

# SHEVA THE SCOUNDREL



- Northern 10-tribe coalition
- Southern 2-tribe coalition
- Saga is briefly interrupted by sad story of 10 concubines left behind by King David
- **Amasa**, Absalom's general, promoted to General of David's Army
- Replaces Joab
- **Amasa** given 72 hours to round up a militia in the huge territory of Judah

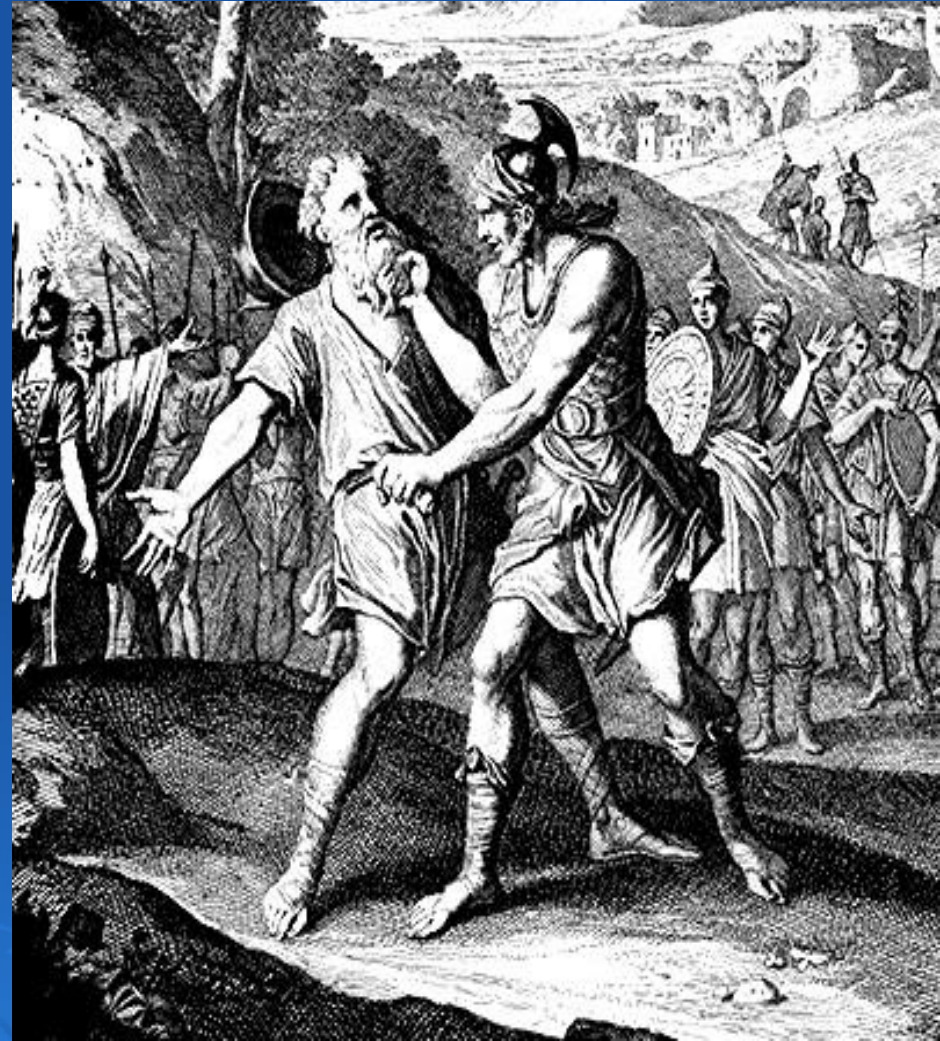
# JOAB GREETES AMASA AT GIBEON



- When *Amasa* misses the 3-day mark, David turns to *Avishai* to pursue *Sheva*
- *Avishai* is sent with small force of *P'leti* and *K'reti*
- *Yo'av* surprises *Amasa* by meeting him at Gibeon
- Joab deceives Amasa

# JOAB MURDERS AMASA

- “Is all well with you my brother”?
- **Amasa** and Joab were 1<sup>st</sup> cousins
- Grabbing the beard was a sign of playful affection
- **Yo'av** didn't stab **Amasa** again because he wanted him to suffer a while
- One of Joab's men told the **Amasa's** militia troops that they should follow Joab, because they were all loyal to King David and fighting for him





# SHEVA IS FOUND AT ABEL-BETH-MA'ACAH

- *Amasa's* corpse is removed from the road and covered to avert panic
- *Abel-Beth-Ma'akah* = House of Ma'akah on the brook
- Sheva generally only was able to gather men from his own clan
- Fortified city walls attacked siege-style

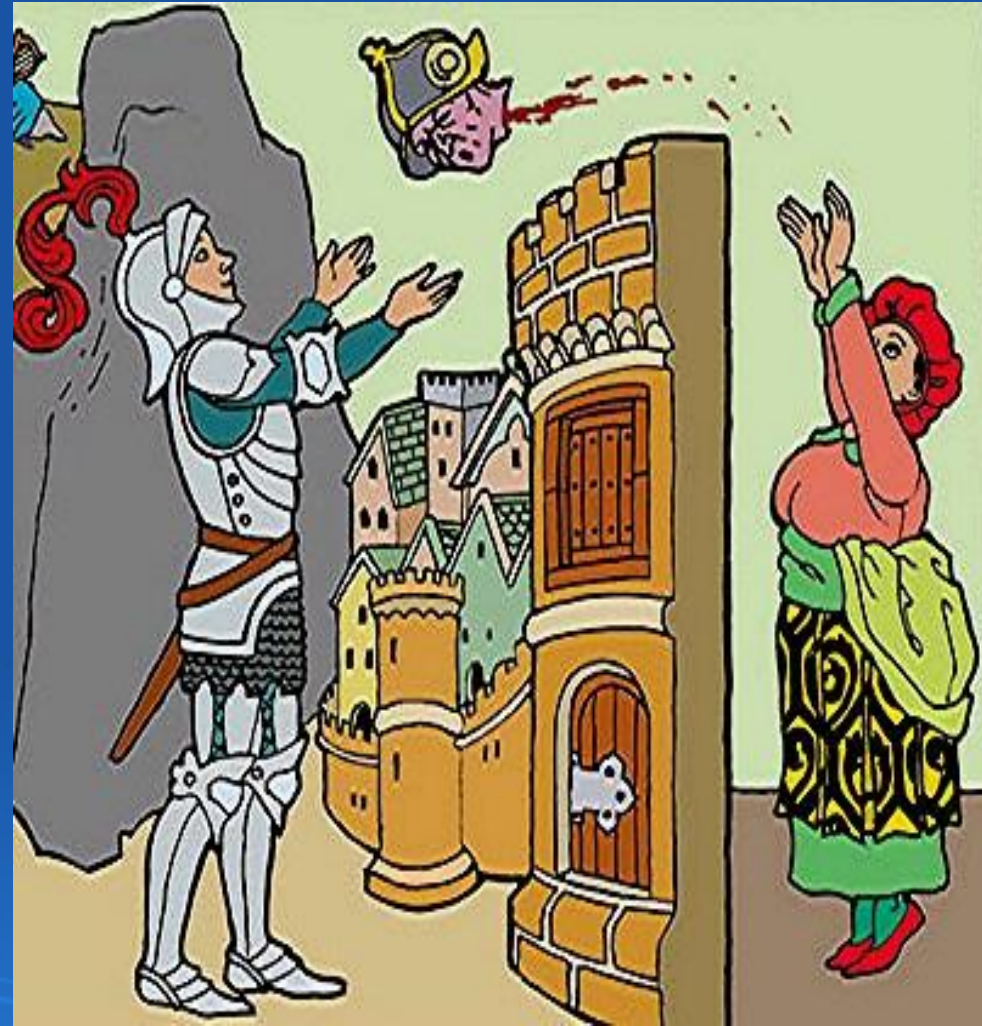




- Wise woman of Abel-Beth-Ma'acah = ***chakom ishah***
- Not a Prophetess, but held in high esteem for wisdom
- City is known as a place to seek wise council
- Wise woman tells Joab he is wrong for attacking this city without first inquiring if they will fight for Sheva
- Why “swallow up the inheritance of YHWH?”
- She is referring to the Hebrew people who live there

# BATTLE ABRUPTLY ENDS

- Joab tells wise woman that he did NOT come here to harm the city
- Deut. 20:10 – 12
- Joab says if Sheva is handed over the battle will end
- Townspeople kill Sheva and throw his head to Joab
- Joab withdraws



# DAVID'S CABINET AS OF THE SHEVA REBELLION

- Yo'av General of the Army. Had a small number of professional soldiers, gathered militia as needed
- B'nayah Commanded David's palace guard
- Adoram Administrator in charge of forced labor. Mostly captured prisoners of war.
- Y'hoshofat Recorder. *Zakar* in Hebrew. Royal historian.
- Sh'va Scribe. *Sopher* in Hebrew. Created, wrote, legal documents.
- Tzadok and Evyatar High Priests
- 'Ira David's family priest. Against the Torah law.

# 2<sup>nd</sup> SAMUEL 21: AN APPENDIX

- A collection of misc. info about David
- Is NOT in chronological order
- David's solution for famine is a combination of Torah Law, Middle Eastern customs, and superstition
- Famines usually caused by drought, sometimes by pestilence
- This one was caused by 3 years of insufficient rain





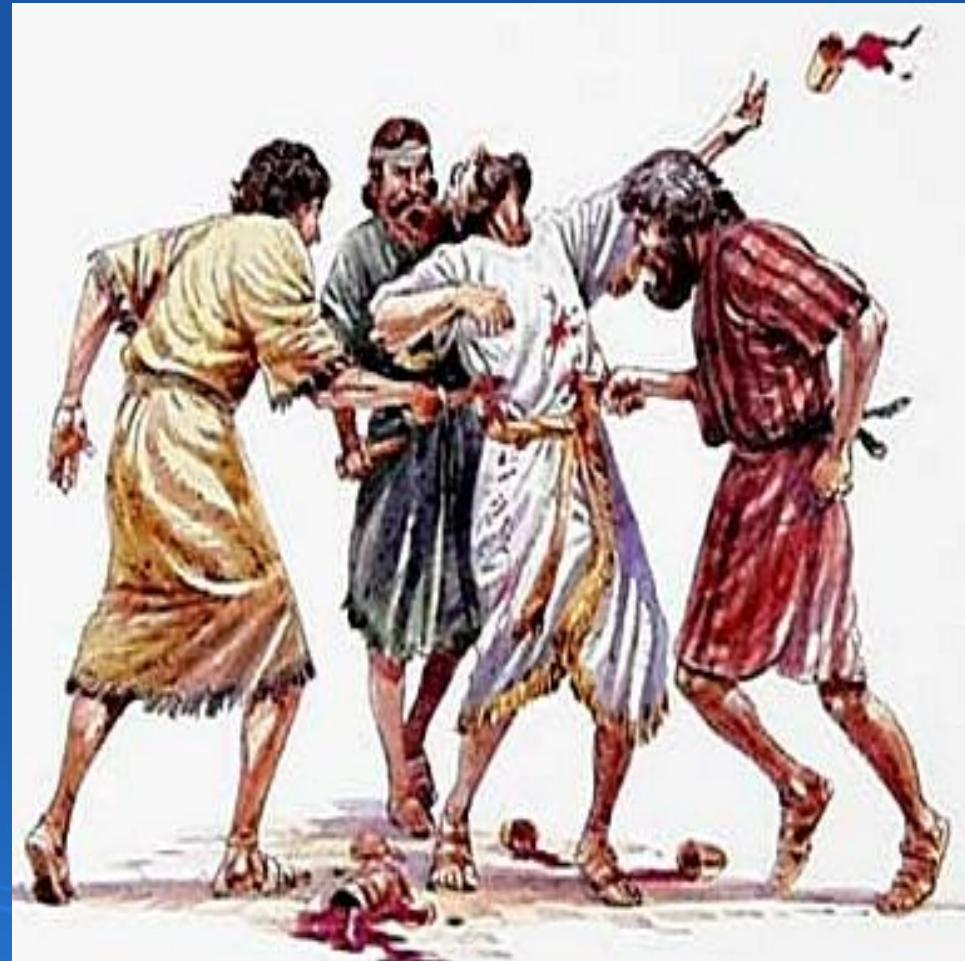
# THE PROBLEM IS BLOOD-GUILT



- David decided that 3 years of little rain was probably divinely caused
- YHWH says that the cause is the House of Saul for murdering Gibeonites
- Holiness is the overriding principle of the Bible, and underlying characteristic of God
- Land becomes defiled by the blood of the innocent, and when the blood of the guilty is not spilled in payment

# THE VICTIMS WERE AMORITES

- The story of this massacre is not found in the Bible
- These residents of Gibeon were NOT Hebrews, but Amorites
- Treaty made hundreds of years earlier with Joshua
- Joshua 9:1 – 18
- Joshua and elders did NOT go to the High Priest to consult the Lord



# DECEIT OF THE GIBEONITES

- Were the Israelites stuck with the treaty?
- Joshua 9:18 – 21
- BECAUSE Joshua did not consult God, and because they had a vow in God's name, they could NOT disavow it
- Amorites became wood choppers and water drawers for the Tabernacle!

