

## Exegetical Notes – 2 Samuel 19:40-43

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### 2 Samuel 19:40-43

#### Verse 40

<sup>40</sup> ***When the king crossed over to Gilgal, Kimham crossed with him. All the troops of Judah and half the troops of Israel had taken the king over.***

- Kimham was the son of Barzillai, David's faithful servant and friend (see 2 Samuel 19:31-39). He accompanied David back into Jerusalem.
- **ALL** the troops from Judah, David's tribe, but only ½ of the troops of Israel, the rest of the tribes, were part of the honor guard that escorted David back to Jerusalem.

#### Verse 41

<sup>41</sup> ***Soon all the men of Israel were coming to the king and saying to him, "Why did our brothers, the men of Judah, steal the king away and bring him and his household across the Jordan, together with all his men?"***

- The men from the other tribes took exception to the composition of the honor guard. They objected because David had moved back into Jerusalem before all the troops of Israel were present to accompany him.

#### Verse 42

<sup>42</sup> ***All the men of Judah answered the men of Israel, "We did this because the king is closely related to us. Why are you angry about it? Have we eaten any of the king's provisions? Have we taken anything for ourselves?"***

- The men of Judah responded that the honor guard was composed of the men from David's tribe. They explained that they did not expect special favor from David but honored him because he was one of them.
- It is important to note that the men of Israel were "angry" because of the composition of the honor guard.

### **Verse 43**

***<sup>43</sup> Then the men of Israel answered the men of Judah, “We have ten shares in the king; so we have a greater claim on David than you have. Why then do you treat us with contempt? Weren’t we the first to speak of bringing back our king?” But the men of Judah responded even more harshly than the men of Israel.***

- The men of Israel insisted that they had a greater stake in David than did the men of Judah and that they had been treated with contempt by the men of Judah and possibly the king, himself.
- The men of Judah were even more upset than the men of Israel.
- Though David had been restored to Israel’s throne, the kingdom was not unified.

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