

SAUL, DAVID, & SOLOMON

Lessons In Faith





II SAMUEL



The background of the slide is a vibrant red color, decorated with abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of red and pink. These shapes, which include rectangles, trapezoids, and irregular polygons, are outlined in black and have a slight gradient, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. They are scattered across the top and bottom portions of the slide, framing the central text.

Absalom Usurps the Throne

A total of 5 years
had passed since
Absalom killed Amnon.

Now a new chapter of
his life begins.



The last verse of Chapter 14 tells of Absalom finally seeing his father again after 5 years. It doesn't say a word about repentance. The first verse of the next chapter says . . .





“And it came to pass after this, that Absalom prepared him chariots and horses, and fifty men to run before him,”

**It is clear he
has designs
to be the
next King.**

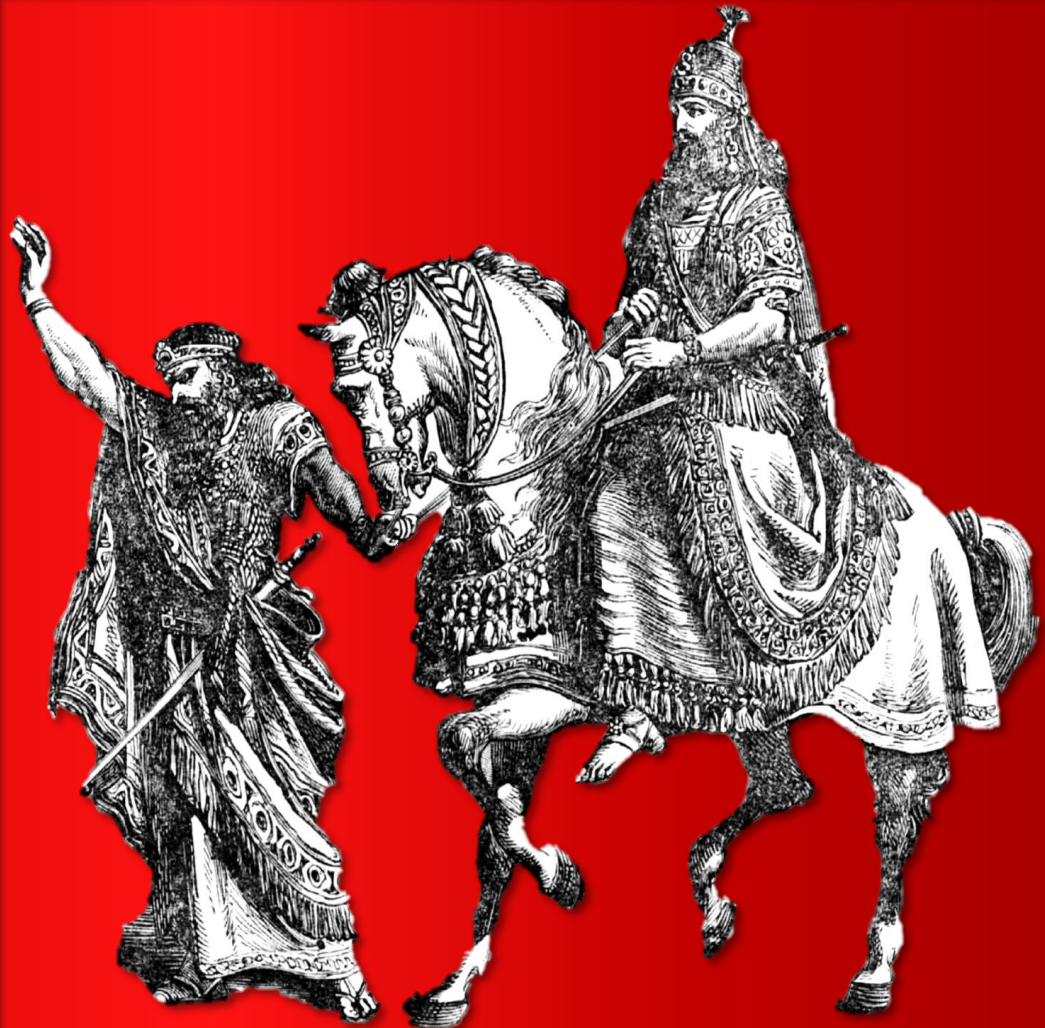




**DAVID BETRAYED BY
ABSALOM**

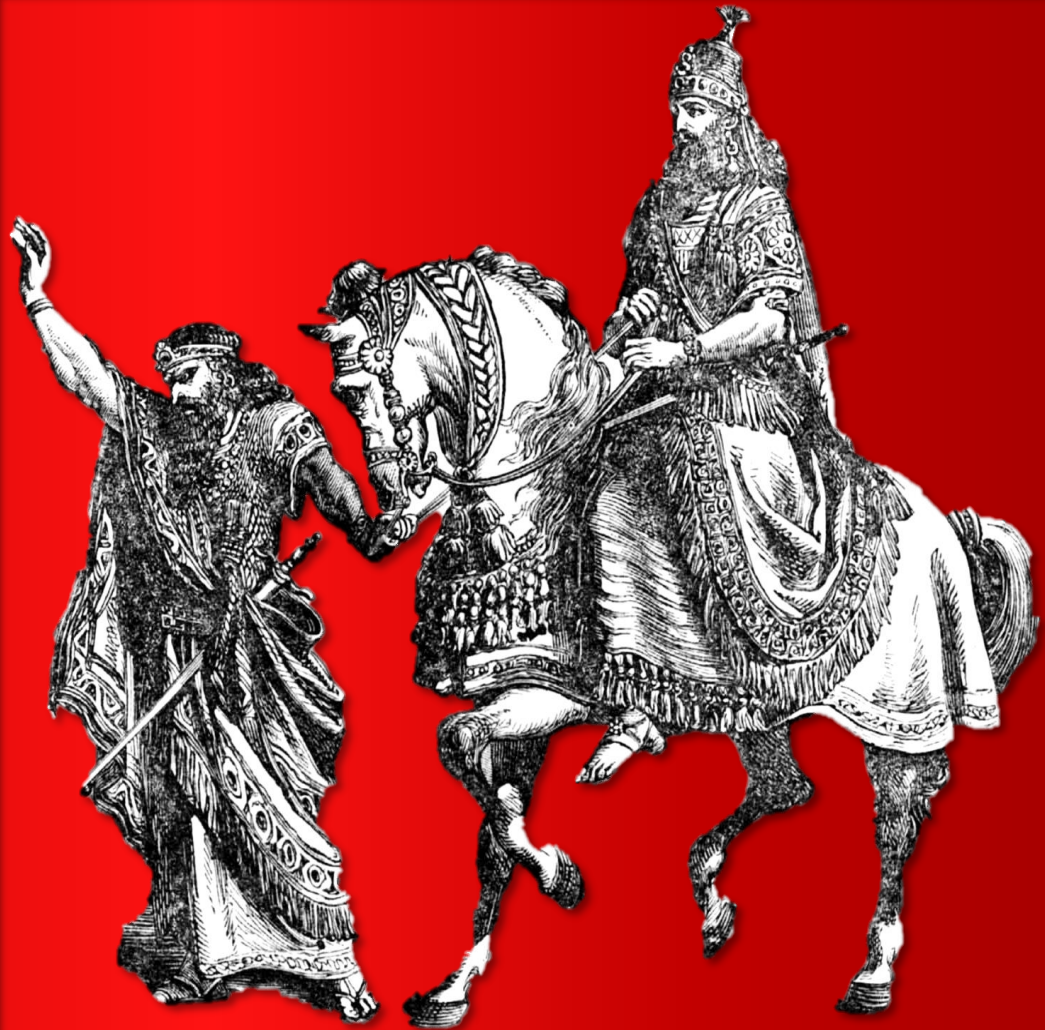


Absalom began a campaign of self promotion. He strove to undermine David by winning the hearts of the people. He wanted to be the next king.



2 Samuel 14:25

“In all Israel there was none to be so much praised as Absalom for his beauty: from the sole of his foot even to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him.”



It was effortless for Absalom to promote himself.

His father was King David, and his mother was the daughter of the King of Geshur.

Possibly during his stay in the heathen land of Geshur his grandfather there convinced him that he should usurp the throne of David. He certainly decided he wanted royal pomp and grandeur.



He rose up early each day, stood at the gate, and judged the people who were on their way to obtain judgment from the King.



2 Samuel 15

“⁶And on this manner did Absalom to all Israel that come to the king for judgment: so Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.”





“After 40 years” Absalom’s Rebellion Began

It is said to be after forty years, but we are not told the beginning date. It can’t be from Absalom’s reconciliation with David because even if it was from the date of the beginning of David’s reign it would put it in the last year of David’s life which is not probable. Whether it is to be calculated from David being crowned King of Israel, or King of Judah, or his first anointing by Samuel, or even when Israel told Samuel they desired a king it was enough time for Absalom to contrive a plan to fulfill his desire to be King of Israel. (Matthew Henry Commentary)



Absalom wanted more than just playing the part of a ruler . . . rising early to sit at the gate of the city to judge the people, campaign for their favor, and serve a nation he did not rule.

Under pretense of wanting to fulfill a vow, Absalom gained permission to go to Hebron, where he strengthened his conspiracy.



2 Samuel 15

“⁷And it came to pass after forty years, that Absalom said unto the king, I pray thee, let me go and pay my vow, which I have vowed unto the LORD, in Hebron. ⁸For thy servant vowed a vow while I abode at Geshur in Syria, saying, If the LORD shall bring me again indeed to Jerusalem, then I will serve the LORD. ⁹And the king said unto him, Go in peace. So he arose, and went to Hebron.”



2 Samuel 15

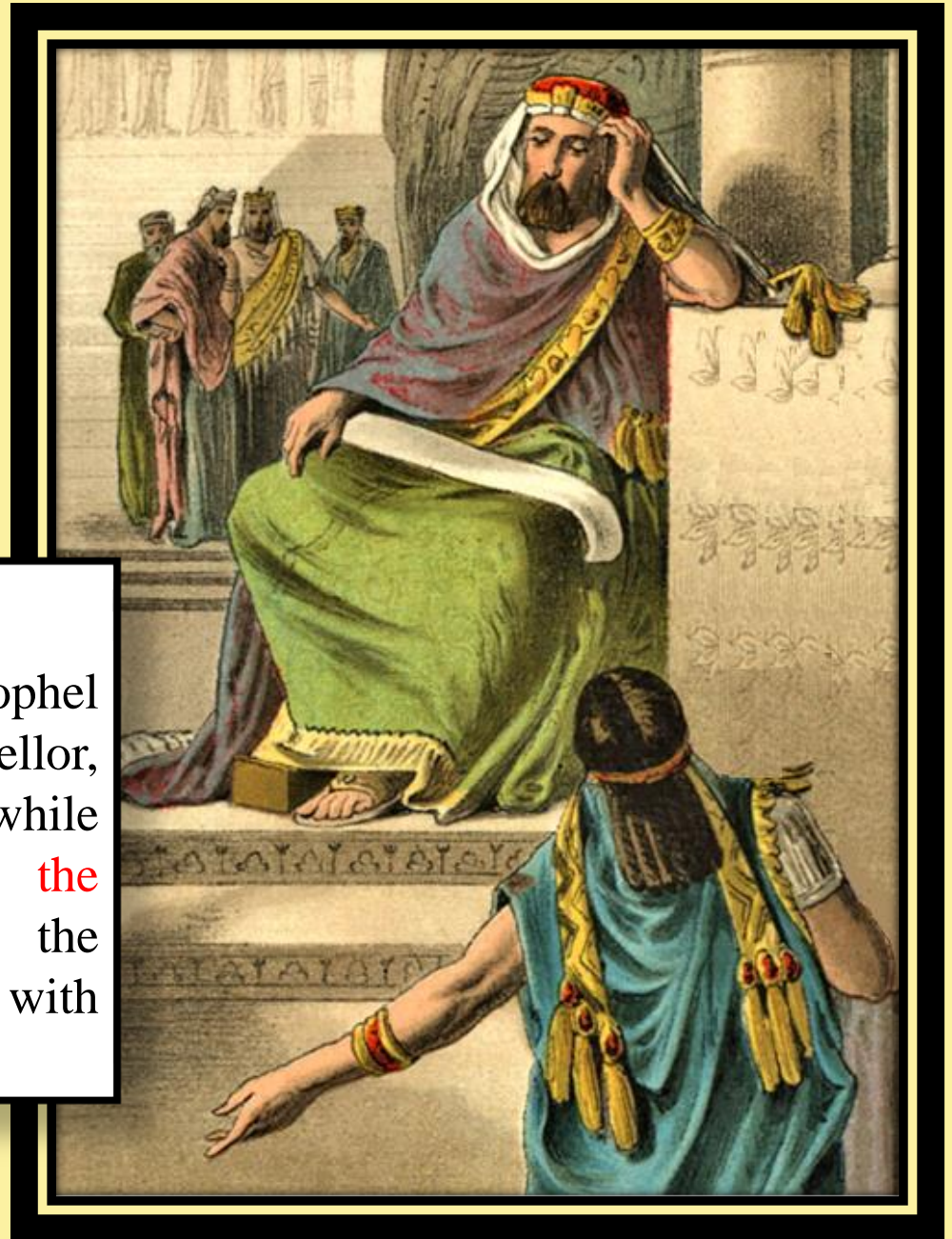
“¹⁰But **Absalom sent spies** throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, As soon as ye hear the sound of the trumpet, then ye shall say, Absalom reigneth in Hebron.
¹¹And with **Absalom went two hundred men out of Jerusalem**, that were called; and they went in their simplicity, and they knew not any thing.”



The conspiracy was strong

2 Samuel 15

“¹²And Absalom sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David’s counsellor, from his city, even from Giloh, while he offered sacrifices. And **the conspiracy was strong**; for the people increased continually with Absalom.”





2 Samuel 15

“¹³And there came a messenger to David, saying, The hearts of the men of Israel are after Absalom.”



DAVID'S FLIGHT





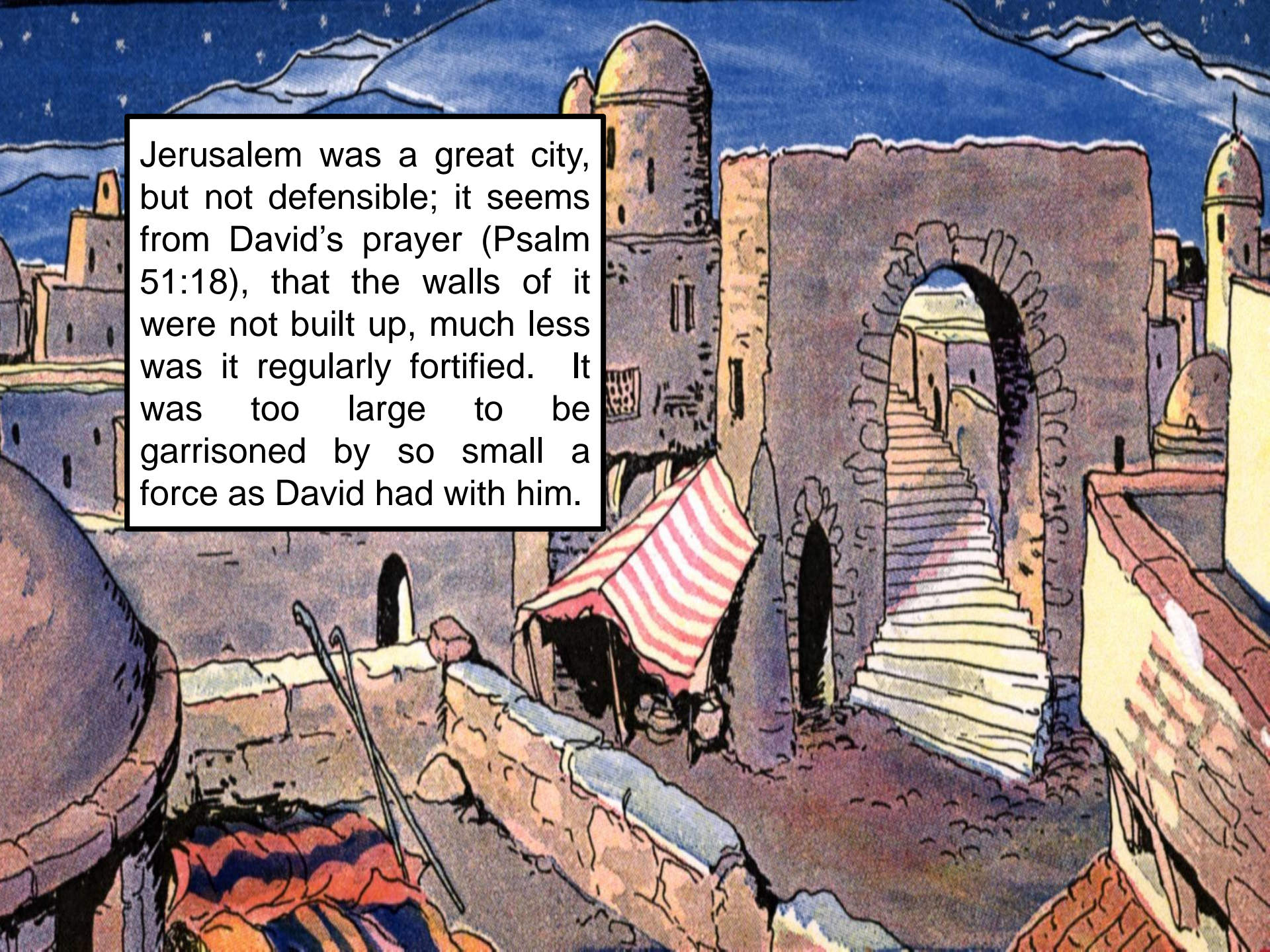
2 Samuel 15

“¹⁴And **David said** unto all his servants that were with him at Jerusalem, Arise, and **let us flee**; for we shall not else escape from Absalom: **make speed to depart**, lest he overtake us suddenly, and bring evil upon us, and **smite the city with the edge of the sword.**”



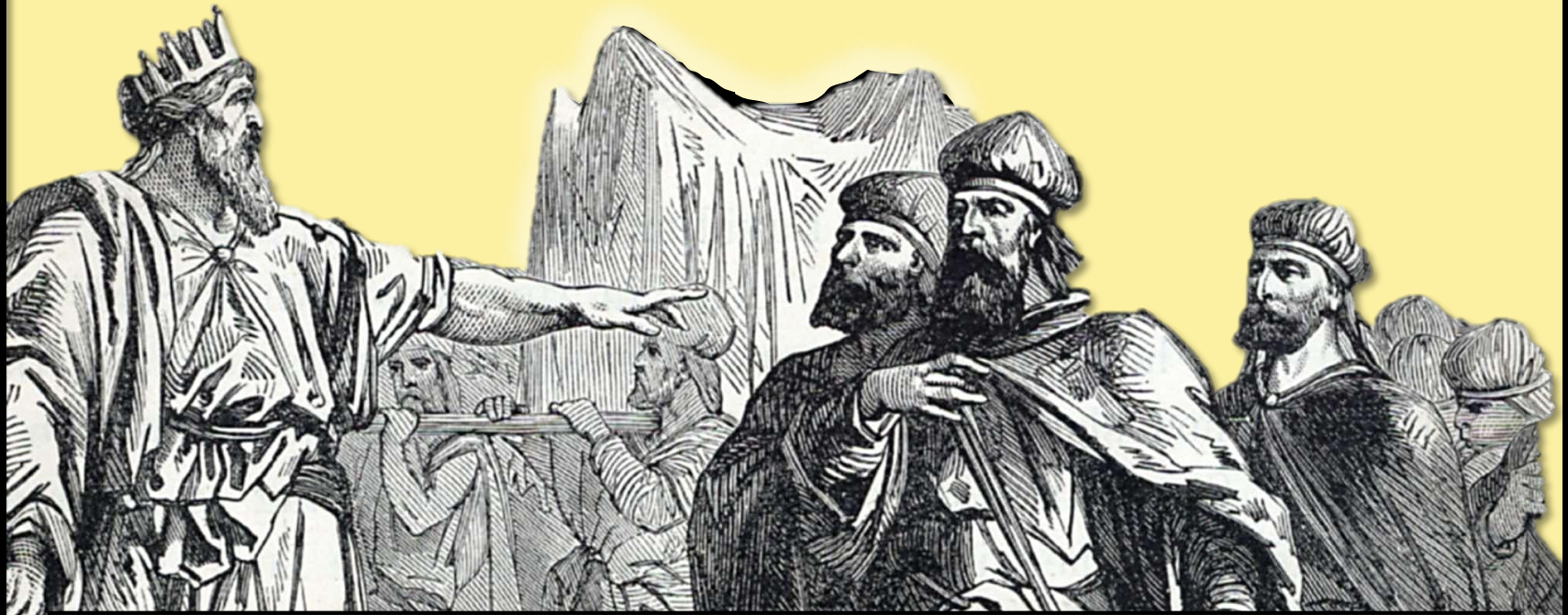
David was alarmed when he heard that the son he loved so dearly and had been so indulgent to was so unnaturally and ungratefully against him.

Jerusalem was a great city, but not defensible; it seems from David's prayer (Psalm 51:18), that the walls of it were not built up, much less was it regularly fortified. It was too large to be garrisoned by so small a force as David had with him.





When David left Jerusalem many of the people went with him: His family, servants, and body guards. The priests followed David's exit also and carried the Ark Of The Covenant, but David sent them back with the Ark. He would not move the Ark unless God instructed him to do so.



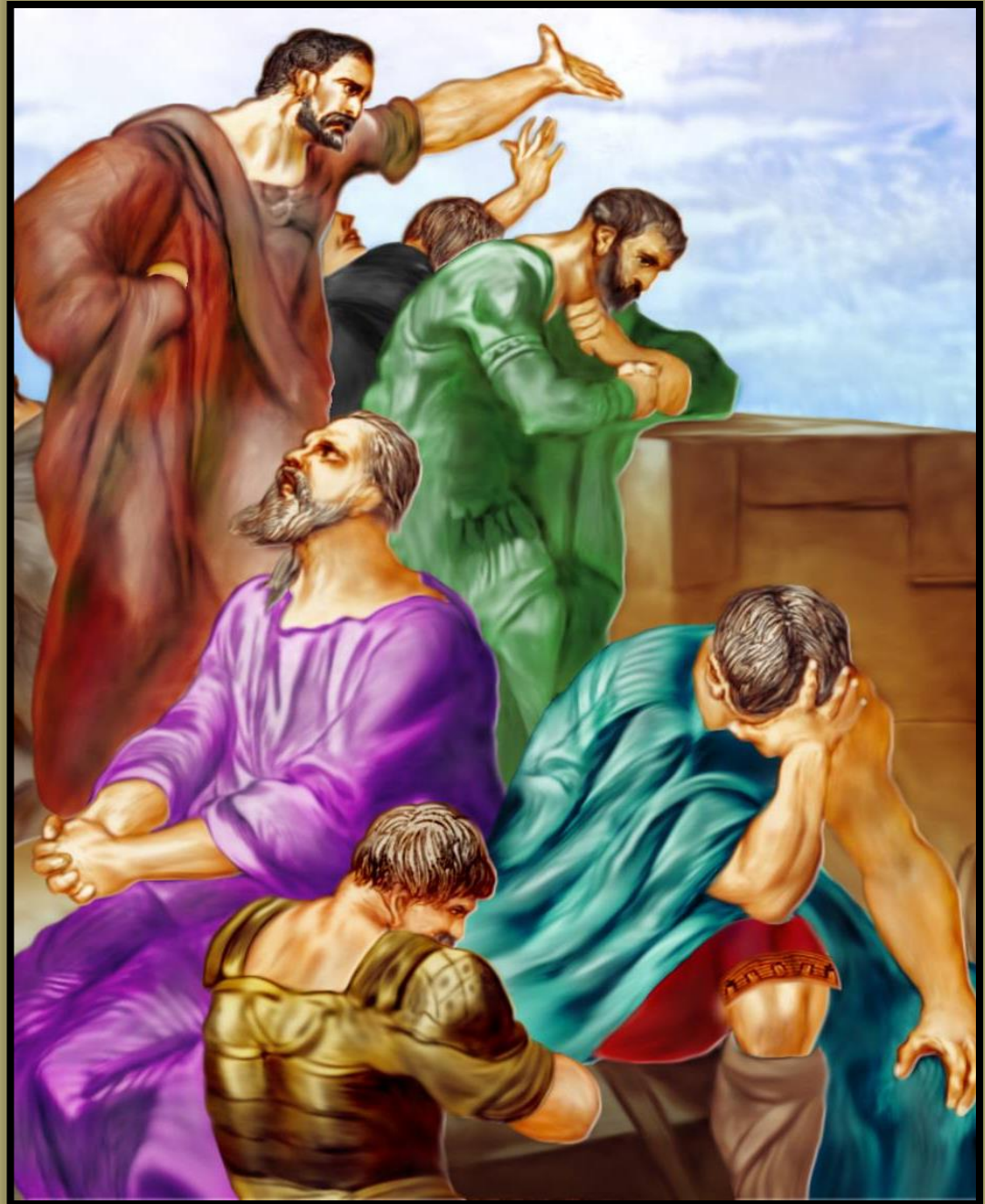
2 Samuel 15

“²⁴And lo Zadok also, and all **the Levites were with him, bearing the ark** of the covenant of God: and they set down the ark of God; and Abiathar went up, until all the people had done passing out of the city. ²⁵And the king said unto Zadok, **Carry back the ark of God into the city: if I shall find favour in the eyes of the LORD, he will bring me again, and shew me both it, and his habitation.**”

2 Samuel 15

“³⁰And David went up by the ascent of mount Olivet, and **wept** as he went up, and had his **head covered**, and he went **barefoot**: and all the people that was with him **covered every man his head**, and they went up, weeping as they went up.”

He went out of Jerusalem on foot, while his son Absalom had chariots and horses. He chose to walk out—and barefoot at that—to lower himself before God and as a token to those loyal to him that he would live and die with them.



Nothing, it seems, appeared to David more threatening in Absalom's plot than that Ahithophel was in it. Ahithophel was a politician that was long acquainted with David's affairs. On the Mount of Olives David prayed not against Ahithophel's person but against his counsel.

2 Samuel 15

“³¹And one told David, saying, Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom. And David said, O LORD, I pray thee, turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness.”



Ahithophel

Psalm 3

A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son.

“¹LORD, how are they increased that trouble me! many are they that rise up against me.

²Many there be which say of my soul, There is no help for him in God. Selah.

³But thou, O LORD, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.

⁴I cried unto the LORD with my voice, and he heard me out of his holy hill. Selah.

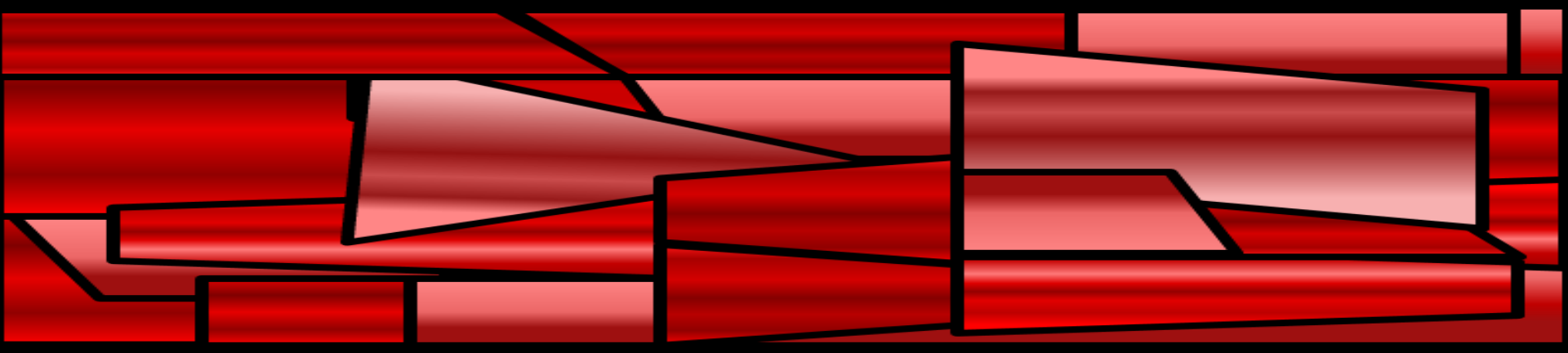
⁵I laid me down and slept; I awaked; for the LORD sustained me.

⁶I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people, that have set themselves against me round about.

⁷Arise, O LORD; save me, O my God: for thou hast smitten all mine enemies upon the cheek bone; thou hast broken the teeth of the ungodly.

⁸Salvation belongeth unto the LORD: thy blessing is upon thy people. Selah.”





THE END

