

The Book of 2nd Samuel

SOURCES:

MacArthur. The MacArthur Study Bible. Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc., 2006.

Ryrie, Charles: Ryrie Study Bible: Expanded Edition. Chicago: The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, 1995.

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A Bible Study Through the Book of 2nd Samuel

12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

**LESSON 7: THE REBELLION
ENDS
2ND SAMUEL CHAPTERS 17-18**

CHAPTER 17: DAVID FLEES FROM ABSALOM

Vs. 1-23: Ahithophel and Hushai (*who-shy*) Give Absalom Contradictory Advice

- People knew Ahithophel, the grandfather of Bathsheba, “as if one inquired of the word of God.” Unfortunately, resentment and pride caused his downfall (Proverbs 16:18). [*]



<https://artcloud.market/art/david-in-flight-from-absalom-by-rg-jones>

- EIAM (*ah-lie-um*), Ahithophel's son and Bathsheba's father, ranked as one of David's might men. Uriah-Bathsheba's husband also ranked as one of David's might men.
- 2 Samuel 16:23 states that Ahithophel spoke as from the Lord (2nd Samuel 16:23). [*]
- Ahithophel, as a first step in resentment, attached himself to Absalom.



<https://artcloud.market/art/david-in-flight-from-absalom-by-rg-jones>

- After attaching himself to Absalom, Ahithophel persuaded Absalom to let him lead a 12,000-man army against David. (2nd Samuel 17:1-3)

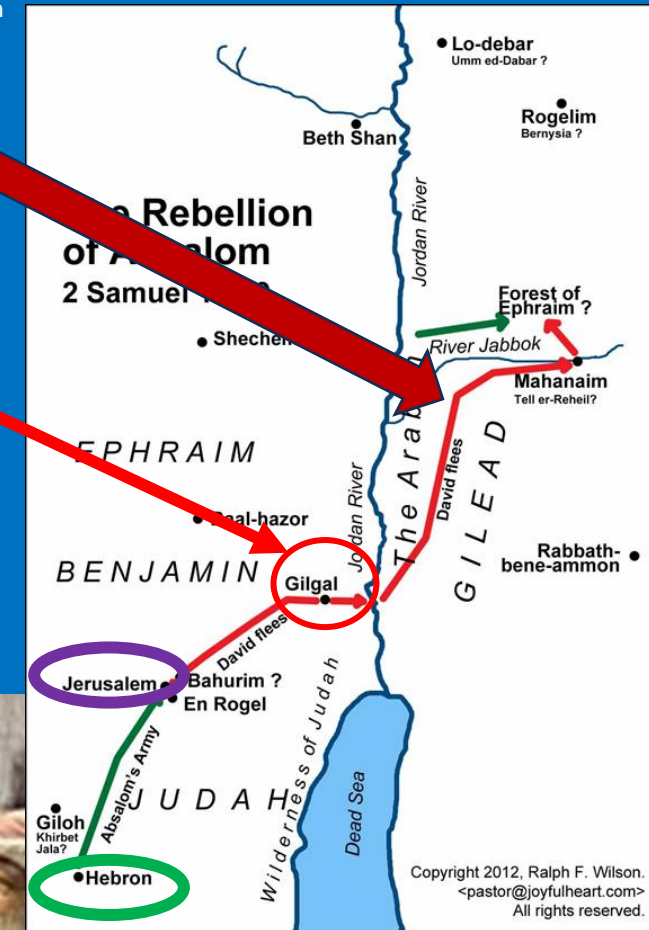
[*]

- Ahithophel apparently wanted the *glory* of battle and *revenge* against David. [*]

- Leave vengeance to the Lord. [*]

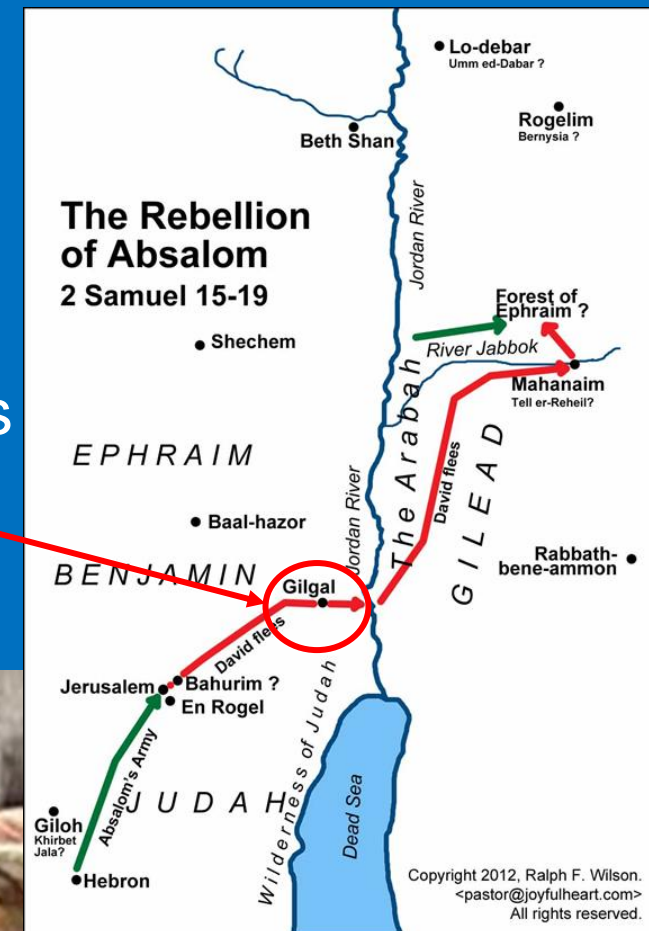
David's route of escape

Gilgal- "rolling away" reproach of Egypt- Israel enters the Promised Land and is circumcised.

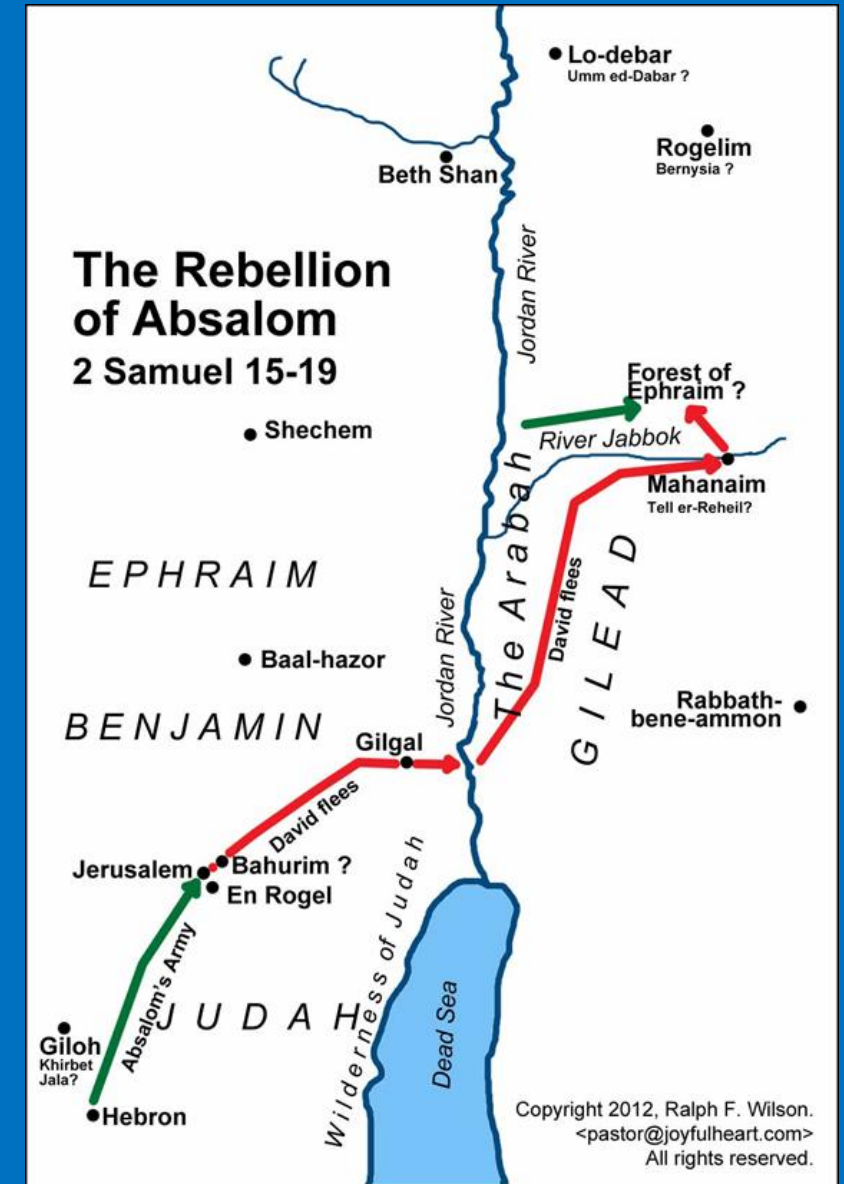


- Ahithophel told Absalom he would attack David while his men remained weary and exhausted.
- Ahithophel said he would kill David and bring the kingdom back to Absalom. At first, this plan pleased Absalom.

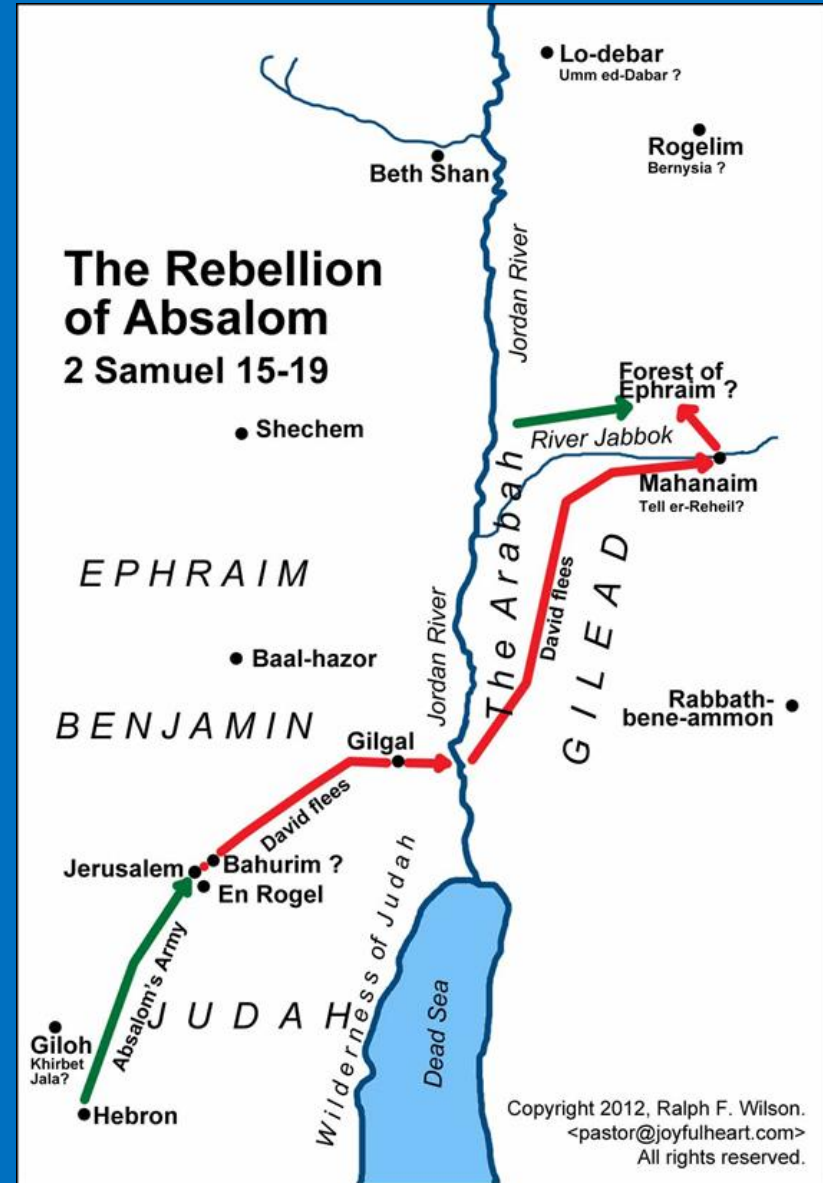
Gilgal- “rolling away”
reproach of Egypt-Israel
enters Promised Land and is
circumcised.



- Absalom wanted a second opinion, so he asked Hushai [who-shy] for his advice. Hushai, the spy for David and David's official counselor, gave Absalom another plan.

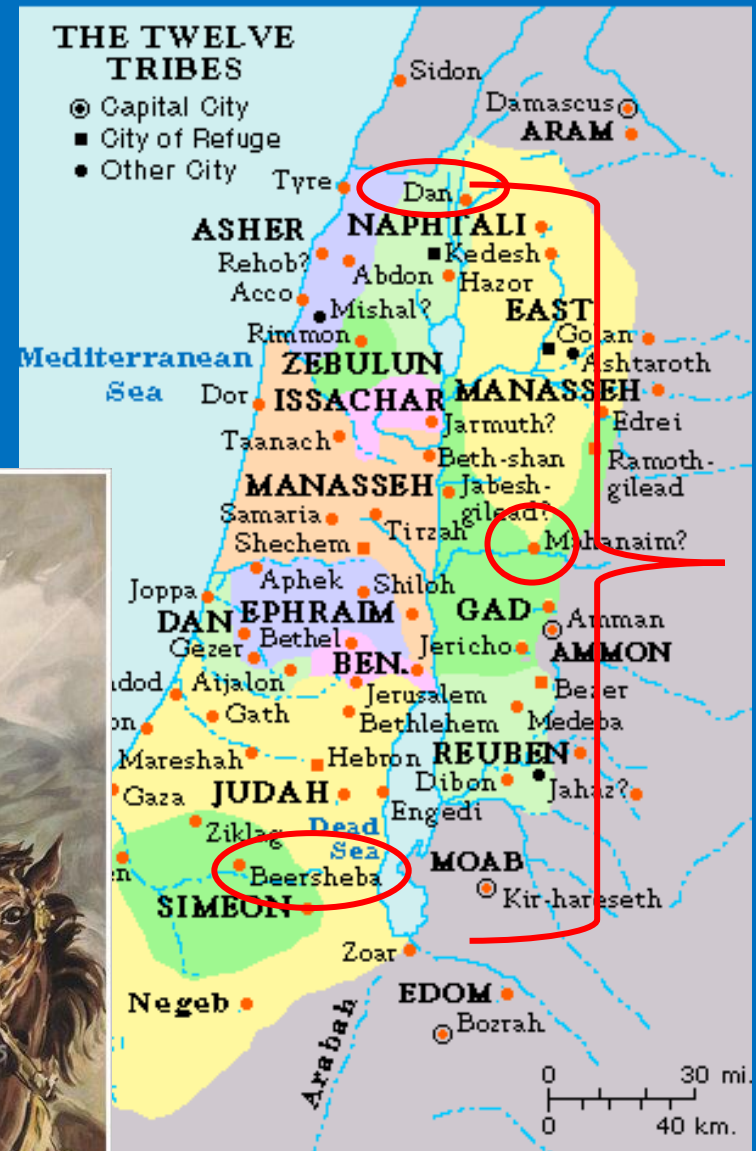


- David had prayed God would make foolish the council of Ahithophel. (2 Samuel 15:31-32). [✳]
- Hushai wanted to give David time to prepare for war and to play on Absalom's pride.



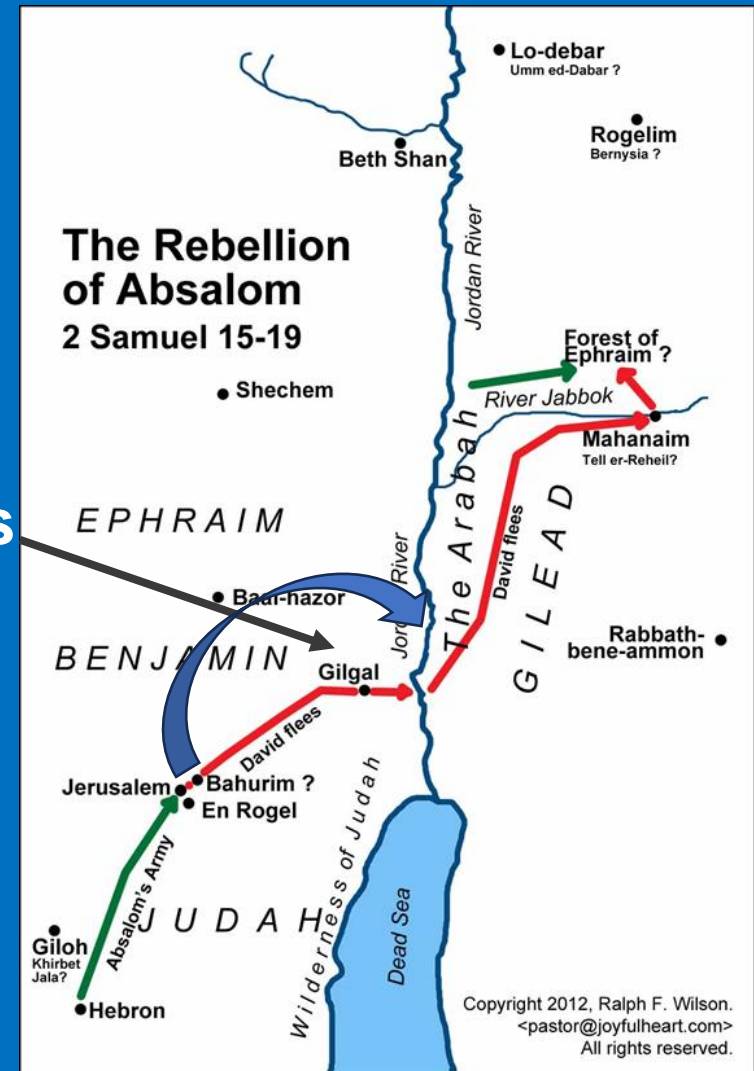
- Hushai [who-shy] recommended that Absalom gather all the men from Dan to Beersheba and lead the army into battle. Hushai advised Absalom to bring ropes to tear down walls of any city in which David might hide. [Satan tries to tear down God's laws-Romans 1:24;26-27) [*]

- Absalom accepted Hushai's plan over Ahithophel's.

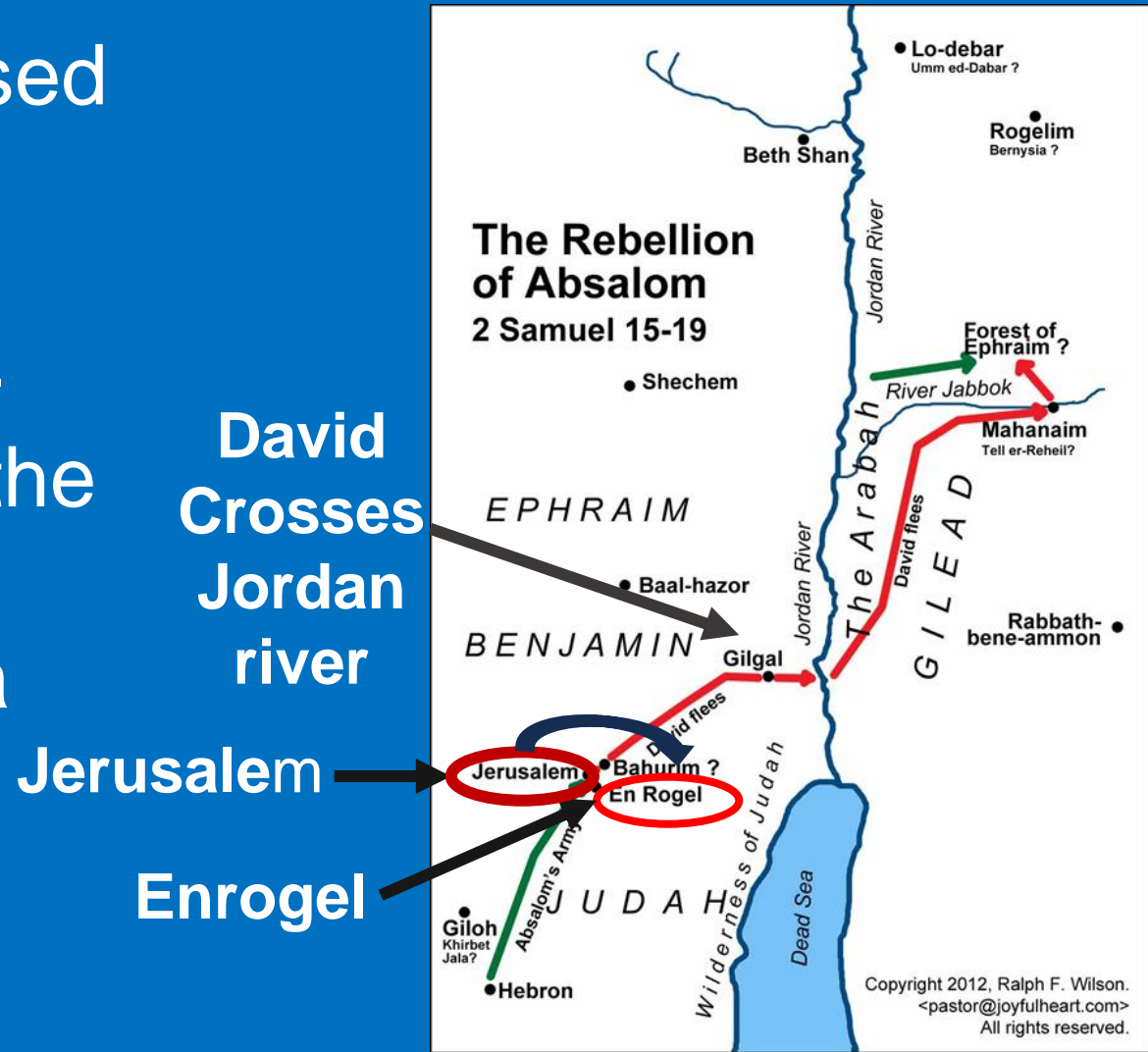


- As Hushai [who-shy] spied for David, he went to Zadok and Abiathar the priests and told them not to have David spend the night on the west side of the Jordan but on the east side.
- Hushai wanted to ensure David's safety in case Absalom changed his mind and followed Ahithophel's advice.

David
Crosses
Jordan
river



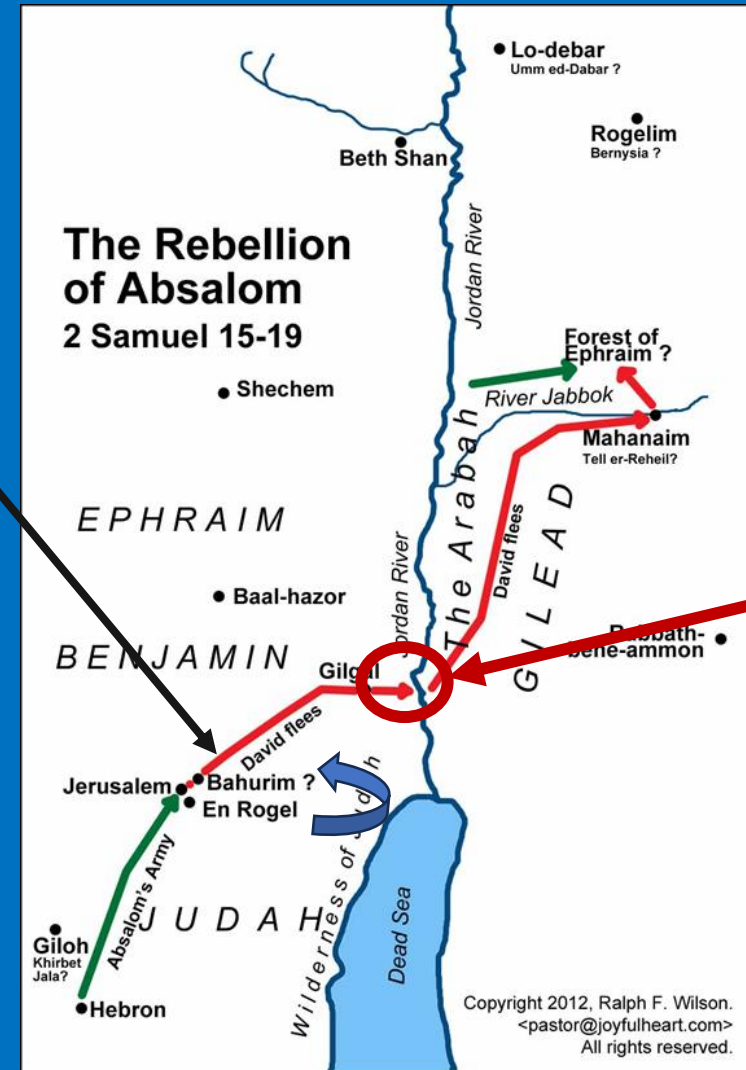
- Zadok and Abiathar passed the message on to their sons, Jonathan and Ahimaaz at En-rogel [in-row-gel]. They received the message by way of a maidservant. However, a young boy saw the transaction and told Absalom. [*]



- Realizing Absalom knew of the plot, Jonathan and Ahimaaz fled En-rogel and came to a man in Bahurim [ba-who-rim] who hid them in his well. Absalom's servants left since they could not find Jonathan and Ahimaaz.
- After their departure, Jonathan and Ahimaaz told David to cross over to the east side of the Jordan River.

**Bahurim
and En
Rogel**

**David's
Crossing
Point**

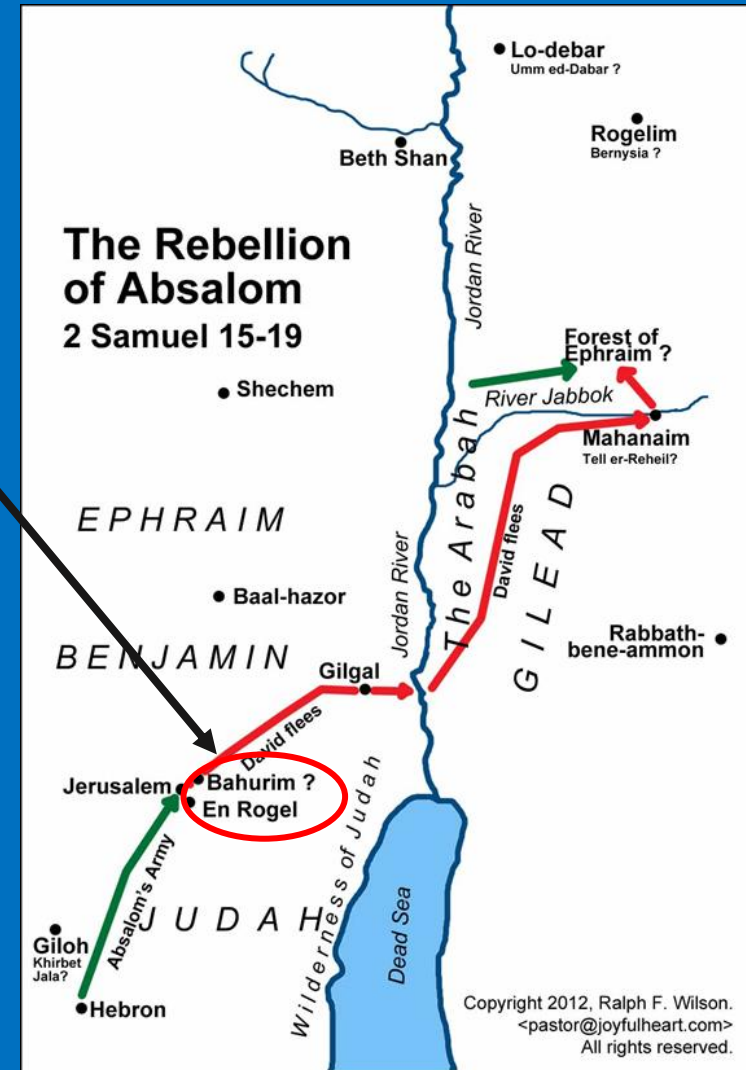


- When Ahithophel realized Absalom did not follow his counsel, he saddled his donkey, went home, got his house in order, and hanged himself.

Deuteronomy 18:20-22 [*]

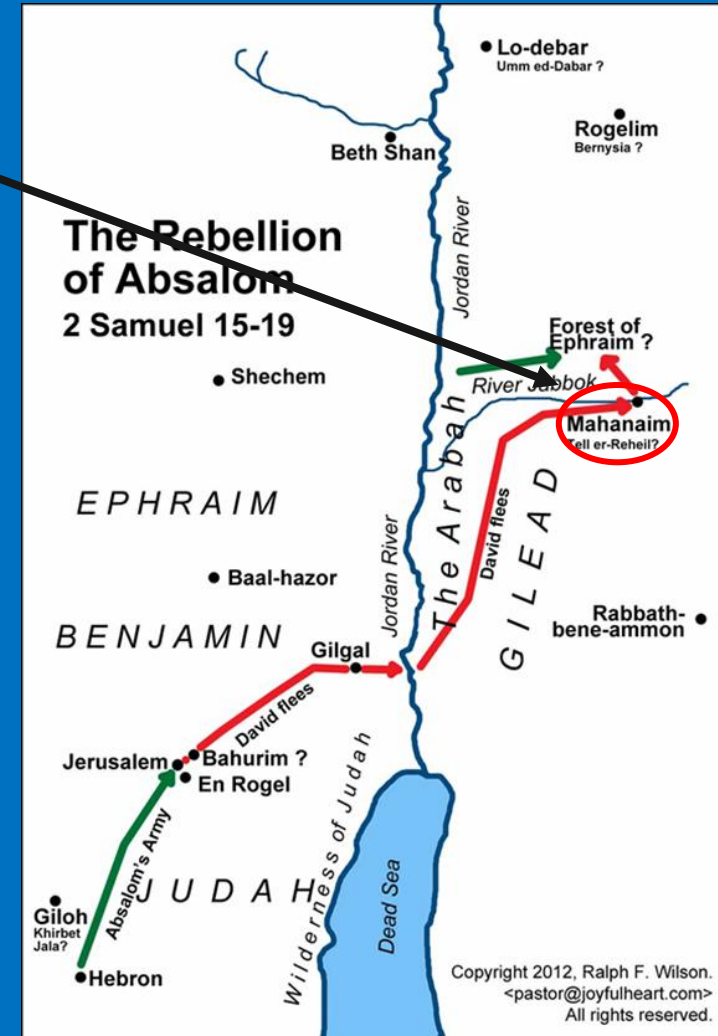
- Ahithophel's demise demonstrates what anger, revenge, and pride can do to a person.

Bahurim
and En
Rogel



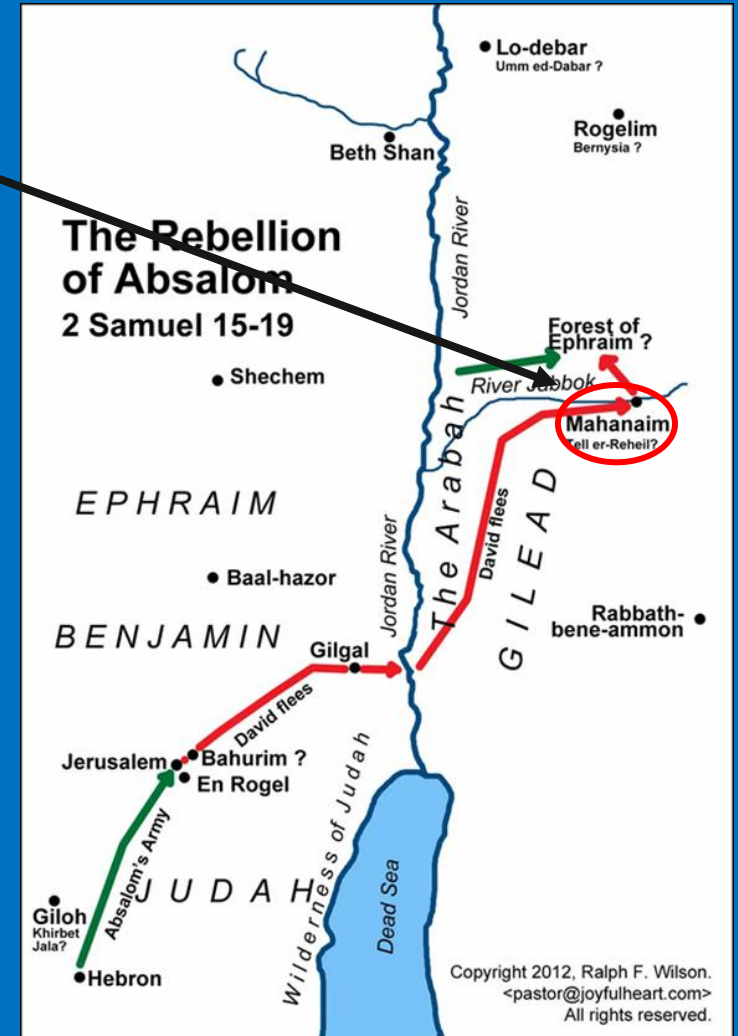
Vs. 24-29: David Crosses the Jordan

- David came to Mahanaim (Mahanaim [may-ha-na-um] means double camp—the angels' camp and Jacob's camp prior to wrestling with the angel) while Absalom crossed over the Jordan River.
- Now David will meet with God's pleasure.

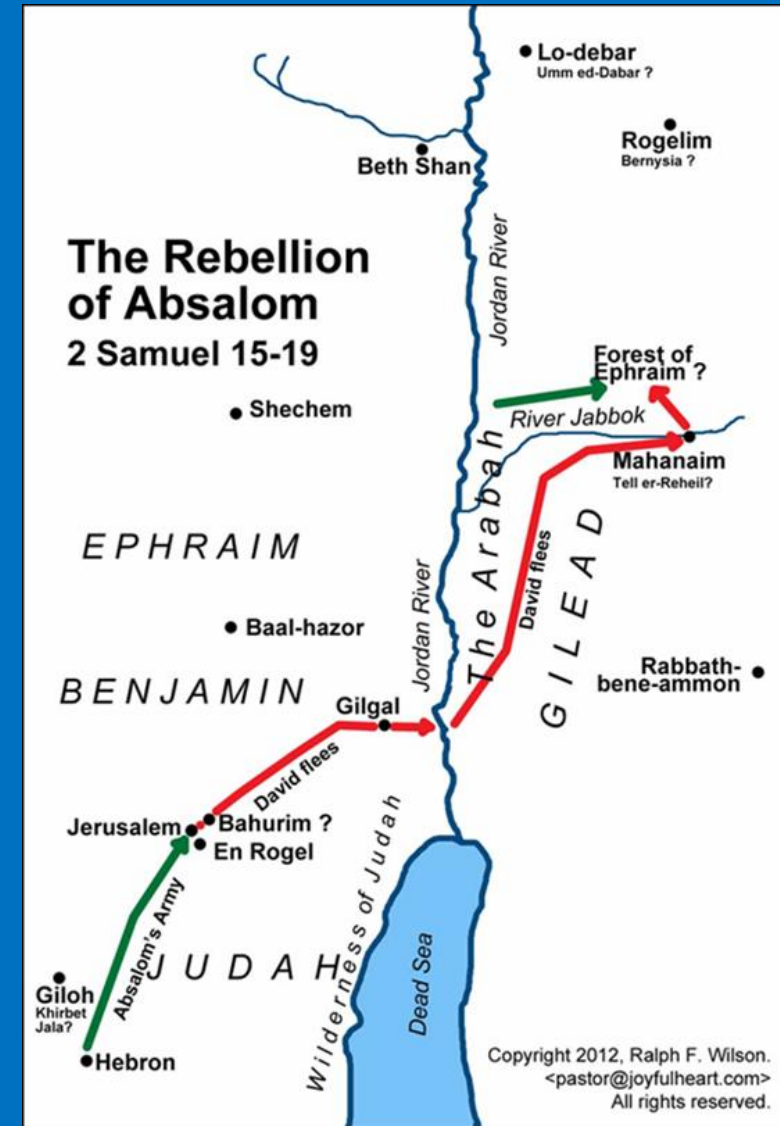


- Ish-bosheth reigned over Israel in Mahanaim, a city in Gilead, for two years.
- Apparently, the people of Mahanaim [may-ha-na-a-um] showed David kindness since they had given respect after Ish-bosheth's murder.
- God met Jacob in Mahanaim after leaving Paddan-aram with Rachel and Leah (Genesis 32:1-2). []

Mahanaim



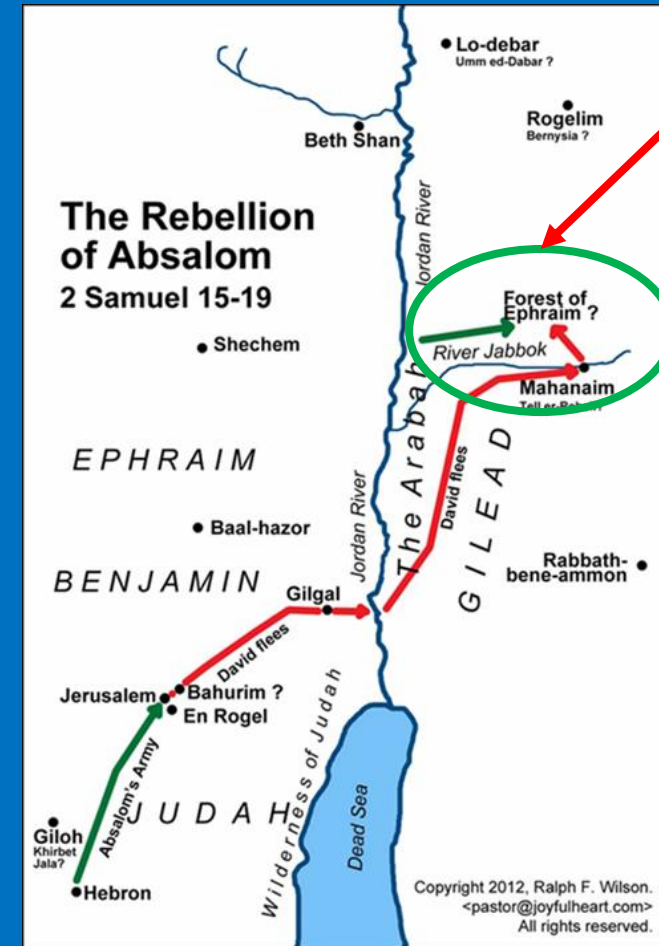
- Absalom also crossed the Jordan river with his army.
- When David arrived in Mahanaim [may-ha-na^u-um], Shobi [Show-bee], Machir [may-key-ear], and Barzillai [bar-za^u-lie] brought food and supplies to David and his men.
- Machir [may-key-ear] took care of Mephibosheth, Jonathan's son, while Jonathan and Saul fought the Philistines (2 Samuel 9:3-5). [] Machir-gift of hospitality. 1 Cor. 12:28 [*]



CHAPTER 18: ABSALOM DIES IN BATTLE

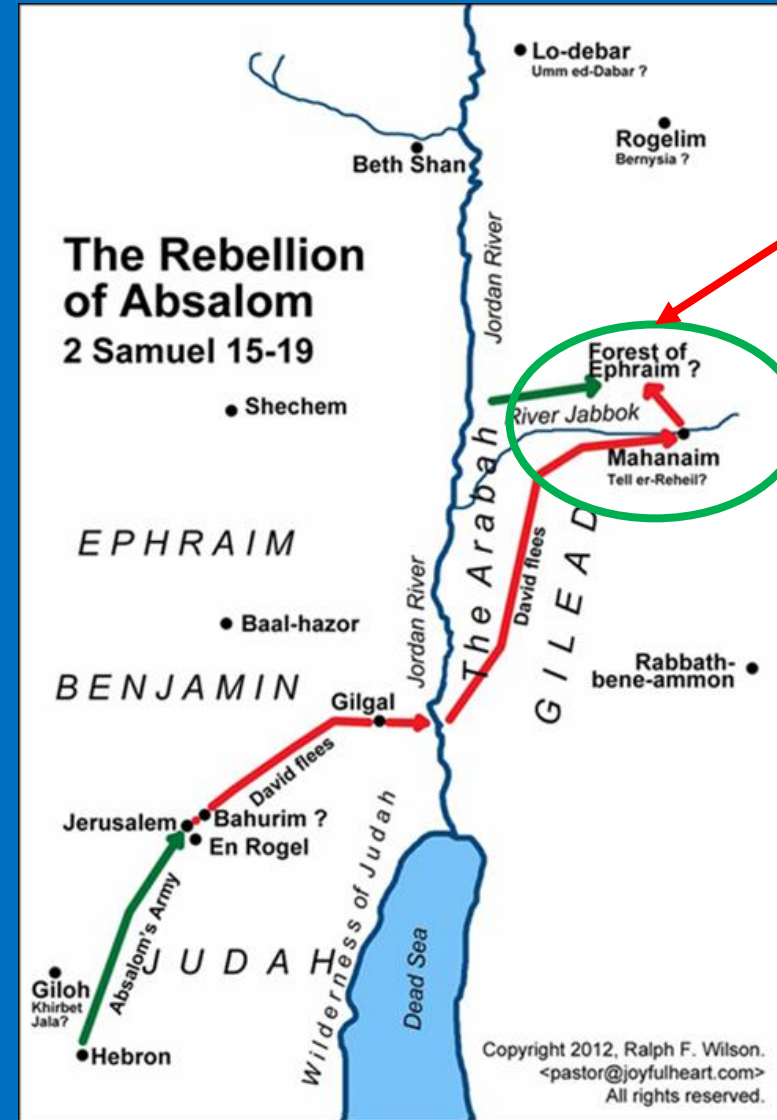
Vs. 1-33-David Warns His Commanders

- David divided his army among Joab, Abishai (Joab's brother), and Ittai (ee'-tie) who brought 600 men from Gath (2 Samuel 15:19-22). []



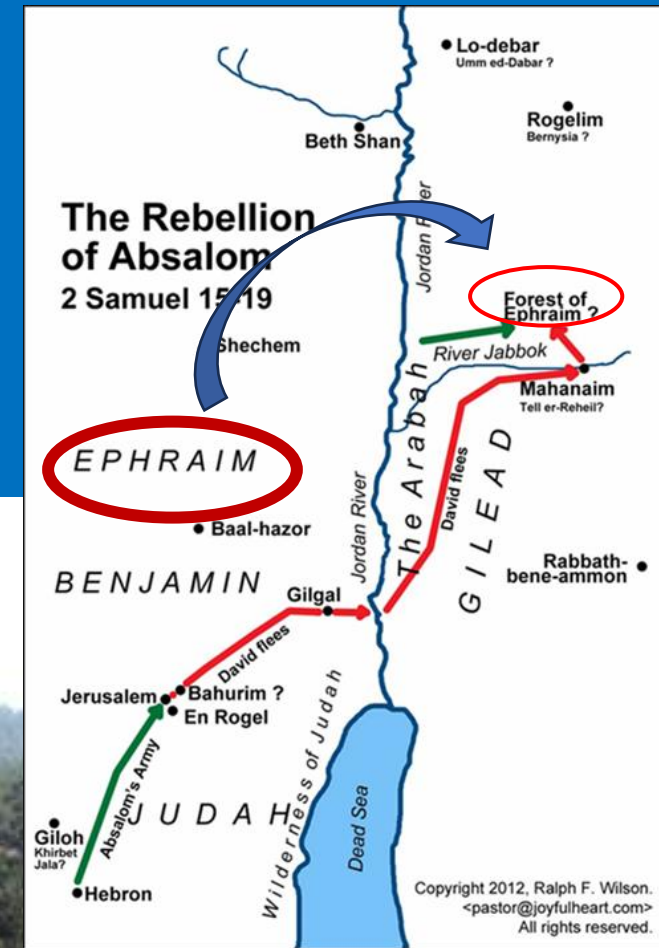
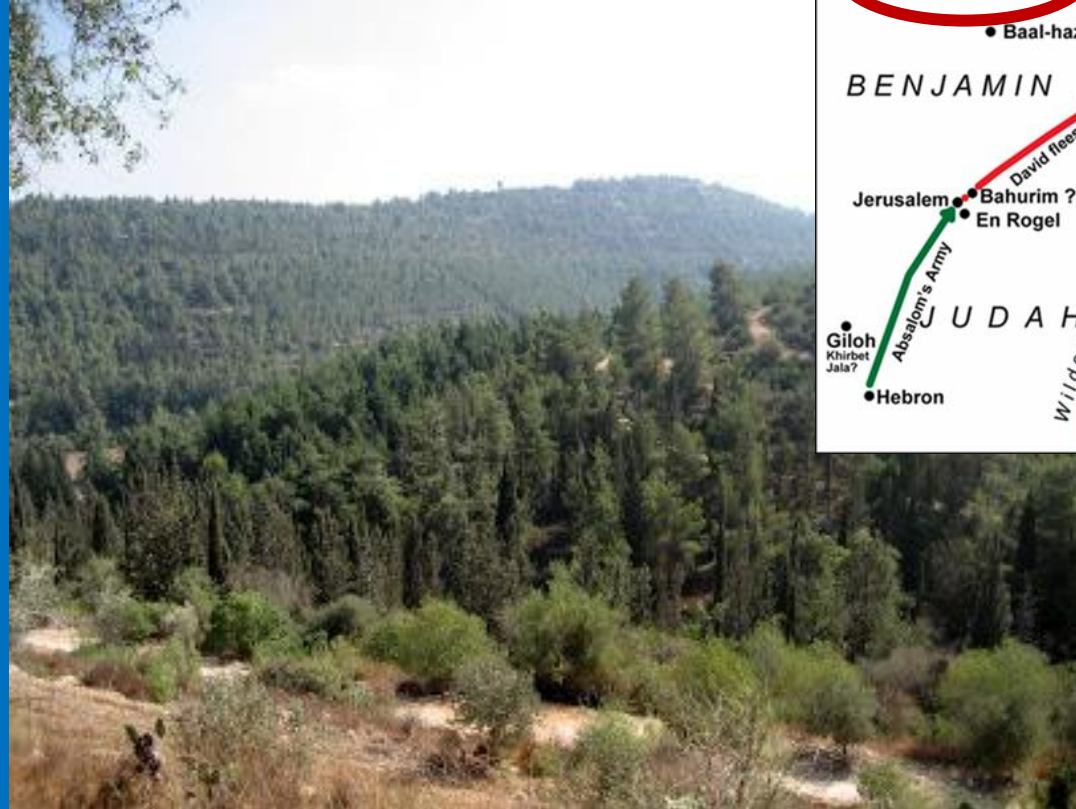
Forest of Ephraim and Jabbok River

- The people would not let David go out to battle and convinced him to remain in the city (Mahanaim [may-ha-na-um]).
- As the armies left the city, David gave specific orders to Joab, Abishai, and Ittai not to kill or harm Absalom.

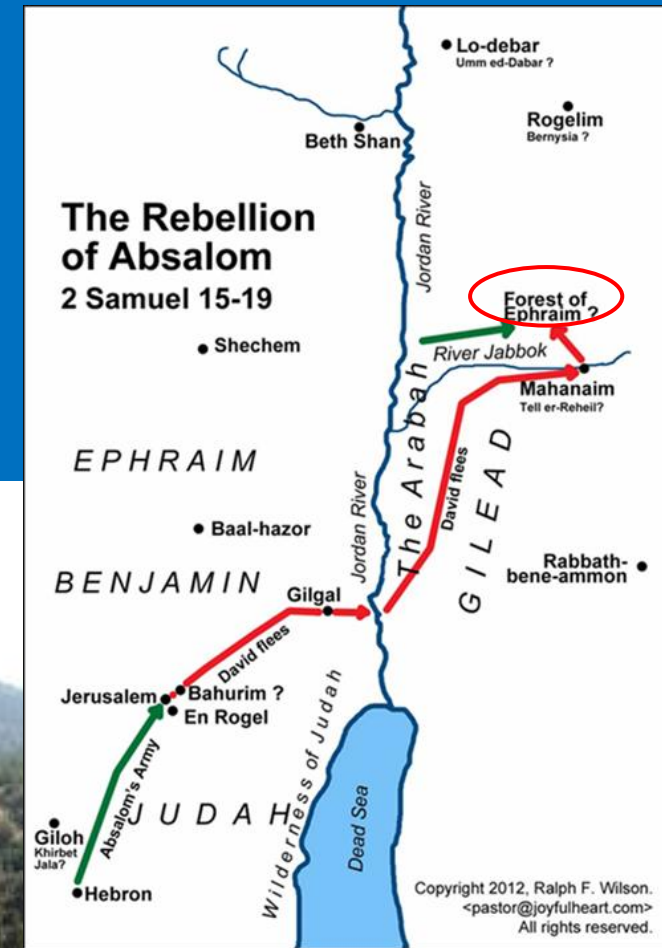
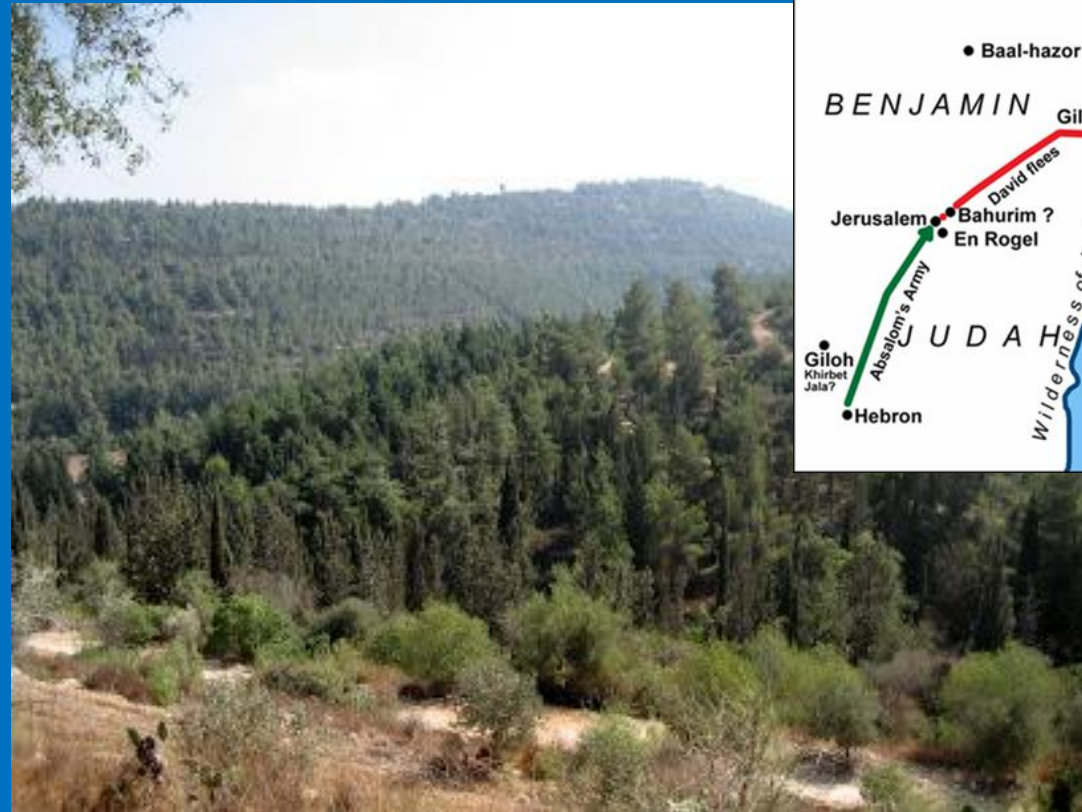


Forest of Ephraim and Jabbok River

- The two armies met in the treacherous forest of Ephraim, north of the Jabbok River.
- More soldiers died due to the harshness of the terrain than they did from the sword.



- David's army defeated Absalom, and 20,000 men died.
- While Absalom rode his mule, his head got caught in the branches of an oak tree- suspending him in the air.



- An informer told Joab of Absalom's situation. Joab rebuked the informer for not killing Absalom. The man said he would not defy David's orders [the ability to say no!].
- Joab took three spears and killed Absalom. Not only did Joab strike Absalom but ten of Joab's young armor bearers struck him.



- Joab blew his trumpet and recalled the army. He took Absalom's body, dug a deep pit, threw the body in the pit, and covered it with stones. Conquerors used this type of burial for criminals or enemies.



- Prior to this, Absalom had set up a monument for himself (probably in the Kidron Valley-just east of Jerusalem).
- A present-day “pillar of Absalom” stands in the Kidron Valley. Though not the original monument, it might stand in the same spot as Absalom’s. (2 Samuel 18:18; 14:27) []
- Apparently, Absalom’s sons had died.



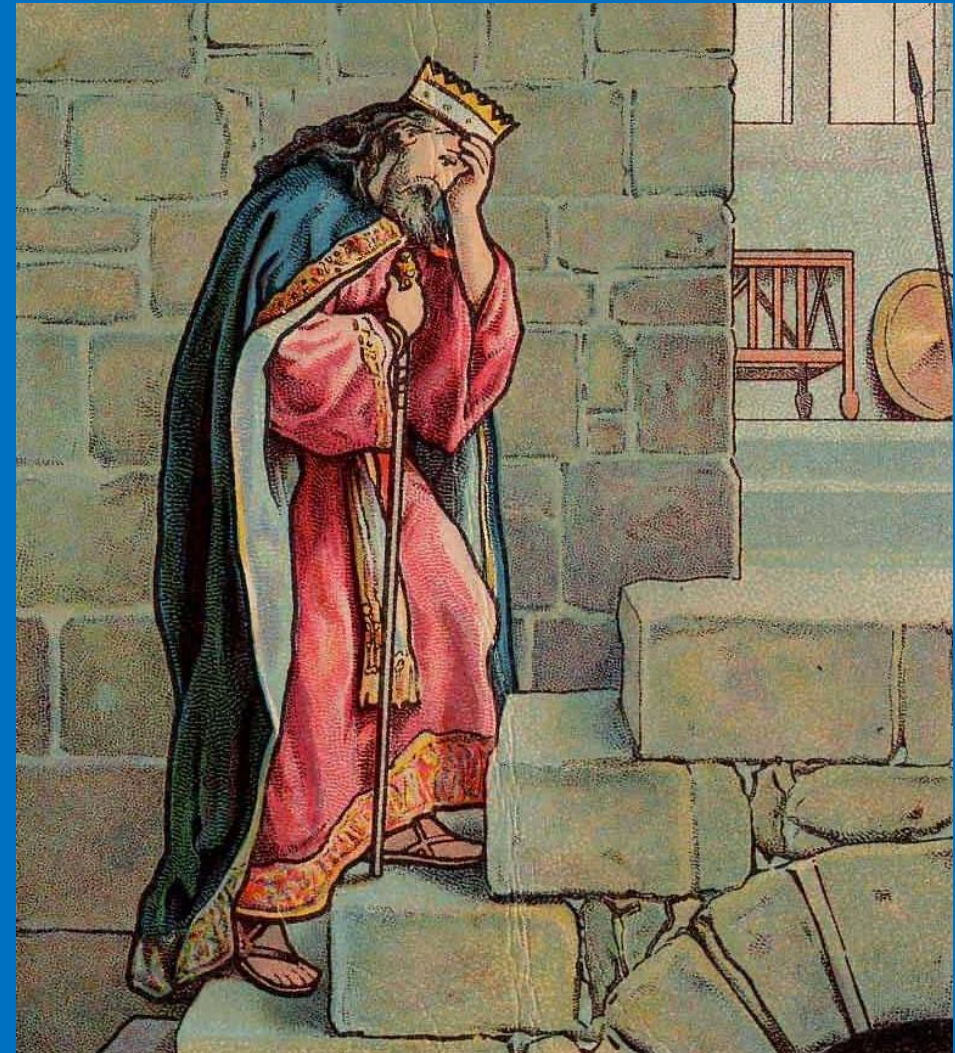
- Ahimaaz, the son of Zadok, asked Joab for permission to tell David they had won the battle. Joab sent a Cushite instead (Cush was the area south of Egypt).
- After the Cushite left, Ahimaaz pleaded with Joab to let him give David the news. Joab gave him permission and he outran the Cushite.



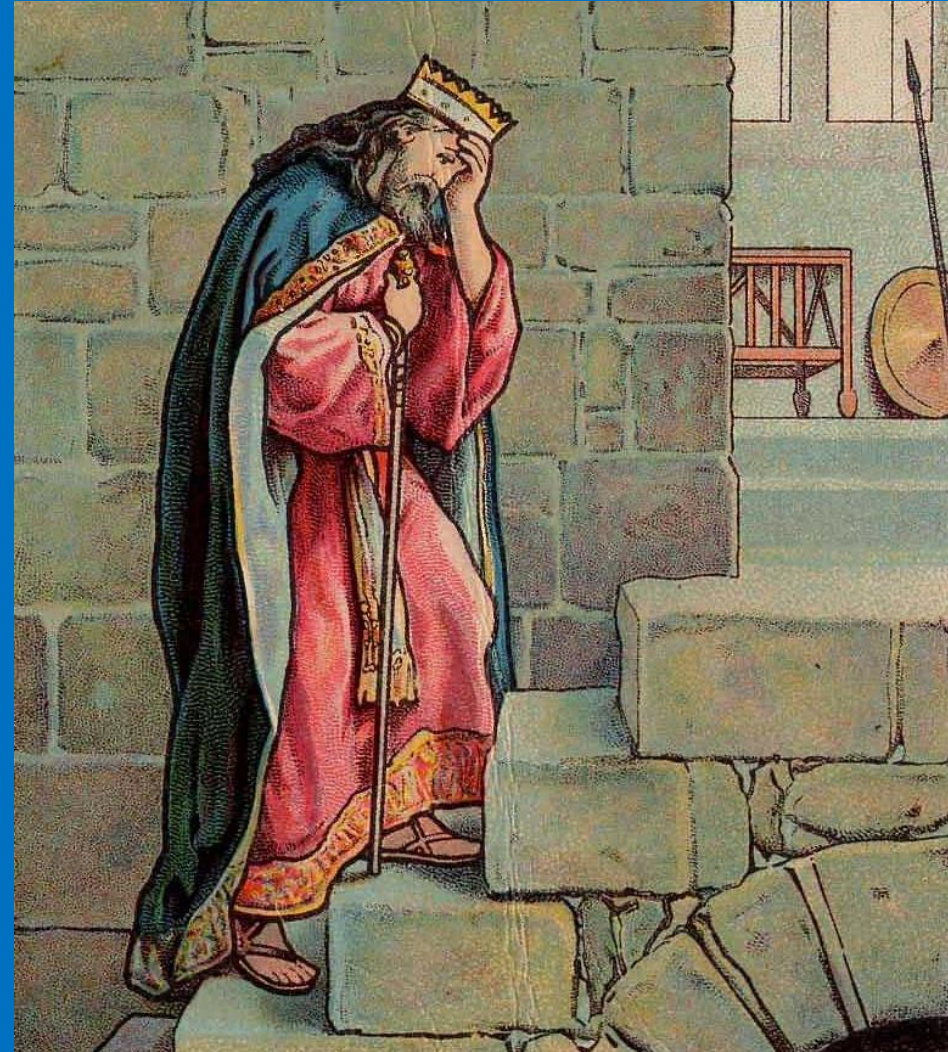
- When David heard that Ahimaaz ran toward the gate, he believed that Ahimaaz was bringing good news.
- Ahimaaz told David that he had won the battle but did not relay that Absalom had died.



- The Cushite arrived shortly after, and he also told David of the victory.
- David asked about Absalom and the Cushite gave a vague answer concerning Absalom's death (2nd Samuel 18:31-32) [*]



- David, deeply grieved, went up to the chamber over the gate and wept.
- Scripture records the phrase five times “my son,” indicating David’s great sorrow.



SUMMARY

- **SUMMARY**

- Proverbs 14:12 states, “There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.” Sin always leads to death. This could include death of the body, soul, or spirit. While sin often appears pleasurable or right, and it may for a time, it will always lead to destruction.

Over---

- Psalm 19:8 states, “The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.” Righteousness always leads to life, peace, and prosperity and remains everlasting. Psalm 119:105 states, “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” God’s word will always lead us to righteousness (right-living). Ask God to help you resist the “hooks” of the evil one.
- Satan wants to tear our wall down and he will do everything in his power to do so. His hooks may come in the form of pride, anger, thirst for revenge, lust, lying. We must cloth ourselves with God’s armor. Ephesians 6:13-17.
- End---

2nd Samuel 15:31-32

31 Now someone told David, saying, "Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom." And David said, "O LORD, I pray, make the counsel of Ahithophel foolishness." 32 It happened as David was coming to the summit, where God was worshiped, that behold, Hushai the Archite met him with his coat torn and dust on his head. *God's timing is always perfect. [*]*

Genesis 32:1-2;9-10

1 Now as Jacob went on his way, the angels of God met him. 2 Jacob said when he saw them, "This is God's camp." So he named that place Mahanaim... 9 Jacob said, "O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, O LORD, who said to me, 'Return to your country and to your relatives, and I will prosper you,' 10 I am unworthy of all the lovingkindness and of all the faithfulness which You have shown to Your servant; for with my staff *only* I crossed this Jordan, and now I have become two companies [two large camps]. []

2nd Samuel 9:3-5

3 The king said, "Is there not yet anyone of the house of Saul to whom I may show the kindness of God?" And Ziba said to the king, "There is still a son of Jonathan who is crippled in both feet." 4 So the king said to him, "Where is he?" And Ziba said to the king, "Behold, he is in the house of Machir [may-key-ear] the son of Ammiel in Lo-debar." 5 Then King David sent and brought him from the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, from Lo-debar. []

2nd Samuel 15:19-22

19 Then the king said to Ittai (ee'-tie), the Gittite, "Why will you also go with us? Return and remain with the king, for you are a foreigner and also an exile; *return* to your own place. 20 You came only yesterday, and shall I today make you wander with us, while I go where I will? Return and take back your brothers; mercy and truth be with you."

Over---

21 But Ittai answered the king and said, "As the LORD lives, and as my lord the king lives, surely wherever my lord the king may be, whether for death or for life, there also your servant will be." 22 Therefore David said to Ittai, "Go and pass over." So Ittai the Gittite [Gittite was one from Gath] passed over with all his men and all the little ones who *were* with him. []

2nd Samuel 18:18

18 Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and set up for himself a pillar which is in the King's Valley (same as Kidron Valley), for he said, "I have no son to preserve my name." So he named the pillar after his own name, and it is called Absalom's Monument to this day. [Possibly, at the time of the monument, Absalom did not have sons yet, or else they could have died].

2nd Samuel 14:27

27 To Absalom there were born three sons, and one daughter whose name was Tamar [not Tamar as in Aabsalom's sister]; she was a woman of beautiful appearance. []

2nd Samuel 17:1-3

1 Furthermore, Ahithophel said to Absalom, “Please let me choose twelve thousand men and let me set out and pursue David tonight. 2 And I will attack him while he is weary and exhausted and startle him, so that all the people who are with him will flee. Then I will strike and kill the king when he is alone, 3 and I will bring all the people back to you. [*]

A Giant Oak stood near a brook in which grew some slender Reeds. When the wind blew, the great Oak stood proudly upright with its hundred arms uplifted to the sky. But the Reeds bowed low in the wind and sang a sad and mournful song.

"You have reason to complain," said the Oak. "The slightest breeze that ruffles the surface of the water makes you bow your heads, while I, the mighty Oak, stand upright and firm before the howling tempest."

"Do not worry about us," replied the Reeds. "The winds do not harm us. We bow before them and so we do not break. You, in all your pride and strength, have so far resisted their blows. But the end is coming."

As the Reeds spoke a great hurricane rushed out of the north. The Oak stood proudly and fought against the storm, while the yielding Reeds bowed low. The wind redoubled in fury, and all at once the great tree fell, torn up by the roots, and lay among the pitying Reeds.

Better to yield when it is folly to resist, than to resist stubbornly and be destroyed. (Aesop's fables) [*]

<https://www.read.gov/aesop/011.html>

Sexual Relations Romans 1:24;26-27

24 Therefore God gave them up to vile impurity in the lusts of their hearts, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. 26 For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged natural relations for that which is contrary to nature, 27 and likewise the men, too, abandoned natural relations with women and burned in their desire toward one another, males with males committing shameful acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

Over---

Physical Abuses 1st Corinthians 6:19-20

19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? 20 For you have been bought for a price: therefore glorify God in your body. [God has made you perfect in His eyes].

Over---

Abuses of God's Creation Genesis 9:8-17

8 Then God spoke to Noah and to his sons with him, saying, 9 “Now behold, I Myself am establishing My covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; 10 and with every living creature that is with you: the birds, the livestock, and every animal of the earth with you; of all that comes out of the ark, every animal of the earth. 11 I establish My covenant with you; and all flesh shall never again be eliminated by the waters of a flood, nor shall there again be a flood to destroy the earth.”

Over---

12 God said, “This is the sign of the covenant which I am making between Me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations; 13 I have set My rainbow in the cloud, and it shall serve as a sign of a covenant between Me and the earth. 14 It shall come about, when I make a cloud appear over the earth, that the rainbow will be seen in the cloud, 15 and I will remember My covenant, which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and never again shall the water become a flood to destroy all flesh.

Over---

16 When the rainbow is in the cloud, then I will look at it, to remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” 17 And God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant which I have established between Me and all flesh that is on the earth.” [✱]

- Doeg saw Ahimelech give provisions to David at Nob when David was running from King Saul.
- Abiathar escapes Saul's murder of the priests at Nob.
- A boy spotted Jonathan and Ahimaaz getting secrets from a servant girl. He went and told Absalom.
- Paul's nephew heard about a plot of more than 40 Jews who made an oath not to eat until they had killed Paul. [*]

Proverbs 16:18

18 Pride goes before destruction,
and a haughty [arrogantly superior] spirit before stumbling.

[*]

2 Samuel 16:23

23 Now the advice of Ahithophel, which he gave in those days, was taken as though one inquired of the word of God; so was all the advice of Ahithophel regarded by both David and Absalom. [*]

1 Corinthians 12:28

8 And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, and various kinds of tongues. [^{*}]

2nd Samuel 18:31-32

31 Then behold, the Cushite arrived, and the Cushite said, “Let my lord the king receive good news, for the Lord has freed you this day from the hand of all those who rose up against you.” 32 Then the king said to the Cushite, “Is it well with the young man Absalom?” And the Cushite answered, “May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up against you for evil, be like that young man!” [*]

Romans 12:17-19

17 Never repay evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all people. 18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all people. 19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written: “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. [^{*}]

Deuteronomy 18:20-22

20 But the prophet who speaks a word presumptuously in My name, a word which I have not commanded him to speak, or which he speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.’ 21 And if you say in your heart, ‘How will we recognize the word which the Lord has not spoken?’

Over---

22 When the prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, and the thing does not happen or come true, that is the thing which the Lord has not spoken. The prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you are not to be afraid of him. [✱]

10,000 Reasons – Matt Redman

Bless the Lord O my soul – O my soul

Worship His holy name

Sing like never before - O my soul

I worship Your holy name




The sun comes up it's a new day
dawning

It's time to sing Your song again

Whatever may pass and whatever lies
before me

Let me be singing when the evening
comes



**Bless the Lord O my soul - O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before - O my soul
I worship Your holy name**




**You're rich in love and You're slow to
anger**

**Your name is great and Your heart is
kind**

**For all Your goodness I will keep on
singing**

**Ten thousand reasons for my heart to
find**



**Bless the Lord O my soul - O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before - O my soul
I worship Your holy name**




**And on that day when my strength is
failing**

**The end draws near and my time has
come**

**Still my soul will sing Your praise
unending**

**Ten thousand years and then
forevermore**

A scenic landscape featuring a calm lake reflecting a sunset sky with purple and pink hues. In the background, a large mountain with snow-capped peaks rises above a dense forest of evergreen trees. The foreground shows a rocky shoreline with vibrant purple flowers and green grasses.

**Bless the Lord O my soul - O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before - O my soul
I worship Your holy name**

I worship Your holy name
I worship Your holy name
Lord, I worship Your holy name

End---



Holy Forever

A thousand generations falling down in
worship

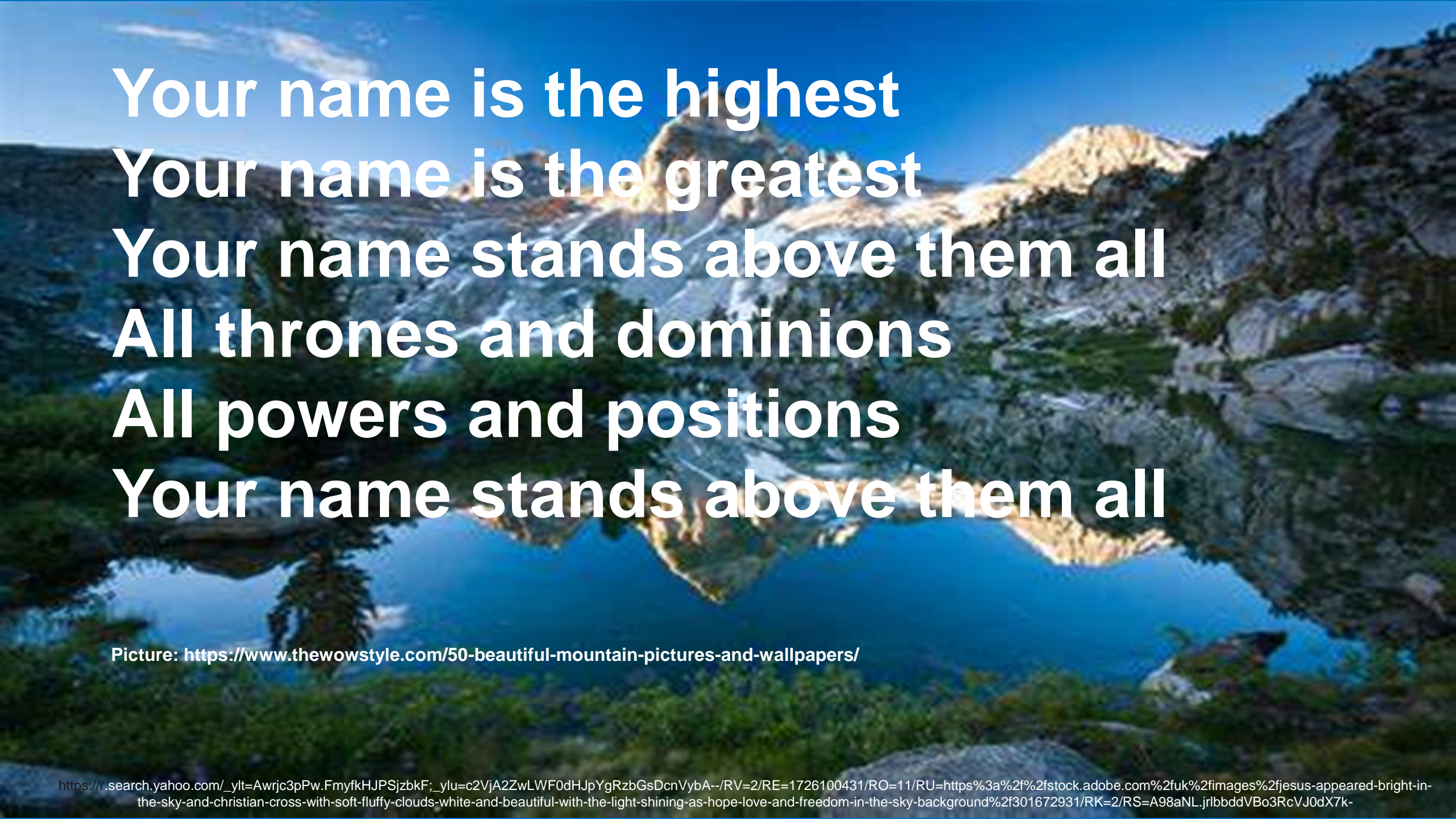
To sing the song of ages to the Lamb

And all who've gone before us and all who
will believe

Will sing the song of ages to the Lamb

Picture: <https://www.thewowstyle.com/50-beautiful-mountain-pictures-and-wallpapers/>

https://r.search.yahoo.com/_ylt=Awrjc3pPw.FmyfkHJPSjzbf;_ylu=c2VjA2ZwLWF0dHJpYgRzbGsDcnVybA--/RV=2/RE=1726100431/RO=11/RU=https%3a%2f%2fstock.adobe.com%2fuk%2fimages%2fjesus-appeared-bright-in-the-sky-and-christian-cross-with-soft-fluffy-clouds-white-and-beautiful-with-the-light-shining-as-hope-love-and-freedom-in-the-sky-background%2f301672931/RK=2/RS=A98aNL.jrlbbddVBo3RcVJ0dX7k-



**Your name is the highest
Your name is the greatest
Your name stands above them all
All thrones and dominions
All powers and positions
Your name stands above them all**

Picture: <https://www.thewowstyle.com/50-beautiful-mountain-pictures-and-wallpapers/>

A scenic mountain landscape featuring a clear blue lake in the foreground that perfectly reflects the surrounding rugged mountains and lush greenery. The sky is a deep, clear blue with a few wispy clouds. The overall atmosphere is serene and majestic.

**And the angels cry, Holy
All creation cries, Holy
You are lifted high, Holy
Holy forever**

Picture: <https://www.thewowstyle.com/50-beautiful-mountain-pictures-and-wallpapers/>

A scenic view of a mountain valley. In the foreground, a river flows through a lush green valley. In the middle ground, a calm lake reflects the surrounding landscape. The background features rugged, rocky mountains under a clear blue sky. The overall scene is peaceful and majestic.

**If you've been forgiven and if you've
been redeemed**

Sing the song forever to the Lamb

If you walk in freedom and if you bear

His name

Sing the song forever to the Lamb

We'll sing the song forever and amen

Picture: <https://www.thewowstyle.com/50-beautiful-mountain-pictures-and-wallpapers/>

A scenic mountain landscape with a lake and a waterfall. The mountains are rugged and rocky, with some snow patches. The sky is a clear, vibrant blue. The water in the lake is a deep, clear blue, and a waterfall is visible on the left side of the image.

And the angels cry, Holy

All creation cries, Holy

You are lifted high, Holy

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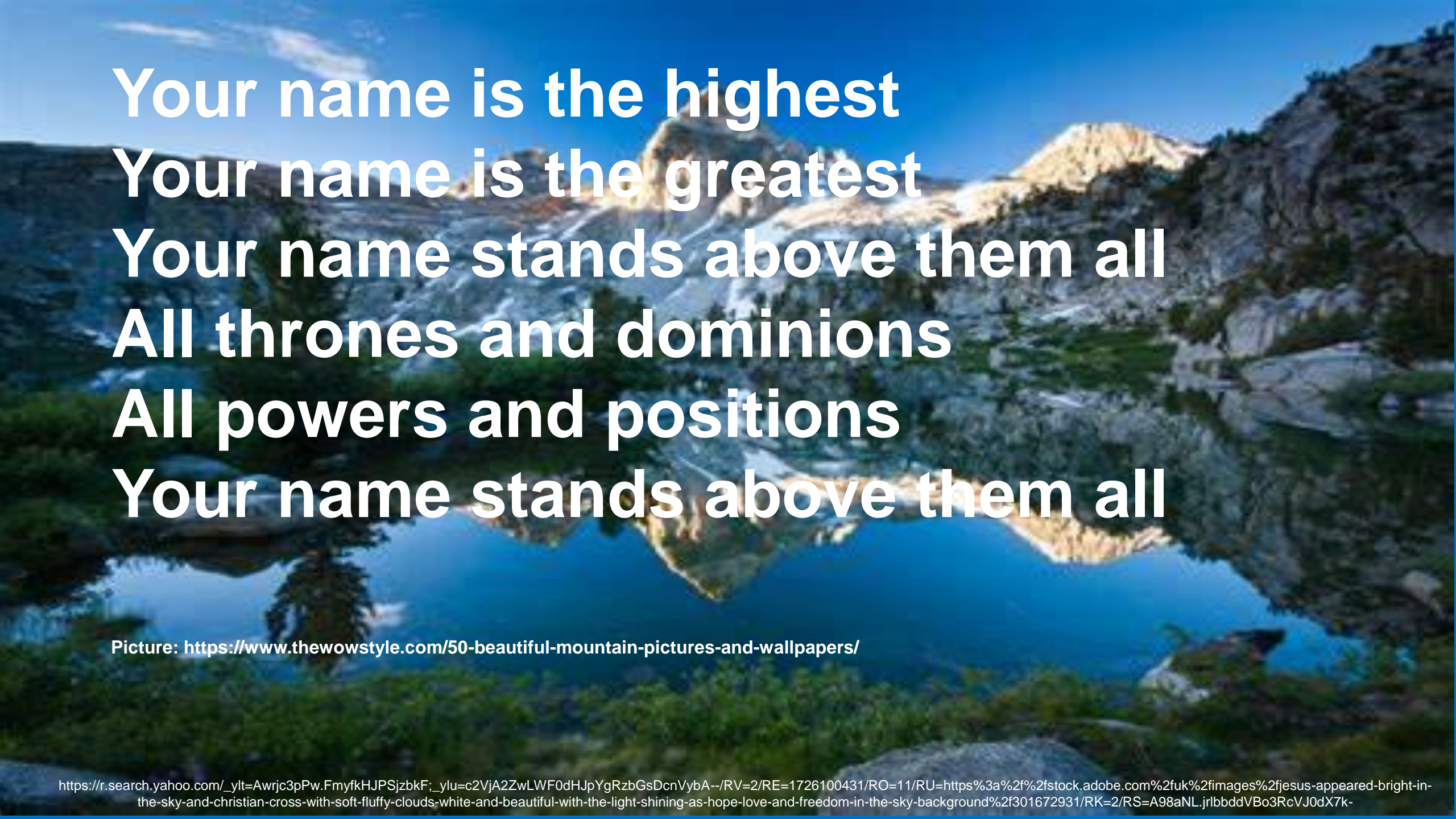
Hear your people sing, Holy

To the King of Kings, Holy

You will always be, Holy


Holy forever

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A scenic mountain landscape with a lake reflecting the surrounding peaks and forests. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

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**And the angels cry, Holy
All creation cries, Holy
You are lifted high, Holy
Holy forever**

Picture: <https://www.thewowstyle.com/50-beautiful-mountain-pictures-and-wallpapers/>



Hear your people sing, Holy
To the King of Kings, Holy
You will always be, Holy
Holy forever
You will always be, Holy
Holy forever
End---

Picture: <https://www.thewowstyle.com/50-beautiful-mountain-pictures-and-wallpapers/>

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