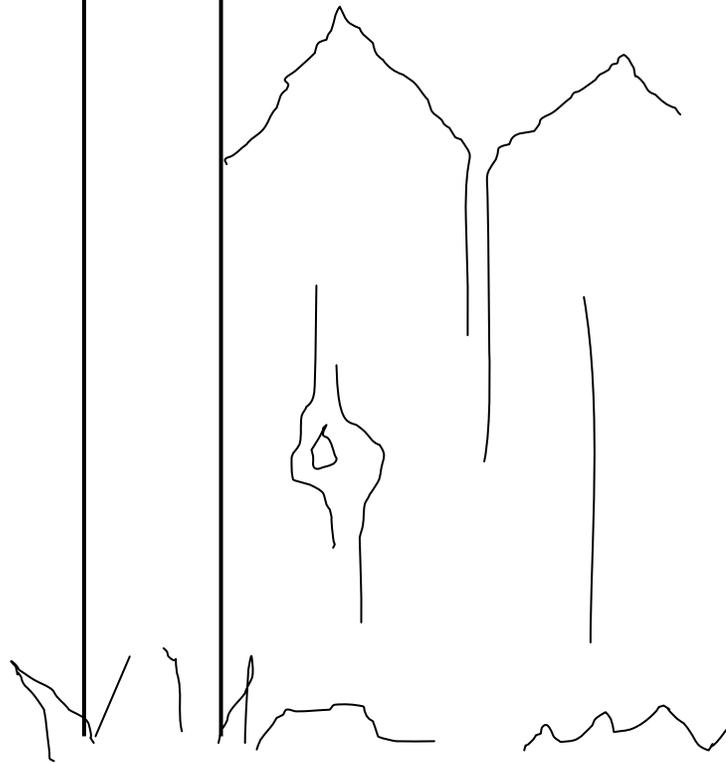


*II Samuel 19:9-40*

Lesson #19, An Elderly Man Offers Noble Service



WELCOME TO  
**MAHANAIM**



9 All the people were quarreling throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, "The king delivered us from the hand of our enemies and saved us from the hand of the Philistines, but now he has fled out of the land from Absalom. 10 "However, Absalom, whom we anointed over us, has died in battle. Now then, why are you silent about bringing the king back?" 11 Then King David sent to Zadok and Abiathar the priests, saying, "Speak to the elders of Judah, saying, 'Why are you the last to bring the king back to his house, since the word of all Israel has come to the king, even to his house? 12 'You are my brothers; you are my bone and my flesh. Why then should you be the last to bring back the king?'

[1.] v:9-10, write the statements in these verses that comprised Israel's quarrelling.

[2.] v:11, What did David ask of the priests?

## *II Samuel 19:9-40*

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13 "Say to Amasa (II Sam 17:25), 'Are you not my bone and my flesh? May God do so to me, and more also, if you will not be commander of the army before me continually in place of Joab.'" 14 Thus he turned the hearts of all the men of Judah as one man, so that they sent word to the king, saying, "Return, you and all your servants."

15 The king then returned and came as far as the Jordan. And Judah came to Gilgal in order to go to meet the king, to bring the king across the Jordan.

16 Then Shimei the son of Gera, the Benjamite who was from Bahurim, hurried and came down with the men of Judah to meet King David. 17 There were a thousand men of Benjamin with him, with Ziba the servant of the house of Saul, and his fifteen sons and his twenty servants with him; and they rushed to the Jordan before the king. 18 Then they kept crossing the ford to bring over the king's household, and to do what was good in his sight. And Shimei the son of Gera fell down before the king as he was about to cross the Jordan. 19 So he said to the king, "Let not my lord consider me guilty, nor remember what your servant did wrong on the day when my lord the king came out from Jerusalem, so that the king would take it to heart. 20 "For your servant knows that I have sinned; therefore behold, I have come today, the first of all the house of Joseph to go down to meet my lord the king." 21 But Abishai the son of Zeruiah said, "Should not Shimei be put to death for this, because he cursed the Lord's anointed?"

22 David then said, "What have I to do with you, O sons of Zeruiah, that you should this day be an adversary to me? Should any man be put to death in Israel today? For do I not know that I am king over Israel today?" 23 The king said to Shimei, "You shall not die." Thus the king swore to him.

[3.] In v:13, What did David instruct the priests to say that signed Amasa's death warrant?

[4.] v:14, What did David want to happen?

[5.] According v:15, to where had David traveled?

[6.] v:16-20, Considering II Sam 16:6-13, why was Shimei all of a sudden goodie two-shoes?

[7.] v: 17, Along with 1,000 Benjamites, who was with Shimei?

[8.] v:21, If he had called the shots, what would Abishai have done to good ol' Shimei?

[9.] From Lk 23:34, What did David's Son pray regarding His murderers?

[10.] v:22-23, What was the verdict for Shimei?

## ***II Samuel 19:9-40***

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24 Then Mephibosheth the son of Saul came down to meet the king; and he had neither cared for his feet, nor trimmed his mustache, nor washed his clothes, from the day the king departed until the day he came home in peace. 25 It was when he came from Jerusalem to meet the king, that the king said to him, "Why did you not go with me, Mephibosheth?" 26 So he answered, "O my lord, the king, my servant deceived me; for your servant said, 'I will saddle a donkey for myself that I may ride on it and go with the king,' because your servant is lame. 27 "Moreover, he has slandered your servant to my lord the king; but my lord the king is like the angel of God, therefore do what is good in your sight. 28 "For all my father's household was nothing but dead men before my lord the king; yet you set your servant among those who ate at your own table. What right do I have yet that I should complain anymore to the king?" 29 So the king said to him, "Why do you still speak of your affairs? I have decided, 'You and Ziba shall divide the land.'" 30 Mephibosheth said to the king, "Let him even take it all, since my lord the king has come safely to his own house."

[11.] v:24, Next was Mephibosheth! Review II Sam 16:1-4 and then Mephibosheth's story (v:24-28).

Why do you think David make the right decision (v:29)?

[12.] v:30, If this statement was made to you, what would you think?

While the tumult of strife and the clamor made by individuals seeking personnel assistance increased in penetrating volume, David's eye was attracted to a more quiet company of mounted men. These men had no political agenda to argue and no favors to request. At their head was a familiar face of an octogenarian. It was Barzillai who had only become known to the king a short time before. He, his family and his friends had heaped food and comforts upon the king and his household-in-exile. <sup>1</sup>

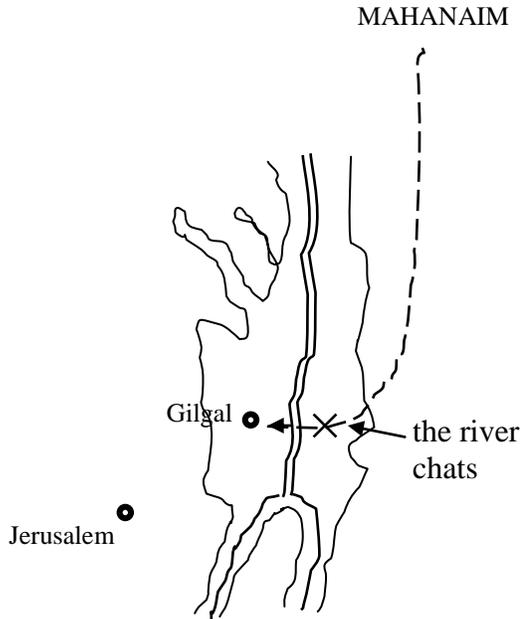
31 Now Barzillai the Gileadite had come down from Rogelim; and he went on to the Jordan with the king to escort him over the Jordan. 32 Now Barzillai was very old, being eighty years old; and he had sustained the king while he stayed at Mahanaim, for he was a very great man.

[13.] v:31, From where did Barzillai come & what was his desire at the river?

**II Samuel 19:9-40**

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33 The king said to Barzillai, "You cross over with me and I will sustain you in Jerusalem with me." 34 But Barzillai said to the king, "How long have I yet to live, that I should go up with the king to Jerusalem? 35 "I am now eighty years old. Can I distinguish between good and bad? Or can your servant taste what I eat or what I drink? Or can I hear anymore the voice of singing men and women? Why then should your servant be an added burden to my lord the king? 36 "Your servant would merely cross over the Jordan with the king. Why should the king compensate me with this reward? 37 "Please let your servant return, that I may die in my own city near the grave of my father and my mother. However, here is your servant Chimham, let him cross over with my lord the king, and do for him what is good in your sight." 38 The king answered, "Chimham shall cross over with me, and I will do for him what is good in your sight; and whatever you require of me, I will do for you." 39 All the people crossed over the Jordan and the king crossed too. The king then kissed Barzillai and blessed him, and he returned to his place.



40 Now the king went on to Gilgal, and Chimham went on with him; and all the people of Judah and also half the people of Israel accompanied the king.

[14.] v:33, What did David offer Barzillai?

[15.] v:34-37, What was Barzillai's response?

[16.] v:37, What concession did Barzillai make to David?

[17.] v:39, The king then kissed Barzillai and blessed him. **Of all the river conversations that have been recorded in this lesson, which one do you think was most encouraging to the king and why?**

[18.] From v:40, where did the next confrontation take place?

[19.] v:40, again. What two groups were represented here?

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