

In Search of a King 1-2 SAMUEL

Consequences Unfolded...

- Division in David's house – Amnon, Tamar and Absalom (David is passive)
- Absalom's revolt – David is forced to flee (David's faith is rekindled)

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."

(2 Samuel 15:31)

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

(2 Samuel 16:23)

2 Samuel 17:1-29

The Lord's Counsel Will Stand

"For Yahweh had ordained to thwart the counsel of Ahithophel, in order that Yahweh might bring calamity on Absalom."

(2 Samuel 17:14)

The Lord's Counsel

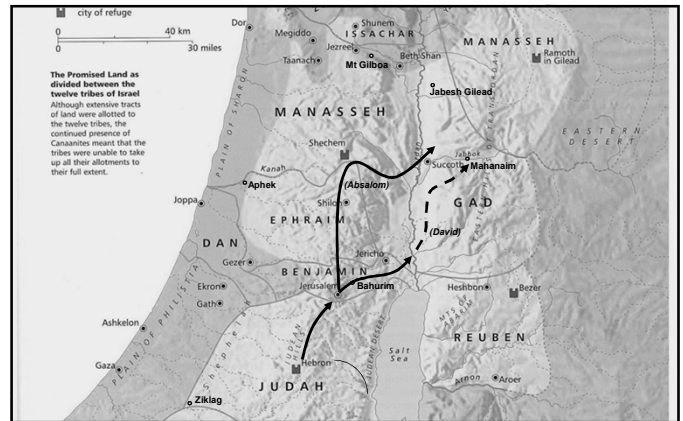
1. Thwarting Ahithophel's Counsel

- Ahithophel's counsel was "good" and much superior to Hushai's counsel
- the (ultimate) explanation for the rejection of Ahithophel's counsel was that the Lord had ordained it

The Lord's Counsel

2. Protecting David's Messengers

- through the deceptive actions of a faithful woman (link with Rahab and the spies)



The Lord's Counsel

3. Provisioning David's Followers

- an unlikely provision in a unlikely place by unlikely people

"You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies" (Psalm 23:5)

The Lord's Counsel

➤ Implications

1. The compatibility of God's sovereignty and man's moral responsibility
2. The confidence that the counsel of the Lord will stand

There is no wisdom and no understanding
And no counsel against the LORD.

(Proverbs 21:30)