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The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- After the release from his local exile, Absalom spent the next four years laying the groundwork for his rebellion. 15:1-6
  - Absalom choose transportation that depicted royalty with the accompanying impressive security detail.
  - He intercepted the people who were coming to the king to settle legal matters and indicated he could do a better job of hearing the cases.

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The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- After the release from his local exile, Absalom spent the next four years laying the groundwork for his rebellion. 15:1-6
  - Absalom engaged the people on a personal level rather than keeping them at arm's length.
  - His strategies worked in the comment that he "stole the hearts of the men of Israel."

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The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- Absalom implemented his plan to dethrone his father David as king of Israel. 15:7-12
  - A vow to God was binding so David would have no good reason to refuse Absalom's request.
  - Absalom probably chose Hebron because this was the place where David was originally declared king over Judah.
  - Absalom had spent these four years developing a network of supporters throughout Israel and now he was depending on that network for support.

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The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- Absalom implemented his plan to dethrone his father David as king of Israel. 15:7-12
  - There were people invited to this occasion in Hebron who did not know what was going on, but it seemed that at least some of them joined in with the conspiracy.

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The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- Absalom implemented his plan to dethrone his father David as king of Israel. 15:7-12
  - Ahithophel, one of David's closest advisors, willingly joined in the conspiracy.
  - Someone from this group brought word to David of the conspiracy.

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The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- David's response to the conspiracy 15:13-37
  - David and his household and personal military detail left Jerusalem to spare the city from the violence that would come by Absalom's attempt to kill David and take over the kingdom.
  - David's servants expressed their loyalty to David whether he decided they would stay or leave.

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The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- David's response to the conspiracy 15:13-37
  - The Cherethites, Pelethites and Gittites were those who had been a part of David's personal army from the time he fled from Saul.
  - This was a distressful time for all the people of Jerusalem.

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The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- David's response to the conspiracy 15:13-37
  - David sent the priests back with the ark of the covenant which they had brought out to go with him.
  - The priests and their sons would act as David's eyes and ears and relay to David the events that would unfold in Jerusalem.

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The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- David's response to the conspiracy 15:13-37
  - David and his company ascended the Mount of Olives as those in mourning.
  - David also sent Hushai back with instructions to feign loyalty to Absalom in order to counter the counsel of the traitor Ahithophel.

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The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- David's response to the conspiracy
  - Psalm 3
    - Recognized and faced his circumstances
    - Focused on God as his protector
    - Called on God for His help
    - Rested in God's care

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The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- David's response to the conspiracy
  - Psalm 3
    - Refused to be controlled by fear
    - Trusted God to deal with those who rose against him
    - Trusted God's solution

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Lessons

- Practice discernment.
- Recognize the power of influence for good or for evil.

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