2 Samuel 2

Abner's Uprising

1. **2:1-4 – The King of Judah**
    a. 1 - *"David inquired of the Lord"* – as was his way, and the LORD was with him.
    b. Hebron and thereabouts was where David & his men used to roam (1 Sam 30:31)
    c. 2-3 – His wives, all his men, their families from Ziklag – the outcasts return.
    d. 4 – *"anointed David king... of Judah"* – Per God's purpose and Samuel's anointing.
2. **2:5-11 – Kindness Toward Saul**
    a. 4 – *"they that buried Saul"* – Valiant men from 1 Sam 31:11-13 that rescued the bodies.
    b. 5 – *"Blessed...this kindness"* – ch1 Saul was dishonored, here he was honored.
    c. 6-7 – David's promise of kindness to them; they can still be valiant for him as king.
    d. 8 – *"But Abner..."* – Last time, David rebuked him for not protecting Saul.
    e. 10 -Saul's 4th son named Ish-bosheth (man of shame), instead of Esh-baal (1Ch 8:33)
    f. Mahanaim ("two hosts", Gad) where Jacob's host, saw the host of God – Gen 32:1-2
    g. 9 - Unlike inquiring of Lord, kindness to Saul, Abner's power grab split the nation.
    h. 10-11 – The kingdom would not be united under David for 7.5 years after Saul.

3. **2:12-17 – The Battle at the Pool of Gibeon**
    a. 12 – *"Mahanaim to Gibeon"* – Westward across the Jordan (north of Jerusalem)
    b. 13 – Joab is Abner's counterpart (David's nephew), captain of the host
    c. The pool of Gibeon was discovered in 1950s after 2500 years (80ft down, 37ft wide)
    d. 14 – *"Let the young men... play"* – A competitive ruse to fight against David's servants
    e. 15 – *"There arose... twelve"* – A symbolic competition for the twelve tribes of Israel.
    f. 16 – *"they fell down together"* – These 24 soldiers died at the start of this "sore battle"
    g. 17 – *"Abner was beaten"* – David's army won, despite the treachery of Abner.
4. **2:18-24 – Asahel Falls in Battle**
    a. 18 - *"sons of Zeruiah"* – Mighty men all: Joab (captain), Abishai (strong), Asahel (fast)
    b. Joab (whose father is Jehovah) Abishai (gift of my father) Asahel (made by God)
    c. 19-22 – Asahel chased Abner, but after Abner's warning, he was killed by his spear.
    d. All these mighty men fall, starting with Asahel, for being swift but not prudent.
    e. 23 – *"as many as came to the place.... stood still"* – out of respect for Asahel
    f. 24 – The brothers pursued Abner until sundown on the hill Ammah.

5. **2:25-32 – Joab Blows the Trumpet**
    a. 25 – Abner receives reinforcements from the children of Benjamin.
    b. 26 – An appeal for peace, not devouring, death, and division among brothers.
    c. 27 – Joab: It was Abner that started it, and it would've continued except he spoke up
    d. 28-29 – Joab ends the battle with the trumpet blow, Abner goes home.
    e. Sword forever? No, there will be peace (Isa 2:4), Bitterness in the end? No, glory. How long? Til the end, the trumpet blows - Matt 24:29-31, 40-41, 46.
    f. 30-31 – David lost 20 (12 at the start), Abner lost 360 – 18:1. A sound defeat.
    g. 32 – *"buried him in the sepulchre"* – honoring his death, rare mention of his father.
    h. David's throne over Judah is secure, though at the cost of one "made by God"