

# David's Rise to Power

King David in History and Legend  
Park Avenue Synagogue  
Dr. Ed Silver  
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## Topics

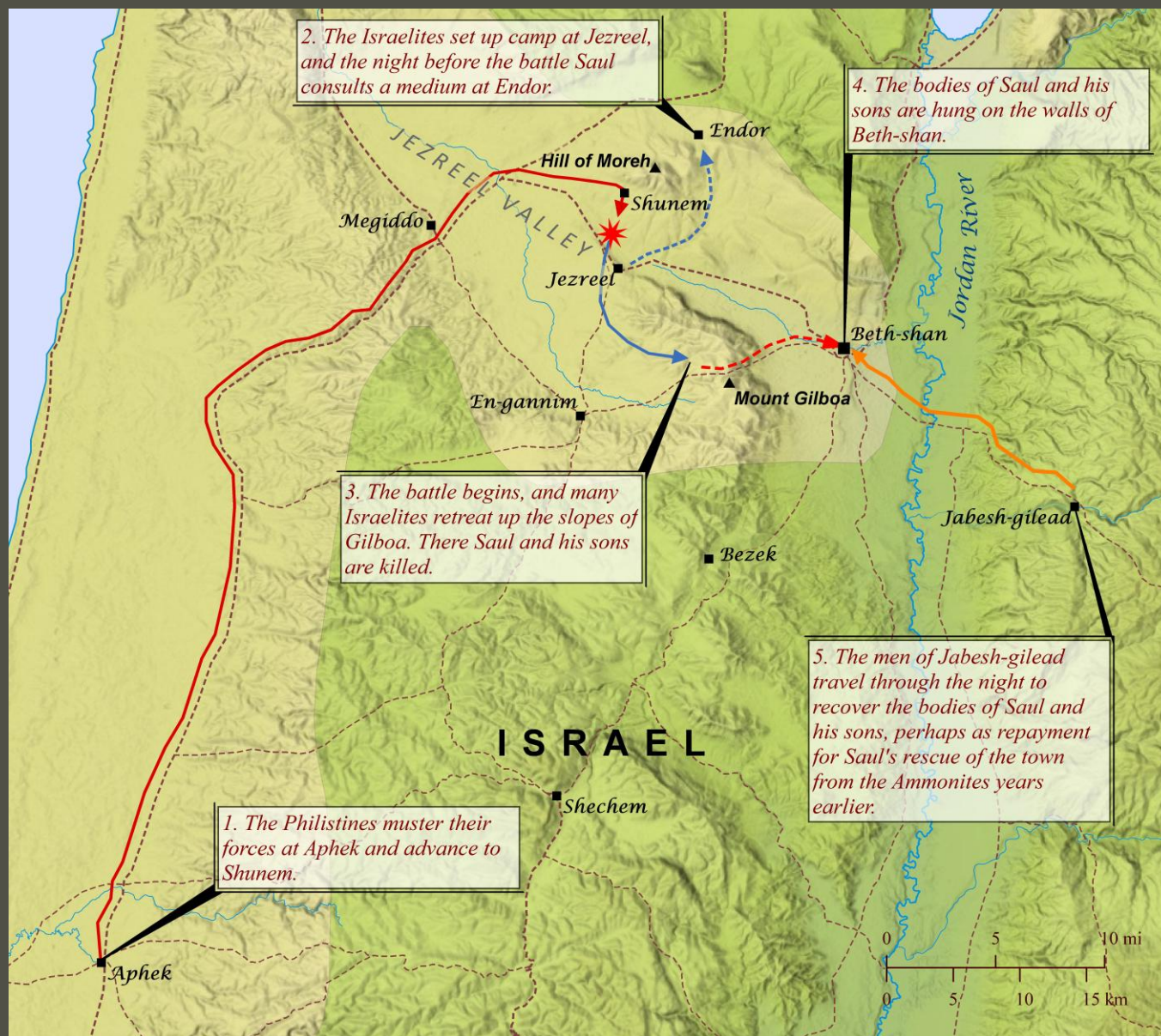
- The Death of Saul and Jonathan (1Sam 31)
- David's Alibi (1Sam 30)
- David's First Kingdom (2Sam 2.1-4)
- Abner ben Ner and Ishba'al (2Sam 2.5-29)
- Abner's Treachery (2Sam 3.1-22)
- David Consolidates Power
  - Abner's Death (2Sam 3.22-39)
  - Ishbaal's Death (2Sam 4)
  - David's Kingship over All Israel (2Sam 5.1-5)
  - Jerusalem, the City of David (2Sam
  - Meriba'al's Vassalage (2Sam 9)

# The Death of Saul and Jonathan

- Philistine Aggression
- Saul's Suicide (1Sam 30.4)
- Saul's Body Desecrated (1Sam 30.9-10)

## David's Alibi

- The Location of Ziklag (far from Mt. Gilboa)
- David's Captive Wives (1Sam 30.5-8)
- Complete Massacre and Complete Recovery (vv 17-20)
- Principle of Equal Distribution (vv 22-25)



## David's First Kingdom

- 1Sam 30.37-31: David pays reparations.
- Hebron as David's first capital
- David looks northward (2Sam 2.5-7)
- David as a Philistine Vassal

# The Rival Kingdoms of David and Ishba'al



## Abner ben Ner and Ishba'al

- Abner Consolidates Power under a Surviving Saulide (2Sam 2.8-10)
- David and Abner clash at Gibeon (2Sam 2.12-17)
- Abner kills Joab's brother Asahel (2Sam 2.18-24)
- David's Kingdom in ascent, Ishba'al's in decline (3.1-6)
- Abner and Saul's Concubines (2Sam 3.8-11)

## Abner's Treachery & Death

- Abner Switches Sides (2Sam 3.12-21)
- Michal and Paltiel ben La'ish
- Abner's Murder (2Sam 3.22-30)
- David is Innocent (vv 21, 22, 23, 28, 37)
- David Eulogizes Abner (2Sam 3.33-34)
- Was Abner offering Benjamin to David?

## Ishba'al's Death

- Ishba'al Murdered by his own officers (2Sam 4.1-7)
- Baanah and Rechab switch sides (2Sam 4.8)
- David responds as he responded with Saul (2Sam 4.9-12)
- Death of Ishba'al as paradigm for Death of Saul?

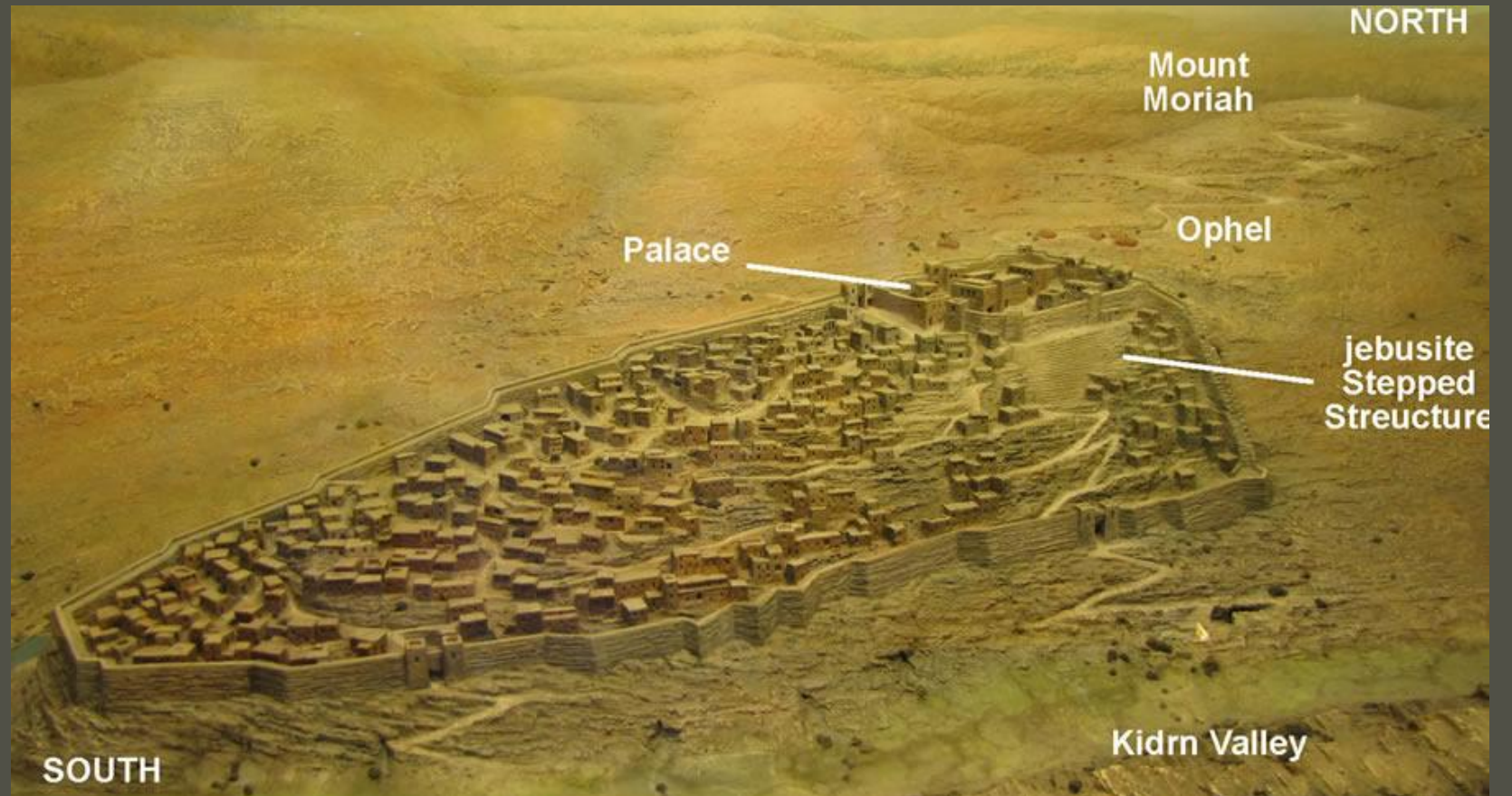
We are accustomed at this point to expect that every death that accrues to David's benefit is to be laid at his feet: Nabal, Saul, Jonathan, Abner, and now Ishbaal. But though Ishbaal's death did benefit David, it also benefited Rechab and Baanah and the northern kingdom they intended to represent. For the murder of Ishbaal had precisely the desired effect: David did not have to enter Israel with military force.<sup>19</sup> With the death of Ishbaal, David's reign in Israel was assured. Rechab and Baanah paid for it with their lives, but on a national scale the price was worth paying. David would have recognized the value of the gift when Ishbaal's head was presented to him. But this is one death for which he probably did not bear direct responsibility.

## David's Kingship over All Israel

- David Acclaimed King in Hebron (2Sam 5.1-5)
- David's Third Anointment
- The Philistines respond to David's consolidation of power (2Sam 5.17-25)
- David's tactical brilliance (vv 23-24)

# Jerusalem: The City of David

- Conquest: 2Sam 5.6-10
- City Fortified and Palace Build (2Sam 5.11-16)



## Meriba'al's Vassalage

- David's control over the Saulide lineage (2Sam 9.1)
- Meriba'al as a court hostage
- Meriba'al's disability
- His subservience to David (2Sam 9.6)
- David's cynical control over Saul's landholdings (2Sam 9.7-13)