Joab and Abishai chased Abner. 2 Samuel 2:20-24



As the war continued between the house of Saul and the house of David, Abner was becoming more influential in the house of Saul. Now Saul had a concubine named Rizpah daughter of Aiah. Ish Bosheth said to Abner, “Why did you sleep with my father’s concubine?” These words of Ish Bosheth really angered Abner and he said, “Am I the head of a dog that belongs to Judah? This very day I am demonstrating loyalty to the house of Saul your father and to his relatives and his friends! I have not betrayed you into the hand of David. Yet you have accused me of sinning with this woman today! to turn to you.” 2 Samuel 3:6-8



So Joab went to the king and said, “What have you done? Abner has come to you. Why would you send him away? Now he’s gone on his way! You know Abner the son of Ner. Surely he came here to spy on you and to determine when you leave and when you return and to discover everything that you are doing!” Then Joab left David and sent messengers after Abner. They brought him back from the well of Sirah. (But David was not aware of it.) When Abner returned to Hebron, Joab took him aside at the gate as if to speak privately with him. Joab then stabbed him in the abdomen and killed him, avenging the shed blood of his brother Asahel. 2 Samuel 3:24-26

Two Sides to Every Story



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Verses 7-18

*The earth heaved and shook.
The roots of the mountains trembled;
they heaved because he was angry.
Smoke ascended from[ac] his nose;
fire devoured as it came from his mouth.*

*He hurled down fiery coals.
He made the sky sink as he descended;
a thick cloud was under his feet. . . .*

*The Lord thundered in the sky; the Most High shouted.
He shot his arrows and scattered them, many lightning bolts and
routed them.*

*The depths of the sea were exposed;
the inner regions of the world were uncovered
By your battle cry, Lord . . .*

*He reached down from above and took hold of me . . .
He rescued me from my strong enemy, from those who hate me,
for they were too strong for me . . . the Lord helped me.*

*He brought me out into a wide open place;
he delivered me because he was pleased with me.*



Afterward David inquired of the Lord, “Should I go up to one of the cities of Judah?” The Lord told him, “Go up.” David asked, “Where should I go?” The Lord replied, “To Hebron.” 2 Samuel 2:1



Then Abner called out to Joab, “Must the sword devour forever? Don’t you realize that this will turn bitter in the end? When will you tell the people to turn aside from pursuing their brothers?” Joab replied, “As surely as God lives, if you had not said this, it would have been morning before the people would have abandoned pursuit of their brothers.” Then Joab blew the ram’s horn and all the people stopped in their tracks. They stopped chasing Israel and ceased fighting.

2 Samuel 2:26-28



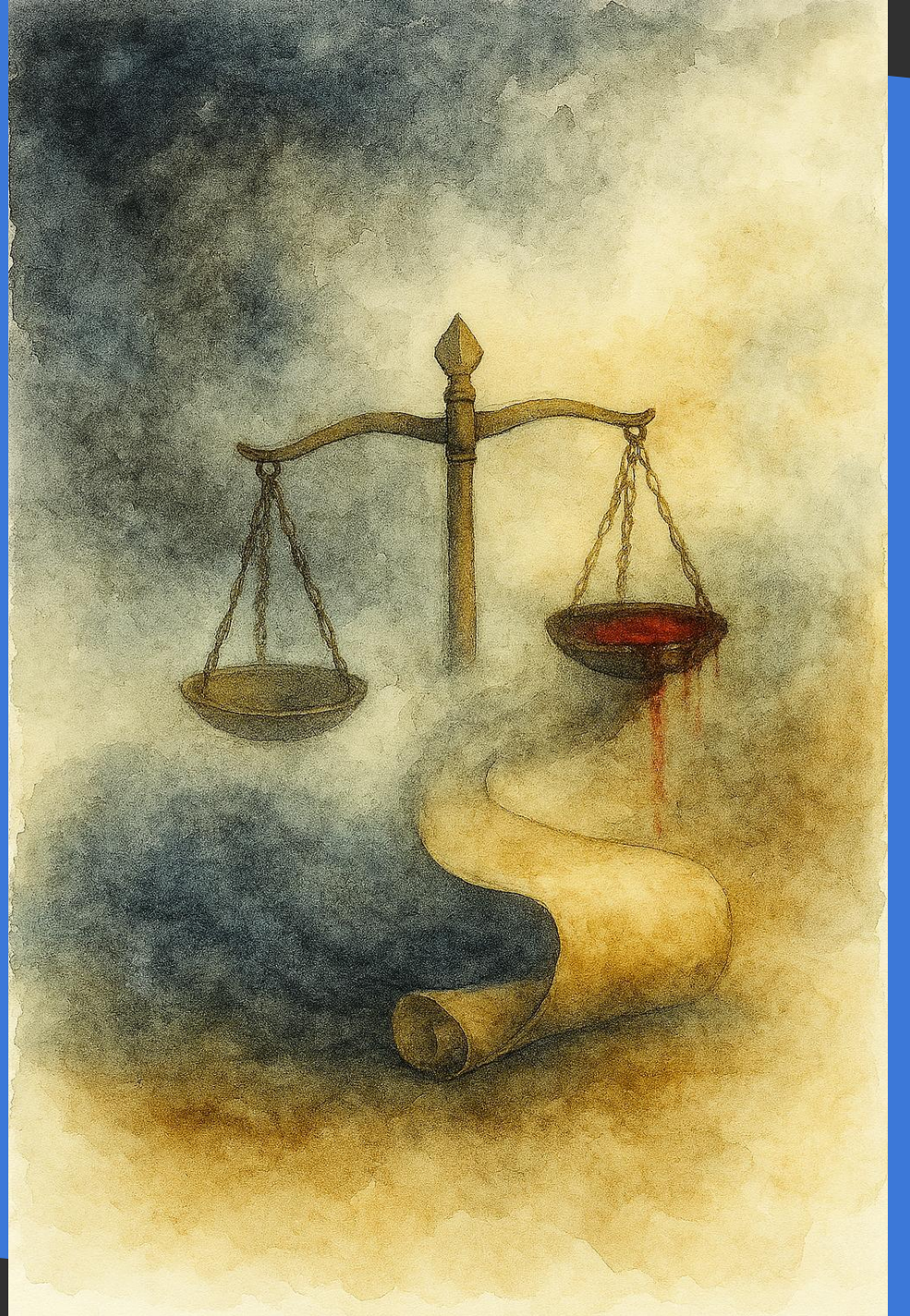
God will severely judge Abner if I do not do for David exactly what the Lord has promised him, namely, to transfer the kingdom from the house of Saul and to establish the throne of David over Israel and over Judah all the way from Dan to Beer Sheba!" Then Abner sent messengers to David saying, "To whom does the land belong? Make an agreement with me, and I will do whatever I can to cause all Israel to turn to you. 2 Samuel 3:9-12



Abner advised the elders of Israel, “Previously you were wanting David to be your king. Act now! For the Lord has said to David, ‘By the hand of my servant David I will save my people Israel from the Philistines and from all their enemies.’”

2 Samuel 3:17-18

Two Truths and a Lie



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Verses 20-26

*The Lord repaid me for my godly deeds; he
rewarded my blameless behavior.
For I have obeyed the Lord's commands;
I have not rebelled against my God.
For I am aware of all his regulations,
and I do not reject his rules.
I was innocent before him,
and kept myself from sinning.
The Lord rewarded me for my godly deeds;
he took notice of my blameless behavior.
You prove to be loyal to one who is faithful;
you prove to be trustworthy to one who is
innocent.
You prove to be reliable to one who is
blameless*

O daughters of Israel, weep over Saul,
who clothed you in scarlet as well as
jewelry, who put gold jewelry on your
clothes. How the warriors have fallen in
the midst of battle! Jonathan lies slain
on your high places! I grieve over you,
my brother Jonathan. You were very
dear to me. Your love was more special
to me than the love of women. How the
warriors have fallen! The weapons of
war are destroyed!" Afterward David
inquired of the Lord . . .

2 Samuel 1:24-2:1



All the people wept over him again.

Then all the people came and encouraged David to eat food while it was still day. But David took an oath saying, “God will punish me severely if I taste bread or anything whatsoever before the sun sets!” All the people noticed this and it pleased them. In fact, everything the king did pleased all the people. 37 All the people and all Israel realized on that day that the killing of Abner son of Ner was not done at the king’s instigation. 2 Samuel 3:35-37



Now sons were born to David in Hebron. His firstborn was Amnon, born to Ahinoam the Jezreelite. His second son was Kileab, born to Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite. His third son was Absalom, the son of Maacah daughter of King Talmai of Geshur. His fourth son was Adonijah, the son of Haggith. His fifth son was Shephatiah, the son of Abital. His sixth son was Ithream, born to David's wife Eglah. These sons were all born to David in Hebron. . . David sent messengers to Ish Bosheth son of Saul with this demand: "Give me my wife Michal whom I acquired for 100 Philistine foreskins." So Ish Bosheth took her from her husband Paltiel son of Laish. 16 Her husband went along behind her, weeping all the way to Bahurim. Finally Abner said to him, "Go back!" So he returned home. 2 Samuel 3:2-5, 14-16



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Verses 30-50

*The one true God acts in a faithful manner;
the Lord's promise is reliable.
He is a shield to all who take shelter in him.
Indeed, who is God besides the Lord?
Who is a protector besides our God?
The one true God gives me strength;
he removes the obstacles in my way . . .
You give me your protective shield;
your right hand supports me.
Your willingness to help enables me to prevail.
You widen my path;[dg]
my feet do not slip.
You give me strength for battle . . .
The Lord is alive!
My Protector is praiseworthy.
The God who delivers me is exalted as king.
The one true God completely vindicates me . . .
he is faithful to his chosen ruler.*