

Time to Drive or Time to Wait?

David Confirmed King of Israel

Part 1 of 2

The King and the People Series

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What We Will Learn

- Time to drive events (make events happen)?
- Or time to wait—
- Responding to events as they occur?
- Guided by “right and just”
- Example from David’s interactions
- During period between death of Saul and confirmation of David as king of Israel

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What We Will Learn cont'd

- After the death of Saul
- David relocated to Hebron as God directed
- Waited patiently thereafter
- Responded to events as they developed
- Guided by “right and just”
- David later was confirmed king
- By an assembly of people of Israel
- 2 Samuel 2–5

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3

David Relocates to Hebron

- After the death of Saul
- David sought and received direction from God
- To relocate to Hebron from Ziklag
- Settled in Hebron and its towns
- With his followers and families
- 2 Samuel 2:1–3

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4

2 Samuel 2 (NIV)

1 In the course of time, David inquired of the Lord. “Shall I go up to one of the towns of Judah?” he asked.

The Lord said, “Go up.”

David asked, “Where shall I go?”

“To Hebron,” the Lord answered.

2 So David went up there with his two wives, Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail, the widow of Nabal of Carmel.

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5

2 Samuel 2 (NIV)

3 David also took the men who were with him, each with his family, and they settled in Hebron and its towns.

- David sensed time to become king was near
- Initiated relocation to Hebron
- By seeking and receiving direction from God
- Waited patiently thereafter
- Responded to events as they occurred

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6

David Confirmed King of Judah

- Assembly of the men of Judah
- Convened in Hebron
- Confirmed David king over Judah
- 2 Samuel 2:4

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7

2 Samuel 2 (NIV)

4 Then the men of Judah came to Hebron, and there they anointed David king over the tribe of Judah...

- People of Judah anointed David
- To confirm he was their choice for kingship
- Anointing replaced election
- Because the choice was already well known

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8

David Reached Out to Jabesh Gilead

- Recognized their respect for Saul
- Showed he respected Saul as they did
- Informed them as follows
 - People of Judah confirmed him king over Judah
 - Be courageous in considering the matter
- 2 Samuel 2:4–7

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9

2 Samuel 2 (NIV)

4 ...When David was told that it was the men from Jabesh Gilead who had buried Saul,

5 he sent messengers to them to say to them, "The Lord bless you for showing this kindness to Saul your master by burying him."

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10

2 Samuel 2 (NIV)

6 May the Lord now show you kindness and faithfulness, and I too will show you the same favor because you have done this.

7 Now then, be strong and brave, for Saul your master is dead, and the people of Judah have anointed me king over them."

- Clear but veiled message
- Time has come to consider me as your king

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11

Israel Attacked Judah but Failed

- Abner appointed Ish-Bosheth king over Israel
- Took up arms against David
- David's men met him on the way
- Defeated him in the battle that ensued
- Abner called for end of hostilities between Israel and Judah
- 2 Samuel 2:8–32 [Selections read in session]

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12

2 Samuel 2 (NIV)

- Abner makes Ish-Bosheth king over Israel

8 Meanwhile, Abner son of Ner, the commander of Saul's army, had taken Ish-Bosheth son of Saul and brought him over to Mahanaim.

9 He made him king over Gilead, Ashuri and Jezreel, and also over Ephraim, Benjamin and all Israel.

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13

2 Samuel 2 (NIV)

- Abner leads Israel to attack Judah

12 Abner son of Ner, together with the men of Ish-Bosheth son of Saul, left Mahanaim and went to Gibeon.

13 Joab son of Zeruiah and David's men went out and met them at the pool of Gibeon. One group sat down on one side of the pool and one group on the other side.

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14

2 Samuel 2 (NIV)

- After a fierce battle
- Israel ran and was pursued by Judah
- Israel's commander Abner called for peace

26 Abner called out to Joab, "Must the sword devour forever? Don't you realize that this will end in bitterness? How long before you order your men to stop pursuing their fellow Israelites?"

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15

2 Samuel 2 (NIV)

27 Joab answered, "As surely as God lives, if you had not spoken, the men would have continued pursuing them until morning."

28 So Joab blew the trumpet, and all the troops came to a halt; they no longer pursued Israel, nor did they fight anymore.

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16

2 Samuel 2 (NIV)

30 Then Joab stopped pursuing Abner and assembled the whole army. Besides Asahel, nineteen of David's men were found missing.

31 But David's men had killed three hundred and sixty Benjamites who were with Abner.

- Israel attacked Judah
- David's army defended Judah
- The two sides made peace that survived time

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Continued from Part 1

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19

Israel Begins Negotiation with David

- Abner offered to begin discussion on unification
- House of Saul satisfied David’s conditions
- Abner conferred with elders of Israel
- He and delegation of 20 met with David
- Reached agreement on terms of unification
- 2 Samuel 3:6–21 [19–21 read in session]

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20

2 Samuel 3 (NIV)

19 Abner also spoke to the Benjamites in person. Then he went to Hebron to tell David everything that Israel and the whole tribe of Benjamin wanted to do.

20 When Abner, who had twenty men with him, came to David at Hebron, David prepared a feast for him and his men.

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21

2 Samuel 3 (NIV)

21 Then Abner said to David, “Let me go at once and assemble all Israel for my lord the king, so that they may make a covenant with you, and that you may rule over all that your heart desires.” So David sent Abner away, and he went in peace.

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22

Joab Murders Abner

- David condemned and cursed Joab
- Declared mourning for Abner
- Honored Abner with burial in Hebron, one-day fast, published lament, and public recognition as commander and great man
- All Israel was pleased with David’s response to the murder of Abner
- 2 Samuel 3:22–39 [selections read in session]

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23

2 Samuel 3 (NIV)

28 Later, when David heard about this, he said, “I and my kingdom are forever innocent before the Lord concerning the blood of Abner son of Ner.

29 May his blood fall on the head of Joab and on his whole family! May Joab’s family never be without someone who has a running sore or leprosy or who leans on a crutch or who falls by the sword or who lacks food.”

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24

2 Samuel 3 (NIV)

31 Then David said to Joab and all the people with him, “Tear your clothes and put on sackcloth and walk in mourning in front of Abner.” King David himself walked behind the bier.

32 They buried Abner in Hebron, and the king wept aloud at Abner’s tomb. All the people wept also.

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25

2 Samuel 3 (NIV)

36 All the people took note and were pleased; indeed, everything the king did pleased them.

37 So on that day all the people there and all Israel knew that the king had no part in the murder of Abner son of Ner.

38 Then the king said to his men, “Do you not realize that a commander and a great man has fallen in Israel this day?”

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26

Murder of Ish-Bosheth

- Two men murdered Ish-Bosheth
- King of Israel by Abner appointment
- They brought his head to David
- Expecting reward
- David rebuked them and ordered them killed
- Buried Ish-Bosheth in Abner’s tomb at Hebron
- 2 Samuel 4:1–12 [8–12 read in session]

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27

2 Samuel 4 (NIV)

8 They brought the head of Ish-Bosheth to David at Hebron and said to the king, “Here is the head of Ish-Bosheth son of Saul, your enemy, who tried to kill you. This day the Lord has avenged my lord the king against Saul and his offspring.”

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28

2 Samuel 4 (NIV)

9 David answered Rekab and his brother Baanah, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, “As surely as the Lord lives, who has delivered me out of every trouble,

10 when someone told me, ‘Saul is dead,’ and thought he was bringing good news, I seized him and put him to death in Ziklag. That was the reward I gave him for his news!

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29

2 Samuel 4 (NIV)

11 How much more—when wicked men have killed an innocent man in his own house and on his own bed—should I not now demand his blood from your hand and rid the earth of you!”

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30

2 Samuel 4 (NIV)

12 So David gave an order to his men, and they killed them. They cut off their hands and feet and hung the bodies by the pool in Hebron. But they took the head of Ish-Bosheth and buried it in Abner's tomb at Hebron.

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31

Israel Confirms David King

- Representatives of Israel came to David
- Recognized him as the one who led Israel on their military campaigns when Saul was king
- David made covenant with them
- They anointed him king over Israel
- 2 Samuel 5:1–5

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32

2 Samuel 5 (NIV)

1 All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, "We are your own flesh and blood.

2 In the past, while Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel on their military campaigns. And the Lord said to you, 'You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become their ruler.'"

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33

2 Samuel 5 (NIV)

3 When all the elders of Israel had come to King David at Hebron, the king made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord, and they anointed David king over Israel.

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34

2 Samuel 5 (NIV)

4 David was thirty years old when he became king, and he reigned forty years.

5 In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years.

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