

LESSON 5: REBELLION WITHIN DAVID'S HOUSEHOLD

HOMEWORK

2nd Samuel: Chapters 13-14

Directions: Use your Study Bible, the internet, or any other study source to help you with these questions.

1. Read 2nd Samuel 13:1-20
 - Identify and characterize Absalom, Amnon, Tamar, Jonadab.
 - How did Amnon display lust rather than love?
 - How did Absalom act toward Tamar?
2. Read 2nd Samuel 13:21-39
 - How did David act toward Amnon?
 - What should have happened to Amnon according to Levitical Law (Leviticus 20:17)?
 - Explain Absalom's plan for Amnon?
3. Absalom carried out his plan.
 - How many years went by before Absalom killed Amnon?
 - Where did Absalom go after killing Amnon?
 - How many years did Absalom live in Geshur?
4. Read 2nd Samuel 14:1-24
 - What did Joab do to bring Absalom back to Jerusalem?
 - How did David react after hearing the woman's story?
 - How did David treat Absalom after he returned from Geshur?
5. Read 2nd Samuel 14:25-33
 - Describe Absalom's physical appearance.
 - Do you think Absalom repented of his sin against Amnon?
 - What did Absalom do to get an audience with David?

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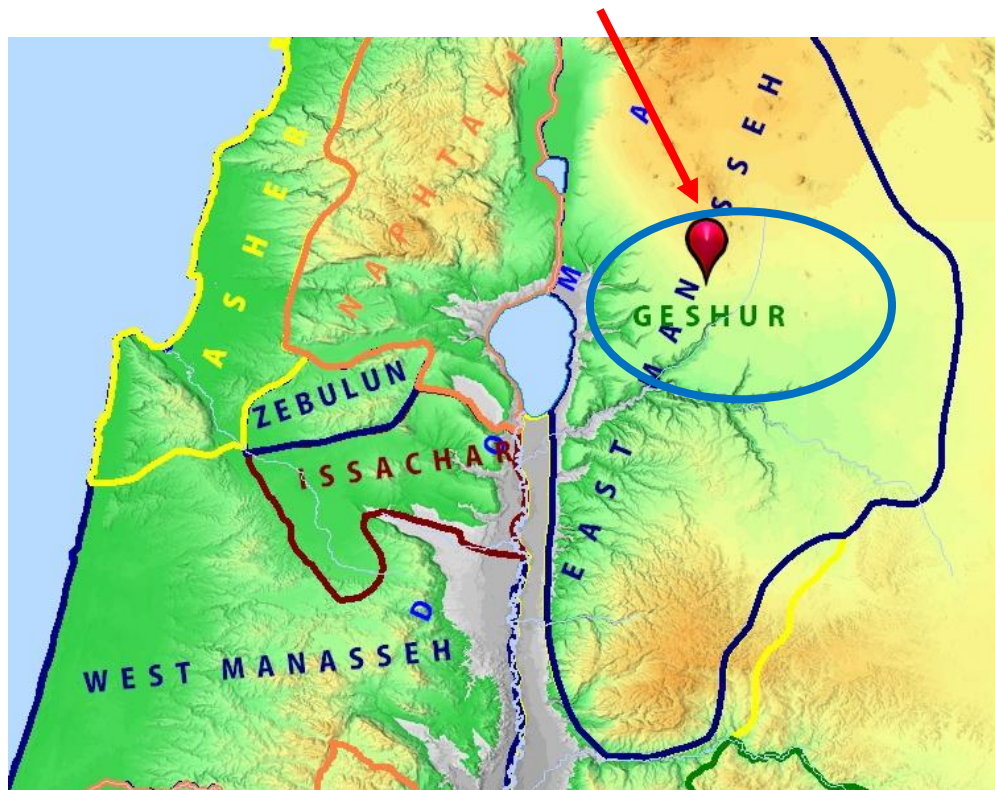
2ND SAMUEL CHAPTERS 13-14

CHAPTER 13: AMNON'S INCEST WITH TAMAR

Vs. 1-20: Amnon Defiles Tamar

- One of David's sons, Absalom, had a beautiful sister named **Tamar**. David fathered Tamar by Maacah, the daughter of Talmi, King of Geshur (Deuteronomy 17:17).

Geshur

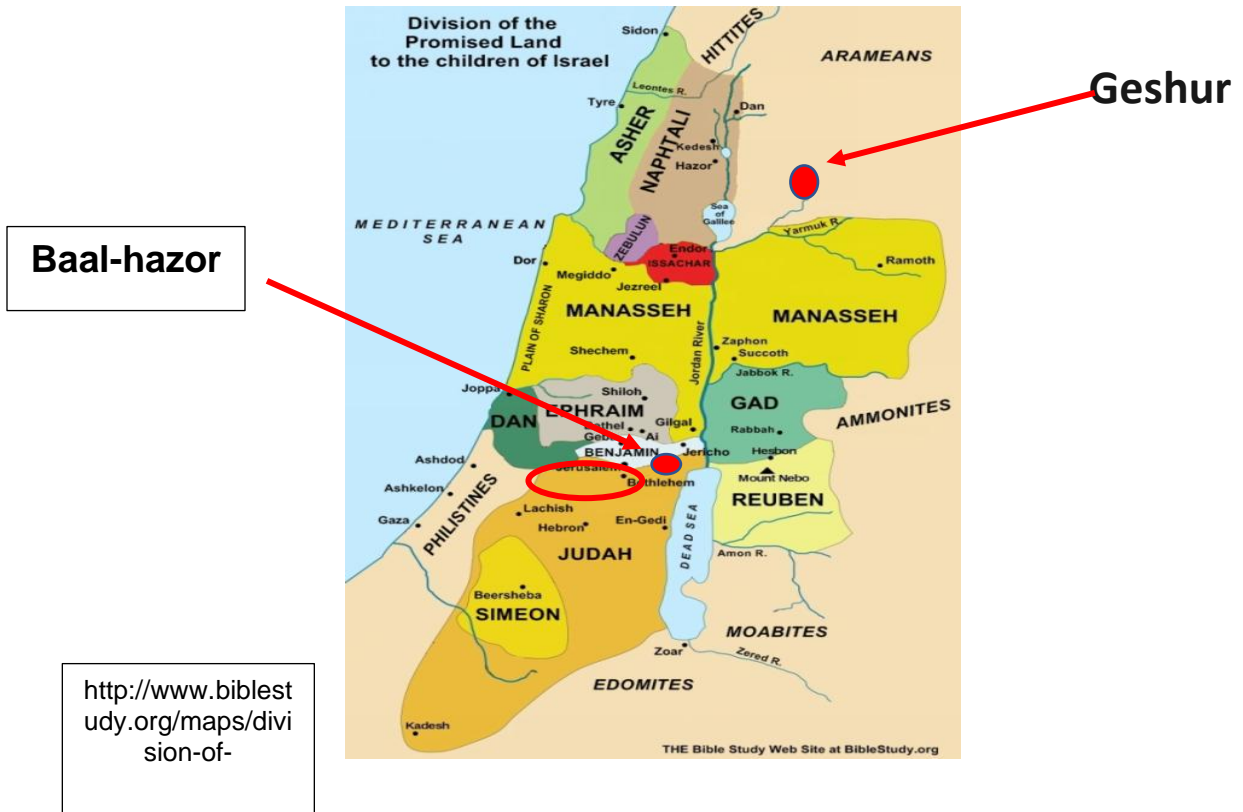


- <https://bleon1.wordpress.com/2012/04/14/the-land-of-geshur/>
Amnon, Tamar's half-brother, lusted after Tamar to the degree he made himself ill.
- **Jonadab**, Amnon's cousin, devised an evil plan for Amnon to get Tamar. He suggested when David came to see Amnon, Amnon should say he wanted Tamar to prepare a meal in his presence.

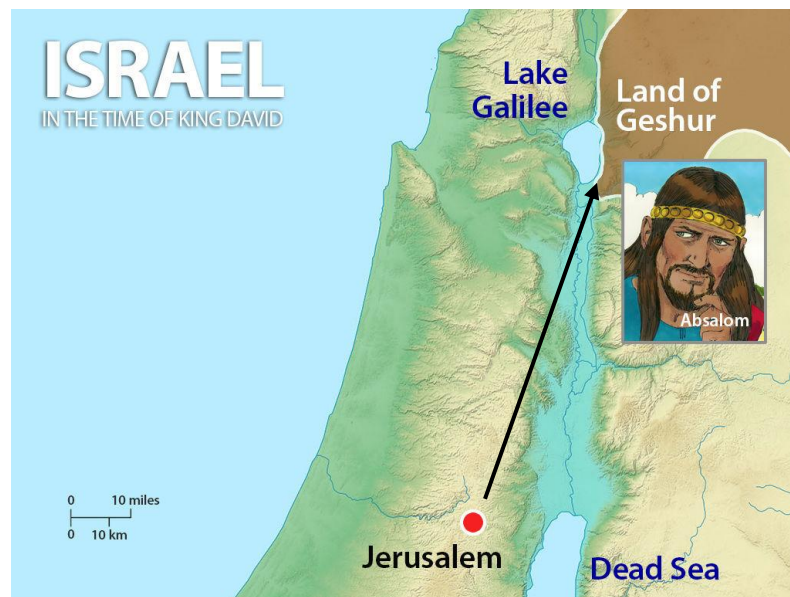
- After Tamar prepared the meal, Amnon ordered everyone out and insisted that Tamar feed him in his bedroom.
- As Tamar came to feed Amnon, he violated her after which his passion turned to **hatred**. He had Tamar thrown out of his presence.
- When Absalom, Tamar's brother, heard of this, he took Tamar to his home where she remained unmarried and childless.

Vs. 21-39-Absalom Kills Amnon

- After David heard of the incident with Amnon, he grew very angry.
- Apparently, David did not punish Amnon nor banish him from Israel (Leviticus 20:17).
- As David's **first born**, he may not have wanted to execute punishment on Amnon.
- Absalom, on the other hand, hated Amnon and refused to speak either good or bad to him.
- After two years, Absalom devised a plan to kill Amnon. Absalom planned a large banquet at Baal-hazor and invited his brothers, half-brothers, King David, and his servants.



- King David refused to go saying it would burden Absalom too much. Absalom asked if Amnon could go in David's place. David granted the request.
- Amnon might not have known David had chosen Solomon as the next king (2 Samuel 12:24-25).
- During the banquet Absalom had his servants kill Amnon. All David's sons mounted their mules and fled. A miscommunication came to David stating **all** his sons had died. David tore his clothes (a sign of mourning) and prostrated himself on the ground.
- **Jonadab**, David's nephew, corrected the story and told David that only Amnon had died. Perhaps, the misrepresentatives used the false report to soften the announcement about Amnon.
- After the murder, Absalom fled to Talmai, king of **Geshur** (east of the Sea of Galilee), Tamar's and Absalom's grandfather.



[http://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/davidabsalom/?ct=t\(Feb_2014_v_2\)&mc_cid=ee413a2d72&mc_eid=5442cda608](http://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/davidabsalom/?ct=t(Feb_2014_v_2)&mc_cid=ee413a2d72&mc_eid=5442cda608)

- Absalom lived in Geshur for three years. Absalom could not go to a city of refuge because of his premeditated murder (Numbers 35:9-12).

- During this time, David accepted the death of Amnon. However, he did not try to bring Absalom back even though he **grieved** for Absalom.

Cities of Refuge



<https://bleon1.wordpress.com/2013/11/05/kedesh-a-city-of-refuge/>

CHAPTER 14: ABSALOM RETURNS TO JERUSALEM

Vs. 1-24: Joab Convinces David to Bring Absalom back to Jerusalem

- **Joab**, the commander of the army and David's nephew (son of David's sister-Zeruah), devised a plan to bring Absalom to Jerusalem.
- David, torn between executing his family duty as a father toward Absalom and his royal duty as king, should have charged Absalom with murder.
- Joab sent for a wise woman from Tekoa, a village about 10 miles south of Jerusalem. Joab sent the woman to David dressed as a **mourner**.



Tekoa

<http://www.biblestudy.org/maps/division-of->

- The woman disguised herself as a widow with two sons. She said her sons had engaged in a fight while alone in the field. As a result of the fight, the one son killed the other.
- The woman's family wanted the son killed due to his murder. The woman pleaded for the safety of her son since she would have no posterity.
- David, apparently not wanting the blame for defending a **guilty** son, rebuffed the woman and told her to go home.
- The woman insisted she would bear the blame for defending the guilty son.
- David promised the woman's son protection for the sake of her lineage.

- The woman asked to speak frankly. When granted permission, the woman accused David of doing the same thing by **isolating** Absalom and leaving Israel without an heir.
- In devising this ploy, Joab might not have known David had planned for Solomon to inherit the throne.
- The woman told David that God does not take away life but plans a way for God to restore a **banished** one. (vs. 14). This perfect analogy represented God's plan for humanity by Christ's eventual death on the cross.
- David discerned, and the woman admitted Joab had fabricated this plot.
- David brought Absalom back but refused to see him.

Vs. 25-33: Absalom Seeks David's Presence

- Absalom appeared as the most **handsome** man in all Israel.
- Absalom would cut his hair once a year. His hair weighed 3.5-4 pounds.
- Absalom lived **two** years in Jerusalem without seeing David. David might have refused to see Absalom hoping he would seek repentance.
- It does not appear Absalom ever repented. Absalom asked Joab twice to come and help him gain access to the king.
- When Joab refused to come, Absalom had Joab's field set on fire.
- This grave injustice endangered the livelihood of Joab, his family, and his workers.
- The fire, however, resulted in Joab meeting with Absalom.



- It appears Absalom remained **unrepentant** in that he proposed an ultimatum for David rather than an apology.
- The ultimatum required Absalom to see the king and executed if found guilty of murder. Absalom must have felt confident David would not follow through with a death sentence.
- Joab relayed the message and David sent for Absalom. Absalom prostrated himself before David and David **kissed** him.

SUMMARY

Ephesians 4:31 states, “Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.” Such an attitude can literally ruin a person’s soul. Anger and bitterness have the potential of gradually eating away a person’s joy, love, or peace. Forgiveness, the only answer to anger and bitterness, allows one the ability to let go of a situation and hand it over to God.

Do not plan or wish harm and evil against anyone. Forgiveness does not erase the injustice done, but it relieves one’s soul from the poison of bitterness. Forgiveness does not mean you don’t care anymore; it means you have stopped planning revenge or retribution and have turned the situation over to God.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
2ND Samuel: Chapters 13-14

1. Scripture states Amnon hated Tamar after he defiled her.
 - A. Can you think of a sin that might look enticing?
 - B. What effect might that sin have on a person?
 - C. Read John 8:44 and 10:10. Jesus explained the behavior of Satan's work in a nonbeliever. How does Jesus explain the work of Satan?
 - D. What thoughts should we have when Satan tries to tempt us in getting revenge?

2. Apparently, David tried to overlook Amnon's sin.
 - A. Does society try to overlook sins today? Explain.
 - B. Why might we find it easier to overlook someone's sin rather than confront it?
 - C. Should we always confront someone who sins? Explain.
 - D. What does Galatians 6:1 say correcting a Christian brother?

3. David did not try to bring Absalom back after he killed Amnon.
 - A. What kept David from bringing Absalom back to Jerusalem?
 - B. Have you ever found it difficult to forgive someone who hurt you? Explain.
 - C. Do you find it more difficult or easier to forgive a fellow Christian who wronged you?
 - D. Have you experienced a time when you had to forgive another believer for a wrong they committed against you? Explain the results?

4. Absalom sought David's presence after returning to Jerusalem.
 - A. Why do you think Absalom wanted to see his father?
 - B. What did Absalom do in the presence of his father?
 - C. How does one act who pretends to repent?
 - D. How does one show true repentance?
 - E. Have you ever experienced the behavior of a person described in either "C" or "D?" Explain.

5. Read Ephesians 4:32.
 - A. How might these verses apply to one who has harmed you and has asked for forgiveness?
 - B. Explain the difference between forgiving and forgetting?
 - C. What might forgiving do to forgetting? Explain
 - D. What steps might we take to forgive someone who has wronged us?