

SUMMARY OF 2 SAMUEL CHAPTER 14

David's son, Absalom, had committed a sin against his sister, Tamar, he fled to Geshur. David still longed to see his son despite the sin. David's commander, Joab, devises a plan by hiring a young woman to pose as a mourner to go to king David and tell him a story. The story talked about her dead husband and two sons who got into a fight. One killed the other. The crowd around her wanted the surviving son to be released into their custody so that they could kill him, thus getting rid of the heir and stopping the lineage. David tells her to go home, and he will provide protection for her.

To show David this is his plight; she asks permission to speak again. Being granted permission, she asks the question "Why then have you devised a thing like this against the people of God? When the king says this, does he not convict himself, for the king has not brought back his banished son?" (v 13). (She was implying Absalom killing Amnon and David would not bring him back home. God has been speaking to David about Absalom using the woman's parable.

David realizes this must be Joab's plan which she confirms. Joab is summoned to David's court and commanded to go to Geshur to bring back his son, Absalom. David sends instructions that Absalom should return home, but he would live in a separate house without seeing the king's face. (v 24).

Absalom who was a handsome man without blemish returns to Jerusalem where he father's 3 sons and a daughter who was also named Tamar. Absalom orders Joab to come but Joab refuses. Next Absalom's servants are directed to set Joab's field on fire to get his attention. Absalom is trying to get an audience with his dad through Joab. Joab finally complies. Absalom being granted an audience, bows before David, and David responds with a kiss.