

2 Samuel Chapter 19

19 And it was told Joab, Behold, the king weepeth and mourneth for Absalom.

² And the victory that day was turned into mourning unto all the people: for the people heard say that day how the king was grieved for his son.

³ And the people gat them by stealth that day into the city, as people being ashamed steal away when they flee in battle.

⁴ But the king covered his face, and the king cried with a loud voice, O my son Absalom, O Absalom, my son, my son!

Verses 1-2 – David’s army returns in victory after service to the king but instead of rejoicing, they receive sorrow.

- David was treating his loss as greater than the victory. Not good.
- Application, after your success, be careful not to mourn beyond the victory and restoration you have.
 - After your success, be careful not to mourn too long over what you no longer have. You may have lost something that you loved that probably wasn’t needed or necessary for your future.

Verse 3 – Instead of a parade and celebration, they sneak into the city like they were defeated and ashamed that they might be the cause of the king’s grief. This doesn’t line up with God’s plan.

So let’s stop for a minute and discuss this response and using the steps of the Feasts (Leviticus Chapter 23) see what spiritual level they should be.

- Certainly we can understand David’s grief. He just lost his son whom he loved. There is no longer any chance to reconcile. On top of that, the spiritual condition of Absalom is severely suspect. And so, in the natural, we can see why David’s response is full of sorrow. Add to that, Absalom was in line as his successor so the future and outcome David may have expected is forever changed.
- However, his response and the duration may not have been spiritual. Let’s review the steps.
 - David has been humbled and submissive to God and seeking Him throughout his retreat from the throne (Feast of Passover).
 - He has been repentant as seen in his tearful climb up Mount Olives (Feast of Unleavened Bread).

- He has new hope when he reaches the top of the Mount and worships while receiving a visit from his friend Hushai (Feast of First Fruits).
- Later he receives word from his friend Hushai of the enemy plan and is warned not to stay in the plain but instead to “pass over” the river. Here we see the first three steps (Feasts) performed for David has to (1) humbly submit to hear the word and warning, (2) repent or change his mind about staying in his current location in the wilderness, (3) he moves or passes over to a new location with the hope of victory and evidence that God is answering his prayer; he is resurrected, (4) he received supplies from other friends in abundance and he and his troops are filled. I see this as representing the filling and renewal that comes from receiving the fullness of the Holy Spirit. It is what you need to be able to go into battle in the wilderness. Jesus has the Spirit during his wilderness temptation which helps to provide strength for his victory over Satan (Feast of Pentecost).
- He experiences mercy by sparing Shimei who shows up and curses him and by extending mercy to his son Absalom by commanding his three generals to be gentle with him during the battle. This to me demonstrates the 5th Feast or step represented by the Feast of Trumpets.
- David experiences victory where God moves on his behalf to deliver him from his enemies (the Day of Atonement). This represents end time prophesy of the second coming of Christ when he defeats the enemies prior to establishing his reign on the earth.
- David has not yet reached level 7 represented by the return of the King and Christ’s 1,000 year reign in prophesy. However, after receiving news of the great victory, his return as the king can be seen as clear partial fulfillment of the final Feast (Feast of Tabernacles).
- When looking at Leviticus 23:40, the celebration of the Feast of Tabernacles is a time to “rejoice before the Lord.” This was a commandment and we see it outlined again in the book of Nehemiah Chapter 8.
 - Please review this chapter and see how the Children of Israel were in grief and weeping and later instructed to rejoice and celebrate since it was during the Feast of Trumpets. Here too we can compare and see that David’s grief in the natural doesn’t spiritually justify his actions.

So using the steps outlined in the Feasts (which serves as a foundation for my teaching ministry) we can see that David’s prolonged grief is not the proper or spiritual response for this particular time.

Therefore, if his response is not led by the Spirit, his response is carnal and outside the will of God.

Application for Today: We need to be careful in our times or seasons of loss that our response or grief over the loss, doesn’t turn into a carnal act. There certainly is a time to grieve which is appropriate. However, we have to be careful that our loss doesn’t become greater than the plan of God. David is

grieving over the loss but God has a different and better plan for the Kingdom as a whole. Solomon will be a better king than Absalom.

- A helpful tip is to use the Feasts as a spiritual GPS. If you know where you are in the steps/level, you will know how to properly respond. If you know God has answered your prayer and you have received a victory through Him, don't let your fear overcome your praise.
- Example. I know one person prayed for God to change her husband's attitude toward her. God answered the prayer and the husband started reacting much kinder. However, the wife was still crying her eyes out fearful that the change might only be temporary or that the change didn't occur in the manner in which she thought it would. I had to remind her by asking her, "Did God answer our prayer?" Her reply was "yes." Then why are you not rejoicing?
- Be careful, just because it doesn't happen exactly according to your wishes and plans, doesn't mean that God didn't move on your behalf so your grief or disappointment might not bring glory to God.

His response also has an adverse impact on the people as they should be celebrating this great victory and giving God glory, but instead because of David's response they not only fail to praise, but also can't give God praise and glory for the great victory. Be careful, it is never just about us. Our actions and response can significantly impact the level/steps of others in their relationship and right standing with God. So David's response has a negative and adverse impact on the Kingdom and plan of God.

Verse 4 – David continues in this manner too long. Not discreet about it. While it is proper to have grief, it is not designed to be a state of bondage.

⁵ And Joab came into the house to the king, and said, Thou hast shamed this day the faces of all thy servants, which this day have saved thy life, and the lives of thy sons and of thy daughters, and the lives of thy wives, and the lives of thy concubines; ⁶ In that thou lovest thine enemies, and hatest thy friends. For thou hast declared this day, that thou regardest neither princes nor servants: for this day I perceive, that if Absalom had lived, and all we had died this day, then it had pleased thee well.

⁷ Now therefore arise, go forth, and speak comfortably unto thy servants: for I swear by the LORD, if thou go not forth, there will not tarry one with thee this night: and that will be worse unto thee than all the evil that befell thee from thy youth until now.

⁸ Then the king arose, and sat in the gate. And they told unto all the people, saying, Behold, the king doth sit in the gate. And all the people came before the king: for Israel had fled every man to his tent.

Verses 5-7 – Joab’s rebuke. He was right to bring this to the king’s attention. My Matthew Henry Commentary points to the idea that the manner in which he did it was not correct. Notice the difference between how Nathan rebuked David. Joab’s main points:

- He states David’s actions have caused his servants to feel ashamed. How? By appearing to care more about the loss of his enemy (even his son) than the well-being of servants who have loved and fought for him.
- David’s actions show he has no regard for either his servants or his leaders. Why? Because it appears he would have cared more if Absalom was still alive than the victory and sacrifice his servants made to defend and restore him.
- He claims David acts like he loved his enemies more than his friends.

Joab’s solution:

- Get up from the position you are in.
- Go speak and encourage your people.
- If David fails to do this, he could quickly lose the support of his people. If they leave now, it could result in the worse things happening to him in his future.

Application: Here is a lesson for how managers and leaders should treat their people. If they are not encouraged and celebrated, they may not stay with you for long.

Verse 8 – Then David gets up to see the people. He has to (1) humble himself to even listen to what Joab says; (2) repent or change his mind from his grief and self-centered focus on Absalom to concern over his servant’s well-being; (3) arise with new hope and direction to follow the will of God.

⁹ And all the people were at strife throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, The king saved us out of the hand of our enemies, and he delivered us out of the hand of the Philistines; and now he is fled out of the land for Absalom.

¹⁰ And Absalom, whom we anointed over us, is dead in battle. Now therefore why speak ye not a word of bringing the king back?

Verses 9-10 – The conversation among the people is about bringing David back to the throne. There was contention or conflict over bringing David back. The logic was:

- David has been effective and faithful in saving them before.
- David the previous hero, defender and king has left because they preferred Absalom. Their choice.

- Absalom is now dead and has failed them, so they ask themselves it seems why have they not gone back to welcome David as king again.

Application for Today: It is a good question to ask today as well if we find ourselves in this same situation. What situation would that be? One where we at one time may have trusted in Christ but later decided to switch our trust to something or someone else. When that something or someone other than Christ fails us (and may have brought us down to a bad state as well), we can follow the same logic:

- Jesus Christ has delivered us from sin and bondage before. He has saved us before.
- We have turned from following him and decided to follow a different king and let them/it take charge. It could be the world, selfish goals, money, relationships, etc., anything that steals our heart away from God.
- After the new thing we trusted in fails, we can ask ourselves, “Why not bring David back to the throne of our hearts and be our shepherd once again. Why not? What are you waiting for?”

11 And king David sent to Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, saying, Speak unto the elders of Judah, saying, Why are ye the last to bring the king back to his house? Seeing the speech of all Israel is come to the king, even to his house.

12 Ye are my brethren, ye are my bones and my flesh: wherefore then are ye the last to bring back the king?

13 And say ye to Amasa, Art thou not of my bone, and of my flesh? God do so to me, and more also, if thou be not captain of the host before me continually in the room of Joab.

14 And he bowed the heart of all the men of Judah, even as the heart of one man; so that they sent this word unto the king, Return thou, and all thy servants.

15 So the king returned, and came to Jordan. And Judah came to Gilgal, to go to meet the king, to conduct the king over Jordan.

Verse 11-14 – David appeals to his own tribe...and asks a question. It is often an effective technique in getting people to examine themselves without getting defensive by asking the appropriate question. Seek the Spirit for discernment on the right question to ask. Here the question is, “why are they (Judah, the tribe where he is from) the last ones to invite him back to the throne?” His own relatives. Sometimes others will respond before the people you expect will.

This is interesting, since David was allowed to rule in Judah first before he became King over all of Israel. So it is interesting that they are not also now the first ones to act in restoring the rightful King back into power.



I wonder what the answer to his question might have been. He repeats the question twice. They may have been ashamed since some of them had rejected him as king to follow Absalom instead. They may have thought they were not worthy or perhaps they just assumed they didn't need to invite him back to the throne. Whatever the reason, it is clear, David is expecting, hoping, and waiting for an invitation before returns to lead them again.

Application for Today: This is a picture of Jesus Christ today. Behold he stands at the door of your heart and knocks, but he won't kick the door down to get in. Invites us to come and receive him as the king of our hearts. He is waiting for you and me to invite him in. He is expecting and still waiting for many of us to welcome him into our hearts. This is a pretty good picture and steps for how to receive salvation and everlasting life from making Christ your King.

David makes the person (Amasa) who was leading the fight against him as his new captain. Amasa is his nephew. He has plans to use him. You would think Amasa, his nephew, would be the last person to be picked to lead his troops when just a chapter ago Amasa was fighting against David. But here we see David extending mercy and forgiveness and a promotion to one who didn't really deserve it or did anything to earn it.

Application for Today: No matter what you have done in the past, Jesus the King, still wants to extend forgiveness, mercy and promotion and favor to us. We have fought against His leadership in our lives and rebelled. We have selected the wrong king to lead our lives and guide us. Yet he still asks us the question that David asks the men of Judah. Christ like David in the story wants us to invite him into our hearts and be his people. Mercy, forgiveness, grace, peace and promotion awaits us when we do.

The Men of Judah upon hearing the message and question, follow the process. They humble themselves (they bowed). They send word after this that they want David to return. They repent from saying nothing and change their hearts and minds toward David. They invite him back and the rise up to meet with the King.

Verse 15 – After they repent, the King returns and they go out to meet and walk with the King.

Application: We too as believers as a result of following the steps, we await the return of the King when we too will be called up to meet him during the Rapture.

16 And Shimei the son of Gera, a Benjamite, which was of Bahurim, hasted and came down with the men of Judah to meet king David. 17 And there were a thousand men of Benjamin with him, and Ziba the servant of the house of Saul, and his fifteen sons and his twenty servants with him; and they went over Jordan before the king.

18 And there went over a ferry boat to carry over the king's household, and to do what he thought good. And Shimei the son of Gera fell down before the king, as he was come over Jordan; 19 And said unto the king, Let not my lord impute iniquity unto me, neither do thou remember that which thy servant did perversely the day that my lord the king went out of Jerusalem, that the king should take it to his heart. 20 For thy servant doth know that I have sinned: therefore, behold, I am come the first this day of all the house of Joseph to go down to meet my lord the king.

21 But Abishai the son of Zeruiah answered and said, Shall not Shimei be put to death for this, because he cursed the LORD's anointed?

22 And David said, What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah, that ye should this day be adversaries unto me? Shall there any man be put to death this day in Israel? For do not I know that I am this day king over Israel?

23 Therefore the king said unto Shimei, Thou shalt not die. And the king sware unto him.

Shimei shows up to apologize. Eventually, your haters will come correct. Years ago when I first read this and understanding the story of Shimei, I wasn't sure if his repentance was sincere. Perhaps David was getting played. But I've come to understand at this time, his repentance and confession was real.

Let's walk through what Shimei did and see if it aligns with the Feast steps or process.

- He hurries to seek out David and find him. There is a sense of urgency.
- He doesn't come alone. He has 1,000 people from his own tribe with him. So others are coming to David as well. Shimei is bringing others to the King.
- He falls down before King David and bows (**humble submission, Step 1, Passover**).
- He asks for forgiveness and that David not punish him or judge him as guilty for his previous sins and actions when he cursed and attacked David (**repentance and sorrow over past sins, Step 2, Unleavened Bread**).
- He asks that David not remember his sins. He changed his mind and actions and "***behold, I am come the first this day***" to seek forgiveness and serve the king (**changed life and new hope, Step 3, First Fruits**).

So I see clear evidence of Shimei following the key steps to being in right relationship. However, I think perhaps he had already repented and completed these steps in his heart even before he got to David. I think he had already gone through the first three steps earlier. Look at the evidence.

- He was in a hurry to seek David. So he must have already humbled himself, much like the story of the prodigal son.
- He brings others with him to see and serve David. While the out pouring of the Holy Spirit had not happened in the Old Testament, this is evidence to me of spiritual fruit. He is not led by

the flesh or else fear of punishment would have caused him to hide (like Adam and Eve did). Instead, he appears to even bring others. This would point to **Steps 4 and 5, Feasts of Pentecost and Trumpets.**

Application for Today: The King will forgive you of your sins. You can recover from your sins and past mistakes. You need only follow the steps Shimei does. Also, you don't need to wait. Getting in right relationship with God is a personal matter you can do alone, in your home, wherever. But notice, Shimei knows how to come correct with others when he personally comes correct before God. Before you get ready to approach others, make sure you have followed the steps in approaching God first (first 4 steps).

Verse 21-22 – Abishai's response is shouldn't we take him out for his previous sin? David notes this is not a day for killing folk since this is the day he is restored. Take note, don't kill folk over their past sins when you are being restored.

Application for Today: We can easily understand why Abishai would feel this way. According to the Law, Shimei could have been executed for his crimes. He was certainly guilty and deserved judgment. However, Shimei receives mercy (Level/Step 5) because of his response. When you know you are wrong, don't hide, and instead come to Jesus.

- Forgiveness and mercy are always available when you come correct and believe.
- Don't be surprised if there are others (even those following the King or in church) who do not celebrate your recovery. They may still be focused and stuck on the laws you broke rather than the mercy and grace you will receive.
- Don't be a hater when someone as truly repented; otherwise you jeopardize your own righteous standing in God. You will be missing Step/Level 5 experience and can go no farther in Him....until you repent.
- When you don't celebrate and forgive others, David is saying you are working against the Kingdom and the plan of God. You become an adversary to Christ. God is not slack concerning His promises...but is long suffering not willing for any to perish, but that all would come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9).
- The reason for David extending mercy is still applicable today. He states in the form of a question, should anyone be killed on this day? The answer is no and the reason is David certainly knows who he is this day...he is the King! Application:
 - David is not only King over Israel, he is Shimei's king. When Christ is again the ruler in your life then mercy and new life follows.
 - When you know who you are in God, you can rest and have faith in that status and you don't need to prove it by taking revenge on others.
- When you give yourself to King Jesus, you will not die, but have everlasting life!

24 And Mephibosheth the son of Saul came down to meet the king, and had neither dressed his feet, nor trimmed his beard, nor washed his clothes, from the day the king departed until the day he came again in peace.

Verse 24 – Mephibosheth comes down to meet him. He has been in mourning since the king left. Remember, back in Chapter 16 we saw that Ziba had made some accusations about Mephibosheth’s loyalty to David. We will soon be able to determine if Ziba had lied to David.

The fact that Mephibosheth had not kept himself from the day David left until he was restored again in peace (Step/Level 7, Feast of Tabernacles), shows that he was not self-centered as Ziba had claimed. It looks like Ziba deceived David in Chapter 16.

25 And it came to pass, when he was come to Jerusalem to meet the king, that the king said unto him, Wherefore wentest not thou with me, Mephibosheth?

26 And he answered, My lord, O king, my servant deceived me: for thy servant said, I will saddle me an ass, that I may ride thereon, and go to the king; because thy servant is lame.

27 And he hath slandered thy servant unto my lord the king; but my lord the king is as an angel of God: do therefore what is good in thine eyes. 28 For all of my father’s house were but dead men before my lord the king: yet didst thou set thy servant among them that did eat at thine own table. What right therefore have I yet to cry any more unto the king?

Verse 25 – David asks a question, why didn’t you come with me? Be careful with this. Just because you don’t see them physically with you doesn’t always mean that they are against you. They could be supporting you behind the scenes. In fact, not everyone who is physically with you is necessarily working for your benefit (e.g., Ziba, Judas, etc.)

Verse 26 – Mephibosheth’s response is he was deceived by Ziba and lied on. Righteous people are still being deceived and slandered today. The purpose often is for personal gain and/or to keep you from what God has for you. Application: Don’t be deceived by others and don’t deceive yourself. If you do find yourself fooled, don’t take matters into your own hands...instead, take it to the King.

Verse 28 – Awesome speech by Mephibosheth! Instead of remembering how he was wronged, he highlights all the good that David had bestowed on him. Powerful! He already has received more than he felt like he deserved. He recognized grace.

- Application: If King Jesus never does anything else for me, he has already done for me more than I deserve. And yet, being in right relationship with God, I can yet humbly still ask for more.

29 And the king said unto him, Why speakest thou any more of thy matters? I have said, Thou and Ziba divide the land.

30 And Mephibosheth said unto the king, Yea, let him take all, forasmuch as my lord the king is come again in peace unto his own house.

Verse 29 – David perhaps feels irritated since he knows he made an earlier mistake. He tells them to split the land. So he draws back giving everything to Ziba and returns more in line with the original agreement where Mephibosheth enjoyed the land.

Verse 30 – Mephibosheth gives another powerful response. He tells David Ziba can have it all. What? If I am in this situation, I'm looking for punishment for Ziba and I want my land back. There is certainly no way I'm going to let him get away with his slander. But look again at Mephibosheth's reply. What is more important to him, the stuff, the land, the money, or the king? He is more concerned and relieved over David being on the throne than anything else. What is more important is that the king has come again in his rightful place. Any application? He is more concerned about David's reign than in his personal gain.

More important than anything else in this world, is to know that the King (Yeshua, Jesus the Christ), is the ruler of my heart. God being in the right place in my life is peace beyond the world's understanding. I thought about Mephibosheth's response when seeing on the news a recent murder case where the guilty party had had a huge mistake and killed an innocent person. Now convicted of the crime, the person was sentenced but one of the slain person's relatives reached out in love and forgiveness toward the now convicted person. There was a bit of debate on social media over whether the relative acted appropriately and fierce debate on whether the guilty party should have gotten more jail time. I certainly think some jail time was warranted, but to extend mercy and forgiveness to the guilty party so they can find repentance should not be a debate. Not when you see how Mephibosheth responded. Justice is important but mercy and grace trumps it. I'm sorry, when I see what I really deserve and how Jesus died for me while I was still in sin, how could I not forgive others. I want to be more concerned about the Kingdom than the revenge and the things of this world!

Application for Today: Don't forget where you come from, what God has done for you, and how He has delivered you...when you didn't deserve it. Is there a limit on how much and what you will forgive others for? See Matthew 18:22.

I don't know how the story ends. Not sure why Ziba got any reward. Perhaps his support for David helps. But here is a question to answer. Based on the story now and hearing all the evidence, who should David have believed, Ziba or Mephibosheth? Why?

31 And Barzillai the Gileadite came down from Rogelim, and went over Jordan with the king, to conduct him over Jordan. 32 Now Barzillai was a very aged man, even

fourscore years old: and he had provided the king of sustenance while he lay at Mahanaim; for he was a very great man.

³³ And the king said unto Barzillai, Come thou over with me, and I will feed thee with me in Jerusalem.

³⁴ And Barzillai said unto the king, How long have I to live, that I should go up with the king unto Jerusalem? ³⁵ I am this day fourscore years old: and can I discern between good and evil? Can thy servant taste what I eat or what I drink? Can I hear any more the voice of singing men and singing women? Wherefore then should thy servant be yet a burden unto my lord the king? ³⁶ Thy servant will go a little way over Jordan with the king: and why should the king recompense it me with such a reward? ³⁷ Let thy servant, I pray thee, turn back again, that I may die in mine own city, and be buried by the grave of my father and of my mother. But behold thy servant Chimham; let him go over with my lord the king; and do to him what shall seem good unto thee.

³⁸ And the king answered, Chimham shall go over with me, and I will do to him that which shall seem good unto thee: and whatsoever thou shalt require of me, that will I do for thee.

³⁹ And all the people went over Jordan. And when the king was come over, the king kissed Barzillai, and blessed him; and he returned unto his own place.

⁴⁰ Then the king went on to Gilgal, and Chimham went on with him: and all the people of Judah conducted the king, and also half the people of Israel.

Barzillai – Is someone who blessed and supported David before the battle against Absalom and now he arrives to meet the king. David invites him to join him but because of his age, he doesn't want to be a burden. Barzillai asks if he can go a while but then offers Chimham (his son) to enjoy and serve the king in his presence.

Let's look at this a bit closer. Barzillai was not a Hebrew. He was old (80) but he was a great man with much substance. David wants to reward him for his ministry to him in the wilderness. There is a reward for those who serve the king regardless of the circumstances. David invites him to come remain in the city.

Verses 34-38 – Barzillai is honored but provides several reasons in the form of questions for not wanting to accept this honor from David.

- He is not old and his days may not be long enough there to enjoy it.
- Due to age he may no longer be able to reason or see things clearly or correctly.

- The food David would provide, he may not be able to enjoy the taste.
- His hearing may be lost so he can't enjoy the king's entertainment.
- He would be a burden for David to care for.
- David doesn't have to give him such a great reward for what he has done.

The alternative suggestion from Barzillai is to allow him to continue just a little part of the journey and then be allowed to return to his own home to die and be buried. But he also asks that his son Chimham go with David.

Verse 38 – David agrees to take care of Chimham and to support Barzillai if he needs anything. What a great promise. Barzillai seeks the best for his son and he knows that would be serving and living with the King.

Verses 39-40 – Barzillai passes over with King David before he returns. We too should be sure to follow these pass over steps with Christ before we too return to the dust. Such application for today in the life of every Christian is in this simple story. His son Chimham continues on with King David. Refer to 1 Kings 2:7.

Application for Today: This should be the goal for every parent. To live a life in support of the Kingdom that encourages and facilitates the security of our children and their service to the King. While we may only be able to go part of the way with them, our joy should be seeing them complete the journey in fellowshiping and serving God in this life while we return to our true home.

⁴¹ And, behold, all the men of Israel came to the king, and said unto the king, Why have our brethren the men of Judah stolen thee away, and have brought the king, and his household, and all David's men with him, over Jordan?

⁴² And all the men of Judah answered the men of Israel, Because the king is near of kin to us: wherefore then be ye angry for this matter? Have we eaten at all of the king's cost? Or hath he given us any gift?

⁴³ And the men of Israel answered the men of Judah, and said, We have ten parts in the king, and we have also more right in David than ye: why then did ye despise us, that our advice should not be first had in bringing back our king? And the words of the men of Judah were fiercer than the words of the men of Israel.

While there should be joy, there is contention due to how David is brought back. Israel has an issue with how David is being brought back. Apparently, they wanted to participate and have a say in bringing David back. They bring their complaint to David.

Judah responds to their complaint rather than David. They explain they took the lead because David is kinfolk. They note they have not received any reward or special favors from the King.

The argument gets more heated and they argue over who has more right over the king.



Amazing. Let's ask this question, using the Feasts, what level or step do you think the people are? They certainly are not responding in a spiritual manner. The traits we see are jealousy, pride, strife, etc., which has replaced what should be a focus on the return of the true king to the throne. Notice the difference between their response and Mephibosheth earlier in the chapter. Even Ziba is in a better spiritual position at that moment.

Application for Today: Don't let flesh, emotions and the things of this world take away your joy and peace that you received from the return of the King to His rightful position in your life.

Several commentaries point out the ongoing contention between the Northern Tribes (Israel) and Judah.