

## The Sheba Rebellion

2 Samuel 20:4-23

### Introduction

- v.4 Amasa steps into his new role.
- v.5 But the men of Judah were not so willing to fight as they were to claim allegiance.
- v.6 Thus Abishai assumes a temporary position as replacement.
- v.7 Joab accompanies Abishai. Is he loyal or opportunistic?
- v.8 The two forces join. Amasa steps forward to assume responsibility.
- v. 9 Joab takes out his rival though they are cousins and Amasa has been appointed by David.
- v.10 The death blow
- v.11 Joab then assumes Amasa's position.
- v.12 Men halt in horror and confusion. "How boldly can a murderer pursue a traitor?" So he covers his guilt.
- v.14 A disappointing force turns out to follow Sheba and they immediately succumb and flee for shelter.
- Many who rebel against God's Chosen despair of their substitutes.
- v.15 Under siege! Such is the divine fury that sieges the city that houses the rebellious.

- v.16 A wise woman arises. "Find peace before judgment falls."
- v.17 "I want no quarrel."
- v.18 "We are a peaceful city."
- v.19 "... a Jewish city"
- vv.20-21 The answer? "Cast out the head of rebellion."  
"Repent from who deceived you."
- v.22 She now must convince the people. She is a peacemaker.  
For the second time peace comes through atonement.
- v.23 Joab returned with a trophy of peace,  
rather than the spoils of war.
- He will return with one or the other.

### Conclusion:

1. David laid his life down and saved the people.
2. But Sheba rejects him.
3. But is weak as a substitute.
4. He takes a wonderful place and destroys it.
5. But judgment comes from a cruel messenger - Joab.
6. A decision must be made between evil and wisdom.
7. Repent and return based upon atonement.
8. Peace