

## Exegetical Notes – 2 Samuel 2:1-7

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### 2 Samuel 2:1-7

#### Verse 1

***<sup>1</sup> 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.***

- “In the course of time,” became a common phrase in the book of 2 Samuel. It means that some time has passed since the events previously recorded. The exact amount of time which passed is uncertain. But, this event does not follow immediately after the news of Saul’s death. Time has passed.
- “David inquired of the Lord.” This means that David asked God what he should do before he did anything.
- David asked God if he should move from Ziklag, his home in Philistia, to a town in Judah, in Israeli territory.
- God told David to go to the town of Hebron in the territory of Judah.
- Exactly how God spoke to David is unknown. But David understood that he was to move to Hebron.

#### Verses 2-4a

***<sup>2</sup> So David went up there with his two wives, Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail, the widow of Nabal of Carmel. <sup>3</sup> David also took the men who were with him, each with his family, and they settled in Hebron and its towns. <sup>4</sup> Then the men of Judah came to Hebron, and there they anointed David king over the tribe of Judah.***

- David moved his family and those of all his men to Hebron.
- At Hebron, David was anointed King of Judah. This does not mean that he was anointed King of all Israel. He was made king of one of Israel’s tribes, the tribe of Judah.

- David had been anointed King of Judah 15 years earlier (see 1 Samuel 16:13). This is the public endorsement of what God had already ordained.

### **Verses 4b-7**

***When David was told that it was the men from Jabesh Gilead who had buried Saul, <sup>5</sup> he sent messengers to them to say to them, “The Lord bless you for showing this kindness to Saul your master by burying him. <sup>6</sup> May the Lord now show you kindness and faithfulness, and I too will show you the same favor because you have done this. <sup>7</sup> Now then, be strong and brave, for Saul your master is dead, and the people of Judah have anointed me king over them.”***

- David learned that the men of Jabesh Gilead had buried Saul (see 1 Samuel 31:11-13). He sent a message to them commending them for what they had done and for the honor they had paid to Saul. He promised to show them favor for their action.
- He informed the people of Jabesh Gilead that he had been anointed King of Judah. This is a subtle invitation for them to join him and to make him their king, too. God’s plan to make David King of all Israel is beginning to unfold.

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